A great leader’s courage to fulfill his vision comes from passion, not position.

—John Maxwell

As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.

—Bill Gates
A Message from the Executive Board

Dear Friends of the Leadership Institute,

It has been a very exciting 2012-2013 academic year for the Yale Leadership Institute. Thanks to the work of members in our various initiatives, we have experienced tremendous growth as an organization in the past year. We are excited for the future of the Yale Leadership Institute.

L.E.A.D. remained our largest program within YLI. This year L.E.A.D. received the highest amount of applications in the organization’s history. Ultimately the program accepted thirty students who attended social events, retreats, workshops, and speaker sessions, which included popular talks with Colonel Kolditz and Jeffrey Goldstein. Due to steadily improvements in the Year 1 curriculum, our L.E.A.D. Year One program had an 85% retention rate. Additionally, we have had our members featured in Forbes and Business Insider for their leadership in various on-campus and off-campus endeavors.

The Youth Leadership Initiative has once again amazed all who have been a part of it. This year our program taught and mentored students from many a wider array of high schools and youth programs in the past. Moreover, the team has worked to make numerous improvements to the program, such an increasing parental involvement in the program. Later this month, students in the program will be holding a community-wide talent as a part of their capstone project.

Lastly, we hosted the largest Perspectives on Leadership Conference in the Organization’s history. Over 80 students from Princeton, Harvard, The Naval Academy, Fairfield, Hamilton, Wesleyan, Brown and Yale were in attendance. We provided a more engaging experience for conference participants by holding long breakout sessions and continuing the conversation on social media. Additionally, we continued to expand our reach on campus by hosting Leadership Teas during the school year.

As the 2012-2013 board looks back on the past year we are proud of our accomplishments and even more excited about what we have planned for next year. The newly elected board members are going to continue to bring the Yale Leadership Institute into unchartered territory where it can continue to expand and impact individuals inside and out of the Yale Community. With continued learning and mentorship we can help make the world a better place one L.E.A.D.er at a time.

We wish you a happy and healthy summer,

Rob Michel ‘14
President

Javaughn Lawrence ‘14
Vice President

Jeremy Goldstein ‘14
Director of L.E.A.D.

Andy Mun ‘14
Director of Development & Strategy
The Executive Board of the Leadership Institute

Members of the Executive Board:
Rob Michel  
President of LI  
Javaughn Lawrence  
Vice President  
Jeremy Goldstein  
Director of L.E.A.D.  
Andy Mun  
Director of Development & Strategy

The Executive Board of the Leadership Institute, the steering committee of the organization, is primarily in charge of ensuring the Leadership Institute is on track towards accomplishing its immediate and long-term plans. Comprised of four-rising seniors the Executive Board also works to ensure the organization has the necessary logistics, resources, and support to achieve its mission of empowering Yale students to realize their fullest leadership potential.

2012-2013 Academic Year Achievements:

+ Improved the Leadership Institute’s organizational structure.  
Executive Board members (“The Core Four”) created a committee system for LI Board Members to work on initiatives. They developed the Programming Director initiative to give younger members of LI more responsibilities. Additionally, they developed an internal website to store the organization’s growing institutional memory.

+ Initiated a network to connect current L.E.A.D. students with opportunities created by former L.E.A.D. members.  
Executive Board members established closer relationships with former L.E.A.D.ers to cohost and publicize events. For example, LI co-hosted a leadership development workshop featuring McKinsey & Co, and the Women’s Leadership Initiative.

+ Established relationships with students groups within and outside of Yale via informal social events.  
Specific events included: a mixer with the Harvard College Leadership Institute during Harvard-Yale and a social event with the Women’s Leadership Initiative.

+ Started a subsidiary organization, OPEN LEAD, to meet with growing functions of the organization & to diversify funding sources.  
OPEN LEAD allowed the organization to raise and manage the largest budget in the history of the organization.
**+Increased buy-in to the L.E.A.D. Program.**
At the end of the 2012-2013 academic year, the retention rate of L.E.A.D. Year 1 program was 85%, the highest in the program’s history. 10 members of the L.E.A.D. Year 1 class will be joining the Leadership Institute’s Board.

**+Improved L.E.A.D. Curriculum.**
L.E.A.D. Directors created a blog to allow students to reflect on their experiences in the L.E.A.D. Year 1 class. They also taught more interactive classes, such a public speaking workshop series and a crisis management series.

**+Revamped L.E.A.D. Year 2 Experience.**
The L.E.A.D. Team developed a highly relevant series of classes for Year 2 members. Classes included an extemporaneous speaking workshop and a class on goal setting.

**+Developed Community amongst L.E.A.D. students.**
L.E.A.D. Directors developed a mentorship program to connect L.E.A.D. Year 1 students with older members of the Leadership Institute. Additionally, they hosted numerous social events, such as weekly mixer each semester.
This year, the Leadership Institute has made notable strides in its Conferences and Workshops Initiative, chaired by L.E.A.D. ‘15 Neil Pathak.

2012-2013 Academic Year Achievements:

+ Successfully executed the 6th Annual Conference, hosting 80+ students from 9 different universities
  
  The “Perspectives on Leadership: Leadership Dynamics in an Evolving World” Conference was an interdisciplinary conference, featuring perspectives from the military, foreign relations, business and politics, that involved 3 keynote speakers, 1 executive panel, smaller, group-based sessions, and a closing dinner. The overall strength of the Conferences and Workshops Initiative, along with assistance from the Programming Directors and Public Relations team, led to the highest attendance numbers in the Conference’s history—the social media campaign not only garnered 4000+ organic views on Facebook, but also kept conference participants and those not attending engaged through a live Twitter feed and promptly uploaded photographs.

+ Co-sponsored 2 Leadership Teas
  
  World Fellows Martin Sturgeon and Julia Steimer led teas focused on military leadership and food policy leadership, respectively.

+ Led an Open L.E.A.D. “Résumé/Cover Letter Workshop
  
  In collaboration with Undergraduate Career Services, the Leadership Institute partnered with Ventures in Science to assist students with résumés and cover letters. Over 40 Yale undergraduate students attended.

Next year, the Leadership Institute hopes to maintain its forward momentum in the Conferences and Workshops Initiative by increasing conference attendance by fine-tuning marketing strategies and planning even more Leadership Teas and Workshops throughout the year to increase its on-campus presence.
The Youth Leadership Initiative started as an effort to expand the L.E.A.D. experience to high school students in the New Haven area. After reaching out to high schools and community organizations, the YLI team managed to partner with the Mayor’s Youth Council to conduct the leadership education program. This year, the five members from the Yale Leadership Institute have worked with roughly fifteen high school students in the Mayor’s Youth Council on biweekly leadership training sessions. During the fall term the curriculum focused on listening to various leaders from the community speak about leadership and honing students’ leadership skills. During the spring term, they launched a final project of organizing a New Haven youth talent show. Collaborating with the New Haven Youth Summit, the students are planning to hold the event on May 18th.

2012-2013 Academic Year Achievements

+ Built a stable partnership with the New Haven Youth Council

The YLI program would not be as successful as it currently is without the indefatigable efforts from the leaders of the Mayor’s Youth Council. The Mayor’s Youth Council features a great network of social workers and resources which have proven to be crucial to YLI’s agenda. In addition, New Haven officials are very receptive to youth issues and very proud of previous YLI projects. Therefore, YLI has been able to build a stable supporting relationship with the Council.

+ Expanded the base of students in the program

This year’s program included over fifteen students from Co-Op HS, Sacred Heart HS, Hillhouse HS, New Haven Academy, Wilbur Cross HS, and Youth Rights Media.

The students represent a variety of neighborhoods, high schools, and youth organizations. This diversity allows different voices to be heard in the program.

+ Developed relationships with youth nonprofits in New Haven

The YLI team established connections with the New Haven Boys and Girls Club and Higher Heights. Another organization that was key to their outreach efforts was Citywide Youth Coalition, a network of over 500 youth-serving staff, community stakeholders and individuals in New Haven. They work together to build a courageous community in which all youth can succeed.

+ Incorporated parents of the students into the program

The YLI hosted a meet and greet with parents of student in YLI in a form of an information session. This provided a good opportunity to motivate parents’ involvement in youth activities.
Interested in the Leadership Institute?
Get involved!

Donate Here! The Leadership Institute has pending, tax-deductible non-profit 501c3 status!

Donations from supporters like you make our undergraduate leadership education and alumni service possible! Sponsoring the Leadership Institute is a unique opportunity to help build stronger leaders poised to excel in new opportunities after graduation. Your organization can help through a variety of ways and focus on specific institutional programs. We are happy to work with you to identify the best ways to market your organization and provide meaningful support.

We are excited about establishing a strong partnership with your organization and look forward to hearing from you soon! Please visit our PayPal donation site, or email li.at.yale@gmail.com for donation inquiries.

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