



Virginia Counselors Association's 4th Annual Leadership Academy *Cultivating Courageous Leaders 2018*

What is the VCA Leadership Academy?

The VCA Leadership Academy is a day and a half of specialized training hosted by VCA and its Executive Board leaders. Current leaders will welcome, mentor, and educate Emerging Leaders attendees through educational sessions, interactive activities, and service planning. The Leadership Academy is also an opportunity for attendees to learn about other leadership opportunities within VCA and become involved in service or advocacy projects.

The Virginia Counselors Association (VCA) Leadership Academy was designed to provide graduate counseling students with meaningful experiences that support leadership skill and competency development, and diverse opportunities to actively participate in VCA Executive Board meetings, serve on a committee, special committees, and/or engage in projects of interest, receive mentorship, build professional networks, and gain exposure to the responsibilities associated with fulfilling elected leadership positions. Overall, this experience is designed to help facilitate professional identity development as a leader in the counseling profession.

When and Where is the VCA Leadership Academy?

The VCA Leadership Academy will be held on July 27 - 28, 2018 at the Hyatt Place Richmond Arboretum hotel: 201 Arboretum Pl, Richmond, VA 23236. Accepted applicants are **required** to attend the entirety of the Leadership Academy program.

*Those who are accepted and request to be considered for grant funding in their application may have their hotel lodging and program registration fee paid for.

Benefits to Applying:

- Emerging Leaders will have their program registration and hotel lodging paid for through grant funding from VCA.
- Emerging Leaders will be recognized at the 2018 VCA Convention as an Emerging Leader during the Awards Luncheon.
- Emerging Leaders will also be recognized on VCA's website
- Emerging Leaders will be featured in the VCA e-newsletter which is distributed to all active members.
- Emerging Leaders will have the opportunity to work with and be mentored by seasoned professionals and leaders in the counseling profession through VCA's Executive Board
- Emerging Leaders will have the opportunity to develop and enact a social justice service project that is related to counseling for the betterment of their surrounding community

What We Are Looking For:

VCA is looking to cultivate the next generation of leaders in the counseling profession!

- Applicants who have exhibited exceptional leadership potential in their personal, professional, and educational careers.
- Applicants who hold a willingness to serve VCA in a variety of roles for the betterment of the counseling profession and the consumers of counseling services are sought.
- Applicants who are committed to advocacy and service to improve the counseling profession, through VCA.
- Applicants who have a distinct and unwavering value in diversity for all human life and cultural competency.
- Applicants who are interested in helping clients who are underserved, under-represented, and marginalized.

Overview of Application Submission Guidelines:

Approximately 8 Emerging Leaders will be selected from any of the following applicant categories: graduate master's or doctoral student.

Minimum Required Criteria for Qualification:

1. Enrolled in a Master's or Doctoral program in the Commonwealth of Virginia OR a resident of Virginia enrolled in a Master's or Doctoral program online
2. A student member or professional member of VCA
3. Committed to becoming a leader in the counseling profession in Virginia by dedicating their time and efforts to VCA

Interested applicants should submit the following to Dr. Monica P. Band at mband@marymount.edu **no later than Monday, April 16, 2018 by 11:59 PM (EST):**

1. The VCA Leadership Academy application
2. Your curriculum vitae OR resume
3. Two letters of recommendation describing your leadership skills and experiences, and reasons why you should be selected to serve as an Emerging Leader. (Letters should **not** come from members of the VCA Emerging Leader selection committee).

The selection committee will notify applicants of the status of their application by Monday, May 7, 2018. Upon receipt of an application, a confirmation email will be sent. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Monica P. Band at mband@marymount.edu.



Virginia Counselors Association's 4th Annual Leadership Academy
Cultivating Courageous Leaders 2018

Michele Dowdy Emerging Leader Student Application

Directions: Please complete and return the application along with your curriculum vitae/resume and two letters of recommendation (letters should **not** come from members of the VCA Emerging Leader selection committee) to **Dr. Monica P. Band, VCA President 2018-2019, mband@marymount.edu, no later than Monday, April 16, 2018 by 11:59 PM (EST).**

Important: Please scan and submit all documents into one single pdf file. In the email subject line indicate: VCA Leadership Academy Application_LastNameFirstInitial. For example: VCA Leadership Aacademy Application_BandM

Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Are you an ACA member: ___ Yes ___ No

ACA Member ID #: _____

Are you an VCA member: ___ Yes ___ No

Do you feel you are able to commit to activities, mentorship relationships, service projects, and meetings related to your professional development for VCA? ___ Yes ___ No

Are you requesting grant funding to cover your hotel lodging and programing? ___ Yes ___ No

If you are applying for the Master's or Doctoral Emerging Leader, please indicate your university and program area of study.

Master's or Doctoral Degree:

University:

Program area of study:

Please describe in 750 words or less how attending the VCA Leadership Aacdemy will assist you in achieving your professional and leadership goals. Be sure to include specific interest areas within VCA where you would like to gain experience (e.g., leadership skills, membership recruitment/retention, organizational development, professional advocacy, professional development, etc.) and any past leadership experiences that may inform your ability to serve as an VCA Emerging Leader.