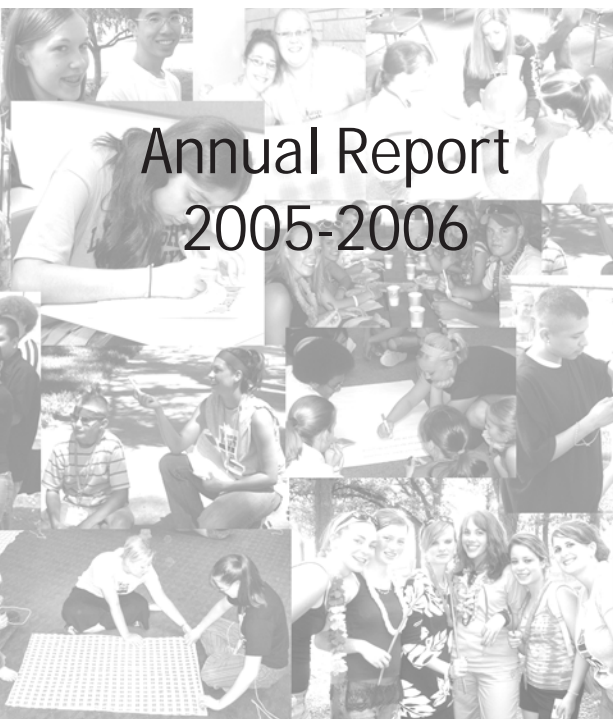




Kansas Youth Leadership Academy



Annual Report 2005-2006



F o r t H a y s S t a t e U n i v e r s i t y



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As my term as acting director at the Kansas Youth Leadership Academy (KYLA) comes to a close, please allow me to share with you some exciting events that have taken place in the past year. I would also like to recognize some very special individuals and organizations that have helped us to make a difference in the lives of young Kansas leaders.

In the past year, the Kansas Youth Leadership Academy has had the opportunity to work with more than 1,500 young Kansans through our three signature programs: Academy Seminars, Specialized Trainings, and Summer Camps. Our ability to impact the lives of so many young leaders, from more than 80 Kansas communities, is a direct result of our partnership with the McDonald's Owner-Operators in the state of Kansas. Their continued support and generosity have truly made a difference.

This year, KYLA celebrated its fifth annual summer camp season. Due to the request of past campers, this year's camps were extended by one day, making high school camp four days, three nights, and middle school camp three days, two nights. This year's camps were truly a celebration of youth leadership, as more than 200 middle and high school students registered for our camps. As one KYLA camper said, "I wish camp could be two weeks long! KYLA camp helps me to become a better leader, a better citizen and a better person!"

Another exciting event that has recently taken place in the Academy is the hiring of a new permanent KYLA Director, Cathie Klein. Cathie is a dynamic individual, with years of teaching experience at the middle school level. As I pass the torch to Cathie, I am confident that under her superior leadership, KYLA will only continue to grow and evolve as an extraordinary resource for teachers, administrators, sponsors, and students.

The Kansas Youth Leadership Academy truly believes in the power of young leaders. We are proud to be associated with such wonderful partners and friends who help us to fulfill our mission. Thank you for your commitment to making a difference in the lives of our Kansas kids.

Sincerely,

Kelley Kuhlmann
Acting Director

McDonald's Partnership



One of the biggest highlights for the Kansas Youth Leadership Academy over the last year has been the partnership with McDonald's Owner-Operators across the state of Kansas. The partnership includes a contribution of \$100,000 over a two-year period. The partnership began in July of 2005 and will conclude in June of 2007. "This partnership will make it possible for young Kansans to learn about leadership and develop the tools necessary to become effective citizen leaders," stated Governor

Kathleen Sebelius about the partnership with McDonalds. Through the partnership, KYLA offered all Owner-Operators the opportunity to send teenage and young adult McDonald's employees to crew trainings. The crew trainings were designed to improve problem solving, communication, teambuilding, and citizenship skills among the participants.

With the commitment and dedication of these McDonald's Owner-Operators and their 152 restaurants, the Kansas Youth Leadership Academy will be able to continue the development of future leaders. Thank you Owner/Operators of Kansas

2005-2006 Academy Themes

Throughout the year, the Kansas Youth Leadership Academy focused on six different themes during their seminars, specialized trainings, and camps. Using different activities, scenarios, movie clips, and group discussions, the Academy conveyed these themes to the participating students. The six themes included:

- **Diversity Appreciation:** Successful leaders not only recognize but appreciate and celebrate diversity. Students should have a better understanding of and utilize the benefits of individual's ethnicity, ideology, disability, personality, culture, skills, gender, and one's personal experiences.
- **Problem Solving:** Being able to effectively identify, analyze, and solve problems is an essential quality for successful leaders. Leaders must be able to collaborate with their followers to solve problems for the common good.
- **Leadership Concepts:** Successful leaders have both a deep understanding of leadership concepts and the the ability to put them into action. The concepts of



leadership include the ability to create positive community change, practice effective cooperation and collaboration, and foster civic responsibility.

- **Personal Responsibility:** A person who is personally responsible lives a life that is consistent with his/her values and convictions. They encompass honesty, trustworthiness, self-respect, respect for others, accountability, and have the confidence to stand up for what they believe is right.
- **Team Dynamics:** Successful leaders have the ability to work effectively in a team environment that includes teambuilding, teamwork, and team leading. Consensus building, coordination, cooperation, and collaboration are critical skills in the leadership process.
- **Effective Communication:** Effective communication is the process of exchanging information through words, tone of voice, nonverbal cues, and written language. Successful leaders are proficient in communication skills, which allow them to influence others and be the catalyst for positive change.



Seminars

The Academy seminars are designed to give students the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to perform civic leadership. Throughout the one-day seminars the core curricular



themes are divided into hands-on sessions. By utilizing the Academy themes, students are given the chance to develop and enhance their core character values of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, and caring. The programs' activities provided students with the knowledge, behaviors, and motivation to participate in the leadership process.

Four middle and four high school seminars were held throughout the fall. Semester seminars were held in all corners of the state in order to reach the greatest number of youth. The seminars were held in Topeka at the KAW Area Technical School, Hays at Fort Hays State University, Garden City at Garden City

Community College, and El Dorado at Butler County Community College. Nearly 500 middle and high school students participated in seminars.

Specialized Trainings

The Academy worked directly with individual Kansas schools and other educational groups, organizations, and clubs to tailor leadership development programs to meet their needs. The Kansas Youth Leadership Academy focuses on character-building, teamwork, and



citizenship, along with many other skills and competencies. Over the past year, the Academy facilitated eleven specialized trainings to over 800 students. The specialized trainings were located at Eskridge, Quinter, Sharon Springs, Concordia, Olathe, and Kansas City. In addition, KYLA facilitated a McDonald's crew training in Hays for young adults employed at McDonald's.

Each seminar and specialized training was facilitated by trainers consisting of KYLA staff, Center for Civic Leadership staff, and Certified Leadership Trainers (CLT's). CLT's are trained and certified individuals who facilitate sessions for the three programs designed by the Academy.

Camps

Each summer, the Academy hosts middle and high school leadership camps. The camps are open to middle school students entering grades 6-8 and high school students entering grades 9-12. Both of the camps were held at the Fort Hays State University campus. Over 200 middle and high school students from across the state of Kansas registered for camp to learn about concepts such as teamwork, problem solving, diversity, communication, and citizenship. Campers participated in *The Amazing Race II* teamwork competition, interactive leadership sessions, and a community service project which included making blankets for the local nursing homes and hospital. The students also received some relaxation time at the Hays Aquatic Park and a luau at Frontier Park.



Those sponsoring scholarships for students to attend camp, giving monetary donations include: Nex-Tech, Dessin Fournir Companies, Hays Storage Systems, The Hays Daily News, FHSU Office of the Provost, Professional Rental Management, FHSU Office of the President, Midwest Energy, Lewis Automotive Groups, H & L Production, Wal*Mart, Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, and Insurance Planning Incorporated. Because of their generosity, many students were able to participate at camp.

2005-2006 Participating Schools

The following Kansas schools have participated in academy seminars, specialized trainings, and/or camps over this last year:

Abe Hubert Middle School, Garden City
Atchison Middle School, Atchison
Baldwin Junior High, Baldwin City
Basehor-Linwood Middle School, Linwood
Bickerdyke Elementary, Russell
Bishop Ward High School, Kansas City
Campus High-Haysville, Wichita
Charles Stone Intermediate Center, Garden City
Cheylin West Junior/Senior High School, Bird City
Clay Center Community Middle School, Clay Center
Concordia Junior/Senior High School, Concordia
Conway Springs High School, Conway Springs
Council Grove High School, Council Grove
Damar Junior High School, Damar
Dighton High School, Dighton
Dodge City High School, Dodge City
Dodge City Middle School, Dodge City
Douglass High School, Douglass
Ellis High School, Ellis
Emporia High School, Emporia
Eudora Middle School, Eudora
Eureka Junior/Senior High, Eureka
Felten Middle School, Hays
Fowler Junior High School, Fowler
Garden City High School, Garden City
Garden Plain Elementary School, Garden Plain
Golden Plains High School, Rexford
Grant Junior High School, Goodland
Great Bend High School, Great Bend
Great Bend Middle School, Great Bend
Hadley Middle School, Wichita
Harmony Middle School, Overland Park
Hays High School, Hays
Haysville Middle School, Haysville
Healy High School, Healy
Heritage Christian Academy, Hugoton
Hill City High School, Hill City
Hillcrest Elementary School, Cuba
Hoisington High School, Hoisington
Hutchinson High School, Hutchinson
Iola High School, Iola
Jetmore High School, Jetmore
Junction City Middle School, Junction City
Junction City Senior High School, Junction City
Kennedy Middle School, Hays
Kingman High School, Kingman
Kingman Middle School, Kingman
Larned High School, Larned
Lawrence South Junior High School, Lawrence
Lawrence Southwest Junior School, Lawrence
Lawrence West Junior High School, Lawrence
Leavenworth High School, Leavenworth
Liberty Middle School, Pratt
Lincoln Elementary, Lincoln
Logan Junior High School, Topeka
Maize South Middle School, Maize
Manhattan High School, Manhattan
McLouth Middle School, McLouth
Minneapolis High School, Minneapolis
Monticello Trails Middle School, Shawnee Mission
Natoma/Paradise Junior High School, Natoma
Ness City Junior High, Ness City
Nike Intermediate School, Gardner
North Elementary Goodland School, Goodland
Northern Valley Middle/High School, Alma
Norton Community High School, Norton
Oakley Senior High School, Oakley
Olathe North High School, Olathe
Osborne Junior/Senior High School, Osborne
Otis-Bison Middle School, Bison
Phillipsburg High School, Phillipsburg
Phillipsburg Middle School, Phillipsburg
Plainville Junior/Senior High School, Plainville
Prairie Hill Middle School, Hutchinson
Prairie Winds Homeschool, Russell
Quinter Junior/Senior High School, Quinter
Rawlins County Junior/Senior High School, Atwood
Reno Valley Middle School, Hutchinson
Riley County High School, Riley
Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School, St. George
Rolla Junior High School, Rolla
Roosevelt Middle School, Coffeyville
Rose Hill Middle School, Rose Hill
Rossville Junior/Senior High School, Rossville
Russell High School, Russell
Shawnee Heights High School, Techumseh
Shawnee Heights Middle School, Techumseh
Silver Lake Junior/Senior High School, Silver Lake
Smith Center Junior/Senior High School, Smith Center
Solomon Junior High School, Solomon
Stockton Elementary School, Stockton
Stockton Junior/Senior High School, Stockton
Sublette Middle School, Sublette
Sumner Academy of Arts and Sciences, Kansas City
Thomas County Academy, Colby
Thomas More Prep-Marian High School, Hays
Tonganoxie High School, Tonganoxie
Trinity Catholic High School, Hutchinson
Victoria High School, Victoria
Wabaunsee High School, Alma
Wallace County High School, Sharon Springs
Wamego High School, Wamego
Westridge Middle School, Shawnee Mission
Wheatland Middle/High School, Grainfield

Participant Testimonials

“The KYLA camp gives young leaders excellent opportunities to grow and mature to successfully lead a group in a positive manner.”

- Nate Warner, Grade 12, Olathe North High School

“KYLA was the best leadership experience I’ve ever had. Before I had lots of questions regarding leadership and its aspects. Now, I know what is involved with leadership and I have a new desire to learn to do more.”

-2005 El Dorado Seminar Participant



“I really enjoyed the training today. I really learned a lot about how leadership is very important as well as followers too. Developing a project is very difficult and with this training I was able to do a step by step plan and discover obstacles.”

- Kendra Coleman, Sumner Academy of Arts and Sciences

“I loved everything of camp and met a lot of new people and had awesome counselors. I learned a lot about leadership and how to work better as a team! Everything was great and I hope to be able to have the chance again. I really enjoyed it.”



- Brittany Karndart, Grade 10,
Smith Center High School

“I will continue to bring students as I believe in the program. All that attend can't help but grow as individuals.”

- Roxanne Whaley, Sponsor, Junction City High School

“The seminar was really fun and educational. I would like to continue to attend KYLA events.”

-2005 Garden City Seminar Participant

Staff and Leadership Trainers

In addition to utilizing university faculty members and middle and high school teachers, KYLA utilizes both undergraduate and graduate students from Kansas universities to serve as youth leadership trainers. The magic of KYLA is the mentoring between college students and their younger counterparts. Below is a list of the 2005-2006 youth leadership trainers.

Kelley Kuhlmann

Samantha Butler

Matthew Arnhold

Chantelle Arnold

Nichole Bryant

Kandra Craig

Kaci Davignon

Mark Colwell

Matt Musgrove

Luke Ross

Karas Fairchild

Chelsey Gillogly

Justin Greenleaf

Cathie Klein

Gail Kuehl

Janci Kugler

Sarah Melia

Bonnie Rupke

Christie Brungardt

Andy Smriga

Courtney Schoendaler

Amy Walsh

Jamie Kuehl

Allyson Plattner

Kelsey Koerner

Megan Augustine

Alli Gilpin

Hanna Spicer

Sheylo Cox

Cody Fisher

Tyler Fisher

Lisa Schlegel

Bekka Belau



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