WHY LIGHT THE TORCH AND LEAD?

The vision of the Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy (LGLA) is to develop high-potential leaders in community and public service through responsible citizenship. Girls will network with peers and be mentored by experienced women to develop knowledge and skills for future leadership roles.

The LGLA program focuses on:
- Communication
- Situational leadership
- Public service and responsible citizenship
- Current issues in Louisiana public policy

LGLA will include an annual Leadership Service Project. The 2016 Academy Leadership Service Project will focus on energy and the environment.

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Girls entering grades 9-11 in the 2016-2017 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
- Networking dinner: The First Among Louisiana Women in Public Service
- Keynote presentation with nationally recognized Shiza Shahid
- Special presentation with nationally recognized speaker Alexis Jones
- 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 and tour of the State Capital building
- Academy expense of $1500 per participant will be paid for by the LCWGB & partners

LGLA CURRICULUM

Lead through communication
- Learn to use language
  - Promote understanding and gain cooperation
  - Craft your message; craft your agenda
- Learn to identify opportunities for action
  - Communicate understanding
  - Communicate empathy
- Learn to influence your audience of one or more
- Learn to conquer the camera
- Learn strategies for image building

Lead through building relationships
- Build relationships through leadership
  - Understand your own leadership style
  - Understand your followers’ needs and expectations
- Build relationships through face-to-face networking
  - Manage peer pressure
  - Manage conflict
  - Learn to identify allies and resistors to agendas
  - Map political terrain and build support
- Build a bridge to healthy competition
  - Prepare for mental and emotional endurance
- Build relationships through meetings
  - Learn how to run a meeting using Robert's Rules of Order

Lead through public service
- Learn the ABCs of running for office
  - Learn the tools of strategic planning and evaluation;
    manage a campaign
  - Learn the power of winning with humility and losing with grace
- Learn about policy important to Louisiana and our nation through the five Es: energy, environment, education, economy and efficiency
- Learn to manage a service project using one of the five Es

“IT was one of the most amazing experiences I have ever had. I was surrounded by girls that radiated leadership and implemented their abilities throughout their schools, communities, and at the Academy. The opportunity you gave me to be immersed in true, kind, honest, fair, genuine leadership is priceless.”

- Rose Coats, LGLA Ambassador

ABOUT LCWGB

The Louisiana Center for Women in Government and Business 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, to cultivating economic opportunities for women, to acknowledging achievements of women and to teaching all citizens about the importance of public service and responsible citizenship. The Center is actively engaged in statewide leadership programming, including the Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy, National Women’s Leadership Summit on Small Business Entrepreneurship, Non-Partisan Campaign Institute and the Hall of Fame.

The LCWGB is governed by a non-profit board of highly accomplished women. It is also partners with other organizations and boards in support of its programs.
FEATURED SPEAKERS

Shiza Shahid

Shiza Shahid co-founded the Malala Fund with Nobel Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, and led the organization as founding CEO. She is now focused on supporting startups, innovators and entrepreneurs, particularly women, who are creating positive global impact. She is an advocate for women entrepreneurs, and hosts Women’s Story-telling Salons bringing together leading female entrepreneurs to collaborate. She is the host of the new MSNBC show ASPIREit. Shahid grew up in Pakistan as a vocal advocate for social change. She graduated from Stanford University with University Distinction. Shiza has received many awards for her work including TIME’s “30 under 30 World Changers”, Forbes “30 under 30 Social Entrepreneurs” WEF Global Agenda Council, Tribeca Institute Disruptive Innovator.

Alexis Jones

Alexis Jones is an internationally recognized public speaker, author, and media personality. Her passion for inspiring people to recognize and then surpass their potential has made Alexis a highly sought after speaker on topics such as girl empowerment, #MANHOOD, leadership, activism, and social entrepreneurship. As an expert regarding Gen Y, Alexis understands the high pressures and monumental expectations facing youth today. Alexis is an all-American, southern belle, Texas tomboy. She grew up in Austin moved to Los Angeles and graduated from the University of Southern California. Alexis launched I Am That Girl, and quickly became an internationally recognized. Alexis’s first book, I Am That Girl, was released January 2014.

Bear Badeaux

Bear is an improv veteran who trained at Groundlings, IOWEST, ACME, and La Connection. You can see Bear this year in national commercials for Apple and Intel with Jim Parsons. He currently has a main stage show at IOWEST with his award winning group Drunkards & Dragons. Bear was nominated for best new show and most supportive improv performer at the 2013 Del Close Awards. In 2014, through Southern Rivers Production, Bear produced and directed the winning short film at "Mock Fest" film festival at Raleigh Studios. He currently teaches improv at Dan Velez Acting Studio, through Southern Rivers Production, Bear produced and directed the new movie BAD PEOPLE & Confessions of a Teenage Disciple in 2016. He is the co-founder of Southern Rivers Production.

Crystal Rivers

Crystal Rivers is also an improv veteran and alumni of IOWEST in Hollywood. She performs in the improv shows I-Intern and CATSBY. You can see Crystal this year in national commercials for Coca Cola and Buck. She has starred in sci features Ghoul and Swamp Volcano. She appeared on TNT’s Franklin & Bash. Look out for Crystal in the new movie BAD PEOPLE & Confessions of a Teenage Disciple in 2016. 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.

Sonia Perez

Sonia Perez is president of AT&T Louisiana and works closely with community leaders, elected officials, stakeholders and the leadership team of AT&T. Ms. Perez helps to build communities and touch lives throughout the state by providing volunteer and philanthropic support, particularly in the area of education. She serves as a board member for the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area, Xavier University and University Louisiana Association of Business and Industry. She has been honored as one of the “Most Powerful and Influential Women” by the Louisiana Women’s Conference and as one of New Orleans City Business “Women of the Year.”

Glenny Lee Buquet

Glenny Lee Buquet was a Past President Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)

Jimmy Cantrelle

Jimmy Cantrelle is Lafourche Parish President

Sandra Herman

Sandra Herman is President, LCGWB Corporation and creator of First Circuit Court of Appeal

Dannielle Lorrain

Dannielle Lorrain is Lafourche Parish Council

Lt. Col. Genny May

Lt. Col. Genny May is U.S. Marshal Eastern District LA

Wendy Thibodeaux

Wendy Thibodeaux is Lafourche Parish Council

Judge Vanessa Guidry-Whipple

Judge Vanessa Guidry-Whipple is Chief Justice LA

Dr. Laura Badeaux

Dr. Laura Badeaux is Director, Louisiana Center for Women in Government and Business

Dr. Bruce T. Murphy

Dr. Bruce T. Murphy is President, Nicholls State University

Brandie M. Toups

Brandie M. Toups is Chair, Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy

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 2.6); 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 15, 2016

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. One letter of recommendation from nominator (teacher, staff, community leader, etc.)
2. Resume with a complete list of extracurricular activities from August 2014–present and school GPA
3. Student essay (complete online at nicholls.edu/lcwg)
4. Application fee $75 (payable to Nicholls State University)
5. Application form
   1. Actual cost of $1500 per participant will be paid for by the LCGWB & partners

LGLA 2016 TIMELINE

November 2015
- Advertise electronically at nicholls.edu/continuing-ed/lgla and louisianawomen.org

January – March, 2016
- Applications mailed and personal visits conducted to school administrators, LCGWB council members, and community leaders.
- Principals, teachers, advisors, staff and community leaders nominate applicants.
- April 15, 2016
  - Postmark deadline for nominees to submit application and materials.
- May 6, 2016
  - Selected participants notified of acceptance.
- May 16, 2016
  - Deadline for selected participants to respond with intent to attend LGLA
- June 12, 2016
- 9 a.m. LGLA begins – parents may attend opening session @11:15 a.m.
- June 15, 2016
- 2:30 p.m. LGLA closing program – parents and community invited to attend.