



The YLI Leader

March 2010

GDMLI Classes Join for February Class

In February, the Youth Leadership Initiative Class combined with the adult Community Leadership Class for the second annual joint YLI/CLP Class. Students from both classes had the opportunity to meet and get to know each other during the day's activities.



Kayla and Brian create a media plan

After an ice breaking activity where students circulated in the room and looked for similarities with fellow Leadership Institute participants, the group welcomed Eileen Wixted from Wixted Pope Nora Thompson & Associates of West Des Moines for a session on how leaders should interact with the media. Students were challenged to work in groups to generate a "Crisis Message" to respond to a disaster scenario. Eileen also challenged everyone to rethink the way they brand themselves on social media. One student later commented that, due to the session, they planned to "fix my MySpace and Facebook" pages.

YLI and CLP Students Rethink Des Moines



Jamie and Tim report on their group

The second session of the day for the combined YLI/CLP class involved group discussions about various aspects of community. Each group had a different "community pillar" to discuss. Groups explored what progress had been made in the past around community issues, what

those issues look like today and into the future, and how leaders from the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute can make an impact on the future of those issues in our community.

Deadline for Applications March 5

Do you know a freshman or sophomore in the Des Moines metro area who has not had the opportunity to reach their full leadership potential? Encourage them to apply today! Students may submit their applications online, download the PDF version from the website and submit by fax or mail, or request an application from Program Director Tim Rittgers at: 1350 E Washington Ave, Des Moines, IA 50316. Visit www.youthleadershipdm.org for more information. Applications and references must be submitted by midnight on March 5, 2010.



Small Group Projects Now Underway

In February, YLI began work on the small group projects that will be completed before the end of the year. The class was split into five groups to complete the projects which will be completed in April. Each group will also be creating a presentation explaining their project, which will be showcased during the YLI Graduation. Students began the process with a fun project designed to get the groups working together and get the creative juices flowing – an egg drop experiment. Students were given five straws and three feet of scotch tape along with the mission of creating a vehicle for transporting the egg from four feet off the floor to the ground without breaking the egg. While no team actually succeeded in saving the egg, the groups got off to a great start working together and then dove into the initial project planning.



Upcoming YLI Events

Mark these dates on your calendar now!

March 5, 2010	Entrepreneurship	7:30 am
March 8, 2010	Processing Session	5:30 pm
April 23, 2010	Service Project Day	7:30 am
April 26, 2010	Processing Session	5:30 pm
May 14, 2010	Creative Problem Solving	7:30 am
May 17, 2010	Processing Session	5:30 pm
May 27, 2010	Orientation for 2010-2011	7:00 pm
TBD	YLI Graduation	TBD

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

In March we will be outside doing some walking downtown as we visit some small business entrepreneurs, so please dress appropriately for the weather!



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, March 5: Entrepreneurship