



### **Purpose of NABS Youth Division:**

To create a network of young people who will carry forth the goals of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers.

### **NABS/YES Mission Statement:**

To bring together youth with an interest in the marine sciences; providing them with educational experiences that enhance their knowledge of and respect for marine life, while promoting safe and skilled exploration of the seas through scuba diving.

- NABS/Youth Educational Summit is a NABS sponsored conference for youth from across the country. It is the intent of NABS to have the YES annually
- NABS clubs and members are encouraged to nominate and prepare youth to participate in NABS/YES
- NABS/YES participants must have an interest in aquatic life
- NABS actively pursues partnerships with leading organizations that can provide stimulating educational activities for summit participants (NOAA – 2009, 2010)

### **NABS Youth Council**

- Comprised of selected NABS/YES youth participants. They are charged with:

1. Developing and influencing policy with regard to the direction of the youth division of NABS
2. Assisting in the planning and implementation of NABS youth activities and programs
3. Assisting with the development of a national diving training/ certification program for NABS youth
4. Identifying scholarships, internships and programs that advance youth participation in the marine sciences

- The NABS Youth Council members are selected annually by the NABS Youth Committee after the NABS/Y.E.S.
- Selected council members possess leadership skills, foster a sense of camaraderie among youth participants, are committed to the goals of the NABS youth division and actively pursue scholarly study of marine science
- Council members will use social networking sources(my space, facebook, tweeting, skype, and emailing) to communicate(monthly)
- NABS will facilitate a yearly meeting of Youth Council members at various sites throughout the country
- NABS Youth Council will assist in planning the NABS/Y.E.S
- The council will be comprised of no more than 15 members at any given time
- NABS Youth Council members are between the ages of 13-18 years of age
- At 19 years of age NABS youth will be encouraged to become general members of the NABS and attend their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual NABS Summit
- NABS will pay the expenses to the 1<sup>st</sup> Summit for these “new” NABS members

