



# 2025 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, known as 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 be in an executive-level leadership\* role.
- Must be employed at a nonprofit arts or culture organization.
- Must be 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 2025, excluding June which will be held on the fourth Thursday due to when the Juneteenth holiday falls. 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 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**

**Preferred Pronouns**

**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 \***

**What year did you start in your 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 2025 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. ASI firmly believes that the arts belong to everyone and everyone should have access to our resources. This data will help us learn who we are not currently reaching and discover how we can support all members of the WNY arts community in the future. We do not share or sell anyone's personal information. If you have any questions or would to learn more about how we use your information, please contact Holly Grant at [holly@asiwny.org](mailto:holly@asiwny.org).

### Gender

Female  
Male  
Non-binary  
Prefer not to answer

Other

### **Age Range**

21-29

30-39

40-49

50+

Prefer not to answer

### **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 answer

Other

### **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 answer

Other

## **MEDAL Attendance Policy**

This six-month program includes an extended orientation in April 2025 and five (5) program sessions (approximately six hours each).

### **Program dates:**

Thursday, April 17, 2025 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday, May 15, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, June 26\*, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, July 17, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, August 21, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thursday, September 18, 2025 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

\*June's session will be held on the fourth Thursday of the month to avoid the Juneteenth holiday. 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 \***

Month   Day   Year