

November 17, 2020



Dear Youth Pastor/NYI President,

In an effort to continue providing our students with opportunities to share and develop their gifts and talents, we're moving forward with plans for District TNT. Our challenge this year is to provide those opportunities with the safety of our students' families, churches, and communities as a top priority. This year has been full of changes and altered plans. Our District TNT event will be no different. In spite of those differences, the call of TNT has never been more clear: we are here to help each other become better. We are asking everyone to be flexible and remember that these changes are not forever; we hope and plan to return to our regular event at WKU next year.

In order to minimize nonessential, in-person contact, and to address the lack of a single venue large enough and willing to host all our events, we will be splitting TNT over two Saturdays this year. One Saturday will be for all our individual and team sporting events, and the other Saturday will be for Arts (Creative Ministries, Music, Speech, etc.). We understand that this may put a strain on some churches. You may have to divide and conquer to make it happen. Youth workers, please don't feel obligated to attend both weekends. Delegate and share the responsibility with other capable adults in your church. At this point, we feel this is the very best option. Please read this letter in its entirety!

Event Details:

- **Sports Day:** January 9, Science Hill Church of the Nazarene. We will also be using facilities at the Science Hill Independent Schools and a local park. Registration will take place over the phone. We will contact each church to schedule a time to do that. The worship service will begin at 10:00 AM EST, events to follow.
- **Arts Day:** January 23, Farmdale Church of the Nazarene. Registration will take place over the phone. We will contact each church to schedule a time to do that. The worship service will begin at 10:00 AM EST, events to follow.
- Participants must have turned 11 by September 1, 2020 to qualify for the event. If they are in the sixth grade but turned 11 after September 1, they will have to wait until next year to compete. This is the rule from the Southeast NYI TNT handbook.
- Every student must complete a registration form, and have the medical release signed by his/her parent or legal guardian and notarized. Non-notarized student forms will not be accepted. Adult chaperones should complete the adult registration form. Only one form is required for each student. **We are also including a photo release and a COVID release this year.**
- This year's registration fee is **\$20 per student, \$5 per adult**. We are able to significantly reduce the registration fee because last year's TNT@TNU event was cancelled. Our District TNT event usually offsets our cost for TNT@TNU, so last year's remaining budget allows us to pass that savings on to you. We know this has been a hard year for a lot of families and churches and we hope that this will help all who want to participate. Next year our registration fee will go back to the normal \$95/student.

- Forms and fees MUST BE postmarked by Monday, **December 21, 2020**. Send your registration forms and checks to Carmen Russell, 1099 Kelsey Dr., Lexington, KY 40504. All checks should be made out to KY District NYI. Please email [kentuckytnt@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckytnt@gmail.com) ASAP with an estimated number of students and adults from your church.
- Masks will be provided and required for all students and adults. We also ask that you keep registration numbers to no more than 1 to 5 adult to student ratio. We know that many parents and spectators love to attend this event, but we will only be allowing registered students and adults in the buildings.
- Complete Art and Photography judging sheets and attach them to your artwork **before** arriving. This is very important as we normally have a large crowd gathering to do it at the event. We cannot allow that to happen this year. If you come without your Art/Photography prepared, you will be asked to do it outside. Art and Photography can be dropped off at Farmdale on January 23. **Students who are only participating in Art, Creative Writing, Science, and Video Production do not have to be present to compete.** Creative Writing, Science, and Video Production should be submitted digitally before the event to [kentuckytnt@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckytnt@gmail.com). **The Math test will be offered on both Saturdays.**
- Our awards ceremony will be virtual this year. We will livestream the awards ceremony from YouTube and Facebook on Sunday, January 24 at 6:00 PM EST. Please submit a headshot picture of every student participant to [kentuckytnt@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckytnt@gmail.com) by January 9. This will be displayed in the awards ceremony video. Awards and score sheets will be mailed to each church after the awards ceremony.
- We have tried to arrange the schedule so that churches can travel on the day of the event without needing a hotel, but we know that some churches may have a longer drive. If you are interested in sleeping at a local church the night before the event, please let me know and I can help work that out.
- Please bring your own equipment for individual sports (golf clubs, tennis rackets, table tennis paddle). We may have a few extras, but it is not guaranteed.

This may not be what any of us hoped for TNT this year, but we must keep in mind the safety of our students, leaders, and those they will come in contact with. We are believing in hope that these changes are only temporary, and next year we will be back and better than ever! We know our students have experienced a lot of disappointments over the last year, but they have proved to us how resilient and flexible they are. Let's follow their example! If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at [kentuckytnt@gmail.com](mailto:kentuckytnt@gmail.com), or call Carmen at 502.457.2263. We can't wait to see how God is going to use this event for His glory!

In Christ,

Kyle and Carmen Russell

Enclosures: Student/Adult Registration Forms, Photography/COVID Release Forms, Art/Photography Judging Sheets