



**What people are saying about  
The LeaderShape® Institute...**  
(in 2006)

I have learned so much from this experience. This has made me better as a person with great things to offer for the future for my organization. I have met so many great people and also made friendships that I know will last a lifetime. The activities that were done made me think, react, produce opinions, work together with others, and above all, take actions towards doing anything that I think is impossible. In addition, the benefit that I have formed from this is a vision for better role models. I feel very strong about this. Besides, this program overall is great for different organizations that we are all from and it generated a hope that is true to heart, for the heart. This has been an experience that I will take with me forever.

Lisa Syroka  
Lourdes College

After being effected by hurricane Katrina my life began to lose focus to what I wanted and what was important. LeaderShape allowed me to not only develop my leadership skills but also personally reevaluate my life.

Tiffany Borne  
Loyola University New Orleans

My experience with LeaderShape was amazing! During the week I met so many different people who all taught me something. Some fun things we did during the week were the team challenge course which taught us to trust one another. Besides the fun events, I was able to better develop my vision.

Kaitlyn Hobby  
Kansas State University

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It was a life changing experience that will play an important role in my future as a leader. I learned so much about myself as well as many others from all walks of life, all over the country. Thanks to people like LeaderShape, we, as the leaders of tomorrow, can do amazing things in the future as we work on our visions by leading with integrity.

Kaci Harrison  
Texas A & M University

Thank you so much for making it possible for me to change the way I lead, to find my personal vision for the world around me, and to meet long lasting friends who will support me no matter where I go. Those six days changed me.

Kelly Braun  
Albertson College of Idaho

LeaderShape has helped me tremendously in creating my vision to expand the world of possibilities for women. I will carry the lessons and values with me for a lifetime, and it is an experience I will never forget.

Lindsey Ruster  
John Carroll University

After attending the LeaderShape Institute I've realized that I've learned how to be a more effective leader by stepping back and taking everyone's opinion into perspective. I also learned the importance of leading with integrity and staying true to my own core values. Some of the high points of my week included meeting 70 new friends from all across the country, being in a positive and inclusive community, realizing my true passion for helping others, and for being able to be myself. My life was truly changed for the better with this experience.

Shelley Barnes  
Wittenberg University

Words can not even begin to explain how amazing LeaderShape was for me. From the moment I arrived I began building relationships that I knew would be lasting. Everything was superb, the food, facilities, accommodations, location, people, and the list goes on and on. LeaderShape was by far one of the most influential and inspiring events of my life. I immediately wanted to get more involved in every organization I was involved with. I can't change the world in a day or maybe in a lifetime, but if we don't reach for the stars then there is no way to know how far we could have gone.

Nicholas Shiya  
Arizona State University

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I have grown so much and learned more about myself this week than I have in the past few years.

Nelson Elliott  
Southeast Missouri State University

LeaderShape was an experience unlike any I have ever had the privilege to partake in. I learned a lot about communication, relationships, and supportive environments necessary to make visions become reality. I also learned a lot about myself in the process, some good and some bad. I will always encourage the attendance of LeaderShape for anyone with the ability. Thank you for helping me to become a better person.

John Michael  
Arizona State University

The LeaderShape Institute taught me about my personal leadership style. This included capitalizing on my strengths and working on my weaknesses to become an effective leader. I now realize the importance of looking at leadership as a relational role and not one of being appointed or elected to a position of responsibility. The impact that one person can make when they lead with integrity was continually stressed and I hope to be able to model many of the positive behaviors that were discussed at the institute.

Lisa Warner  
University of Richmond

LeaderShape was undoubtedly one of the most interesting and intriguing programs I have ever attended. My peers and facilitators created a unique atmosphere conducive to learning and growth.

Amanda Leman  
Old Dominion University

I've just returned from a week at LeaderShape where I was challenged and transformed into a more effective leader. The most important thing I took away from the past week was the development of my personal vision. Through realizing this vision, I will be able to influence the groups I am leading to make a positive change.

Ben Palos  
Belmont University

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This week was very challenging not just because of the topics discussed but also that my peers were there. LeaderShape taught me the power of consensus to take back my campus, something I thought was inefficient. I created a vision based on a nonjudgmental world where people can live without fear of harm for their ideas. My peers were really able to offer insight into morphing my vision into so much more and I have already thought of the first few steps to make my vision come true. My favorite moment all week was when we talked about mistakes as a learning moment. Never look at them as mistakes, instead say, "how fascinating" and move on with the lesson.

Samantha Leif  
University of Nevada Las Vegas

I have achieved the personal growth that I am normally too busy to work on. From a first hand perspective, these young leaders will be changing the world because of your support.

John Morris  
University of Washington

Creating a vision and putting it into action is something I never thought I'd actually have enough confidence to address, but thanks to you and others my vision can actually become a reality. Thanks so much for investing your heart into LeaderShape.

Devin Moran  
Western Kentucky University

Edward James Olmos said, Education (is) a vaccine for violence". As an international student I did not fully understand his quote until I came to LeaderShape. After having the session that I had in the LeaderShape Institute I scrutinized myself and realize that I live in a world of possibility. Presently, as a young Haitian, LeaderShape has clarified my purpose in life. I have learned that in order to realize my vision I need to have some stretch goals and manageable goals. I learned how to build a community by developing an interpersonal relationship with the people based on integrity. LeaderShape has taught me to believe in myself, to accept criticism and to be a servant to humanity.

Marc Duchatelier  
North Carolina Central University

After attending LeaderShape, I've realized that anything is possible. Some of my highs for the week were meeting young, intelligent and motivated individuals who are extremely passionate as well as those who didn't know what they were passionate

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about yet but were so open minded and willing to learn. This great experience is one which can't be emulated more than once and every person in attendance brought their own uniqueness to the institute. LeaderShape has not only challenged me to learn about myself but it also taught me how best to work with every other person on this planet in an attempt to create an inclusive and efficient environment.

Starr Bookins  
University of Tampa

I had a wonderful experience there. I learned about who I am and how to work with others whose personalities and backgrounds are different then mine. It was one of the best weeks of my life. I hope to bring what I learned back to college in the fall.

Ashley Niven  
Providence College

LeaderShape really helped me focus my vision for the year and taught me many life skills. Knowing my personality type and how it interacts with others was very effective. LeaderShape showed me how to work under stress and change conditions. Outside of the actual program, I made so many great contacts and friendships. I am still in contact with many of my fellow LeaderShapers. Some are actually coming to visit me soon.

Kelsea Ballantyne  
Chapman University

After attending LeaderShape Institute I've realized that I've learned that I should communicate more with others to expand my way of thinking beyond, "I have to do it my way or by myself". Some highs for the week were the family cluster the obstacle course, and creating my very first vision in life.

Sheens Butler  
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

I can honestly say I am forever changed after my week at LeaderShape. Beyond the personal insights and valuable experiences the content of the week provided, what I gained the most is a support network. Being a student leader with big dreams for the world and my role in it can often be a lonely place, but now I've met others who share an understanding of the challenges we face.

Amye Lee  
Leigh University

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I have not been the same person since I pulled into the parking lot of Allerton. This past week has been beyond challenging; it has been downright overwhelming. There were times when I was not sure that I was the right person for the program and it terrified me that my school had enough confidence to invest in the risk of sending me. I have just left a week of personal growth, development, and discovery; of relationship building; of identifying the things about which I am the most passionate; of defining my core beliefs and values; and of meeting sixty of the most amazing people I have ever had the opportunity to encounter. I know that I could have lived a full and happy life without ever being part of LeaderShape, but now that I have experienced it, I cannot even imagine my life without the experience or the people I met.

Krystal Karshner  
Wright State University

I have gone to many leadership conferences throughout high school and usually, I found the cheesy and more pointless than productive because they were all about planning, fundraising and organizing. When I heard about LeaderShape, I was very wary because I did not want to attend another one of those conferences. To my pleasant surprise, LeaderShape was different. It is incredibly unique. Within it many different kinds of students come together to learn about leadership, integrity and vision. The participants are introduced to facilitators who are there to offer their experience and knowledge to the participants so that they can live and lead to the best of their abilities. LeaderShape gave me an entirely new perspective on vision, passion, and what it truly means to be a leader. My favorite aspect of LeaderShape was having the opportunity to learn from some of the most amazing students from across the country. I know that coming from LeaderShape I have made 48 awesome friends who, in the short week that I have gotten to know them, have made me a better person. I cannot express how amazing LeaderShape is. It gave me the motivation and knowledge to stay in action.

Maria Town  
Emory University

I believe that had I not attended the LeaderShape Institute that I would not have been given an opportunity to create a vision that would have dealt with a variety of different campus and world issues. I also believe that I would not have new friends that I value more than some of the people I know on my own campus. I know I would one day like to possibly organize a reunion of my LeaderShape group.

Gavin Farber  
Rowan University

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Through that week at LeaderShape I have developed into a better leader and now I can see my vision turning into a reality. I personally learned about myself and if I continue to work hard and persevere my vision will come to pass and I will be able to share my story with others so that they can be motivated and inspired to go and start their own business.

Geordan Coleman  
North Carolina Central University

Many things can be life changing...the birth of a child, graduation, a traumatic event, LeaderShape. Yes, LeaderShape. This one week program was a life changing event for me personally, and I can say for the other 66 participants, it was for them as well. I have a new view on my leadership skills, and how my members viewed me as a leader. In addition, I now have new motivation to take on new tasks and help other's at my university.

Rudy Trejo  
St. Edward's University

My week at LeaderShape was the most amazing experience of my life. Not only did I make new friends but I walked away with better self confidence, a renewed spirit in my organizations, and a new passion for life. With the help of LeaderShape I have learned to lead with integrity and to incorporate my personal, educational, and social values into the clubs and organizations I represent.

Marcella Vasquez  
University of St. Thomas

I was challenged to think introspectively and stay committed to turning my plans into action. I was surrounded by college aged students who are determined to change this world for the better. Our facilitators were exceptional and were determined to stretch our visions. I made some close friends and it will be motivating to stay in contact with them as we work to turn our visions into reality.

Lauren Buckowsky  
College of Charleston

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I was energized and excited by the terrific program, amazing participants and even inspiring faculty. The experience is unmatched by any other leadership conference I have attended. I am now more focused on my vision to research changing the field of non-profit to promote more efficiency. I have new confidence, support, and connections.

Elizabeth Serio  
Providence College

I had one of the best times of my life: even though we were complete strangers. We have started to mold lasting friendships through bonding, sharing, communicating, and understanding one another. There were difficult times, overwhelming times, exciting and fun times, and times where we challenged our own integrity. I can truly say that I understand the meaning of "leading with integrity".

Janice Webb  
Westminster College

We learned a lot of things at LeaderShape, but one of the things I found most helpful was learning about myself. I learned about my personality type, what is good about my personality and things I need to work on to make myself a better leader. I was encouraged by my facilitators and peers to improve what was necessary and stretched myself to reach the goals that I set for myself. I loved how close our family cluster was by the end of the week. We all realized good qualities about ourselves that we might have not realized before.

Amanda Absher  
College of Mount St. Joseph

The week spent at Allerton challenged me to see beyond labels and stereotypes and value the individual. Everyone there felt the impact of a world leader with integrity. LeaderShape has touched my life and I am truly grateful.

Kate Legge  
University of Illinois

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I realized that I've learned a lot about myself. I've learned how to be a more honest and effective leader. I've also learned about how to be a better leader. I need to be a leader with integrity. I wasn't really sure what this meant prior to LeaderShape, but now I've discovered that by creating congruence between my core values, with my actions, that I can get one step closer to leading with integrity. I know that the changes I've started to make at LeaderShape won't be easy and that to work the rest of my life to continue to be a great leader. But LeaderShape gave me the tools to be a great leader and to know that honesty and open communication can make a leader that everyone trusts and respects.

Joseph Esch  
University of Illinois

After attending LeaderShape Institute I've realized that I've learned that before I can become an effective leader, I have to start from within. I understand that delegating work can be challenging and I should look at the personality first. Although it was challenging at first to open up myself to the new possibilities, I am glad I did.

Daphney Jean-Louis  
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

LeaderShape was truly a life altering experience. I met so many motivated and inspiring people who, I'm sure, I will stay in touch with in the future. LeaderShape has given me a whole new perspective on my leadership abilities and increased my excitement for the oncoming year. I am honored and forever thankful that I was given this opportunity to take part in this program.

Annie Abrams  
Indiana University

During my week at LeaderShape, I learned so much about being a great leader. I learned the value of integrity and active listening skills. I also learned so much about myself. I learned just what I am capable of and how I want to put my talents and skills to use on my college campus.

Allison Lowe  
East Tennessee State University

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After attending, my attitude is completely different toward school and life. Before, I went through life driven by what others thought was right. Now I know what I want and I am driven by my visions and my goals. It was truly a life changing experience. Also, the friendships that were made in the three days are friendships that will last a lifetime and are priceless.

Dan Skorski  
Alfred University

After attending the LeaderShape Institute, I've realized that I've learned a lot about my leadership styles. I learned how to try and balance being a leader and allowing the people I lead to try to be leaders themselves. We also learned that you need to step outside of the box in order to get things accomplished. Even if they do not go well the first time, it is extremely important to continue with the task and never give up. I was also given the opportunity to talk with other Student Government members from different college campuses throughout the United States. We exchanged a lot of ideas and plan to continue to work together through email over the next years.

Emma Crino  
St. Ambrose University

I've realized that I've learned so much about myself that I never realized before. With graduation just right around the corner, I was at a point where the paths in my life were slowly starting to split and deciding which path to take was becoming a daily obstacle for me. But the time spent at LeaderShape Institute was time that I needed to start sorting out the pieces of my life, and with the help of my peers, I am beginning to see the paths ahead me more clearly.

Jennifer Lam  
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

I have become more assertive with my opinions. The adage of "what is popular is not always right and what is right is not always popular", has taken on a new meaning for me.

Laura Hardesty  
Thiel College

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My experience here brought me love, joy and happiness today and I will forever cherish this opportunity. I am looking forward to applying what I have learned here to my everyday life.

Theresa Isibor  
University of North Carolina Charlotte

That week was a life altering experience. I feel so blessed to have been offered such an amazing opportunity to grow and learn with the future leaders of our country. I was blown away by the visions of my peers and the changes they wish to make in the world; I believe that each individual possesses the potential to truly make them a reality. It is crucial to have the support is individuals who can contribute to leadership programs. The effect if these programs will be immediately observed following the departure of those who attended. I am grateful for every second of that inspiring week at LeaderShape.

Blair Goodman  
Rollins College

The curriculum, the unique learning environment, and especially the strong friendships built at LeaderShape allowed me to stretch my understanding of what is possible. I learned that a vision is not about one person trying to solve a problem, but rather it is a picture of hope for the future everyone can share.

Nelson Cheung  
Carnegie Mellon University

I experienced a huge amount of personal growth and empowerment. Being surrounded by so many positive people was very uplifting. After this experience I feel like I can make a change in the world.

Jessalyn Smith  
University of North Carolina Greensboro

The idea of integrity is always a word everyone knows but never actually really knows the true meaning or how to connect it to everyday life. Coming to LeaderShape has given me the insight and inspiration to further my goals and become more involved on campus.

Robin Sheehy  
Salt Lake Community College

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I've learned the power of dreaming big and not being afraid to turn that vision into a reality. Being around such motivated people really inspired me to think outside the box and questions the world's problems. My new-found optimism in finding solutions is intense and I cannot wait to start executing my manageable goals and making my vision a reality.

Leila Hamzo  
University of St. Thomas

It was an experience that truly changed my life.

Jill Carr  
Rhodes College

Attending the institute taught me many things about myself and challenged me in new ways. I learned and realized the following:

-If I want to lead with integrity, I must also live with integrity.

-The value of just one person can create power for us all.

-Our greatest visions do become reality.

-My deepest values, my strengths, my challenges, my goals, and most importantly the type of world I want to live in and my role as a change agent in our world.

Rhett Buttle  
University of San Diego

I have learned new ways to approach people and situation, how to challenge myself and other, better listening skills and a multitude of ways to make my vision and goals reality. Some of my highs at the LeaderShape Institute were meeting other like minded students my age from across the globe. Challenging myself with unique situations and realizing what I intend to do with my life.

Bradley Huber  
St. John Fisher College

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As a recent participant of this leadership experience I and many other students are extremely grateful. Our leadership development is crucial in order to enhance our living environments. As participants at LeaderShape, creating visions and obtaining the skills to fulfill our visions will greatly assist us in our efforts to make the world a much better place. The experiences at LeaderShape are unforgettable and will stay with me throughout my life. The lessons I have learned and relationships I have developed will forever be valuable and have a major impact on my life. This impact will not stay only with me though, as I will honor my commitment to fulfill my vision of creating an accepting environment for all of those around me. By living a life of integrity, I will help make the lives of others much more enjoyable, which will in turn do the same for me.

Karlie Elliott  
University of Illinois

I've gotta tell you that I loved every bit of LeaderShape. I liked participating in the various activities that coerced me to realize the essentials of leadership. A particular activity that I enjoyed stressed the importance of communication. Obviously, communication is pertinent for leadership, but I seriously would have overlooked it had I not experienced it for myself in a new perspective. I loved meeting other youth who are just as ambitious as I am. The facilitators were on point and highly effective in teaching the materials. All of these factors together harbored a learning environment designed to help me in identifying my passion. Something like LeaderShape blows my mind because I can't believe I was fortunate enough to experience it. My intention is to affect the world, but even if that doesn't happen, I know that I will influence many people!

Bill Christian  
Rollins College

I've grown so much and learned so many valuable lessons about leadership and life. I can't believe the amount people I've gotten to know and the relationships and connections I've made. I've learned lessons like, you can lead with integrity and still make it to the top and also, that you don't have to be on the top to be a leader. I believe that this is an experience of a lifetime that all young leaders should have as some point.

Le Hong  
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis

LeaderShape allowed me to further solidify my vision for a stronger and better society. Also, I was able to develop new friendships and work on improving myself and my leadership skills. My experience was truly once in a lifetime and I will never forget it.

Jana Gordon-Pylant  
University of Nevada Las Vegas

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Throughout the week at LeaderShape I took the initiative to observe the leadership abilities of myself and others, and as a result I learned a lot about both my strengths and weaknesses. By making these observations and committing myself to actually implement what I learned, I am certain that I have become a much more dynamic leader and individual. After attending the LeaderShape Institute, I feel much more competent in my leadership abilities, and even more importantly I feel motivated to utilize these skills for the benefit of others. I just began a Resident Advisor position in the dorms and I have really enjoyed continuing my personal development in this role. Every day I can see how LeaderShape had changed me for the better as I work with these freshmen. While the lessons and lectures at LeaderShape did not really present and ideas or concepts that were completely new to me, they really did help me to streamline my focus on the important concepts, and to make sure I utilize these lessons in my daily actions and interactions. Without questions my highlight of the week was being able to meet so many amazing and inspiring individuals in both the students and facilitators. I have never before been in a place with that much power and potential, and just the thought of it was awe-inspiring. There were so many people who came from different backgrounds and had a variety of skills that it proved to be a wonderful learning and growing experience. I developed many close relationships and gained dozens of new friends over those five short days. As a result of LeaderShape, I have an amazing group of people who I can utilize to help me through challenging situations and to help me continue to grow as a person. In fact, I have already utilized this valuable resource for my R.A. position with great success.

Daniel Davie  
Kettering University

LeaderShape is truly a unique and life-changing experience. I met so many wonderful people, and I learned a lot about myself and different leadership styles. It was a busy week, but I will never forget it.

Courtney Fujara  
University of San Diego

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It is truly a full week of leadership, growth, and personal development. After attending the LeaderShape Institute, I've realized that I have learned what the real definition of leadership is. Borrowing LeaderShape's definition, leadership cannot exist without existing in a state of possibility. It is then that a supportive, accepting community (like the one I just left) can develop effective working relationships due to the inclusiveness of their environment. They are able to take an inspired vision, commit to it, and work towards exuding positive change. All of these steps would mean absolutely nothing if they did not maintain a level of individual and group integrity. If I had not attended LeaderShape or met the amazing faculty or fellow participants, I do not know if I would have ever been able to see my dream turn into a tangible vision for my life. By far this was one of the top three best life experiences because of the amazing, accepting people I met who inspire me to continue being me and support me in my pursuits of accomplishing my vision. I can honestly say that I have never been surrounded by so many student and professional leaders with integrity, that have genuine interest in helping people succeed, than I have at the LeaderShape Institute.

Dexter Bush-Scott  
College of William and Mary

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