The Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Program has been running since 1999. We invite you to nominate a Year 10 student to participate in this prestigious leadership program.

A unique program

- A joint initiative of Curtin University and the History Teachers’ Association of Western Australia, the program is founded on the shared ideals of John Curtin and Sir Charles Court: Vision, Leadership and Community Service.
- It brings together exceptional students from throughout Western Australia with Young Leaders selected on the basis of academic excellence, a love of history, demonstrated leadership potential and community involvement. Participants are chosen from a wide range of cultural and geographical backgrounds.
- It is free to participants, removing any obstacles of remoteness or affordability.
- Young Leaders form strong alliances that are nurtured by the program over the following years.
- Participants develop a sense of identity as Young Leaders and leave the program with renewed confidence and willingness to take on leadership roles in their communities.

We are seeking nominations from your students who have been recognised as potential leaders, have a vision for the future and are active in community or school life. They should also be excellent History/Society & Environment students—those who scored well in History-oriented subjects, who have a deep understanding of their own history or whom you would encourage to enrol in Year 11 History. Many of our past Young Leaders have subsequently become successfully involved in diverse projects that have expanded the potential their teachers had already recognised. Each year many of the graduates of the program are selected to positions of leadership within their schools. Their WACE results are outstanding, with a range of General Exhibitions, Subject exhibitions and Certificates of Excellence. Our alumni have studied at universities throughout Australia, the United States and United Kingdom. Many remain involved with the program and serve as volunteers on various committees and as Peer Tutors. The Sir Charles Court Young Leaders Program has encouraged students to recognise their potential, extend their horizons, become involved in community issues and develop lasting friendships with others with whom they now have a common bond.

Sir Charles Court was the inaugural patron of the program, addressing Young Leaders at the Welcoming Ceremony and inspiring them with his wisdom and dignity. His son, Mr Barry Court, continues the family tradition of patronage.
The 2012 program

The 2012 program theme is John Curtin’s reflection that ‘We have to point the way to better days’, improving the world and overcoming its present problems for the sake of the people of the future. During the course of the program students will meet and learn about a number of inspirational leaders: people who have confronted great challenges, personally, morally and politically. Some will be people in office, others ordinary people seeing a change that needs to be made and taking that first step. Throughout the days of the program the students will develop both their leadership and their history skills. They will be encouraged to investigate, question, judge, analyse, hypothesise, criticise and defend their findings. They will examine the vision and leadership of John Curtin and other world leaders. They will learn about cultural diversity and explore the ethics of leadership and complexities of politics. They will challenge and extend themselves. And throughout all of these experiences and activities they will have fun and make lasting friendships!

How students benefit from this program

The benefits are both immediate and long term. During the five days of the program we will offer students a wide range of interactive, stimulating activities, but the program also allows them to network with students with similar interests and abilities and to see themselves as others see them – as potential leaders. For some students this is a revelation, extending their horizon of the possible. For others, it gives the confidence to accept new challenges. Long after the program has finished, the students keep in touch with each other and develop a powerful network. We keep them informed of future opportunities, and help them avail of them if they wish.

What the students say

I have thought outside the square. Prior to this program I would not step up alone but now I realise that even as a fifteen year old, I can make a difference.

I think it is an amazing experience that I will never forget. It taught me what is the true meaning of leadership and how to show others how to lead. It helped me realise that ordinary people can do amazing things if they are willing to focus and commit to it. If you have the right mindset you can not only lead but you can do anything.

The program teaches me so much but is so much fun … I can be myself, express my thoughts and everyone understands what I’m talking about. It has revolutionised the way I see the world and has given me the kick start of confidence I need to be a leader and take hold of situations facing my community, the nation and the world.

I learned a lot, not only about leadership but myself too. It’s a great chance to make new friends, take risks, and challenge yourself. It leaves you with a great energy and makes you feel that you can save the world.

There really isn’t any way to summarise this experience. I have made the greatest friends anyone can ask for. The program teaches me so much but is so much fun and I am so sad to be leaving it. I can be myself, express my thoughts and everyone understands what I’m talking about. It has revolutionised the way I see the world and has given me the kick start of confidence I need to be a leader and take hold of situations facing my community, the nation and the world.

Please pass the nomination form to relevant teachers who may:

- Target eligible students*
- Circulate SCCYLP information through the school newsletter
- Arrange for previous Young Leaders in the school to address its Year 10s
- Select and rank the most suitable nominations
- Ensure that nomination forms have been completed and students have included their separate statements
- Include their own comments – we depend on teachers for accurate, perceptive information about students, because teachers know their own students best
- Send the nominations to the Executive Officer by the closing date.

*One or more students per school may nominate, but a maximum of one could be selected for participation.

Nominations close Monday 26th March 2012

Enquiries & nomination forms

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Download applications at: http://unilife.curtin.edu.au/community_leadership/2012.htm