



2024 MEDAL Program Application

ASI's MEDAL (Molding Executives and Directors into Arts Leaders) program is forging the next generation of WNY arts leaders.

This six (6) month training program will offer participants, or MEDALists, monthly workshops and presentations, along with resources, networking, and mentorship opportunities related to managing nonprofit arts or culture organizations.

This program is uniquely designed to support administrative leaders at nonprofit arts and culture organizations. The topics that will be presented are focused on the administrative and management aspects of running a nonprofit and not the artistic or creative areas. Selected participants will represent a wide range of backgrounds, perspectives, experiences, and geographic locations.

PLEASE READ BEFORE BEGINNING YOUR APPLICATION

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria to be considered for this program:

- Must have entered a staff leadership* role for the first time within the past five (5) years.
- Must be employed at a nonprofit arts or culture organization based in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, or Niagara counties in NYS.
- Must be able to commit to participating in person for all of the listed program dates.
- Cannot be a board member, volunteer, or independent contractor of the organization.

**For the purposes of this program, we consider leadership positions any director-level administrative position, including Executive Director, Managing Director, Operations Director, etc. Depending on the size and structure of your organization, positions with the title of "manager" may also be considered.*

Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate a desire to continue in their nonprofit arts/culture leadership work and who have an innate desire to learn and grow. Applicants should demonstrate strong personal initiative and motivation, and the ability to work well on teams that include varying viewpoints. Participation in the program requires approximately 35 hours of commitment over a six-month period. Sessions will be held the third Thursday of the month between April and September of 2024. A cohort of 10 to 12 individuals will be selected to participate. Selected participants will be expected to attend every session.

This application will take approximately 20-30 minutes and consists of contact information, organization information, two narrative questions, resume/CV upload, optional demographic questions, and an attendance policy agreement.

Contact and Organization Information

Name *

First Name

Last Name

Preferred Name

Email *

example@example.com

Cell Phone Number *

Please enter a valid phone number.

Business Phone Number

Please enter a valid phone number.

Organization Name *

Title or Position *

Organization Address *

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

Organization County *

Allegany

Cattaraugus

Chautauqua

Erie

Niagara

Application and Resume

Please let us know a little more about why you want to participate in this program. These answers will help the review panel make the difficult decision about who is accepted into the 2024 cohort.

Why are you interested in participating in the MEDAL Program? *

0/5000

What are you hoping to gain from the MEDAL Program? *

0/5000

Demographic Information (optional)

Please note that your answers to these questions will not be used in the consideration of your application. This information is for ASI internal purposes only and will not be made public.

Gender

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say

Age Range

- 21-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50+
- Prefer not to say

Which of the following best reflects your race/ethnicity?

- African American or Black

- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Arab or Middle Eastern
- American Indian, Alaskan Native, Indigenous, or First Nations
- Hispanic or Latino/a/x
- White or Caucasian
- More than one race or ethnicity
- Prefer not to say

Do you identify with any of the following populations?

- Immigrant or newly arrived
- LGBTQ+
- Person with disability
- Neurodiverse
- Refugee
- Veteran
- None of the above
- Prefer not to say

MEDAL Attendance Policy

This six-month program includes an extended orientation in April 2024 and five (5) program sessions (approximately six hours each).

Program dates:

- Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
- Thursday, May 16, 2024 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Thursday, June 20, 2024 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Thursday, July 18, 2024 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Thursday, August 15, 2024 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Thursday, September 19, 2024 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

The success of this program depends on the full commitment of each participant to attend all program sessions, arrive on time, and participate fully. While we recognize that emergencies do arise, any unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the program.

Monthly session locations are chosen after program participants are selected to ensure equitable access to nearby venues. Since this program is open to leaders in the five (5) counties of WNY, there may be driving required to any of the five counties that our leaders come from. Reliable transportation and/or the ability and willingness to carpool is a must.

By submitting this application, I understand and agree to devote the time and resources necessary to complete the program. I understand that full participation is expected for all sessions and events.

I have read the above statement and I (and my employer, if applicable) am willing to make this commitment. *

Agree

Date *

Day Year