

The Lion's Pride Project *Summer Youth Leadership Summit* June 16-18, 2010



Sponsored by the Nonprofit Administration Program of Lindenwood University

To assist high school students who possess an affinity for helping others and who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills to develop a deeper understanding of their roles in social change and to connect them to specific opportunities to act in service to others.

During the past six years, there has been a rising sense of alarm in the nonprofit sector about the future of its leadership. Study after study has pointed to an impending crisis, with roughly 75 percent of executive directors/CEOs reporting that they plan to leave their jobs within the next five years. Concerns about how to identify new leaders and issues of workforce development have become high priorities for those thinking about the sector's future.

Through the **Nonprofit Administration Program at Lindenwood University**, we believe a broader view of the issue is appropriate and needed. As Baby-Boom-age leaders leave, the sector will approach an important turning point ripe with both challenges and opportunities. It is critical that we muster our broadest, most creative, and most incisive thinking to understand and respond to this particular historical moment by recognizing the untapped pool of potential leaders -- *young managers in training*.

In response to this societal need, Lindenwood University's Nonprofit Administration Program will be piloting a unique and innovative summer youth initiative – **The Lion's Pride Project**. The conference is designed to recognize high school students who possess an affinity for helping others and who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills. By engaging in the Lion's Pride Project, these students will develop a deeper understanding of their roles in social change and to connect them to specific opportunities to act in service to others.

In 1990, there were 17 graduate programs in nonprofit management in the United States. Today, there are well over 90, including the degree program sponsored by Lindenwood University. The young people who follow such courses of study not only are committed to serving the nonprofit sector, but are more qualified to do so as a result of their training.

As a result, Lindenwood University is now accepting applications from students who would serve as distinguished nominees for this select program which will be held at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Missouri on **June 16-18, 2010**. Interested students who will be completing their freshman - junior year at the conclusion of the 2009-10 academic year and who meet the criterion outlined in the enclosed materials are encouraged to work through their school principal or guidance counselor in making an application for program consideration. Please note that all nominations and applications forms must be received or postmarked by **March 15, 2010**.

Interested students and parents are welcome to contact Dr. Julie Turner, Assistant Professor, Nonprofit Administration and Coordinator, The Lion's Pride Project, at 636-949-4652 or jturner@lindenwood.edu, if you have any questions or if you desire to receive the application materials electronically.

"One of the greatest liabilities of history is that all too many people fail to remain awake through great periods of social change. Today, our very survival depends on our ability to stay awake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of our change."
Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.

Purpose of the Program

To assist rising high school students who possess an affinity for helping others and who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills to develop a deeper understanding of their roles in social change and to connect them to specific opportunities to act in service to others. Utilizing the faculty and resources of Lindenwood University, students will leave with an increased appreciation for the pleasures of education, intellectual engagement, service learning, and the college experience.

The Participants

In its inaugural year, The Lion's Pride Project will enroll 50 students. The experience is limited to students completing the 9th-11th grade by June 2010 who meet the qualifications for nomination status. To qualify as a nominee, a student must have a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0, complete an application form and responses to essay questions related to service, and secure a letter of recommendation by an individual familiar with the student's commitment to service. Initial nomination may come from a wide range of individuals (i.e.: youth pastor, athletic coach, volunteer coordinator for a nonprofit organization, etc.).

The Staff

Dr. Julie Turner is the founder of The Lion's Pride Project and is an Assistant Professor of Nonprofit Administration at Lindenwood University. Dr. Turner has nearly 20 years of relevant experience, having served as a secondary school teacher, school district administrator, and a nonprofit executive in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Additional members of the Nonprofit Administration program faculty as well as respected leaders in the local nonprofit sector will also be involved in delivering course content.

The Program Mentors

Outstanding students enrolled in Lindenwood's Nonprofit Degree program will serve as both teaching assistants and resident advisors to help individualize the program's course of study. These individuals will also supervise the student's time at Lindenwood and will be housed in the dormitories with the student participants.

The Residence Facilities

Students enrolled in The Lion's Pride Project will be housed in either women's or men's air-conditioned, handicapped accessible residence halls near the center of the Lindenwood University campus and will share a dorm room with one other program participant (same gender). Students' activities are closely supervised out of the classroom, as well as in the classroom.

Course Credit

Students who will be of junior or senior status in the fall of 2010 are eligible to receive up to two (2) college credits for participation. Additional fees and course requirements will apply. Students who are interested will be contacted later to let them know the cost per credit hour and receive a course syllabus outlining required text, assignments and due dates.

Meals

Students will be provided with three meals per day while they are participating in the program (exception of Wednesday and Friday, where two meals will be provided). Most of these meals will be offered in Lindenwood's main cafeteria unless the schedule requires off-site programming and, in those instances, students will be provided with either a box lunch or a pre-paid meal.

Program Fees

The cost for the four-day conference is \$375 per student, which includes workshop participation, an air-conditioned room and meals, a one-day trip to St. Louis-based nonprofit organizations, social outings, participation in a volunteer opportunities fair, t-shirt and tote bag, gift certificate to Lindenwood's Spirit Shoppe.

Arrival and Departure

Students attending The Lion's Pride Project Summer Youth Leadership Summit will check in to their residence hall on Wednesday, June 16 at 9:00 AM and will check out of the residence hall on Friday, June 18 by 5:00 PM. Students who drive

themselves to campus are welcome to leave their cars in designated lots but will NOT be permitted to leave campus while participating in the program.

Classes and Activities

During the conference, students will be involved in a series of intensive workshops and hands-on experiences designed to immerse the student into the workings of the nonprofit sector. Activities are highly participative in nature and students will be required to keep up with the program’s rapid pace and participate fully in all facets of the program. The itinerary of the conference is as follows. Students accepted for participation will receive a detailed program agenda closer to the time of the conference.

Date	Time	Explanation of Activity
Wednesday, June 16	10-11:30 AM	Welcome and Keynote Address <i>“The Future of Youth and Leadership”</i>
	11:30-12:00 PM	Community Building Activities
	12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch and Keynote <i>“Why My Company Chooses to Make a Difference in Our Community”</i>
	1:00-3:00 PM	<i>“What is Service?”</i> Break-out Sessions
	3:00-4:00 PM	<i>“Why I Work in the Nonprofit Sector”</i> Community Panel
	4:00-5:00 PM	Social Change Activities
	6:00-10:00 PM	Dinner / Group Activity led by Program Mentors
Thursday, June 17	9:00-4:00 PM	<i>“Taking it to the Streets: Behind the Scenes in the Nonprofit Sector”</i> A chartered bus will take the group to four (4) nonprofit agencies in the St. Louis/St. Charles area for a site visit, overview of services, and Q&A time. Focus will be on management issues as opposed to direct service and will also consider sites that showcase social entrepreneurship. 7:00 – 10:00 PM – Group Outing
Friday, June 18	9:00-3:00 PM	<i>“Day of Service”</i> Students will carpool to one of 4-5 local nonprofit organizations for a day of hands-on volunteer service. Lunch provided by the organization on site.

About Lindenwood University

Lindenwood University is a dynamic four-year liberal arts institution dedicated to excellence in higher education. The historic 500-acre campus is situated in the heart of St. Charles, Missouri, a growing community of 62,000 just west of St. Louis. The University has a liberal arts heritage that goes back 180 years. In that time, the University has learned how to educate in a way that helps each student become a self-sufficient, effective, contributing citizen. Founded in 1827, Lindenwood University offers more than 100 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to nearly 15,000 students through values-centered programs that lead to development of the whole person. Lindenwood’s faculty, staff and administration are committed to an integrative liberal arts curriculum that focuses on the talents, interests and future of its students.

Lindenwood is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education and is known nationally and internationally for innovation, entrepreneurship and extraordinary dedication to students. Lindenwood thrives on the premise that education is the way to personal freedom and responsibility, which are the keystones of any democracy. The University is an independent institution firmly rooted in Judeo-Christian values. Those values include belief in an ordered, purposeful universe, the dignity of work, the worth and integrity of the individual, the obligations and privileges of citizenship and the primacy of truth.

The Nonprofit Administration (NPA) degree program offered through Lindenwood is the only undergraduate degree awarding program in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Students at both its undergraduate and graduate level are educated to be nonprofit leaders and managers through a rigorous academic curriculum coupled with service learning.

Lion's Pride Project Deadlines and Timelines	
Nominations and applications received or postmarked	March 15, 2010
Nominees notified of program status and next steps	April 15, 2010
Medical forms, consent and liability forms, and program payment due	May 1, 2010
Lion's Pride Project Summer Youth Summit	June 16-18, 2010

Lindenwood University is a proud member of the 2008 President's Honor Roll for Higher Education Community Service and the 2009 recipient for the American Humanics Excellence in Internships Award.



Lion's Pride Project

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The Lion's Pride Project
Summer Youth Leadership Summit & Year Round Service Project Initiative
Lindenwood University