



LeaderShape

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Leadership

SUMMARY

During May 19th to May 24th, I attended the LeaderShape Institute at John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels. The LeaderShape Institute is set to help participants think about what they want to be and want to do, it provides a safe space to explore different core values and perspectives, and what makes an effective leader. Before arriving here, I had no idea what to expect from it but by the end of the first day I set two goals for myself and they were: to be more outgoing and confident, and to be more open minded. I spent six days here and formed lots of bonds, our days begun at around 8 a.m. and ended at around 11 p.m. We explored the themes of building community, the value of one, the power of all, challenging what is, looking to what could be, bringing vision to reality, living and leading with integrity, and staying in action. My main key takeaway from this is that every day is day 7.



SPICES

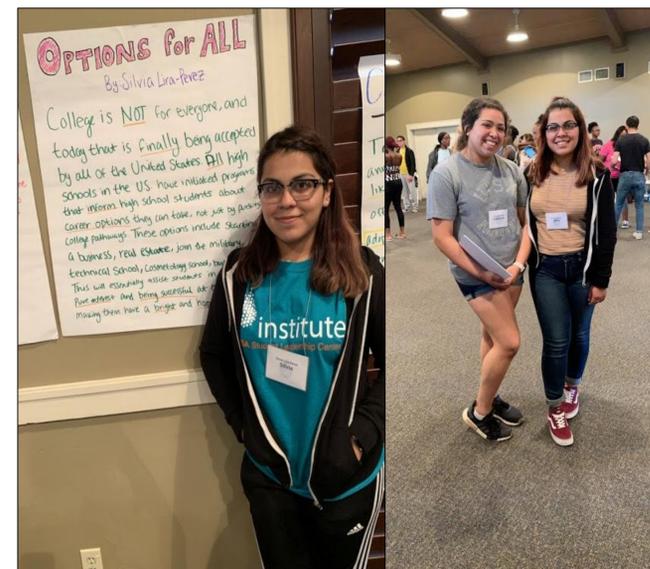
We explored the different types of leadership styles through the DISC test. I fall under the S in DISC which is steadiness. This experience overall showed me how communication is key when leading, that not everyone is going to think the same as you and that is okay. One must respect other's core values and personalities, one must have integrity, goals, and a vision to pursue.

HERBS

I learned to view the world from different perspectives and put myself in other shoes to be equitable and honorable. Everyone is different so what might work for someone may not work for someone else, so one must adjust to be fair to all and be honorable and kind regardless of who you're dealing with.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- **Communicating Effectively:** *I was able to really speak my feelings and emotions out and be vulnerable and open about stuff that has made me who I am today. This is something I almost rarely ever do, especially to people I barely know. I was able to receive feedback and give feedback too on stuff we could all improve on. It was a safe space.*
- **Self-Reflection & Awareness:** *I really thought a lot of who I am as a person and as a leader specifically. I never really considered myself as leader because I tend to not be dominant at all and quiet, but now I believe I possess the qualities of a steady/silent leader.*



IMPACT

I feel like me signing up to go to this 6 day event was a huge step for me, considering how reserved I am and that I did not know anyone else going. This experience made me realize that I really need to put myself out there, join stuff, and be more involved. This will only help me keep expanding my knowledge and the connections I make.

I realized that I should be open to all ideas and not be ignorant and one sided. I should explore both sides of a situation/argument. I should take everyone's feelings and opinions into consideration and meet the needs of others.

Finally, that it really is not hard to make friends. Before this I didn't really have friends at school because I had been too shy, but I took this as an opportunity to change that and this opportunity as a whole has definitely helped increase my confidence.

ADVICE

Even if you don't know anyone attending a certain event, attend! Don't let that stop you.

It is more than okay to be vulnerable, open with others, and communicate what we feel.