What is Leadership Initiatives?

Marshall Bailly, the founder and Executive Director of LI, grew up in the small town of Paw Paw, Michigan and graduated with honors from American University in 2004 with Bachelor's Degrees in International Relations and Political Science. He went on to earn a Masters Degree in Public Administration from American University.

After studying in the U.S., experiencing other cultures and communities studying abroad, and watching each of his siblings graduate high school and begin college, Marshall knew for sure that he wanted to continue to help people and communities on a wider scale; to encourage them to recognize and realize their potential...

LI takes student safety and success extremely seriously. If parents or teachers have any concerns about student participation, we would be happy to schedule a conference call with the Executive Director or a member of the Board.

Contact Us

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International Business Alliance Program

Apply at www.LIIBAP.org

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Meet our Board of Directors

LI's board includes distinguished leaders from government, non-profits, law firms, and business, including...

Gerald R. Kunde II (Chip)

Leadership Initiatives Board Chair Darden Vice President, Government Relations

Blushel Ocbina

Leadership Initiatives Board Vice Chair Booz Allen Hamilton, Marketing and Management Consultant

Lynsie Hall

President and CEO of OmniLearn, LLC

Carmine C. Carullo

ExxonMobil Medicine & Occupational Health Planning & Performance Analysis Manager

Whitney Derber

Attorney at Kahn Zack Ehrlich Lithwick LLP

Hans W. Kühnlenz Managing Director, Lex Global

Bill Stefan

Senior Managing Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers

College Admissions Assistance:

"The hands-on experience I gained in international development set me apart from my peers, and I believe that the letters of recommendation I received solidified my place at Yale." Sam Peat

College Preparation

LI staff help participating students narrow their target college list and find a perfect match. Support includes:

- College Search and Application Assistance
- SAT Online Preparation Course from Omnilearn
- Scholarship Application Assistance

Mentorship and Recommendations

Participating students have access to US-based mentors from Leadership Initiatives' community of supporters. Many students are partnered with mentors from LI's board to help them plan their future colleges and careers. Our mentors include senior executives in business and government, Harvard admissions board members, and more.

Students who participate in LI programs will have a unique letter of recommendation, highlighting their international

What is Leadership Initiatives?

Leadership Initiatives (LI), an international NGO, approaches the problems of underdevelopment by empowering communities to address their own needs through focused education and local financing.

Leadership Initiatives was created to empower men, women and children around the world to determine their own futures and help break the cycles of poverty and dissatisfaction that plague many communities worldwide. LI helps entrepreneurs in the developing world learn essential business skills and connect to local funding.

Students in the United States are teamed with our international community leaders through LI's Business Alliance Program. These students help our entrepreneurs with real-world business problems, and also raise funds for our educational programming. This mutual education endows the next generation of young American leaders with a global view of management, development and leadership.

Over the past decade, Leadership Initiatives has helped create or expand 54 independent businesses, raised over 1.5 million dollars for business creation in developing communities, created hundreds of jobs, and helped hundreds of young Americans develop into global leaders.

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Safety & Media

Safety

Safety is a prime concern in all LI's programs, but especially those that involve US high school students. LI staff monitors all communications between student leaders and international entrepreneurs, and LI staff provides the translation services for phone and video Skype calls. There is no travel associated with this program, and parents and administrators will be consulted before featuring a student or school on LI's website or in the media.

"Because of the International Business Alliance Program, I changed the world at the age of 17."--- Jenny Borrello

Media Coverage & the "Internet Resume"

We love telling the world about the excellent work that our partner schools, students, and entrepreneurs are doing. It is now a common practice for admissions boards, HR departments, or hiring managers to search an individual's name and consider the search results at least as valid as the information on their resume. LI website and social media profiles, and local or national media coverage of students work could prove to be a tremendous asset for students as they apply for colleges and search for their first job.

The IBAP Experience...

The single greatest thing any student can have when applying for college is experience that sets them apart from their peers. Students who participate in IBAP help create a new business or expand a growing business in a developing country, helping solve local problems by working directly with developing world entrepreneurs.

Depending on the particular role chosen, student experiences may include peer-leadership, fundraising, communications and public relations, or project management. They also gain an opportunity to meet and network with other top high school students and business and community leaders who support the LI mission. Clearly, few of their peers will have such experiences when applying for college.

Previous Student Programs



Previous students have created new feeding methods for fish farms in Birshi, Nigeria, developed new water purification methods, taught advanced welding techniques, streamlined tailoring shop assembly lines, and more.

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