

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leadership Arlington Welcomes its Newest Class of Young Leaders Committed to Community Involvement

Arlington, VA - Leadership Arlington is proud to announce the members of the Leadership Arlington Youth Program Class of 2013.

For the past two weeks, the youth program met at different business, nonprofit and government locations throughout Arlington County, providing participants with the hands-on opportunity to be exposed to diverse organizations and meet with leaders from our community.

During the program, participants visited various nonprofits to learn about the work and service each site provides to the community. Students then developed their own criteria to evaluate which nonprofit they would like to award with a grant.

The Class of 2013 was comprised of 24 youth leaders who are rising juniors and seniors in high school. On Thursday, August 15, 2013, these young leaders graduated in a ceremony held at Marymount University. The ceremony took place in the Reinsch Library Auditorium from 6:00 to 8:00pm.

At the graduation ceremony, the students announced <u>A-SPAN</u> as this year's recipient of the \$1,000 grant from the Leadership Arlington Youth Program Class of 2013.

Participant Hannah Mesches stated, "Our class is confident that this donation will make a significant difference to A-SPAN. The mission of A-SPAN, or Arlington Street People's Assistance Network, is to provide secure permanent housing for one of Arlington's most vulnerable populations through outreach and relationships built on trust and respect...With donations from the public, A-SPAN has been able to house 50 people since 2007, and we can't wait for them to be able to help even more."



Congratulations to the Leadership Arlington Youth Program Class of 2013! Please see the list below of the 24 diverse youth leaders in this year's class.



Leadership Arlington Youth Program Class of 2013

Katherine Barton, Bishop Ireton Yanglei Cato, Washington-Lee Noah Chase, Yorktown Isaias Dawit, Wakefield Joe Freund, Yorktown Emily Golden, Yorktown Jonathan Green, Washington-Lee Ciara Hockey, H-B Woodlawn Jennifer Laredo, Washington-Lee **Stephen Lovelace**, Yorktown Katherine Maleckar, Yorktown Carla Marino, Wakefield Caroline Meek, Washington-Lee Hannah Mesches, Washington-Lee Jessica Neupane, Randolph Macon Academy Jackson Newsome, H-B Woodlawn Brandon Peck, Yorktown Lexi Peck, Yorktown Estefani Santander, Wakefield Joseph Sanz, H-B Woodlawn Emma Snead, H-B Woodlawn Kristen Somers, Yorktown Carolina Sosa, Westfield Leah Young, Washington-Lee

About Leadership Arlington

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