"What a fantastic opportunity to learn about Jo Daviess County and yourself while creating long lasting relationships! It is great to know there are such wonderful people in our communities striving to make Jo Daviess County all it can be."

Millie Graves, Stockton

"The forum opens many possibilities to engage in the community by providing education on municipalities within the county. Students are equipped with the tools to become more active and effective leaders in their communities. I'd recommend the program to anyone passionate about sharing their time and talents to improve the County."

Brian Engle, Elizabeth

"The Jo Daviess County Leadership Forum provided me with the education, connections, resources and confidence to continue my interest in community leadership."

Jill Pepin, Stockton



Our Supporting Organization

Apple Canyon Lake Properties
Apple River State Bank
Brewster Cheese
Citizens State Bank
City of East Dubuque
City of Galena
East Dubuque Fire Department
East Dubuque Police Department
East Dubuque School District
Fehr Graham & Associates
Furst Staffing
Galena Area Chamber of Commerce
Galena Art and Recreation Center
Galena Gazette
Galena/Jo Daviess Historical Society
Galena Territory Association
Highland Community College
Highland Community College Foundation
Honeywell Sensing & Control
Illinois Bank & Trust
Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
Ink and Paper Design
JCE Co-op
Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation
Jo Daviess CVB
Jo Daviess County Farm Bureau
Jo Daviess County Housing Authority
Jo Daviess County Sheriff's Department
Lingle Design Group
M & W Grain
McCoy Insurance Services
MetLife Auto & Home/Farmers Insurance
Midwest Medical
Oak Hill Weddings
O'Conner, Brooks
Riverview Center
Schultz Appliance
Stockton Chamber of Commerce
Tyler's Justice Center
United Way of Northwest Illinois
US Bank
Village of Elizabeth
Village of Scales Mound
Vincent, Roth and Toepfer
Warren Community Bank
Warren Police Department
Warren United Methodist Church
Wills Garage
Woodbine Bend

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JO DAVIESS COUNTY LEADERSHIP FORUM 2027



FORMAT

The Leadership Forum begins in January with a two and one-half day overnight opening retreat at Eagle Ridge Inn and Resort. After that, the Forum usually meets on the second Wednesday of each month from February throughNovember. Each Forum session will be held in a different Jo Daviess County community and will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

2027 SCHEDULE AND PROPOSED LEADERSHIP TOPICS

February 3 - 5 Opening Retreat "Leadership, the Community, and You"

February 10 "Leadership Models" Personality Styles

March 10 "Finding Your Voice"

April 14 "Visioning"

May 12 "Enlisting Support"

June 9 "Teaming"

July 14 "Challenging the Process"

August 11 "Decision Making"

September 8 "Ethical Leadership"

October 13 "Encouraging the Heart"

November 10 Final Retreat and Banquet



▶ Faculty

Dan Dick, Director of Leadership Programs, and Sam VenHuizen, Consumer Lending Manager & Loan Officer, Citizens State Bank, serve as co-facilitators of the Leadership Forum.

▶ Join Us

The Jo Daviess County Leadership Forum seeks participants from a wide range of community and career interests. Each class will have approximately 15 members selected from applicants on the basis of their interest in leadership issues and their representation of the diversity of our county.

▶ For Further Information

Contact Dan Dick (815.599.3574), Terri Grimes (815.599.3514), or any member of the Leadership Forum Steering Committee:

- Mary Althoff
- Derek Bradt
- Ashley Chambers
- Kristin Cisek
- Diane Ege
- Jessica Engle
- Emma Jane Mayer
- Tessa Moore
- Nikki Nolan
- Jill Pepin
- Peggy Tully
- Sam VenHuizen
- Chelsea Wurster

▶ Cost

The tuition cost for the 10-month Leadership Forum is $1,500, and the fee for books and materials is $500. Scholarship assistance may be available for a portion of the tuition. Contact Dan Dick at 815.599.3574 for further scholarship details.

▶ Applications

Application forms are available online at highland.edu, or by contacting:

Dan Dick, Director of Leadership Programs
- Ph: 815.599.3574 | Email: dan.dick@highland.edu

Applications are due by December 1, 2026. The class of 2027 will be announced in early January.



PURPOSE

The future of our county and its organizations depend on a diverse group of capable and committed leaders.

The Jo Daviess County Leadership Forum is committed to developing and sustaining a network of local leaders who are:

- Knowledgeable about community issues
- Able to demonstrate effective leadership and collaboration skills
- Committed to building and improving our organizations and communities

Expand your understanding of local issues

- The regional economy
- Tourism
- Agriculture
- Local government
- Emergency services
- Education, health, and social services
- Housing

Gain new leadership insights

- Alternate models of leadership
- An inventory of your personal leadership practices
- Creating effective teams
- Planning and visioning

Explore who we are and where we're going

- Our values
- Community history
- Immigration then and now

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