

Letter from the Executive Director – March 2023

These are tricky times, aren't they? Times of flux and times of growth.

We're so fortunate to count among our new generation of Future Leaders Academy youth who bring high integrity, sincere purpose, and grit. Hawa, Adaolisa, Ibrahima and Elijah have clear ideas of what they hope to contribute to our world in the future, as leaders in their chosen fields and communities. They are also emblematic of a new generation of youth who are inspired to give back, who have a social purpose in addition to clear personal goals.

What is also clear is their leadership qualities that brought them to us now.

Whether they are waiting outside the office of a school administrator so they can hand the administrator a flyer about the a new student club they know would foster belonging, inclusion and voice among students who are not always heard at school, or they are persevering through a rigorous student leadership vetting process as a new student in a new city far from home, our new cohort of Future Leaders inspire hope for the future.

They are students from Saint Paul Public Schools. Children of immigrants. Muslim, Christian, and agnostic in their faith. They are Future Leaders who come together each month to share their own stories and reflect on how they hold themselves as leaders

each day in relation to their personal values.

We've just begun our 18-month Future Leaders Academy. We have so much to look forward to as we gather for a Leadership Workshop session each month and transition to the 12-month Mentorship in June.

Please consider joining our team of dedicated, talented, and busy professionals who have brought the mentorship to life as Mentors in collaboration with our 2022-2023 Future Leaders Academy members.

You have a chance to build on their learning to foster deeper leadership awareness and goal achievement as a Mentor this year, from June 2023 to June 2024.

Do you know someone in your network who'd be a good fit as a Mentor? Share our newsletter with them too.

If you have questions, please ask. Our application process is straightforward. [Mentors apply through March 10!](#)

[The rewards are many.](#)

Have a leaderful March.

– Brian Hammer, PhD, Executive Director

Follow us on [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn!](#)