CULTIVATING GALVESTON’S LEADERS FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Pivotal Partner

MOODY FOUNDATION
HISTORY
In 1984, the Galveston Chamber of Commerce identified a need to create a pipeline of future leaders for our community and launched the Leadership Galveston program.

More than 500 graduates have completed the program, learning all about what makes Galveston go—from its unique economy to its largesse of educational institutions to its diverse culture and attractive lifestyle.

All major local businesses, most smaller companies and non-profit organizations embrace Leadership Galveston as a staple for any managerial- or executive-level employee who is new to our area.

Likewise, many individuals elevating into executive roles at work find the Leadership Galveston program an important resource and network to support and advance their success.

PROGRAM BASICS
A dynamic and interactive eight-month experience, Leadership Galveston promotes and enhances community leadership through an in-depth introduction to social, economic, business and political issues in the Galveston area.

Participants interact with diverse, high-level community leaders and decision-makers by organizing and attending a series of seminars and retreats in fields ranging from business, education, government, hospitality, the arts, tourism, and more. Through these interactions, participants learn about their personal leadership styles, nourish their community spirit and gain invaluable understanding of how our community works.

The Leadership Galveston curricula includes a weekend retreat to challenge your mind and body while building team spirit and seven (7) day-long units examining various aspects of the community including a wrap-up session and a graduation event available to participants completing all requirements. The program features a blend of seminar-style learning, open forum with community leaders, tours, meetings and unscripted discussion.

The program allows participants one absence during the program, but requires mandatory attendance at the introductory/retreat weekend. The program also encourages participants to expand their learning and experiences by attending various governmental, civic and community meetings—all made available through this program—on their own time.

BENEFITS
Leadership Galveston inspires and trains rising leaders and refreshes current leaders about our island community.

The bonds forged among the members of each class are deep and long lasting, offering both personal and professional benefits. Whether you are new to Galveston Island or just want to learn more about the important issues facing the community in which you live, Leadership Galveston is an excellent investment of your time and talents.

As a Leadership Galveston participant, you will:
- Become part of a rich learning community made up of leaders with unique backgrounds and perspectives
- Develop a deeper understanding of social, economic, business and political issues affecting our community
- Learn about meaningful ways to make a difference by giving back to our community
- Tap into a network of leaders in each class and establish contacts with diverse groups of professionals in both government and the private sector
- Increase your awareness of your own unique leadership and teamwork skills.
An innovative program designed to develop and enhance leadership, Leadership Galveston transforms actively engaged civic leaders into community champions through in-depth experiences with a close network of new personal and professional relationships that last a lifetime.

Eight units comprise the Leadership Galveston program, each exploring an important facet or facets of being part of the island community. They include:

- **Leadership, Galveston Style.** Fun and informative weekend retreat includes four main components: gaining a broad perspective on the community; learning best practices in leadership; understanding the value of teamwork; and bonding with fellow classmates. Leadership Galveston participants are required to attend the entire retreat.

- **Making Galveston Go.** Covers the landscape of city government, services and infrastructure. Participants will have face time with the mayor, city manager, departmental leaders and economic development experts to better understand all the integral parts that must work in tandem to keep our city going...and growing.

- **The Island Economy.** Founded primarily as a port city nearly 180 years ago, Galveston today enjoys a diverse and unique economy, including a dynamic tourism industry, a nationally-ranked academic health care center, three institutions of higher learning, state-of-the-art research facilities and the bustling Port of Galveston. Class participants will meet with top executives of each of these major island industries for a status update and to learn what is anticipated for Galveston short-term and in the longer view.

- **Education Destination.** For an island our size, it is remarkable that we have three institutions of higher learning. This unit will delve into Galveston’s local public school system. Participants will also learn more about Galveston’s growing reputation as a college town, with higher education programs at Galveston College, Texas A&M University at Galveston and the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB Health).

- **Helping Hands.** In this unit, the Leadership Galveston class will get to know the organizations that meet an array of community needs, including food, housing, early childhood education, workforce training, mentoring and senior citizen support. You will also learn more about Galveston’s unprecedented philanthropic community—the organizations that have an enormous impact on our community.

- **Arts, Culture...the Rest is History.** Is it the renowned Grand 1894 Opera House, the 100 places of worship, the number of languages spoken or the large swath of preserved architecture that make Galveston such a special place? In this unit, participants will understand how these enduring qualities and many more converge to maintain a way of life that is uniquely Galveston.

- **You Name It.** Here’s the chance to decide what’s missing from the program. Leadership Galveston colleagues will determine what is not on the itinerary that should be, and help develop a day of interviews and activities that will fill those voids.

- **That’s a Wrap.** The final day with each Leadership Galveston group promises fun, festivities and fellowship. You will review leadership and teamwork tenets with expert facilitators, report out on what you have learned and what you prepare to do with your newfound knowledge, and culminate our months of learning with a very special graduation event.
FROM OUR GRADUATES

Raymond Lewis, Jr., Board Chair of Galveston College, Class of 1987

“Leadership Galveston connected me with a group of bright, energetic individuals who were all passionate about Galveston and the importance of civic participation. The program provided close-up introductions, in-depth tours of major institutions and agencies on the island, and presentations with question and answer sessions from the leaders of those entities. The program instilled the importance of ‘doing our part’ to make the community better. We all can’t do everything but we can do something to make where we live better. Leadership Galveston drilled home the importance of doing just that.”

Garry Kaufman, President at GIA Insurance, Class of 1995

“Leadership Galveston broadened my knowledge of our community and provided a venue for an enhanced commitment to community leadership. This rewarding experience enabled me to meet and work with so many dedicated professionals across various industries, forged life-long friendships and inspired me to become an effective leader. Leadership Galveston delivers an in-depth understanding of the community in which we live and work in and provides a foundation for anyone aspiring to make a difference in the lives of others.”

Lauren Millo, Marketing Director at Moody Bank, Class of 2012

“Leadership Galveston is a great way to network with peers and learn more about how our city runs. From meeting with city leaders to intimate tours of local companies, this is one of the best hands-on learning experiences offered to those who work in Galveston. I not only learned more about our city, but also developed close working relationships with many of my classmates that have lasted far beyond graduation.”

SELECTION PROCESS

The Leadership Galveston program is open to anyone in the Galveston region. The application process is governed by a Leadership Galveston advisory committee. A panel of the advisory committee reviews all applications received and determines finalist applicants based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated capacity for leadership
- Community interest and involvement
- Desire to assume expanded leadership responsibility
- Willingness to give back to the community
- Class representation of diverse backgrounds and experiences
- Commitment to program attendance.

TUITION

Leadership Galveston accepts approximately 20 participants into each annual class. The program costs $895 per person and includes accommodations and meals for the weekend retreat; and all transportation, materials, meals and fees for the entire program.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to join an upcoming Leadership Galveston class, complete the Leadership Galveston application available at the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce website at www.GalvestonChamber.com.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions or more information about the program, please contact the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce at (409) 763-5326 or email Gina Spagnola at gspagnola@galvestonchamber.com.