



Date Received (office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

# CULTURAL LEADERSHIP APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION

Applicant should **type** or **print** in ink. Please send a complete copy of your application packet to:

Cultural Leadership  
225 S. Meramec Ave, Suite 107  
St. Louis, MO 63105

To apply online go to:

[www.culturalleadership.org/Apply-high-school-program](http://www.culturalleadership.org/Apply-high-school-program)

Complete application packet includes:

- 4-page Application**
- 2 Letters of Recommendation**
- Photo of yourself**
- Copy of high school transcript (unofficial)**
- Signed copy of Cultural Leadership Agreement**

**APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED ONCE COMPLETED IN FULL.**

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**D. DATE OF BIRTH**

\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**E. IDENTITY**

Race \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_

House of worship \_\_\_\_\_

**F. SEX**

Male ( ) Female ( )

**I. NEXT YEAR'S  
GRADE**

Sophomore ( ) Junior ( )

**H. HIGH SCHOOL**

\_\_\_\_\_

**G. PARENT(S)  
/GUARDIAN(S)  
INFORMATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

**A. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

List activities you engage in or organizations you belong to, including positions held.

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**B. IDENTITY**

In what organizations, programs, or other activities have you participated that affirm your identity (race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or others)

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**C. TALENTS AND INTERESTS**

List any hobbies or other interests.

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**D. ACADEMICS**

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

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**E. FUTURE CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

What career or field that most interests you? Please explain.

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**III. RESPONSIBILITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL**

**A. WORK EXPERIENCE**

Describe your work experience, including dates and type(s) of job(s), if applicable.

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**B. RESPONSIBILITIES OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL**

Describe your other responsibilities; examples would be your chores, volunteer work or responsibilities.

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**IV. OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOU**

**A. FRIENDS**

How would a good friend describe you? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**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. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C. DISCRIMINATION**

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

**D. KNOWLEDGE**

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

**E. CURIOSITY**

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

**F. DEDICATION**

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

**G. MOTIVATION**

Why are you applying for Cultural Leadership? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**H. REFERRAL**

How did you learn about Cultural Leadership? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**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. TUITION FEE**

CULTURAL LEADERSHIP IS AN INVESTMENT IN A STUDENT’S LEADERSHIP AND CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING. TUITION FOR CULTURAL LEADERSHIP’S HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM IS \$2,500. TUITION INCLUDES A NONREFUNDABLE DEPOSIT OF \$100 DUE UPON ACCEPTANCE TO THE PROGRAM. DO NOT LET THE COST DETER YOU FROM SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION OR PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM. NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE AS WELL AS ASSISTANCE IN FUNDRAISING.

**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. My child does not have any circumstances or conditions (including, but not limited to, physical or psychological conditions) that would impair my or my child’s ability to participate in Cultural Leadership or to perform any of the obligations required by Cultural Leadership. 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 MARCH 31, 2017.**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 31, 2017.**

Applicants will be interviewed on **Sunday, April 30, 2017** at a location to be announced (located within St. Louis).

Cultural Leadership  
225 S. Meramec, Suite 107  
St. Louis, MO 63105

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



# 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**. Recommenders can either send this form and their reference letter directly to us, or give a copy of 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: send this form and your reference letter directly to us, or give a copy of this form and your reference letter in a signed and sealed envelope to the applicant for him/her to submit with the other application materials.

**All forms must be postmarked by March 31, 2017.**

Cultural Leadership Recruitment Committee  
225 South Meramec Ave, Suite 107  
St. Louis, MO 63105

**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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**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, Executive Director  
Date: January 2017  
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 March 31, 2017.**

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.

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

# CULTURAL LEADERSHIP AGREEMENT

## CLASS 13

Cultural Leadership is an exciting, demanding, and essential 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.

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 student 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 should be submitted to the Program Director as soon as the conflict is known and no later than three weeks in advance.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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, tablets, and any personal computer device is PROHIBITED during all program activities. I agree to pay Cultural Leadership \$1, on the spot, if my cell phone or device is in use or 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.

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 during my year in Cultural Leadership. I will write a brief paragraph describing my “out of comfort zone” experience each month before each program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will take note of at LEAST one current event that relates to a given program or the general mission of Cultural Leadership and have ready to share at any given month’s program.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 a minimum of 10 hours in the Cultural Leadership office during the year, in addition, 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.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Write letters to at least 10 people (family, friends, teachers, clergy, neighbors, etc.) asking for a donation to Cultural Leadership at a scheduled time before 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 one Courageous Conversation throughout the community after the “Learning How to Facilitate Discussions” overnight retreat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Plan and implement a social justice action project before graduation. Take a leadership role within the project and report on progress throughout the year.

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 2016-2017 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.

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 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 student gets to Cultural Leadership programs on time and will be picked up when they are over. I will pay the \$2,500 tuition fee - \$100 due at the time my student is accepted, and the remainder due by September 1, 2016. (Note, payment plans and need-based scholarships are available on request.) I will also 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 student must be sent home from the trip, and I further agree to pay for any remaining plane tickets unused by my student.

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