



2012 LEADERSHIP BUFFALO – CLASS EXPERIENCE APPLICATION

Leadership Buffalo is WNY's Premier Network of business, professional and civic leaders dedicated to improving our own organizations, and building a better Buffalo!

Leadership Buffalo brings together existing and emerging leaders from diverse backgrounds and perspectives in order to increase their ability to effectively lead; to develop an in-depth knowledge of the critical issues facing Western New York; by providing direct access to the top level leaders and decision makers in each sector we examine; and through networking and sharing hands-on experiences with the 1000 plus Leadership Buffalo graduates in our Leadership Buffalo Network.

Leadership Buffalo acts as a catalyst by bringing diverse individuals together who must decide for themselves how THEY will serve the community. It is the responsibility of each member to face, accept and act on this challenge.

THE CLASS EXPERIENCE

The Leadership Buffalo Class Experience is a series of monthly, full day sessions and two overnight retreats. **The 2012 Opening Retreat will be held January 27-28. The Day sessions are scheduled on the following dates: February 15, March 14, April 18, May 9, June 13, July 12 (Thursday), August 8, and October 10. The 2012 Closing Retreat is scheduled for September 14-15. The Graduation Gala will take place on the evening of November 16, 2012.**

The challenge, concept and practice of leadership will be explored along with such key topics as economic development, regional partnerships, education, health care, criminal justice, human services, and the arts. The goal of the Leadership Buffalo Class Experience is to inspire and better equip individual graduates to lead change in WNY.

SCHEDULE REQUIREMENTS

Time invested in Leadership Buffalo is both valuable and meaningful. Candidates must be willing to devote a substantial amount of time to the LB Class Experience.

In order to successfully complete the 2012 Class Experience, participants must attend both the entire 2-day Opening and Closing Retreats, and all Day Sessions (see dates above). Day Sessions generally run 8:00 am - 5:30 pm, and class members are expected to attend every Day Session in its entirety. Two absences from day sessions will be allowed for personal/family emergencies. More than two absences will be cause for withdrawal from the Class.

All LB Class Experience Participants are encouraged to participate in four (4) Leadership Theory training sessions designed to increase their knowledge and understanding of Leadership and its real world applications. These trainings will take place once per month from February through May in the evening, and last 90 minutes per session. Dinner will be provided for all participants.

In addition, members will be assigned to a team responsible for planning one issue topic for a Leadership Buffalo session or event. The executive director and program associate serve as advisors to the planning teams.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Upon acceptance into the Class of 2012, each participant must pay Leadership Buffalo the 2012 annual membership dues of \$130 to reserve their position in the class.

Tuition for the 2012 Class is \$3,750. Tuition must be paid in full prior to the Opening Retreat unless special arrangements have been made with the Executive Director. Partial scholarships are available based on need, to ensure all qualified candidates are able to participate in the Leadership Buffalo Class. Tuition is usually paid by the participant's financial sponsor (an employer or sponsoring organization) or by the participant himself/herself. Dues and tuition are non-refundable.

SCHOLARSHIP ASSISTANCE

Partial scholarships are available to candidates with demonstrated need. To be considered for assistance, candidates must submit a separate financial aid request form *with* their application. Financial assistance forms are available on our website or from the Leadership Buffalo office (716-849-2626, ext. 14 / lb@leadershipbuffalo.org).

SELECTION CRITERIA

There is no more effective or prestigious leadership organization in Western New York than Leadership Buffalo. Participation is open to persons who have initiated change and achieved results in their career and/or community roles. Dedication to the community in the form of significant volunteer service is important for selection into the Class. Individuals must be willing to devote the time necessary to be a full participant in the LB Class Experience.

COLLEGE CREDIT

Undergraduate or graduate credit and CEU credits for successful completion of the Leadership Buffalo Class may be granted through Buffalo State College. Further details will be supplied upon written request.

LEADERSHIP BUFFALO MEMBERSHIP

Ongoing membership in Leadership Buffalo is expected of graduates of the Class Experience program. Payment of annual dues entitles members to be listed in and receive the Leadership Buffalo member roster and electronic mail, the LB weekly e-newsletter Network News, and invitations to private issue sessions, forums, evenings with key community leaders, behind the scenes tours, and other special events. LB graduates may return for any Class Day Session for a nominal fee.

Leadership Buffalo is an organization of over 1000 leaders in Western New York. As a members' organization, Leadership Buffalo is governed by an elected Board of Directors. The daily implementation of the organization's mission is the responsibility of Leadership Buffalo's staff under the direction of its executive director in partnership with volunteers from the membership who serve on various committees.

Leadership Buffalo, a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, is an active member of the Community Leadership Association.

APPLICATION

To receive additional applications for the Class of 2012, please contact the Leadership Buffalo office at 716-849-2626, ext. 14, or send your request by e-mail to lb@leadershipbuffalo.org. Applications are also available at www.leadershipbuffalo.org.

Applications must be RECEIVED at the Leadership Buffalo office no later than 5:00 pm, Thursday, October 20th, 2011.

Please mail to the following address:
2012 Class Experience Applicant Committee
LEADERSHIP BUFFALO
237 Main Street, Suite 1500
Buffalo, NY 14203