

March 10, 2008

Dear GSA or student club member,

GSA for Safe Schools is now accepting applications for our Leadership Training Institute (LTI), which is scheduled for **August 23-25, 2008**. You might have heard about it from past participants. This year's event will be held at the MacKenzie Environmental Education Center in Poynette, WI. Please consider applying!

LTI builds and fosters student leaders who want to create safe schools for LGBT youth and their allies in Wisconsin. Students are selected to participate in LTI based on demonstrated or potential leadership capacity. You don't already have to be a leader in your club or school to apply - we want to help you develop these skills! Our goal is to increase the number of trained student organizers throughout the state.

Enrollment for LTI will be capped at 30 total participants. The registration fee is \$60. Selected participants are encouraged to approach their GSA, student club, or school to help cover the cost of this program, if needed. Scholarships are available to students who demonstrate financial need and are unable to work with their school or club to cover the fee. **The registration fee is not due until after you have been notified of your acceptance into the program. Send no money now.**

IMPORTANT: There is a general limit of TWO students from any one GSA or school. As such, make sure to be thorough in your application. Once all applications have been received and reviewed, we will notify you as to your status as a candidate. A member of the LTI planning committee might contact you before then to ask additional questions. PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CREATE A STRONG APPLICATION.

The application and registration deadline is Noon on Friday, June 13, 2008. Available spots filling up quickly. Apply NOW.

Please don't hesitate to call me or email me with questions: 608.661.4141 or brianj@gsaforsafeschools.org. If you are interested in learning how to make an even bigger difference in our school and communities, here's your chance!

Sincerely,

Brian J.

P.S.

Please share the following letter with your parent(s) and/or guardian(s)!



2008 Leadership Training Institute

Dear Parent and/or Guardian,

GSA for Safe Schools's 9th Annual Leadership Training Institute is a three-day workshop for Wisconsin high school-age students who are identified as either current or emerging leaders in their gay-straight alliance, student club, or school. The purpose of this event is to assist students develop life-long leadership skills through a series of challenges, workshops, and experiential opportunities. The event will involve a maximum of 30 participants and will be held at the MacKenzie Environmental Education Center in Poynette, WI.

Youth will return to their schools with the skill and commitment to move their club forward. LTI graduates will take on additional responsibilities throughout the course of the '08-'09 school year (outlined in enclosed Application). These responsibilities are designed to challenge participants to share and apply what they learn at LTI, as well as to provide concrete activities through which to engage their student clubs and/or school communities. LTI graduates will receive ongoing support from our staff to assist them in successfully achieving their goals and responsibilities.

Registration is \$60 per participant. This includes housing, meals, supplies and materials. *Please do not send any money with this application.* Payment will be collected after notification of acceptance. Please note that a limited number of scholarships are available for students with financial need.

Completed registration and application forms are due on Friday, April 18, 2008.

Staff for the event includes both GSA for Safe Schools program staff as well as many of the regular adult volunteers, school educators and program staff from partnering agencies. We are working with local and state-wide organizations to build a team of caring professionals to ensure a positive, safe, and empowering learning environment for your young person.

As someone who has been working professionally with youth for more than thirteen years, I welcome and appreciate inquiries from parents and guardians about the activities in which their young people choose to participate. I encourage you to contact me with any questions.

Thanks for your ongoing support of your young person.

Sincerely,

Brian Juchems, Program Director
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