AMERICAN MIDEAST LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Who We Are

The American MidEast Leadership Network, AMLN, is a New York-based non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening bilateral connections between American and Middle Eastern youth. AMLN designs and executes various specialized programs that strive to bridge the gap between the US and the Middle East on multiple levels. Each program focuses on different groups of people according to their needs, such as educational, cultural, and professional. We believe that the most effective approach is to target young professionals and students; thus inspiring the emergence of a generation of future leaders, in both regions, who are better positioned and qualified to collaborate with each other. In an increasingly digital world, globalization lacks the compassion and comprehension that can only be achieved through immersive person-to-person contact.

E^4 Program - New York

Explore. Experience. Expand. Empower.

About E^4

E^4 NYC is an AMLN flagship program that brings a diverse group of youth to New York City. All of our participants have the opportunity to interact with everyday citizens and community leaders in an unprecedented way where they act as civilian ambassadors of their country. In an environment that encourages equality, critical thinking and respect, these young leaders will be encouraged to participate in new cultural experiences and gain a better understanding of the relationship between the Middle East and the United States.

Why E^4 ?

Our program allows participants to **explore** New York and **experience** it from various perspectives: culture, academia, history, society, and entertainment. The experiences consist of visiting cultural sites, educational and inspirational meetings with community leaders, and interacting with everyday citizens. Participants will have the opportunity to enhance their verbal communication, critical thinking, cultural competency, and leadership skills in the process. These activities will encourage the young future leaders to **expand** their minds, horizons, and worldview. The ultimate goal is to **empower** them to drive their lives forward, as well as inspire their communities back home. As proven by our track record, the program creates a ripple effect that allows its benefits to reach beyond the two week period, affecting a wider community by word of mouth and follow up actions.

Activities

Each day of the program will consist of multiple activities of varying natures, as described below:

Meetings with Leaders: Participants will meet with public officials, community leaders, academic figures, and entrepreneurs where they will engage in intriguing dialogue and thought-provoking discussions.

Cultural Immersion: New York's rich history and culture will play a key role in this program, including visits to museums, attraction sites like Times Square, iconic buildings like the Empire State building, and entertainment like Broadways shows.

Higher Education Exploration: As high school students, post-secondary education is on the roadmap of all participants. Therefore, the program will include lectures and visits to world-renowned colleges and universities that NYC has to offer, such as NYU, Columbia University, and St. John's University.

Leadership and Empowerment: The program will incorporate activities that demonstrate and inspire leadership, ranging from visits to the UN to talks with young business entrepreneurs.

Challenges and Competitions: Throughout the program, there will be various challenges, competitions, and rewards. They are designed to encourage the participants to engage more deeply with all their experiences and put their learning into action. There will be an awards ceremony at the end of the program where participants will present their work and winners will be rewarded.

Program Information

Program Duration: The program is generally two weeks long, however it is customizable and longer durations are available. Start dates are available throughout the summer.

Accommodation: Participants are safely housed in St. John's University dormitories on campus. Linens and cleaning services are provided. Laundry facilities are also available on campus. There is Wi- Fi access throughout campus. There are many options available for meals, both on and off campus.

Additional Program Services:

1. Includes entry to all off-campus attractions.
2. St. John's Ambassador Program.
3. MetroCards (for travel within New York City on public transportation)
4. Group airport transfer between John F. Kennedy International Airport or LaGuardia Airport and St. John's Queens campus.

Application Process

Applicants will be chosen based on their strong leadership potential. The selection process will be comprehensive; the application will include a combination of personal essays, recommendations and interviews. An orientation will bring the student participants together prior to departure to New York. Students will know what to expect from the program, what is expected from them during the program and what is required post-program.

For more information, please contact:

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