



## **2011-2012 YOUTH LEADERSHIP ERIE COUNTY PROGRAM** **APPLICATION**

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Youth Leadership Erie County is a program of Leadership Buffalo and is offered to high school sophomores and juniors throughout Erie County, helps to develop basic skills in leadership, problem-solving, and communication while gaining awareness of community issues, diversity, and personal potential.

The program seeks a diverse group of students who have leadership potential, but have not had experience in positions of leadership at their schools or in community volunteer work. Selection is made by a committee of community representatives and program alumni. All applicants will receive notification of their status in June. Because the Youth Leadership class must reflect the depth and diversity of students in Erie County, we regret that all qualified candidates are not always accepted into the program.

Attendance is required at **Parent Orientation**, **Opening Retreat** and the **Monthly Day Sessions**. One excused absence and one early dismissal is allowed. Transportation to and from each session is the student's responsibility. Transportation within each session is provided.

### **2011-2012 PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**Opening Retreat** – Youth Leadership Erie County begins with an Overnight Opening Retreat held at Cradle Beach Camp. This retreat will provide the foundation for the year-long Youth Leadership program. The Retreat is also designed to create a team atmosphere among the participants.

**Day Sessions** – These monthly sessions introduce participants to various community issues such as healthcare, education, criminal justice, and economic development. They provide opportunities for students to explore each of these as components of the community at large. Each session will include community leaders relating to an issue facing our community and activities to allow students to have meaningful discussion about how to address these issues.

**Service Learning** – Students will take part in service learning projects during the course of the program. Students will be expected to commit 15 to 20 hours outside of program time to the service learning component.

### **Parent and Student Orientation**

A program orientation for parents and selected students will be held on Tuesday, July 19th from 6:00 to 8:30pm.

### **TO APPLY**

Complete the enclosed application and return to Leadership Buffalo by June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Selection for participation in the 2011-2012 YLEC program is a competitive process. We cannot guarantee acceptance of all applicants. Please mail applications to:

Leadership Buffalo  
Attn: Youth Leadership Application Committee  
237 Main Street, Suite 1500  
Buffalo NY, 14203

### **TUITION**

The program tuition is \$600. Thanks to community, foundation and corporate sponsorship we are able to subsidize a significant portion of the total program cost per student of \$1900. A limited number of partial scholarships will be available to help defray the \$600 tuition on an as needed basis. Please complete the scholarship request form in addition to the application for consideration. Scholarship requests are confidential and not considered during the selection process.

Please contact the Leadership Buffalo office at 849-2626 or [sbewlay@leadershipbuffalo.org](mailto:sbewlay@leadershipbuffalo.org) for more scholarship info.



## 2011-2012 YLEC PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

If completing by hand, please print legibly using dark ink. All answers must be on this form, please do not attach personal information. The form may be photocopied. All requested signatures (3) are required for the application to be complete.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

**Race/Ethnicity:** (Information collected at the request of our Program Funders – for reporting purposes, please check all that apply. )

African-American \_\_\_\_\_ Arabic \_\_\_\_\_ Asian \_\_\_\_\_ Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_

Native American \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied to Youth Leadership previously? Yes No

How did you hear about the program? (School, church, friends, community organizations or others)

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

Do you qualify for a free school lunch? Yes No

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand the commitment involved with YOUTH LEADERSHIP and will authorize this applicant's participation. I verify the applicant's graduation year as stated above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Principal or Administrator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### COMMITMENT OF APPLICANT

If selected, your success in this program depends upon your personal commitment to being an active, involved, participating member. Please read the following statement, think carefully about it and sign your name to indicate your agreement:

*"If chosen for YOUTH LEADERSHIP Erie County, I am committed to complete participation in all aspects of the program by my attendance, positive attitude, respect for others, and cooperation."*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY.

A. Use a few phrases or adjectives to describe yourself and include what's important to you.

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B. Describe an occasion where you interacted with people different than yourself (i.e. different culture or age). What did you learn about yourself from that experience?

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C. What role do you think young people can play in shaping the future of our community? How do you plan to serve our community now and in the future?

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D. What do you think is one extremely important issue for people who live in Western New York? How can we begin to solve it?

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E. Leadership Buffalo works to build the leadership of our community. Please identify someone who you believe has shown true leadership in Western NY and explain what actions or characteristics make them a leader?

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F. We are looking for established leaders, people who are becoming leaders, and people who show interest in leadership but need to have the opportunity to build their skills first. Which group describes you and why?

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**2011-2012 YOUTH LEADERSHIP ERIE COUNTY**  
**Day Session Calendar**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>August 30- August 31</b>	<b>Opening Retreat</b>	<b>Cradle Beach Camp</b>
<b>September 29</b>	<b>History and Governance of WNY</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>October 27</b>	<b>Neighborhood Discovery Day</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>November 17</b>	<b>Service Learning/Community Action</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>December 15</b>	<b>Arts, Culture &amp; Tourism Day</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>January 16</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. – Community Service Day</b>	<b>10am – 3pm</b>
<b>February 9</b>	<b>Health Care Day</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>March 8</b>	<b>Education Day</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>April 19</b>	<b>Criminal Justice Day</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>May 10</b>	<b>Economic Development Day</b>	<b>Noon – 5pm</b>
<b>June 6</b>	<b>Graduation</b>	<b>6:00pm – Dessert Reception</b>