

July 2025

Celebrating our Future Leaders and Mentors

Greetings and happy July!

Summer is for celebrations and each June the **Future Leaders Academy** community comes together for our Graduation Celebration and Mentorship Kick-off!

This issue of our newsletter is dedicated to the people who make this program so impactful:

- **Future Leaders** (youth participants) from across the state of Minnesota, and their guests (family members, partners, friends);
- **Program alumni** who return year after year to support our community of Future Leaders;
- **Mentors**, including both new and returning Mentors of Future Leaders;
- And **our generous Donors**, who make this work possible.



A packed house for our **4th Annual Future Leaders Academy Graduation Celebration & Mentorship Kick-off** on Saturday, June 7, 2025

This year program alum Kayla Martin, a member of our inaugural Future Leaders Academy in 2022-2023, delivered our keynote address.

Thank you, Kayla! And all alumni who participated in our celebration this year, including Ella Fix, Gabe Schmidt, and Mason Bierbaum!

The Future Leaders Academy to date:

- 21 Future Leaders, representing 11 high schools, colleges, and universities in Minnesota
- 19 Mentors, including 2 Mentors who returned as Mentors for 2025-2026!



Keynote speaker Kayla Martin (second from left), along with Ryan Goulart, LaCresia King Lennick, and Laurie Hollinger. Laurie was Kayla's mentor in 2022-2023 and she introduced Kayla as our keynote during our celebration this year.

Ryan and LaCresia facilitate the Future Leaders Academy's 5-month Leadership Workshop, from January to May.

Building a Community of Leaders



Congratulations !!

2025 Future Leaders Academy Graduates & Mentors!



Learn more about our inspiring 2024-2025 Future Leaders and their Mentors:

- [Lilian Flores, and Mentor Elena Beckius](#)
- [Sasha Kirk, and Mentor Michael Goff](#)
- [Enkhosolongo \(Solo\) Sangibat, and Mentor Courtney Lashomb](#)

Meet our 2025-2026 Future Leaders & Mentors

Over the next year, from June 2025 to June 2026, our 4th cohort of Future Leaders and their Mentors will work together on goals grounded in each Future Leader's values.

We can't wait to see what the coming year holds for each of our 2025-2026 Future Leaders as they put into practice key skills of emotionally intelligent leaders. The skills were introduced during the 5-month Leadership Workshop (Jan-May 2025) and now Future Leaders will focus on implementing them in the pursuit of their goals for the Mentorship (June 2025-June 2026).



We'll be sharing updates about our 2025-2026 Future Leaders, and their Mentors, over the coming year:

- Aubree Keehl, and Mentor Amanda Devine

- Will Ahrens, and Mentor Peter Schifsky
- Lilly DeBlieck, and Mentor Laurie Hollinger
- Morgan Kodet, and Mentor Mary Jayne Crocker
- Seno Okon, and Mentor Kris Jacobson
- Julie Perez Ponce, and Mentor Megan Powers
- Piper Rigge, and Mentor Aadam Peters
- Selia Schaefer, and Mentor Devon McGrath
- Addison Schmidt, and Mentor Kris Petersen



2025-2026 Future Leaders, with Leadership Workshop facilitators LaCresia King Lennick (left) and Ryan Goulart (right).

Follow program developments on [Instagram](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

~

Looking forward to 2026-2027

Now that the Mentorship is officially launched, we've now begun [recruiting our 5th cohort](#) of Future Leaders who will begin the [2026-2027 Future Leaders](#)

[Academy](#) in January 2026.

Do you know a Future Leader? Please share this newsletter with them!

Are you or is someone you know interested in mentoring a Future Leader in 2026-2027? Please scroll down to learn more about this opportunity and help us spread the word!

For more information about the Future Leaders Academy:

Executive Director Brian Hammer | bhammer@t2pri.org | 612.843.5017

[think2perform Research Institute](#) has funded research and leadership development programs since its founding as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) in 2016.

Learn more about our:

- [Research Fellowships](#)
- [Future Leaders Academy](#) for youth

[Donate now](#) to support our mission to advance moral, purposeful, and emotionally intelligent leadership to inspire and engage current and emerging leaders.