



RISING LEADERS - A rigorous and highly interactive personal development initiative committed to the advancement of Michigan's arts leaders, a program designed and facilitated by Partners in Performance, the nation's preeminent designer and facilitator of leadership development initiatives for the arts and culture sector.

Program Description

Over a six-month period, approximately fifteen participants will be chosen through an application process conducted by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council (the "MACC") to participate in a series of activities that includes three *intensives* focusing on self-awareness and self-management; mutual influence; and gaining tools to create communities and a state where everyone can experience and express creativity in their daily lives.

Participants chosen for the Rising Leaders Program (the "Program") will commit to three in-person meetings (specific dates below) as well as individual reflection work assigned by Partners in Performance, as appropriate.

A bit more information about the Program:

- The Program is focused on leaders working in the arts and culture sector. Alongside the traditional arts disciplines, MACC has a broad definition of arts and culture that includes libraries, science centers, zoos, and history museums.
- The Program focuses very much on an individual's personal skills and traits, and on personal growth.
- The three weekend intensives will meet at location(s) centrally located within Michigan.

In-Person Program Dates (*Location TBA*):

- October 16-17-18, 2025
- January 15-16-17, 2026
- April 16-17-18, 2026

** The Program is subject to funding approval by the MACC board. If funding is not approved by the MACC board prior to October 1, 2025, the Program may be rescheduled to a future date.*

Eligibility Criteria & Selection Process

Program participants from across the state of Michigan will gain tools and perspective needed to strengthen their leadership skills and develop relationships with an extraordinary cohort of peers dedicated to advancing the arts and culture field.

Sound like something you may be interested in? Ask yourself:

- Do I want to be (or am I already) involved with a Michigan organization within the field of arts and/or culture, or interested in creating an organization focused on arts and culture?
- Can I commit to participating in all three in-person sessions?
- Do I want to hone and deepen my leadership qualities and potential within my organization, community, government, and/or volunteer activities?
- Am I committed to the arts/culture field (e.g., education, work, or voluntarily) and/or want to make a deeper contribution in the future?
- Am I curious and have a strong willingness to work with, learn from, and share with a diverse cohort of participants from around Michigan?

If you answered yes to the majority of these questions, then RISING LEADERS PROGRAM may be for you!

Costs

Participant Program fees for 2025-26 are \$1,700. Program fees cover:

- Admission to three in-person training workshop weekends
- Training materials
- Room and board for each intensive (total of 3). This fee covers two night's lodging and all meals for each of the three intensives (six nights total).

A scholarship opportunity is available to applicants who may be unable to cover the cost individually or through their organization:

- ✓ \$150 discount off the program fee. 8 scholarships are available for the 2025-26 cohort. If you'd like to be considered for this discount, please email program manager Chad Swan-Badgero at badgeroc@michigan.org.

How to Apply to the Rising Leaders Program

1. Gather the five items below:

1. Statement of interest responding to the following questions:
 - Why is participating in the Program important for you at this stage in your life and career?
 - How do you see the Program contributing to your long-term goals in the arts and culture field?
2. One letter of support that substantiates the Program is a good fit and a timely opportunity for the candidate. Letters of support can come from current employers, or individuals who can speak about the appropriateness of the Program for the candidate.
3. Resume (3 pages max)
4. Professional bio (200-word max. Bio will be used in public advertising of the selected cohort).
5. Current high-resolution headshot (jpeg, 300dpi or greater)

To register and complete your application (with all five requested documents above), [**CLICK HERE**](#).
Deadline to apply is Friday July 11, 2025.

Questions?

Contact MACC Program Manager Chad Swan-Badgero at 517-881-9472 or BadgeroC@michigan.org. For those interested, you can [access a virtual informational webinar to learn more about the program by clicking here](#). Testimonials from previous Rising Leaders [can be accessed here](#).