



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE RACINE FAMILY YMCA
YOUNG LEADERS ACADEMY
BUILDING
FUTURE
LEADERS



YOUNG 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 Young Leaders Academy program, with the independence of Teen Achievers. Young Achievers 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

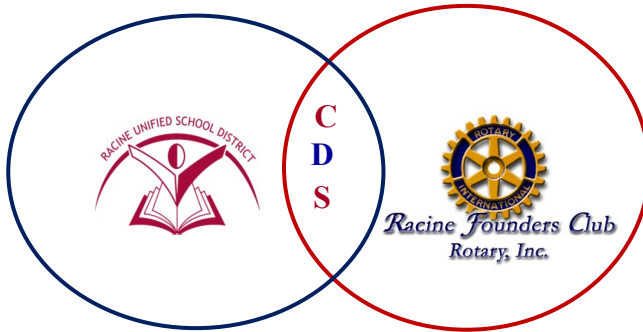
Seventy-five (75) youth participate in an interactive six-week summer session at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI. Qualified applicants must be incoming students **3rd-8th grades**. Youth will attend academic classes in the mornings and participate in fun and educational activities in the afternoons.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

CAREER DISCOVERY SOLUTIONS

The YLA partners with RAMAC, the Racine Unified School District's Career and Technical Education Program, the Racine Founders Rotary Club for the Career Discovery Solutions program (CDS). Through the CDS program, YLA members are able to make informed decisions about choosing a career path. Rotarians work with the Racine Unified School District schools to match middle school students with local businesses, organizations and government branches to involve students in solving real world problems. Through the process of problem solving, students engage in dynamic learning experiences and gain knowledge on real life situations.

Areas of Focus

- Business & Information Technology
- Family & Consumer Science
- Health Science
- Technology & Engineering



Career Discovery Solutions

YOUNG ACHIEVERS ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, students must be a **6th-8th grade** student who must:

- Maintain a 2.5 G.P.A. or better
- Enroll in Teen Achiever Program (7th-8th)
- Turn in report cards
- Attend at least 80% of program and activities.
- Participate in Community Service Projects
- Have Parents attend at least 5 parent meetings a year. (October-May)

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**

Paola Rodriguez, YLA Executive Assistant
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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
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United Way of Racine County
Community Partner