



# CULTURAL LEADERSHIP

## APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION

Application must be completed **by applicant**. Please **type** or **print** in ink. Please send **three** complete copies of your application packet to:

Cultural Leadership Recruitment Committee  
 225 Linden Ave.  
 St. Louis MO 63105-3841

Complete application packet includes

- this 4-page Application,**
- two (2) Recommendations-including forms,** (unless sent directly by recommender)
- a picture of yourself,**
- an unofficial high school transcript,**
- a signed copy of the Cultural Leadership Agreement.**

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.**  
 If extra space is required, please attach additional sheets of paper.

### I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

**A. LEGAL NAME**  
 (& NICKNAME) \_\_\_\_\_

**B. ADDRESS**  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City / State / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**C. CONTACT INFORMATION**  
 Home phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

**D. DATE OF BIRTH** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**E. IDENTITY**  
 Race \_\_\_\_\_  
 Religion \_\_\_\_\_  
 House of worship \_\_\_\_\_

**F. GENDER** Male ( ) Female ( )

**I. GRADE** Sophomore ( ) Junior ( )

**H. HIGH SCHOOL** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>G. PARENT(S) /GUARDIAN(S) INFORMATION</b>	Name	_____	_____
	Street Address	_____	_____
	City / State / ZIP	_____	_____
	Home phone (____)	_____	(____) _____
	Cell phone (____)	_____	(____) _____
	Email	_____	_____

**II. ACADEMICS, EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, RECREATIONAL INTERESTS, ASPIRATIONS**

**A. ACADEMICS**

Have you ever received a \_\_\_\_\_  
D or F in high school? If \_\_\_\_\_  
yes, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

List activities you engage \_\_\_\_\_  
in or organizations you \_\_\_\_\_  
belong to, including \_\_\_\_\_  
offices held. \_\_\_\_\_

**B. COMMUNITY  
ACTIVITIES**

List activities you engage \_\_\_\_\_  
in or organizations you \_\_\_\_\_  
belong to, including \_\_\_\_\_  
offices held. \_\_\_\_\_

**C. IDENTITY**

In what organizations, \_\_\_\_\_  
programs, or other \_\_\_\_\_  
activities have you \_\_\_\_\_  
participated that affirm \_\_\_\_\_  
your identity (i.e. Jewish, \_\_\_\_\_  
African-American, \_\_\_\_\_  
Muslim, Christian, Asian, \_\_\_\_\_  
Latino, Bosnian, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

**D. TALENTS AND  
INTERESTS**

List any hobbies or other \_\_\_\_\_  
interests. \_\_\_\_\_

**E. FUTURE CAREER  
ASPIRATIONS**

Is there a career or field \_\_\_\_\_  
that most interests you? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? \_\_\_\_\_

**III. WORK HISTORY**

**A. WORK EXPERIENCE**

Describe your work \_\_\_\_\_  
experience, including dates \_\_\_\_\_  
and type(s) of job(s). \_\_\_\_\_

**B. RESPONSIBILITIES AT  
HOME**

Describe your chores or \_\_\_\_\_  
responsibilities at home. \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOU**

**A. FRIENDS**

How would a good friend describe you?

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**B. COMFORT ZONE**

Describe a time when you were out of your comfort zone or in an uncomfortable situation and what you did about it.

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**C. DISCRIMINATION**

Have you ever experienced or seen discrimination? Describe the situation and how you dealt with it.

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**D. KNOWLEDGE**

What social justice issue(s) are you most passionate about? Why? How have you taken any action to improve it/them?

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**E. CURIOSITY**

Curiosity is a core value. How have you exemplified curiosity in your life?

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**F. DEDICATION**

Give an example of how you have shown dedication and self motivation at some point in your life.

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**G. MOTIVATION**

Why are you applying for Cultural Leadership?

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**H. QUALIFICATIONS**

Why should you be chosen to participate in Cultural Leadership?

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**I. REFERRAL**

How did you learn about Cultural Leadership?

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**V. REFERENCES (PAST OR PRESENT TEACHERS, COUNSELORS, OR CLERGY)**

**A. PERSON SUPPLYING  
RECOMMENDATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

**B. PERSON SUPPLYING  
RECOMMENDATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

**VI. REQUIRED FEE**

**CULTURAL LEADERSHIP IS AN IMPORTANT, DEMANDING AND EXPENSIVE PROGRAM. WE REQUIRE A \$700 FEE, PAID IN FULL BY MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>. WE WILL ACCEPT ONE PAYMENT OR MONTHLY PAYMENTS.**

**VII. CONSENT**

**A parent or guardian and the applicant must sign below to make this application complete.**

The undersigned parent / guardian has reviewed the above and hereby authorizes **(Student Name)** \_\_\_\_\_ to apply for admission to Cultural Leadership. Furthermore, I am not aware of any circumstances or conditions (including, but not limited to, physical or psychological conditions) that would impair my/my child's ability to participate in the Cultural Leadership Program or to perform any of the obligations required by the Program. I agree to notify Cultural Leadership immediately if any such circumstances should arise.

I hereby represent and warrant that to the best of my knowledge all of the information contained herein is accurate and complete.

**A. PARENT / GUARDIAN**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

**B. STUDENT**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE DELIVERED OR POSTMARKED BY NOVEMBER 4, 2011.**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 4, 2011.**

We will notify students by **Wednesday, November 23, 2011** if they received an interview or not.

Cultural Leadership  
225 Linden Ave.  
St. Louis MO 63105-3841

Unless prior arrangements are made...

- Applicants will be interviewed on **Sunday, December 4, 2011** at Central Reform Congregation, 5020 Waterman, St. Louis, MO 63108.

(T) (314) 725-3222  
[www.culturalleadership.org](http://www.culturalleadership.org)  
[programdirector@culturalleadership.org](mailto:programdirector@culturalleadership.org)

We will mail decision letters by Wednesday, December 7, 2011.



# CULTURAL LEADERSHIP RECOMMENDATION FORM

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT

Provide a copy of this form to **two recommenders** to complete. One reference must be a teacher; the other reference must be a guidance counselor, member of the clergy, or other mentor. A complete application packet includes three (3) copies of everything you submit. Thus, we need three (3) copies of both this form **and** the reference letter. Recommenders can either:

- 1) send three (3) copies of both this form and their reference letter directly to us, or
- 2) give (3) copies of both this form and their reference letter to you in a signed and sealed envelope for you to submit with your other application materials.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO RECOMMENDERS

Please complete this form, write a one-page reference letter, and then either:

- 1) send three (3) copies of both this form and your reference letter directly to us, or
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**All forms must be postmarked by November 4, 2011, regardless of who submits them.**

Cultural Leadership Recruitment Committee  
225 Linden Ave.  
St. Louis MO 63105-3841

## REFERENCE INFORMATION

A. NAME \_\_\_\_\_

B. CONTACT  
INFORMATION

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

C. ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_

D. TITLE/POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

E. RELATIONSHIP  
TO APPLICANT AND  
HOW LONG YOU'VE  
KNOWN HIM/HER \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Cultural Leadership is a non-profit youth leadership development organization that teaches high-school students to become activists, community organizers, and “troublemakers of the best kind.” Cultural Leadership is an intensive program – students meet for 460 hours during the program year. We welcome applications from any student who has a passion for social justice.

## RECOMMENDATION

Please describe the qualities this student has that would make him or her a successful participant in Cultural Leadership. Please comment specifically on the student’s initiative, maturity, responsibility, curiosity, leadership potential, academic achievement, and ability to work in a group. If there is any reason why you think this student might not be an ideal candidate, please be frank. All your comments will be kept strictly confidential.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
(Reference)

If you have any questions, please contact us at [programdirector@culturalleadership.org](mailto:programdirector@culturalleadership.org) or (314) 725-3222. For more information about Cultural Leadership, visit our website at [www.culturalleadership.org](http://www.culturalleadership.org).



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INFORMATION

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
(Reference)

If you have any questions, please contact us at [programdirector@culturalleadership.org](mailto:programdirector@culturalleadership.org) or (314) 725-3222. For more information about Cultural Leadership, visit our website at [www.culturalleadership.org](http://www.culturalleadership.org).



To: Cultural Leadership Applicant and Parent/Guardian  
From: Holly Ingraham, Incoming Executive Director and Maggie Harris, Program Director  
Date: September 2011  
Re: The Cultural Leadership Agreement

Cultural Leadership is an incredible program that you will enjoy immensely, and it will change your life. **However, it is also a serious commitment.**

To be sure you and your parents/guardians are clear about the rigor of Cultural Leadership, please read and consider the attached agreement.

If you can fulfill these requirements, please initial each statement and sign at the bottom of the agreement (**both you and your parents/guardians**). **Return this signed agreement in your application packet by November 4, 2011.**

If you have any concerns or questions about this agreement, please call the office and we will be glad to talk to you about it.

Thanks very much. We look forward to meeting you soon.

# CULTURAL LEADERSHIP AGREEMENT

## CLASS 8

Cultural Leadership is an exciting, demanding and much-needed program. There are many responsibilities and obligations connected to participation in Cultural Leadership. Please read the following agreement and discuss it with your parents/guardians to be sure you are **ALL** willing and able to make the necessary commitment to Cultural Leadership. If you plan to commit to this program, please read and initial each statement on the line provided.

1. I understand that:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Attendance is expected at **ALL** Cultural Leadership programs, retreats and the entire Transformational Journey. (There are **four reasons** that Cultural Leadership allows a participant to miss a program: illness, death in the family, something that affects your future, and a family event that will never happen again such as a sibling graduation. Requests for approved absences must be submitted to the Cultural Leadership Attendance Committee **two weeks prior to the absence**.) I will always inform Cultural Leadership staff of my absence in advance and will **NEVER** simply not show up. Such behavior will result in expulsion from the program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will occasionally be assigned a short homework assignment that complements the program curriculum and I agree to complete that homework on time.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The use of all cell phones, iPods, and any personal computer device is PROHIBITED during all program activities. I agree to pay Cultural Leadership \$5, on the spot, if my cell phone rings/vibrates or if I text message during a program or speaker.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Falling asleep during a speaker at any point during Cultural Leadership will result in a \$5 fine that I agree to pay.

2. I will:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Show respect for everyone involved at all times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Be present and punctual, and I will participate at all events and programs per the attendance requirements listed above.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Go out of my comfort zone to make change in my family/school/house of worship **every month** during my year in Cultural Leadership. I will email a brief paragraph describing my “out of my comfort zone” experience each month before the monthly program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Read the Post Dispatch and/or the St. Louis American and/or the New York Times often, and/ listen to NPR/St. Louis Public Radio (90.7FM). I will take note of at LEAST one current event that relates to a given program or the general mission of Cultural Leadership and write about it to have ready at any given month’s program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Blog at least once a month, by the Friday prior to program, about a current event I have read about.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Maintain a reliable way for Cultural Leadership to contact me (email, cell phone calls/text messages, home phone) and I will respond to any messages within 24 hours.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Inform Cultural Leadership of any change in my contact information, including address, **all** phone numbers, and email addresses, **as soon as the change occurs**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer in the Cultural Leadership office when necessary, and I will attend special events and fundraisers as much as possible.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Write thank you notes (to donors, speakers, the media, etc.) and articles/blogs for the Cultural Leadership newsletter/website **as requested**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Keep a journal and complete evaluations of programs as requested.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Submit a list of potential donors and their addresses to Cultural Leadership **before the trip**. I understand that failure to submit this list will bar me from going on the trip and continuing in Cultural Leadership.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Write letters to at least 10 people (family, friends, teachers, clergy, neighbors, etc.) asking for a donation to Cultural Leadership at a scheduled time after the trip.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Participate in a phone-a-thon to maintain relationships with alumni and ask for donations to Cultural Leadership.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Give at least two speeches about Cultural Leadership prior to graduation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Participate in the School Swap to learn about the inequities in our educational system and see what part I can play in increasing academic achievement in underperforming schools.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Facilitate/lead at least two Courageous Conversations throughout the community after the "Learning How to Facilitate Discussions" overnight retreat.

3. I realize that:

- \_\_\_\_\_ I may be uncomfortable at times, but agree to "lean into the discomfort" in order to better myself and better my community.
- \_\_\_\_\_ It is an honor and a privilege to be chosen as a participant of Cultural Leadership and I commit to the above during the 2012 program year. I am excited about Cultural Leadership, and am open to having an incredible, life-changing experience that will teach me to be an activist for social justice.

4. I will **NOT**:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Possess, consume, or distribute alcoholic beverages;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Possess, use, or distribute any illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Smoke, consume, or distribute tobacco products;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Possess or use any weapon, firearm, or anything that may be construed as a weapon;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Engage in **ANY** sexual behavior with my fellow participants, regardless of gender;
- \_\_\_\_\_ Leave any program venue without permission from the Cultural Leadership staff.

\_\_\_\_\_ **I agree to abide by any additional rules**, pertinent to a specific event, that may be announced, and to accept the consequences of their violation, including possible expulsion from Cultural Leadership.

**Violation of any of these rules will result in my immediate dismissal from the program.**

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Agreement**

I understand that Cultural Leadership is for parents, too. I will make every effort to attend the parent meetings, I will provide food for at least three programs/retreats, I agree to make sure my child gets to Cultural Leadership programs on time and will be picked up when they are over. I will pay the \$700 program fee by May 13, 2012, and will make a donation to Cultural Leadership after the trip. I further agree to give my credit card information in a sealed envelope to the Cultural Leadership staff before the trip and know that it will be opened **only in the case of an emergency** to purchase a return flight home if my child must be sent home from the trip, and I further agree to pay for any remaining plane tickets unused by my child.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_



## CLASS EIGHT ACTIVITIES - 2012

### Students, Parents and Families

<b>December 18, 2011, Sun.</b>	<b>Families:</b> Welcome Party for Class 8 - 3:30–5:00
<b>January 8, 2012, Sun.</b>	Graduation of Class 7, 3:30 pm, Soulard Preservation Hall
<b>January 13- 15, Fri.-Sun.</b>	<b>Student Retreat:</b> Beginning the Journey: Opening Weekend Retreat
<b>January 22, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program,</b> 2:30-5:30pm
<b>February 12, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program:</b> African and African American History and Culture #1. 2:15-8:00pm
<b>February 22, Weds. (?)</b>	<b>School Swap East - Class 8</b> goes to high schools in the city
<b>February 26, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program:</b> African and African American History and Culture #2, 2:15-8:00pm
<b>February 29, Weds. (?)</b>	<b>School Swap West - SLPS</b> escorts go to public high schools in the county
<b>March 4, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program:</b> Jewish History and Culture #1, 2:15-8:00pm
<b>March 11, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program,</b> 2:30-5:30pm
<b>March 18, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program:</b> Jewish History and Culture #2, 2:15-8:00pm
<b>April 1 or 8, Sun.</b>	<b>Families:</b> Sharing Palm Sunday (April 1) or Easter (April 8)
<b>April 6 or 7, Fri. or Sat.</b>	<b>Families:</b> Sharing a Passover Seder
<b>April 20-22, Fri.-Sun.</b>	<b>Student Retreat:</b> Community Organizing; Gandhi, Cesar Chavez and Civil Rights Movement, Soweto... (Havdalah)
<b>April 29, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program,</b> 2:30-5:30pm
<b>May 13, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program:</b> Understanding Privilege and Oppression, 2:15-8:00pm
<b>May 20, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program,</b> 2:00-5:30pm
<b>June 3, Sun.</b>	<b>Families:</b> Going Away Party, 3:30 – 5:00 pm
<b>June 6 – June 30 (?)</b>	<b>Student: Transformational Journey: NYC-DC-ATL–Whitwell-AL–MS-Little Rock, Memphis</b>
<b>July 15, Sun.</b>	<b>Student &amp; Parent Program,</b> 2:15-8:00pm – Processing the Trip – Re-Entry, & history of and state of Racism/homelessness/education in St. Louis
<b>July 18, 19 Weds., Thurs. (?)</b>	<b>Student Program:</b> Fundraising

<b>August 2, Thurs. (?)</b>	<b>Speech Making Program</b> writing speeches and articles
<b>August 5, Sun. (?)</b>	<b>Alum Program</b>
<b>August 8, Wed. (?)</b>	<b>College Knowledge Program, Scholarship Foundation, Clayton Rd. 6-8PM</b>
<b>August 26, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program, 2:30-5:30pm</b>
<b>September 21-23, Fri. to Sun.</b>	<b>Student Retreat: Becoming Change Agents: Learning Facilitation Skills</b>
<b>October 7, Sun.</b>	<b>Sukkot</b>
<b>October 14, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program, 2:30-5:30pm</b>
<b>October 21, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program: Learning Leadership Skills, 2:15-8:00pm</b>
<b>November 11, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program: Ethics and Morals 2:15-8:00pm</b>
<b>November 18, Sun.</b>	<b>Parent Program, 2:30-5:30pm</b>
<b>December 2, Sun.</b>	<b>Student Program: St. Louis's Own Activists, Community Organizers and Trouble Makers, 2:15-8:30pm</b>
<b>January 5, 2013</b>	<b>Students: Rehearsal for graduation, 1:00 – 5:00 pm</b>
<b>January 6, 2013, Sun.</b>	<b>Families: Class 8 Graduation 3:30 (Practice - 1:00 pm)</b>

- Attendance is mandatory at all programs, retreats and the entire Transformational Journey.
  - There are only four reasons a student may miss a program: illness, death in the family, an important family event that will never happen again (ex. sibling graduation), and something that will affect your future.
- In the unlikely event that dates change, we will notify you as soon as possible.
- **Parents are encouraged to learn about the concepts their teenagers are learning by attending Parent Meetings.**
  - **2012 Parent Meetings are from 2:30-5:30pm.**
  - **They are scheduled for:**
    - **January 22,**
    - **March 11,**
    - **April 29,**
    - **May 20\* begins at 2:00pm,\***
    - **July 15,**
    - **August 26,**
    - **October 14,**
    - **November 18**