

MISSION

The **mission** of TAP In Leadership Academy (TAP In) is to educate, equip, and empower youth living in marginalized, urban communities to enhance educational achievement, leadership development, and cultural awareness. By providing children with an equitable opportunity for intellectual, social, and emotional growth, it is TAP In Leadership Academy's **long-term goal** that all of its scholars are admitted to and complete a four-year college or university program.

VISION

TAP In Leadership Academy's **vision** is to cultivate better scholarship and responsibility in youth to become contributing leaders in their families, their communities, and in the world.

How is TAP In Leadership Academy different from other enrichment programs?

By serving scholars as early as 5th grade, TAP In Leadership Academy is able to afford youth early opportunities to grow and learn in a multiage environment. Through interactive lessons, hands-on activities, and engaging field studies, TAP In scholars are exposed to a holistic and worldwide assortment of options. Via peer mentoring, and one-on-one tutoring, scholars are given the time and attention they deserve to achieve excellence in academics and healthy ways to navigate relationships. Leaders are born through these experiences, and TAP In Leadership Academy strives to maintain and sustain communication with our scholars as they travel through these multiple levels of learning.

The interwoven thread throughout the program is respect for multiculturalism, as scholars journey through their educational experiences. Therein lies the strong undercurrent of pride and dignity for their own cultural backgrounds, as well as for those of others. In addition, scholars are engaged in culturally-integrated literacy curricula (CILC), which brings to the forefront the importance of respecting differences.

TAP In is making its mark in cultivating critical relationships with key campus and community leaders. With the evolution of campus programs, aligned with growth of TAP In, collaboration and resources continue to fuel curriculum development to best fit the needs and aspirations of TAP In scholars and their success. To date, there exists no other campus or community program like TAP In Leadership Academy. At TAP In, we continue to seek and provide experiences that teach to the whole child, that offer them opportunities for service-learning, and that increase civic engagement and social consciousness in our world.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are always welcoming new members to the growing TAP In Family! Please feel free to contact Sally K. Carter, founder and executive director, to contribute to TAP In Leadership Academy. (217) 979-3649 or via email at tapinurbana@gmail.com