

Youth Leadership Billings 2014 . . .

26 years of helping our youth become effective leaders

The Billings Area is a growing, changing community. Keeping our city vibrant and healthy requires insightful leaders who have the ability to communicate and work effectively with a wide variety of groups and individuals. Youth Leadership Billings, a program of the Billings Chamber of Commerce & Convention & Visitors Bureau, is designed to facilitate the personal development of the leaders of tomorrow by exposing them to the various elements that interact to form a strong economy and a dynamic community. This is done through education, networking, peer interaction, problem solving and project cooperation. Keynote speakers, panel discussions, experiential exercises, and site visits provide an opportunity for participants to explore the city's history and economy; interact with and learn from business, government, and educational leaders; further develop interpersonal and leadership skills; gain insight into community issues; and learn about volunteer opportunities.

GOALS OF YOUTH LEADERSHIP BILLINGS

- To acquaint our young leaders with the Billings area: its history, government, judicial system, health and social services, businesses and economics.
- To motivate young leaders to become more involved in volunteerism by educating them about the issues and needs of the community.
- To expose students to potential career choices through interaction with community leaders and professionals.
- To provide the opportunity for students from our high schools to meet and establish relationships with one another through meaningful interaction.

ELIGIBILITY

Any junior enrolled at these high schools: Central, Senior, Skyview, West, Laurel and Shepherd are invited to apply.

Students should:

- Express an interest in learning more about the Billings area.
- Commit to fully participate in the program.
- Receive approval from a parent or guardian **and** high school principal or guidance counselor to participate.

ATTENDANCE

Youth Leadership Billings consists of eight meetings: a kick-off retreat, five program days, one community work-day, and a graduation luncheon. All days run from 8 am to 3 pm except the graduation luncheon, which will take place from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Please review the YLB program dates and consult with your parent or guardian and principal or counselor about attendance commitments. Since it is vital to the success of the program that you are present at each meeting to add your perspective and to interact with the others, you are expected to attend all meetings, if selected. If necessary, you may request an absence. Your school principal, counselor and/or parents/guardian will be notified of any absences. **Attendance at the kick-off retreat is mandatory.**

TUITION

A \$100 tuition fee is payable to the Billings Chamber of Commerce/CVB upon notification of selection. This fee helps to cover the cost of the retreat, programming, materials, meals, and group transportation. If the \$100 tuition fee creates an undue hardship for you or your family, need-based scholarships are available. Upon notification of selection to participate in YLB, you will be given the opportunity to apply for financial assistance.

2013-2014 PROGRAM AGENDA

YLB 2014 will run October through May. The program days will be held on the third Wednesday each month from 8 am – 3 pm. The scheduled dates are shown below. Meals are provided for each program day. To give students a geographic perspective of the Billings area, sessions are held at different locations around the city. Detailed agendas will be provided prior to each meeting.

Kick-off Retreat . . .

October 16, 2013 ~ 8 am-3 pm

Students explore and discuss leadership traits through team building and problem solving activities and other exercises that assist the students in getting to know one another.

ATTENDANCE AT THE KICK-OFF RETREAT IS MANDATORY.

Program Days – 8 am-3 pm

November 20, 2013-Social Service Day

December 18, 2013-Government Day

February 19, 2014-Business/Economics Day

March 19, 2014-Tourism/Culture Day

April 16, 2014-Healthcare Day

Community Work Day

May 7, 2014 (Youth & Adult Leadership work together on community service projects.)

Graduation Luncheon

May 14, 2014 (Youth & Adult Leadership)

Youth Leadership 2014 Sponsors:



Photo:

You must submit a photo of yourself upon notification of selection. Your photo will be used in the **YLB** class directory. (Submitted photos do not need to be taken professionally. A school photo, passport photo, or digital photo is acceptable.)

Application and Selection Process

Forty (40) participants will be selected to participate in YLB 2014.

To apply for the program students must:

Complete the attached application form and return to: YLB 2014, Billings Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 31177 (or deliver to: 815 South 27th St.) Billings, MT 59107-1177.

Applications must be received at the Chamber by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, September 18, 2014!

Applicants will participate in a personal interview at their high school with Adult Leadership alumni. Interviews will be scheduled the week following the application deadline.

Participants are selected to participate in the YLB program based upon the sole discretion of the Leadership alumni and such selection is based on certain criteria established by the Chamber/CVB. The Chamber/CVB reserves the right to establish the selection process in a manner it deems appropriate. Note, however, the selection process explicitly prohibits any and all discrimination based on gender, national origin, race, physical disability or the like.

Youth Leadership Billings 2014 Application

Name (as you wish it to appear on name badge and class list): _____

School: _____ Home mailing address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Home phone: _____ Age: _____

E-mail address: _____

Acceptance of Youth Leadership Billings 2014 Program Commitments: Your signature below verifies that, if accepted into the program, you understand and agree to abide by the program's tuition, photo, and attendance requirements and policies as described above. Information provided will be kept confidential and only used for its intended purpose.

<i>Applicant's Printed Name</i>	<i>Applicant's Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
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Parent's/Guardian's Printed Name	Parent's/Guardian's Signature	Date
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Principal's/Counselor's Printed Name	Principal's/Counselor's Signature	Date
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Completion of the questions below is required for consideration of your application. Responses are to be typed or written on 8 ½ x 11 paper (single side only) and should not exceed a total of four (4) pages.

1. In school, what areas of study do you enjoy most?
2. What are your main interests outside of school?
3. List your work and/or volunteer experience. If you currently work at a part-time job or as a volunteer, how many hours per week do you work?

<u>Organization(s)</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Position(s) Held</u>
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4. Why do you want to participate in Youth Leadership Billings?
5. In your opinion, what are the biggest challenges facing high school students in Billings?
6. Is there anything else you would like to tell about yourself? (Awards, honors, special activities, significant experiences or accomplishments, etc.)
7. What do you hope to achieve from participating in this program?
8. If you are selected for this program, does your schedule allow you to miss one day of school per month for Youth Leadership Billings (consider the class work you will have to make up and the school days you might already miss for other activities you participate in)?

Application checklist

- ✓ Did you attach your written responses to the application form?
- ✓ Is the application signed by you, your parent or guardian, **and** by your high school principal or counselor?
- ✓ Did you keep a copy of this application for your records?

Please return completed application by 5p.m. on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 to:

**ATTN: Youth Leadership Billings
Billings Area Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 31177 (or deliver to 815 S. 27th St.)
Billings, MT 59107**

Questions? Please call Kama Humphrey at 245-4111