



A Not- For-Profit Education Affiliate of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce

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Leadership West Virginia Announces the Class Of 2017

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Fifty-seven leaders from across the state have accepted invitations to participate in the 2017 Class of Leadership West Virginia. Candidates were selected from a list of applicants submitted in late 2016.

- Roberta Baylor, Preston County Economic Development Authority (Kingwood)
- James Bolen, Dinsmore & Shohl LLP (Huntington)
- Benjamin Bradley, Habitat for Humanity of the MOV (Parkersburg)
- Christina Brumley, Jackson Kelly PLLC (Charleston)
- Susan Chapman, State of WV Division of Culture and History (Charleston)
- Kathy Cosco, Frontier Communications (Hurricane)
- Dena Cushman, Beckley Area Foundation, Inc. (Beckley)
- Charles Daugherty, Ritchie County Schools (Harrisville)
- Christine DeRienzo, Public Employees Insurance Agency (Charleston)
- Nicolas Diehl, West Virginia Department of Commerce (Martinsburg)
- James Dillon, Alcon (Milton)
- Jacob Dougherty, Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation (Wheeling)
- Brian Doughty, HealthNet Aeromedical Services, Inc. (Charleston)
- Ramin Ettehadieh, The Dow Chemical Company (S. Charleston)
- Harrison Gilliam, West Virginia National Guard (Huntington)
- Ivar Gjolberg, St. Joseph Hospital (Buckhannon)
- Michael Haines, Mon Power (Fairmont)
- Jessica Hall, West Virginia Department of Education (Charleston)
- Kristen Harrison, Spilman Thomas and Battle (Charleston)
- Travis Henline, Main Street Morgantown (Bridgeport)
- Michael Hicks, Calhoun County Middle/High School (Millstone)
- Sandra Hugueley, Logan Regional Medical Center (Chapmanville)
- Stephanie Hyre, The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation (Charleston)
- Ryan Jewell, The Health Plan (Wheeling)
- April Keatly, TransCanada (S. Charleston)
- Lindsey Keeney, Camden Clark Physician Corporation (Ripley)
- Stacey King, Quality Insights (Charleston)
- Chelsea Kinzinger, General Corporation (Charleston)
- Tracy Knabensue, West Virginia University (Morgantown)
- Christy Laxton, Wyoming County Economic Development Authority (Pineville)
- Roberta Linger, West Liberty University (West Liberty)
- Ingrid Loy, Eagle Manufacturing Company (Wellsburg)

- Elizabeth Margolin, Bowles Rice LLP (Charleston)
- William Mayfield, Independent Education Consultants (Charleston)
- Kerri McDaniel, Arch Coal Inc. (Buckhannon)
- Sara McDowell, Big Brothers Big Sisters (Charleston)
- Mark Morgan, Ultimate Health Services, Inc. dba Huntington Internal Medicine Group (Huntington)
- Carolyn Mount, West Virginia American Water (Charleston)
- Pamela Murchison, West Virginia Symphony Orchestra (Charleston)
- Jaina Perry, Adventures on the Gorge (Lansing)
- Drew Pomeroy, Citynet (Bridgeport)
- Chelsea Prince, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC (Morgantown)
- John Ramsey, KeyLogic Systems (Barrackville)
- Alex Reneman, Mountain Leverage (Grafton)
- Thomas Rhine, Pratt & Whitney Engine Services, Inc. (Bridgeport)
- Wesley Richardson, Northwestern Mutual (Charleston)
- Clay Riley, The Thrasher Group (Bridgeport)
- Louis Roe, Jr., Thomas Health System Physician Partners (S. Charleston)
- Harry Silvis, WesBanco (Parkersburg)
- Tracy Straub, Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing (Huntington)
- Jessica Sutton, City of Elkins (Elkins)
- Saundra Uy, Suttle & Stalnaker PLLC (Charleston)
- Heather Vanater, West Virginia Development Office (Charleston)
- Scott Wallace, Dominion Hope (Morgantown)
- Nathan White, Arnett Carbis Toothman LLP (Morgantown)
- Amanda Wilson, American Public University System (Charles Town)
- Richard Wiseman, Appalachian Power (Huntington)

Leadership West Virginia (www.leadershipwv.org) is now in its 26th year as the statewide education and leadership development program in West Virginia. The eight-month program identifies emerging leaders from a variety of employers throughout West Virginia and enhances their knowledge not only of the challenges facing the state, but also the state's unique attributes and diversity. Recognizing that the cultivation of new leadership is of utmost importance to West Virginia's future prosperity and progress, *Leadership West Virginia* works to develop and motivate a cross-section of leaders who will use their talents and abilities to inspire others and to foster a new spirit of energy, enthusiasm and vitality throughout the state. LWV is affiliated with the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

"Each year, the class participants are selected from a list of top-quality applicants from around the state. Individuals are selected into the program because they demonstrate leadership skills and experiences in civic activities and in their professional careers," said Pam Farris, Executive Director of Leadership West Virginia. "We continue to see an increase in the number of applicants each year and we are very pleased with the diversity of candidates in the 2017 class." Farris noted that interest in being a class member continues to be a very competitive process as the program now has nearly 1,300 alumni from across the state.

Throughout this year members of the class will travel to different communities in West Virginia to receive broad-based education on critical topics and, at the same time, have opportunities to hone their leadership skills. The locations and topics for the training program for the Class of 2017 include:

March 23 – 24 Charleston – Welcome to Leadership Session;
 April 20 – 21 Morgantown – Education Session;
 May 18 – 19 Eastern Panhandle – Economic Development Session;
 June 15 – 16 New River Gorge – Tourism Session;
 July 13 – 14 Wheeling – Justice System Session;
 September 21 – 22 Bridgeport – Energy Session;
 October 26 – 27 White Sulphur Springs – Health Care Session;
 November 16 – 17 Charleston – Government & Commencement Session.

“Leadership West Virginia provides graduates with the skills and the knowledge in making sound, informed decisions,” added Farris. Many of the participants serve as private citizen volunteers, and many seek and serve in public office. Among the many benefits that come with being a graduate of the program is the network of alumni throughout the state. *“Leadership West Virginia* congratulates the individuals who were selected to this year’s class.”