

# Leading Edge | FACT SHEET 2018

## THE PROGRAM

Leadership Pikes Peak (LPP), founded in 1976 under the name Citizens' Goals, has been one of the premier community leadership organizations in the Pikes Peak Region for over 40 years. All programs at Leadership Pikes Peak are based on the theory of servant leadership. A servant-leader focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of the people and the communities to which they belong.

Leading Edge is our comprehensive community leadership program developed specifically for high school teens. We at LPP believe that civic engagement and leadership are skills that should be developed early in life through self-discovery and hands-on experiences. Leading Edge students gain an understanding of themselves, their communities, and their city through networking interactions with community leaders, exploration of local agencies and organizations, and leadership skill development curriculum. Students will graduate the program as engaged and involved citizens who are working to make a difference in our community.

## OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

### Leadership of the Self

One of the first steps to leadership development is to understand ourselves – who we are, what we can do, and how we are perceived by others. For leadership to be actualized, we must understand our position in the Pikes Peak community by exploring our individual strengths, personality types, abilities, passions, and potential for personal growth.

### Leadership of our Communities

A critical component of leadership development is learning how to apply our abilities to our own personal communities. A personal community is an intimate network of people with whom we align ourselves, and the places, issues, and organizations we rally around in our city.

### Leadership of our City

Developing community trustees requires us to know where and how we can make a difference in the greater Pikes Peak community. LPP introduces participants to community leaders and informs them of local challenges. Program graduates will increase their confidence, skills, and abilities to strengthen the city, thus becoming a community trustee.

## THE CURRICULUM

### ***Civic Topics Covered:***

*Homelessness and Hunger*  
*Public Safety*  
*Arts and Culture*  
*Environment and Conservation*  
*Physical and Mental Health*  
*Local History*  
*Local Government*  
*Innovation and Entrepreneurship*

### ***Leadership Topics Covered:***

*Strong Interest Inventory Assessment*  
*Team Building*  
*Communication*  
*Emotional Intelligence*  
*Project Management*  
*Diversity Training*  
*Public Speaking*  
*Business Etiquette*  
*Social Media Etiquette*

## THE EXPERIENCE

The 2018 program will consist of a total of 11 session days, focusing on leadership of the self, community, and city. Each session will have a focus on a key leadership and/or civic engagement topic and will explore these topics on a deep experiential level. The program kicks off with a three-day intensive to begin developing team building and communication skills amongst the class. The following week consists of another three-day intensive focused on getting to know the Colorado Springs community. Sessions will then continue Wednesdays on a weekly basis through the end of the summer, concluding with a Project Presentation and Graduation Day.

In addition to class sessions, students will work in groups on community service projects throughout the summer. These projects are proposed by local non-profit agencies and are specifically designed to make an impactful and meaningful difference to the project organization and the community. Students will work with their groups on their own time along with an organization liaison and an adult project mentor. Students will present their final projects at the Project Presentation and Graduation Day to community leaders, family, and friends.

## 2018 DATES

### Sessions (9am-5pm daily)

June 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

June 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>

June 20, June 27, July 11, July 18, July 25

### Group Projects

Groups will determine on their own how often and when they will meet to complete their projects. Students are expected to participate fully with their groups throughout the summer and attend meetings set by their groups.

### Project Presentations and Graduation (Time TBD)

July 28<sup>th</sup>

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Tuition for Leading Edge 2018 is \$500 and includes all materials, lunches, and transportation throughout the session days (from a central drop off and pick up point). **Scholarships are available** to assist those with financial needs. Please apply regardless of your financial situation.

Students can apply online at [www.leadershippikespeak.org](http://www.leadershippikespeak.org). In addition to the online application, students must also be nominated by a school administrator/coach/counselor; these nominations can also be submitted online at the website above. Upon completion of the application, students will be interviewed and selections will be made by the Leading Edge Steering Committee. The Leading Edge program will accept 24-26 students for the summer of 2018. Applications will be available in January 2018 and are **due by April 15, 2018**.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Kasi Dwyer, Program Manager at [kasi@leadershippikespeak.org](mailto:kasi@leadershippikespeak.org) or (719) 632-2618