

ABOUT SLLF

THE STATE LEGISLATIVE LEADERS FOUNDATION



“Today, as our nation faces a series of unmatched crises, the call for courageous, independent and principled leadership, wholly dedicated to rebuilding the public’s trust in our institutions of government, has never been greater. If we are to dig ourselves out of this morass of hyper-partisanship and gridlock, we must nurture and cultivate all current and future leaders.”

Stephen G. Lakis
President

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Who we are

The State Legislative Leader Foundation is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization based in Massachusetts. For nearly 50 years SLLF has served as an impartial educational resource for the men and women who lead America’s state legislatures. The Foundation’s domestic professional development programs, many held in partnership with leading US colleges and universities, focus on critical public policy issues and leadership skills. Our international initiatives in Europe, Asia and the Americas, bring like-minded public officials and business leaders together to learn from one another, share experiences, and build sustainable partnerships. In all this work, domestic and foreign, SLLF enjoys an unmatched reputation for excellence.

What we do

The main focus of all SLLF activities is legislative leadership. We hold that the men and women chosen by their peers to positions of leadership share a responsibility to respect the Constitution and the institutions of our democracy. Our goal is to help these public servants by offering them regular opportunities to participate in educational programs where they can sharpen their leadership skills and better appreciate their responsibilities as stewards of our nation’s state legislatures.

We pride ourselves on being a truly nonpartisan organization. SLLF does not advocate public policy nor do we cater to any special interests. Instead, we strive to be custodians of truth, offering these men and women the chance to meet with their peers to share ideas and discuss the critical issues of the day.

Why we do it

Quite simply, the future of our democracy rests on the health the American state legislature. It’s the day-to-day, often unrecognized work done by state legislatures that makes our unique system of representative democracy the envy of the world and the protector of our basic freedoms.

The cataclysmic events that have thus far shaped the 21st century underscore the essential need for leadership—a quality we equate with integrity, compassion, vision, courage, and common sense.

We make a difference by educating and inspiring our nation’s Speakers of the House, Presidents of the Senate, Majority Leaders, Minority Leaders, and Pro Tempores, to be the best they can be.

How we do it

Each year SLLF convenes a variety of specialized professional development programs for distinct cohorts of legislative leaders and future legislative leaders. While the programs necessarily differ from each other in form and content, all share one common goal—to improve the quality of leadership in our state legislatures.

SLLF programs give these men and women invaluable opportunities to participate with their Republican and Democratic counterparts from across the country in fact-based programs led by distinguished faculties comprised of pre-eminent college professors and recognized national and world authorities. Each program runs for approximately 2 to 3 days during which time legislators, their spouses, and our Advisory Council members, take part in day-long classroom discussions and a variety of social gatherings that further help to establish more permanent bonds of friendship and mutual respect.

Some recent past programs include:

Leadership Summits

William J. Clinton Presidential Library & Museum, Little Rock, Arkansas
George Washington Leadership Institute, Mount Vernon, Virginia
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, Simi Valley, California

Issues Summits

Healthcare with Johns Hopkins Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland
Technology & Governance with the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California
Education with the Aspen Institute, Aspen, Colorado

In Summary...

The State Legislative Leaders Foundation was created to provide a neutral meeting place where all legislative leaders could feel comfortable gathering with their peers to talk about the many aspects of their jobs as legislative leaders and public servants. We also wanted to create an inclusive organization that would engage business leaders in constructive conversations with these men and women in non-advocacy, nonpartisan settings. By bringing these two groups together our goal was to create a climate that would nurture mutual respect and constructive collaboration.

“SLLF programs are unique because of their leadership focus. Every conference talks policy but SLLF programs are tailored to what we as leaders face on a daily basis.”

—Roger Hanshaw, Speaker of the House, West Virginia

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE STATE LEGISLATIVE LEADERS FOUNDATION

SLLF's Board of Directors is comprised exclusively of sitting state legislative leaders. This bipartisan group of accomplished men and women provides guidance and counsel to SLLF as we continually strive to meet the needs and aspirations of all legislative leaders.

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2021 ADVISORY COUNCIL

THE STATE LEGISLATIVE LEADERS FOUNDATION

SLLF enjoys broad-based support from the private sector through membership in its Advisory Council. In addition to providing unrestricted financial support for all SLLF activities, our Advisory Council members play an important role as active participants in many of the programs and discussions we hold with legislative leaders. Their perspectives enrich our discussions while serving as clear demonstrations of effective public-private partnerships.

AAHOA
Abbott Laboratories
The Accountants Coalition
Advanced Energy Economy
Airlines for America
Alliance for Automotive Innovation
Altria Client Services, Inc.
American Hotel & Lodging Association
AmerisourceBergen
Apple, Inc.
The Carpet and Rug Institute
CGI
The Coca-Cola Company
Comcast
Consumer Healthcare Products Association
Covanta Energy Corporation
Cox Enterprises
Deloitte LLP
Diageo
DoorDash
Dunkin' Brands
Entertainment Software Association
Equipment Leasing & Finance Association
Facebook
Farmers Insurance Group of Companies
Fresenius Medical Care
GlaxoSmithKline
Google, Inc.
The Home Depot
IGT
International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions (IAAPA)
Intuit, Inc.
Johnson & Johnson
LKQ Corporation
Mark Anthony Brands, Inc.
MasterCard
McDonald's Corporation
McLane Company, Inc.
MultiState Associates
National Association of Home Builders
National Beer Wholesalers Association
NCTA – The Internet & Television Association
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Novo Nordisk, Inc.
Pernod-Ricard USA
Pharmaceutical Care Management Association
Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers (PhRMA)
Procter & Gamble
Purdue Pharma, L.P.
Recording Industry Association of America
Reynolds American, Inc.
Security Finance
SoftBank Group US, Inc.
State Farm Insurance Companies
StubHub
T-Mobile USA, Inc.
Verizon
Verra Mobility
Visa, Inc.
Vistra Energy
Walmart Inc.
Wells Fargo
Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America, Inc.
Wine Institute

2021 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THE STATE LEGISLATIVE LEADERS FOUNDATION

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

JANUARY - JULY

Feb 4–5 **New Speakers Orientation Program via Zoom**

Feb 11 **Getting from Pluribus to Unum:
Partisanship, Patriotism and Possibilities via Zoom**

Featured Presenter: Mark Gerzon, author of *The Reunited States of America*

Other virtual programs will include:

Forum for New Leaders

Emerging Leaders Program – UVA Darden School of Business

Rebuilding State Economies

Conversations with Leaders

IN-PERSON PROGRAMMING

AUGUST

Aug 11–13 **Women’s Leadership Seminar – 2nd annual meeting**

Cape Cod, Massachusetts

(Open to all women legislative leaders and sponsors)

SEPTEMBER

Sept 2–5 **Fall Leadership Summit**

The Relevance of the United States Constitution in 21st Century America

How is our Constitution holding up in the midst of the civil unrest and political division that has gripped the United States just two decades into the new century?

Constitution Hall, Philadelphia

(Open to all legislative leaders and Advisory Council members)

OCTOBER

Oct 20–23 **National Speakers Conference - 29th annual meeting**

Hosted by Speaker Mac McCutcheon

Birmingham, Alabama

(Open to Speakers of the House, Chiefs of Staff, Advisory Council members and corporate sponsors)

DECEMBER

Dec 3–5 **SLLF Board Meeting and Leadership Roundtable**

New Orleans, Louisiana

(Open to Board of Directors and Advisory Council members)

All webinars are available to view on our website, www.sllf.org

