



Impact Report
Women's Leadership Center

Mission & Commitments



The Women's Leadership Center is committed to cultivating confident and capable young girls and women committed to setting and achieving high goals on their paths to college and careers.

The WBLC is committed to:

- education and achievement
- mentorship and caring
- partnering and collaboration

Symbol

A cairn is a human-made pile of stones used as trail markers in many parts of the world. It's intended to guide others that follow, and to make sure they are led in the right direction.

This symbol represents the guidance and belief provided by mentors, who support our leadership interns on their path to reach high goals for their professional and personal lives. The cairn is a constant reminder to practice our initiative to "Step Up and Reach Back."

WLC Mission reached students through the Leadership Program, FBLA, STEM, FYE and other conferences **500+**

102 mock interviews *completed*

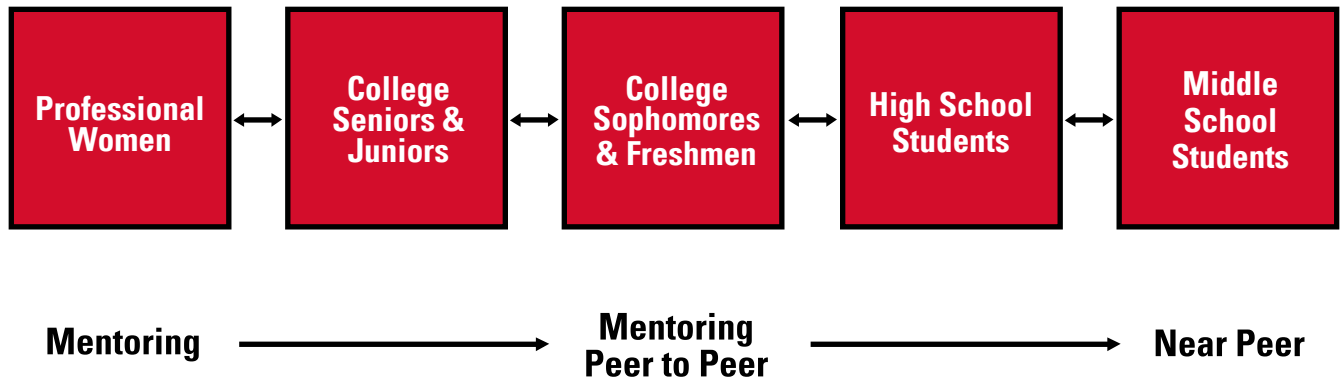
scholarships presented to leadership interns **33**

68 leadership interns accepted for Fall 2019

scholarships announced for incoming freshmen **15**

10 Reach Back community projects in 2019 

STEP UP REACH BACK LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



WLC Community Engagement 2018-2019



Community Engagement Efforts:

- El Centro Hispano in Jonesboro
- March of Dimes, March for Babies
- The Reclamation House of Jonesboro
- FedEx and Memphis Girl Scouts, Stand Beside Her
- United Way, Day of Caring at A-State
- AR STEM Coalition, Rural STEM Girls Conference
- Teen Girls Go to College in Mountain Home
- Girls Driving for a Difference workshops
 - Little Rock Central High School
 - J.A. Fair High School
 - Cutter Morning Star High School
 - Jonesboro Public Schools Gifted and Talented

Strategic Initiatives



- Expand the WLC outreach, starting with the College of Education & Behavioral Science and the College of Sciences & Mathematics
- Serve Arkansas high school girls by providing day camps on campus and summer week-long camps on leadership and STEM
- Sponsor national speakers on leadership and reach back initiatives throughout the year.
- Increase scholarships for young women
- Expand community involvement and engagement.
- Fund field based trips to businesses and communities to learn from professional women and work with non-profit organizations in outreach activities.
- Support and work with other non-profit organizations in Arkansas to connect STEM and leadership initiatives from middle school through graduation and careers.



5th Annual WBLC Conference

Arkansas State University hosted the fifth annual Women's Business Leadership Conference with record attendance at Centennial Hall. Bringing together women at every stage of their business careers, the conference is the primary outreach service of the WLC. Along with networking for aspiring career women and mentoring opportunities for executives to give back, the participants heard from a roster of informative presenters.



Conference Speakers

Dr. Jane McBride Gates

"I like closing deals in heels."

Courtney Rowe

"Grab the opportunity and milk it for all it's worth... and grab a souvenir."

Colonel Shelly Woodard Schools

"There's no right answer when you are trying to balance it all."

Angela Taylor

"Your career is your business. You are the CEO of that business and your mentors are the board of directors."



Breakout Sessions



empowEment: Leading with “We”

Presenter: Whitney Burgess

If It Doesn't Challenge You, It Won't Change You

Presenter: Rose Hankins

Mame Steward Josenberger: AR Businesswoman, Activist, and Internationalist 1890 - 1964

Presenter: Dr. Cherisse Jones – Branch



Social Media: How to Stand Out From All the Cute Puppies

Presenter: Lacey Vance

Financial Management Strategies for Women

Presenters: Susan Naylor and Aimee B. Spencer

Life After A-State: Young Alumni Panel

Presenters: Kim Dihn, Jameson Murrey, Samantha Risi, Kyra Sims, and Ember Strange



Save the date for next year's Women's Leadership Conference on April 2, 2020.

Sponsors

- Centennial Bank
- NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital Auxiliary
- St. Bernard's Health Care and Medical Group
- Women's Foundation of Arkansas
- Strategic Companies
- Clark Contractors
- Twisted Foods
- Chicken Salad Chick
- A-State Office of Diversity and Community Engagement
- First Security Bank

Intern Testimonials



“I can say I find the Step Up, Reach Back mentoring program to be one of the most effective and enlightening programs that I have ever taken part in.”
– Madeline Cole

“My favorite moment is getting to interact with the professional women and listen to their valuable advice” – Razan Almehanna

“The WLC group always makes me feel like I belong because all of the women are going through the same experiences, struggles, and stresses as I am.” – Elizabeth Wakefield



“I’ve been empowered by the women who have shared their stories, and continue to commit their time and resources to this remarkable program.”
– LaQuinta Tynes

“I have also been able to learn about myself, like my leadership style and goals. I have stepped out of my comfort zone and done things that I didn’t really want to do because of some of the advice I have gotten over these last few semesters.” – Josie Fletcher



How several leadership interns have benefitted from the WLC:

- Gained confidence while speaking and interacting in groups
- Grown to be better communicators
- Increased positivity
- Gained friends and contacts
- Created a passion and urgency to support others
- Scholarships lessened the financial burden
- Enhanced problem-solving skills
- Increased well-being and happiness
- Broadened options and interests

Thank You



Arkansas State University is grateful to have partnered with so many local leaders, along with our generous sponsors that made this year's events possible. Together we celebrated the great value of diversity and strengthened the support system for all. Our hope is that everyone was inspired to seek out new opportunities and overcome challenges because of this exciting and thought-provoking program. Thank you for your sponsorship of the Women's Leadership Center. Your support has helped impact women across our region.

Founder's Circle and Center Champions

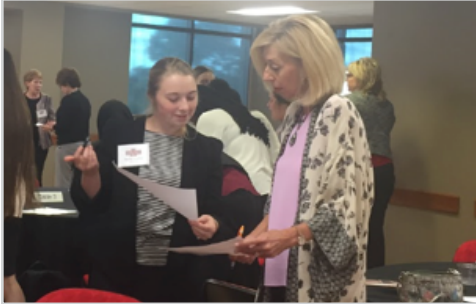


The Women's Leadership Center opened on November 10, 2019. We owe our gratitude to the women in the Founders Circle who make this opening possible with generous contributions of time and resources. Since 2016, more than a dozen women have joined as Center Champions.



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|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sandra R. Alstadt | Kathy White Loyd |
| Jaren Beavers | Karen McDaniel |
| Cindy Boyle | Lisa Melton |
| Erika Krennerich Chudy | Susan Naylor |
| Christy Clark | Laura Newth |
| Kimberly Dale | Deana Osment |
| Sharon Davis | Beverly Parker |
| Summer DeProw | Tera Payne |
| Nancy Elphingstone | Melodie Philhours |
| Nancy Everitt | Carrie Quraishi |
| Marty Floyd | Vicki Rampley |
| Lisa Sitzler Golden | Charlotte Razer |
| Nanette Heard | Patricia Quinn Robertson |
| Melissa Hendricks | Virginia Shackelford |
| Karen Heslep | Beth Smith |
| Kathryn Hicks | Beverly Nix Stone |
| Katie Hill | Sherry Stringer |
| Allison Holland | Barbara Sugg |
| Gail Hudson | Mary Catherine Way |
| Marilyn Hummelstein | Dianna Way |
| Sharon D. James | Cari Griffith White |
| Cherisse Jones-Branch | Kim Worlow |
| Rachelle Keller | |

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Pinterest: AState WBLC