

LEADERSHIP LAGUNA MADRE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In an effort to clarify and simplify the necessary information to fulfill your requirements for a successful Leadership year, our Steering Committee has prepared this brief informational handout for your reference. We have also included some information that you may find helpful.

ATTENDANCE:

Your presence during Leadership Retreat is crucial. Anyone absent for the first or second day of Retreat is automatically dropped from the Class. Your presence during each Class Day is equally important. However, we understand that sometimes an emergency may occur and cause you to miss a day or be tardy for a class. Only one absence is permitted during the class year. In the event of an emergency absence, you must contact your mentor as soon as possible. Please contact the class day facilitator regarding any known absence prior to class day. Only one tardy is allowed during the class year. A tardy of 30 minutes or less will result in 5 additional community service hours. Any time over 30 minutes will result in a full day absence. All class members are required to travel on the bus. Any class member not departing and returning on the bus will be counted as absent.

In the event of a second day absence you have the right to present your case to the Appeals Committee (see bylaws for procedure). Depending on the outcome of the Appeals Committee, you may be given the opportunity to continue the class year and receive your diploma if: 1) you complete an additional 8 hours of community service no later than July 1ST of the current year, and; 2) you attend the missed class or its equivalent during the next class year. Once the criteria is met and approved by the Steering Committee, you will receive your diploma noting the class year in which you were a member. This procedure will only be allowed one time; any additional absence will result in automatic dismissal from the program.

CONDUCT:

Any class member may be expelled by two-thirds vote of the Steering Committee, at a regularly scheduled meeting, for conduct unbecoming a class member or prejudicial to the aims or reputation of the Chamber and or Leadership Laguna Madre.

CLASS UNIFORM SHIRT:

Since we would like to be distinguished as a Leadership group wherever we go, Laguna Madre Leadership has provided each class member with a Leadership shirt, which distinguishes each class from other years. Additional embroidery or silk screening is not permitted, and it is required you wear your class shirt during each Class Day. In the event you fail to wear your shirt, 5 additional community service hours will be required.

MENTORSHIP:

Our goal is to introduce you into the Leadership program as smoothly as possible. We understand it is at times intimidating and sometimes even confusing. In fact, most students have many questions, but don't know who to ask. As a class participant, you will be assigned a mentor who is a member of the Steering Committee. Your mentor will contact you shortly before the Retreat and will assist you with any questions or concerns you may have. Your mentor is a valuable resource and open communication should be maintained throughout the year.

CLASS PROJECT:

Each class is expected to "brainstorm" and produce its own unique Class Project designed to benefit a charitable or civic organization through a financial contribution or carry out a service of benefit to the community. The project should not mirror an existing SPI Chamber project or one being held by another non-profit in the community. The tuition paid by class members each year does not cover the expenses

of the program. To help ensure the continuance of the Leadership Program, each year's class must donate \$3,000 or 30% of their class project net income, whichever is larger, to the Leadership Laguna Madre program. Part of being a leader is working together towards a common goal and producing uncommon results. Make sure you notify all Alumni and ask for their participation. We hope to see your class work together toward a very successful project. The following are examples of what other classes have done.....

Class I:	Work-hours at a Habitat for Humanity construction site, and an auction held at their graduation to benefit the LLM Scholarship Fund.
Class II:	Causeway Walk/Run Sponsors, which funded "Dentists Who Care."
Class III:	Sold orchids to benefit Sea Turtle, Inc. & PI Library and developed a public awareness program to encourage legible house numbers in case of emergency.
Class IV:	Progressive Dinner & Auction, which funded The Make-a-Wish Foundation.
Class V:	Celebrity bartending, pancake breakfast, and sale of donated fruit
Class VI:	Jazz Festival at Mango's Restaurant
Class VII:	Flamingo Project and Mayor's Roast
Class VIII:	Basketball Shoot-Out
Class IX:	Sold raffle tickets for 2-round trip Southwest Airlines tickets
Class X:	Wine Tasting Event at Sea Ranch Restaurant
Class XI:	Dancing with the Stars Event at Schlitterbahn Beach Waterpark
Class XII:	Gourmet dinner and wine tasting at Sea Ranch Restaurant and raffle
Class XIII:	Due to Hurricane Dolly there was no Leadership Class this year
Class XIV:	Boots 'n Bling – Silent/Live Auction with Live Music at Isla Grand Beach Resort and Ocean Tower Implosion parking
Class XV:	Sold raffle tickets for 8 different packages

Your plan for the Class Project needs to be submitted in writing to the Steering Committee no later than their December 2011 meeting. Your plan should include the date, time and location of the event, along with a complete budget, timeline and handouts for the Steering Committee members. You must have one or two Class representatives present your plan before the Steering Committee. All printed materials used in conjunction with the actual project must include the wording "All proceeds benefit Leadership Laguna Madre, (charity chosen by class) and other charities". All funds raised by your class must be submitted to the South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce for deposit in the Leadership Laguna Madre checking account within two (2) days of each fundraising event. All contributions and expenses for the Class will be paid from the Leadership Laguna Madre checking account.

VIRTUAL PHOTO ALBUM:

Each class is required to put a virtual photo album together using the photographs taken during each class event. The internet based program called "Smilebox" will be used to develop your virtual photo album. The layout of the virtual photo album is the choice of the class and must be completed, and shown, at graduation. Graduation pictures will be added following the event. The camera and the photo chip will be maintained at the South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce and should be picked up when the class begins the virtual photo album project. Upon completion of the Smilebox, it must be emailed to "info@spichamber.com" for historical preservation.

MEDIA PERSON:

At the end of each class day, class members will work together to develop a press release which will be turned into the SPI Chamber office, by the Class Day Coordinator, for submission to local news outlets. A photo of the class day will be included with the press release. Leadership Laguna Madre provides a digital camera for this purpose. The camera should be passed around among class members during the

day to allow everyone the opportunity to be included in the photos. The camera will be returned to the Class Coordinator at the end of the day.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Involvement is a key component of the Leadership experience. To enhance knowledge of issues and the use of leadership skills, each class member is required to complete 15 hours of community service divided among a minimum of 3 different approved organizations. A form is provided in the Leadership Manual that must be completed and received at the Chamber office on or before April 1. Mail or deliver your form/s to South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce, 600 Padre Blvd., South Padre Island, Texas 78597. The 15 hours must entail participation in activities that occurred following the retreat dates, but prior to April 1. Community Service hours can not be validated by another current class member.

In addition to the 15 hours of community service, each class member will also be required to attend, before April 1:

- One (1) Regular School Board meeting (Los Fresnos, Port Isabel or South Texas ISD in Mercedes),
- Two (2) Regular Government meetings in two (2) different Laguna Madre communities (Bayview, Laguna Vista, Los Fresnos, Port Isabel, South Padre Island or Cameron County Commissioners). Government meeting is defined as the Town's or County's governing body.

Meeting agendas from the meetings must be submitted and signed by the official meeting secretary.

The following is a partial list of possible community service organizations. Examples of unqualified community service hours are:

- Job-related hours
- Attendance at Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting and mixers
- Hours spent working on Leadership

If you have questions about receiving credit at an organization not listed, please contact your mentor.

Los Fresnos Chamber of Commerce Events
Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce Events
South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce Events
Los Fresnos Consolidated Independent School District
Point Isabel Independent School District
South Texas ISD School District
Beach Clean-Up
Boys' & Girls' Club – Los Fresnos
Boys' & Girls' Club – Port Isabel
Habitat for Humanity
Laguna Madre Humane Society
Make-A-Wish Foundation
Red Cross
UTPA Coastal Studies Lab
SandCastle Days
South Padre Island Bike Fest