

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS:

Are you a Leader or a Follower?



If you have what it takes, then maybe you should check out the 16th annual Leadership Lauderdale Youth Program. Not only will it help prepare you for leadership roles now and in the future, but it is a blast of fun, too! Read on to find out how to apply for Leadership Lauderdale Youth. You'll be glad you did!

**Leadership Lauderdale Youth
2016-2017**



Leadership Lauderdale Youth

Read below to find out why we exist and how you can apply.

- I. ***Why We Exist:*** To develop youth leadership in Lauderdale County by providing structured opportunities for interaction with other youth, as well as community leaders, and by providing for growth in understanding of character development issues, personal leadership styles and community responsibilities.

- II. ***Our Purpose:*** To bring together a diverse group of high school juniors to participate in a program focused on developing an understanding of personal leadership styles, learning personal and community responsibilities, and reviewing character development. We want to provide each student with the basic tools, resources and action plans on how to respond to a leadership role now and in the future. This program will provide an overview of Lauderdale County, including local government and the business community, as well as an introduction to area leaders and career opportunities. It will also provide opportunities to gain practical skills for development as future leaders of Lauderdale County, while allowing high school students from different sections of the community to get to know one another.

- III. ***Application Details:***
 1. *Leadership Lauderdale Youth* is open to all high school juniors who attend school or reside in Lauderdale County. These students should have proven leadership skills or have potential leadership skills. If you need assistance with the application or have questions, call Patty Swearingen at 601-482-9764.
 2. Students will be chosen for the program based on application (typed), reference letters, signature of principal and parents/guardians, and a typed essay. All applicants must have a 2.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 GPA for the previous school year. The essay (one page, typed) should describe what you hope to learn from this program to better your school and your community both now and in the future.
 3. Efforts will be made to ensure a diverse group.
 4. The number of participants will be limited to 30 in order to encourage maximum personal participation.
 5. There is no cost to apply. If selected to participate, the cost for the program will be \$35. Ability to pay the fee WILL NOT affect the selection of the participants and assistance is available upon request.
 6. If for any reason any part of the application is not complete, the student will be disqualified from further consideration. All materials must meet the deadline. Decisions by the selection committee will be final. Applicants will be notified by letter of their acceptance into the program.

- IV. **Opening Retreat:** A one-night event in which the group will participate in team-building activities and study *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*. The retreat is **MANDATORY** for all selected participants.
- V. **Transportation:** Transportation to and from the meeting location will be the responsibility of the individual student. Once at the meeting location, transportation will be provided for safety reasons and so that everyone may travel together.
- VI. **Golf Shirt:** A golf shirt designed at the opening retreat will be required to be worn at every meeting. No exceptions.
- VII. **Community Service:** Each participant must complete at least one community service project and the projects will be completed outside of the monthly meetings.
- VIII. **Monthly Meeting:** Each session will be held on a school day from 7:45 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Participation in the monthly sessions is required. If absent, participant or parent/guardian must call the 4-H office. Written excuses by the parent/guardian must follow-up the call to the 4-H office. If any student does not show up, we will call the school to report that the student did not show up. An unexcused absence may mean being dismissed from the program. Excessive (more than 2 days) excused absences may also mean being dismissed from the program. *Before the next monthly session, the participant must write a three-page, double-spaced typed report or a four-paged, hand-written report on the Habit missed in order to continue in the program.*

Schedule of Events and Topics

September 6 (Tuesday)	Applications available
Sept. 21 (Wednesday)	Application Deadline (before 5:00 p.m.)
Sept. 23-Oct 12	Selection Process
October 18 (Tuesday)	Parent/Guardian and Participants Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
October 24-25 (Mon-Tues)	Retreat – Pine Lake Camp, Meridian, MS Introduction to “7 Habits,” Habit 1 and Habit 7; Team-building activities
Nov. 15 (Tuesday)	Habit 2 - Citizenship (Government and Volunteerism)
Dec. 6 (Tuesday)	Habit 3 - Education and Workforce Preparation
Jan. 24 (Tuesday)	Habit 4 - Crime and Justice
Feb. 28 (Tuesday)	Habit 5 - Business and Industry
March 21 (Tuesday)	Habit 6 - Quality of Life
April 11 (Tuesday)	Banquet/Award Presentation - Night meeting; presentation by students of person who demonstrates their favorite habit.



Leadership Lauderdale Youth

CONFIDENTIAL APPLICATION FORM

Please type.

IMPORTANT: This application is the only document used in the selection process. This application may be downloaded at http://msucares.com/counties/lauderdale_38/4h.html OR www.embdc.org

Deadline to Submit Application: September 21, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

NAME: (Last) _____ (First) _____ (Middle) _____

NAME YOU PREFER TO BE CALLED: _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

SCHOOL _____ GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) _____

CLASS/GRADE _____ BIRTHDATE _____ SEX _____ RACE _____

PARENTS/GUARDIANS NAMES _____

GOLF SHIRT SIZE _____

Would your sports or extra curricular activities interfere with your attendance for an entire day? _____

4. List any special honors or awards you have received since the seventh grade:

5. List work and volunteer experience:

Would your work interfere with this program? _____

6. List additional information that would be helpful in our selection process:

7. Describe up to three things that cause you the greatest concern about Lauderdale County:

8. Describe up to three opportunities that Lauderdale County has to offer:

9. List the two references who will be writing letters of recommendation on your behalf. Please, no family members. **Enclose their letters with your application.**

Name: _____ Phone (daytime): _____

Name: _____ Phone (daytime): _____

10. **ESSAY (one page typed):** Please include why you would like to participate in *Leadership Lauderdale Youth* and what you hope to learn from this program to better your school and your community both now and in the future.

Return the application to the **4-H Office** (not your school office) no later than September 21, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. The application must be hand delivered to the 4-H Office. Please do not mail.

Patty Swearingen
Lauderdale County 4-H
410 Constitution Ave, Floor 5
Meridian, MS 39301
Phone: 601-482-9764
FAX: 601-482-9777
p.swearingen@msstate.edu



Checklist

- Typed Application
- 2 Reference Letters
- Typed Essay (One Page)
- All Necessary Signatures
- Keep the information pages of the packet for your reference.
- Remember, this application is the only document used in the selection process.

TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL COMMITMENT

This application has the full approval of this school and the applicant has our full support, including the time required to participate in this program.

SCHOOL

PHONE

PRINCIPAL'S SIGNATURE

DATE

TEACHER'S SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMITMENT

This application has my full approval and the applicant has my support and permission, including the time required to participate in the program.

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE

DATE

DAYTIME PHONE

APPLICANT COMMITMENT AND PLEDGE

Leadership Lauderdale Youth is a planned learning experience that requires your commitment from the opening retreat to the closing session. To make sure you do not have unavoidable conflicts, please compare your schedule with the program calendar dates on the enclosed information sheet.

I wish to participate in the Lauderdale County Youth Leadership Program.

I have reviewed the dates and I am willing to make the commitment of my time and talents to *Leadership Lauderdale Youth*.

I have the full support of my principal and parent/guardian for the time required to participate.

I will be able to attend the opening retreat and all monthly sessions, and I understand that any unexcused absence or excessive excused absences may mean being dropped from the program.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

DATE

I am interested in applying for assistance to pay my \$35 fee if accepted into this program.

Yes _____ No _____



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