**Youth Education Committee Chair**

The TU Chapter Youth Education Committee plays a key role in the development of TU’s Headwaters Program, a multi-faceted educational outreach program that involves youth and young adults in TU’s angler-centric conservation mission. The Committee works closely with TU chapter volunteers and community partners such as schools, youth organizations, summer camps, and colleges and universities to promote, grow, and sustain a series of sub-programs within Headwaters known as the Stream of Engagement.

From the Trout in the Classroom program and TU’s youth membership, to leadership events for young conservationists and a national network of summer fly fishing camps, the Stream of Engagement strives to foster and support a new generation of conservationists aged from Kindergarten to college.

A Youth Engagement Committee can help the chapter:

* Attract more families to events
* Build a larger chapter membership base
* Identify and groom young people to serve as the next generation of TU leaders
* Promote current youth outreach efforts through a quarterly Headwaters newsletter
* Build partnerships with local colleges and universities
* Get alums from local colleges and universities to show up and become more involved
* Find members who are skilled at managing the chapter’s social media presence
* Find additional community volunteers for larger programs like TIC that take a lot of time and effort from the chapter
* Locate potential sources of financial support for youth events
* Maintain current youth membership roster and help plan chapter meetings that have youth-friendly activities
* Work more efficiently with TU’s Headwaters staff to promote the chapter and help build more support for new chapter initiatives

The Youth Education Chair position has wide-ranging responsibilities, requiring much more than simply effectively leading a committee of chapter members to provide safe and inclusive events and opportunities. A qualified candidate must be interested in developing the next generation of TU members and conservation leaders with an affinity for working with kids and young people as well as an understanding of the importance of conservation to the next generation.

He or she is an active conduit for communication amongst youth participants and the individual committee members as well as the chapter board and the council. Additionally, the chair should provide guidance and resources to the committee members and youth education volunteers on topics such as safety, education techniques and collaborative partnerships to reflect whole communities. A positive attitude and sense of humor are helpful.

TU chapters greatly benefit from appointing a Youth Education Chair. This individual is not the “go to” person for Trout in the Classroom or a youth fishing day or any one youth program but instead helps the chapter on a broader scale.

**Key Responsibilities**

The Youth Education Chair must be a current Trout Unlimited member who will ensure that the following responsibilities are completed (personally or by way of delegation):

* Acts as a resource for chapter members who are interested in starting or volunteering in a youth program
* Acts as liaison between the chapter and TU National’s Headwaters Staff
* Documents youth program activities with photos and testimonials and submits material to the board, pertinent chapter committees (e.g. Outreach Committee) and Headwaters newsletter
* Maintains relationship between chapter and a host of youth organizations, agencies, schools, and colleges
* Participates in a quarterly call with other Youth Education Coordinators and the Headwaters staff members
* Understands TU’s background check and risk management policies and implements them as needed in the chapter activities
* Develops innovative strategies to engage youth and implements existing marketing tools available such as social media groups and merchandise/apparel designed for youth.
* Coordinates chapter youth programs but does not necessarily take an active role in running the program itself
* Identifies potential donors and funders of the chapter’s youth activities
* Keeps chapter leaders updated and attends regional TU meetings to share information with other Youth Education Coordinators
* Follows up on youth events and makes program adjustments based on feedback
* Advocates for the chapter’s youth education efforts
* Recruits chapter members to serve as volunteers in youth programs
* Retain records and keep the board abreast of upcoming events, budget status, donors, etc. These documents may include the committee roster and other legacy documents for events like event descriptions with implementation details, key volunteer contact list, and donor lists (provide a copy to Treasurer for tax deductible letter preparation)

**Elected By/ Reports To**Board of Directors

**Term Length**Per by-laws

Time Commitment
Approximately 15 hours a month; additional time required for committee work and other board commitments.

**Budget Support**Limited