After a highly competitive selection process, we are pleased to announce the 2022 Minneapolis-Saint Paul cohorts for the Young American Leaders Programs. Thank you to those of you who nominated leaders – over 40 outstanding leaders were nominated, each of whom we would have been proud to include in a cohort; it was a tough deliberation to select the final cohorts. Please join us in congratulating these rising Minnesotan leaders and saluting their commitment to collaborate across differences for the shared prosperity of our region and state, and read on for more information about the Program:

2022 Minnesota YALP - MSP Cohort (May 18-20, 2022)
Joseph Adamji, Science Museum of Minnesota
Kari Collins, Ramsey County
Katharine Tripp Fleury, Target Corporation
Cheniqua Johnson, Saint Paul & Minnesota Community Foundation
Safia Khan, Minnesota Department of Corrections
Amanda Koonjbeharry, Tunheim
Andrea Larson, Cargill Corporation
Kelly McNamara, Mortenson
Sakhaudiin Ahmed Mohamud, WellShare International
Nelima Sitati Munene, African Career Education & Resource, Inc
Meghan Curry O'Connell, CDC Foundation
Wendy Underwood, Catholic Charities of Saint Paul & Minneapolis
Mary Uran, Girls on the Run Minnesota
Shannon Watson, St Paul Chamber of Commerce, Majority in the Middle
Jennifer White, City of Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention
Yao Yaj, Minnesota Hmong Chamber of Commerce

2022 National YALP - MSP Cohort (June 21-24, 2022)
Jake Blumberg, GiveMN
Prince Corbett, Ramsey County
Jason George, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49
Emilia Gonzalez Avalos, Unidos MN
Ethelind Kaba, Ann Bancroft Foundation
Abdirahman Kahin, Afro Deli
Irma Márquez Trapero, LatinoLEAD
Tina May, Land O’Lakes, Inc.
Adine S. Momoh, Stinson LLP
Chris Schmitter, Office of Governor Tim Walz

Together these rising leaders represent a unique force for expanding the power of cross-sectoral collaboration for our region and our state.
About the Program

The Young American Leaders Program originated at Harvard Business School in 2015 with the aim of bringing city-based cohorts of rising leaders from business, government, and non-profit organizations together for three days to increase their knowledge of the state and trajectory of our national and regional economic development, provide tools for cross-sector collaboration, and grow networks of rising leaders who can lead together for public good in the future. In 2019, the Itasca Project partnered with the University of Minnesota’s Center for Integrative Leadership as well as Harvard Business School to hold the first Minnesota Young American Leaders Program at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

For 2022, a broad-based selection committee led by the Itasca Project and chaired by Duchesne Drew, President, Minnesota Public Radio, considered applications from a wide range of rising leaders from across business, government, and non-profit organizations. Successful applicants were chosen based on their track record and potential trajectory in both their professional and civic engagement and were invited to attend either the national or Minnesota Program.

The 2022 Minnesota Young American Leaders Program is scheduled for May 18-20, 2022 at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; the national Program is scheduled for June 21-24, 2022 at the campus of Harvard Business School in Boston.