



The YLI Leader

November 2009

Exploring Leadership Style & Vision

On October 16, the Youth Leadership Initiative held its Leadership Style & Vision Class where students were challenged to learn more about themselves and think about their own future as competent leaders. First on the agenda for the day was meeting Patrick Dix of WHO-TV 13 who spoke to the students about his own passion, reporting news. Students learned about how the media plays a leadership role in the community, investigating news stories and presenting information to the community it serves.



Students participate in Fashion Missions at Younkers Southridge

Next, Steve Vaught from the White Rabbit Group presented an activity to help the students better understand their personality style and how it relates to working in groups with people of different personality styles. Students then boarded the bus and traveled to Dale Carnegie where Jodi Olsen presented a workshop on professionalism, focusing on first impressions. Students learned how to professionally introduce themselves and conduct small talk. The last activity for the day was a partnership with Younkers of Southridge Mall. Students were grouped and given different business scenarios. Students then selected appropriate business attire for their scenario and presented back to the full group.

**“Great necessities call forth great leaders.”
- Abigail Adams**

YLI Business Etiquette Dinner

The annual YLI Business Etiquette Dinner was held during the Processing Session for the October Class. Students had the opportunity to learn from trainer Deb Rinner of Tero International, a world-class etiquette training company from



YLI Business Etiquette Dinner at the Des Moines Club

Des Moines. As they progressed through the three-course meal, students enjoyed the views on a beautiful fall evening from high atop the Des Moines Club downtown and learned how etiquette breaks down barriers and helps those around you feel more comfortable. One student later commented on the experience: “This class really helped me learn more and focus more on my future plans and goals of life. The skills I have learned will really help me in my business life.”

YLI Class Notes: Weather Policy and Illness

With the winter season quickly closing in on us, the Youth Leadership Initiative wants to remind our students and parents that the safety of students is of utmost importance to our program. Because weather conditions can vary widely across our metro area, each month it is the responsibility of students and parents to decide if conditions are safe for travel to attend YLI meetings. Due to the fact that our primary meeting location is located inside the Des Moines School District, if the Des Moines District cancels school because of weather conditions, we will also cancel our programming for the day. Cancellations will be posted on our website and will be emailed and sent by text message to students and parents. Additionally, we encourage students that are sick not to attend our YLI class days in order to protect our students and volunteers from illness. If a student becomes sick during a class day, we will contact a parent/guardian to pick up the student. Thank you for your cooperation keeping students safe and healthy!



Upcoming YLI Events

Mark these dates on your calendar now!

November 13, 2009	The Arts	7:30 am
November 16, 2009	Processing Session	5:30 pm
December 11, 2009	Law & Order	7:30 am
	No Processing Session	
January 18, 2009	Diversity	7:30 am
January 25, 2009	Processing Session	5:30 pm
February 19, 2009	Greater DM Leadership	7:30 am
February 22, 2009	Processing Session	5:30 pm

All classes begin and end at the United Way Building at 1111 9th St in Des Moines. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Program Director Tim Rittgers at director@youthleadershipdm.org or by phone at 515-779-0362. All classes and processing sessions are required; please have a parent or guardian notify the Program Director ASAP if you cannot attend a class.

The November Arts Class will have you up on your feet and very active, so please wear comfortable clothing. We also will have a portion of the class day on a specialized floor where you will have to remove your shoes, so please wear socks.



YLI is sponsored by the United Way of Central Iowa with support from private donations and the Boys & Girls Club of Central Iowa.

The next class is Friday, November 13: The Arts