



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**THE RACINE FAMILY YMCA
YOUNG LEADERS ACADEMY**

**BUILDING
FUTURE
LEADERS**



TEEN ACHIEVERS

YOUNG LEADERS ACADEMY (YLA)

The Young Leaders Academy (YLA) is a year-round program consisting of three components dedicated to reversing the negative trend of low academic achievement and stereotypical behavior of youth ages 7-18 from low-income communities in Racine, WI. The YLA's mission is to nurture the development of leadership abilities and life skills of inner-city youth, empowering them to improve the quality of their life and assist them in becoming productive citizens.

The YLA uses the Search Institutes 40 Developmental Assets as the foundation of its education and leadership philosophy. The Assets are a set of skills, experiences, relationships and behaviors that enable young people to develop into successful and contributing adults.

YLA COMPONENTS

Component 1: School Achievers

An after school leadership program for **2nd-5th graders**, YLA offers homework assistance, tutoring, leadership group sessions and activities. Programming is currently held at 5 different sites: Fratt Elementary School, Giese Elementary School, SC Johnson Elementary School, Wadewitz Elementary School & 21st Century Preparatory School Monday through Thursday.

Component 2: Young Achievers

A program for **6th- 8th graders** designed to prepare them for the academic and social rigors of high school and beyond. The program combines the self-discipline of the School Achievers component, with the independence of Teen Achievers. Young Achievers component allows students to participate according to their interests, and provides students with the opportunity to enhance their academic progress, increase existing skills and pursue their interests. Participation in the program will result in increased school attendance and development of positive peer relationships. Program hours are Monday through Thursday 4:00pm-6:30pm.

Component 3: Teen Achievers

A teen program for **9th -12th** graders that offer participants college readiness, college tours, collaboration with local businesses, and career exploration workshops. Achievers also receive a free YMCA membership.

YLA SUMMER SESSION

Seventy-five (75) youth participate in an interactive six-week summer session at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI. Qualified applicants must be incoming students **3rd-8th grades**. Youth will attend academic classes in the mornings and participate in fun and educational activities in the afternoons. Program operates Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-3:30pm, with weekly field trips/community service projects on Fridays.

TEEN ACHIEVERS REQUIREMENTS

To be a Teen Achiever, students must:

- Be in **9th-12th grade**
- Maintain a 2.5 G.P.A. or better
- Participate in Community Service Projects
- Have Parents attend at least 5 parent meetings a year. (October-May)
- Meet with coordinator once a month to review goals
- Have acceptable attendance during the school year as well as Teen Achiever meetings
- Attend mandatory monthly meetings, and grade specific workshops, sessions, clubs or events
- Take an ACT boot camp during their Sophomore year
- Take the ACT their Junior year

CAREER CLUSTER INFORMATON

A career cluster is a group of jobs and industries that are related by skills and products. Teen Achievers have the opportunity to take tours of various companies that they may be interested in as a possible career opportunity.

COLLEGE TOURS

Teen Achievers have the opportunity to attend the Harley Davidson Black College Tour. The tour consists of trips to historically black colleges such as, Fisk University TSU and Lane College. In addition to the BCT, the program will also be touring college campuses in the State of Wisconsin.

- Carthage College
- Gateway Technical College
- UW-Milwaukee, Parkside, Platteville, Oshkosh, Green Bay and Madison

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Partnering with Focus on Community. Teen Achievers will be developing a City Wide Teen Advisory Board of youth leaders from around Racine County that will focus on local politics and community issues.

JOSEPH BUCHANAN SCHOLARSHIP

Two Teen Achievers who are accepted to attend Carthage College will be eligible to receive a full tuition scholarship to Carthage College each year. To be considered for this scholarship, Achievers must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Get accepted to Carthage College
- Meet the Teen Achiever Requirements
- Be an active Teen Achievers during their Junior and Senior years

The African philosophy, **"It takes a village to raise a child"** explains the critical role parents, teachers, volunteers, donors, community members, and YLA members play in helping achieve our mission.

There is not another program in Racine like the YLA. We are a member program with the goal of changing the attitudes of youth toward and empowering them to achieve success in school and life.

Members embark on the three stages of the Young Leaders Academy between a two to six-year period, depending on when they start the program.



**For enrollment
information contact**

Me'Donna Carothers, Achievers Program Coordinator
(262) 898-4765 or mcarothers@ymcaracine.org

RACINE FAMILY YMCA LOCATIONS
LAKE FRONT BRANCH
725 LAKE AVE.
RACINE, WI 53403

SEALED AIR BRANCH
8501 CAMPUS DRIVE
MOUNT PLEASANT, WI 53406

www.ymcaracine.org
262.634.1994



United Way of Racine County
Community Partner