



2021 GIVEN CATHOLIC YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM

Section 1: Welcome

We are excited to welcome you to the 2021 GIVEN Forum! Please use this form to update any information that has changed since you filled out your Forum application.

- Please update any contact information that has changed
- Please indicate which Forum specialty (formerly "track") you wish to be a part of. Note: the General Discernment track is no longer offered, specialty descriptions have changed, and two new specialties will be offered at the 2021 Forum. Please read this section carefully!
- Please update your Action Plan proposal if it has changed.

*****Please Note***** Download this PDF application and save it on your computer, then upload the completed application to the Application Portal. Do not attempt to fill out the application online.



Section 2: Personal Information

Name:

First Name _____

Middle Name _____

Last Name _____

Date of Birth: _____

State in Life: Single Engaged Married Entering Religious Life

Mailing Address: _____

City

State

ZIP

Country

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Diocese: _____

Parish: _____



I am currently:

Undergraduate Student

University _____

Degree _____

Graduation Date _____

Graduate/Post-Graduate Student

University _____

Degree _____

Graduation Date _____

Employed Full-time

Job Title _____

Organization _____

Employed Part-time

Job Title _____

Organization _____

Missionary/Volunteer Full-time

Organization _____

Parenting Full Time

Unemployed

How did you hear about the 2021 GIVEN Forum?

From a friend

From a colleague/supervisor

From a priest/religious sister

From a campus minister

The GIVEN Institute website

Social media

Announcement at a Catholic event

Please specify your selection above (e.g. which social media account, which priest, which sister, which event)

Other (please specify):

Have you been exposed to consecrated religious life?

Yes

No

If so, which religious orders have you been in touch with?



Section 7: Choosing Your GIVEN Forum Specialty

Each attendee will choose a specialty that will shape the small group discussions and mentorship received throughout the Forum and afterwards during the Art of Accompaniment Mentoring Program. After reading the descriptions, select the specialty that is most appropriate for you based on your professional/life status and what you hope to take away from the Forum. Please describe in 250-500 words why you have chosen this specialty, according to the related questions. All specialty selections are subject to approval, and The GIVEN Institute may recommend a different specialty than the one selected.

A. Entrepreneurial

This specialty is designed for young women who have an innovative idea for a new mission, organization, or apostolate. These young women will be guided by established leaders with business acumen and entrepreneurial experience who will support them as they develop their ideas, solidify their plans, and strategize for launch.

Questions to consider in your answer below:

What is your idea for a new mission, organization, or apostolate? How have you felt inspired to pursue it? Who does it intend to serve and what need does it meet? What gifts do you possess to help fulfill this need? Have you taken any tangible steps towards developing your idea? What challenges do you foresee?

B. Post-Service

This specialty is designed for young women who have spent one to three years in service as a missionary, a member of the military, a volunteer in a service corps, or in religious life and desire guidance in discovering God's will for their next steps. These young women will be paired with mentors who have extensive service experience and are equipped to support them in transitioning confidently to future endeavors using the gifts and skills they have developed in their years of service.

Questions to consider in your answer below:

Tell us about your work in long-term service. What did you do? What have you learned about yourself during this time? How has this experience formed you for future service and leadership? What skills have you developed during your years of service? How has your faith been inspired or challenged? What do you see as your next steps in life?



C. Catholic Professional

This specialty is for women who are working within Catholic organizations (e.g. diocesan employees, youth/young adult/campus ministers, educators, non-profit employees) who would like to grow as leaders in their fields. Specific attention will be paid to the challenges and opportunities of working in non-profit and faith-based organizations. They will be mentored by experienced Catholic professionals who lead a variety of Church and non-profit ministries.

Questions to consider in your answer below:

Please describe the organization and/or ministry that you work for. How does its mission inspire you? What gifts do you possess to help carry out this mission?

What challenges have you encountered working in this environment? Do you see opportunities for growth within this field?

D. Secular Professional

This specialty is designed for Catholic women called to a secular workplace or to the public square (e.g. business, finance/accounting, law, sports management/coaching, small business owner, educational leadership, government/public policy, journalist) who desire support as they integrate faith and professional life, navigate secular controversies with faith, and grow as a Catholic and a leader in the secular world. They will be mentored by Catholic professionals and executives who work in a diversity of fields.

Questions to consider in your answer below:

Please describe your work and how you were led to use your gifts in this profession.

What brings you fulfillment in this field? What value do you bring as a woman to the workplace? What challenges and opportunities have you encountered when living out your faith in the midst of your professional life?

E. Artistic

This specialty is designed for women who are creative at heart and have a strong desire to use their gifts in the service of others. Whether a dancer, musician, painter, content creator, writer, or graphic designer, this specialty supports the unique calling and challenges of bringing the good, true, and beautiful to our world and Church. Mentors in this specialty are all experienced artists with varied gifts who will guide, challenge, and support the work of the artist.

Questions to consider in your answer below:

What inspires you to create? How have your artistic pursuits brought you closer to God? How do you bring a particular vision of God or our faith to others through your gifts? What is fulfilling about your work? What are some challenges you face? If there was one thing you could help every Catholic in the pew understand about the creative process or your craft, what would it be?



F. Care for the Human Person

A particular gift of the feminine genius is to nurture life, to care for the other. Although all women are called to nurture life in all vocations and professions, this specialty is designed for women who serve in direct roles caring for the human person. Those in the medical field, such as doctors and nurses, and other healing fields, such as counselors, life-coaches, and psychiatrists, as well as those who serve as primary caregivers of children or the elderly will be supported in this group. Mentors who have made caring for the human person their life's work will serve to inspire and further equip the young leaders who share this calling and will particularly guide them to participate in the Church's rich tradition of social teaching and ethics.

Questions to consider in your answer below:

Does your profession or state in life deal directly with caring for other human persons in body, mind, or spirit? How are you using your particular gifts to protect and nurture others? What do you find most fulfilling about your work? What challenges do you face in your work? How has the community of Christ supported or strengthened your call?

Additional Opportunities (Optional)

During the Forum, all attendees will also have the opportunity to participate in individual discernment sessions with experienced guides. These individual sessions are available for Spiritual Direction, Action Plan Strategy Sessions, and Religious Vocation Discussion. Although we don't expect these sessions to be exhaustive, we make them available to help you "attune your heart to the voice of the Lord and help you identify how the Holy Spirit is moving in your life" in and through your experience at the Forum. Please indicate below if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

Spiritual Direction

This opportunity is designed for women who want to deepen their faith and hone discernment skills while facing both large and small life decisions. These private time slots support young women as they evaluate their gifts and motivational cores and discern the next steps. They will be paired with experienced mentors who are certified spiritual directors.

Action Plan Strategy Session

This individual session is designed for women who want to further develop their Action Plan or are seeking a sounding board for their ideas. Although this is a nuts and bolts session, it is important to listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as you embark on any new initiative. Our mentors available for this session have practical and spiritual depth in taking next steps for success.



Religious Life Discussion

Do you have questions regarding religious life? This casual opportunity allows you to talk to a religious sister about discernment and the Lord's call for a next step in your own journey--or ask questions about her own vocation story!

Selected Specialty: _____

Please describe in 250-500 words why you have chosen this specialty, according to the related questions.

Please check the types of one-on-one sessions you may be interested in attending. Sign ups for these sessions will be available during the Forum.

Spiritual Direction

Action Plan Strategy Session

Religious Life Discussion



Section 8: Action Plan Proposal

The Action Plan is your unique initiative to activate your God-given gifts in the Church and in the world. What do you consider your life's mission? What moves you; sets you on fire; gives you life? Is there a particular population or group you feel drawn to serve? What are your gifts? The Action Plan will be different for each participant because it gives expression to the unique desires the Lord has laid on your heart. Think BIG, dream big, pray deeply, take note of your own desires and capacities, and mold your vision of an Action Plan that will be a gift of yourself that keeps on giving!

Your GIVEN Action Plan is 1.) A new initiative 2.) that serves others and 3.) is completed within the year after your Forum attendance. Throughout the Forum, mentors will assist with Action Plan development, and GIVEN staff and mentors will help guide the implementation of your Action Plan after the Forum, during your participation in the Art of Accompaniment Mentoring Program.

Your Action Plan can be big or small, and everyone's will look different! Some examples of an Action Plan might be:

- Lead a retreat for women in your parish
- Hold a concert or poetry reading and donate the proceeds to a Catholic charity
- Publish a booklet about the life of your favorite saint
- Assemble and distribute care packages for people experiencing homelessness in your community
- Start that new ministry, nonprofit, or business that's been on your heart!

Visit <https://giveninstitute.com/alumnae-action-plans/> to see several examples of real Action Plans that GIVEN Alumnae implemented.

Please refer to the specialty-specific prompts below to help develop your Action Plan proposal.

- **Entrepreneurial:** The Action Plan proposal should be, in whole or in part, your idea of a new mission, organization, or apostolate.
- **Post-Service:** The Action Plan proposal should relate to how you plan to bring your experience in long-term service and the gifts you have cultivated throughout this time to a new community.
- **Catholic Professional:** The Action Plan proposal should be outside the scope of your normal job duties and will ideally relate to the community and mission that you serve.
- **Secular Professional:** The Action Plan proposal could either further the integration of your faith and professional life or address a unique need outside the context of your work.
- **Care for the Human Person:** The Action Plan proposal should deepen your own caring work or support a larger community of caregivers and should promote or celebrate the sanctity of life in a particular way.
- **Artistic:** The Action Plan proposal should share an artistic project or endeavor that highlights or creates beauty, truth and goodness in the world.



Name:

Year: 2021

Specialty:

Vision

Please describe the vision for your Action Plan. What do you hope to accomplish?

Outreach Demographic

Who are you intending to reach? What is the particular need you want to meet?

Implementation

How will you execute your Action Plan? What are the steps you hope to take? What existing groups do you think would support you in your efforts?



Section 9: Electronic Signature

Please review your application carefully. By signing this application form, you certify that your 2021 GIVEN Forum application is complete and accurate.

- I certify that the information I have provided in response to the questions on this form, including information contained in any supplemental material submitted, is complete and accurate and that the essay questions I have submitted are my own work, and all factual representations made therein are true.
- I authorize the use of any and all information included in this application by The GIVEN Institute. This includes, but is not limited to: recommendation letters, biographical information, essays and Action Plan Proposal. I also waive my right to access the letters of recommendation written on my behalf.
- I commit to implementing the post-Forum Action Plan should I attend the 2021 GIVEN Forum.
- I commit to participating in the Art of Accompaniment Mentoring Program should I attend the 2021 GIVEN Forum.
- I understand that The GIVEN Institute is faithful to the Magisterium of the Catholic Church and the Church's teachings.

I understand that all 2021 GIVEN Forum attendees must stay on-site and be present to all sessions, barring extenuating circumstances.

I understand that attending the GIVEN Forum is an initial step in involvement with the larger GIVEN network and community.

Electronic Signature: _____

Today's Date: _____

Once complete, submit your update form online:

www.giveninstitute.com/login

