

LOUISIANA GIRLS
**LEADERSHIP
ACADEMY**

at

NICHOLLS
STATE UNIVERSITY
June 8-11, 2014

sponsored by
the Louisiana Center
for Women in Government and Business

**LIGHT the
TORCH and LEAD**
for girls entering
grades 9, 10 and 11



MENTORING PARTNERSHIPS

Louisiana Commission on Women
Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus
Louisiana Women's Policy
and Research Commission

WHY LIGHT THE TORCH AND LEAD?

The vision of the Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy (LGLA) is to develop high-potential leaders in community and public service through responsible citizenship. Girls will network with peers and be mentored by experienced women to develop knowledge and skills for future leadership roles.

The LGLA program focuses on:

- Communication
- Situational leadership
- Public service and responsible citizenship
- Current issues in Louisiana public policy

LGLA will include an annual Leadership Service Project. The 2014 Academy Leadership Service Project will focus on energy and the environment.

WHO CAN ATTEND?

Girls entering grades 9-11 in the 2014-2015 school year are eligible. LGLA participants will be selected by a committee of the LCWGB board.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Academy T-shirt, tote bag and binder
- Three nights in university housing
- Nine all-you-can-eat buffet meals in Galliano Hall
- Keynote presentation with nationally recognized activist Elizabeth Smart
- Special presentation with nationally recognized speaker Alexis Jones
- Presentation with New Orleans Demolition Diva Simone Bruni
- Closing banquet and awards ceremony
- Participation in a state government field trip to Baton Rouge
- Participation in the networking dinner: The First Among Louisiana Women in Public Service

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

APRIL 11, 2014

**Less talk,
more action**

This year's academy has been revamped to include:

- More interactive sessions
- Hands-on activities
- Engaged learning

LGLA CURRICULUM

Lead through communication.

- Learn to use language.
 - Promote understanding.
 - Gain cooperation.
 - Motivate and persuade.
 - Craft your message; craft your agenda.
- Learn to identify opportunities for action.
 - Communicate understanding.
 - Communicate empathy.
- Learn the benefits and pitfalls of electronic communication.
- Learn to influence your audience of one or more.
- Learn to conquer the camera.
- Learn strategies for image building.

Lead through building relationships.

- Build relationships through leadership.
 - Understand your own leadership style.
 - Understand your followers' needs and expectations.
- Build relationships through face-to-face networking.
 - Use electronic networking strategically and positively to reinforce relationships.
- Build relationships through teams.
 - Manage peer pressure.
 - Manage conflict.
 - Learn to identify allies and resistors to agendas.
 - Map political terrain and build support.
- Build a bridge to healthy competition.
 - Prepare for mental endurance.
 - Prepare for emotional endurance.
- Build relationships through meetings.
 - Learn how to run a meeting using *Robert's Rules of Order*.
 - Learn how to achieve order and be inclusive of high-potential leaders and ideas.

Lead through public service.

- Learn the ABCs of running for office.
 - Learn the tools of strategic planning and evaluation; manage a campaign.
 - Learn the power of winning with humility and losing with grace.
- Learn about policy important to Louisiana and our nation through the five E's: energy, environment, education, economy and efficiency.
- Learn to manage a service project using one of the five E's.
- Use mentors available to your team to push a competitive agenda forward.
- Learn through responsible citizenship.
- Learn through a team presentation to judges.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Elizabeth Smart

The kidnapping of Elizabeth Smart was one of the most followed child abduction cases of our time. Smart was abducted on June 5, 2002, and her captors controlled her by threatening to kill her and her family if she tried to escape. Fortunately, the police safely returned Smart back to her family on March 12, 2003 after being held prisoner for nine months.

Because of this traumatic experience, Smart has become an advocate for change related to child abduction, recovery programs and national legislation. Smart triumphantly testified before her captor and the world about the very private nightmare she suffered during her abduction, which lead to his conviction.

Smart is currently involved in the Elizabeth Smart Foundation, and she has helped promote the National AMBER Alert, the Adam Walsh Child Protection & Safety Act and other safety legislation to help prevent abductions. In addition, she has chronicled her experiences in the *New York Times* best-selling book, *My Story*.



Alexis Jones

Alexis Jones is an all-American, southern belle, Texas tomboy. She grew up in Austin moved to Los Angeles where she completed a bachelor's degree in international relations and a master's in communication management, both from the University of Southern California.

Jones discovered her passion for inspiring girls and women after starring in *The Vagina Monologues*, a progressive women's play written by Eve Ensler. Following that role, she hosted a TV show on the red carpet, worked at Fox Sports and ESPN, and was a contestant on the hit CBS reality TV show *Survivor*.

Leveraging her entertainment background as a platform, Jones launched I AM THAT GIRL nonprofit and quickly became an internationally recognized speaker, media personality, activist and author. Jones' first book, *I AM THAT GIRL*, was released January 2014.



Scott Angelle

The Honorable Scott Angelle currently serves as Louisiana Public Service Commissioner. He has served as Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Gov. Bobby Jindal's legislative liaison and as interim Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana. Angelle will assist LGLA by presenting the five E's as the academy's public policy focus.



Eric Frederick Skrmetta

A lawyer, businessman, husband and father, Eric Skrmetta was elected to the Louisiana Public Service Commission in 2008, holding one of five seats on the statewide body that governs utility providers, railroads and other public services in the Pelican State. Commissioner Skrmetta is currently in his second year as Chairman of the Commission. He will assist LGLA by serving as a judge for the Public Service Projects on energy and the environment.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



Bear Badeaux

Bear Badeaux is an improv veteran having trained at Groundlings, iO West, ACME and LA Connection. He currently has a main stage show at iO West with his group Less Hot Dog performing a unique form called the Labyrinth. Badeaux was nominated for Best New Show and Most Supportive Improvisor at the 2013 Del Close Awards. In 2014, through Southern Rivers Production, Badeaux produced and directed the winning short film at the "Mock Fest" Film Festival. He currently teaches improv at Dan Velez Acting Studio in Hollywood. Look for Badeaux in Season 2 of *Aim High* and the upcoming feature *Night Eyes*.



Crystal Rivers

Crystal Rivers studies improv at iO West and Dan Velez Acting Studio in Hollywood. She performs in the improv shows I-Intern and CATSBY. She has starred in sci-fi features *Ghoul* and *Swamp Volcano*. You can see Rivers this year on TNT's *Franklin & Bash* and as a new regular on the internet series *Heroine Legends*. She is the co-founder of Southern Rivers Production.



Simone Bruni

Out of the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, Demo Diva Demolition was born as hope triumphed over devastation. Simone Bruni, a New Orleans resident, lost everything but stayed to rebuild her life and the city. Eight years later and with a fleet of hot pink excavators, dumpsters, trucks and a crew of men in hot pink hard hats, the Demo Diva Demolition Company has taken

New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast by storm.

SPECIAL GUESTS

Lt. Col. Genny May, U.S. Marshal, Eastern District La.

Former Lt. Gov. **Melinda Schwegmann**

Lafourche Parish President **Charlotte Randolph**

Glenny Lee Buquet, Past President, Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)

Sandra Herman, President, LCWGB Corporation and creator of first Bureau of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

Dr. Laura Badeaux, Director, Louisiana Center for Women in Government and Business

Dr. Bruce T. Murphy, President, Nicholls State University

Brandie M. Toups, Chair, Louisiana Girls Leadership Academy 2014

APPLICATION PROCESS

Acceptance to LGLA is a selective process. The following criteria will be considered: 1) participation in service and leadership organizations in school, community or church; 2) offices held in organizations; 3) honors and awards received; 4) school GPA (minimum 2.6); 5) one letter of recommendation; and 6) a student essay on "Why I should be a leader selected for LGLA" (150 words).

Application deadline: **April 11, 2014**

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- One letter of recommendation from nominator (teacher, staff, community leader, etc.)
- Resume with a complete list of extracurricular activities from August 2012–present and school GPA
- Student essay (complete online at nicholls.edu/lcwg)
- Application fee \$75 (payable to Nicholls State University)
- Application form

LGLA 2014 TIMELINE

March 28 – REMINDER

- Principals, teachers, advisers, staff and community leaders **nominate** applicants.

April 11

- Postmark deadline for nominees to submit application and materials.

May 2

- Selected participants notified of acceptance.

May 16

- Deadline for selected participants to respond with intent to attend LGLA.

APPLICATION FORM - PLEASE PRINT BELOW OR COMPLETE ONLINE

Student Name: _____ Student's Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ PRINT SIGNATURE _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____ Parish: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Parent's Email: _____

School Name: _____ Grade Entering Fall 2014: 9th 10th 11th

School Address: _____ Parish: _____

Guidance Counselor's Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

T-shirt Size: Youth Medium Youth Large Adult Small Adult Medium Adult Large Adult X-Large

Mail application form, resume and payment to: **Nicholls State University, Office of Continuing Education**
P.O. Box 2119 | Thibodaux, LA 70310 | Phone: 985.448.4444 | Fax: 985.448.4552 | nicholls.edu/lcwg