BLI Student Project Proposal

Introduction
BLI Student Project funding is intended to (1) stimulate learning about leadership through practice, (2) encourage and support student initiative, and (3) seed innovative projects that will contribute to the Institute, campus community, and/or society. This program provides BLI Fellows with grants up to $1,500 and other forms of support to launch projects that address issues about which they are passionate.

Student Eligibility
All proposed projects must involve at least one BLI Fellow (one who has completed the BLI Leadership Lab) in a significant leadership role.

Past Examples of Projects Include:
● An original theatrical production
● Tutoring and college prep mentoring at local, underprivileged high schools
● Development of a resource center for youth with an international non-profit organization
● Building water tanks in rural Brazil
● Providing iPads to cancer patients
● [Insert your project here!]

The Institute’s Expectations of Students
● **Leadership** – Each project should include leadership as a key element. Applicants should state which BLI Leadership Habit(s) this event or activity will help to cultivate. This habit(s) can be:
  ○ The focus and driving force of the initiative (i.e. bringing in a leadership panel)
  ○ Or the byproduct (i.e. your team will develop this habit during the planning/implementation process)

● **Collaboration and Organization** – Leadership happens in teams and groups. Your project proposal must include a description of how you will work with and through others to achieve your project and learning goals. We are particularly interested in your plans for organizing and coordinating the work of your team. Your project may call for collaboration with other groups or organizations on and off campus. Include any potential partners you may need to work with for your project.

● **Team Learning Goals** – We want to know what you as a team hope to learn from and gain (personally or professionally) from your work on the proposed project.

● **Project Goals** – The BLI prioritizes funding for projects that make a meaningful contribution to a community larger than the members of the project team. Describe your aspirations for the project as a whole and the broader impacts the project might have.

NOTE – Ongoing long-term projects that have previously received BLI funding must provide proof of innovative elements being introduced into the project.
**Support Expectations** – Sketch and justify the monetary and non-monetary support you hope to receive from the BLI. Also include any support you are receiving from other units on and off campus. Be specific - if you are unsure about the precise amount to request, round up.

**Advisor Involvement** –

**Reflection** – In every experience, reflection is key to learning. As you prepare this proposal, keep in mind the element of reflection and how this will be integrated into your project implementation plan. What reflection methods will work best for the team? How will you share the results of your reflection with the BLI Team? Each other? The BLI community?

**Reporting** – You are expected to write **within 10 days** after your project has ended 1) a **final report** detailing to the review board the results of your project, and 2) a **blog article** which will be posted on the BLI Student Voices webpage. Details regarding these reports can be found in the [Grants and Funding FAQ section](#). Please submit as these as two separate PDF attachments in an email to bli-progasst9@umich.edu.

**Proposal Structure:**
This is NOT an essay. When writing your project proposal, you should utilize the following framework:

1. **Cover page:** Include proposal name, your name and names of all team members, if applicable, date
2. **Grant Proposal Summary:** 3-5 sentences summarizing what the project will entail. No need for details.
3. **Grant Proposal Background:** Why are do you feel the need to implement this project? What factors contributed to this need, whether it be life experiences, current events or others?
4. **Grant Proposal Description & Goals:** Describe in detail what the project will entail, and what you hope to achieve by the end of it. Clearly articulate your goals; ambiguity will not persuade the review board.
5. **Grant Proposal and BLI Habits Integration** Clearly Identify which BLI Habits are a part of your project (see the "Expectations" section for details). You may list each habit in bullet/paragraph format
6. **Grant Proposal Implementation and Evaluation Plan:** Please include logistical information - what are the step-by-step details of your project? In addition, how will you reflect and evaluate the project at its conclusion?
7. **Grant Proposal Timeline/Budget Timeline:** Please demonstrate how the the project will unfold chronologically, and for steps of your project that require funding please list the amount requested.
8. **Detailed Budget Table:** A table of what all your expenses are and how much each item will cost.
Leadership for Peace Option
Student Project applicants may apply for additional funding beyond the $1,500 maximum through the Leadership for Peace Initiative. The BLI Leadership for Peace Initiative aims to cultivate active citizens of the world who can utilize research and critical thinking skills to engage with different cultural perspectives and make a positive impact in the global community. We support experiences that allow students to engage in local and global challenges in order to contribute to ongoing solutions in these areas. Preferences will be given to opportunities that allow students to meaningfully engage in situations defined by conflicting interests. Applicants can apply for up to $500 of additional funding through this option by adding a section in your proposal that specifically addresses how your project/event fulfills the goals of the Leadership for Peace Initiative.

Submission Instructions and Deadlines
Please submit all application materials electronically as one PDF document through ApplicantStack by Sunday, October 28th, 2018 by 11:59PM. If you have any questions regarding the Student Project Grant, please see the attached Grants and Funding FAQs, or contact Elizabeth Rohr, Program Coordinator, or Christopher Pumford, Program Assistant.

Review Process
After receiving your application, the selection committee will review the application and provide feedback and a decision to the group. The selection committee will either accept the project as is, suggest modifications for proposal re-submission, or deny financial support. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact the Institute at bargerinstitute@umich.edu.