Greetings Sir Knights,

In Virginia we are blessed to have all three Masonic Youth Groups represented. The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Virginia is proud to support these fine youth groups. There are currently seventeen DeMolay International Chapters, sixteen Job’s Daughters International Bethels and ten International Order of the Rainbow for Girls Assemblies in Virginia.

Who are these youth groups? What is their purpose? Well…..

DeMolay International is an organization for young men established in 1919. The mission is to build up these young men into respected community members. The values and ideals the organization teaches are based on the stories of the heroic figure, Jacques DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the ancient Knights Templar. The fidelity he exemplified is one of the main teachings of this organization. DeMolay helps young men develop a variety of strengths, such as leadership skills, planning, how to run a business meeting, and public speaking, while quietly building character in the process. These skills are taught indirectly through the various meetings, functions, and events held by the chapter. As they are doing the event planning, running their meetings or giving public presentations, the young men of DeMolay are developing tools that will serve them throughout their lives. DeMolay teaches other important lessons as well. The chapters teach the lessons of love for parents, reverence for sacred things, courtesy to all, comradeship, loyalty, clean living and patriotism. DeMolay is truly unique in what it offers to the young men of our world. For further information go to the website: [https://www.vademolay.org/](https://www.vademolay.org/)

Job’s Daughters International was chartered in 1920—almost 100 years ago! Members are girls all over the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, the Philippines, and Brazil. Worldwide, there are over 10,000 girls who belong to Job’s Daughters. Job’s Daughters today run their meetings and plan their activities. Adults help the girls with their ideas. Girls ages 10–19 are eligible to join Job’s Daughters. Girls learn leadership and have the chance to travel to meet and work with girls from around the world. For further information go to the website: [http://www.jdiva.org/](http://www.jdiva.org/)

International Order of the Rainbow for Girls is a nonprofit organization created in 1922 that strives to give girls from ages 6 to 20 the tools, training, and encouragement to let their individual spirits shine bright. By providing members with a safe, fun, caring environment where responsible, older girls can interact and mentor younger girls through family involvement. Girls ages 11-20 are official Rainbow Girls and are involved in every aspect of the organization. At this age, girls can be elected to hold office, travel locally or globally, conduct speaking engagements, oversee charity projects, and participate in all facets of Assembly work. It is at this level that members gain the knowledge and experience that will help them through every stage of life. For further information go to the website: [http://virginiarainbow.org/](http://virginiarainbow.org/)

All Master Masons are eligible to attend the meetings of these youth groups. You really need to see these young people in action. They are smart and driven to succeed. They are also the future of our organizations. Get involved with an organization in your area. Attend a meeting, participate in a fund raiser, support a community project. If you need assistance finding a group in your area, contact the Youth Activities Chairman, Kenny Goode (kmgoode55@gmail.com) or me at (major212@verizon.net).

Courteously submitted,
Major G. Stephenson, III
Member Youth Activities and Grand Recorder