



PRESS RELEASE
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Leadership Arlington Youth Program Seeks Candidates for the Class of 2013

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 2013 by Friday, May 10, 2013.

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. This summer, the Leadership Arlington Youth Program will celebrate 10 years.

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.

"I am more aware of my community. Because of this, I can be more involved. I really want to give back to my community and help out more. I want to volunteer and put more time and effort into my community," notes a Youth Program Class of 2012 graduate. "I also experienced new forms of leadership and learned about leadership by example. I now know how I can best input valuable information to a group."

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.

The Leadership Arlington 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. One Youth Program Class of 2012 graduate reflected on this program aspect, mentioning, "Visiting nonprofits helped me become more aware of what is going on in the community." After the nonprofit site visits, participants are tasked with deciding on one nonprofit to be the recipient of a \$1,000 grant, developing their own criteria for evaluating each nonprofit and coming to consensus about the grant awardee.

Youth Program applications are due by Friday, May 10, 2013. The applications are now available online at www.leadershiparlington.org/programs/apply/youth-program-apply. 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.

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.