

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Minnesota MILE Alumni Association's ambition is to encourage students that have gone through the program to stay active in their communities after the seminar. Our alumni donate thousands of hours a year in helping make the communities around them better places for everyone.

The alumni association is governed by an eight-member state board, which organizes student activities throughout the year. These activities include community service projects, fundraising events and social activities. Each year the alumni association holds bi-yearly reunions, giving alumni a chance to socialize and learn from one another.



The Minnesota MILE Alumni Association is a 'family' dedicated to the betterment of its members and the continual development of their leadership skills.

### *Random Acts of Kindness*

*One of the Alumni Association's most successful programs consists of a monthly challenge to perform 'random' tasks in their community.*

#### **Past RAK's have been:**

- Send a card to someone you don't know
- Adopt a family for the holidays
- Talk to someone new at school

*Do not follow where the path  
may lead. Go instead where  
there is no path and leave a  
TRAIL.*

*- Muriel Strode*



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# Motivating & Inspiring

## LEADERSHIP & EXCELLENCE



*To identify and develop youth  
leadership in Minnesota through  
the promotion of personal  
responsibility, volunteerism, and  
social awareness.*

## WHO WE ARE

*Our purpose is to teach students HOW to think, not WHAT to think.*

**Minnesota MILE** (*Motivating & Inspiring Leadership and Excellence*) was formed to identify outstanding high school sophomores throughout Minnesota for being responsible citizens in their community and/or school and provide them with the opportunity and encouragement to recognize their leadership potential.

**Recognizing that leadership comes in all shapes and sizes**, from rich and poor, and from every city, town and neighborhood, we seek potential leaders without regard for the past achievements, economic advantage, or prior leadership experience. We specialize in finding "**diamonds in the rough**", and helping them explore their innate strengths so they can realize their potential and become effective leaders.



**We challenge our students** to think for themselves and become critical thinkers. To become assets in their community and promote their attitudes in leadership where ever they go.



## OUR PROGRAMS



### Minnesota MILE

**Leadership Seminar** - Each year high schools across the state of Minnesota are invited to nominate a sophomore to attend our leadership seminar. These students are selected by their guidance counselor or principal as ones who already demonstrate positive leadership qualities in their school and community.

The high-energy weekend consists of team-building activities, motivational speakers, a volunteer / college fair, panels of key leaders from various industries,

*"This is one of those week-ends that really can impact lives -- I hope to come back [to help] again and again."*

*- 2003 Attendee*

small group discussions and more. We encourage leadership development through emphasis on personal responsibility, volunteerism, increased awareness of social issues, and open-minded analysis of all sides to an issue when making decisions.

### TRAIL

Minnesota MILE is a proud part of the TRAIL Network (*Teaching Responsibility and Inspiring Leadership*). **TRAIL** is a national non-profit affiliation of local youth leadership organizations working to bring the skills and attitudes of responsible leadership to youth.

<http://www.trailseminars.org>

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

To guarantee that all students can take part, Minnesota MILE maintains a policy that participants to the Leadership Seminar pay nothing to attend. \$200 will sponsor a single delegate - many attendees are sponsored by local service organizations, while others are sponsored through corporate and individual contributors. Other contributors may choose to sponsor a speaker, meal or field trip.

### Giving Money

For the last five years, Minnesota MILE's Leadership Seminar has been held at Hamline University in St. Paul. This exposes the Minnesota MILE Delegate to life on a college campus, and gives us excellent facilities with which to host the seminar. Minnesota MILE is made up entirely of volunteers - every dollar you donate goes directly to helping our delegates to learn and grow, covering such costs as facility rental, meals, and bus services for the delegates.

### Gifts-In-Kind

Minnesota MILE also seeks Gifts-In-Kind to defray the cost of our annual seminars. Needed gifts include supplies (binders, paper, pens), Delegate items (t-shirts, name tags, awards), food (soda, juice, bottled water, meals, snacks) and miscellaneous items (buses, disposable cameras, film development, etc...). All in-kind donations to MILE are tax-deductible (501(c)3).

### Volunteer

Minnesota MILE is an organization run entirely by volunteers. Everyone gives of their time and expertise in many ways. If you are interested in volunteering, there are many opportunities including the seminar planning committee, facilitating at the seminar and helping with Alumni events and regional one-day workshops.

**Call us now at 763.755.7498 to find out how you can help!**