

Emerging Leaders

A program of FOCUS St. Louis®

Building leadership capacity to strengthen the region

About the Emerging Leaders Program

The Emerging Leaders program offers a select group of St. Louis' young and talented the opportunity to receive training to develop leadership and management skills. This program provides participants with an increased sense of engagement in the region, as well as the tools to take an active role as the next generation of St. Louis regional leaders. The Emerging Leaders program is open to young professionals ages 22-35.

Program Structure

Emerging Leaders is held twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. The program consists of six sessions held on Monday evenings (approximately two per month). The spring program is held from February through April, and the fall program takes place September through November. Sessions are facilitated by FOCUS staff and a line-up of regional leaders and subject matter experts.

Program Benefits

Emerging Leaders aims to provide young professionals a better understanding of the inner workings of the St. Louis community, an opportunity to develop leadership skills, a chance for personal growth and self-assessment, exposure to volunteer involvements, and a diverse network of peers. As a member of FOCUS St. Louis, program participants get connected to other leadership program alumni and have valuable opportunities to attend FOCUS programs and events.



Program Topics

Topics include the following:

Understanding Self and Leadership

This covers an in-depth analysis of each participant's personality type, with practical applications for more effective networking, relationship-building, and strengthening leadership skills.



Defining Your Personal Brand

This session covers personal branding, which encompasses your online presence and personality as well as first impressions and behavior in both your personal and professional life.

Civic Minded Leadership

This topic covers some of the intricacies of St. Louis' unique landscape, both geographically and politically, and current regional topics. Participants will also have the chance to gain strategies for building stronger communities.

Developing Leadership/Executive Presence

This topic introduces how to develop leadership competencies through the lens of emotional intelligence and effective communication.

Diversity and Cultural Awareness

This session aims to examine the participant's assumptions and biases, and ties those ideas back to best organizational practices.

Finding Your WHY as a Leader

This session will examine values-based leadership and structure for identifying passion and service to others, giving participants an understanding of ways to pursue these aspirations while advancing their career.

Assignments will be given between sessions to foster a deeper understanding of program content.

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Spring 2018 Session Dates

Monday, February 5, 2018
Monday, February 19, 2018
Monday, March 5, 2018
Monday, March 19, 2018
Monday, April 2, 2018
Monday, April 16, 2018

All programs will be held from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the FOCUS St. Louis office. Dinner will be provided.

A graduation program for the 2017-18 classes of Emerging Leaders will be held on April 30 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Cost and How to Apply

Tuition for Emerging Leaders is \$500 and includes dinner and parking for each session, as well as a six-month membership in FOCUS St. Louis. Limited scholarship assistance is available for those with financial need.

The application can be found online at www.focus-stl.org/ Emerging Leaders. Applications for the spring 2018 program must be completed by **Wednesday, January 3, 2018**. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by **Friday, January 12, 2018**.

*“One’s mind stretched to a new idea
never goes back to its original dimensions.”*

Oliver Wendell Holmes

For more information

Visit www.focus-stl.org or contact FOCUS St. Louis at 314.622.1250.

What Previous Emerging Leaders Had to Say

“Emerging Leaders is a crash course in leadership, professional development and the St. Louis community - every session was packed with information.”

“This program was very effective at connecting young professionals and equipping them with the tools necessary to launch a career deep in leadership and community involvement.”

“I feel like I am a more engaged and prepared young professional after going through Emerging Leaders.”

“Emerging Leaders connected me to a network of other young professionals who inspired me to focus my community participation on the things that are really important to me.”

“The Emerging Leaders program is second-to-none in providing a forum for the free flow of diverse thought and professional insight. There’s no doubt that the seeds planted throughout the program will bear much fruit both personally and professionally.”

About FOCUS St. Louis

FOCUS St. Louis is the region’s premier leadership development organization that connects diverse leaders from public, private, and civic sectors and empowers them to work together to build a thriving St. Louis community. As a convener and facilitator, FOCUS engages citizens to deliberate on critical regional community issues in a trusted, nonpartisan space.

FOCUS offers a continuum of seven leadership programs to engage leaders from high school students to senior executives. Program alumni have been inspired to launch new nonprofit agencies, start businesses, and run for political offices. They serve on hundreds of boards and provide thousands of hours of volunteer work. FOCUS alumni and members are leaders who make a difference.

