

PROGRAM RULES

- Contest is open to all high school sophomores and juniors, or the equivalent, whose parents or guardians are members of Orcas Power & Light Cooperative and presently receive electric service from OPALCO.
- Contestants must currently be attending school or an alternative program at a San Juan County high school.
- Application, including cover letter, must be submitted to OPALCO no later than **March 11, 2016**.
- Finalists are selected for a personal interview and the three winners chosen based on that interview. During the interview, students may be asked to talk about their own interests and goals and about the following topics.
 - How does OPALCO deliver power to 20 islands? Where does the power come from?
 - What makes an electric co-op different from other types of utilities?
 - Discuss three important energy issues that may affect you in the next 5-10 years.
 - Why should you represent OPALCO at the Youth Rally?
- Winners agree to attend the 2016 OPALCO Annual Meeting on **Saturday, April 30, 2016** to receive their award. In case of a widespread conflict, for example SATs, an alternate date will be arranged.
- Winners agree to represent OPALCO at the Youth Rally **July 11-16, 2016** at The College of Idaho in Caldwell, ID. All travel, lodging and food expenses will be paid by OPALCO. Chaperones are provided.
- Winners agree to collaborate on a report of their Youth Rally experience to be presented to the Board in October 2016. This report may be shared with OPALCO members and other high-school students.
- Winners agree to act as Ambassadors of OPALCO in their schools and to help promote the Youth Rally & Scholarship program.



Electrical Safety Demo 2012



THE NOURDINE JENSEN COOPERATIVE YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

sponsored by

Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
Board of Directors:

Jim Lett, President
Lopez Island

Vince Dauciuinas, Vice President
San Juan Island

Dr. Jerry Whitfield, Secretary Treasurer
Lopez Island

Winnie Adams, Orcas Island

Randy J. Cornelius, Orcas Island

Mark Madsen, San Juan Island

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NOURDINE JENSEN COOPERATIVE YOUTH PROGRAM



YOUTH RALLY & SCHOLARSHIPS

COMPETITION GUIDE BOOK & 2016 APPLICATION

ORCAS POWER & LIGHT COOPERATIVE

183 Mt. Baker Road, Eastsound WA 98245 (360) 376-3500 www.opalco.com

YOUTH RALLY & SCHOLARSHIPS



THE NOURDINE JENSEN COOPERATIVE YOUTH PROGRAM

was created by the OPALCO Board of Directors to honor Nourdine Jensen, who served on the Board for 37 years between 1965 and 2008. Nourdine was a longtime boat builder and former Friday Harbor town councilman, school board member and Port commissioner.

Nourdine believed in reliable, affordable electricity for the rural islanders of San Juan County and he believed in the cooperative model. In that spirit, the Nourdine Jensen Cooperative Youth Program was established to educate our youth about electric co-ops and public power, give them the opportunity to expand their horizons and to develop leadership qualities.

WHEN AND WHERE IS THE RALLY?

The Youth Rally takes place on the campus of The College of Idaho in Caldwell, Idaho. It is six days of fun-filled activity: July 11-16, 2015. Participants stay in college dorms.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

OPALCO makes all travel arrangements. Participants and OPALCO chaperones travel by air from Seattle to Boise and then travel by rental car to the College.

WHAT WILL WE DO AT THE RALLY?

Develop leadership and communication skills and make new friends through:

- Electric co-op speakers and presentations
- Field trips to state capitol and local sites
- Networking with students and faculty from Alaska, Oregon, Wyoming & Idaho
- Water park, social dances, roller-skating, bowling, volleyball, talent show

WHO ELSE WILL BE THERE?

Students representing rural electric co-ops from Idaho, Alaska, Wyoming, Utah and Oregon. Electric co-op industry leaders and speakers.

“The Rally was an amazing experience for me. The opportunity to meet all different types of people and receive scholarship money at the same time was incredible. I learned a lot about electrical utilities and how important they really are. This experience will influence my future. I am so grateful for the opportunity OPALCO has given me and encourage other students to apply.” — Ray Doss, Orcas High School (2015)

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE YOUTH RALLY?

The Youth Rally promotes an understanding of the utility industry and in particular, public power. Students learn leadership, teamwork, cooperation and communication skills. The Youth Rally is sponsored by the Idaho Consumer-owned Utilities Association (ICUA).

Each student selected to represent OPALCO will awarded a **\$500 scholarship**. While at the Rally, all students are eligible to compete for additional scholarships given by our hosts ICUA.



2016 PROGRAM GUIDELINES



See more on Facebook @Orcas Power & Light @ICUA Youth Rally

“This was a life-changing experience. I met so many new and interesting people and made friendships that will last a lifetime.” – Cameron, 2012

HOW WILL THE WINNERS BE CHOSEN?

All complete applications are considered. A review committee made up of OPALCO members from throughout the islands selects up to nine finalists based on their application. Finalists are invited to a personal interview with the review committee.

The interview covers topics such as personal goals, community involvement and knowledge of your local electric co-op. Sample questions are on the back of this brochure.

WHEN AND HOW WILL WINNERS BE NOTIFIED?

Finalists are notified by email no later than March 18, and given an interview date and time. Winners are notified by email and in writing no later than April 7th.

HOW CAN I WIN A SCHOLARSHIP?

- Submit an application before the deadline.
- Study www.opalco.com to get to know your co-op.
- Come to the interview prepared and well-groomed.
- Have a genuine interest in this opportunity.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

High school sophomores and juniors of OPALCO member households.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

All travel, lodging and food expenses are covered by The Nourdine Jensen Cooperative Youth Program. OPALCO handles all travel arrangements and provides chaperones for travel and the weekend.



IMPORTANT 2016 DATES

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

Application due to OPALCO

MARCH 18

Finalists notified

WEEK OF MARCH 28

Personal Interviews

APRIL 7

Winners Announced

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

OPALCO Annual Meeting
Winners receive their awards

MONDAY, JULY 11

Travel to The College of Idaho

SATURDAY, JULY 16

Return to Seattle and home

OCTOBER

Winners present a report of their experience to the OPALCO Board