Dear Father,

Greetings in our Lord Jesus Christ! As the teens in our communities approach the beginning of young adult life, they are developing questions about themselves, their purpose in the world, and how it relates to their faith. The CrossRoad Summer Institute, now in its eleventh year, welcomes annually sixty high school juniors and seniors to participate in a ten-day Orthodox Christian program developed to help them wrestle with these difficult questions. The curriculum approaches these questions from an Orthodox Christian perspective, and offers the space and resources for students to discover their natural gifts and talents in order to use them in service to their church and to society.

The dates for the 2014 CrossRoad Summer Institute are June 21-July 1 (June session) and July 5-15 (July session). The program is held on the beautiful campus of Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA.

Through the support of generous donors, each accepted 2014 applicant will receive a $2000 scholarship and is only responsible for a $500 program fee and travel costs to and from Boston. It is our CrossRoad policy that no accepted participant requesting tuition assistance will be turned away. The application process is “needs blind”; the acceptance process is independent of student financial need. Participants’ home churches are encouraged to help with the fee and with travel costs and to have their student(s) offer a presentation after attending.

For ten days participants will:

• Grow in their faith
• Explore their strengths
• Engage in serving others
• Discover how their gifts and talents can serve the needs of the Church and society

In all of this, we’re hoping to encourage them on their journey toward Christ, with the belief that if He is the cornerstone of their lives, whatever they choose to do will be built on a solid foundation. By using the wisdom of the Church as well as contemporary resources we hope to help them discern their life callings, matching their personal gifts with the needs of the world. The staff of CrossRoad believes that if the participants strive to live a life in and for Christ, almost any occupation, event or relationship can become a door to holiness.

In selecting CrossRoad participants, our committee depends on recommendations of the applicants supplied by persons who know them well. We are eager to select those individuals whose interests indicate that they have the greatest potential to benefit from this program. Please provide a frank and thoughtful appraisal of the applicant. We greatly appreciate the time you devote to this evaluation.

For more information, please see the CrossRoad website, http://crossroad.hchc.edu, and feel free to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns at (617) 850-1310 or crossroad@hchc.edu.

Sincerely,
Michael Tishel, Director
The CrossRoad Team
To guarantee consideration please have the complete application postmarked by March 1, 2012 to CrossRoad, 50 Goddard Ave, Brookline, MA 02445.
Applicants meeting above deadline will be notified of their acceptance status by mid-April, 2012.
For questions visit crossroad.hchc.edu, e-mail crossroad@hchc.edu or call (617) 850-1310.

Applicant’s Name _______________________________________________________

Your Name ____________________________________________________________
Your Phone ___________________________ Your E-mail ______________________
Parish Name ___________________________ Jurisdiction _______________________
Parish Address _________________________________________________________
Street City State Zip

What is the best way to contact you? _________________________________________

How long have you known the candidate? ________________________________

Please respond to the following items candidly, to the best of your knowledge. If we have questions or need additional information based on your responses, we may call you to inquire further.

1. How well and in what capacity do you know the applicant?

_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

2. What has been the history of the applicant’s involvement in your parish and in the Orthodox Church?

_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

3. Is the applicant emotionally and mentally stable?

_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

4. Does the applicant seem to work well with others in a group setting?

_______________________________________________________________________
5. What do you consider to be the applicant’s greatest strengths?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

6. What do you see as being the greatest challenge the applicant could face in this program?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

7. What would be the greatest benefit that you feel the applicant would take away from this program?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

8. What is your overall evaluation of this person as a candidate for the CrossRoad summer institute (highly recommend as a candidate, or with reservations, etc.)? Why?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

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