



Dear Caring Adult,

A young person has identified you as a trusted adult to provide a character reference for their application to Youth Leadership Jacksonville. So, Congratulations for being asked to submit a reference for a young person in your community! Thank you for taking the time to do so.

To assist you in providing a honest, fair, and easy to complete reference, we have simplified this form and provided an overview of the program for you to familiarize yourself.

With gratitude, The Youth LJ Team

Overview of Youth Leadership Jacksonville

MISSION: *Youth Leadership Jacksonville (YLJ) identifies a diverse group of high school students from across the First Coast who have demonstrated leadership and prepares them to become responsible, ethical leaders committed to active community involvement.*

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: YLJ is a 'once in a lifetime' experience that is challenging, eye-opening, and enriching. Students are selected from high schools in Baker, Clay, Duval and St. Johns counties to participate in activities and presentations designed to help them understand the issues facing our community, our successes at addressing issues and opportunities for involvement in all aspects of the community. The program addresses the critical skills needed to be a community leader. You can learn more about the program here:

<https://www.leadershipjax.org/programs/youth-leadership-jacksonville/>

WHAT WE LOOK FOR:

Time Management: YLJ is a time commitment that will require participants to miss a day of school each month. So we seek students who demonstrate the ability to manager the time and deadlines, we do not want this enrichment program to distract from academic performance.

Demonstrated Peer Leadership: The program requires regular engagement and collaboration with peers from across the region, so we are looking for students who have demonstrated positive peer relationships on their campus/team/group.

Civic Mindedness: We are seeking students who have contributed or advocated for a solution to a campus/community concern. Participants will have opportunity to meet and learn directly from community leaders, and a commitment and dedication to the local community will help participants maximize their experience.



LEADERSHIP
JACKSONVILLE

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Reference Form

Class 2026

(2025-2026)

(904) 337-6182

www.leadershipjax.org

Reference Provided For: _____

Reference Provided By: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Why would you recommend this student to participate in the Youth Leadership Jacksonville Program?

On a scale from low (1) to high (10), how would you rate this student's demonstrated performance of:

Time Management _____ Demonstrated Peer Leadership _____ Civic Mindedness _____

Please elaborate on your scores above so that our selection panel get better know this student.