

*What is the Young Turners Program for?*

The Young Turners Program is designed to encourage and aid AAW chapters in developing local youth turning programs.

*How many phases are there?*

There are two phases with the Young Turners Program. Phase one consists of turning either two tops or a honey dipper. Phase two requires the young turner to complete four more projects from a larger list.

*What do the students receive upon completing each phase?*

Completion of phase one provides a Woodturning Student completion certificate. Phase two awards the Woodturning Journeyman certificate and a complementary one year AAW membership.

*How can each chapter help extend a young turner's membership?*

We highly encourage each chapter to sponsor young turners with both local and/or AAW memberships. An example might include your local chapter sponsoring AAW memberships for active young turners after their phase two membership reward expires.

*Where can we find youth for our program?*

Aside from working with chapter members' family and friends, there are many other sources. Some examples include Boy and Girl Scouts troops, church youth groups, boys and girls clubs, middle school or high school classes, etc... Youth events may also be held in conjunction with your local woodworking store.

*What do we need to fill out after each phase?*

The Woodturning Student and Woodturning Journeyman certificates are completed and presented to the young turner. The chapter president also needs to certify the young turners AAW membership form.

*Where do we send the young turners AAW membership form?*

Send the completed phase two membership forms to:

American Association of Woodturners

Attn: Young Turners membership

222 Landmark Center

75 West Fifth St.

St. Paul, MN 55102

*Where do we get the project outlines and certificates for each turning session?*

The project outlines, completion certificates, and phase two AAW membership forms are all available for printing from the AAW website. Use good quality paper for the certificates.

*How are the project guides used?*

Each project should be familiar to chapter members. The project guidelines provide standardization along with a teaching aid for the students. Pictures are included in each outline for student reference.

*Who wrote the project guides?*

The project guides are written by fellow woodturners from around the country and Canada. Each turner was invited to write from one to three project guidelines.

*Who supplies the lathe and tools for the kids?*

Each Chapter will supply lathes and tools for the youth events. It is possible for some of the students to supply their own tools. If your chapter needs club lathes for this program, possible funding ideas include membership donations, commercial donations, or the AAW Educational Opportunity Grant.

*Are there other rewards for the youth?*

At this time we do not have other rewards for the Young Turners Program.

*What is the age range for participation?*

6 years to 18 years of age

*Can we give credit to kids for past projects prior to this program?*

The AAW will allow credit for projects completed after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007. The chapter president will have to certify completion of these projects.

*May I participate in this program individually or does it have to be through my local AAW chapter?*

For insurance coverage (official AAW chapter events) this is a chapter program.

*Are there other teaching manuals or aids available for wood turning?*

The AAW is currently working on a teaching manual that includes a youth section. Draw upon the experience of others in your chapter, especially teachers and educators. Read previous youth articles printed in *American Woodturner*, including the Winter 2006 edition.

*How should we approach teaching youth?*

Keep the sessions light and have fun! Use the project outlines and don't let the lecture portion go too long. We recommend having one mentor for every one or two students at each youth event.

*What safety equipment should the youth have?*

Face shields are required. Follow the AAW recommended safety guidelines at all chapter events. Be on the lookout for loose jewelry, clothing, or other safety issues worn by the students.

*Where can we hold turning events for youth?*

Turning events may be held at your normal club meeting location, local woodworking stores, schools, etc...

*Who supplies wood and project kits (when required)?*

Each chapter will supply the wood and project kits (i.e. pens and bottle stoppers). Project supplies or funding for them may be acquired through donations, included in EOG applications, or the chapter's own treasury.

*Should we build platforms so the kids can have proper height for turning?*

Yes, simple platforms can be built with 2x4's and plywood. Handles can be included on the platform sides for easier carrying. Make sure each platform is stable and large enough for the student to stand on.

*Do you want pictures of turning sessions for the AAW?*

We want to see pictures of your turning sessions, group photos, and project photos. Include with the photos details about each event, number of participants, youth experiences, and other interesting facts for possible inclusion in *American Woodturner*. Email digital images and text to the Young Turners Program coordinator.

*How will our sessions be featured in the American Woodturner?*

Information and pictures received from chapters may be used for chapter or program highlights, program updates, or feature articles.

*Should we send in numbers for each club?*

Let us know how many phase one and two students you have taught. Send the information to the Young Turners Program coordinator. Challenge other clubs to meet or beat your chapter numbers.

*Do you have a personal challenge for each club?*

We challenge each club to either establish a youth turning program or continue one already in progress. Student numbers have not been specified and should be decided upon by each chapter along with the other goals of their program.