MAYOR'S
YOUTH LEADERSHIP
CORPS
Everyone always says that young people are the “leaders of tomorrow.” But how do they reach that destination without the right direction and support today. The City of Boston and Mayor Raymond L. Flynn—in partnership with Northeastern University and the Boston Bar Association—have established a program to provide that direction and support.

The goal of the Mayor’s Youth Leadership Corps is to provide the opportunities and experiences that will promote and encourage the next generation of Boston’s leaders.
The Mayor’s Youth Leadership Corps will be a group of hard working young people from all of Boston’s neighborhoods.

Chosen after their sophomore year of high school, corps members will be given a year they will never forget—and a year they can build on for the rest of their lives.
The program’s field experiences, curriculum and activities will begin during students’ junior year—after school hours, on weekends and during vacation periods.

At the end of the school year, members will be placed in internships in some of the most interesting and productive summer jobs available in the City.

**Field Experiences**  Young people will meet the people who are the leaders of today. They will learn from academic, government officials, business people and people in the arts, who will talk about not just about who they are and what they do today, but how they got there and what it takes to lead and succeed.

Trips will range from visits to Washington, D.C. and meetings with members of Congress to spending time with Chief Executive Officers in Boston office towers. There will also be opportunities to attend cultural and sports events and to meet performing artists and athletes.
Curriculum  Young people selected for this program will learn about the history of Boston and all of its neighborhoods and the contributions of various immigrant and ethnic groups. They will study the challenges and problems facing Boston, its neighborhoods and its people—especially its young people—today.

Activities  Members of the corps will be expected to work hard, but they will also be given the chance to have fun. A range of activities will be provided, both to give young people a chance to develop leadership and communication skills, and a chance to enjoy themselves through activities like whitewater rafting and camping expeditions.

Internships  After spending the academic year in the program, corps members will orient the next year’s group, then be placed in summer internship positions related to their interests and career aspirations.

Community Service  An important emphasis of the program will be an individual’s responsibility to help others, to serve, to give something back. Not only will corps members learn the problems faced by the City, its neighborhoods and people, they will be expected to become a part of the solutions as well.
Leadership & Working Together
Throughout the program, the quality of leadership will be stressed, explored and encouraged.

Young people will be taught the importance of individual responsibility, discipline, self respect and respect for others as well as the value of hard work.

An emphasis will also be placed on bringing these young people together as a group, and on encouraging members to form friendships with one another and succeeding groups—creating a leadership network for the City of Boston in the future.

Support Young people chosen for the Mayor's Youth Leadership Corps will be given all the encouragement and assistance necessary to take part in this program.

In addition to receiving a salary from their summer internships, corps members will receive a small stipend during the school year and a lump sum scholarship upon completion of the program.

Members will be provided with tutoring, and academic and career counseling to help them make decisions for the future. A mentoring program involving both college students and adults will be established.
Site  Headquarters of the Mayor’s Youth Leadership Corps will be the James Michael Curley House in Jamaica Plain. Discussions will take place around the fireplace of the large living room, and small dinners in the mahogany paneled dining room of the Georgian Revival mansion that was the residence of the former Mayor of Boston and Governor of Massachusetts.

But the real “home” for the Mayor’s Youth Leadership Corps will be the entire City of Boston and all that it offers. The real hosts will be Mayor Flynn, the people of Boston, Northeastern University, the Boston Bar Association and all of the other people and institutions who will take part in the program because they care about Boston’s young people and Boston’s future.
Selection  Corps members will be nominated by principals, teachers, community, business and religious leaders, parents and peers for the leadership qualities they have already begun to show. Selection will be based on conduct, character and contributions to community, as much as achievements in academics or other areas.

If you are a young person interested in becoming a corps member, please fill out and send in the attached card for an application.

If you know young people who should be considered for this program, please recommend them and urge them to apply.

For more information on applying or nominating young people, contact the principal's office of any Boston high school—public, parochial or private—or write to the Mayor's Youth Leadership Corps, 350 The Jamaicaway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

As our future depends on our leaders tomorrow, those leaders depend on our support today.
Russ Sparkman

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