



LEADERSHIP PASADENA

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LEADERSHIP PASADENA: CLASS GRADUATION, HONORING MARY DONNELLY-CROCKER and MIKALA RAHN, AND LAUNCH OF NEW YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

In a festive evening celebration, Leadership Pasadena will graduate the class of 2011, honor community leaders Mary Donnelly-Crocker and Mikala Rahn, and launch a new youth leadership program – *Inspire Pasadena*.

On Friday, May 13, business, government and community leaders from throughout the greater Pasadena area will attend the graduation ceremonies for the Leadership Pasadena class of 2011. The celebration will take place at 6:00 p.m. on the west upper terrace at Paseo Colorado at 280 East Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena, Calif.

The 10 Leadership Pasadena graduates, who engaged in eight months of leadership training and personal training, represent a cross-section of Pasadena businesses, non-profit organizations, educational institutions and local government. This year marks the 12th graduation, and the class of 2011 will join more than 200 Leadership Pasadena graduates stepping forward to make a difference in this community.

Also this year Leadership Pasadena is delighted to announce a new program to encompass youth leadership - *Inspire Pasadena*. Designed for teenagers aged 13-18, *Inspire Pasadena* is an eight-week program that uses the arts, physical education or other contextual pieces as an inspirational vehicle to nurture leadership, teamwork, talent and creativity. The *Inspire Pasadena* program will include students from various educational institutions and will allow them to explore various art forms, expose them to career opportunities in the arts and sciences, help them build basic life skills and teach them the value of teamwork. The program also will partner each student with a mentor, job training and internship opportunity in order to continue the development of the positive life experiences gained during the eight weeks.

At this year's graduation ceremony, two prominent and active community members will receive the Leadership Pasadena "Friends of the Program": Mary Donnelly-Crocker, Executive Director of Young and Healthy, and Mikala Rahn, Founder of the Learning Works Charter School.

The Friends of the Program Award was first awarded in 2009 by the Leadership Pasadena Board of

Directors. The award is presented annually to individuals or organizations for exceptional support of Leadership Pasadena. The class of 2011 executed their class projects with Young and Healthy and Learning Works, and this award is given to honor these partners for their valuable support.

Leadership Pasadena participants deeply examine local issues from multiple perspectives and engage each other, their respective organizations and the community in seeking solutions. Upon graduating, each will join the organization's 'Alumni Network,' and will carry on these projects, create and collaborate on new ones, sit on boards and commissions and continue being productive and effective citizens in the community.

Free information sessions about participation in the 2011/2012 Leadership Pasadena class are regularly held. Please call us for upcoming dates and how to register. We are accepting applications now for the new class beginning in September 2011. For more information about Leadership Pasadena visit www.leadershippasadena.org, email info@leadershippasadena.org or call (626) 577-2296.

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