

Leadership GALVESTON

A program of the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce



**CULTIVATING GALVESTON'S LEADERS
FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

About the Program

HISTORY

In 1984, the Galveston Chamber of Commerce identified a need to create a pipeline of future leaders for our community and launched the Leadership Galveston program.

More than 500 graduates have completed the program, learning all about what makes Galveston go—from its unique economy to its largesse of educational institutions to its diverse culture and attractive lifestyle.

All major local businesses, most smaller companies and non-profit organizations embrace Leadership Galveston as a staple for any managerial- or executive-level employee who is new to our area.

Likewise, many individuals elevating into executive roles at work find the Leadership Galveston program an important resource and network to support and advance their success.



PROGRAM BASICS

A dynamic and interactive eight-month experience, Leadership Galveston promotes and enhances community leadership through an in-depth introduction to social, economic, business and political issues in the Galveston area.

Participants interact with diverse, high-level community leaders and decision-makers by organizing and attending a series of seminars and retreats in fields ranging from business, education, government, hospitality, the arts, tourism, and more. Through these interactions, participants learn about their personal leadership styles, nourish their community spirit and gain invaluable understanding of how our community works.

The Leadership Galveston curricula includes a weekend retreat to challenge your mind while building team spirit and eight (8) day-long units examining various aspects of the community including a two (2) day leadership unit and wrap-up session and graduation event available to

participants completing all requirements. The program features a blend of seminar-style learning, open forum with community leaders, tours, meetings and unscripted discussion.

The program allows participants one absence during the program, but requires mandatory attendance at the introductory/retreat weekend. The program also encourages participants to expand their learning and experiences by attending various governmental, civic and community meetings—all made available through this program—on their own time.

BENEFITS

Leadership Galveston inspires and trains rising leaders and refreshes current leaders about our island community.

The bonds forged among the members of each class are deep and long lasting, offering both personal and professional benefits. Whether you are new to Galveston Island or just want to learn more about the important issues facing the community in which you live, Leadership Galveston is an excellent investment of your time and talents.

As a Leadership Galveston participant, you will:

- Become part of a rich learning community made up of leaders with unique backgrounds and perspectives
- Develop a deeper understanding of social, economic, business and political issues affecting our community
- Learn about meaningful ways to make a difference by giving back to our community
- Tap into a network of leaders in each class and establish contacts with diverse groups of professionals in both government and the private sector
- Increase your awareness of your own unique leadership and teamwork skills.



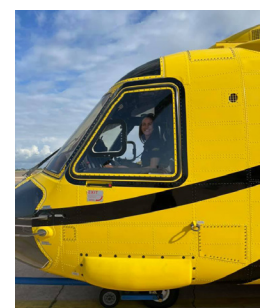
Curriculum Elements

An innovative program designed to develop and enhance leadership, Leadership Galveston transforms actively engaged civic leaders into community champions through in-depth experiences with a close network of new personal and professional relationships that last a lifetime.

Eight units comprise the Leadership Galveston program, each exploring an important facet or facets of being part of the island community. They include:

- **Leadership, Galveston Style.** Fun and informative weekend retreat includes four main components: gaining a broad perspective on the community; learning best practices in leadership; understanding the value of teamwork; and bonding with fellow classmates. Leadership Galveston participants are required to attend the entire retreat.
- **Making Galveston Go.** Covers the landscape of city government, services and infrastructure. Participants will have face time with the mayor, city manager, departmental leaders and economic development experts to better understand all the integral parts that must work in tandem to keep our city going...and growing.
- **The Island Economy.** Founded primarily as a port city nearly 180 years ago, Galveston today enjoys a diverse and unique economy, including a dynamic tourism industry, a nationally-ranked academic health care center, three institutions of higher learning, state-of-the-art research facilities and the bustling Port of Galveston. Class participants will meet with top executives of each of these major island industries for a status update and to learn what is anticipated for Galveston short-term and in the longer view.
- **Education Destination.** For an island our size, it is remarkable that we have three institutions of higher learning. This unit will delve into Galveston's local public school system. Participants will also learn more about Galveston's growing reputation as a college town, with higher education programs at Galveston College, Texas A&M University at Galveston and the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB Health).
- **Helping Hands.** In this unit, the Leadership Galveston class will get to know the organizations that meet an array of community needs, including food, housing, early childhood education, workforce training, mentoring and senior citizen support. You will participate in a hands-on community project.
- **Arts, Culture...the Rest is History.** Is it the renowned Grand 1894 Opera House, the 100 places of worship, the number of languages spoken or the large swath of preserved architecture that make Galveston such a special place? In this unit, participants will understand how these enduring qualities and many more converge to maintain a way of life that is uniquely Galveston.

- **State of Galveston County.** Learn how the Galveston County legal system works. Hear from a historical legal expert, county commissioner, judge, legislators and economic partners.
- **Bolivar Peninsula.** Bolivar Peninsula is comprised of a 27 mile stretch of multiple things to see. From the Bolivar Lighthouse to Ft. Travis, from the Big Store to High Island, the class will discover why this beautiful peninsula attracts thousands of tourists every year.
- **That's a Wrap.** The final day with each Leadership Galveston group promises fun, festivities and fellowship. You will review leadership and teamwork tenets with expert facilitators, report out on what you have learned and what you prepare to do with your newfound knowledge, and culminate our months of learning with a very special graduation event.



Transform your Future

SELECTION PROCESS

The Leadership Galveston program is open to anyone in the Galveston region. The application process is governed by a Leadership Galveston advisory committee. A panel of the advisory committee reviews all applications received and determines finalist applicants based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated capacity for leadership
- Community interest and involvement
- Desire to assume expanded leadership responsibility
- Willingness to give back to the community
- Class representation of diverse backgrounds and experiences
- Commitment to program attendance.

TUITION

Leadership Galveston accepts approximately 40 participants into each annual class. The program costs \$1,095 per person and includes accommodations and meals for the weekend retreat; and all transportation, materials, meals and fees for the entire program.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to join an upcoming Leadership Galveston class, complete the Leadership Galveston application available at the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce website at www.GalvestonChamber.com.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions or more information about the program, please contact the Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce at (409) 763-5326 or email Gina Spagnola at gspagnola@galvestonchamber.com.

FROM OUR GRADUATES



Cissy Matthews, Ed.D., Vice President of Instruction at Galveston College, Class of 2022

"Leadership Galveston is a wonderful experience that I would recommend to anyone. Whether you are new to the island or you've lived here all your life, Leadership Galveston will give you a much better understanding of Galveston and you will make life long friends along the way."



Mike Miller, Director of the Rosenberg Library, Class of 2021

"I really enjoyed being a part of the program – I can't think of a better way to get to know the island and its people. The classes provided a lot of insight that will help me both as a new resident of Galveston and as the director of the Rosenberg."



Dietrich Jehle, MD, FACEP, RDMS, Professor and Chair of Department of Emergency Medicine Emergency Medicine Residency Program Director University of Texas Medical Branch

"The leadership Galveston experience in 2021-2022 was outstanding! As someone new to the island, this gave me a chance to meet a number of new close friends. My understanding of the history of Galveston and Bolivar is significantly beyond where it was when I moved here. The new connections with members of the Leadership Galveston class have been very useful in helping me recruiting additional faculty to UTMB and developing new projects for our proposed emergency medicine residency program (such as the disaster response ship with Texas A&M). In addition, I would like some of my new UTMB faculty to participate in Leadership Galveston in the future to help them better understand Galveston and more quickly feel an integral part of the island. Thank you so much for the opportunity to participate in this Leadership Galveston class."

