

SADIE NASH LEADERSHIP PROJECT

SNLP Mission

Sadie Nash Leadership Project's (SNLP) mission is to strengthen, empower, and equip young women and gender-expansive youth as agents of change in their lives, communities, and in the world. SNLP fulfills this mission by offering free programming for young women and gender-expansive youth of color that seeks to increase their participation in social, political, and economic decision-making. Our approach to leadership promotes perspectives and practices that are cooperative, accountable, ethical, and effective.

SNLP Philosophy

Sadie Nash guides young women and gender-expansive youth of color through a process in which they come to understand the importance of their individual life experiences, and how these experiences can be applied to taking action and making change. We are an educational and advocacy program that provides young people of color with the opportunity to analyze and explore the very nature of leadership.

Our philosophy, which is our guiding force, is built on the following beliefs:

- that the foundation of leadership lies in service and activism;
- that positive transformation will result from challenging accepted notions of leadership; and
- that young women and gender-expansive youth of color can be catalysts for social change.

The Sadie Nash model is rooted at the intersection of three components: a) healthy community and relationships b) positive role-modeling; and c) educating for social and political change. Through our unique structure, the Sadie Nash community—the young people, staff, and Board—seeks to examine and challenge unequal power dynamics based on different systems of oppression. Nashers (SNLP Participants) work together to understand and alter the undemocratic culture and structure of society and to improve the lives of those who have been marginalized, including themselves and their communities.

Our Partnership Program

SNLP partners with schools and agencies in the New York and Newark area to offer courses in leadership, social justice, youth activism, and self-empowerment for young women and gender-expansive youth of color. Our highly qualified faculty work with partners to design a customized classroom experience that is strong, meaningful, and affordable.

Sadie Nash Partnership Program is:

- Low-cost, on-site, and customized to address the specific needs of your school/organization for your young women and gender-expansive youth of color.
- Based on a popular education model and designed to foster leadership and community development
- Taught by seasoned youth educators who are trained in SNLP mission and philosophy,

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and who receive ongoing supervision and support from SNLP staff

Throughout the partnership, SNLP conducts site visits to ensure high quality teaching, receives regular program reports from faculty to document student progress, provides professional development opportunities and support to SNLP Partnership faculty, and consistently monitors student attendance and engagement. Groups can take place during the school day as grade-bearing courses, or as part of after-school programming.

In addition to serving as an on-site leadership group, partnerships create a pathway for young women and gender-expansive youth of color to apply to our Summer Leadership Institute and subsequent paid internship and fellowship opportunities.

Curriculum and Objectives

All SNLP programs focus on self-exploration, fostering confidence, developing leadership skills, and building community. Using their own lives and experiences as a springboard, young women and gender-expansive youth of color examine their identities, explore their families and communities, and critically discuss issues facing them today. There is special attention paid to socialization, political structures, and youth-led activism. In a typical Partnership program course, participants engage themes including, but not limited to: identity, healthy relationships, physical and emotional wellness, and social and economic justice.

Our curriculum incorporates and encourages small group work, discussion, interactive activities, art, writing, and multimedia presentations. Programs typically culminate in a final project designed and led by the youth participants, to be presented in their school/organization/community. Below please find an outline of the overarching goals of SNLP programs, along with a sample breakdown of curricular units and objectives for a two-semester model.

Overarching Goals

Participants will:

1. Build a sense of community/siblinghood
2. Identify themselves and their peers as leaders
3. Analyze and critique the world around them
4. Appreciate diversity as a community strength
5. Broaden and articulate their expectations and hopes for themselves and their relationships with others
6. Nurture a greater awareness of issues women face (personally and collectively)
7. Demonstrate increased confidence and self esteem

Semester 1:

Identity and Community Building

Participants will:

- Introduce SNLP overarching goals & values
- Establish safe space to begin creating a sense of community/sisterhood

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- Reflect on their own identities, how they may be perceived by others, and how this affects their overall well-being

Leadership Development

Participants will:

- Explore their definitions of leadership
- Begin seeing themselves and their peers as leaders
- Identify their leadership skills
- Begin defining traits of strong leaders
- Envision what leadership could look like in their day to day lives

Socialization

Participants will:

- Consider the gendered messages young women, gender-expansive youth, and young men receive
- Critically reflect upon where these messages come from and the consequence of some of these messages
- Explore role models who do not always fall in the gender box, and brainstorm ways they can break out of constricting roles and expectations if they want to

Critical Analysis of Media

Participants will:

- Define and brainstorm what “the media” is and how it operates within our current society
- Explore who owns the media and explore the identities that are represented on stage and backstage
- Make real connections between media and how it impacts their leadership
- Feel empowered in their story and experiences so that they can change the world

History of Feminism

Participants will:

- Introduce and celebrate womxn’s rights movements in history
- Explore the importance of womxn uniting politically
- Analyze terms commonly used among womxn (including feminism)

Semester 2:

Healthy Relationships

Participants will:

- Begin articulating their sense of self

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- Examine and begin to resolve difficult experiences in the past that have shaped and rooted their sense of self
- Build a tighter community among the students by sharing powerful experiences.
- Begin articulating and examining individual needs and desires in relationships
- Define what a healthy relationship is and what are some red flags of unhealthy relationships
- Recognize the dynamics of power that can play out in relationships

Sexuality and Sexual Health

Participants will:

- Increase familiarity with vocabulary and terms around sexuality, gender, and sexual health
- Increase awareness of anatomy, sexual health, contraception options, and safer sex
- Assess the questions young people still have around sex and sexual health
- Answer the questions within the group and address any informational gaps and myths that may exist
- Learn and practice negotiation skills for safer sex and boundaries in intimate relationships

Diversity and Inclusivity

Participants will:

- Understand terminology related to stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination
- Become better able to identify with marginalized groups, interrupt oppressive behaviors, and create a safer space
- Build empathy and see connections between the oppressions we ALL face (with the result being that we will all be less likely to judge)
- Explore ways to build power-with and power-within, rather than power-over

Conflict Resolution

Participants will:

- Identify personal conflict styles and healthy communication styles
- Gain some concrete and practical conflict resolution skills
- Identify how conflict affects their lives
- Identify and address the emotional aspects of conflict & anger

College Knowledge and Educational Justice

Participants will:

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- Explore what “education” means for themselves and how they want to pursue it
- Feel more motivated to pursue and claim their education
- Start visualizing and setting goals for their future
- Become more aware of how to plan for, and apply to, college
- Learn more about college timelines and requirements
- Explore common facts about college and debunk myths folks might believe
- Feel more inspired to attend college

Self Care

Participants will:

- Define self-care and why it is important in their lives
- Identify the roots of stress in their lives and healthy ways to manage/cope with stress
- Model and practice healthy ways to manage their lives

Final Project

Participants will:

- Create an “action” project around an issue they feel passionate about
- Present their projects to the larger school community

Note that while the above model represents the structure, content, and goals that are most common in SNLP Partnerships, we are eager to work collaboratively with you to design and implement a unique program that best supports your site.

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Cost of Partnership Program

Total Cost for One Academic Semester:	
Group meets for 1.5 hours per week for 16 weeks	\$2,500
Group meets for 2 hours per week for 16 weeks	\$2,900
Group meets for 3 hours per week for 16 weeks	\$3,750
Cost includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct Teaching hours• Prep time• Professional Development• Course evaluation and reporting	
We offer some SNLP-funded programming based on location, age group and availability of funds. SNLP-funded programming comes with additional requirements and guidelines that you can review here .	

Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the information in this packet please contact **Denise Quijada**, Partnership Manager, at denise@sadienash.org.