

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# LEAD VIRGINIA ANNOUNCES 2018 CLASS MEMBERS Connecting Leaders to Shape Virginia's Future

**RICHMOND, VA (May 24, 2018):** Lead Virginia, the statewide leadership program now entering its fourteenth year of educating Virginia's leaders about the issues most relevant to the Commonwealth, has announced its 2018 class members.

The 55 class participants are senior-level executives in business, education, non-profit and government agencies throughout the Commonwealth. They are experienced, recognized leaders within their professions who are seeking to bolster a shared vision of active community involvement and stewardship across Virginia. A complete list of the class participants is enclosed.

Lead Virginia's 2018 curriculum centers on the key themes of economy, education, and health and cultivates a statewide perspective by examining the technology, economic development, demographics, transportation/growth management, and quality of life issues impacting the Commonwealth in each of the regional sessions.

Lead Virginia kicked off its 2018 Program with a successful Opening Session, a three-day event held in Williamsburg, Virginia in mid-April. The Class also just completed its first regional session, exploring Southern Virginia on May 17 - 19, 2018.

"Each year Lead Virginia draws an impressive brain trust of talent and expertise to its program," says Lead Virginia's President and CEO Susan Horne, "As class members explore the diversity of the Commonwealth and discover how relationships build valuable social capital, a deeper appreciation for Virginia's leadership challenges and mutuality of interests begins to emerge. The Commonwealth of Virginia is better served by leaders who understand the landscape in which they live and work."

The 2018 schedule will consist of seven sessions throughout the state. The leaders participating will visit Southern Virginia, the Roanoke Valley, Northern Virginia, Southwest Virginia, Hampton Roads, and Central Virginia in upcoming months. The class program will conclude with a final session and graduation dinner and awards program in Richmond, November 15-17, 2018.



#### **About LEAD VIRGINIA**

Lead Virginia was incorporated as a charitable and educational organization in March 2005. The organization is patterned after similar models of statewide leadership programs across the nation. Led by a board of directors composed of business, education, government, non-profit and community leaders from across Virginia, Lead Virginia uses a proven model for developing a statewide network of leaders by engaging academic, business, civic and government advisors to educate class members on the wide range of key issues in Virginia. 2018 Lead Virginia sustaining sponsors include Altria, Bon Secours Richmond Health System, Newport News Shipbuilding, and Washington Gas. Additional major supporters include Cox Communications, Dominion, Union Bank & Trust, Claude Moore Foundation, Mary Morton Parsons Foundation, Virginia Business, Columbia Gas, and Wells Fargo. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.leadvirginia.org">www.leadvirginia.org</a>.

#### **LEAD VIRGINIA 2018 CLASS MEMBERS**

## Ms. Melissa Adams

Chief Corporate Social Responsibility Officer WGL Holdings Inc./Washington Gas Washington

# Ms. Vonya Alleyne, M.A.

Vice President, Human Resources Cox Communications Chesapeake

#### Ms. Nathalia Artus, M.B.A.

Community Development Banker Union Bank & Trust Richmond

## Sonya Baker, Ph.D.

Associate Dean, College of Visual & Performing Arts
James Madison University
Harrisonburg

# Ms. Tracy Banks, J.D.

Program Attorney
Virginia Law Foundation/Virginia CLE
Charlottesville

## Mr. Tim Bentley, J.D.

Resident Vice President Norfolk Southern Richmond

#### Ms. Katie Boyle, M.A.

Director of Government Affairs Virginia Association of Counties Richmond

## Mr. Karl Brack, M.A.

Director, Communications & Community Relations
Columbia Gas of Virginia
Chester



## Ms. Kirsten Cherry

Director of Information Technology Prince George County Prince George

# Ms. Courtney Conner, M.B.A.

Director of Professional Development

The University of Virginia's College at Wise

Abingdon

#### Ms. Amanda Cox

External Affairs Manager Appalachian Power Fieldale

# Ms. Jen Cox, M.A.

Director of Local & Community Relations
Longwood University
Farmville

# Ms. Heidi Crapol

Director, Center for Urban Communities
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond

## Mr. Herbert Cummings, M.S.

Chief Operating Officer, Virginia Medical Group Bon Secours Health System Richmond

# RADM Janet Donovan (Ret.), J.D.

Vice Director, Board of Directors Capital Post Alexandria

#### Mr. Jason El Koubi

Executive Vice President
Virginia Economic Development
Partnership
Richmond

## Mr. Terry Ellis

Vice President of Government & Regulatory Affairs Comcast Richmond

#### Ms. Beth Erickson

President & CEO
Visit Loudon
Leesburg

## Mr. Marvin Figueroa, M.E.

Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources Office of the Governor Richmond

## Ms. Pat Foster

Director Minority and Emerging Small Business Development City of Richmond Richmond

#### Janet Gullickson, Ph.D.

President
Germanna Community College
Locust Grove

# Mr. K.C. Haile

Senior Vice President
The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company
Herndon



## Ms. Sylvia Haines

Executive Vice President, Operations Hampton Roads Chamber Norfolk

## Ms. Rhea Hale, M.E.

Director, Public Policy WestRock Company Richmond

# Ms. Rosalyn Hargraves, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President
Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond

# Ms. Sarah Hodges

Director of Tourism

Martinsville-Henry County Economic

Development Corporation

Martinsville

#### Mr. Josh Justice, M.A.

Director of Residence Life
The University of Virginia's College at Wise
Wise

## Ms. Greer Kelly, M.E.

Director of Operations
The University of Virginia
Charlottesville

# Ms. Brenda Lecocq, M.S.

Director of Group Sales
Virginia International Raceway
Alton

#### Mr. Mike Mannen

Vice President Operations
Faneuil
Hampton

# Mr. Greg Mathe

Electric Transmission Communications
Consultant
Dominion Energy Virginia
Richmond

#### Mr. Robert McAden

President & CEO
Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council
Roanoke

## Ms. Holly McEntire, M.B.A.

Managing Director SunTrust Richmond

## Mr. Bryan Price

Outreach and Education Specialist
University of Virginia Cancer Center
Danville

## Ms. Elaine Roop

Director, HR & Organizational Development Virginia 811 Roanoke

# Mr. Joe Ruddy, M.E.

Chief Innovation Officer
Virginia Port Authority
Norfolk



## Mr. Andrew Ryan

Partner
Commonwealth Partnership Group
Henrico

## Ms. Jen Sayegh

Assistant Vice President
McGuire Woods Consulting
Richmond

## Ms. Elizabeth Scarce

Marketing Director
Dewberry
Danville

# Mr. Joe Scarpa, M.B.A.

Senior Director, LTC In-Force Solutions and Analytics Genworth Richmond

#### Ms. Martha Shickle, M.P.A.

Executive Director
Richmond Regional Planning District
Commission
Richmond

#### Ms. Rachel Snead

Electric T&D Project Manager II
Dominion Energy
Richmond

#### Mr. Chad Spangler

Vice President- Loss Mitigation Wells Fargo Daleville

## Ms. Valerie Spencer, M.E.

Director of Business Development Didlake, Inc. Manassas

## Mr. Randy Stamper, M.A.

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development Virginia Community College System Richmond

# Mr. Scott Tate, Ph.D.

Associate Director of Economic Development Virginia Tech Blacksburg

#### Mr. Derek Thomas

Principal Director
Accenture
Arlington

## Ms. Jill Vaughan

Director of Communications & Community Outreach
Virginia Lottery
Richmond

# Ms. Sonya Waddell, M.S.

Director of Regional Economics
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
Richmond

## Ms. Jenna Wagner, M.A.

PR & Marketing Director
Commonwealth of Virginia Department of
Housing & Community Development/ SWVA
Cultural Heritage Foundation
Abingdon



# Ms. Jennifer Wakefield, M.A.

Senior Vice President, Marketing Greater Richmond Partnership Richmond

# Ms. Cindy Watts, Ph.D.

Richard M. Bracken Chair and Chairman Virginia Commonwealth University Richmond

# Mr. Phil Wenkstern, M.A., M.P.A.

Executive Director
United Way of Henry County and
Martinsville
Martinsville

# Mr. John West, M.B.A.

Vice President of Operations Call Federal Credit Union Richmond

# Tommy Wright, Ph.D.

President - Southwest Virginia Community College Virginia Community College System Richlands