



# Youth on Guard

REMEMBER • HONOR • HEAL

## Philosophy

At Youth on Guard, wellbeing is at the forefront of what we're working together towards. Our programs and activities are designed to be a catalyst that helps community members reach their goals and fulfill their potential. Learn more about the positive impact we have and join us in bringing about positive change.

## Who we are

We are driven by a single goal; to provide an avenue for veterans and their families to remember, honor, grieve, and heal.

The Youth on Guard team re-enacts the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns located in Arlington National Cemetery. The re-enactment occurs over Memorial Day weekend, at Floral Haven Cemetery in Broken Arrow, OK, every year for 54 hours straight.

*"Sacrifice, suffering, and grief are synonymous with war. A nation of families, friends, and citizens mourning the loss of their loved ones, need closure in order to start their grieving process. They need a place that represents this loss and celebrates the sacrifice that protect the liberties of free nations."*

– Society of the Honor Guard,  
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

## Our Purpose

**TO NEVER FORGET:** An unknown soldier is one who has given everything in service to their country, including their identity. A soldier never dies until they are forgotten. We will never forget.



**TO JOIN IN REMEMBRANCE:** There are veterans who have stories that they will never tell. To stand guard over the Unknowns is to also stand guard over the deeds and acts of bravery that are also unknown.

**TO RAISE A GENERATION OF YOUTH WITH A MINDSET OF HONOR:** The sixth line of the sentinel's creed reads, "My standard will remain perfection." The youth who train to serve on the Youth on Guard team learn, through striving for perfection, about duty, honor, and respect. This shapes each one to be an individual whose character and actions are fashioned to reflect the honor that the unknowns deserve.

As the creed states, *"This soldier will, in honored glory rest, under my eternal vigilance."*

**TO PROVIDE A PLACE TO GRIEVE:** There are many that will never be able to visit Arlington National Cemetery. Our re-enactment provides an avenue for them to pursue closure.

## Our History

This Youth on Guard reenactment was begun in 1995 and has been passed on through the youth program as each set of sentinels has trained through the years. Participation is open to individuals from Civil Air Patrol, JROTC, Scouts, and the local community. Youth on Guard seeks young men and women with a mindset of honor. The candidates will invest over 200 hours in their training before Memorial Day weekend. The Youth on Guard training has a series of evaluations that take into consideration the perfection and precision of the ceremony, strict physical fitness standards, memorization of the sentinel's creed, and knowledge of the Tomb of the Unknowns.



For more information  
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