



**What people are saying about  
The LeaderShape® Institute...**  
(in 2002)

“As each day went by at LeaderShape, I was amazed to see a dream that I thought was unattainable become a reality that I can reach.”

Julia Kim  
Mock Trial Team  
Elmhurst College

“Just a note of thanks for the wonderful program and week that my daughter, Lauren Elizabeth Smith from Alpha Xi Delta National participated with LeaderShape, Inc. She came home so full of the learning experience with such a diverse group of young people – all from different backgrounds and areas, but all with the common goal to achieve very similar goals in their own life settings. She also learned how very small the world around us is, as she grew closer to the other participants and heard their life stories of struggle. I commend you and your staff on a very organized and rewarding seminar. I am so thankful that my daughter had this opportunity.”

Susan Wood Smith (mother)  
Lauren Smith (participant)  
Alpha Xi Delta  
Christian Brothers University

“Within a mere six days, I gained a greater understanding of my personal strengths: my passion, diligence, and initiative; the gifts that I can bring to back to my campus and share with my community.”

“To me, one of the most striking aspects of LeaderShape is its ongoing commitment to pass on core values to leaders of tomorrow. Trust, fairness, and citizenship are key to ethical decision-making and successful leadership. However, these character-building qualities are rarely incorporated into other leadership programs.”

Michelle SanPedro  
Northwestern University

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“LeaderShape was one of the most fun and defining weeks of my life.”

“I was continually surprised by how much I could learn from other people as well as what I learned about myself.”

“In my past experiences with a lot of leaders in the same room, nothing gets done. However our family clusters were different. We listened to each other, offered suggestions and advice on leadership problems and techniques, and just had a great time.”

Julie Erzen  
Pitchfork's Acapella Group  
Arizona State University

“I can't even begin to tell you what an amazing experience I had and all that I gained and learned within a week's worth of time. I was able to look inside myself as a leader and see what I *really* hope to achieve and ways in which I can achieve my goals.”

“I really hope you will continue to support others in the future so that they may be able to experience all that the LeaderShape Institute has to offer.”

Cassandra Garcia  
Delta Zeta Sorority  
Western Michigan University

“I have attended numerous leadership seminars, conferences, workshops, etc. and this program by far exceeded my expectations.”

“I truly believe big changes and important relationships will be created and nurtured thanks to the help of the wonderful LeaderShape staff and the inspiring program itself.”

Laura E. Pevahouse  
Student Government  
University of Memphis

“I had been excited about LeaderShape since my chapter nominated me, but as the time drew near, I was having second thoughts. Maybe someone younger, with more time in Theta, should go? Maybe I shouldn't miss a week of work? Can I be high-strung and energetic for 6 days? But a week before leaving, I read my materials again and realized that this wouldn't be an ordinary leadership conference. I had signed an agreement committing myself to integrity and learning. I challenged myself to step out of my “comfort zone” and participate in new activities. I was asked to embrace these challenges and take full advantage to the LeaderShape Institute. So to prove it to

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myself, and mostly to act on the challenge I took to “step out of my comfort zone,” I packed my bags and boarded the airplane for what was the most challenging, inspiring, insightful, life-changing week of my life.”

“When I am with new people in upbeat, enthusiastic environment, I hold back a bit before meeting other people and being me. On day one, I was challenged to not let this happen. Wow! How am I supposed to dive in to a relationship with new people? What if they don’t talk to me? What if my jokes aren’t funny? This didn’t matter. This week, I was going to be myself. I had 64 other people who didn’t know anything about me. I have always wanted to be myself earlier in relationships, but I haven’t let myself.”

“I learned more about myself than anyone could have ever told me I would. I realized that sometimes my values conflict between what I say and what I believe. I learned how trust, problem solving, and relationships are tested, but can be enhanced in group settings. I learned how to create a community that values everyone’s opinion and is conducive to respect, openness, integrity, and support.”

“Those six days brought me mental, spiritual, and psychological challenges all at one time. It also brought me a new group of friends that helped me take on the challenges. These new friends will also help me overcome the challenges with my vision. They only helped make me a better person, but they are ultimately helping those that my vision will touch.”

Jessica Solberg  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
North Dakota State University

“It was an eye opening and life changing experience for me. I learned how to believe in myself, have a healthy disregard for the impossible and to make my vision become a reality.”

Julia Aronson  
Jewish Students Association  
Southern Methodist University

“I thank you greatly for giving me the opportunity to experience the best week of my life.”

Brooke Martin  
Student Government Association  
Susquehanna University

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“This opportunity and wake up call for me personally and as a leader could not have come at a better time in my life, and for that I thank you immensely.”

“The scholarship that you were able to contribute towards my life-altering and changing experience could be paid back to you one hundred fold and still never touch the experience emotionally or mentally that I encountered for myself and whit others.”

“Thank you again for your support in a program that has changed and will continue to change thousands of your young leaders. You have no idea the impact you helped create.”

Reid Kirchhoff  
Theatre Department  
Northwest Missouri State University

”Each day was more exciting than the next.”

Patricia Urvalek  
Chi Omega  
University of NC-Charlotte

”Thank you again for this incredible experience.”

Anya S. Kajlich  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
Cal State Poly-San Luis Obispo

“The entire week everyone put their hearts and souls in to their work an also into the hands of the people they met and it showed.”

Eric Raposa  
Alpha Tau Omega  
University of New Hampshire

“The week at LeaderShape showed me that my vision mattered and I had all of the means to get there. I found that I was inspired daily and was ready to step out and be a leader with unquestionable integrity.”

”Honestly, I knew my vision before I reached the Institute, but had no idea how to go about seeing it through. It wasn’t until I sat down with my peers and listened to their suggestions, that I realized my vision was very possible. It was an awesome feeling.”

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"I know that some time has passed since I attended LeaderShape, but I really wanted to process what I learned and how I developed as a person before sending this to you. I would like to tell you that my participation at LeaderShape changed my life. I am a completely different person now that I have gone to LeaderShape.

"LeaderShape was a week that was full of integrity; you could trust everyone and be yourself. LeaderShape allowed you to take big risks where you were completely vulnerable and then in return you had the reward of being accepted and embraced by everyone."

"LeaderShape gave me a safe environment where I could be myself. This environment is what allowed me to grow and become a better person. I learned so much from the other participants, and the facilitators. I now have a network of friends across the country that I know I can turn to in times of need."

Ken Staack  
Delta Sigma Phi  
Northwest Missouri State University

"My week at LeaderShape can be described with one simple word: perfect. I had the privilege to meet and speak with some of the nation's top young leaders. I gained much wisdom and insight not only from the LeaderShape advisors, but from my peers as well. I also learned that I have only tapped the "tip of the iceberg" of my leadership qualities, and I cannot wait for the chance to make a difference at my collegian campus."

Jesse Newton  
Silver Key Honorary  
Kansas State University

"My experience at the LeaderShape Institute has had a profound influence on my vision of leadership and of how I can effect positive changes in the lives of others."

"I have gained a great deal of knowledge during my time at LeaderShape. I will not soon forget the influence the institute has had on my passion to lead with integrity. Though my visions are only in the infant stages, I feel as though I have traversed mountains these past two months and that I am a better person because of it."

"Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity."

Michael Romano  
Engineering Student Council  
Cornell University

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“Never before have I felt more inspired than when engaging in conversations with these exceptional individuals about their visions for their universities, their communities, and even the world. With the assistance of the LeaderShape facilitators, we created a “learning community” in which encouragement and trust prevailed as opposed to the criticism and cynicism that so often plague society. In this environment, I learned that most things are only impossible because we allow them to be.”

Ashley E. Neal  
Delta Gamma  
Clemson University

“It was definitely unlike any other learning experience I have ever had.”

“It was all a little overwhelming at first, but I was definitely glad that I was given the chance to open myself to the challenge.”

“Because of the experiences I had and the challenges I was faced with at LeaderShape, I feel ready to take on the world!”

Jenny Echartea  
Emerging Leaders  
St. Mary's University-San Antonio

“I would first like to thank you for the opportunity to experience such a life changing conference. You have given me the chance to partake in an event that will forever be a part of my life and the way that I look at leadership”

“The challenging parts of the conference were telling myself that it is all right to be alone and to know that being by myself is nothing to be afraid of.”

“Throughout all of the activities that I took part in on this journey to understanding leadership and myself I just want to say that being able to go was the most rewarding!! “

“Thank you for giving me the chance to attend such a wonderful conference.”

Christopher N. Ho  
Student Government  
St. Mary's University-San Antonio

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“My time at LeaderShape was priceless. I learned so much about myself and my leadership style it was AMAZING. I am excited to return to campus and embrace the challenges which lie ahead of me.”

Michael DeBowes  
Resident Assistant  
Millersville University

“I had never believed that I was an effective leader before LeaderShape. They made me believe in myself.”

Megan R. Hofman  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
University of Idaho

“If even half of my fellow participants are able to accomplish some small part of what we’ve set out to do the world will be improved beyond measure!”

Joyce R. Meyer  
National Society of Collegiate Scholars  
Kansas State University

“While at LeaderShape not only did I learn the value of leading with integrity, the skills an effective leader needs, and how to work well with others in leadership position, but I also learned about new people, places, and believes. I have meet friends from all over the United States and learned about many new cultures. I have gained tolerance and understanding from this experience. Something that takes many people a lifetime to fully obtain.”

Melissa Christiansen  
Thayne Community Service Center  
Salt Lake Community College

“The institute challenged each of us to search deeply inside ourselves and identify our core values. LeaderShape pushed us to use and develop those values so that we could live and lead with integrity.”

“Now I feel like I can do anything.”

Amber Anderson  
Panhellenic Council  
University of South Dakota

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“I have learned to dream big.”

“LeaderShape also gave me the amazing opportunity to meet other people that have the kind of aspirations and integrity that I have always looked for inside of myself.”

“I wish every leader in any organization could have this opportunity, but it only takes a few good leaders to light the fire for the future.”

Kari Sievers  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
Washington & Jefferson College

“It was a week of my life that I will never forget. I learned some valuable lessons that can never be duplicated in the classroom or in the real world.”

Emmanuel Lahlouh  
Alpha Tau Omega  
University of Southern California

“I have never seen so many young people that had such drive to go out and change their communities. Getting a chance to surround myself with these people for six days only made me want to work even harder to fulfill my dreams.”

Angela Williams  
Tutor  
University of Maryland-Baltimore

“Thank you for the opportunity to attend Leadershape. I found it to be a touching experience I will never forget. The people I met were supportive and inspiring, and I cannot explain how it renewed my soul and spirit. I hope to contribute to the world one day as people like you have done for me.”

Carmen Elena Bartholomew  
Blue Chip Program  
University of Arizona

“Thanks to donors like you, student leaders across the nation were empowered to change the world.”

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“You see, throughout the 6 magical days of LeaderShape, I was continually supported in an environment truly conducive to learning that inevitably helped me overcome my fears, stereotypes. Biases, et cetera. I see the world in a new light. I see issues I was previously unaware of. I see bias and stereotypes everywhere. I see marginality. I see solutions.”

“Yes, I see solutions and that is what makes LeaderShape powerful. Any educated well-spoken person could inform anyone about issues concerning society. The missing link is being taught the tools to truly make a difference. This is what LeaderShape provides.”

Jason Chan  
Student Ambassador  
University of Nevada-Las Vegas

“Thank you for the best experience in my life thus far. I can honestly say that the one-week at Leadershape truly changed my life for the better. The best thing about LeaderShape was the diversity of students. I met people from all around the world and it was such a healthy experience to hear about others situations and visions in life.”

“No amount of money could ever repay you for the amazing friendships, knowledge, and experiences I encountered at LeaderShape.”

Debrah Howell  
American Chemical Society  
Salt Lake Community College

“This entire week everyone poured their hearts and souls into the work they did but also into the hands of the people they met.”

“The knowledge, skills and, friendships that I acquired from LeaderShape were indispensable and will stay with me forever.”

Terrell Lawrence Thorpe  
Residence Hall Association  
University of Illinois

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“I had expected similar material to that which I had learned in the classroom of my leadership classes, but this material was so much more interesting because of the way that it was presented-in an applicable and real life manner which can easily be associated with everyday situations, and which I will rely on and refer to many times in the future.”

Andrea Ebert  
Soccer  
Albertson College

“ This week as given me hope for the future of our country and the world.”

Jourdan R. Haynes  
Student Government  
Rollins College

“There were many aspects of leadership that I learned about throughout the course of the week, and they were all very important, but the most important thing I learned that week was about myself. I learned that I should take more time and energy to actively listen to what others are saying. I also learned that I should express myself a little more in larger groups, and be less worried about making mistakes. To me, these lessons are invaluable.”

Michael Watson  
Church  
Arizona State University

“Not only was LeaderShape a learning and growing experience, but it was fun too!”

“I can say that the relationships I built at LeaderShape are by far the most important part of the whole experience to me. I’ve never met a more friendly, open group of people, and I was able to find something noble in each of them.”

“I realized just how big of a difference I can make.”

Sarah Ledbetter  
Peer Education  
Rollins College

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“The LeaderShape Institute taught me that living and leading with integrity means doing what is right not only when everyone is watching, but also when no one is watching, Many times I allowed myself to go astray because no one was watching, believing I did no wrong. I stand corrected.”

“Before leaving the Institute I made a promise to myself that I would live my entire life with integrity regardless of the personal cost, even when no one was watching.”

“Thank you for the opportunity to experience LeaderShape. Your help goes a long way into shaping the youth of our future.”

Berenice Tostado  
Committee on Student Leadership  
Southwestern University

“People warned me about LeaderShape, telling me that when I leave, I will be a changed man. Change does not do justice to the affect that LeaderShape had on me. Never did I imagine gaining a greater respect for life and the people involved in mine, in a weeks due time.”

Matthew Baki  
Delta Theta Chapter  
Kansas State University

“After the initial excitement wore off, I was left with the clear, obvious conclusion that this was among the best experiences of my life.”

“I met some amazing individuals. Some of who will surely be the leaders of tomorrow. The week also gave me a sense of rebirth, an enduring understanding of what I want to accomplish, and reinforced my commitment to achieve my goals.”

“During this time my strengths and weaknesses became more crystallized, and I discovered strong leadership qualities that I should build on, and others that I should improve on.”

“If there is anything that I have taken away from this week, and that I feel I should pass on to you, as well as everyone else who ask about my experience, is that “life is what you make of it.”

Ryan Gilliam  
SOS Mentorship Program  
University of Toronto

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“Although interacting with this many strong leaders all at once was often times challenging, I definitely learned more during this week than I have in any class or lecture I have taken. Throughout the long days at LeaderShape, I learned how to work as a team, effectively communicate my ideas, and lead with integrity. My friends and instructors helped me explore my visions, establish my goals, and start planning to put my dreams into actions. Basically I was taught to “shoot for the moon, because even if you miss, you’ll land among the stars.”

Margaret Elisabeth Ratliff  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
Tulane University

“Throughout the week, I learned that there are individuals who do want to change the world. I also learned that it takes more than just holding a position, such as president or service chair, to actually be a leader. You have to really listen to your members- communication is extremely important, you have to actually do something about it, you have to accept that you can make mistakes, and most importantly, you have to be willing to fail and rise above those failures.”

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart.”

Elizabeth Sikorski  
Purdue Student Union Board  
Purdue University

“I now believe I have the knowledge and tools needed to make the changes I desire to make in this world.”

Angela Kebric  
Chi Omega  
University of Arizona

“I was the Vice President of my high school, the Valedictorian of my 2001 graduating class, and have been selected for and sent to many leadership conferences. All of these accomplishments combined did not have the effect on me that 6 days of LeaderShape did. That trip changed my life forever. It widened my perspectives and truly taught me to think outside the box. I will carry this experience with me in my heart...always. Words cannot express my gratitude.”

“Thank you.”

Monica Delaney  
Student Government Association  
Ursinus College

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“My week at LeaderShape was one of my most fulfilling experiences and has changed my outlook on life for the better. I cannot wait to make a difference.”

“Thank you again for this opportunity!”

Meaghan Nelsen  
Leadership Scholars Program  
Ursinus College

“My experiences and development as a leader at LeaderShape surpassed everything I even began to imagine it would be. It was truly a once in a lifetime experience that I will never forget.”

Andrea Campbell  
Alpha Xi Delta  
George Mason University

“My experience was undescrivable and unforgettable. The things I learned about myself and leadership will help me influence others in a positive way. This wonderful experience has lift me with enthusiasm to lead with integrity not only in my organization, but also in my future.”

Jamie Koppes  
Sigma IOTA  
University of Northern Iowa

“By extending this opportunity to my you not only helped me to find myself, and my path, and vision, you gave me a second family, which I will never forget.”

“Trust was one thing I took away from the institute; I was surrounded by an extraordinary group who I would leave a thousand dollars on a table with, and know that it would be there when I got back. Most importantly, I learned to trust myself.

“On one of the last days of the Institute, we had an opportunity to ask a panel of leaders various questions, and I asked the question, “What was the turning point in you life involving leadership?” On Friday night, I knew what the answer to that question would be for me twenty years from now, and it would be what I learned at LeaderShape.”

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“I can honestly tell you, that you impacted my life in a way I didn’t think possible at the time. I learned that there was integrity in the world and the program strongly reinforced the changes that we ourselves can make in society, whether big or small.”

Michael Thomas Phillips  
Residence Hall Association  
Robert Morris College

“Coming to the conference, I did not know what to expect, but the five days that followed blew any expectations that I had away. Never before have I seen such a diverse group of people grow so close to each other with in the span of five days.”

Gregory Javonillo  
American Culinary Federation  
Johnson & Wales University

“I could only dream that every college leader have the chance to attend an institute that has such a positive impact on their campus.”

“Thank you again for the opportunity to experience The LeaderShape Institute. I can honestly say that it was a life changing and self-challenging experience that will make me a better leader and person.”

Tiffany Levine  
Jr. Achievement Orlando  
University of Central Florida

“It may be the most life-changing weeks of my life. I learned so much about myself and other people, and how we relate, I learned what I need to work on to become a more effective leader (and how to do this), as well as what is working well. I feel that this week taught me to not only become a better leader, but also a better person.”

Michelle Malecha  
Dixon Fellows  
Clemson University

“My thoughts were there is hope for the world to come.”

Marie Y. Egawa  
Leadership  
Northwest Indian College

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“I don’t know if you realize how powerful and impacting your support of this organization is on the future of the world.”

Sarah Kiefer  
Spiritual Life Council  
Elmhurst College

“For many, LeaderShape was an experience in which they realized that they truly are leaders. For others, it was a reaffirmation of what was all ready known. But to me, it was a harsh slap in the face that I am not the leader that I thought I was. Looking back, I have noticed that there have been several instances that I did not lead wit integrity, as I should have. I did not treat others the way they should have been treated.”

“Not leading with integrity, not seeking out the assistance of others, and an egotistical attitude are sure ways to lead your organization in the wrong direction.”

“Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity!”

Luke A. Fuszard  
University of Texas Dance Marathon  
University of Texas-Austin

“By allowing me to discover myself more closely, and with honest feedback from my peers, LeaderShape also helped me overcome my self-induced obstacle of being quiet around people I don’t know.”

“The week at LeaderShape helped me to develop goals and an action plan that would put me on the right path to make such a contribution (something that I haven’t considered before in precise detail). I feel that last week was a critical point in my evolution as a leader.”

Kamil a. Wnuk  
Sophomore Class Honor Board  
Harvey Mudd College

“The conference was one of the most unique learning environments I have encountered.”

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“The curriculum challenged ethics and integrity among the leaders, and provided an opportunity to enhance competence by practicing and reinforcing important ideals such as respect and teamwork.”

Alison Pace  
Community Service  
University of Delaware

“If I told you that you were to attend the greatest experience of your life, meet the most fascinating, success driven, inspiring people, and learn more about leadership and yourself that you ever could in one week, you would soon be experiencing the powers of LeaderShape. The LeaderShape experience is truly amazing; it is indescribable.”

Joseph Shippee  
LEAD Scholars at UCF  
University of Central Florida

“It was intense, inspiring, and completely mind-blowing. For the first time in a long time, I was able to touch base with who I am as a leader. I learned so much about what my strengths were, how I lead most effectively, and about me as a person. It was an invaluable experience that I will never forget.”

Michael D. Anthony  
Student Government  
North Carolina State University

“Words alone do not seem to begin to express how awesome this experience was. There are so many emotions that cross my face when I share my experiences with family and friends upon returning this past Sunday. The largest of those facial emotions is joy and pride.”

“My Mom said, “You have not stopped smiling since you returned. What did they do to you, you are so positive about everything... it is almost scary.”

“My life is so much better as of me being a part of LeaderShape. I learned how to be more inclusive of others, an active listener, to stand behind what I say (integrity), how even the smallest pebble can make ripples in the water, and the skills necessary to develop a vision.”

Benjamin D. Mills  
Arizona Blue Chip  
University of Arizona

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“The LeaderShape Institute and experience adheres exactingly to the ideals in which it was created.”

Jordan Brigham  
ATO Fraternity  
Syracuse University

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