



Youth Leadership Bartholomew County

P. O. Box 2391 ■ Columbus, Indiana 47202-2391

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." - Gandhi



February 28, 2011

Dear Bartholomew County Youth Leadership Nominee,

Congratulations! You have qualified for the **2011 Youth Leadership Bartholomew County** program (formerly **Youth Salute**). Students are selected on their leadership, community involvement, and academic accomplishments. The 2011 program is being coordinated by Columbus Service League in conjunction with the Columbus Rotary Club.

As a **Youth Leadership Bartholomew County** nominee those who complete the nomination form, will commit to completing the additional program requirements of a resume, an essay, a personal interview, and participation in Leadership Day on September 19, 2011. Your photograph and biological information will be displayed in various locations in the community. In addition, you will be competing with a minimum of twelve monetary scholarship recipients and the top four recipients will also attend two LBC (Leadership Bartholomew County) meetings. The scholarships will be based on your resume, essay and your personal interview. Last years winners were:

Thomas Kiefer \$700.00
Julianna Pikus \$500.00
Angela Pikus \$500.00
Alicia Hopkins \$500.00

Geordie Denholm, Hunter Sims, Courtney Larsen, Amanda Melton, Rachel Thayer, Elizabeth Clerkin, Kaitlynn Martin, Lauren Heck, Danielle Michael each received \$300.00 scholarships.

Our goal for 2011 is to increase the amount of each scholarship and the number of scholarships that are given. There are many deserving students in Bartholomew County, and being able to offer more scholarships will help us recognize their outstanding accomplishments.

This program is not only a scholarship competition, but an educational experience as well. This will probably be one of the first of many resumes, essays, and interviews that you will have to complete as you begin your college selection process. We want our program to assist you in preparing the best resume, writing the best essay, and presenting yourself in the best light during your interview. In order to accomplish this we have community business leaders, English teachers, and other professionals involved in the evaluation process. You will receive feedback at the end of the program regarding your essay, and interview.

Included with this letter, you will find the schedule of events. A nomination form, sample resume packet, and the essay question are on your high school web site, except for Hauser and Columbus Christian, which will be mailed to those students. Go to your high school's website and look for Youth Leadership. You may also go to the BCSC website under "For Students" to find it. Click on Youth Leadership Bartholomew County, and it should all be there. The following information outlines important dates, requirements, and expectations for the **Youth Leadership Bartholomew County** program.

May 20th: Completed Nomination form and resume due to Guidance Office

The nomination form and resume must be submitted to your high school guidance office on or before May 20th in order for you to participate in **Youth Leadership Bartholomew County 2011**. Please note that submission of this packet indicates your willingness to also submit an essay in May, participate in a personal interview in August, and attend Leadership Day in September.

May 20th: Essays due (see essay checklist on website)

You must write a 250 word essay in response to the following:

Identify and describe your best leadership characteristic. Identify the leadership quality or skill that you most need to improve and describe steps to take to develop this skill.

Submit this essay to your high school guidance office by May 20th.

Some common mistakes from past essays:

- Did not answer question
- Exceeding the 250 word request
- Not using double space and essay format
- Using 2nd person
- Using such vague words as thing, something, and everything
- Using conditional tense instead of present or past tense
- Pronoun agreement
- Misuse of semicolon and basic grammar mistakes
- No title or topic
- No typed name (“by” is not necessary in front of name)

June 1st to July 1st: Call to Schedule Photography Session at Parker Portraits

***Go to your school’s website and complete the biography form and email it to: youthleadership@parkerportraits.com.**

Please call 372-4292 between June 1st and July 1st to SCHEDULE a photography session. Youth Leadership portraits need to be taken **before August 16, 2011**, in order for your photograph to be on display. At this time also you will schedule your interview for August 9th.

As part of the community-wide recognition, the photographs with brief biographies of all the participants will be displayed for the first time on September 19th at Leadership Day. After that date they will be on display in other locations in Columbus. Only photographs from Parker Portraits will be included in the display. **You are only eligible for this session if you submit the nomination form, resume, and essay by the due dates, and plan to attend the interview in August.** As always, photographs are voluntary and there is not cost for the photography session or display photo. An information letter will be sent with specific instructions from Parker Portraits in early May.

August 9th: Interviews

Seven-minute interviews with community and business leaders will be conducted on August 9th. Information and instructions for sign-ups will be sent to students in July. **Students should dress appropriately for this interview.** Recommendations will be included with the mailing in July. **You will set up a time for this at the time your photo is taken.**

September 19th 8:00a.m. to 2:30p.m.: Leadership Day and Awards Ceremony

This year, Leadership Day will consist of a morning training session at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, a catered luncheon for the students with the Columbus Rotary, and will conclude with an Awards Ceremony at approximately 1:00p.m All students will be excused from school pertaining they turn in their class release form at the time of their interview.

Leadership training will focus on improving listening skills, gaining self-esteem, goal setting, decision-making, and leading a well-balanced life. As in the past, this session will be facilitated by a professional motivational speaker and counselor.

All **Youth Leadership Bartholomew County** participants will be recognized and honored at the Awards Ceremony. Scholarship winners and those selected to participate in the Leadership of Bartholomew County, will also be announced at this ceremony. All Youth Leadership participants luncheon will be provided. Family and friends are encouraged to attend the ceremony and are also invited to join their student for lunch if interested. There will be a fee for family and friends to eat. Luncheon details and information regarding advanced ticket purchase and reservation will be sent out later this summer. It may seem like a long time in the future, but please mark your calendars now for this important day.

Youth Leadership Bartholomew County provides an opportunity for our community to see the very best and brightest leaders of tomorrow. If you have any questions, please see your guidance counselor/ or Pam Voelz at 372-4292

Sincerely,

Columbus Service League

Enclosures: Youth Leadership Bartholomew County Schedule

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2011 Schedule

**Go to your High Schools web site to download packet I
Click on Youth Leadership**

May 20

and

**Packet I - Due to Guidance office
Completed Nomination Form, Resume
Essay**

June 1 – July 1

**Schedule photography session at Parker
Portraits**

July 8

**Packet II mailed to students with class
release form and luncheon reservation card**

by August 16

Portraits taken by this date

August 9

**Interviews
(turn in class release form and luncheon
reservation at Interview)**

September 19

**Leadership Day at Holiday Inn
8:00 am to 2:30 pm
Luncheon @ 11:30
Awards Ceremony at Holiday Inn 1:00 pm**

ANY QUESTIONS: PAM VOELZ 372-4292