



**LOUISIANA STATE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
JOEL OCMAND STATE CYLA CHAIRMAN
273 WEST 2ND ST.
RESERVE, LA. 70084**

Dear Worthy Grand Knight,

I sincerely hope that your Council will participate in the C.Y.L.A. Program this year. Please consider that you may have the opportunity to present a young man or young lady a check for \$4,000 (if they are the State winners.)

By participating in the program, you will have offered an opportunity to the youth of our State to be recognized as one of the best Catholic students in their respective schools. You will set a very valuable example to the youth of your area that the Knights of Columbus truly care about the Catholic values that that student possesses. Without your support that student may never know just how valuable he or she is to their Church, school and community. We already know that these outstanding students have already made wonderful contributions to their communities, church parishes, and to their schools. All we are trying to do is encourage these outstanding students to hold true to their Catholic values, and accept the leadership roles that they will be asked to fill. These students are our future Catholic Leaders. So please give them a chance to participate in the C.Y.L.A. Program.

All you need to do is contact the guidance counselors of the high schools of your choice (Parochial and Public.) Let the counselor know that you are looking for a senior Catholic boy and girl that exemplify leadership and Catholic values. You could also talk to the pastor of your church parish. He may have a student in mind. There are many ways to accomplish your goal, just use your imagination and the rest will be fairly easy.

Enclosed are two nomination forms that you may use to make multiple copies for your student candidates to fill out. I would strongly suggest, however, that you encourage the students to use the interactive form available at the KC State Website www.louisianakc.org. They can just click on the CYLA link on the homepage and open an Adobe form that they can fill out on their computer and print-out for a much neater presentation. (It is a "print only" format, the document cannot be saved on their hard-drive.) Please pay particular and close attention to the instructions on the first page of the nomination form. Also enclosed is a guide for grading the forms, and a calendar of upcoming important dates for the program so that you can turn in your materials in a timely fashion to your Area Coordinator. Please note that the matching funds aspect of the program will not be implemented this year.

I would like to thank you for considering the Catholic Youth Leadership Award Program. I am positive that if you participate, you will enjoy the involvement so much that you will look forward to participating again. If you have any questions regarding C.Y.L.A. please call me at **985-536-3389**, or email me at jocmand@rtconline.com

Fraternally,

Joel R. Ocmund Sr.

Joel Ocmand
State C.Y.L.A. Chairman