



LEADERSHIP GREATER MADISON – YOUTH: GREAT CIVIC LEADERSHIP STARTS HERE APPLICATION MATERIALS – 2016/2017

WHAT IS LEADERSHIP GREATER MADISON-YOUTH?

Leadership Greater Madison-Youth (LGM-Youth) is a civic leadership development program for high school sophomores in Dane County. LGM-Youth launched in Feb. 2015 with a pilot class of 18 students from 11 school districts and is now open to all Dane County High School sophomores. The 6-month program is comprised of hands-on, experiential learning opportunities that help students learn about the community in which they live and allows them to see the leadership roles they can play. The off-site, daylong sessions include a range of leadership skill development activities/exercises; thoughtful discussions and interactive conversations with local experts; a team project; and an invaluable opportunity to connect with youth from other schools and with numerous community leaders and mentors. Along with giving participants an enriching learning experience, it also qualifies them for credit toward a prestigious Youth Leadership Certificate from the Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction.

***Leadership Greater
Madison – Youth will
inspire you to lead, so you
can be an inspiration to
others.***

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF LGM-YOUTH?

One key priority for school districts and communities is to provide enrichment opportunities for students identified to have leadership or academic “potential.” There is a concerted effort in schools to identify authentic experiences where students can gain a deeper understanding of themselves; build relationships with diverse members of society; apply their skills and academic learning to improve the community; and increase their civic participation. LGM-Youth addresses all of these criteria while also creating a safe space for students to engage in meaningful dialogue about critical issues facing our communities, including topics like homelessness, racial disparity and poverty. It is this type of environment and engagement that will help our future leaders foster relationships and partnerships that create a better community for everyone.

WHO ARE THE IDEA CANDIDATES FOR LGM-YOUTH?

The ideal applicant will have demonstrated leadership potential, be self-nominated or nominated by a parent, educator, counselor or LGM alum; be in good academic standing; and receive administrative approval from the school to participate in the six monthly sessions which occur during the school day. Up to two students from each area high school will be accepted into the class. Program participants must commit to attending each of six (6) full-day sessions (8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) on the second Tuesday of the month between November and May (no session in January) and be willing to participate full and engage with program coordinators, mentors and fellow participants.

WHY LGM-YOUTH WANTS YOU:

- You've got enthusiasm, energy, fresh perspective, exciting ideas;
- You have what it takes to make a difference in your community;
- Others recognize that you have the potential to be a school and/or civic leader; and
- Your hometown and the Madison area need a future leader like you!

WHY WOULD YOU CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE IN LGM-YOUTH:

- You want the opportunity to meet Madison's decision makers and see what makes your community tick;
- You want to check out various career opportunities;
- You want to make new friends from area high schools;
- You want to earn a prestigious, state-issued Youth Leadership Certificate;
- You want to get involved in a team project that benefits your community; and
- You want to learn valuable, life-long leadership skills.



LGM-YOUTH PROGRAM BASICS

PROGRAM SCHEDULE*

(Second Tuesday of the month)

1. November 8, 2016
2. December 13, 2016
3. February 14, 2017
4. March 14, 2017
5. April 11, 2017
6. May 9, 2017

** A final schedule and program summary will be distributed to program participants upon acceptance into the program. Schedule is subject to change based on school calendars.*

COST & SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

1. Students participating in the program will have a \$50 tuition fee due by the first session to cover a portion of programming and material costs.
2. Remaining program costs are covered by corporate sponsorships, individual donations and grants (actual cost per student is \$1,500 - \$2,500, depending on final enrollment numbers).
3. Needs-based scholarships to cover the \$50 tuition fee are available to qualified applicants

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- _____ Completed Application Form
- _____ Essay Question Answers
- _____ Up to two Letters of Recommendation
- _____ Signature Pages

Completed applications can be submitted no later than Friday, October 28, 2016 to your high school LGM-Youth contact person or to program director, Lynn Wood lwood@wcgpr.com or mailed to:

Leadership Greater Madison-Youth
c/o Wood Communications Group
44 E. Mifflin St., Suite 404, Madison, WI 53703



LGM-YOUTH APPLICATION

First & Last Name (please print clearly): _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

High School Name: _____ Grade: _____ GPA: _____

Gender (Optional): _____ Race (Optional): _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____ Parent/Guardian Daytime Phone: _____

- Special requirements: dietary, physical or other: _____
- How will you get to off-site class sessions*?
 Parent/guardian Drive Self Carpool Public Transportation Need assistance with transportation

**Students will need to find transportation to either the program site or a central location from which they will be transported to session location as a group. Carpooling is encouraged and LGM-Youth program coordinators will assist with coordination, as needed. Please contact program coordinators if transportation will provide a barrier to participation.*

Please attach a document that includes answers to the following questions

Essay questions (no more than 250 words per question)

1. In your mind, what is the biggest issue facing youth today, and how might you go about addressing/resolving this issue?
2. Please describe what you hope to gain from participating in LGM-YOUTH.
3. What skills, talents, experiences or unique perspectives do you believe you would offer the LGM-Youth program?
4. Every obstacle we face in life comes with an opportunity to learn something new. Describe a challenge that you have faced, how you persevered, and what you learned from the experience.
5. Please tell us about your involvement in extra-curricular activities. List up to three school-related activities and up to three community-related activities.

Letters of Recommendation/Reference: Up to two letters of recommendation from any adult in your life except for a parent or legal guardian. The letter should be no more than one page and address the following:

- How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity?
- What do you consider the applicant's primary talents or strengths?
- Describe one situation where you observed the applicant in a leadership role.
- Any other information you would like to share about the applicant.

Tuition/Scholarship: I wish to request a scholarship to cover the \$50 tuition payment. Yes No
If yes, please include a paragraph about why you are applying for financial assistance.



CONSENT/SIGNATURE PAGE

APPLICANT

I hereby certify that all information contained in this document is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I hereby give consent to Leadership Greater Madison to access and release all of the above information, including my photograph, as necessary to conduct Leadership Greater Madison-Youth business and promotions. I understand that I may revoke consent for release of information and promotion at any time in writing. I understand and agree that if I am selected to participate in this program, I will be required to attend every session in its entirety.

Printed Name _____ **Date** _____

Applicant Signature _____

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL/COUNSELOR/LIAISON

I hereby grant my permission for the student named above to participate in Leadership Greater Madison-Youth. If selected, the student will be excused from regular school attendance during session days with no penalty. Students will be required to coordinate directly with teachers regarding missed work.

Printed Name _____ **Date** _____

Authorized School Representative Signature _____

PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

I hereby grant my permission for the student named above to apply for Leadership Greater Madison-Youth; and if selected, to participate in the program. I hereby give consent for the student's photograph to be taken during session days or otherwise for Leadership Greater Madison-Youth business and promotions. The student is excused from regular school attendance during session days. I understand and agree that if my child is selected to participate in this program, he/she will be required to attend every session in its entirety.

In granting permission for participation in Leadership Greater Madison-Youth, I hereby release and hold harmless Leadership Greater Madison and its employees or agents from and against any injury, loss, damage, accident, or expense arising out of, or in any way related to, participation in Leadership Greater Madison-Youth. I acknowledge that I have carefully read this release and understand its impact and effect. I acknowledge that if I had any questions regarding this release, that I have exercised my right to have it reviewed and further explained to me prior to my signing.

Printed Name _____ **Date** _____

Parent/legal Guardian Signature _____