



NWA EMERGING LEADERS

Program Information

Thank you for your interest in NWA Emerging Leaders. The program is envisioned as a substantive program for dedicated professionals who seek to be actively engaged in the Northwest Arkansas community. The program is intended to develop candidates for public and private boards, commissions and leadership opportunities as well as to groom individuals to serve and lead our dynamic community.

Mission

To retain emerging leaders and build a lasting legacy in Northwest Arkansas by providing the resources to infuse new talent with existing leadership.

Values

Legacy
Education
Advocacy
Diversity
Engagement
Reinvestment
Service
Honesty
Integrity
Passion

Membership

General membership requires a brief membership application (available at www.NWALEAD.com), acceptance of bylaws, mission statement and core values and a profile on LinkedIn.

Time Investment

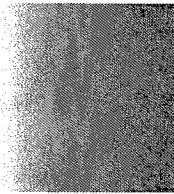
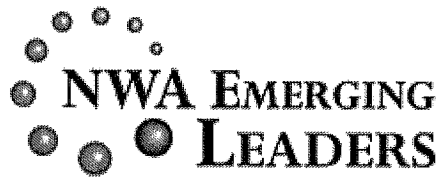
At a minimum, participants will be invited to attend four programs annually, offered on a quarterly basis, related to topics such as leadership, service and non-partisan government affairs. Members are encouraged to join Work Groups on specific topics, with each work group holding monthly meetings or service opportunities. At a maximum, an individual serving as an officer or committee member might attend two to three meetings per month.

Value

Our community has a reputation for working together for the ultimate good. As Northwest Arkansas continues to evolve and high-caliber individuals are attracted to the region from throughout the nation and world, it becomes more and more critical that a dedicated program exists to recruit, inform and engage the future leaders of our community. Participants as well as the companies they serve will receive immense value through the level of information and access provided in the Emerging Leaders program. Leadership companies such as ARVEST, Crafton, Tull, Sparks & Associates, the Arkansas World Center and small businesses throughout our community understand this value and are encouraging the participation of their top employees.

NWA Emerging Leaders is an initiative of the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, however, Chamber membership is not required for participation.

For more information: www.NWALeAd or Dana Mather, Vice President, Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce (479-619-3182 or dana@rogerslowell.com).



September 29, 2014

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LEADERS

NWAEL PHOTOS

Upcoming Events &
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WELCOME!

Thank you for your interest in Northwest Arkansas Emerging Leaders. This program was conceptualized in 2007–2008 and launched in early 2009 as a substantive program for dedicated professionals who seek to be actively engaged in the Northwest Arkansas community.

NWAEL consists of informative programs and speakers (quarterly) as well as active workgroups formed to collectively tackle issues and projects of relevance to our community. The program is intended to develop candidates for public and private boards, commissions and leadership opportunities as well as to groom individuals to serve and lead our dynamic community.

In short, NWAEL will be an information resource for dynamic future leaders, as well as a source for identifying and tapping those emerging leaders into service.

Mission of NWA Emerging Leaders:

To retain emerging leaders and build a lasting legacy in Northwest Arkansas by providing the resources to infuse new talent with existing leadership.

General membership requires a brief membership application, acceptance of mission statement, core values and bylaws and a profile on LinkedIn.

For more information:

Michael Lindsey
Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
479.619.3193 or michael@rogerslowell.com

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Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce
Growing Business. Building Community.
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MISSION & VALUES

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Workgroups

Northwest Arkansas Emerging Leaders offers its members five workgroups through which they can get involved in projects that seek to improve the community and make the region a better place to live, work and raise a family. Workgroups meet monthly and members are encouraged to attend meetings and get involved by bringing ideas, input and energy to group projects.

For more information about each workgroup, contact the chair at their email address listed below.

Community Enrichment

This Workgroup provides avenues for dialogue and education about community issues as well as opportunities to become engaged in projects that will enrich the region. The workgroup absorbed the Education and Downtown workgroups over the past year and offers an avenue for members with project ideas that do not fit within existing workgroups an opportunity to use Community Enrichment as a platform for any project or program that could benefit the community.

2012 Projects:

Lunch with a Leader—Organized three lunch with a leader events featuring University of Arkansas Chancellor Dave Gearhart, Tyson Foods' Archie Schaffer and Walmart's Cindy Davis.

Driver's Education Program—With a goal to improve teen driver safety, members partnered with the Arkansas State Police to place driver's manuals and testing checklists in nearly ten local school districts.

2013 Goals:

- **Expanded Driver Training and Train the Trainer Program**
- **Community Work Day**
- **Downtown Projects**
- **Ambassador Program**

Contact Information: Mike Williams, Chair. mwilliams@unitedwaynwa.org

Regular Meeting Date: Third Monday of the month, 12 p.m., 506 Enterprise, Ste. 102, Lowell, AR.



Legacy

Legacy's mission aligns closely with one of the top overall priorities of the organization: to infuse new talent with existing leadership. The premise of the workgroup is to actively seek ways and means to give ready, willing and able future leaders the training and platforms required to transition them into long-term, impactful positions for our community.

2012 Projects:

Board Service Certification Program—This day-long training program prepares attendees to serve on nonprofit boards and commissions. The workgroup has organized four Board Certification programs to date preparing more than 100 members for service.

Mastermind Groups — A "mastermind" group is a circle of like-minded individuals who meet regularly to discuss issues, develop personal goals and instill accountability in accomplishing those goals. Through the workgroup's leadership multiple Mastermind Groups have been established among members.

2013 Goals:

- **Four possible Board Service Certification Events preparing more than 100 members for board service**
- **Expanded partnership with NWA Leadership Council**
- **Formation of Additional Mastermind Groups**

Contact Information: Cyndi Bilyeu, cyndi.bilyeu@nwabcss.org



Regular Meeting Date: 3rd Friday of the month, 8:30 a.m., Intrust Bank at 3300 Market Street, Suite 130, Rogers, AR.

Greenways & Trails

The Workgroup links parks, trails and people; to provide, protect, develop and maintain parks, greenways and trails throughout the community; and to promote public awareness of the benefits of green space.

2012 Projects:

Community Bike Program—Established in 2010, this program refurbishes old bicycles and places them on trailheads in Rogers for the community to use free of charge. To date more than twenty bikes have been placed on the trail system.

Race for the Spike/Frisco Five — The cost to refurbish bikes for the Community Bike Program are covered by an annual bicycle poker ride held in conjunction with Frisco Festival in Rogers. New in 2012, the poker ride added a competitive bike sprint known as "Race for the Spike" where riders race a speeding train back to downtown Rogers. These two events raised more than \$1,000 for the bike program.

Bike to School Initiative—Members worked closely with a Rogers elementary school to develop a bike-to-school initiative, which led to the school offering a bike safety course and allowing students to ride their bikes to school for the first time.



2013 Goals:

- Increase participation in Race for the Spike/Frisco Five Fundraiser
- Add bike racks to trail heads around the region
- Projects to promote greenways and trails

Contact Information: Leah Tomlinson, lstomli@gmail.com

Regular Meeting Date: Fourth Thursday of each month, 12 p.m., 506 Enterprise Drive, Lowell, AR.

Political & Government Affairs

This workgroup offers non-partisan programs to assess current political issues and opportunities; educate on political and government processes; and engage and encourage participation in local, state and federal government.

2012 Projects:

Quarterly Program—The group organized a quarterly program featuring Skip Rutherford who discussed the importance of engaging in the political process. More than fifty members attended the event.

Election 2012 Panel Discussion — The group organized a discussion of the issues and candidates that members would be voting on in 2012. The panel included University of Arkansas economist Kathy Deck, The City Wire publisher Michael Tilley, Arkansas Economic Development Commission Director Grant Tennille and political strategist Clint Reed. More than 50 attended the event, which also garnered news headlines on topics discussed during the program.

Voter Registration Drive—Members conducted a voter registration drive on NWA Community College campus. More than a dozen new voters were registered during the two hour event.



2013 Goals:

- Organize a political candidate training series
- Develop a voter registration program for high school seniors
- Provide information to members on city boards and commissions – [Click HERE for a list of websites detailing public boards & commissions](#)

Contact Information: Nick Lewis, nlewis@arvest.com

Regular Meeting Date: Second Friday of each month at 12 p.m., 4302 West Olive, Rogers.

Sustainability

The workgroup is focused on increasing sustainability in Northwest Arkansas and diverting recyclable material out of the landfill.

2012 Projects:

Event Recycling—The workgroup led ten recycling initiatives at nonprofit and corporate events during 2012. Their efforts resulted in low or near zero waste events highlighted by the Boys and Girls Club 2012 Golf Tournament. More than 2,000 people attended the two-day golf tournament and thanks to the group's guidance and effort only 1/3 of a bag of trash was sent to the landfill.

R3 Program — The workgroup partnered with Waste Management and Springdale Schools to encourage district-wide recycling at elementary schools in 2012. Once fully implemented it could save the district thousands of dollars in disposal fees while diverting tons of material.

Recycling Alliance—A major 2012 initiative was to foster a recycling alliance between the region's cities, counties and solid waste districts. By collaborating, recyclables would be more efficiently collected and resources could be shared between agencies.



2013 Goals:

- **Online sustainability manual and video for nonprofit events**
- **R3 program in Springdale Schools**
- **Creation of zero waste recycling kits**



Contact Information: Craig Overton, craig_overton@ymail.com

Regular Meeting Date: Third Thursday of each month, Intrust Bank, 3300 Market Street, Suite 130, Rogers, AR.

Search Our Website

Search for:

Upcoming Events

Member Orientation presented by
 Simmons First Bank
October 14 @ 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

NWAEFL Board Service Certification
October 23 @ 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

Board Service Certification
October 24 @ 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

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