



November 2022

Greetings Students and Parents,

The Erie City Mission's Urban University Youth Program empowers 7th-12th grade students in Erie County toward servant leadership through a variety of experiences that include career exploration, academic enrichment, mentorship, service learning, and faith formation.

Our **2023 Winter/Spring After School Program and Family/CommUUnity Workshops** schedule will host a variety of hands-on learning experiences that offer practical opportunities for participants to develop leadership character and courage.

STEPS TO APPLY:

1. Parent and student should review our program **schedule** and requirements.
*Due to our limited program format, we ask that you carefully consider our **program contract** and expectations. We are not looking for students who are perfect, but rather students who are willing to give their best effort, show respect, be 100% committed, and progress toward a growth and servant leadership mindset.*
2. Student must complete and submit one of the following leadership questionnaires; **First Time Student** or **Returning Student** along with his/her most recent grade report. This can be submitted as a hardcopy or sent via email to ecmyouth@eriecitymission.org.
3. Once these are received, our Program Director will contact you to schedule an in-person interview. If you do not hear from us within two workdays, please contact us at 814-572-2365 to confirm your questionnaire and grades were received.
Both parent and student are expected to participate in the interview as we see this communication and connection as a critical part of the equation in partnering with you toward the personal development and growth of your child.

HIGHLIGHTED DOCUMENTS ARE ATTACHED OR ONLINE BY FOLLOWING QR CODE BELOW

If you are up for the challenge, we would look forward to the privilege to support your pursuit of personal, leadership, and spiritual growth. For the latest on our leadership adventures here at Urban University check us out on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#). For program questions, please feel free to contact me by phone or email.

RoseMarie Croce

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2023 WINTER/SPRING AFTER SCHOOL COURSE SCHEDULE:

Leadership In Action/Integrity & The Law:*

MEETS Tuesdays and Thursdays/Total 8 sessions (Jan 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31, Feb 2)

Integrity is doing the right thing even when it's hard. This course will offer a practical understanding how integrity impacts every facet of life, not just personally, but within our civic government and justice system as well. This highly interactive experience will include understanding and working with various leadership styles, an introduction to the positions and processes within the court room, a meeting with leaders at City Hall, a lawyers and judges Q&A panel, mock courtroom scenarios, project presentation, and book discussion with author of "The Sale", Alex Demczak.

**Students accepted in this course will be provided and required to read "The Sale", A Business Fable on how integrity creates lasting success, by Jon Gordon and Alex Demczak.*

Course Lead: Miss Cindy Heintz and Judge David Ridge

Location: Erie City Mission Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: \$20.00

Paper & Printmaking in collaboration with Grounded Print Shop:

MEETS Mondays and Wednesdays/Total 8 sessions (Feb 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, Mar 1)

This in-depth dive into the process of paper and printmaking will provide student participants the opportunity to conceptualize and create pieces of paper art from natural and plant materials.

Course Lead: Miss Ashley Pastore and Miss Tracey Berger

Location: Grounded Print Shop (1902 Cherry Street)

Course Cost: \$30.00

Media Production in collaboration with Community Access Media:

MEETS Tuesdays and Thursdays/Total 8 sessions (Mar 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30)

Participants in this course will work in teams to learn how to execute the creative process of visual storytelling through conceptualizing, recording, editing, and producing a Public Service Announcement message for Urban University. Students will use advanced HD media equipment with professional instruction from Community Access Media staff in their multi-faceted production studio.

Course Lead: Mr. Jacob Jones and Mr. Branden Montgomery

Location: Community Access Media (142 West 12th Street)

Course Cost: \$30.00

Graphic Art & Design/Youth Commerce:*

MEETS Tuesdays and Thursdays/Total 8 sessions (Apr 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27, May 2, 4)"

In this "business art" course, students will learn how to use the Vectorator Graphic Design Program to work as marketing teams to create positive leadership logos and messages that will be featured on clothing to be sold through our annual online merch store, May 8-22, 2023. Guest marketing professionals will introduce and launch students into the design process and social media promotion strategies. Proceeds from this sales campaign will go toward our 2023 Summer Mission Trip to serve the youth at the Kingswood Home For Children, Bean Station, TN

**This course requires a prerequisite of either Leadership In Action or Media Production*

Course Lead: Miss Tracey Berger

Location: Erie City Mission Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: \$30.00

Pickleball:

MEETS Mondays and Wednesdays/Total 8 sessions (Apr 24, 26, May 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17)

Join the wave of Pickleball to learn one of the fastest growing sports in the world! Pickleball, a cross between tennis, badminton and ping-pong, attracts individuals of all ages and skill levels for fun and competitive exercise. This course is open to both the beginner and intermediate player to learn or improve their level of play. Equipment provided for first time pickle ball students; repeat students are required to bring their own equipment.

Course Lead: Mr. Don Wolfe and Miss RoseMarie Croce

Location: Church of the Cross (5901 Millfair Road)

Course Cost: \$20.00

**Students interested in getting more information on our 2023 Mission Trip experience should inquire at their interview.*

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM DETAILS:

- **Drop Off Time: 3:45PM-4:00PM**
- **Pick Up Time: 7:00PM for all other courses except Pickle Ball at 6:30PM**
- Each course will accept 6-12 students and will host a minimum 1:2 adult mentor to student ratio.
- Courses include a nutritious meal.
- Please note that our program meets regardless of days off from school. It will be expected that you consider vacation, family events, appointments, etc. against our schedule so that you may insure your student's attendance for every session, unless they are sick.
- Students accepted into the program are required to participate in at least one of the multiple Service Learning opportunities offered each semester but may choose the option to participate in more.
- To establish a growing culture of excellence in leadership, students are strongly encouraged to apply for more than 1 course.
- If a student wants to participate but transportation to and from our program is prohibitive, please be sure to communicate this at student interview so we may consider and offer potential solutions.
- Partial scholarships are considered upon request for multiple courses and family members.
- Family Celebration and Showcase Events – TBA

2023 FAMILY/COMMUNITY WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

Basics of Self Defense in collaboration with Trinity Karate Outreach

Friday, January 27, 5:45PM-7:15PM

While we hope that we would never need to use self-defense tactics, it is important to ensure that we could defend ourselves should the need arise. Because of limited space, this workshop requires an advanced RSVP and payment to guarantee your spot by Monday, January 23. This experience is best suited for families with children 8+ who can focus and engage in this activity.

Workshop Lead: Master Brian Arrington

Location: ECM Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: \$2.00/Person OR \$5.00/Family

Open Pickleball Play & Instruction in collaboration with Church of the Cross

Saturdays, January 28 and February 25, 10:00AM-12:00PM and Friday, March 10, 6:00PM-8:00PM

Pickleball was invented in 1965 near Seattle, Washington by three dads whose kids were bored with their usual summertime activities, but in recent years, this sport has taken off in its popularity and enjoyed by all ages and skill levels, even reaching a professional level. RSVP in advance and join us for both an introduction to rules and the game for beginners as well as open play for experienced players. This workshop is best suited for families with children 8+ who can focus and engage in this activity.

Workshop Lead: RoseMarie Croce and UU Pickleball students interested in helping

Location: Church of the Cross (5901 Millfair Road)

Course Cost: NA

Fire Cider Fermentation in collaboration with Wild Field Urban Farm

Monday, January 30, 6:00PM-7:30PM

In this workshop, participants will learn how to make and take home their own batch of fire cider, a vinegar tonic combining a variety of ingredients, such as, apple cider vinegar, garlic, onions, ginger, horseradish, and herbs. This flavored vinegar can be drizzled on salads or roasted vegetables, or added to marinades and sauces, and it offers a host of immune support benefits. Because of limited space and securing supplies this workshop requires advanced RSVP and payment to guarantee your spot by Tuesday, January 24th and is best suited for families with children 12+.

Workshop Lead: Miss Stephanie Ciner

Location: ECM Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: \$8.00/Person (includes 32 oz. Mason jar with lid and band) \$5.00/Person (if supplying your own)

DIY Card Making

Thursday, February 23, 5:30PM-7:30PM

Making your own greeting cards is not only cost effective, but so much fun. Get creative as you let those special people know how much you care with your original designs. Because of limited space, this workshop requires an advanced RSVP by Monday, February 20. It is best suited for families with children 10+ who can focus and engage in this activity.

Workshop Lead: Miss Brenda Crolli

Location: ECM Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: NA

Auntie Elaine's Homemade Soft Pretzels and Donuts

Friday, February 24, 5:30PM-7:30PM

Every family needs a good soft pretzel and donut recipe to pull out for cozy winter weekends at home. Join Auntie Elaine (not to be confused with Auntie Anne's) for this baking workshop where we will make different flavored soft pretzels and donuts and eat them together. Because of limited space, this workshop requires an advanced RSVP by Monday, February 20. It is best suited for families with children 8+ who are able to follow instructions and safely engage in these activities.

Workshop Lead: Miss Elaine Ghazinour

Location: ECM Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: NA

Paper & Print Making in collaboration with Grounded Print Shop

Saturday, March 11, 1:00PM-3:00PM

Just like our after school course, but within an abbreviated afternoon, participants will learn how to make paper from a variety of recycled materials and creatively design them. Enjoy this artistic and sustainably-focused workshop as we explore the process of hand-made paper and printing. This workshop requires advanced RSVP and payment to guarantee your spot/s by Monday, March 6. This experience is best suited for families with children 8+ who can focus and engage in this activity.

Workshop Lead: Miss Ashley Pastore

Location: Grounded Print Shop (1902 Cherry Street)

Course Cost: \$5.00/Person

Introduction to Chess for Beginners & Challenge Chess for Experienced Players

Saturday, April 1, 10:00AM-12:00PM

Did you know that learning chess can support the development of higher-order thinking skills—like problem solving, decision making, planning, and even creativity. Chess training and practice also helps improve general cognitive ability and scholastic achievement. This workshop will introduce the game to beginners and allow for experienced players to challenge one another. RSVP in advance. This experience is best suited for families with children 8+ who can focus and engage in this activity.

Workshop Lead: Mr. Franklin Curlin

Location: ECM Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: NA

LIVE Birds of Prey Presentation in collaboration with Tamarack Wildlife Center

Saturday, April 1, 12:00PM-2:00PM

Get up close and personal with some of Pennsylvania's magnificent birds of prey and learn about their characteristic features, discover their adaptations, and explore their critical role in our environment. Through interactive activities learn what you can do to help birds of prey and the world we share. Because of limited space and securing meals, this workshop requires an advanced RSVP and payment to guarantee your spot by Monday, March 27. This experience is best suited for families with children 6+ who can focus and engage in this activity.

Workshop Lead: Miss Melissa Goodwill

Location: ECM Youth Classroom (1017 French Street)

Course Cost: \$2.00/Person OR \$5.00/Family (includes Wegmans Sub Lunch)

FAMILY/COMMUNITY WORKSHOP DETAILS:

- Urban University is not just a youth program. Our aim also includes building a strong commUUnity focused on engaging our youth and families together.
- When families spend time having fun, learning and growing together, they create strong bonds and build trust thereby creating a positive commUUnity.
- Much planning and detail goes into each of our workshops to account for organization fees, facility space, materials, food, etc., therefore, we ask that you consider your schedules carefully when reserving a spot for any of these events. Your commitment and communication is greatly appreciated.



Program Contract

OUR MISSION:

The 'Erie City Mission' Youth Ministries seeks to intentionally develop emerging student leaders.

YOUR COMMITMENT:

In understanding our mission and that program spots are limited, students will be expected to make a commitment to fully attend and complete each **workshop or course** that they are accepted into, with responsibility, enthusiasm, and 100% effort. Therefore, parents and students should carefully consider these expectations before signing this contract.

We (Parent and Student) understand these EXPECTATIONS:

1. Participation is non-negotiable; I am expected to always give my best, practice teamwork, and complete assignments.
2. Be open to challenge; I am expected to grow, try new things and exhibit a positive attitude.
3. Respect: I am expected to respect my leaders, my peers, and the property and materials I have the privilege to use.
4. Grades: I am expected to value, give my best, and use support resources available in order to get the most from my education.
5. Language: I am expected to use appropriate and encouraging language to build others up and not tear them down.
6. God's Name: I will do my best to remember to not use the Lord's name in any way that brings dishonor to him.
7. Cell Phones: I understand that cell phones or other media devices are not permitted to be used during program hours, unless a leader allows for an educational purpose or experience. Phones will be collected upon arrival to the program and redistributed upon dismissal; this may also include special excursions and events.
8. If I do not understand a UU policy or decision, I have the responsibility to share my question or concern to the staff.
9. Travel: I understand the importance of appropriate and respectful travel protocol that includes; proper use of a seatbelt, if cell phone or media device usage are permitted, it will be with headphones only, demonstrating appropriate voice/noise levels and keeping my hands to myself.
10. Dress Code: I understand the expected dress code is neat and modest (no tank tops or camisoles, no pants below waist-line, shorts must be at least fingertip length, no undergarments should be visible, and closed toed shoes are required)
11. Due to the investment of financial resources by donors and time by staff and volunteer mentors, I understand that I am committing to 100% attendance, effort and practicing a growth mindset. I also understand that I am expected to communicate in advance if my student is sick or not able to attend the UU program.

We (Parent and Student) also understand if these expectations are not followed, or any of the following conduct occurs, it may result in consequence or immediate dismissal from the Urban University program.

1. A behavior that threatens any person's right to feel and be safe.
2. A behavior that includes inappropriate touching of a person's body, and/or using disrespectful or sexual language, inferences, or actions.
3. Any behavior involving purposeful destruction of property or theft.
4. Choices that involve use of vaping, smoking, drugs or alcohol.
5. Disrespect or refusing to follow directions of Urban University staff.

We (Parent and Student) acknowledge that we have carefully read and considered what is expected in having the privilege to participate in Urban University and commit to giving our best to get the most from this opportunity.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature(s): _____ **Date:** ___/___/___



2023 Winter/Spring After School Program Leadership Questionnaire

“Thinking is the hardest work that people never do.” Myron Golden

** Please take time to consider and respond to these questions with thought, as the effort you put into answering and discussing these questions at your interview will be considered in our selection process.*

Copy and paste applicable questions into the body of an email to complete and send back to rmcroce@erocitymission.org along with picture or scanned copy of your most recent grade report, OR you may submit online at www.erocitymission.org

- 1) **RETURNING STUDENT:** What brings you back to Urban University for another semester? Please be specific.
FIRST-TIME STUDENT: What is your personal definition of “leadership”? Describe two people in your life that you identify as leaders and why?
- 2) **RETURNING STUDENT:** How has your participation in Urban University influenced your response and perspective when faced with a challenge? Please give specific examples.
FIRST-TIME STUDENT: Would you describe yourself as “teachable”? Why or why not?
Teachable – Able and willing to learn, not just the skills that are being taught, but how you are open to grow and mature personally.
- 3) **RETURNING STUDENT:** If you were accepted, how do you see yourself contributing to the Urban University leadership culture this semester? Please be specific.
FIRST-TIME STUDENT: What are three areas you feel are your character strengths? What are three areas you recognize you need to personally improve or work on?
- 4) **RETURNING STUDENT:** Describe a significant lesson you learned the last semester you participated in Urban University. Please be specific.
FIRST-TIME STUDENT: After reviewing the Urban University Program Contract together with your parent, identify three points that you agree are important and why?
- 5) **RETURNING AND FIRST TIME STUDENT:** With every new year, Urban University students, mentors, and staff will again take part in Jon Gordon’s “One Word Challenge”. Please select a word that will motivate, inspire, and challenge you to grow personally and as a leader and share why you have chosen it. You are welcome to watch [this video](#) from 2022 to better understand the “One Word Challenge”.
- 6) **RETURNING AND FIRST-TIME STUDENT:** Are you considering getting more information and/or applying for our Summer Mission Trip to Knoxville, TN, July 21-29, 2023 to encourage and teach other students how to also step up to be leaders?
- 7) **RETURNING AND FIRST-TIME STUDENT:** Commitment is a key characteristic in leadership. Students may apply for as many courses as they are able to commit to completely. With this in mind, list the courses you are applying for in order of your preference (1 being most preferred) and share the reason why for each.