



APPLICATION & INFORMATION

Application available online at www.ymcasuncoast.org or www.leadershipcitrus.com. Applications may be delivered, mailed or emailed to: Sara Bargiel, Citrus Memorial Health Foundation YMCA, 4127 W. Norvell Bryant Hwy, Lecanto, FL 34461. For further information, please contact Sara Bargiel at 352-500-9622, sbargiel@suncoastymca.org or check out the Citrus County YMCA Facebook page. Interviews will be conducted during September and selected applicants will be notified shortly thereafter.

THIS PROGRAM WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY:



OUR DONORS

Afro-American Club of Citrus County

Contact Sara Bargiel to find out how to get your name here!

2016-2017 CLASS SCHEDULE

October 2016	Team Building
November 2016	Economy/Environment
January 2017	Criminal Justice
February 2017	Historical/Government
March 2017	Human Needs/Natural Resources
April 2017	To Be Determined

GRADUATION

Students are expected to participate in all sessions. Program days begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. and are considered excused absences from school. Members missing one program day are ineligible to graduate. Attire for program days will be determined by the activities of the day. **All class participants must attend the Team Building day.**

SELECTION PROCESS

Applications must be completed and submitted by the deadline to be eligible for consideration. A Selection Committee reviews the applications to ensure that members reflect the community at large and possess the attributes of leaders. Applicants will be interviewed by a panel of community volunteers and will be notified promptly. Members are evaluated on the basis of the overall class dynamics as well as individual merits.

PARTICIPATION FEES

The cost to participate per student is \$90 and is due upon acceptance into the program. Financial is available to those who qualify. Members of the community are invited to make contributions to support financial assistance for teens who want to participate, but do not have the resources. Youth Leadership Citrus is committed to being open to all qualified participants regardless of ability to pay.



*BUILDING TOMORROWS
LEADERS TODAY*



Youth Leadership Citrus is a partnership between Leadership Citrus, the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce and the Citrus County YMCA

PURPOSE

Youth Leadership Citrus is a series of interactive days designed to educate high school teens on community resources and issues, develop an excellence in leadership, build teamwork skills, and foster involvement in community services.



PROGRAM OUTLINE

Youth Leadership Citrus is non-partisan and in no way is a political group. Leadership Citrus provides volunteers, assists with fundraising, marketing and program support to YLC. Class organization, program management and execution are provided by the Citrus County YMCA.

Youth Leadership Citrus is a nine-month program, operating from September through May. Participants engage in five full day sessions, as well as a service project and graduation event. The program is run separate from any school-sponsored program.

On each class day, participants have the opportunity to meet community decision makers and to engage them in frank, off-the-record discussions on current issues. By coming face-to-face with community leaders and proactive spokesmen in these various areas, graduates of Youth Leadership Citrus are better prepared to assume leadership roles on their own.

A wide range of topics exposes participants to the decisions facing our community today. Emphasis is on active, hands-on experience that makes learning meaningful and interesting.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

OPENING RETREAT: This is first official group function for the new class. Emphasis focuses on critical thinking, leadership ethics, diversity, team building, and will set the tone for the year. The group will learn the history of Leadership Citrus; meet members of the organization; become acquainted with one another; learn issues in Citrus County and determine their class service project.

HUMAN NEEDS: Students will be introduced to human service needs (i.e. affordable housing issues, the elderly, homelessness, and mental disabilities, etc.)

EDUCATION: Provides insight to education available in Citrus County at various grade levels.

GROWTH STRATEGIES: Students will learn about the growth strategies that help foster the economic vitality of our local businesses and community.

HISTORICAL/NATURAL RESOURCES: Students will further their understanding of history, culture and natural resources unique to Citrus County.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Students will receive an overview of government, in Citrus County. The day will include visits to the County and City government offices and elected officials.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE: An in depth experience with local law enforcement from investigation to incarceration.

PARTICIPANTS

Each year a representative group of 17 eleventh grade students residing in Citrus County will be selected to participate. Candidates must meet eligibility requirements, and participate in a panel interview prior to acceptance into the program. Financial assistance is available.

ELIGIBILITY

Students must:

- Be an incoming junior in the 2015/15 school year and reside in Citrus County.
- Submit an application with appropriate documentation
- Demonstrate leadership or emerging leadership in school or community activities
- Commit to full participation in the Youth Leadership Citrus Program
- Be eager to learn and have strong team spirit
- Be academically sound; a B average or better is recommended
- Be willing to follow Citrus County School Code of Conduct and policy set forth by Youth Leadership Citrus

GRADUATES

The success of Youth Leadership Citrus is measured by the number of graduates who involve themselves in improving the community. The program provides situations in which interested citizens may better understand community and business functions, what some of its current or impending problems are, and how they can involve themselves in finding solutions.