



For Immediate Release

June 7, 2023
(2 pages)

For More Information Contact:

Ellie Lindsey, Program Manager
859-219-2423
ellie@jalexington.org

**Junior Achievement Names 2023-2024
Leadership Lexington Youth Program Class**

Lexington, KY – Junior Achievement of the Bluegrass (JA) is pleased to announce the 2023-2024 Leadership Lexington Youth Program (LLYP) Class presented by UK HealthCare. Through LLYP, select students network with local leaders as they delve into diverse issues, explore local opportunities, and experience all that Lexington has to offer. Over the course of the year-long program, students will be encouraged to think critically about their vision for the future of our city and allowed opportunities to develop the leadership skills they will need to affect change.

John Mason Copeland, a 2023 graduate of the program, had this to say about his experience:

“The Leadership Lexington Youth Program gave me so many wonderful opportunities to meet and interact with local Lexington leaders and my peers. Throughout the 9-month program, each session I gained more knowledge and gained more pride in my Lexington community. I have seen a large amount of personal growth and [growth] within my peers. I have so many thanks for the program and all that came along with it.”

Following their Orientation Day in late August, this year’s LLYP students will gather one Wednesday per month to learn about and explore a specific topic as it relates to our city. These day-sessions include Local Lexington Day, Health & Human Services Day, Government & Public Safety Day, Arts & Media Day, Ambassador for Change Day, and Higher Education & Career Development Day. The program will culminate in a graduation luncheon held in April.

Due to an increase in the number of applications, this year’s selection process was highly competitive. Program Manager Ellie Lindsey commented, “I was genuinely amazed by both the high caliber and abundance of applications received this year. Despite the invaluable assistance from a dedicated and experienced steering committee, it proved challenging to select only forty-five students from such an exceptional group of applicants.”

After completing a rigorous application and interview process, the following students were selected to participate in this year's program:

Ines Agbekpenou, Henry Clay
Ayaan Arain, Dunbar
Chosen Bokuma, Bates Creek
Elizabeth Bragg-Henderson, STEAM
Eliana Brancato, STEAM
James Bruggeman, Lexington Catholic
Joleigh Buckingham, Lafayette
Kayla Chambers-Reed, Lafayette
Noah Charles, Bates Creek
Rithika Chopra, Dunbar
Bradyn Dean, Lafayette
Antonio Douaihy, Bates Creek
Benjamin Fallon, Sayre
Jonathan Farrar, Bryan Station
Aiden Gilmore, Lafayette
Sophia Haddad, Sayre
Tyren Harris, Carter G. Woodson
Nia Henderson-Louis, Henry Clay
Fernando Hislop, Sphinx Academy
Grace Honaker, STEAM
Peter Jefferson, Henry Clay
Clara Kidd, Henry Clay
Noah Leverette, Lexington Catholic

Eloise Logsdon, Lafayette
Gabrielle Massey, STEAM
Cecelia McKay, Sayre
Riley Morris, Bryan Station
Emery Nathaniel, Bryan Station
Tess Nelson, Lafayette
Carter Overtoom, Frederick Douglass
Jonathan Perez, Bates Creek
Jordyn Purcell, Bates Creek
Diana Rabiee, Dunbar
Joseph Rice, Lexington Catholic
Angelica Rich, Sayre
Zerren Stacy, Sayre
Rylan Stone, Dunbar
Grace Sun, Dunbar
Hermela Tewolde, Dunbar
Trefor Thomas, LCA
Preston Trout, Sayre
Addison Vieth, Lexington Catholic
Zola Viles, Henry Clay
Davis Williams, STEAM
Addison Wright, STEAM

For more information about the JA Leadership Lexington Youth Program, please visit the [Junior Achievement website](#) or call (859) 219-2423.

###

About Junior Achievement of the Bluegrass

Junior Achievement of the Bluegrass was incorporated in 1963 with the purpose of inspiring and preparing students to succeed in a global economy. In January of 2017, JA of the Bluegrass opened JA BizTown/JA Finance Park – an experiential opportunity for students in the community. With the support of positive adult role models who volunteer their time, JA enables students to understand business, citizenship, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, ethics/character, and work readiness. These learning experiences establish the foundation upon which today's students can acquire the skills and attitudes necessary to succeed in a fast-changing world. For more information, visit our website at <https://jalexington.org/>.