

2017 Leadership Academy

The Aurora Regional Chamber of Commerce Leadership Academy is offered to representatives of member businesses and organizations and is designed to prepare a select group of qualified candidates for future leadership roles in the Aurora area.

Established in 1979, the Aurora Chamber's Leadership Academy has a rich history of providing confidence, knowledge, professionalism, and strong leadership skills that not only benefit the attendee but also their employers. The goal is simple: To create a development opportunity for participants to serve and enhance themselves, their employers, and the community.

Over the past 35 years, more than 800 community leaders have participated in the program. Many have gone on to lead local businesses and organizations. Some have gone on to public office. All have left their mark on the community.

With the encouragement and support of the Dunham Fund, the Academy has completed its first phase of redevelopment. This year's program focuses on the unique strengths of our community and encourages a diverse mix of participants to engage in our community's success.

Thirty hours of class time, over the course of 10 meetings, will focus on personal and professional development of the participants through a personality inventory identification and leadership development. In addition, the unique positioning and potential of the Aurora region will be highlighted with discussions on community and economic development, local government and cultural diversity, as well as civil and social services.

Session One

Friday, March 3

Introduction & Overview of Leadership Academy

8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Joseph Henning, Aurora Chamber (2005)

Aurora Chamber, 43 W. Galena Blvd, Aurora

Linda Pilmer, Pilmer Real Estate

Objectives:

- Explanation of Program Expectations
- Announcement and Discussion of Group Project
- Participation in Team Building Exercise(s)
- Discussion of Results-Oriented Networking, Community Profile, and Community Benefits

Session Two

Friday, March 10

Personality Inventory & Leadership Development

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Bob Hernandez, IMSA

IMSA, 1500 W. Sullivan Rd, Aurora

Objectives:

- Completion of Personality Inventory
- Identification of Interpersonal Skills
- Discussion of Self-Discovery and Self-Development

Session Three

Friday, March 17

Civil Service

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Chief Kristen Ziman, APD (2009)

Aurora Police Department, 1200 E Indian Trail, Aurora

Objectives:

- Tour of Aurora Police Department
- Discussion of Civil Service and Impact on Community
- Discussion of Authenticity, Solution-Oriented Analysis, and Conflict Resolution

Session Four

Friday, March 24

Cultural Diversity in Our Community

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Adrienne Coleman, Ed.D. Multicultural Education Specialist, IMSA

Location Aurora Public Library- Santori Library, Aurora

Board Room, 3rd Floor

Objectives:

- Conversation on Positive Impact of Cultural Diversity on Business
- Examination of Implicit Bias in Creating a Diverse and Inclusive Workforce
- Discussion of Conflict Resolution and Interpersonal Communications

Session Five

Friday, March 31

Local Government

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Mayor Bob O'Connor, City of Aurora

Aurora City Hall, 44 E. Downer Place, Aurora

Carie Anne Ergo, City of Aurora

10:30-11:30 a.m. Downtown Aurora Tour

TBD

Objectives:

- Conversation on Local Government Services and Function
- Discussion of Issue Management, Negotiating, Developing Effectiveness

Session Six

Friday, April 7

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Fox Valley Park District-Cole Center, 101 W. Illinois, Aurora

Objectives:

- Conversation of Importance of Sustainability
 - Alternate Facts: Is Global Warming Real?
- Impact of Sustainability on Business

Community Sustainability

Brook McDonald, President/CEO, The Conservation Foundation

Jeff Palmquist, Fox Valley Park District

Friday, April 14

Good Friday Off

Session 7

Friday, April 21

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Hesed House, 659 S. River St., # 2, Aurora

Objectives:

- Conversation on Public Service and Available Social Services in Community
- Discussion of Servant Leadership, Community Engagement, and Collaboration
- Discussion on Experience Attending Local NFP Board Meeting

Social Services

Ryan Dowd, Atty., MPA, Executive Director

Session Eight

Friday, April 28

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Rush-Copley Medical Center, 2000 Ogden Avenue, Aurora

Objectives:

- Conversation on Local Healthcare Services and Economic Impact
- Discussion on Impact of Philanthropy

Healthcare

John Diederich, COO, Rush-Copley (2001)

Alex Pope, CDO, Rush-Copley (2012)

Session Nine

Friday, May 5

8:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Caterpillar, 325 S. Route 31, Montgomery

Objectives:

- Tour of Caterpillar
- Discussion of Business and Industry Leadership
- Discussion of Strategic Decision Making and Effective Coaching

Business & Industry

TBD, Caterpillar

Session Ten

Friday, May 12

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

SciTech Hands On Museum, 18 W. Benton Street, Aurora

Objectives:

- Conversation on Continuing Personal and Community Development
- Conversation on Program Experiences
- Completion of Program Survey and Testimonials
- Celebration of Completion of Program

Keeping Your Passion

Arlene Hawks, Executive Director, SciTech Museum