

Bonner Leader Background

In 2007 The Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning at Hobart and William Smith Colleges began a relationship with the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation to begin a Bonner Leader program at HWS.

The mission of the Bonner Scholars and Bonner Leaders Programs is to transform the lives of students and members, the life of their campuses, their local communities, and the world through service and leadership. The Bonner Program is designed to heighten the overall education students and members receive by asking them to engage in ongoing service work and helping them develop the experience, skills, knowledge and values necessary to make that work meaningful and lasting. Since its inception in 1990 the “Bonner Family” of Scholar and Leader institutions has grown to more than 80 colleges and universities across the country.

Campuses in the Bonner Leader Program have each designed innovative models that use federal work-study funds, AmeriCorps Education Awards, and institutional support to create scholarship stipends for students involved in community service as part of the Bonner Program. (HWS Bonner Leaders that are sophomores or juniors are eligible to have their AmeriCorps Education Award matched by HWS toward the following year’s tuition.)

Each of these campuses has a core group of 5-30 students who work on issues such as improving educational opportunities and fighting hunger through community programs that focus on literacy issues, mentoring, and nutrition/anti-hunger initiatives.

As part of the Bonner Program's Student Development Model, these students also participate in regular training and reflection activities sponsored by their campuses, their community partners, and the Bonner Foundation. Bonners will be able to attend at least one regional or national professional development opportunity.

The Bonner Foundation, the Bonner Scholars Program, and the Bonner Leaders Program hold these Common Commitments:

- Social Justice
- Civic Engagement
- Spiritual Exploration
- Diversity
- International Perspective
- Community Building

At Hobart and William Smith each Bonner will be expected to complete a minimum of 280 hours of service in the community (approximately 8-10 hours per week) with a stipend of \$2,000. If the Leader chooses to also be an AmeriCorps member the hours increase to 300 and successful candidates will receive \$1,000 AmeriCorps education voucher.

Application Directions:

Please neatly print or type the attached application.

All complete applications must be submitted by **May 5, 2009** to the

Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, 2nd floor Trinity Hall.

If you have questions please contact Sarah Entenmann at Entenmann@hws.edu or 315.781.3825.

Bonner Leader Application

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Street address

Phone: (____) _____

City

state

zip

Class Year: _____ **Campus box #:** _____ **Campus Wide ID#** _____

Campus Phone #: _____ **Cell Phone #** _____

Please check: *Federal* Work-Study _____ *College* work-study _____ AmeriCorps _____ both _____

Which Bonner Leader Position are you applying for: (please circle)

1. Literacy

8. CCESL Outreach

2. Service Learning

9. What Do You Stand For?

3. Environmental Outreach

10. Leadership

(with Finger Lakes Institute)

(with Centennial Center for Leadership)

4. Disaster Response

11. Arts and Humanities

5. Political Activism

12. Geneva Middle School

6. Big Brother, Big Sister

13. Early Education/Preschool

7. Boy and Girls Club

(with HWS Jump Start Program)

Bonner Leaders need to commit 280-300 hours (depending on AmeriCorps involvement) over two semesters to the selected issue. Bonners must be effective at time management, event organizing, and have superior communication skills due to the various constituencies with whom you'll interact (peers, community partners, campus members, Bonner National staff, etc.).

Please select three of the following five questions and provide typed responses, for interest in the following positions only: Literacy, Service-Learning, Disaster Response, Political Activism, Big Brother Big Sister, Boys and Girls Club, CCESL Outreach, What Do You Stand For?, Leadership, Arts and Humanities, Geneva Middle School, Early Education/Preschool.

1. Describe a service activity that you've been involved with, how and why did you become involved and what did you gain from the experience?
2. Choose an activity in which you assumed significant leadership responsibility. Describe the experience, in hindsight would you do anything differently/the same, how will the leadership skills you gained impact future service work?
3. Successful Bonner Leaders need to multi-task in order to manage their time well. Describe your experiences with balancing academics and extra-curricular activities, how have you managed to do so while fulfilling all your commitments?
4. How do you feel this opportunity will enhance your educational interests, goals, and what do you hope to gain from the Bonner Leader experience?
5. What social issue or Geneva community concern is most important to you and why?

If you are applying for the Environmental Outreach position please select one of the above (1-5) questions and answer both (6-7) below, provide typed responses:

6. Describe an environmental topic/issue that you feel deserves more attention and/or education by campus and community. Explain why you think it is important to increase awareness of this issue and propose two methods by which you would reach out to campus and the regional community most effectively.
7. What environmental or Finger Lakes region concern is most important to you and why?

References:

1. Name: _____ Relationship: _____
How long and in what capacity have you known him/her? _____
Contact Number: (____) _____
2. Name: _____ Relationship: _____
How long and in what capacity have you known him/her? _____
Contact Number: (____) _____