

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
MINISTERS' WIVES AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS, INC.

Leadership Academy



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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Stephen Covey, author of *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, concludes his list of habits with what he refers to as “Sharpening the Saw”. In reference to that process, it is noted that, *“Your life is a constant growth and improvement process. No one will become perfect on the first try, so the idea of habit is reinforced here. It must be practiced on and improved again and again until you become a highly effective person!”* It is in the spirit of this thought that **The Leadership Academy** for members of the International Association of Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows, Incorporated is established.

Although each minister’s wife and each minister’s widow is a leader in her respective church and community, it is incumbent upon each of us to ever strive to be an effective leader. This requires continued growth and development through acquisition of knowledge and exposure to new ideas and approaches in providing 21st century leadership to congregants and organizations. We must continuously *“sharpen our saw”*.

In response to the need to maintain a sharpened saw, during the 2019 annual convention in Columbus, Ohio, the organization unanimously adopted a motion to establish a Leadership Academy. As such, it is of dual historical significance: it is the first such academy during the 80 year history of this organization and it was presented and enthusiastically embraced during the first convention over which Dr. Margaret Brown Payton presided. Therefore, we present *The Leadership Academy*, as it makes its inaugural debut as an official appendage of The International Association of Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows, Incorporated.

Shirley Alexander Hart, Ed.D.
President Emeritus
Director of Academy

A Word to LEADERS : “Study and do your best to present yourself to God approved, a workman [tested by trial] who has no reason to be ashamed, accurately handling and skillfully teaching the word of truth. II TIMOTHY 2:15
AMP

President's Greetings for Leadership Academy

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.”

John C. Maxwell

I am elated to share in the launching of the IAMWMW Leadership Academy. The benefits of such training are many and will contribute greatly to the ongoing growth of our sisterhood. In my view, our love for this fellowship and its value makes it our responsibility to nurture and prepare other young women who will follow us in leadership.

Future leaders need to know the history of our organization from its founding to the present. They need to know the vision of our founder, Elizabeth Coles Bouey, and how each succeeding leader has enlarged upon that vision. Prospective leaders can learn the successes and failures, mistakes and pitfalls that have all contributed to the growth and development of the organization.

Leadership is all about being passionate about this sisterhood. It is about inspiring others and motivating other sisters to unite in the ongoing building of a sisterhood translating vision into reality. When I think of my involvement with IAMWMW over the years, there were devoted sisters of this fellowship who encouraged me to get involved. They empowered me to utilize some God-given gifts, talents, and knowledge and who taught by example. They had passion and value for the sisterhood. They used their time and treasure for building the fellowship and demonstrating their love for IAMWMW.

We have a cadre of some talented, gifted, and promising young women in our organization whom we must put our arms around with an abundance of love, faith, and prayer. Through this Leadership Academy we will be assured of the continued growth of IAMWMW.

We have looked among us and identified women of IAMWMW who have experience in identifying and training prospective leaders. They have shown excellence in leadership and have willingly accepted the task of sharing their experiences and knowledge in the development of our Leadership Academy.

May the Lord our God favor us and give us success. May He give permanence to all we do."

Psalm 90:17 TLB

In faith,

Margaret Brown Payton

International President

A Message from the Director

Very rarely does one have the opportunity to create and implement a vision that has the potential of impacting individuals and an organization in unimaginable ways in perpetuity. It is a humbling experience and an honor to have ones vision embraced enthusiastically. Alice Walker, the Pulitzer Prize Winning author of *The Color Purple*, says, “*My interest in creating anything is that it be useful*”. We join her in that thought.

However, the acceptance of an idea whose time has come brings with it a tremendous responsibility to provide a quality experience that will yield an excellent product. Such is the goal of this Leadership Academy. The development of effective, God-directed, visionary leaders for the 21st century and centuries to come is the ultimate anticipated outcome.

As you peruse the information herein presented, please note that this is a work in progress. While a curriculum has been established, it is not conclusive or all-encompassing and will continue to evolve to meet future societal changes. Among other themes, it will focus on enhancing leadership skills, use of ever-changing diverse computer applications and platforms, effective organizational and managerial skills, contract negotiation, fiscal responsibility, and generational awareness for successful cross-generational involvement.

Hopefully, each member will eventually avail herself of the opportunity to participate in a cohort of The Academy. However, because emphasis is being placed on quality rather than quantity, we are asked to be patient and understanding of the admissions criteria, which will result in only 25 persons being accepted into each cohort per year. Ultimately, we look forward to everyone eventually participating in this leadership development experience and applying the information and knowledge gained.

Much consideration is being given to faculty and staff. This may have proven to be the most challenging task in creating and organizing The Leadership Academy, as every effort is being made to avoid selecting members to serve on staff who may be interested in pursuing an elected or appointed office. Such persons may wish to be participants in The Leadership Academy rather than instructors. Therefore, the faculty and staff are not being presented at this time, as not all positions have been filled.

The Leadership Academy will be officially inaugurated in June 2021, as the first cohort convenes during the 81st Annual convention. Therefore, It is with much anticipation and tremendous honor that we eagerly establish the Leadership Academy of The International Association of Ministers’ Wives and Ministers’ Widows, Incorporated and unveil this pertinent information to you at this time.

Shirley Alexander Hart, Ed.D.
President Emeritus
Director of Academy

THE ACADEMY DEFINED



The Leadership Academy is an instructional appendage of the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Incorporated. It is not a separate entity and, therefore, operates in accordance with the Constitution and By-laws of the organization and under the authority of the International President. It will provide in-depth information on the organizational structure of IAMWMW INC., specifically and the function and responsibility of each officer and committee. The academy is a vehicle for fostering the development of strong effective leaders for the 21st century, and therefore, will place emphasis upon research-based leadership skills and highly recognized and accepted leadership concepts. Effective use of 21st century computer application will be a

cornerstone of both classroom and online virtual instruction.

THE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Leadership Academy is to deliver instruction and provide interactive activities that will lead to the development of strong, effective, and efficient visionary leaders.

ORGANIZATIONAL STURUCTURE

The Leadership Academy shall be composed of the following:

- Director of Academy
- Director of Admissions
 - Cohorts (25 persons per cohort)
 - Registrar
 - Archivist
 - Bursar ~ Instructors Technology Support
 - Information Technology Support
- Instructors ~ Facilitators

COHORTS

A cohort shall be composed of a maximum of 25 students. These cohortians will work through the established curriculum to gain a greater understanding of the mission, organizational structure and its function in effectively promoting and implementing the goals of the international Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Incorporated. Upon the successful completion of the curriculum, a certificate of completion shall be presented to each cohortian.

THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum will focus on 6 modules that a cohort will complete in three years. It is designed to ensure that participants are knowledgeable of the history of the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Incorporated and every facet of its operational structure. It will also place great emphasis upon the development of effective leadership skills for the 21st century. Instruction will be provided on site each Saturday before the official opening of the convention. Thereafter, follow-up and additional instruction will be conducted online via various computer platforms throughout the year and until the beginning of the next year's module. **Access to and the use of a computer are required.**



YEAR ONE

MODULE ONE

HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE ~ ESSENTIALS OF EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

History of Organization

- Purpose /Mission of Organization
- Structure and Symbols of Organization

Effective Leadership Styles

MODULE TWO

GENERATIONAL AWARENESS ~ COMPUTER APPLICATION AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Study of Generations and Effective Planning for Active Involvement

Effective Application and Utilization of Technology

YEAR TWO

MODULE THREE

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS ~ THE GROWTH PROCESS

Constitution and By-laws of IAMWMW

Organizing and Chartering of Local, State, and Nation Chapters: The Process

MODULE FOUR

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Procedures

Developing A Budget

Contract Negotiations

YEAR THREE

MODULE FIVE

DECENT & IN ORDER ~ POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

Conducting Effective Meetings Appropriately [Parliamentary Procedure]

Protocol

Local ~ State ~ Region ~ International

MODULE SIX

PLANNING, PUBLICITY, MARKETING ~ COMMUNICATION AND PARTICIPATION

Development of Themes, General Programs, and Agendas

Effective Convention Planning

Fundraising


Communication Etiquette

ACCEPTANCE/ ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

All applicants must:

- be a member of the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Incorporated.
- submit a completed application electronically to the Director of Admissions by January 15 of the year seeking admissions.
- have 3 references, one of which must be from the current president of the state organization in which the applicant is a member.
- be able to attend classes the Saturday before the beginning of the annual convention.
- have received an official letter of acceptance before reporting to class.
- sign and adhere to an honor code.

ALL active members of the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Incorporated are eligible and encouraged to apply. A maximum of 25 members will be admitted per cohort. Only one (1) cohort will be instituted per year.



It's never too late
to be what you may have
been.

LEADERSHIP



ACADEMY

APPLICATION

Personal Information

Membership Number: _____

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

Email: _____

About You

Local Organization Membership: _____

State Organization Membership: _____

Leadership Positions Held:

Community:

Ministers' Wives Organization:

Essay

Please write a cogent essay response to the following:

1. Define leadership. Why leadership is important? When is leadership most productive?
2. What is the most challenging aspect of being a leader? What is the most rewarding?
3. Have you had a decision challenged? How did you respond?
4. Discuss an experience in your life that demonstrates your character or helped to mold it.
5. Identify 5 personal qualities that you deem most important in a leader. Select One. Describe a situation you have faced as a leader that required you to demonstrate that quality.

Reference

Please ask three (3) persons, one of which should be your state president, to submit a letter of reference for you to Dr. Vickie McCreary, Director of Admissions, at iamwmwacademy@gmail.com.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Return completed application electronically by **JANUARY 15** to
iamwmwacademy@gmail.com.

Director of Academy
Shirley Alexander Hart, Ed.D.
President Emeritus

Director of Admissions
Dr. Vickie P. McCreary

International President
Dr. Margaret Brown Payton