

# YLA Newsletter



YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

*A Not-For-Profit 501 c 3 Corporation*

## YLA Plans Spring Break Leadership Training Extravaganza

Volume 1, Issue 8  
March 2011



Spring break for all of YLA's serving Illinois school districts is March 28—April 1. Cadets who do not have travel plans will participate in YLA's first ever "Spring Break Leadership Training Extravaganza." Each day that week there will be a workshop or field trip available for YLA cadets, each one offering a unique opportunity to learn about leadership in their community. Cadets may sign up at the March 19 session for as many of these workshops or

field trips as they would like. Planned activities so far include a tour of Fabric Images, Inc. in Elgin, a presentation on nutrition by a registered dietician at Sherman Hospital, a presentation on the proper uses of Facebook, a tour of Robert Morris University's Elgin campus, and more. If you would to offer a leadership workshop for YLA cadets some time during this week, contact the YLA office at 847-214-6965 before March 11.

The YLA Newsletter is produced the YLA office and is distributed once per month. Any comments, questions or letters can be addressed to YLA 410 Renner Dr., Elgin, IL 60123.

E-mail:

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Phone: 847-214-6965

Fax: 847-214-6914

Web site: [www.ylaecc.org](http://www.ylaecc.org)

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### YLA Applications due March 11

That's right — if you know a current 6th grader who wants to be a YLA cadet, applications are due Friday, March 11 into the YLA office. The application is available from YLA's web site at [www.ylaecc.org](http://www.ylaecc.org).

### YLA Office Closing

Due to Spring Recess, Elgin Community College campus—including the YLA office—will be closed from March 21 to March 26. We will reopen on March 28. Thank you!

## YLA Executive Director to speak at OLAS banquet



The Elgin Community College's Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) will be holding their 21st annual Founder's Banquet on Friday, March 18, at ECC's University Business Center. Dianha Ortega-Ehreth, YLA Executive Director, will be they keynote speaker. The theme of the evening, chosen by the OLAS Board, will be "Opportunity: A Chance You Can't Afford to Lose" based on student interest in Las Vegas-style fun as the organization turns 21 years old. Dinner begins at 6:00 pm and there will be a DJ for a dance after the keynote. Tickets are \$25 per person and benefit OLAS programs. OLAS promotes a mature sensitivity and awareness of Latin American culture to ECC students and their families. To purchase a ticket, contact Gabe Lara at [glara@elgin.edu](mailto:glara@elgin.edu) or call 847-214-7425.

## Candidate's Forum Nominated for Elgin Image Awards

The Youth Leadership Academy was one of several community organizations who took leadership in the Coalition of Latino Organizations' Candidate's Forum last fall. This effort is now being recognized as a nominee in the project category by the Elgin Image Advisory Commission. This commission lifts up image-enhancing efforts from the city's residents, businesses and civic organizations.

The Candidate's Forum brought together various leaders running for public office together at the Gail Borden Library to answer questions raised by the community's Latino community. YLA cadets helped formulate the questions and inform the audience members about the positions for which they were candidates.

The Elgin Image Awards will be announced at a ceremony on March 10 at 6:00 pm in the Centre of Elgin, 100 Symphony Way. The community is invited. More information is available at 847-931-5601.

### **Gail Borden Public Library's Teen Center, Studio 270, is OPEN!**

Are you opinionated? Are you creative? Do you want to earn volunteer hours? Do you like food? If you can answer "Yes" to any of these questions, please join us. Studio hours are 3:00-9:00 pm Monday through Thursday, Saturday from 9:00 am—5:30 pm and Sunday 1:00 pm—5:30 pm. Gail Borden Library is located downtown Elgin. Visit [www.gailborden.info](http://www.gailborden.info).

In addition, the Teen Advisory Board meets the second Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM. We are looking for enthusiastic students who care about their community to help chart the course of Studio 270. Come over and check us out!

## DeVry University– Elgin Campus has free ACT Prep Workshops

When: Saturday, March 12, 2011

Start time: 8:30 am

End time: 1:30 pm

Cost: No cost to students!!!

Register at [http://www.add.devry.edu/HS\\_Workshops.html](http://www.add.devry.edu/HS_Workshops.html)

You simply click one workshop link and file out the information. Students may register for either workshops (math or science).

Materials needed: (please bring)      A standard calculator  
Note book  
Pencil



DeVry’s Elgin Center is located at Randall Point, 2250 Point Blvd., Ste. 250, Elgin, IL 60123. The phone there is 847-649-3980.

There will also be a 45 minute, optional parent financial aid workshop starting at 8:45 pm.

For questions, contact: Matthew Johnson, Manager of Community Outreach, via e-mail at [mjohnson@devry.edu](mailto:mjohnson@devry.edu) or via phone at 630-652-8205.

### Quote of the month:

Many an opportunity is lost because a man is out looking for four-leaf clovers.

— Author Unknown



**Happy St. Patrick’s Day  
from the  
Youth Leadership Academy!**

### YLA Venture Crew Swim Date

The YLA Venture Crew will be meeting at the YMCA—Taylor Branch (50 N. McLean Blvd. in Elgin) on Saturday, March 19 from 5:00—6:00 pm to assess swimming ability of its members in preparation for planning summer activities. Interested cadets may seek out Bob Faber during YLA Venture Crew meetings on YLA Saturdays. YLA Venture Crew’s #1 priority is safety! All members needing swimming lessons

# Youth Leadership Academy

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*"I AM on the path to success.  
I AM college bound."*

**Visit us online at  
[www.ylaecc.org](http://www.ylaecc.org)**

## Mission of the Youth Leadership Academy:

We engage and inspire youth to maximize their potential to become successful community leaders through the access and responsible utilization of post-secondary education.

## YLA Office Hours:

- Monday—Friday, 9:00 am—3:00 pm
- No office hours on Saturday
- Summer Schedule: Monday—Thursday, 9:00 am—3:00 pm.

## YLA Board members:

- Dr. Wes Scott, President, Elgin
- JoAnne Fields Whittaker, Vice President, Elgin
- Kevin Stark, Treasurer, Algonquin
- Jeri E. Smith, Secretary, Elgin
- Eric Isibue, West Dundee
- Eary Isibue, Elgin

- V. Elaine Miller, Elgin
- Danesa Tamayo, Belvidere
- Dr. Bruce Austin, Grayslake
- Dr. Julie Schaid, Elburn

## YLA Executive Director:

Dianha Ortega-Ehreth

## YLA Administrative Assistant:

Karen McCoy

YLA's 3rd Annual Family Fun Day will be April 30th

## Bring Your Bellbottoms!



YLA Families—mark your calendars! You will not want to miss this year's Family Fun Day. The 11th grade class will be hosting this fun event in the Heritage Room from 2-5pm on April 30th. Many fun games and interesting competitions will be available, as well as snacks and raffle prizes. The theme is 70's Disco and there will be a costume competition! The cadets are planning a very enjoyable afternoon, and we hope to see you there!