The Louisiana Center for Women in Government and Business (LCWGB) provides nonpartisan support and resources to encourage and promote the leadership of women through educational workshops, training seminars, outreach programs, and special events. The Center is committed to promoting women in government and public service, cultivating economic opportunities for women, acknowledging achievements of women, and teaching all citizens about the importance of public service and responsible citizenship.

LCWGB is governed by a non-profit board of highly accomplished women.

LCWGB Events
- Louisiana Women Leaders Business Conference
- Louisiana's Got Talent
- Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy
- Hall of Fame Luncheon
- Front Porch Get-Togethers
- Non-Partisan Campaign Institute
- National Women's Leadership Summit on Small Business Entrepreneurship

WHO CAN ATTEND?
Girls entering grades 9-11 in the 2015-2016 school year are eligible. LGLA participants will be selected by a committee of the LCWGB board.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?
- Academy T-shirt, tote bag, and binder
- Three nights in university housing
- Nine all-you-can-eat buffet meals in Galliano Hall
- Participation in the networking dinner: The First Among Louisiana Women in Public Service
- Keynote presentation with nationally recognized Auntie Anne Beiler
- Special presentation with nationally recognized speaker Alexis Jones
- Presentation by New Orleans Demolition Diva Simone Bruni
- Closing reception with project presentations and awards ceremony
- Participation in Baton Rouge field trip with Louisiana Women's Caucus
- Special lunch at the Governor's Mansion
- Tour of the State Capitol building
- T-shirt, tote bag, binder

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
APRIL 24, 2015

This year’s academy has been tweaked to include:
- More interactive sessions and fresh speakers
- Hands-on activities
- Engaged learning
FEATURED SPEAKERS

Anne Beiler
Anne Beiler began twisting pretzels in 1987 to support her husband’s vision to offer free counseling services in their community. What began as a single farmer’s market stand grew into Auntie Anne’s Inc., the world’s largest hand rolled soft pretzel franchise with over 1,200 locations worldwide. Auntie Anne’s has owned an international franchise company.

Alexis Jones
Alexis Jones is an all-American, southern belle, Texas tomboy. She grew up in Austin moved to Los Angeles where she completed a Bachelor’s degree in International Relations and a Masters in Communication Management, both from the University of Southern California. Alexis discovered her passion for inspiring girls and women after starring in “The Vagina Monologues,” a progressive women’s play written by Eve Ensler. Following that role, she hosted a TV show on the Red Carpet, performed at Fox Sports, ESPN and was a contestant on the hit CBS reality TV show Survivor.

Bear Badeaux
Bear is an improv veteran having trained at Groundlings, iO West, ACME, and La Connection. He currently has a main stage show at least with his group Les Hot Dog performing a unique form called the Labyrinth. Bear was nominated for best new show and most supportive improvisor at the 2013 Del Close Awards. In 2014, through Southern Rivers Production, Bear produced Bear's journey to become a leading female entrepreneur began many years before the first pretzel was rolled. In September of 1975, Anne and her husband experienced any parent’s worst nightmare – the loss of a child. This event propelled Anne into years of darkness during which she nearly lost her husband, her family, and her faith. Out of her pain came purpose and the desire to persevere towards personal and professional success. Auntie Anne Beiler’s commitment to excellence is rooted in the belief that we give to get, to give again; and that success can only be realized when you have a great product, great people on your team, and a purpose greater than yourself.

Crystal Rivers
Crystal Rivers studies improv at iO West and Dan Velez Acting Studio in Hollywood. She performs in the improv shows I-Intern and CATSBY. You can see Rivers this year on TNT’s Franklin & Bash and as a new regular on the internet series Heroine Legends. She is the co-founder of Southern Rivers Production.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Former Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Kathleen Babineaux Blanco is the first woman to be elected Governor of Louisiana. In her long career of public service, she has distinguished herself and Louisiana in various positions of ever-increasing responsibility. Blanco has served in state offices since 1984, when she became the first woman ever elected to represent the people of Lafayette in the state legislature. In 1996, she was elected to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Blanco served two terms as Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana.

Rep. Karen St. Germain
Rep. Karen St. Germain serves District 60 as a State Representative and is vice chair of the Natural Resources and Environment Committee. St. Germain also serves the Louisiana Legislative Women’s Caucus as Chair. She will assist in the Legislative Women’s Caucus luncheon experience in Baton Rouge.

Eric Frederick Skrmetta
A lawyer, businessman, husband and father, Eric Skrmetta was elected to the Louisiana Public Service Commission in 2008, holding one of five seats on the statewide body that governs utility providers, railroads and other public services in the Pelican State. Commissioner Skrmetta is currently in his second year as Chairman of the Commission. He will assist LGLA by serving as a judge for the Public Service Projects on entergy and the environment.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Acceptance to LGLA is a selective process. The following criteria will be considered: 1) participation in service and leadership organizations in school, community or church; 2) offices held in organizations; 3) honors and awards received; 4) school GPA (minimum 2.5); 5) one letter of recommendation; and 6) a student essay on “Why I should be a leader selected for LGLA” (150 words).

Application deadline: April 24, 2015

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- One letter of recommendation from nominator (teacher, staff, community leader, etc.)
- Resume with a complete list of extracurricular activities from August 2013-present and school GPA
- Student essay (complete online at nicholls.edu/lcwg)
- Application fee $75 (payable to Nicholls State University)
- Application form

LGLA 2015 TIMELINE

February 23
- Advertise electronically at nicholls.edu/continuing-ed and nicholls.edu/lcwg

March 6
- Applications mailed to superintendents, LCWG council members, principals, teachers, advisers, staff and community leaders

March 28 - Reminder
- Principals, teachers, advisers, staff and community leaders nominate applicants

April 24
- Postmark deadline for nominees to submit application and materials

May 4
- Selected participants notified of acceptance

May 15
- Deadline for selected participants to respond with intent to attend LGLA.

APPLICATION FORM - PLEASE PRINT BELOW OR COMPLETE ONLINE

Student Name: __________________________
Parent/Guardian Name: _________________________
City: __________________________
School Name: __________________________
State: __________________________
Parish: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
Email: __________________________
Zip Code: __________________________
T-shirt Size: Youth Medium
Mail application form, resume and payment to:
P.O. Box 2119 | Thibodaux, LA 70310 | Phone: 985.448.4444 | Fax: 985.448.4552 | nicholls.edu/lcwg

APPLICATION FORM - PLEASE PRINT BELOW OR COMPLETE ONLINE

Student Name: __________________________
Parent/Guardian Name: _________________________
City: __________________________
School Name: __________________________
State: __________________________
Parish: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
Email: __________________________
Zip Code: __________________________
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