



Youth Leadership Academy

Grade Focus

7th Grade – Finding your Gifts

Self-Awareness · Talents · Gifts · Personalities

The focus here is on the exploration of talents and skills, as well as on helping our cadets understand their personalities, beliefs and values so that they can make positive decisions, decipher emotions and plan their future. The qualities learned here would be developed throughout YLA years, as the cadets mature and learn to become independent. Our mentors play a key part as realistic role models that encourage self-confidence, focus on cadets' values and how to both handle stress and understand where it comes from.

8th Grade – Finding your Voice

Public Speaking · Branding · Social Media

The focus here is for our cadets to be able to speak persuasively - a skill that is vital not only for our future politicians, business leaders and teachers, but also for everyone in general, because almost everyone will, at some point in their lives, have to persuade others. Our focus goes beyond just speaking; it also includes teaching our cadets to build positive brands of themselves. We guide our cadets to ask, "What do others think of when they see me, based on their perception of me?" We teach them positive ways to interact with people, and how to carry themselves publicly in a variety of different situations, along with different social platforms and media.

9th Grade – Finding your Peace

Cultural Tolerance · Cultural Awareness · Diversity

With today's globalization, and in a world that has become connected multiculturally through the far-reaching powers of the Internet, establishing tolerance and harmony has become very crucial and important. Our students must learn to live with people of different backgrounds, cultures and religions in an environment where fostering mutual tolerance and affection has become vital. YLA aims at helping our cadets counter influences that lead to fear and exclusion of others.

10th Grade – Finding Your Future

Career Ready · Work Skills ·

The skills our YLA cadets learn are skills that successful people have in any career. Being ready for a career means that by now, our cadets have a good sense of self and are willing to have conversations about the world of work. This is the grade where we focus on expanding our cadets' visions of the future.

11th Grade – Finding your Path

College Knowledge ·

From applications to dorm drop-off, we are there to help our cadets make the important decisions within the college process. We realize that choosing the universities our cadets will attend for about half a decade is not an easy task. We help our students navigate the academic programs, locations, social atmospheres, sizes and types of colleges they want to have their crucial early adult memories associated with.

12th Grade – Finding your Independence

College Transition · Life Skills · Professionalism

Just because our cadets will be going to college does not mean that they are ready to live on their own. Life skills are essential for our students to succeed and master their college experience. Keeping themselves safe, knowing the options for asking for help, handling finances and budget, and keeping track of personal and professional records are just a few essential skills for our cadets to survive on their own. This last year of YLA focuses on allowing our cadets to succeed in accomplishing college completion and getting ready for independence in the world.