

Class of 2021 Application



We're looking for people to

Lead the way!

*Congratulations
Class of 2020*

*"Never doubt that a
small group of thoughtful,
committed citizens can
change the world; indeed, it
is the only thing
that ever has."
—Margaret Meade*

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Betsy Jo Baggs
Lori Bednar
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Shelley Centini, Esq.
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Stacy White
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Jessica Yurek

Leadership Wilkes-Barre

Leadership Wilkes-Barre seeks to develop informed and committed leaders from all segments of the community who will serve, strengthen, and improve Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The deadline to apply for the next Leadership Wilkes-Barre Class is April 15, 2020. When sending in your completed application, please enclose a \$40 fee payable to Leadership Wilkes-Barre.

Applications proudly sponsored by:



**Commercial property and casualty insurers specializing
in small- to mid-sized businesses.**

16 South River Street • P.O. Box A-H • Wilkes-Barre, PA 18703

www.guard.com

LEADERSHIP: List major civic, business, and professional activities in which you have participated during the past five years. Include any offices you have held:

HONORS AND AWARDS: List any awards, honors, or special recognition you have received. Indicate the nature of your participation for each activity:

CRIMINAL HISTORY: Have you ever been convicted of, pled guilty to, or have pending charges regarding a criminal (felony or misdemeanor) offense?

If yes, please explain:

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please identify and discuss a particular opportunity or problem you believe is crucial to Northeastern Pennsylvania:

How do you think the Leadership Wilkes-Barre program can help you fulfill your aspirations as a leader in Northeastern Pennsylvania?

What experiences, strengths, and characteristics will you bring to the Leadership program?

TUITION:

Tuition for the Leadership Wilkes-Barre program is **\$2,000** and is due by **August 1, 2020**. (This includes expenses to cover all materials, meals, a professional portrait and graduation expense.) A limited number of partial scholarships are available to persons who may not otherwise be able to afford tuition. If you need tuition assistance, state the reasons: (non-profit organization, entrepreneur, etc.)

If an accepted applicant must withdraw from the program, the Leadership Wilkes-Barre office must be notified on or before 8/1/20. If notification is received by that time, the balance of the tuition will be refunded. No refunds will be issued after October 1, 2020.

REFERENCES:

List the two persons whom you have authorized to complete the required Confidential Reference Forms:

	FULL NAME AND TITLE	BUSINESS OR HOME ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
A)	_____	_____	_____
B)	_____	_____	_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DEADLINE:

Applications must be received by April 15th at:

Leadership Wilkes-Barre
4 Public Square
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
Phone: 570-270-5323
Fax: 570-970-7836
nicole@leadershipwilkes-barre.org
www.leadershipwilkes-barre.org

All applicants will be notified of acceptance in May, 2020. The Class of 2021 will be introduced at the Leadership Wilkes-Barre Annual dinner on Thursday, June 4, 2020 and attendance is strongly encouraged.



LEADERSHIP WILKES–BARRE

★ Program History and Concept ★

Leadership Wilkes–Barre was founded in 1981 in response to the community’s need for a steady supply of leaders who are both familiar with the general structure of the community, its problems and issues, and are also capable of organizing and directing the efforts of others. The nine–month core program is designed to develop well-informed, motivated leaders who have the skills and commitment to work together to strengthen Northeastern Pennsylvania. Leadership Wilkes–Barre is a private, non–sectarian, non–profit organization.

★ Mission Statement ★

Leadership Wilkes–Barre seeks to develop informed and committed leaders from all segments of the community who will serve, strengthen and improve Northeastern Pennsylvania.

★ Program Objectives ★

- Bring together current and emerging leaders representing a broad cross-section of the community: business, the professions, government, education, religion, the arts, ethnic and minority groups, service and community organizations.
- Develop leadership skills.
- Inform participants of the concerns of our community, its problems, challenges, solutions and the resources available.
- Create and implement group projects that address needs in the community.
- Stimulate a commitment and a responsibility to serve and strengthen our communities.
- Build a network of community trustees through class participation.

★ Results ★

Short–term results indicate that six months after graduation at least 60% of the members of the Class of 2019 have accepted new board positions and have joined various committees and task forces.

★ Application Process ★

Persons interested in being a member of the Leadership Wilkes–Barre class should submit a completed application and \$40 application fee to the Leadership Wilkes–Barre office by April 15, 2020. The Leadership Wilkes–Barre Selection Committee reviews each application. Applicants will be notified in writing of their acceptance in May.

★ Selection Criteria ★

- Interest in serving the Northeastern Pennsylvania community through volunteer and/or appointed leadership roles or advocacy roles;
- Ability to set and achieve personal goals resulting in a position in their career field that reflects significant achievement relative to age and experience; and
- A record of achievement in community activities that indicates a capacity for increased responsibility including positions of leadership in volunteer organizations.

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Each year a maximum of 50 participants from various sectors of the community are selected. The diversity of each Leadership class is carefully considered. Given this factor and the limited class size, some highly qualified candidates are turned down each year. We encourage applicants to re-apply should they not be accepted the first time.

★ **Leadership Wilkes–Barre Tentative Calendar for 2020-21** ★

<i>Date</i>	<i>Session Topic</i>
August TBA	Program Overview
September 17 & 18*	Team Building/Consensus (Opening Retreat)
October 1.....	Vision and Mission
October 10 & 17	Habitat for Humanity (Volunteer Opportunity)
November 5.....	Volunteerism & Servant Leadership
December 3.....	Collaboration/Arts & Recreation
January 7.....	Making Your Voice Heard: Communication/Media
February 4.....	Cultural Perspectives/Emotional Intelligence
March 4.....	Board Trusteeship/Leadership Skills
April 1.....	Government/Justice: Influencing Public Life
May 6.....	Closing Retreat
June 3.....	Annual Dinner and Graduation

* *The Opening Retreat is held on a Thursday & Friday. Attendance is mandatory.*

Monthly sessions are typically held on the first Thursday of the month from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The opening program is a two-day retreat. Program packets are designed to provide participants with background information relating to each topic. A commitment of personal time is also expected to work on projects that serve the community.

Continuing education credits are available for interested participants.

★ **Leadership Wilkes–Barre Board of Directors** ★

CHAIR

Lissa Bryan Smith, Geisinger

FIRST VICE CHAIR

James Brogna, Allied Services

SECOND VICE CHAIR

Terri Morgan, M&T Bank

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Melissa Wolf, CPA, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP

Philip Amend, One Source HR Solutions, *Chair, Advisory Council*
 John Augustine, Penn’s Northeast
 Robert Belza, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins
 Eric Bleiler, JK Financial Advisory Svcs, Jones Kohanski & Co., PC
 James Brogna, Allied Services
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 Lissa Bryan-Smith, Geisinger, *Chair, ELWB Planning Committee*
 Andrea Caladie, CPA, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP *Chair*
 Joseph Calore, Commission on Economic Opportunity,
Chair, Alumni Council
 Kieran Casey, Esq., Rosenn, Jenkins & Greenwald, LLP
 Ida Castro, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
 Gerald Champi, FNCB Bank
 Robert Chepalonis, Martz Trailways
 Cassandra Coleman-Corcoran, PA Commission for the U.S.
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 Kevin Engelman, Wells Fargo
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Karen Friar, Benco Dental
 Jack Jones, Luzerne Bank
 Stacey Kile, Geisinger Health Plan
 Thomas Leary, Luzerne County Community College
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 Frederick Pettit, Esq., King’s College
 Brian Stahl, Esq., Hourigan, Kluger & Quinn PC, *Executive Committee*
 Nicole Strauser, Prudential
 Jennifer Stull, Esq., PNC Bank
 Wico van Genderen, The Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business &
 Industry
 Rachel Wiernusz, Community Bank, N.A.
 Carl Witkowski, III, Group Capital, LLC
 Melissa Wolf, CPA, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
 Michael Wood, Wilkes University
 John Zemetro, Navient



Leadership Wilkes-Barre Sponsor & Participant Agreement

Leadership Wilkes-Barre requires the participant to attend all-day seminars on the first Thursday of each month from September through May, beginning with a two-day retreat on September 17th and 18th.

TO THE SPONSOR:

Nominees for the Leadership Wilkes-Barre program must have the support and commitment of their business or organization. The signature of the applicant's supervisor is necessary as an indication of support for participation in the program.

_____ has my full support for the time and personal commitment required to participate effectively in Leadership Wilkes-Barre.

Sponsor's Name (please print): _____

Title: _____

Business/Company: _____

Business Address: _____

Signature: _____ *Date:* _____

E-mail Address: _____

TO THE PARTICIPANT:

As a participant in Leadership Wilkes-Barre, I am willing to attend all of the functions sponsored by the program, and I understand that attendance at the retreat is mandatory. I also agree to miss no more than two seminars.

Participant's Name (please print): _____

Title: _____

Business/Company: _____

Signature: _____ *Date:* _____

**Please return this form to Leadership Wilkes-Barre
with your completed application and a \$40 application fee.
Checks should be made payable to Leadership Wilkes-Barre.**



LEADERSHIP WILKES–BARRE

You have been asked to complete a reference form for a candidate for Leadership Wilkes–Barre, a program designed for men and women interested in leadership development and service to the community.

Leadership Wilkes–Barre offers selected men and women an opportunity to acquire the personal skills and gain the community knowledge necessary for the exercise of effective volunteer leadership. The nine month course of study which begins in September has been designed to teach leadership skills and explore the major components of community life: the legal system, human services, the environment, the economy, local government, workforce issues, diversity, the media and board membership. Experienced community leaders and professionals participate in each seminar.

Participants for the program will be selected on the basis of completed application and reference forms which must be returned **before April 15th**. Preference will be given to candidates who, in addition to their potential for leadership, would contribute to the overall diversity and strength of the class.

Leadership Wilkes–Barre is a member of the Community Leadership Association.

Please complete **both sides** of this form and return it **before April 15th** to:

LEADERSHIP WILKES–BARRE
FOUR PUBLIC SQUARE
WILKES–BARRE, PA 18701
PHONE: (570) 270-5323 FAX: (570) 970-7836
E-MAIL: NICOLE@leadershipwilkes-barre.org

I recommend _____ for participation in Leadership Wilkes–Barre.

Reference Name	Position/Title
Company/Business	
Address	City/State/Zip
Telephone Number	
Reference Signature	Date

(over)

**LEADERSHIP WILKES-BARRE
CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE FORM (cont.)**

Please type or print

How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?

Please evaluate the applicant in the categories below:

	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Superior	Unknown
Communication Skills					
Cooperation					
Creativity					
Dependability					
Energy Level					
Initiative					
Judgment					
Leadership Potential					

Why do you believe this applicant should participate in Leadership Wilkes-Barre?

Please return to Leadership Wilkes-Barre before April 15, 2020.