



PRESS RELEASE

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Leadership Arlington's Impactful Youth Program Seeks Candidates for the Class of 2015

Arlington, VA - Leadership Arlington is seeking promising rising juniors and seniors from area high schools to apply online for the Leadership Arlington Youth Program Class of 2015. The application deadline is Friday, May 29, 2015.

The Leadership Arlington Youth Program is designed to enhance leadership skills and awareness of the need for philanthropy, community service and civic participation in rising high school juniors and seniors.

The goal of the Youth Program is that every young leader in our region be able to:

- Develop leadership skills through a strong curriculum taught by skilled facilitators
- Gain an awareness of the need for community service, civic participation and philanthropy
- Increase familiarity with areas in Arlington beyond their immediate neighborhood and school
- Interact with adult leaders in private, public and nonprofit sectors
- Acquire a network of adult and youth leaders in Arlington, forming an excellent basis for academic and professional success.

"At first I was suspicious when the adults repeated over and over how much fun the program was going to be, but they were right," shared program graduate Ryan Uckert. "I learned a lot about Arlington and what makes it work. There are so many people working behind the scenes who don't get the credit they deserve, and it was great seeing and learning about the tremendous positive impact they have on the community. I won't forget the skills, friendships and memories from my time with Leadership Arlington."

For two weeks, the Youth Program meets at different public, private and nonprofit locations throughout Arlington County. Participants have the opportunity to be exposed to diverse organizations and meet with local leaders during this hands-on, experiential program.

Skills sessions focus on professionalism, mentoring, cultural competency and facilitation. "It was especially beneficial listening to the speakers because they are real-life leaders," said one Youth Program Class of 2014 graduate.

Our Youth Program is unique in its "Philanthropy in Action" program session, which allows participants to learn the value of philanthropy through visits to approximately 30 local nonprofits in Arlington. Participants are tasked with awarding a \$1,000 grant to one of these nonprofits, developing their own criteria for evaluating each nonprofit and coming to consensus about the grant awardee.

Youth Program applications are due by Friday, May 29, 2015. The applications are now available online at www.leadershiparlington.org/programs/apply/youth-programapply. Participants are not required to live in Arlington County, and students from all jurisdictions may apply.

For more information about Leadership Arlington and the Youth Program, visit www.leadershiparlington.org/programs/youth.

Thank you to 2015 Youth Program Supporter Ellen M. Bozman of the Arlington Community Foundation.

About Leadership Arlington

The mission of Leadership Arlington is to enlighten, inspire and connect leaders to strengthen the community. The vision of Leadership Arlington is a prepared, inspired and inclusive leadership who together embrace responsibility for the common good. For more information, visit www.leadershiparlington.org or call 703-528-2522.