



# Elevate Leadership Program

**August - November 2026**

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The Elevate Leadership Program is designed for all talent at various points in their careers looking to sharpen their leadership skills, expand their professional network, and drive impact within their organizations. Elevate your career with a program that blends learning, networking, and real-world application.

The Elevate Leadership Program is your opportunity to sharpen your skills, expand your network, and position yourself for the next level of leadership.

## **Hear from the graduates!**

“I really enjoyed the program - and the amount of new information learned. Loved it!”

“It was enlightening to hear the unique career experiences of everyone in the program - it gave me a lot of perspective.”

“The Elevate Leadership Program offered valuable insights into effective leadership and personal growth. - I feel better equipped to lead with purpose and to inspire those around me.”

## **Why Elevate?**

In today’s evolving professional landscape, strengthening leadership capabilities and building strategic connections are critical.

Elevate helps participants:

- Enhance leadership presence and influence in their organizations.
- Expand their network and support system across industries.
- Develop strategies for work-life integration and executive presence.
- Apply leadership insights through a high-impact capstone project.

## Who Should Apply?

Elevate is designed for all leaders from those with leadership experience who are looking to grow their impact within their organizations, or those aspiring for potential leadership roles. Participants should have some leadership experience and a desire to take their careers to the next level. Candidates must be endorsed by their organization and approved for participation by their direct leader or supervisor.

## Capstone Project: Bringing Value Back to Your Company

Participants will collaborate in teams on a research-based project aligned with an assigned problem to find a solution to that many area businesses would be facing (i.e. how to successfully bring AI into daily operations, working in a multi-generational team, how to successfully integrate a corporate wellness strategy to enhance the employee experience, etc.)

The project culminates in a presentation to a panel of local leaders, providing a tangible takeaway that directly benefits their organization.

**Bonus:** The winning team will receive complimentary attendance to the April 2027 WLC Conference: Cedar Rapids.

## Program Investment:

\$2,500 per participant (limited to 25 participants per cohort)

Includes:

- Registration for the September in-person workshop
- Five dynamic learning sessions covering key leadership topics
- A high-impact capstone project with real-world application
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**Submit your application [here](#) by June 19, 2026 to be considered for the 2026 Elevate class. Applicants will be notified by July 1, 2026.**

Please email [info@wlcglobal.org](mailto:info@wlcglobal.org) with any questions.

## Session Schedule

\*All sessions held at the Indian Creek Nature Center in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Learning Sessions are half-day sessions (Noon-4pm), agenda outline below:

- 10am-10:30am Attendee Networking
- 10:30am-Noon Learning Session Presentation
- Noon-12:30pm Lunch
- 12:30pm-12:45pm Break
- 12:45pm-1:30pm Facilitated Group Activity
- 1:30pm-3pm Capstone Group Project Work

**August 5, 10am-3pm**

**Learning Session #1: Beyond Networking**

with Aaron-Marie Thoms

**August 26, 10am-3pm**

**Learning Session #2: Strengthsfinder**

with Traci McCausland

*\*participants will complete a full strengthsfinder assessment*

**September 3, 1:30pm-3:30pm**

**In-Person Workshop: Vanessa McNeal**

**Hilton Garden Inn, Cedar Rapids**

**September 9, 10am-3pm**

**Mid-Course Check-ins & Learning Session #3:**

**Executive Presence** with Tiffany O'Donnell

**October 7, 10am-3pm**

**Learning Session #4: Fierce Conversations**

with Jenn Bleil

*\*participants receive a copy of the Fierce Conversations book*

**November 4, 10am-3pm**

**Learning Session #5: Leadership in Action Panel**

with Jaymie McGrath, Evette Creighton, & Darcy Moulin

**November 19, Noon-4pm**

**Capstone Project Final Presentations**

**November 19, 4-5:30pm**

**2026 Graduation Ceremony & Elevate Alumni Social**

**+ CWC Holiday Social**

*\*Sessions are subject to change*