

## Youth at Convention 2026

- **What:** a “we bring fun to governance” style youth participation squad aimed at checking out what Diocesan Convention is all about, and bringing some fun and games to the process.
  - We'll share with Convention:
    - Group games like bingo and trivia
    - A slideshow of programs and activities this year
    - Video or live comments from youth and youth leaders about why formation is important
    - And we will participate in liturgy in various ways including perhaps crucifer, torch bearers, lectors and usher-assistants
- **When:** Part I is a sleepover youth event at [Embassy Suites in Portland](#), and Part II is participation in Diocesan Convention the following day.
  - Friday, Nov. 6: Arrive at Embassy Suites in Portland at 5 p.m. to enjoy pizza, a swim in the pool, and planning for the following day
  - Saturday, Nov. 7: Breakfast at Embassy Suites then transportation to USM's Hannaford Hall for participation in Convention from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Who:** any DioME youth in middle or high school (as defined by your district) plus adult chaperones
- Diocesan leaders: Emily Keniston, Birdie D'Agostino, and Mike Douglass
- **Where:** Part I at Embassy Suites in Portland for an overnight stay, then Part II at University of Southern Maine's Portland campus, Hannaford Hall for Convention
- **Why:** Youth are part of the Body of Christ and can help shape the experience of Diocesan Convention together!

Aim moving forward: since our canons provide for an Official Youth Presence, we hope that in hoping years we'll have a “toe-in” option like this PLUS an option for young people to participate in governance.