

THE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

Linkage

ALUMNI AND STAFF NEWSLETTER

August 2003

SUMMER 2003

Five weeks that began with the Officer Training Seminar and concluded with Session 4's LTC and ALC—well over 200 attendees and every bit of learning and fun that we could cram into the schedule!



It was quite a summer!

Highlights included: the unconditional acceptance; the friendships; the crazy Surfers; the Trust Walk; a Blindfolded meal; blindfolded elevator rides; the Trust run; the Wall Fall; Vaudeville; Face to Face; Really Rally; Candle Lighting; Tower Building; the Breakaways; the baby quilts; the ALC video for kids; Achievement Night; the slide shows and the final closing ceremony!

It was quite a journey "Over the rainbow" and one that isn't done yet.

As you return to your schools and communities, remember the lessons: the acceptance, the positive attitude, and the inclusion. Remember to stand up for what you believe in, even if you are standing alone. Remember, "Leaders walk the talk."

What do you remember?

What lessons did you learn?

What friendships did you make?



PETER J. BALTREN AWARDS

One of the chief responsibilities leaders share is the recognition of effort and achievement. For the staff of SLTP, the primary means to carry out that responsibility is through the Peter J. Baltren Awards. Presented each week to delegates from LTC, the Baltren Awards recognize outstanding contributors to the success of the week.



This summer, there were more deserving candidates than ever and the staff talked into the wee hours each Saturday morning grappling with the choices. And the resounding applause as each name was read allowed the staff to feel confident about their selections.

The 2003 Baltren Awards went to:

Week 1: *Jon Boucher, Annie Kirlin, Nam Nguyen, Ken Sylvia, & Alicia Benander*

Week 2: *Amy Nane, Nick Skoly, Hilary Petti, & Brandon Miller*

Week 3: *Iman Rastegari, Hannah Desrochers, Olivia Harris & Katie Eichner*

Week 4: *Augustine Pyo, Kayla Charest, Andrew Flanagan & Lauren Zarembo*

INSPIRATION AWARDS

With the inauguration of The Leadership Center—an intense 4 day conference on ethics, organizations, and leadership—SLTP opened up the means to recognize the effort and achievements of ALC delegates. The Inspiration Awards were created to honor the contributors to the success of each ALC.

The 2003 Inspiration Awards went to:

Week 1: *Pat Owens & Phil Loomis*

Week 3: *Ashley Wilcox & Brandon Miller*

Week 4: *Iman Rastegari & Hillary Petti*

Who helped you learn?

Who helped you grow as a leader?

Have you thanked them yet?

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THE ReENERGIZER!

November 29, 2003

Energy! Excitement! An opportunity for incredible learning!

Be sure to join student leaders from across the country at the 8th Annual ReEnergizer Conference for what promises to be an ENTHUSIASTIC day!

You will find a registration form on the Crew Photo CD you received at camp.

Register early. Bring lots of friends. Bring lots of enthusiasm. And bring ideas to share and questions to be answered.

The ReE is **Saturday, November 29** at Nichols College and is sure to be the loudest, most fun and most learning-filled conference to be held in New England this fall!

Don't miss a debut performance by "Connections"—SLTP's theatrical troupe—about real life issues effecting high school students!

And among the many activities and workshops planned for the conference there will be a "how to" session for those interested in submitting portfolios for the Service and Development Medals!

See you at the ReE!

What student leaders at your school should attend?

What lessons do you still want to learn?



LESSON: Praise

Praise, when used effectively, encourages groups to exceed expectations and achieve optimal performance. Remember that praise should be sincere and honestly earned to be appreciated. Use the S.P.I.N. acronym to remember when to use praise.

Praise should be: **Specific, Public, Individual, Now**

*"There's something about a child's spirit,
It seems to come from some special place
It is their words, their feelings and actions
That spread across their face
And when you know it's sincere,
And when you know it's true.
Your self-esteem is raised,
Whenever you are praised."
When you do well with your peers,
And get to hear their thunderous cheers,
Your self-esteem is raised,
Whenever you are praised."*


LESSON: Teamwork

"Teamwork requires trust in oneself and trusting each other—trust is a must for delegation and facilitation. Both are needed to form a team.

*Delegation and facilitation should be followed;
pride and sarcasm should be swallowed.*

Honesty may be the best policy, but the most important is consistency. Have a constant attitude and an attitude that shows you care; not to indifferent, not to rude. Through this week we tried and tried. We came as many, now unified."

LESSON LINK



In each issue, we will spotlight leadership lessons and the skills student leaders need to effectively change their schools and communities. Quotes, thoughts, and examples will come from SLTP Alumni and Staff. In this first Lesson Link, Week 3's ALC provide their thoughts on praise, trust, positive risk taking, and teamwork as presented at Achievement Night.

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LESSON: Trust

*"Will you catch me when I fall?
Will you call my name out loud?
Will you help me through the dark?
Will you come when I shout your name?
We are a team.
We know you will.*

*Will you be there when I'm crying?
Will you love me for who I am?
Will you take a stand?
We are a team.
We know you will.*

*Will you give me all you've got?
Will you see me through my faults?
Will you be there for me when I'm there for you?
We are a team.
We know you will."*



Out Loud

words and music by Dispatch

would you be the wind to blow me home
would you be a dream
on the wings of a poem
and if you were walking through a crowd
you know I'd be proud

[CHORUS:]

if you call my name out loud
do you suppose that I would come running
do you suppose I'd come at all
I suppose I would

and if we were walking
down a dead end street
would you be the one to let our eyes meet
or would you just keep on walking
down to the turn around
'cause you know I'd be proud

[CHORUS]

if I was gone from the land we know
would be the dawn
and let your beauty still show
and if you were walking
and heard the cold night coming
would you call my name
'cause you know I'd come running

[CHORUS]

you know I would
I'd come runnin'
if you call my name out loud



LESSON: Positive Risk Taking

Energizers? Responsives? Dorm Squad? Elbows on the table?

What's the deal?

Since everything at SLTP has a purpose (and everything teaches a lesson,) the songs, the enthusiasm and crazy behavior is all about positive risk.

If we can do an energizer, we can do anything. If we can truly be ENTHUSIASTIC, we can stand up for what we believe in—even if we are standing alone.

Here's what ALC had to say:

"Positive risk taking is the foundation of courage and is one of the most significant aspects that makes SLTP innovative and fresh. We all come to SLTP with an appreciation of courage, but often, we are unsure of its capacity within ourselves. We learn not only that positive risk taking exists, but also get a taste of the depth the concept truly encompasses—we experience taking positive risks. It seems so easy and so effortless, but it isn't until you force yourself to speak up, stand out, and take a chance, that you truly feel the confidence, inspiration, and insight as courage resonates within your core. "

Praise, teamwork, trust, positive risk taking—what else? What are the most important skills a leader needs to have?

What leadership qualities do you value most?



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STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN

According to the US Department of Education **only 16% of high schools student are bullied—physically, emotionally or socially.**

We respectfully **disagree.**

This summer, SLTP presented "Stop, Look, and Listen" as a way to raise awareness about the realities of bullying. We believe that bullying (hazing, tormenting, teasing, gossip, manipulation) is a form of violence and that student leaders can put a stop to exclusion. After all, *"It is up to us to make a difference. It's up to us to care."*

If leadership is action, what are you going to do?

After reading the statistics and talking about the realities, the staff of SLTP wrote, "Stop, Look, and Listen". And after presenting it this summer at each of our conferences, we believe that the message needs to be heard.

"Connections"—the SLTP theatrical troupe will hit the road this fall and take "Stop, Look and Listen" to schools across the country. So far the play has been performed for freshmen orientations and more performances are schedule.

Presenting the play will be powerful and should enhance any school's awareness. Along with the play, the staff has developed a packet of materials for each host school that include suggested activities and discussions to help implement the message that bullying is violence and must end now.

If your school would like to arrange for a "Connections" presentation please contact Fitz via email to: SLTPlead@aol.com



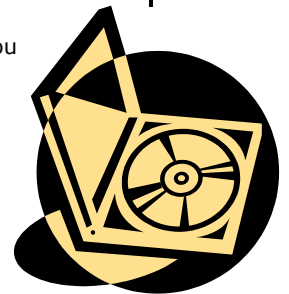
PHOTO CD's & VIDEOS

If a picture is worth a 1000 words, what does a few hundred pictures get you?!?

In your manual and on the Crew CD you will find an order form for the Camp Video and Photo CD.

The Camp video contains all of the laughter and excitement of Vaudeville and all of the warmth and spirit of Achievement Night. The Photo CD includes both Slide Shows featured in the Closing Ceremonies as well as all of the photos taken by the staff throughout the week—from Dorm Squad through Closing Circle, to Getting Started and the SLTP Lounge.

Place your order today!



"You're out of the woods. You're out of the dark. You're out of the night. Step into the sun. Step into the light. Keep straight ahead for the most glorious place on the face of the earth or the sky. Hold onto your breath. Hold onto your heart. Hold onto your hope. March up to the gate and bid it open."

—The Wizard of Oz

**What gates will you open this year?
And what differences will you make?**

