



HISTORY OF THE *young women* ORGANIZATION

1843 - 2019



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The Young Gentlemen's and Young Ladies Relief Society of Nauvoo was developed by youth in Nauvoo under Heber C. Kimball's guidance and Joseph Smith's support. It began as casual social meetings, and eventually grew, having the Prophet speak to them on at least one occasion.

1843

Brigham Young held a meeting with his daughters, asking them to "retrench from extravagance in dress, in eating, and even in speech."



1869

The Young Ladies' Department of the Ladies' Cooperative Retrenchment Association is formally organized.

1870

The name of the organization is officially changed to the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association.

1877



Elmina S. Taylor called by John Taylor as the General President of the Young Ladies' Mutual Improvement Association.

1880

Tuesday evening is designated as Mutual night.

1893

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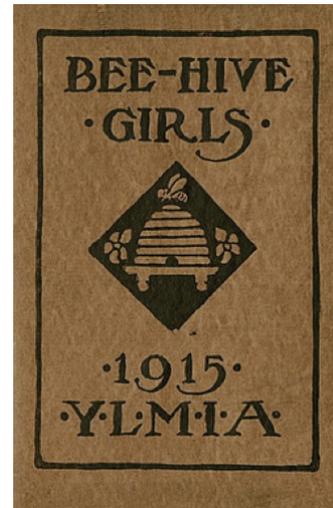
Martha Horne Tingey called as
General President

1904

Liberty Stake held the
first summer camp for
Young Ladies

1912

Church introduced
Beehive Girls program
for young women 14
and up. It covered seven
fields: religion, home, health,
domestic arts, out of doors,
business, and public service.



1913

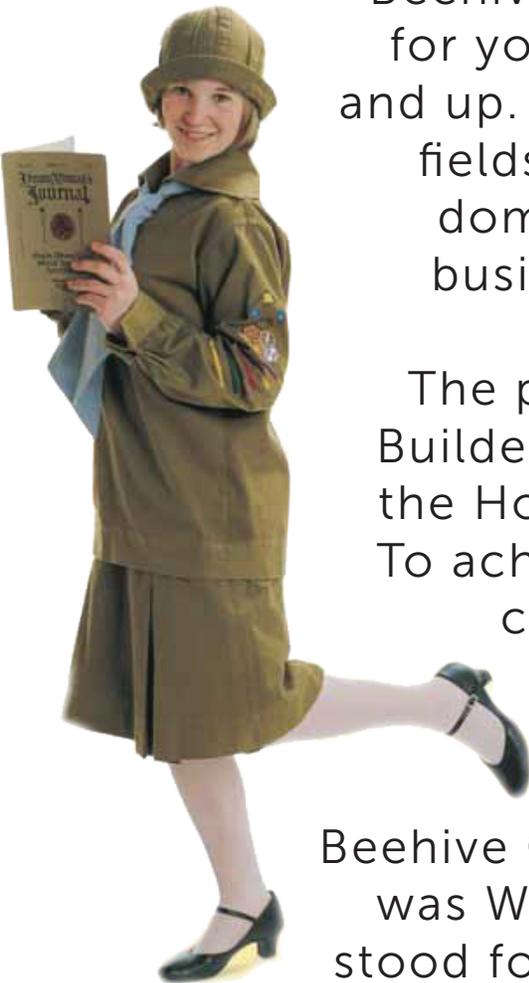
The program included 3 ranks:
Builders of the Hive, Gatherers of
the Honey, and Keep of the Bees.
To achieve each rank, girls had to
complete at least 50 selected
requirements from over
300 options.

Beehive Girls watchword
was WOMANHO. WO
stood for work, MAN for
mankind, and HO for home.

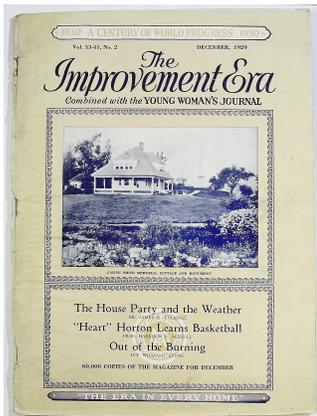


Gold and green became the official
MIA colors

1922



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Ruth May Fox called as
General President

Church published the
Improvement Era

Church held it's first
churchwide dance festival



1929

1936

1937



Lucy Grant Cannon
called as General
President

Golden Gleaner
award is introduced
for young women
over eighteen.

Busy Bee Girl character
illustrations introduced to
Beehive Girls program.

Class symbols of beehive, rose,
laurel, and sheaf of wheat
introduced.



Betty Bee-Busy



Lucy Bee-Lively

1940

1943

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Bertha Stone Reeder called as
General President



1948

Class names and age
groups updated

Beehives: 12-13

Mia Maids: 14-15

Junior Gleaners: 16-17

Gleaners: 18-24

Felt seals would mark
progress on a blue sash,
called a bandlo

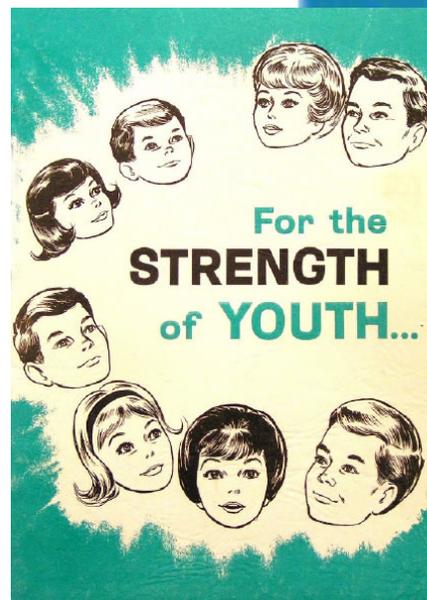
Junior Gleaners replaced
by Laurels

Florence Smith Jacobsen
called as General President

For the Strength of Youth
is published



The New Era is published
for youth



1950

1959

1961

1965

1971

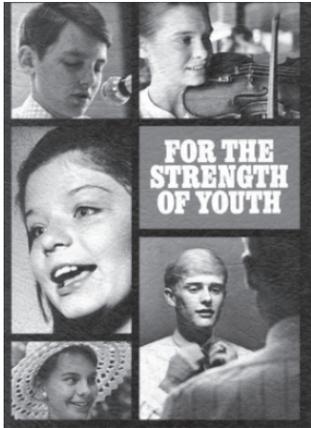


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Ruth Hardy Funk called as General President



1972



New For The Strength of Youth booklet

YWMIA becomes a priesthood auxiliary

My Personal Progress program introduced with six areas of focus:

1. Spiritual Awareness
2. Homemaking Arts
3. Service and Compassion
4. Recreation and the World of Nature
5. Cultural Arts and Education
6. Personal and Social Refinement



1977



Elaine Anderson Cannon called as General President

First General Women's Meeting was held

1978

Sunday lessons for Young Women begin with meeting schedule consolidation

1980

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Ardeth Greene Kapp called as
General President

First Young Women Broadcast

Motto "Stand for Truth and
Righteousness" added



1984

1985



Young Women Theme and 7 values
and colors introduced:

Faith

Divine Nature

Individual Worth

Knowledge

Choice and Accountability

Good Works

Integrity

1987

New Medallion for Young
Womanhood Recognition



1990



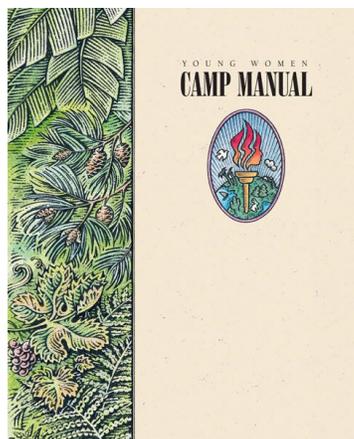
New For the
Strength of
Youth
pamphlet
released

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Janette Callister Hales Beckham called as General President



1992



Camp Manual published, focusing on Young Women values

1993

1994

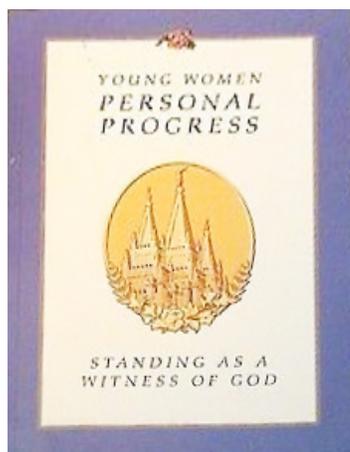
125th anniversary of Young Women celebrated

1997

Margaret Dyreng Nadauld called as General President



2002

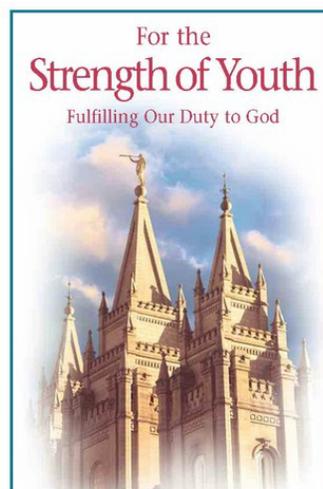


Personal Progress updated

Updated For the Strength of Youth released

2004

"strengthen home and family" added to theme



2006



Susan Winder Tanner called as General President

LDS.org Young Women site launched

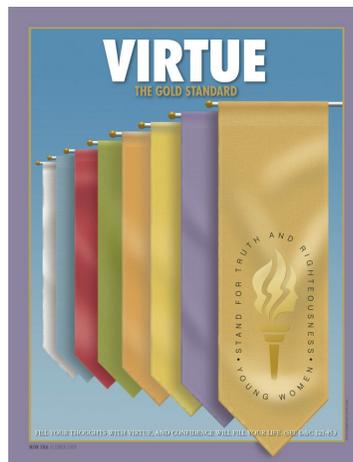
Church Camp properties are developed

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Elaine Schwartz Dalton called as General President

Virtue added as eighth Young Women value



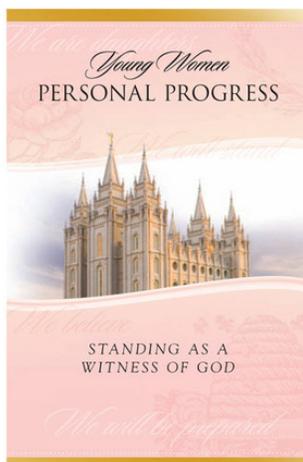
2008

2009



Young Women Medallion redesigned

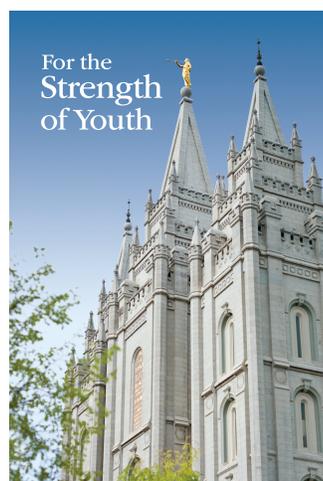
Honor Bee charm added to Personal Progress



New Personal Progress book

100th anniversary of Young Women Camp

New For the Strength of Youth pamphlet



2012



Bonnie Lee Green Oscarson called as General President

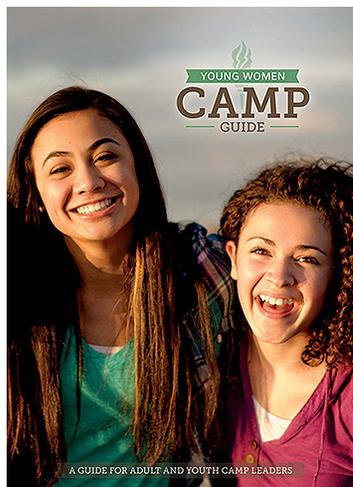
Come, Follow Me curriculum for Youth introduced

2013

General Women's Meeting for women and girls 8+ replaces Young Women and Relief Society Broadcast

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2018



New Young Women Camp Guide

Mia maids and laurels can serve as ministering companions with Relief Society sisters

Young Women can serve in the temple, including recording ordinances.

Bonnie H Cordon called as General President



The Women's Session becomes an annual event in October, alternating with the Priesthood Session in April.

Young Women transition to new classes in January instead of on their birthday.

Young Women classes are held only twice a month, alternating with Sunday School.

2019



I am a

BELOVED DAUGHTER

of heavenly parents, with a divine nature and eternal destiny.

As a disciple of Jesus Christ, I strive to become like Him. I seek and act upon personal revelation and minister to others in His holy name.

I will stand as a witness of God at all times and in all things and in all places.

As I strive to qualify for exaltation, I cherish the gift of repentance and seek to improve each day. With faith, I will strengthen my home and family, make and keep sacred covenants, and receive the ordinances and blessings of the holy temple.



Young Women may serve as witnesses for baptisms for the living and the dead.

Young Women class names "Beehive," "Mia Maid," and "Laurel" are removed

New Young Women Theme

SOURCES

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