



January 24, 2018

Dear Leadership La Plata Alumni,

Happy New Year and we hope 2018 is off to a great start! We are writing to request your continued support for the LLP Program this year through paying your annual LLP Alumni Dues of \$35, and, if possible, an additional donation. 2017 was a great year of growth and refinement for LLP and we are excited to build momentum this year.

2017 Highlights

- We accepted our 29th class into Leadership La Plata with members from Durango, Bayfield, Hesperus and rural La Plata County
- Financial support and scholarships continue to be provided to ensure that all students can participate
- The class of 2017-2018 is well underway and experienced another successful retreat with Phil Bryson and crew at Vallecito. Phil continues to support LLP with his personal ropes courses and social styles trainings. To find out more about the retreat and each program day, [like Leadership La Plata on Facebook \[click here\]](#)
- For the third year, we contracted with a Leadership Coordinator who is tasked with attending all program days, Curriculum Committee Meetings, coordinating each two hour leadership training during program days and reporting progress monthly to the Steering Committee. This position has helped maintain consistency and learning during and between program days. In 2017, Tracy Cornutt (Class of '11-12) served in this role.
- Tracy attended the Association of Leadership Programs Conference to learn from, and network with, leadership programs from around the country as we continue to improve LLP.
- We've matched 28 alumni as mentors with upcoming community leaders through our LLP/YPOD mentorship program

Alumni Programs and Events Update

The Alumni Committee is excited and committed to creating interesting and fun events and programs to keep you engaged and connected with LLP and offer you exclusive community opportunities.

In the past couple of years, we've hosted many successful events; a tour of Fort Lewis College's new GPE Hall (Geology, Physics, Engineering) with a talk by President Dene Thomas had over 60 alumni

and guests in attendance and the privilege of being the first group to see the new telescope up close; former City Planner, Greg Hoch, packed the house with a Durango history lesson at the Powerhouse with great food provided by Steamworks (Thank you, Kris Oyler, class of '02-03); a small business talk at Earth Girls with Kirsten Gum was inspirational along with fresh, tasty food and drinks; Durango City Manager Ron LeBlanc's leadership and civic engagement talk at the Underground, catered by the Irish Embassy, was a successful evening full of learning.

In 2018 we are planning four very unique events for you:

- *Winter (February 8)*- Wine Tasting at Sorrel Sky hosted by LLP Alum Stan Crapo (Class of '06-07), owner of Star Liquors
- *Spring*- Common Ground Training: Moving from Debate to Dialogue on Community Conversations
- *Summer*- LLP at Music in the Mountains
- *Fall*- "Poker Run" competition exploring new, local businesses

Support Leadership La Plata in 2018

Your contribution to Leadership La Plata is an investment in our county. LLP is an exemplary program which has graduated over 450 students since 1988, many who are now involved and providing community leadership. Your dues provide continued scholarships and financial assistance to new class members, ongoing development of well-informed leaders, and alumni events and programs. Here are three ways to pay your dues:

- A. Visit the [Leadership La Plata website](#) or [click here](#). (Click "Register" below the price chart, complete the "Registration Contact" page, select the box for dues and a donation amount if desired, complete the "Payment Information" and submit. Yes, it will refer to you as an "Attendee" and refer to your payment as your "Registration." That's right!)
- B. Mail a \$35 check to Durango Chamber (be sure to include LLP Alumni Dues on the memo line) at PO Box 2587, Durango, CO 81302
- C. Drop off your dues when you're downtown at the Chamber itself at the Bank of Colorado building, 1199 Main Avenue #217 (upstairs, towards the end of the hall on the right)

Thank you for ensuring that we can continue to provide this leadership development program and support our community for many years to come!

Sincerely,

Janae Hunderman, Alumni Committee Chair, Class of '12-13

Mark Thompson, Steering Committee Chair, Class of '11-12

LLP's mission is to build a cadre of informed leaders who are committed to broadening knowledge of La Plata County, developing leadership skills, and utilizing them for the benefit of our diverse community.