

**GET REAL!**  
**THE KEYS TO THE DISTRICT! TAKE IT FOR A SPIN!**  
**TIPS ON THE UPCOMING KOSEN-RUFU DAY MEETINGS**  
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For March 16, Kosen-rufu Day, district meetings all over the country will be led by the youth. This may be very challenging for districts that don't have youth participation on a regular basis. Here are a few ideas to keep in mind as we work to bring youth into the scene.

One of the beauties of SGI-USA is how it represents a cross-section of society. There are people from all walks of life, people of different ethnicities and people from a variety of age ranges. Young as well as old are equally valued. This is vital in the district. The district is the fundamental unit of organization. It offers the most immediate interaction among a diversity of members.

The point is that, though it might be very difficult to attract participation from every person in a district, it's a challenge well worth fighting for.

“Wrack our brains” is a common term in our organization. We usually say we're wracking our brains when we're discussing how to be creative. Of course, creativity applies to the arts; we can chant to find inspiration to paint, write, dance and so forth. But, there is also the idea of being creative in helping others. It takes ingenuity to figure out how to truly inspire people. Especially when someone has no current connection to us or our activities, we have to wrack our brains to determine the best forum for their involvement.

Chanting is key. As we pray with genuine concern for helping others, effective ideas will come to mind. This is creativity in action.

At any given time, anyone can inspire anyone. We usually regard things like “guidance in faith” as a one-way street, where a person of experience shares wisdom with someone of less experience. But inspiration can come from anyone. This is a fact that doesn't get put into practice often enough. Frequently in America, youth are not considered sources of inspiration. At places like school and work, there is always seniority; meaning there is always a lengthy ladder to climb. People are rarely handed responsibility without satisfying a social requirement—working their way up the ranks. Some schools operate beyond this tradition, but it seems this rarely happens. In contrast, the SGI-USA district is the perfect arena to give someone instant seniority.

“Here. You're young. As if this discussion meeting were a car, we'd like to give you the keys to the district. Take it for a spin.”

The door swings both ways. While this is a splendid opportunity to give the spotlight to a young person, leading a meeting does not require youth to be “the show.” Some teenagers might be much more excited to go behind the scenes and be like an architect, assigning roles and masterminding a well-planned operation, as they design a great meeting that involves the participation of all four divisions.

Imagine a district full of 15 people ready to execute the vision of a few young people. No, this doesn't have to result in a perfect meeting, but the energy of this scenario will certainly impact the future. We make good causes as we cherish youth and they learn to shoulder the responsibility for peace as they see we are willing to trust them with it.