



## **CLASS of 2025 PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Leadership Greater Augusta is a nine-month comprehensive training program for emerging and existing leaders that builds the needed skills, knowledge, motivation, and vision to develop a stronger community. We believe that leaders exist at every level of an organization, and our program aims to develop and enhance visionary leadership skills through positive, forward-thinking personal and professional development. We strive to educate current and future business and community leaders by exposing them to diverse perspectives, personalities, and challenges within the community.

The program starts by using the CliftonStrengths assessment, a personality evaluation tool that identifies an individual's top strengths from a set of 34 talent themes to help them maximize their potential and performance. The nine sessions are divided into major themes covering Leadership Development, Group and Team Development, and Organizational Culture.

Participants will also be introduced to community leaders, nonprofit organizations, and elected officials and encouraged to find ways to become engaged leaders within the community.

### **Key Components**

CliftonStrengths  
Leadership Journey  
Team Development  
Nonprofit Awareness  
Board Service  
Human Services  
Civic Issues  
Arts & Culture  
Living Locally  
Education  
Entrepreneurship & Ecosystem Building  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

### **Program Sessions & Attendance**

Leadership Greater Augusta is a 9-month intensive training program. Class sessions are held once per month, on the second Thursday of the month from 8:00am - 4:00pm (subject to change with notice). There is a required overnight opening retreat on September 12-13.

**Attendance for the entirety of each session is required for successful completion of this**

***program. Participants are given the complete list of dates prior to application so that any scheduling conflicts can be avoided.***

Absences for illness, or work, or family emergency may be excused at the discretion of the organizers. The participant must communicate his or her absence to the organizers prior to the session to discuss alternatives. Sessions begin promptly at 8:00am and participants should arrange their schedules accordingly. Arriving late or leaving early (without valid and/or pre-arranged reason) will not be allowed.

Participants may expect to spend 4-6 hours per month outside of class on homework assignments and other requirements. One session is a day trip to Richmond to meet with local legislators.

**If the attendance requirements are not being met, the participant will be dismissed from the program without a refund of tuition.**

### **Session Dates**

Thursday, Friday September 12, 13 (Overnight opening retreat- required attendance)

Thursday, October 10

Thursday, November 14

Thursday, December 12

Thursday, January 9

Thursday, February 13- trip to Richmond

Thursday, March 13

Thursday, April 10

Thursday, May 8- Graduation

### **Facilitator**

**Jason Boron** is the Founder of **Leading Strong LLC**. He is a strengths-based leadership coach whose primary focus is helping others identify and leverage individual talents to maximize their potential. He founded Leading Strong in 2017 with a mission to share what he discovered during his own development journey... when you focus on what you do best, each and every day, you create opportunities to live your best life.

Jason draws on his education in sport psychology, experience in leadership development, and ideas from today's greatest thought leaders to help others realize their potential. Since 2007, Jason has designed and conducted leadership training and coaching. Jason supports the local business community and efforts to build an entrepreneurial ecosystem through participation in regional organizations, including the Greater Augusta Regional Chamber of Commerce (GARCC) and the Shenandoah Community Capital Fund. He served as the Chair of the Board of Directors for GARCC in 2021. Jason graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a B.A. in psychology and West Virginia University with a M.S. in sport psychology.

### **Eligibility**

Applicants must live or work in the Greater Augusta region. Persons who are publicly elected officials at the time of selection are not eligible.

## **Selection Criteria**

The most important consideration in selection is identifying those individuals most able to utilize their leadership skills for the long-term benefit of the Greater Augusta community. The basic criteria for selection include the following:

1. Sincere commitment, motivation, and interest to serve the community.
2. Evidence of career or community achievement appropriate to age and experience.
3. Intention to seek public office, boards, commissions, or other similar leadership roles.
4. Potential or existing opportunities for advancement to top leadership positions within their own organization.
5. Occupational and/or personal commitment and desire to remain in the Greater Augusta region.

## **Tuition**

*Includes all program sessions, materials, snacks and meals*

Participants from GARCC member businesses- \$1050

Participants from non-member businesses- \$1350

Participants from nonprofit organizations- \$850

The remainder of the program cost is funded through the generosity of our sponsors. Tuition can be paid by the participant or by the participant's employer or sponsor.

## **Application Process**

Applications will be considered after the completed participant information form and two letters of recommendation have been received prior to the due date.

**Application Deadline: July 11, 2024**

**Notification of Acceptance: on or before July 19, 2024**

**Tuition Due in Full By: August 16, 2024**

**For more information contact the Chamber at (540) 324-1134 or [info@augustava.com](mailto:info@augustava.com).**

*“LGA took me out of my comfort zone and truly allowed me to get to know myself and to recognize where I show up both professionally and personally. I am now able to recognize and understand the unique strengths of others which allows for stronger collaborations, relationships, and team building.” ~ LGA Class of 2024 alumnae*

**Leadership Greater Augusta is a program of:**

