



## (YWLC) YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

The Pangea Network, founded in 2005, is an international non-profit dedicated to empowering motivated individuals in Kenya and the United States with the knowledge, skills, and an ongoing network of support in order to achieve their dreams and make positive, life-changing contributions in the communities where they live.

The Pangea Network's U.S. program, The Young Women's Leadership Challenge (YWLC), was created in 2012 to empower high school aged young women in the U.S. to become confident, equipped leaders and community changemakers. YWLC starts with a 6-day intensive leadership conference and is followed by a year of activities including monthly meetings which include expert speaker lectures, mentoring, volunteering, trainings, and Pangea's signature Take Action Challenge (TAC).

### STEP 1

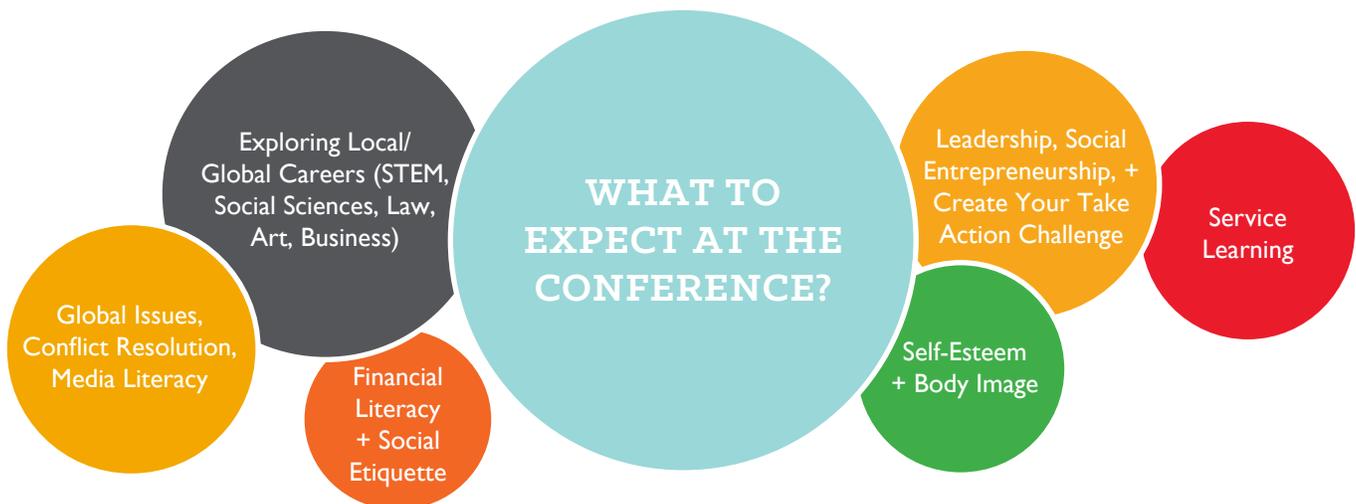
#### Apply for YWLC Online at [empowered2lead.org](http://empowered2lead.org)

- Open to all high school girls from Houston and all over Texas who are rising sophomores, juniors and seniors
- Apply for YWLC at [empowered2lead.org](http://empowered2lead.org)
- Need-based scholarship applications are available online to cover the cost of the program fee

### STEP 2

#### Attend the YWLC Summer Conference

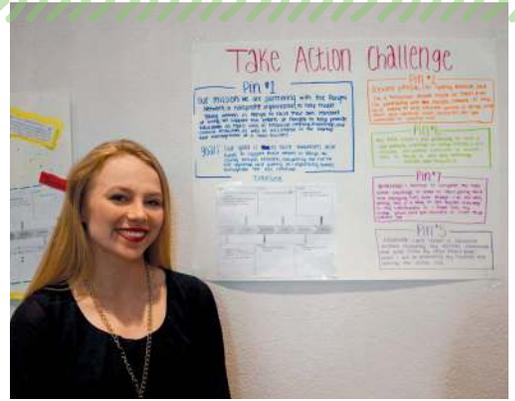
- Conference Dates: June 22 – 27, 2020
- Once you are accepted into the program, the first part is to attend the 6-day long summer conference



On the last day of the conference, you will present your Take Action Challenge (TAC) and plan the work for the year ahead!

### STEP 3 Take Action Challenge (TAC) project + Connecting with your Mentor

- By the last day of the summer conference, you will have written out the blueprint and plan for action of your personal project called “The Take Action Challenge” or TAC.
- The TAC asks every participant to design and implement a service project in their community or the world and Pangea has witnessed students make incredible social impacts.
- You will have 1-year to complete your TAC which you will implement during the Fall and Spring semesters.
- You will be assigned a professional female mentor who will help you throughout the year on your TAC.



### STEP 4 Monthly meetings + Connecting with your Mentor + your TAC project is Launched

- YWLC alumni will have an opportunity to attend monthly after-school meetings. Each month will feature a different expert speaker on topics related to women empowerment and careers.
- During the monthly meetings you may also schedule to meet with your mentor who is helping you to achieve your TAC project goals.
- There will be a mandatory Fall and Spring meeting at which all alumni convene to share their TAC project progress and challenges.
- Pangea will organize speaking engagements at schools and universities to inform new students about our work in Kenya and here in Texas – this will be open to all alumni and anyone interested to learn more about the organization.



### STEP 5 Spring Alumni Meeting + TAC Is Accomplished + Pangea Speaker Series

- YWLC alumni are completing their TAC activities and events.
- A meeting is held for all students to share their TAC project outcomes with fellow students, parents, and community members.
- In addition to the Fall and Spring meetings (which are mandatory) there are monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of every month.

WELCOME TO YOUR GLOBAL ALUMNI  
NETWORK OF LIKE-MINDED WOMEN WHO  
ARE FRIENDS AND MENTORS FOR LIFE!

**301 alumni** have gone through the YWLC program since 2012.

**75% of participants** received a scholarship to attend YWLC in 2019.

**189% increase** in program participants from 2016 to 2017.

**100 high schools and universities** are a part of the YWLC Alumni network.

## 2020 CONFERENCE APPLICATIONS

# June 22-27

Rice University

REGISTER ONLINE AT [Empowered2Lead.org](https://Empowered2Lead.org)

**Application Fee: \$25 | Program Fee: \$475**

A total of \$500 for the year-long program. Scholarships are available.



Application Opens:  
Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020



Application Deadline:  
Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020



Applicants Notified of Acceptance:  
Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020



## PARTNERS



## SPONSORS



## TAKE ACTION CHALLENGE (TAC) SPOTLIGHT

**Shama**

Shama attended the 2018 YWLC program as a participant and returned in 2019 as a high school intern. Shama's TAC is inspired by the YWLC program itself – she started an after-school club at her school, The Woodlands High School, called “The Young Women’s Leadership Club” which has 30 active members who attend regular meetings to learn first-hand from inspiring female leaders in the community.

*“I never thought that I would have the courage to start a whole organization from scratch but starting the Young Women’s Leadership Club at my high school taught me that being motivated by a subject I truly love can lead me to accomplish things I never would’ve thought possible.”*

**Zakirah & Maria**

Zakirah and Maria worked on a group project to start an urban farm at their school, Sharpstown High School. They had many obstacles and challenges, from getting approval from the principal to finding the right person to supervise and teach gardening. They knew it was a long and difficult process but their passion, assertiveness, and perseverance – all the tools they learned from the YWLC conference – made all the difference.

*“The most unexpected thing that happened during our TAC journey was that our project won a \$20,000 grant from HISD Innovation Foundation. After a lot of rejection emails from numerous grants, we started to lose faith and started questioning whether we will be able to even make our project a successful one. However, being persistent really paid off in the end!”*

*“The most rewarding part about this experience was seeing the positive impact we are making on our peers.”*

Read more Take Action Challenge stories from our Alumni on our website [empowered2lead.org](http://empowered2lead.org)