



# GREATER NAPLES LEADERSHIP, INC.

*Exceptional Opportunities to Learn, Connect and Make a Difference*

## What is GNL?

Greater Naples Leadership is an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization that prepares proven and selected leaders for service to the community through a year-long Masters Class Program and continuing education.



**GNL Masters Class XXIV**

**The Masters Program** - The GNL Masters Program educates highly accomplished men and women about Collier County through a series of 11 in-depth sessions covering all major aspects of community life. Each year, GNL accepts a class of 40-50 individuals and exposes them to sessions focusing on history, culture, healthcare, education, the environment, growth and economic development, human services, government, Immokalee and more. Sessions include presentations, panel discussions, on-site visits and field trips. The objective is to prepare participants for volunteer positions as well as civic and nonprofit board positions. Participation in the GNL program is a two-year commitment. The first year is educational, and in the second year small teams of class members, under the guidance of a class leadership team, prepare one of the nine educational sessions for the following year's class. Program graduates have the privilege of becoming a members of a large, well-connected and vibrant alumni organization.

**The Alumni Program** - Throughout the year, the Alumni Committee of GNL hosts a wide variety of events for members, providing continuing education about the issues facing Collier County as well as opportunities for members to socialize. Topics vary from local concerns to national issues that affect Collier County. Formats include luncheon seminars as well as partial-day and full-day sessions. Question and answer periods with panelists and presenters are always a part of each program.

**Community Service** - GNL alumni are actively involved in using their skills and knowledge from the Masters Program to help local nonprofit, civic, faith-based and educational organizations achieve their missions. These volunteer efforts touch virtually every aspect of life in this community—from healthcare, education and human services to arts and the environment. Members are notified of volunteer opportunities on GNL's website.

GNL provides exceptional opportunities for its members to continually enrich their lives and improve the community through: unique firsthand *learning* experiences; *rewarding* relationships with accomplished, like-minded individuals; and *unparalleled* access to meaningful board and volunteer roles.

## Masters Program Class XXV Session Dates 2020-2021

March 19, 2020  
Orientation Lunch

October 21, 2020  
Opening Retreat

October 28, 2020  
Naples Past, Present and Future

November 4, 2020  
Growth & Economic Development

November 11, 2020  
Cultural Arts

November 18, 2020  
Human Services

January 11, 2021  
Class Reception

January 13, 2021  
Education

January 20, 2021  
Healthcare

January 27, 2021  
Environment

February 3, 2021  
Class Reception

February 12, 2021  
Government

February 17, 2021  
Immokalee

February 24, 2021  
Evaluation & Planning Day #1

March 10, 2021  
Session Planning Day #2

March 23-24, 2021  
CLT/Session Day Team Meetings

March 25, 2021  
Graduation

**Board of Directors  
2019-2020**

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Linda Penniman

Secretary  
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John Mancuso  
Donna Messer  
Mark Schwab  
Ruth Seydel  
Beth Stein  
Steve Teaford  
Gunther Winkler  
Betsy Wolf-Maher

**Candidacy for the Masters Program**

**Eligibility for the Program**

**Record of accomplishment.** The ideal Masters Program candidate should be a proven leader in his or her field of endeavor and /or within his or her community.

**Commitment to the Greater Naples community.** Candidates should be willing to seek community and/or civic volunteer opportunities to apply their skills and interests.

**Career and life status.** Candidates must have the time, interest and capability to participate fully in all the day-long classes and in the preparation of session days for the following year's class. Please keep in mind that many session days require considerable walking. Candidates must be proficient in the use of email and the internet.

**Residency.** Candidates should reside in the community from October through mid April in order to contribute fully to the program and the community.

**Selection Guidelines**

**Spouse/partner/family members' applications.** Spouses/partners/family members of GNL alumni may participate in the program provided that they independently meet the selection criteria. Only one spouse/partner/family member may participate in a given year and must be sponsored by an unrelated alumnus or alumna. At least one year must elapse between the class year of related participants.

**Paid employees in the same organization.** Only one paid employee of a given company or organization may be accepted in a single year.

**Gender balance.** GNL's goal is to achieve gender balance in each class.

**Diversity.** GNL is racially and ethnically inclusive.

**Requirements to Participate**

**Class attendance.** Masters Class members are expected to attend all sessions. Members may not miss more than two session days, and missed days must be made up within the following season's Masters Class. Attendance is mandatory for both Retreat and Evaluation Day. Carefully review the session dates to ensure attendance is not a problem.

**After graduation commitment.** Each class member, as part of a team, is required to help design and run a session for the following year's class. Graduates are expected to carry out GNL's Mission Statement, which encourages the use of their skills in bettering the community.

**Application Process**

Usually, a member of GNL sponsors an individual for admission to the program. However, individuals may apply for membership without a sponsor. Tuition is \$1,950. Applications are available on the GNL website beginning November 1, 2019. Interviews will be held prior to acceptance. Class selection for each year is announced in February.