

Jewish students sought for group

Cultural Leadership, a non-profit youth leadership development organization, is seeking Jewish and black high school sophomores and juniors to participate in a year-long educational leadership program to learn about their own and each other's races and cultures.

The deadline has been extended to Dec. 17. Cultural Leadership, a nonprofit organization, promotes mutual respect and understanding between African-Americans and Jews to work to eliminate discrimination. The program will start with a retreat on Martin Luther King's birthday weekend. The students meet for an afternoon in February and March, have another retreat at the end of April devoted to the Civil Rights movement, meet again for an afternoon in May and leave for a three week trip mid-June to New York City, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Alabama and Mississippi and Memphis. There are monthly meetings and a third and final retreat in October.

The last program is December. To apply, one must: be Jewish and have at least one Jewish parent, have knowledge of Judaism and identify voluntarily as a Jew; or be black and/or of African descent, have been in the U.S. for at least five years and voluntarily identify as an African-American; be a junior in high school and live in St. Louis or St. Louis County; be involved in extracurricular activities in his/her school, house of worship and/or community; have demonstrated a sense of responsibility, leadership potential, curiosity and good communication skills and agree to the commitment.

The recruitment-selection committee will review completed applications with two recommendations and interview up to 72 student finalists. Approximately 20 students will be selected to participate in each class.

There will be an informational meeting at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5, at The Heights, the Rec Center of Richmond Heights.

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