

# BUILDING BRIDGES: TRANSFORM

## 2020-2021 Application Packet



### BUILDING BRIDGES

Building Bridges' mission is to equip resilient young leaders to transform divides in their communities. Since 1994, thousands have joined the Building Bridges community to transform conflict for a more just and inclusive world. We create spaces where young people cultivate resilience, develop healthy relationships across identities, practice leadership and communication skills, and nurture their confidence to lead. We also work with youth-serving adults to build their capacity to foster more inclusive, supportive, and just spaces for Denver's future leaders to live, learn, and work. Building Bridges is a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

### TRANSFORM 2020-2021

#### Listen, Learn, Lead: Be Transformed.

Building Bridges: Transform brings together diverse young people from Metro Denver high schools for a year-long life changing experience. Together they develop communication, relationship-building, and leadership skills like self-awareness, confidence, and empathy. Transform leaders deeply explore who they are, get real and connect with each other, and grow together by working through conflict and differences. Through change projects, youth then engage their communities to apply what they've learned.

#### Program Cost:

All participants are offered a **full scholarship to cover the program expense** of \$3,500.

#### Program Components

Building Bridges: Transform lasts from June 2020 to April 2021 and includes:

- *Orientation Session (3 options in May)*
- Summer Intensive June 12-21
- Monthly Home Group Meetings throughout the School Year (August through April)
- Two Weekend Retreats (Fall = November 2020; Spring = March 2021)
- Community Change Project
- Year-End Presentations and Celebration (April)

#### Invitation to Apply

Are you ready to #BeTransformed?

We would love to review your application and are excited to meet you! **Apply by March 15<sup>th</sup> and you are guaranteed an interview with the selection team. Final deadline is April 5<sup>th</sup>.** This packet includes participant criteria and application instructions. Translation of this information is available upon request.

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при необходимости вам предоставят услуги перевода

La traducción está disponible bajo petición

يتم توفير ترجمة الى اللغة العربية عند الطلب

चाहिएमा उल्था सेवा उपलब्ध छ ।

Codsigaas waxa la heli kara tarjumaad

có thông dịch nếu bạn yêu cầu

## PROGRAM CRITERIA AND COMMITMENTS

We ask that applicants for Transform meet the following characteristics:

- Be entering the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade (or equivalent) for the 2019-2020 school-year
- Live in Metro Denver (includes Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties)
- Be excited to connect with other young people from diverse backgrounds
- Be willing to explore and talk about issues of identity, community, and conflict, including topics like race, class, gender, religion, and politics

If you are selected to join next year's cohort, you agree to fully participate in all program components to the best of your ability:

- ***Part One –Summer Intensive (June 2020):***

Youth arrive at the Summer Intensive ready to take on new challenges, meet peers from across Metro Denver, share thoughts, feelings and ideas, and gain new awareness and skills. This year's intensive will include 4 days in Denver and 6 days at a residential camp called Golden Bell.

- ***Part Two – School-Year Programming:***

- Attend monthly home group meetings
- Develop and implement a change project
- Attend two weekend retreats
- Present change project at year-end celebration
- Dedicate an average of 6-8 hours per month to complete these activities (not including summer intensive, travel time, or retreats)

Building Bridges seeks participants who represent diverse racial, ethnic, socio-economic, gender, gender identity, religious, ability, sexual orientation, national origin, and cultural identities, including those with diverse political views and varying life experiences.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR APPLICATION SUPPORT, PLEASE CONTACT:**

**RAEGAN QUATTLEBAUM, PROGRAM COORDINATOR**  
**303-856-6125 | [RAEGAN@BUILDINGBRIDGESSHIFT.ORG](mailto:RAEGAN@BUILDINGBRIDGESSHIFT.ORG)**

# APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

## How to Apply

There are various ways to submit your application. Please pick **ONE** of the following:

1. Fill out the application online at this link: <http://bit.ly/BBTransformApp>
2. Email the completed application to [Raegan@buildingbridgeshift.org](mailto:Raegan@buildingbridgeshift.org) with the Subject: TRANSFORM Application (Your Name)
3. Request a hard copy to complete by hand by contacting Raegan at 303-856-6125 or [Raegan@buildingbridgeshift.org](mailto:Raegan@buildingbridgeshift.org)

## Application Checklist

Please complete the following two application sections, answering all questions completely. BOTH parts must be submitted for your application to be considered. *Please don't hesitate to reach out for support!*

- PART 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION FORM**
- PART 2: SHORT-ANSWER QUESTIONS**

## Application Timeline<sup>1</sup>

(Optional) 1-on-1 Informational Meeting with Youth and/or Parent/Guardian	Schedule as needed by contacting Raegan: 303-856-6125 or <a href="mailto:Raegan@buildingbridgeshift.org">Raegan@buildingbridgeshift.org</a>
<b><u>PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE</u></b>	<b><u>MARCH 15 BY 8:00 PM</u></b>
<b><u>FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE</u></b>	<b><u>APRIL 5 BY 8:00PM</u></b>
Interview Days	Several options, April through May
Selected Participants Notified	Within 2 weeks of interview
Orientation Session for Selected Participants and Primary Adult <sup>2</sup>	3 options in May

<sup>1</sup> Full Program Calendar provided during interview

<sup>2</sup> "Primary Adult" is likely the parent/guardian, and may be a different supportive adult as needed

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## Application Part 1: Applicant Information Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_  
first last

Gender/ Pronouns \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Country of birth \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade  9<sup>th</sup> Grade  10<sup>th</sup> Grade  11<sup>th</sup> Grade

Language(s) spoken at home \_\_\_\_\_

### OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Race(s) with which you identify \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity(ies) with which you identify \_\_\_\_\_

Other identities that are important to you (for example: religion, sexual orientation, ability, socioeconomic class)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact you?  Email  Phone  Text  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address

Mailing Address (if different from Home)

\_\_\_\_\_  
street apt # street apt #

\_\_\_\_\_  
city state zip code city state zip code

### PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_  
first middle last

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

What is the best way to contact parent/guardian?  Email  Phone  Text  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Language(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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## Application Part 2: Short-Answer Questions

We would like to learn about you, your experiences, and issues important to you. Please write 3-4 sentences for each question (except for question 5), typed or printed by hand on a separate piece of paper. **There is no right or wrong answer and we are not evaluating grammar or spelling. *Just be yourself and do your best!***<sup>3</sup>

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Describe yourself, your family, and/or your community. What do you know or not know about your history? Please share aspects like culture, neighborhood, identity, or other things that make you who you are. *Everyone's experience is unique and people identify in various ways, so please include information that is meaningful to you.*
  
- 2) Tell us about a relationship or experience you have had with someone who is different from you. What did you learn? What was difficult about it? How did you feel?
  
- 3) Why do you want to join Building Bridges: Transform? What do you hope to get out of the program? How will others in your school or community benefit from your participation?
  
- 4) Building Bridges will require an average of about 6-8 hours per month during the school year (not including summer intensive, travel time, or retreats). How will you balance your time between Building Bridges, school, work, extracurricular activities, and/or family commitments? Who can help you do this?
  
- 5) How did you find out about Building Bridges: Transform?

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<sup>3</sup> To share your answers in a different way, please contact us.

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