

Leadership Huntington

www.leadershiphuntington.org



Developing, Connecting and Engaging since 1995

What Is Leadership Huntington?

If you ask any Leadership Huntington graduate to explain the program to you in a sentence, they would tell you the task is impossible. That is because the program is so diverse and encompasses so many facets that brevity does not do it justice.

Essentially, the mission of the program is to stimulate positive change by engaging and inspiring a broad range of citizens to embrace community trusteeship. The organization's cornerstone Flagship Program starts and ends with intensive training in team-building and leadership development. The rest of the class is filled with direct exposure to diverse community leaders, lessons in local history, and exploration of local concerns.

The best solutions start locally, with citizens who understand the issues, their communities, and their own vision and values. Leadership Huntington provides that education, fostering individual initiative and community trusteeship, building connections, and inspiring solutions. Over the course of nine months, Leadership candidates meet every few weeks for workshops, with topics ranging from the arts and government to community challenges and healthcare.

There are well over 1,000 community leadership programs nationwide. Together, Huntington stakeholders have built one of the best, right in the Town of Huntington. Leadership is a nonpartisan organization founded in 1995 by the Huntington Township Chamber Foundation, which was a philanthropic arm of the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce. Within that context, long-time community trustees – local notables such as Libby Hubbard, Ken Christensen, Vaughan Spilsbury, Arthur Goldstein, Jill Tane, Rex Metcalf, Dianne Parker, and many others – came together to preserve what was best about the dynamic, eclectic Huntington community while at the same time embracing the cutting edge of modern community leadership development.

In 2007, the Leadership Huntington Foundation became an independent 501(c)3. Its Flagship Program has created nearly 300 diverse graduates. Many hold leadership positions within businesses, nonprofits, government and civic groups.

Striving to create a more educated public, Leadership joined with the eight libraries of Huntington and others to advance civil discourse through the



"Community Conversations" series. These events engage community members in discussion with experts and decision makers on the challenges facing the region. Another effort, the Huntington Community Council, is a joint initiative with the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce to connect and serve local nonprofits.

Leadership is built with professional, financial and other support from our community. Early support from the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce enabled the organization to help launch two model childcare centers; to work with Huntington Hospital to establish the Dolan Family Health

Center for the medically under-served; to form an eldercare project; and to establish WorkPlus, which assisted transitions due to welfare reform.



Sparking 'Community Conversations'

Serious issues are coming to the forefront of the Huntington community, and residents are often faced with an onslaught of "information" to process as elected officials make the decisions that will shape the town's future.

Who can help everyone really understand the issues at hand? Public libraries are community resources that are uniquely positioned to serve as modern-day public squares, where knowledge, critical thinking and informed civil discourse come together.

In partnership with the Leadership Huntington Foundation, the town's local libraries are bringing community residents together with regional and local experts to explore key issues facing the region.

The 2013 series included:

Suburban America: Future Uncertain: With panelists Ron Rudaitis, Filmmaker of "Suburban America: Problems and Promise"; Eric Alexander, Vision Long Island; Dr.

Nathalia Rogers, American Communities Institute at Dowling College; Moderator: Joye Brown, Newsday. Now on YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/LeadershipHuntington/videos.

Growing Community: Who Are We? How Do We Live Together? With panelists Jocelyn Wenk, LI Index; Robert Hoppenstedt, Bethpage FCU; Edward A. T. Carr, Huntington Director of Maritime Services; Craig Turner, Planner, Town of Huntington; Moderator: Michael White of Anthony E. Core, P.C.

Suburbs for the Next Generation: What Do We Value Most? With panelists John Cameron, Long Island Regional Planning Council; Dana Friedman, Early Years Institute; Tom Rogers, Superintendent of Nassau BOCES, Interim Superintendent of Western Suffolk BOCES; Moderator: James McGowan, Adelphi University.

The second conversation is now on the town's public access channel. Air



times and direct access to the video are available at the Town of Huntington's HTTV-Media Center.

Presenting Partners:

Leadership Huntington Foundation, Cold Spring Harbor Library, Commack Public Library, Elwood Public Library, Half Hollow Hills Community Library, Harborfields Public Library, Huntington Public Library, Northport-East Northport Public Library and the South Huntington Public Library.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

For updates, air-times, community resources, and more, "like" www.facebook.com/CommunityConversationsHuntingtonNY



"The importance of Leadership Huntington in our town and the larger Long Island community is demonstrated by the actions and activities of our former graduates. The Leadership Huntington Foundation's work over the years has spawned day care centers, a health clinic, town and village board members and smart growth and community visioning throughout Long Island. We are making real change in our communities."

ROBERT SCHEINER, Senior Vice President, H2M Group, Legacy Sponsor

Meet the Class of 2013

Courtney Bynoe

Courtney Bynoe has worked for the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce since 2009, earning the title of Operations Manager in 2013.

She is a graduate of Farmingdale State College, receiving her Bachelor in Business Management degree in 2011.

Courtney has been a member of Business and Professional Woman International (BPW-I) since 2010, currently serving as president of their local chapter, BPW Suffolk. As the Young BPW North America and Non-Spanish Speaking Caribbean Representative, she has attended regional conferences in Italy and Puerto Rico.

In 2010, Courtney began volunteering with Family & Children's Association; she now serves on its associate board. She is also involved in the Huntington Youth to Camp Initiative, serving on their committee as well as other nonprofit organizations on Long Island.



Nishi Behl

Nishi Behl holds a master's degree in literature and published a thesis as part of a Ph.D. program.

Devoted to family, much of her energy has gone into the school PTA, as well as active involvement in her children's baseball, soccer, cheerleading, music and dance activities. Nishi has taught creative art classes, chaired blood drives and school clubs, organized trips, managed money, and helped run special events. She was a Boy Scouts of America committee member and a Girl Scout mom.

Highly active in the India Association of Long Island (IALI), she has chaired the Women's Forum of the IALI for three years, the IALI Senior Forum at the Huntington Senior Center for four, and has been deeply involved in IALI social, cultural and religious events, both within IALI and as a representative to the broader community.



Helen Crosson

Helen is, by all definitions, a Long Islander. This is a good place to start since her identity and lifestyle is so interwoven with her life in the suburbs.

Driven to achieve the way most first-generation Americans typically are, she fell in love with public libraries as a place where everyone is welcome and personal wealth is irrelevant. She finds her keen awareness that economic status has a great influence on an individual's choices most compelling, and the public library as truly a key component of an informed citizenry.

As director of the public library in Cold Spring Harbor since 1999, she oversaw the construction of a new facility that opened in 2006.

Prior to her career there, she spent 10 years at the Great Neck Library, during which she completed a second master's degree in public administration at LIU Post.



Luann Dallojacono

Award-winning writer and editor Luann Dallojacono, a graduate of Georgetown University, joined Long Islander News in 2007 as a reporter and became its editor within a year. "Editor & Publisher" magazine named Luann as one of its "25 Under 35 – Next Generation of Publishing Leaders" winners in 2012. She was also recognized at the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce's "30 Under 30" event in 2010 and is a graduate of the Dale Carnegie Training leadership program. She has led Long Islander News to 11 New York Press Association awards.

Luann serves on the advisory board of Huntington Sanctuary, which works to help at-risk children, is a member of the Huntington Chamber's Young Professionals Committee, and serves on the Family & Children's Association's associate board. She is a St. Anthony's High School graduate.



Lora Gellerstein

Lora Anne (Mavoides) Gellerstein was born in Flushing, Queens. She graduated from Huntington High School and attended SUNY Plattsburgh.

Lora worked for the Huntington School District for many years, Coopers and Lybrand in New York City and then for former Suffolk County Legislator Jon Cooper. She is now the chief legislative aide to Suffolk County Legislator William R. Spencer.

A dedicated volunteer, Lora works with the Ladies Ancient Order Hibernians and Huntington Interfaith Homeless Initiative, and serves as a Huntington Blue Devils Marching Band volunteer and Unity Day Parade & Festival coordinator, to name a few. She wants to continue to give back to the Huntington community that has brought her so much joy.



Raymond Homburger

Raymond Homburger was born in Queens and grew up on Long Island. He received his MBA from Dowling College, and a B.S. in Physics from NYIT.

He worked for the Port Authority at JFK prior to joining LILCO in 1981. He was a reactor operator at the Shoreham Nuclear Power Station and has worked for KeySpan and National Grid in multiple capacities.

He volunteers with Moonjumpers Charitable Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Heartshare, Junior Achievement, The INN and Island Harvest. He routinely organizes volunteer and fund raising efforts associated with multiple organizations. He is now on the board of Habitat for Humanity.

He also works part time for the Fireworks by Grucci organization, working on World Class displays around the world.



Thank You to the League of Leaders...

Many hands, hearts and minds come together to craft Leadership Huntington. The organization is grateful for the major donors whose contributions make its work possible:

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The Rider Group; Carol and Arnold Rubin
George dos Santos



"Leadership Huntington is the only program on Long Island that pulls together folks from all segments of the community to gain skills, understand the Town and learn from each other with any level of depth. My experience at Leadership connected me with an eclectic group of community and business leaders, historic preservationists, human service and government professionals along with artists, poets and musicians."

Eric Alexander, Executive Director, Vision Long Island, Class of 1999

Meet the Class of 2013

Paul Imbriale

Paul Imbriale worked for JVKellyGroup since June 2010. He has worked for several Fortune 1000 companies in various roles and recently accepted a new position at Morgan Stanley in Manhattan. He is excited for this new opportunity and fully intends to stay involved in the Huntington and Long Island community. Paul is extremely appreciative of JVKellyGroup for affording him the opportunity to participate in Leadership Huntington.

Paul graduated from Boston College in 2010 with a dual major in Economics and Psychology.



Rose Molfetta

Rose Molfetta graduated from Half Hollow Hills High School East. After high school, she entered into the Berkely-Clarmont school of business and received a diploma in administrative assistant studies. She worked as business manager representing Clarins, Lancome and Estee Lauder.

She returned to school and received a BA in Psychology from the University of Old Westbury. She also has a minor in television broadcasting and has produced at Telecare.

Rose continued her education and received her master's in social work from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.

She has combined her experiences and education and developed a program, "High Teen Esteem," to help teens with self-esteem issues, social skills, body image issues and all topics related to teens. Over the summer, Rose received a National Social Worker of the Year award for Catholic professionals.



Ellen Mazzeo

Ellen Mazzeo grew up in Brooklyn New York. Having been a nurse for 30 years, she recently relocated to Long Island and joined the Huntington Community.

She has one daughter, one granddaughter and six brothers and sisters. She loves playing with her granddaughter.



Peter Tonna

A lifelong resident of Huntington, Peter Tonna is regional sales manager at MagnaCare, a local health care management company.

Outside of spending time with family and work, Peter enjoys staying active and being involved with the community.



Michael Lantier

Michael Lantier has been working for Holzmacher, McLendon, Murrell, P.C. (H2M) for over seven years and is now a senior electrical engineer. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of New York.

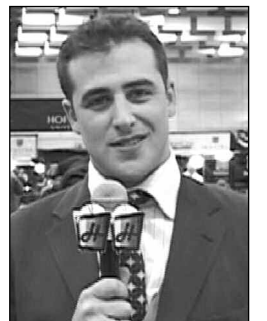
He received his undergraduate degree in electrical and computer engineering from New York Institute of Technology. In December of 2013, Michael is anticipating his MBA in Finance from S.U.N.Y Stony Brook.



Michael Raspantini

Born and raised in Huntington, Michael Raspantini began his career in television and broadcasting at age 6 as a child actor. Highly influenced by his parents, both broadcast professionals, Michael got his first job interning at CBS News as soon as he graduated from Huntington High School. At Hofstra University, he studied film production and broadcast journalism, graduating in 2003. He landed his first job at Nick@Nite in New York City. In 2004, he founded MadChill Productions, Inc. a video production company that has serviced companies like AOL, Motorola, The Princeton Review, Bill Blass and the United Nations. He also worked on television shows like "It's a Big Big World" and "Ugly Betty." In 2011, Michael launched a new media brand, Broadband News Networks, which includes The Huntington Buzz and NewSouthAsian.com.

He is a board member of the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce.



Michael Schoolman

Michael Schoolman is the president of 7BUS, which provides frequent service to and from New York City, Ronkonkoma, Melville and Riverhead. Improved high occupancy vehicle access on the LIE is an important issue to improve quality of life in the region. 7BUS encourages commuters and individual travelers to leave their car at home and enjoy the various amenities of the bus including WiFi, power outlets, cup holders, and more.

Michael is on the board of the Long Island Convention & Visitors Bureau and the Brookhaven Business Advisory Committee. A graduate of Colby College, he coaches youth soccer and is a competitive tennis player.



Class of 2013's Project Takes Root



When Barbara Bombace took her granddaughters to Greenlawn Park on Sept. 28, something was different at the playground. The weeds were gone, the sand had been raked, and a dozen volunteers were hard at work planting a tree in the corner.

The former East Northport resident said the playground was in need of some work and was thrilled to learn that Leadership Huntington's Class of 2013 had chosen to clean it up as a way to give back to the community

they have spent nine months learning about.

The class had worked all year to grow their roots in Huntington through the leadership program. On that day, they did so literally when they planted a Rose of Sharon tree behind the tire swing, the last step after nearly five hours of weeding, laying new dirt, and planting mums.

The project marked the group's completion of the nine-month Leadership Huntington program.

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Save the Date!

The Class of 2014
Kickoff will be held
January 9, 2014!

Become A Leader... Join Next Year's Class!

Make a difference personally, professionally, and in your community...

Sign up now for the Class of 2014 and
be a part of what everyone is talking about.

The class starts in January.

To learn more about the Leadership Huntington Flagship Program,
call Trudy at (516) 521-3206
or email info@leadershiphuntington.org

Or be an angel and sponsor a candidate...

Help nurture the next generation of Leadership Huntington
and make the program accessible to all.

Call 516-921-4896 to inquire about supporting the
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and the Lawrence A. Kushnick Memorial Fund.



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"The program helped me build the confidence that I needed and to further develop the 'people skills' and leadership skills that I could need to succeed as an entrepreneur in the field of law. It was a daunting task to build a practice on nothing but my name and skills, but the Leadership program provided the skills to tap my inner strenghts."

LARRY KUSHNICK, In Memoriam, Class of 1997