



1996 - 2016

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.

The Masters Program - The GNL Masters Program educates highly accomplished men and women about the issues in Collier County through a series of 9 in-depth sessions (plus administrative sessions) covering all major aspects of community life. Each year, GNL accepts a class of 36-46 individuals, many of whom are new to this area, and exposes them to sessions focusing on history, culture, healthcare, education, the environment, economic development, human services, government, Immokalee and law enforcement as well as exposure to volunteer opportunities. Sessions include presentations, panel discussions, on-site visits and field trips, which are planned by members of the previous Masters Class and overseen by the Class Leaders.



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 includes luncheon seminars, as well as partial-day and full-day sessions. Questions-and-answer periods with panelists and presenters are always a part of the 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 XXI Session Dates 2016-2017

March 23, 2016
Orientation Lunch

October 19, 2016
Opening Retreat

October 26, 2016
Naples Past, Present
and Future

November 2, 2016
Growth & Economic
Development

November 16, 2016
Cultural Arts

January 11, 2017
Human Services

January 18, 2017
Education

February 1, 2017
Healthcare

February 8, 2017
Environment

February 23, 2017
Government

March 1, 2017
Immokalee

March 8, 2017
Evaluation & Planning

March 22-23, 2017
CLT / Session Day
Team Meetings

March 29, 2017
Session Day Planning

March 31, 2017
Graduation

Board of Directors 2015 - 2016

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Joan Sehdev
Kathleen Slebodnik
Carolyn Tieger

Candidacy for the Masters Program

Eligibility for the Program

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

Commitment to the Greater Naples community. Candidates will be proven leaders seeking ways to apply their skills to civic and community service.

Career and life status. Most candidates will be retired or semi-retired, generally over 50, and have the time, interest and capability to participate fully in the day-long classes, many of which require considerable walking. Candidates are required to be proficient in the use of email and the internet.

Residency. Candidates are most likely recent residents of the area and should reside in the community at least half the year in order to contribute fully to the program and the community.

Selection Guidelines

Spouse/partner/family members applications. Spouses/partners and family members of GNL alumni are welcome to participate in the program provided each one independently meets 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 each 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 wishes to be racially and ethnically inclusive.

Requirements to Participate

Class attendance. Masters Class members are expected to attend all sessions. One full-day excused absence or two half-day excused absences are allowed with prior arrangement. Attendance at Retreat Day and Evaluation and Planning Day is mandatory. 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. Individuals may apply for membership without a sponsor by contacting the GNL office. Currently, tuition is \$1,700 and financial assistance is available. Applications are available on the GNL website beginning November 1, 2015. Interviews may be held prior to acceptance. Class selection for the coming year is announced in February.

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