

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Law & Leadership Institute (“the LLI”) is a legal immersion program, with a curriculum that includes fun and educational activities and exercises centered on the legal profession. The Chicago program will run from Monday, July 22 through Friday, August 9. The program will conclude with closing activities in which the participant’s family is welcome to attend. The LLI involves a combination of classroom lectures, logic and critical thinking exercises, writing and oral advocacy instruction, guest speakers, and field trips to area law firms, government offices and courthouses.

Students who participate in the LLI will:

- Study the legal system and how it works;
- Build leadership and teamwork skills;
- Cultivate critical thinking skills through analyzing selected cases, debating legal issues and participating in a mock oral argument;
- Learn what it takes to become a lawyer;
- Develop contacts with legal professionals and organizations that provide scholarships, internships and mentors; and
- Gain insight into the college admissions process and financial aid resources.

Recognizing that the involvement of adult role models is critical to a student’s educational success, each program’s closing activities will include a component teaching parents/guardians/mentors the steps involved in helping students navigate the process of taking standardized tests, applying to college, exploring financial aid and working toward the ultimate goal of attending law school.



“The Law and Leadership program was such a great experience and I loved having extra fun activities to do. The team leaders were fantastic and I’ll sincerely miss having them around to give extra help and advice.”

“I think this program is great, not just for future lawyers but many others who may have an interest in another field. I augmented my skill sets after participating in this program. Visiting various firms was an eye-opening experience and my favorite part of the program.”

“I truly enjoyed this entire program and felt honored to be a part of it. I liked being able to visit Hoogendorn & Talbot on our own with a small group. We got more exposure to the law field because students in the LLI Cohort are so interested in careers in the law.”

“Overall, I enjoyed the program. I learned a lot about the responsibility of an alderman. The activities were very fun. Our legislation project was challenging and educational. I will definitely do it again.”



ISBA/JTBF LAW AND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Inspiring Leaders - Changing Lives



The John Marshall Law School – Chicago
July 22-August 9, 2013

ISBA/JTBF
LAW AND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
Inspiring Leaders -- Changing Lives



THE ISBA/JTBF LAW & LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (LLI) is a statewide initiative to assist students from minority, ethnic, and other groups who are currently underrepresented in the legal professions achieve academic success and aspire to a career in the law. Open to students entering the 9th or 10th grades, the program seeks to increase academic achievements by exposing students to interesting aspects of the law and a variety of legal careers. Delivered in a highly interactive environment, the program also seeks to help participants sharpen the critical reading, writing, oral advocacy, and leadership skills necessary for success in high school, college and beyond.

LLI is a collaborative partnership between Just The Beginning Foundation (JTBF) and the Illinois State Bar Association,

including its charitable arm the Illinois Bar Foundation (ISBA), two organizations long committed to increasing diversity in the legal profession. Founded in the early 1990s, JTBF's mission is to inspire interest in legal careers among young people from various socioeconomic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds that are currently underrepresented in the legal profession. Similarly, the ISBA views diversity as an integral part of its longstanding commitment to improving the profession and expanding access to justice.

Initially offered as a three-week commuter program at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago, LLI expanded to the Southern Illinois University School of Law as an overnight residential program in 2012, giving downstate students the opportunity to taste the full flavor of living and learning on a college campus. LLI's academic schedule introduces students to topics ranging from the profession of law, leadership, problem solving, writing, oral advocacy and citizenship. By assigning students "homework" in the dorms and taking advantage of SIU's "Team Building" course and other campus amenities, the residential program will also help students develop effective study habits, build their social skills, gain leadership skills, and promote a strong sense of confidence in their own ability to thrive in a university setting.

Diversity Pipeline programs like LLI provide a truly life-changing experience for students who may not otherwise be exposed to these opportunities. The program helps them envision a rewarding legal career on their horizon and traverse the educational pipeline into that career – or a host of other careers – through which they can enrich their own lives, communities and the lives of others.

For photographs and more complete descriptions of the activities that took place during last year's LLI program, take a look at the LLI Yearbook posted at www.isba.org/lawandleadershipprogram.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

LLI is offered **free of charge** to students from targeted underrepresented populations. While some of the programming will be offered through ISBA volunteers, the program needs your help to defray the costs of housing, food, and transportation for the students. Please consider joining our partnership at one of the sponsorship levels below:

Supreme Court -- \$5000 (*sponsor five students*)

Appellate Court -- \$3000 (*sponsor three students*)

Circuit Court -- \$1000 (*sponsor one student*)

Amicus Curiae -- \$500 (*sponsor an event*)

Advocates* -- \$ _____

**(Contributions will be put towards other costs associated with running the program.)*

All sponsors will receive recognition in the LLI yearbook.

Donations can be made payable to the **Illinois Bar Foundation**, and **earmarked for the ISBA/JTBF Law & Leadership Fund**. The Illinois Bar Foundation is a 501(c) (3) charitable organization.

Donations should be mailed to:
Law & Leadership Institute-Chicago Program
c/o Illinois Bar Foundation
20 S. Clark St., Suite 910
Chicago, IL 60603

If you have questions about your donation, please contact Melissa Burkholder at (800) 678-4009 or mburkholder@isba.org. If you have questions about the Law & Leadership Institute, please contact Lynne Davis at (800) 252-8908 or ldavis@isba.org.

Thank you for your generosity.