

**A Wonderful New Tradition**  
**By ED FEASEL**  
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**In July and August, 600 youth will participate in training meetings at the Florida Nature and Culture Center. They will receive encouragement in faith, study Buddhism with friends old and new and refresh their determination to continue advancing and growing toward the new century.**

With this issue of the *World Tribune*, the young women's and young men's divisions are initiating the "Youth Pages," a monthly joint effort. This section will contain experiences, activity reports, study articles, guidance and creative writings. I hope this section will be a resource for you in your activities and a great source of encouragement.

With this first edition of the "Youth Pages," I'd like to let you know about some great activities that will be taking place this summer. As you may know, this summer the SGI-USA youth division has the fantastic opportunity to hold four training sessions at the Florida Nature and Culture Center: the Young Men's Division Conference from July 10-13, the Young Women's Division Conference from July 17-20, the Junior High and High School Divisions Conference from July 31-Aug. 3 and the Fife and Drum Corps, Music Corps and Youth Band Conference from Aug. 7-10.

Combined, more than 600 youth from across the United States will be gathering at the Florida Nature and Culture Center during the months of July and August to receive encouragement in faith, study together, make new friends and treasure old ones.

Six hundred youth will refresh our determination to continue advancing and growing toward the new century.

As I consider the significance of these four conferences, I recall stories I've heard about the summer training sessions that would take place in Japan and the great momentum they generated throughout the youth division. SGI President Ikeda would give Goshu lectures and guidance during those sessions, and the youth would leave with such a refreshed determination that it would reverberate in their local organizations when they returned.

I hope in the same way our 1997 summer youth leadership conferences will mark the beginning of a wonderful new tradition in the SGI-USA, a tradition where youth gather from around the country, encourage one another and then return to our local areas determined to inspire our fellow members.

I know that the national leadership of each of the four groups meeting this summer is putting its full effort into planning meaningful conferences that will create this tradition.

Information on each conference, including eligibility requirements and costs, can be obtained from your local joint territory.

Together with youth from across the country, let's kick off the last half of 1997 and make a fresh determination toward 2001. I look forward to seeing you there.

**WT**