



BLACK MALE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE APPLICATION PACKET



Urban League of
Greater Pittsburgh

Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.



The Black Male Leadership Development Institute (BMLDI) is a program which brings up to 75 African American boys, headed to grades 9 through 12, together to participate in a year-long program designed to increase educational and leadership opportunities for the selected participants. BMLDI allows African American young men to take the competencies that they already have and expand them into a repertoire of leadership skills that can have a practical impact in their local communities. By creating a supportive learning community and offering a challenging curriculum and rich set of activities that enhance their awareness of themselves and the world around them, they will acquire leadership skills that can help change the outcomes for African American men and boys in this region.

BMLDI, which is co-sponsored by The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh and Robert Morris University, kicks off with a week long residential program on the RMU campus. The theme for this year's BMLDI Program is **BLACK MALE EMPOWERMENT: Rolling Up On Leadership!** Throughout the week participants partake in seminars, workshops, panel discussions, leadership exercises and hear keynote speakers nightly on topics that are related to the theme of the year, and ranging from topics such as values clarification, identity formation, visioning, community engagement, networking, the media's portrayal of African American manhood, fatherhood and personal accountability. These sessions are staffed by a faculty consisting of mostly African American male leaders from the region and beyond whose diverse backgrounds span the range from the pulpit to the boardroom. The sessions are designed to inspire and motivate the participants as well as to provide a venue for adult men role models to share their stories. The evening hours consists of fun activities and entertainment to suit every taste.

The weeklong program is followed by the **BMLDI Saturday Institute**, which is an ongoing year round series of activities and workshops on leadership development, community service, advocacy, college and career preparation, networking, presentation skills, character education and more. These activities will take place in a central location downtown, one Saturday a month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. from August 2011 through May 2012. In addition, BMLDI hosts four Saturday luncheons a year for participants and their guests featuring guest leaders in the African American community. Criteria for selection into BMLDI include a GPA of 2.0 or better, a record of good school attendance, a short essay, a letter of recommendation, and a serious interest in developing leadership skills. It is open to students attending all schools districts in the greater Pittsburgh area. The program is supported by grants from the Heinz Endowments, and The Buhl Foundation. For more information, please contact Darren B. McCormick, Program Manager, at 412-227-4241, or dmccormick@ulpgh.org.



BLACK MALE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE SUMMIT APPLICATION PACKET



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Dear Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Fifth Annual Black Male Leadership Development Institute (BMLDI). The Institute is sponsored by The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh and Robert Morris University. The theme for this year's program is **BLACK MALE EMPOWERMENT: Rolling Up On Leadership!** BMLDI begins as a seven-day residential Summit on the campus of Robert Morris University – Moon Township. Immediately following the residential summit will be the BMLDI Saturday Institute; a one-year expansion program with year-round activities that will start immediately following the conclusion of the summit and end in May 2012. The one-year program is designed to give participants an opportunity to practice and model the leadership skills and concepts introduced during the seven-day residential summit. BMLDI 2011-2012 will serve up to 75 African American male youth in grades 9-12 who want more out of life than following the crowd and getting by. If you seek to learn, lead and achieve and have a desire to stand up and be counted, our program will give you the tools you'll need to do so.

It features:

- A faculty of more than 20 successful African American men—from the stage to the board room—who will motivate you and share their stories;
- Interactive group discussions on subjects ranging from “The Importance and Meaning of African American Leadership” to “Personal Accountability,” “Community Engagement,” and “The Media’s Portrayal of African American Manhood;”
- Workshops on college and career preparation, core values, teamwork, conflict resolution, and more.

The BMLDI Summit will take place on the campus of Robert Morris University from Sunday, June 19, to Sunday, June 26, 2011. It is a residential program with fun evening activities and entertainment planned for every day.

To be considered for this year's Summit, please submit the following information:

- ***A completed application questionnaire***
- ***A copy of your cumulative report card***
- ***A signed copy of the BMLDI 2011-12 Terms and Conditions***
- ***A letter of recommendation from an adult sponsor***

Please submit your application packet no later than **5:00 p.m. May 2, 2011**. You can mail, hand-deliver, fax, or scan/e-mail your information to:

Darren B. McCormick
Program Manager, BMLDI
Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh
610 Wood Street – 3rd Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Fax: 412-227-4870
dmccormick@ulpgh.org

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 412-227-4241.

Thank You,
Darren B. McCormick
Program Manager, BMLDI
The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh

Application Instructions

- COST: The BMLDI is free to students who are accepted. The cost for the Summer Summit has been underwritten through grants and generous in-kind donations – the dollar value is approximately \$650 per student.

- ELIGIBILITY: The BMLDI is for African American male students who will be entering the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades as of August/September 2010 (not for students entering the 8th grade or for students who are graduating in June 2011). All applicants must be residents of the Greater Pittsburgh Region.

- TRANSPORTATION: Transportation to the Robert Morris University campus will be provided on Sunday June 19th from downtown. Check-in and registration will be held on June 19th from 5:00 PM-6:30 PM. Parents will need to provide transportation to downtown on the 19th as well as provide transportation home on the last day of camp from downtown during evening of June 26th. The BMLDI Summit is a 7 1/2 day residential camp only. Supervised overnight accommodations are provided on the campus of Robert Morris University.

- SELECTION CRITERIA: All applications will be reviewed by a nominating committee. The following scoring criteria will be used:
 - Completed application (10 points)
 - A copy of applicant's most recent report card displaying a "C" average or above, and good attendance (20 points)
 - Questionnaire to evaluate commitment and attitude (30 points)
 - Timely submission of application (5 points)
 - Qualifying age and grade level (5 points)
 - Recommendation from: teacher / guidance counselor / principal / coach / minister / parent / guardian / youth counselor (30 points)

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is **MANDATORY!!!** Students enrolled in the BMLDI are expected to arrive on time, and required attend all sessions during the week-long summit, **as well as the one-year program.**

BEHAVIOR: The BMLDI is a safe environment where all will be respected. Rules and regulations have been established to keep camp activities fun and beneficial for everyone. The BMLDI, The Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, and Robert Morris University has a Zero Tolerance Policy for bullying, use of drugs and alcohol, violence, threats of any kind, theft or any other disgruntled behavior. Any behavior that is unbecoming of the standards of BMLDI could result in **permanent removal** from the program. This decision is made at the discretion of the Program Coordinators, the Program Manager, and other BMLDI Staff members. Rules and regulations will be reviewed in their entirety during the mandatory orientation session.

By signing below, I acknowledge that my parent / guardian and I fully understand that by applying for the BMLDI 2010-11 we agree to abide by the terms and conditions outlined within this application.

Student Signature

Parent / Guardian Signature

The Black Male Leadership Development Institute Application

Student Information

Please print clearly. Applications are due by *5pm, May 2, 2011.*

All areas below must be completed, mandatory.

First Name (mandatory)

Last Name (mandatory)

Home Address – Number and Street

City / Neighborhood and Zip Code (mandatory)

Home Phone Number (mandatory)

Cell Phone Number (mandatory)

Student's E-mail Address (mandatory - this will be used to received communication each week during the program)

High School Name

Your Age

Grade Level as of September 2011

Do you have any food allergies/dietary requirements, or medical conditions we should be made aware of?

Parent / Guardian Contact Information

First Name

Last Name

Daytime Phone Number

Parent's Alternate Phone or Cell Phone Number

Parent's E-mail Address

Note: Upon acceptance into the Summit and 1-Year Program, additional terms and conditions will be reviewed during orientation. These terms and conditions must be agreed upon prior to applicant's full acceptance into the BMLDI Camp Summit and 1-Year Program.

Name: _____ School: _____
(Please Print)

Questionnaire

1. Why do you want to participate in this Summit and 1-year program?

-Have you ever participated in any kind of youth leadership program? **Yes** or **No**
-If yes, please list the name and sponsor of the program.

2. Do you believe you possess leadership skills? If yes, which ones? If you are not sure, please list what leadership skills you would like to possess.

3. Please name four "heroes/leaders" that you admire and why.

4. What do you consider to be the two most important traits of a good leader?

A.

B.

5. What are your hobbies and interests outside of school?

6. What are your plans for the future?

7. Please write one paragraph about how you define leadership.

8. Is there anything else you want to tell the review committee about yourself?