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Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Delta Alpha Lambda Chapter
ALPHA ESQUIRES
A Youth Development Program
P.O. Box 6441 ▪ Cleveland, Ohio 44101
330-203-1906



www.AlphaESQCleveland.com



The Alpha ESQUIRES – Youth Development Program

Program Overview



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Thursday, July 18, 2013

Dear Prospective Student and Parent:

The Alpha ESQUIRES Youth Development Program is sponsored by the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Delta Alpha Lambda Chapter in Cleveland, Ohio. The group consists of young men from the Greater Cleveland area who are in grades 8 – 12. The objectives are to promote leadership development training, career awareness, community involvement, educational planning, oral communication skills and social awareness. The goals of the Alpha ESQUIRES are for each member to strive for high scholarship and excellence, exhibit good leadership skills and maintain progress toward their life goals.

In the program, students will be matched with a mentor who will meet with the student throughout the school year. The mentor will act as a tutor on subjects specified by the student's teachers, as well as act as an adult role model and a source of friendship and encouragement.

The activities between students and the mentor will be closely monitored and structured by the group's advisor and the educational activities committee. Parents, on some occasions, will have to attend orientation/program review meetings with their student. The men of the Delta Alpha Lambda Chapter believe that students will benefit greatly from having a positive adult male role model in his life. We believe that the relationship will lead to increased academic performance, self-esteem, and physical/emotional/social development.

As students progress, mentors will work with counselors and teachers, of the students school, to monitor academic performance. The mentors will be making an excellent contribution to the quality of educational performance of these students. The students will participate in monthly seminars pertaining to academics, leadership, social, and personal development at various sites throughout the city. Many of the students will also participate in an elite step team to further enhance team building and physical development skills.

The selection criteria for the ESQUIRES Program are:

1. Current high school and middle school grade students (8-12)
2. Achieved academic attainment of a 2.5 cumulative grade point average
3. In need of motivation
4. Interested in the goals and objectives of the ESQUIRES program
5. Have a career interest
6. Willing to work in order to succeed
7. Parent/Guardian permission and support
8. Complete **The New Membership 7-Step Process**

New membership into to the organization typically takes place during the Educational Activities Leadership Development Institute season (March – May). Other membership opportunities will be considered based on student interest and/or community-school partnerships. If you are interested in the Alpha ESQUIRES Program please complete the application and return based on the directions given in this packet. For other information contact either person listed below.

Sincerely,

Bro. Brandon Smith
Lead Advisor, Alpha ESQUIRES Program
Advisor@AlphaESQCleveland.com

Bro. Melvin C. Hamilton, IV
Director of Educational Activities
EduActivities@DAL1947.org



THE ALPHA ESQUIRES YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



The Alpha ESQUIRES of Cleveland, Ohio, established in 2009, are a group of young men mentored by the Delta Alpha Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. This male mentoring program is for students in grades 8-12 throughout the Greater Cleveland area. Students are engaged in mentoring activities, community service, academic enrichment, and physical fitness programs that aims to develop the young men to be productive citizens. The Alpha ESQ Men are also affiliated with the Boys Scouts of America Venturing program and the National Step Show Alliance.

The overall goals of the Alpha ESQUIRES program are for each member to strive for high scholarship and excellence, exhibit good leadership skills and maintain progress toward their life goals. The objectives of the Alpha ESQUIRES are to:

- Promote leadership development training,
- Raise career awareness,
- Engage in community involvement,
- Develop educational planning,
- Increase oral communication skills and
- Advance social awareness.



PROGRAM THRUST:

Though society tends to label the "Black Man," we strive to tear down those barriers of disbelief by developing young-positive African American men intellectually, emotionally, culturally, spiritually, socially, as well as physically for passage into young adulthood... It's all about the **"Better Making of Men"**...but when I became a man, I put away childish things. 1 Corinthians 13:11

The Facts Regarding Black Male Achievement

- Every 5 seconds during the school day, a Black public school student is suspended.
- Every 46 seconds during the school day, a Black high school student drops out.
- A Black male is 700% more likely than a White male to be sentenced to a local, state, or federal prison.
- The unemployment rate for Blacks ages 16-19 is 25 percent.
- Every 5 hours, a Black youth is a homicide victim.
- Of the black males that graduate from high school, only 45% will enroll into higher education (college, vocational, or trade school).
- Of the black males that enroll into higher education, only 33% will complete that higher education.
- Every day a Black child or youth under 20 commits suicide.

PROGRAM INITIATIVES:

The Alpha ESQUIRES strives to reach their goals and objectives and overcome many of life's challenges through these set program initiatives:

1. Improve student's academic performance.
2. Encourage students to complete high school and pursue education beyond the high school level.
3. Grow the next generation of leadership.
4. Build responsible stewards as it relates to managing finances.
5. Develop strategies to deal effectively with conflict resolutions and enhance problem-solving skills.
6. Learn about responsible manhood, sexuality, and relationship issues.
7. Discuss and understand spiritual disciplines and the spiritual gifts within.
8. Participate in social (i.e. step shows, community service projects) activities that exhibit teamwork, creativity, discipline, and commitment.
9. Use stepping to encourage physical fitness & integration of wellness programs.

ALPHA ESQUIRE PRAYER:

Dear Lord, continue to guide us as we strive to be a better man. Give us strength, wisdom and courage to face each new day. We accept no excuses, as we aim to be very thorough, even when we have only just a minute, knowing that we are the masters of our fate and we are the captains of our soul. In your name we pray, Amen.



ACTIVITIES:

Boy Scouts Activities	Mentor/Mentee Fellowships	Sporting Events
College Visitations	Peer Mentoring-Mediation	Step Shows
Family-Social Gatherings	Physical Fitness & Health/Wellness	Youth-related activities for the NAACP, UNCF, and the Urban League
Go-to-High School / Go-to-College	Project Alpha Programs	Youth Conferences
Leadership Development Institute	Scholarship Initiatives	

THE NEW MEMBERSHIP 7-STEP PROCESS:

The new membership criteria for the Alpha ESQUIRES Program is open to any male student currently in high school or middle school – grade (8-12)

- **Step 1:** Attend Alpha Esquires Informational Seminar with a parent/guardian
- **Step 2:** Complete New Membership Application
 - Program Application
 - Permission Form
 - Health/Medical Form
 - Rights & Responsibilities Page
 - Program Expectations Page
 - Probation and Suspension Guidelines
 - Recommendation Form #1
 - Recommendation Form #2
- **Step 3:** Participate in an Interview Session
 - Submit a copy of your most recent report card or transcript
 - Payment of Membership Fee - \$50. 00 (covers the cost of t-shirt, program costs)
- **Step 4:** Become involved with the activities of the Alpha ESQUIRES
 - To include but not limited to leadership training, workshops, community service, step practice (see website for Activities)
- **Step 5:** New Membership Orientation
 - Examples of orientation would be study table, group discussions, journal writing, team building
- **Step 6:** The Test
 - Alpha ESQUIRES History
 - Physical Fitness/Endurance
 - Team Building Challenge
- **Step 7:** The Invitation



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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