

+

# Emerging Young Leaders



+

# Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

+

## Emerging Young Leaders

*To help alleviate problems concerning women and girls as they improve social stature, and help maintain a progressive interest in college life as they prepare "to be of service to all mankind".*



# Emerging Young Leaders

## Program Overview

The “Emerging Young Leaders” Program is the 2010 – 2014 signature program of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated for middle school girls. Consisting of four AKAdemies, the program is designed to extend the vision of the sorority by cultivating and encouraging high scholastic achievement through:

1. Leadership Development,
2. Educational Enrichment,
3. Civic Engagement, and
4. Character Building.

The “Emerging Young Leaders” Program will develop skills and talents of middle school girls with potential for becoming leaders within their local communities, as well as in other venues.

The increasing demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> century have amplified the need for our youth to be

educated and exposed to innovative opportunities to secure a strong foundation and to achieve personal success. Research supports the position that middle school is an incredibly crucial period as impressionable young girls deal with issues such as becoming a teenager, parental and peer relationships, hormonal changes, body development/image and the media.

Program trainers will be the multi-faceted women of the Epsilon Omicron Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and with chapters all over the world, the uniformity in program structure for Emerging Young Leaders will look the same whether in Connecticut or Germany – all promoting a universal training program for leadership development among girls.



# The chasm between childhood and adulthood is difficult to bridge.

## Why is the Emerging Young Leaders program needed?

Young women are the fastest increasing population of HIV infections.

Females account for 46% of adolescent AIDS cases.

8<sup>th</sup> grade girls, age 13 – 14, use drugs, smoke cigarettes and are more likely to use inhalants.

1 in 10 girls report illicit drug use.

1 in 5 girls between 12 and 17 drink alcohol and smoke marijuana.

Arrests of young females for violent crimes rose 125%.

Girls are 7 times more likely to be depressed and twice as likely to attempt suicide than boys.

32% of girls have had sex by the 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Girls who perform in the classroom at age 9, 10, and 11 often perform less when in school at age 14.

Girls may receive less incentive to actively participate in class discussions with teachers and often defer to male leadership and dominance.

## What is the goal of the Emerging Young Leaders program?

The goal of the Emerging Young Leaders program is to impact 20,000 middle school girls by offering tools to help develop life-long skills:

- Advocacy
- Leadership
- Community Service
- Environmental Sustainability
- Technology
- Financial Literacy
- Higher-Education
- Non-Traditional Careers for Women

## What can you expect from the Emerging Young Leaders program?

The expected results of the Emerging Young Leaders program are to ensure academic excellence while providing learning that develops skills, supplies meaningful experiences for life-long application, resulting in productive and contributing citizens. Some indicators of program success would include, but not limited to:

- Election to office
- Zero early teen pregnancy
- Zero juvenile justice system contact
- Recognition for excellence
- Improved relationships
- Improved self-esteem
- Improved self-control
- Global awareness
- Gender equality
- Instinctive conservation
- Enhance technology skills
- Enriched community service



# AKAdemies

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated's mission is to cultivate and encourage high scholastic and ethical standards, to promote unity and friendship among college women, to study and help alleviate problems concerning girls and women in order to improve their social stature, to maintain a progressive interest in college life, and to be of "Service to All Mankind." The Emerging Young Leaders program is broken into four learning modules called AKAdemies. The AKAdemies are designed to extend the vision of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to middle school girls.

## Leadership Development



This AKAdemy will focus on developing public speaking, social, and decision-making skills. It will also provide a foundation for team building, conflict resolution, and networking. The workshops for this AKAdemy may include:

- Public Speaking
- Communicating with Parents and Peers
- Interpersonal Skills and Etiquette
- Decision-Making for You

## Educational Enrichment

An AKAdemy that focuses on giving practice drills to improve English, Math, Science, and Social Study Skills, while introducing non-traditional careers for women. This AKAdemy maybe the starting point for the young women with the following workshops:

- Transition to High School and College: entrance exams, applications, oh my!
- College Undergraduate Guest Speaker(s) / College Tour
- Local Museum Visit
- Financial Literacy



## Civic Engagement

The EYL-ers will have the opportunity to develop a list of volunteerism projects that they can implement as a group and continue individually while in this AKAdemy. The AKAdemy will allow the young women to see the good that exist within their local community and how they can become a part of the positivism with workshops like:

- Earth Day Activity
- Food Bank / Soup Kitchen: What we really do? How we really help?
- Hands-on Hartford: making a difference where you stand
- Attendance at the AKA 2012 North Atlantic Regional Conference in Providence, RI



## Character Building

There are six pillars to building one's character, which include Respect, Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. This AKAdemy will incorporate the use of modern technology and media to build our young women with the following types of workshops:

- Social Media / Networking
- Facets of Character Building
- Media Programs (includes television production and journalism)
- Myers-Briggs: Character and Personality Self Test



# Application Process

## Program Criteria, Selection Process and Important Dates

### Program Criteria

- Applicant must be a female student in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Applicant must be enrolled in one of the middle schools in Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester, or Windsor.
- Applicant must submit a completed counselor/teacher recommendation form.
- Applicant must maintain a C+ grade point average, or its equivalent, and must show marked effort, improvement or success each grade period.
- Applicant must submit a typed personal statement (minimum of 500 words), which articulates why she deserves to be in the Emerging Young Leaders program.
- Applicant must agree to follow instructions, cooperate and be well behaved while participating in the program.
- Applicant must submit a completed parental consent and release form.

### Selection Process

A committee of 8 – 10 members of the Epsilon Omicron Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority will review all applications. After careful review of all applications, up to 20 girls will be selected and notified of their acceptance.

### Application Due Date

Applications must be received by September 23, 2011.

### Applicant Notifications

Applicants will be notified of their acceptance on or before October 1, 2011.

### Program Participant Forms Due Date

If you choose to participate in the program, additional forms are due on October 15, 2011.

### Program AKAdemies and Meeting Dates

The AKAdemies will meet on the third Saturday of the month, unless otherwise noted. The AKAdemies will meet in the following order:

#### Character Building

- Saturday October 15, 2011
- Friday November 18, 2011

#### Educational Enrichment

- Saturday December 17, 2011
- Saturday January 21, 2012

#### Leadership Development

- Saturday February 18, 2012
- Saturday March 17, 2012

#### Civic Engagement

- Saturday April 21, 2012
- Saturday May 19, 2012

All forms can be found on our website: [www.akahartford.org](http://www.akahartford.org)





# + Emerging Young Leaders

+  
*To help alleviate problems concerning women and girls as they improve social stature, and help maintain a progressive interest in college life as they prepare “to be of service to all mankind”.*



+

## Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Epsilon Omicron Omega Chapter

P.O. Box 1004  
Hartford, CT 06143-1004

[eyl@akahartford.org](mailto:eyl@akahartford.org)

[www.akahartford.org](http://www.akahartford.org)