

## PARTICIPANTS

Participants in the Lowndes Youth Leadership League program will be members of the Sophomore and Junior Classes at Georgia Christian School, Open Bible Christian School, Lowndes High School, Valdosta High School, Valwood School and Southland Christian School.

## PURPOSE

The broad objectives of the Lowndes Youth Leadership League program include:

- To assist students in developing an internal sense of community and awareness of community issues
- To assist students in developing an awareness of teen issues
- To assist students in developing leadership skills
- To provide an opportunity for students to network with adults and with each other
- To motivate students to become involved in community projects designed to address community needs and problems

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Participants in Lowndes Youth Leadership League are selected after consideration of their recognized and potential leadership and the merit of their application. The Selection Committee strives to achieve a geographical, racial and socioeconomic balance in its selections.

At the conclusion of the Lowndes Youth Leadership League program, participants will have developed a network of in-depth relationships with students of various backgrounds from throughout the community and will have gained deeper insights and broader knowledge of teen issues facing Valdosta and Lowndes County.

## PROGRAMS

Students who are selected as participants in Lowndes Youth Leadership League are required to attend an overnight retreat and three other sessions whose focus will include community and teen issues. Participants can expect to listen to speakers, be involved in group discussions, participate in project development, attend various field trips and become actively involved in the session topics. A community service project is also required.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

**It is a mandatory requirement that each student attend ALL EVENTS in order to receive credit for the program; and a graduation certificate.** If an emergency arises (i.e., illness or death in family), a written explanation must be submitted to the Lowndes Youth Leadership League Chairman. The Chairman will determine if the absence is excused. No absences are accepted for the retreat weekend and students must travel with the group.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- ❑ Attendance is **MANDATORY** at ALL of the following events:
  - ❑ Welcome Reception on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 – 6:00 pm
  - ❑ Opening retreat (overnight) on Saturday and Sunday, February 6 – 7, 2010
  - ❑ All 3 program days on Tuesdays: Approx Time will be 7:30 am – 4:00 pm
    - ❑ February 23, 2010
    - ❑ March 30, 2010
    - ❑ April 20, 2010
  - ❑ Active participation in a community service project selected by the group.
  - ❑ Attend 1 City Council or County Commission meeting, February – March 2010.
  - ❑ Graduation on Thursday, April 29, 2010 – 6:00 pm

Please verify that you can attend ALL of these before applying to LYLL. You must attend, be on time, and participate fully.

## APPLICATION

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please follow these instructions carefully.  
**Completed applications are due to your school's LYLL Coordinator by OCTOBER 27th**

- ❑ Applications must be typed. You can download the application at [www.leadershiplowndes.org](http://www.leadershiplowndes.org).
- ❑ Please note that recommendation letters can be handwritten but must be completed in ink.
- ❑ A **complete application must be received** from each nominee. The application, two (2) letters of recommendation and a wallet-sized, head-shot photograph must be received by the deadline in order for a candidate to be considered.
- ❑ ***If an application is turned in without the required recommendation letters and photo, it will not be considered. Application deadline is Tuesday, October 27, 2009. Any application received after the deadline will NOT be accepted.***
- ❑ The application should be returned to your school's LYLL Coordinator by October 27th. The high school LYLL Coordinators for 2009-2010 are: **Georgia Christian** – Stacy Olbright; **Lowndes** – Cheryl Moore; **Open Bible** – Caroline McCarty; **Southland** – Jackie Noble; **Valdosta** – Helen Jackson; **Valwood** – Julie Guilliams.

**It is free to apply to LYLL.** You must type your application and turn it in by October 27, 2009 to be considered for selection into LYLL.

**If selected, each participant must pay a \$35 fee.** Payment plans and a limited number of scholarships are available for this participation fee. **The actual cost of the program is significantly higher and is largely funded through the support of Leadership Lowndes Alumni and our generous sponsors.**



**III. Letters of Recommendation**

Please attach two (2) recommendation forms to this Application. **These forms must be completed and signed by the following:**

- 1) One school official (teacher, counselor, etc.) who **knows** you.
- 2) One other non-related adult who knows you personally (minister, employer, neighbor, etc.)

NOTE: **The recommendations must be attached and submitted with the application. If not typed they must be completed in ink.**

**IV. Employment** (if applicable) Present Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

How many hours per week? \_\_\_\_\_

If selected for LYLL program how will you balance your job and LYLL attendance?

**V. Community/School Involvement**

A. List no more than three (3) school related activities in which you have participated in the last three years.

Name of School Club/Org./Sport	When Involved	What was your role?
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

B. List no more than (3) non-school related activities in which you have participated during the last three years.

Type of Activity	When Involved	What was your role in the activity?
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

C. List any special honors or awards received during the last three years.

**V. General Questions**

A. How would you describe yourself to the Selection Committee?

B. What specific skills/knowledge do you hope to gain from your participation in Lowndes Youth Leadership League?

C. Why do you think you should be selected for Lowndes Youth Leadership League?

D. Name four characteristics you value in other people.

E. How can you be a role model for younger children in your community?

F. Describe a time when your actions positively impacted a person, your school, or your neighborhood.

G. If you could change anything about your school, what would it be and why?

## VI. Commitment to the Program

**COMMITMENT TO LYLL** Lowndes Youth Leadership League requires a commitment from the Applicant, the School and the Parents/Guardians for this experience to be meaningful, educational, and successful. Please read the requirements below and then sign to acknowledge your commitment to LYLL.

To graduate from Lowndes Youth Leadership League, a participant is expected to attend **ALL** events, including

- Welcome Reception on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 – 6:00 pm**
- Opening retreat (overnight) on Saturday and Sunday, February 6 – 7, 2010**
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### **APPLICANT COMMITMENT**

I understand the requirements of the Lowndes Youth Leadership League program. If I am selected, I will devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program, which includes upholding high standards for the LYLL program.

I understand that attendance at the welcome reception, opening retreat, program days and graduation is **mandatory**. I acknowledge that if I am unable to attend, I may be asked to withdraw from the program. I understand the above commitments and agree to be bound by them in signing this application.

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Applicant Signature

Date

### **SCHOOL COMMITMENT**

The applicant has no significant disciplinary history, is currently a sophomore or junior during the 2009-2010 school year; and **this applicant has the approval of this school** and our full support, which includes the time required to participate in the program during regular school hours.

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NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL

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Signature

School LYLL Coordinator or Principal

### **PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMITMENT**

This application has the approval of this parent and the applicant has my full support, which includes the time required to participate in the program. **We have reviewed the schedule of events for the program year and do not have any conflicts.** (Please consider doctor's appointments and other activities)

In addition, I understand that if my child is selected for the program, **our obligation is a non-refundable \$35 participation fee.** The actual cost of the program is significantly higher and is largely underwritten by our generous sponsors and Leadership Lowndes Alumni.

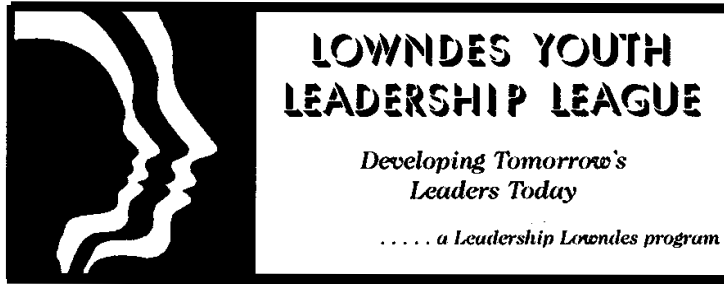
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Parent/Guardian Printed Name

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Signature

Date



**RECOMMENDATION FORM**

**DUE October 27, 2009**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

TO THE REFERENCE: The person listed above is an applicant to the Lowndes Youth Leadership League program. It is an interactive, hands-on experience in the community, aimed at youth who are beginning to show leadership potential and an interest in the community. The Selection Committee attaches considerable weight to the statements made by the references of the applicant. **The committee is aware of the time necessary to prepare such an assessment and gratefully acknowledges your help.**

**Must be typed or printed in ink.** Length of time you have known the student: \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity have you known the student?

How could this student benefit from attending or participating in a leadership program?

Tell us something you find unique about the applicant?

What are the first three (3) words that come to mind in describing the applicant? (Limit three words)

What leadership or leadership potential does this student exhibit with his/her peers and with other individuals?

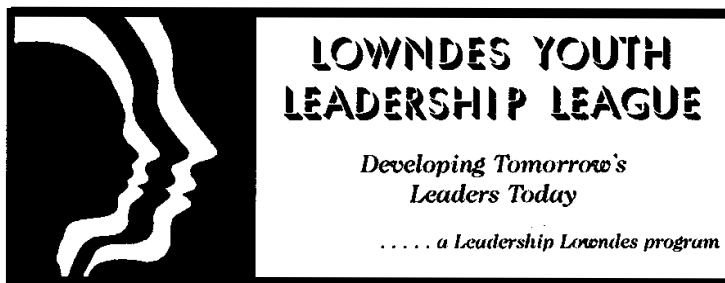
Additional comments to support your recommendation of the student:

**(For School Use Only)** Please comment on your knowledge of this student's academic and behavioral performance:

\*\*\*If you wish to write a letter of recommendation, please staple it to this form\*\*\*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_



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ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_