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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Leadership Center for Excellence Welcomes 20 Young Professionals to Membership

Arlington, VA - On Wednesday, September 6, 2017, Leadership Center for Excellence welcomed its newest class of the Young Professionals Program as it gathered for the first time at a day-long retreat.

Bean, Kinney & Korman, PC hosted the exciting launch session for this four-month program that focuses on civic and philanthropic awareness to promote a deeper level of community engagement throughout the DC metro region. Twenty participants were selected to engage in the eleventh session of this experiential program for fast-track leaders in the region. Through its three leadership programs, Leadership Center for Excellence has graduated 1,400 leaders representing more than 600 organizations across the region.

"Our Young Professionals Program, offered in the Fall and Spring, provides a launchpad for up-and-coming leaders to expand their leadership footprint in our region," says Liz Nohra, Chief Operating Officer at Leadership Center for Excellence. "We provide training on essential skills necessary for both professional and personal leadership. These young professionals also connect with other leaders in their peer group as well as established leaders from the private, public and nonprofit sectors. It's our hope that this program results in retention of young leaders in our region who will mold the future of our community."

"Our region is filled with a large population of young professionals. They have the talent; we help them tap into that talent, build upon it and develop additional skills and resources to become agents of change," explains Betsy Frantz, President & CEO at Leadership Center for Excellence.



**Congratulations to the Leadership Center for Excellence
Young Professional Program Fall Class of 2017!**

- Malek Ben-Salem**, Accenture
- Matt Blunt**, Arlington County Fire Department
- Danielle Bush**, Arlington County Treasurer's Office
- Deborah Cordo**, Chain Bridge Bank
- Kate Floyd**, Arlington Commons
- Melen Hagos**, Greater Washington Community Foundation
- Tselote Hailemariam**, Council on Foundations
- Berkley Jenkins**, Accenture Federal Services
- William Jones**, Arlington County Department of Environmental Services/Transit Bureau
- Marty Kahsar**, Virginia Hospital Center
- Kelsey McCarthy**, CAF America

- Julia Michaels**, Council of Graduate Schools
- Banjo Obayomi**, Metronome
- Maija Paegle**, Arlington County Department of Parks & Recreation
- Ibrahim Pashaei**, Northern Virginia Landscaping
- Cate Reich**, Accenture/FusionX
- Aisha Salazar**, Arlington Food Assistance Center
- Yasmin Serrato-Munoz**, Accenture Federal Services
- Tori Simms**, Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce
- Leo Yilmaz**, Arlington County Fire Department
- Tiffany Young**, The Art Institute of Washington

Click [here](#) to see photos from the Opening Retreat.

About Leadership Center for Excellence

The mission of Leadership Center for Excellence is to enlighten, inspire and connect leaders through community building and leadership development. For more information, visit leadercenter.org or call 703-528-2522.

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