

CONNECTING. LEARNING. LEADING.



Empowering Individuals to Strengthen and Transform Communities

Every great community has a foundation of individuals who are actively engaged in supporting its successful social and economic growth. Generation after generation, these committed leaders help to identify and seize opportunities as well as find solutions to the challenges communities face as they grow and evolve.

Valley Leadership, the largest leadership development organization in the greater Phoenix metropolitan area, is dedicated to engaging, educating and challenging current and emerging leaders to take an active role in strengthening and transforming communities. Through year-round programming and activities, Valley Leadership raises awareness and deepens understanding about the complexities of cultivating a thriving community while encouraging and empowering individuals to take action.

For three decades, our role has been to foster a strong pipeline of leadership in the Valley of the Sun. As a result, Valley Leadership strives to provide people of diverse perspectives and backgrounds from both the public and private sectors with opportunities to:

- **Connect**

Joining community-minded individuals together to explore the inner workings of a community, the complex challenges it faces and the varying perspectives and approaches to helping it thrive today, tomorrow and far into the future. Those who become involved with Valley Leadership are exposed to an incredible network of passionate, diverse and talented individuals who share a commitment to improving communities for generations to come.

- **Learn**

Great leaders have a thirst for knowledge, an appreciation of differing viewpoints, and a willingness to work together for the greater good. From leadership skills development and refinement to a deeper understanding of community, our goal is to provide ongoing opportunities for emerging and existing leaders to learn and grow both personally and professionally... all for the benefit of local communities.

- **Lead**

Leaders come in all shapes and sizes. Some are vocal and in the public eye. Other leaders are quietly doing their work, and improving lives and communities one day at a time. Both are vital to our community. Valley Leadership helps inspire all types of leadership and provides individuals with the opportunity to get actively engaged in shaping and transforming communities.

“As a founder of Valley Leadership, I envisioned that someday hundreds of young men and women would seek new horizons to build this community and to share its inevitable growth into a place of pride and opportunity. Proudly I look at the list of graduates and realize... mission accomplished!”

– Bill Shover



Valley Leadership fulfills a vital role in our community by helping to cultivate generations of leaders. Individuals involved with Valley Leadership are much more informed and open to diverse perspectives as well as better understand the profound complexities of our community.”

– Paul J. Luna (LI Class XV)
President, Helios Education Foundation





Cultivating Community Leadership by

C O N N E C T I N G .

Valley Leadership is for anyone with a passion for community. We take pride in being an inclusive organization that fosters dialogue and brings together people of varying ages, genders, economic status, and professional backgrounds. Our approach creates deeper understanding of community and critical issues; encourages discussion, debate and problem-solving; cultivates greater appreciation for differing perspectives; and inspires leadership at all levels of our community. Valley Leadership reaches existing and emerging leaders through the following programs and activities:

Leadership Institute: Current and Emergent Leadership

Leadership Institute is Valley Leadership's legacy program, launched 30 years ago. Each year, 50 individuals are selected through a competitive process to participate in the nine month institute beginning in September and ending in June. Many Valley corporations and organizations view Leadership Institute as an affordable and highly effective leadership development program for their best and brightest employees – those who they see as the future leaders within their organizations. The Institute offers:

- *Increased Awareness and Understanding of Our Community and the Issues Affecting its Growth and Prosperity* – Throughout the course of the year, participants are exposed to a variety of current and often complex or controversial community-related topics. Panel discussions including community leaders, affected individuals and vested parties help provide a broad range of perspectives around the featured issues. Ongoing discussion and debate helps members of the class form opinions and encourages active involvement in solving the challenges or seizing the opportunities presented. Exclusive tours to such places as the state prison, the legislature and state-of-the-art medical facilities provide additional perspective to many of the highlighted topics.
- *Leadership Skills Development, Cultivation and Opportunities for Engagement* – Each Leadership Institute class includes reading current articles, books and publications about leadership approaches and skills, followed up by rich discussion. Group projects provide the opportunity for the class members to get actively involved in a specific issue and to take a leadership role in presenting potential solutions.
- *A Broader Network of Personal and Professional Relationships* – The bonds created through Leadership Institute have the potential to last a lifetime. Valley Leadership brings a diverse group of individuals together to share ideas, perspectives and values. Valley Leadership's list of alumni is impressive including Leadership Institute graduates who have gone on to serve in public office, lead corporations and champion community organizations. With a shared commitment to community, the connections created may be nurtured to create powerful, long-term personal and professional partnerships.

LEARNING . LEADING .



Valley Teen Leadership: Generation Next

For Valley Leadership, cultivating the next generation of leaders begins during the teenage years. The core Valley Teen Leadership program engages 50 Valley teens in an annual multi-month program to educate them about community issues, develop leadership skills and inspire active engagement in community while fostering lasting relationships.

Valley Teen Leadership has been in existence for more than 11 years and continues to expand with abbreviated programming for smaller groups through partnerships with Communities in Schools and Greater Phoenix Youth at Risk. All Valley Teen Leadership programming is free-of-charge as a result of corporate and community support.

Alumni and Member Activities: Continuing the Community Dialogue

Keeping alumni and other community members aware of social and economic issues and providing opportunities to be actively engaged in community problem-solving occurs through ongoing Valley Leadership events and activities. Valley Leadership partners with Valley arts and culture organizations around thought-provoking performances and showings; hosts events to present topical issues and encourage discussion; offers exclusive tours to alumni and supporting members in order to deepen understanding of the inner operations of local and statewide communities; and celebrates the legacy of leadership in the Valley of the Sun during its annual Man & Woman of the Year event.

For more information about Valley Leadership's year-round activities, call 602.952.6760 or visit www.valleyleadership.org.

“Valley Leadership helps bond a diverse population and allows people who would not typically think of themselves as leaders to look at themselves that way. And I believe, ultimately inspiring them to take action.”

– Nora Hannah (LI Class X)
President, Landiscor Aerial Information



Investing in Generations of Leaders

As a non-profit organization, Valley Leadership relies on the support of individuals and organizations to continue its work in cultivating existing and emergent community leadership. Valley Leadership offers the following opportunities for supporting the efforts of our organization and the needs of the greater Phoenix area:

- **Individual Contributions** – Alumni and members of the community invest in Valley Leadership through annual gifts to the organization. The contributions are used to support the ongoing programming and activities offered to keep people informed, engaged and connected in our community.
- **Corporate Gifts and Grants** – Organizations with a shared commitment to strengthening our community and cultivating a pipeline of trained, knowledgeable leaders invest in Valley Leadership’s capacity, programs and activities. Due to our diverse programming and partnerships, Valley Leadership is able to work with you to meet your organization’s goals and needs while advancing our mission for the good of our community.
- **Sponsorships** – Year-round events and activities provide a variety of opportunities for organizations to become sponsors. Valley Leadership’s most prominent event – Man & Woman of the Year – attracts nearly 1,000 people from across our community. Other activities may include Community Dialogue opportunities, Leadership Institute, Valley Teen Leadership programming and more.
- **Partnerships** – In order to have the far-reaching impact in our community, Valley Leadership understands and values partnership. Our organization draws on a variety of resources and expertise in order to offer our Leadership programs. In addition, we are actively engaged in addressing issues affecting our community. Our partnerships are diverse and ever-evolving to address the needs of our class members, alumni and the community.



Investing in Valley Leadership offers benefits to both individuals and organizations. For more information about partnering with Valley Leadership and the benefits to you, please call 602.952.6760, ext. 1 or visit www.valleyleadership.org.



I view my contribution to Valley Leadership as an investment in our community and the leaders of the future. No other organization in the Valley is focused on educating people about critical issues and challenging them to take an active role in finding solutions quite like Valley Leadership.”

– Cassandra Mason-Motz (LI Class VI)
Public Relations Representative, City of Phoenix Police Department



Valley Leadership Supporters

Thank you to our corporate supporters for your investment in Valley Leadership and the continued development of Valley leaders!

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Information as of 12/01/07. To report any inadvertent omissions or inaccuracies, please contact us at 602.952.6760.



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