

***KLA:***  
***Krimson Leadership Academy***



**Overview**

KLA: Krimson Leadership Academy is a group of unrepresented 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade male students at Fairview elementary School who meet weekly for 10-weeks in small groups to provide support and guidance, while exposing participants to effective leadership strategies and provide mentoring opportunities during early developmental stages of manhood. Sessions are led by the academy leader and the men of the Diversity Student Mentoring Program by way of Indiana University. Through a mixture of age appropriate analysis and discussions, activities, article clips, videos, and references to popular pop culture media, this group explores the implications of identity development at an early age. Our aim is to position participants to not only become leaders in their communities, but become the leaders in the process for change and cultural understanding as they progress in life. KLA is an inclusive group, which welcomes young men of all backgrounds and seeks to provide the foundation to healthy lifestyles, masculinity, and development.

**KLA Structure**

- ☐ 10 weekly sessions
- ☐ 1 hours each session (45 minutes focuses on weekly material & 15 minutes on life skills and mentoring)
- ☐ Occasional weekly reading prompts (short articles to help facilitate discussion)
- ☐ Participants are required to keep a weekly journal of the experience
- ☐ Open to all underrepresented male students 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade
- ☐ Participants must commit to the entire experience
- ☐ 10-15 participants per semester

**KLA Fall 2016**

- ☐ *Start date:* 9/21/2016
- ☐ *Time:* 11/11/2016
- ☐ *Location:* Fairview Elementary School

***For more information, please contact***

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**Academy Leader**

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*“Going far beyond that call of duty, doing more than others expect, this is what excellence is all about! And it comes from striving, maintaining the highest standards, looking after the smallest details, and going the extra mile. Excellence means doing your very best. In everything! In every way.” –Jack Johnson*

**Purpose of Program**

Minority men in America today are often afflicted with a disease: a much too narrow, skewed view of toxic manhood, glorified thuggish image, and a lack of the exploration of self. Many of them form their opinions on manhood and masculinity at an early age based on consumption of daily media, instead of contemplating their lives and the lives of the men around them or the lack there of in a purposeful way, asking questions of established norms, and continually seeking new information. This experience was created to take a group of young men on a philosophical journey to produce positive examples of masculinity, self-worth, and examining one of the central question to their existence – what type of person will I become? Through weekly discussions and activities with peers and more seasoned minority men, and constant reflection, this group will explore the ideas of leadership and living healthy lifestyles, particularly as it relates to the development of their own concept of self, in hopes that this experience will positively change their lives.

**Program Objective**

*Through participating in this program, young men will...*

1. Understand the importance of effective leadership.
2. Understand the basic concept of leadership as it pertains to power and influence.
3. Develop a sense of pride and belongingness.
4. Develop their own definition of success.