The Leadership Institute’s victories are all thanks to you

“The Leadership Institute has trained thousands and thousands of conservative activists to fight back,” said Leadership Institute graduate Martha Boneta. “If it weren’t for the extraordinary donors who make that possible, we wouldn’t have these stories of success from all across the nation. Thank you so much, Leadership Institute donors. We appreciate you, we value you, and we’re so grateful – thank you.”

Martha hit the nail right on the head. Everything the Leadership Institute and its graduates accomplish is thanks to you – the Leadership Institute donor.

You understand how precious America’s founding principles are

You’re the one who sees the wrong direction our country heads down, and

stands up to do something about it. You’re the one who sees what’s right about our country, and desires to get back to those founding principles. You’re the one who signs on to the Leadership Institute’s vision to train more conservatives to be effective activists – and make America that “shining city on a hill” again.

Your generosity helps the student, the campaigner, and the farmer

I tell our staff and students, “you can’t save the world if you can’t pay the rent.” That means if it weren’t for you – the visionary donor – the Leadership Institute could not put together the trainings, faculty, supplies, and everything else to train students, activists, and leaders to fight for the America you and I love.

My staff and I use your gifts to train people like Martha Boneta pictured above, who fought bureaucrats, saved her farm, and protected the rights of farmers and entrepreneurs in Virginia. Your generosity also helped a candidate and campaigner last November to win a U.S. Congressional district in Maine that hadn’t been held by conservatives in 20 years.

I’m glad to present this newsletter to you as a report of what you’ve helped accomplish. I hope you’ll continue to be my partner and my friend in our mission to restore America to its founding principles.

I can’t do this without you. But you and I together can achieve many conservative victories. Thank you.

Cordially,

Morton C. Blackwell
President
Leadership Institute

Leadership Institute graduate Martha Boneta knows firsthand that “all politics is local.” Vicious bureaucrats tried to force her Liberty Farm in Paris, Virginia, out of business. Martha took Leadership Institute training, organized a political coalition, and passed two bills to protect farmers and entrepreneurs from bureaucratic terror. Martha said, “Thank you so much, Leadership Institute donors. We appreciate you, we value you, and we’re so grateful.”
My friend,

You made the Leadership Institute’s CampusReform.org America’s #1 campus news website.

In 2014, our Campus Reform reporters and stories appeared on national television 78 times – exposing leftist bias, abuses, and indoctrination on America’s college campuses.

Our coverage resulted in 25 high-profile victories and policy changes at colleges last year – a big help for conservative students.

Thank you for your help to build the Institute’s CampusReform.org into a powerful weapon to hold liberal professors and administrators accountable for their indoctrination.

Morton
Leadership Institute donors create student warriors

“It’s not enough to know your conservative principles are right,” said Morton Blackwell, president of the Leadership Institute. “If you want to change your campus – if you want to advance your conservative principles – you must learn how to win.”

Thanks to generous donors, the Leadership Institute turns principled students into champions for the conservative cause.

Through years of effort, the Leadership Institute has built a unique national network of 1,596 student groups – covering 61% of students at four-year universities in America. But Morton’s goal is to reach 100% of students. Right now, LI’s boots-on-the-ground field staffers travel across the country to identify new conservative students, organize them into groups, and build up existing groups.

With donor support, here’s how the Leadership Institute creates new conservative student warriors.

CAMPUS ACTIVISM STEP BY STEP

1) Train students with advanced techniques in Student Activism Conferences

Students learn how to build their campus groups through the Institute’s “boot camp of politics” – the Youth Leadership School. (See pages 2-3 for what students learn at this training).

Then, the Leadership Institute trains student leaders to take their activism to the next level. At the Institute’s Student Activism Conference, students learn how to formulate and implement activism ideas, organize protests, and take sharp photos and powerful videos to expose leftist campus indoctrination to the media.

2) Start conservative campus newspapers through Student Publication Workshops

While liberal professors dominate the classroom, liberal students dominate the official campus newspaper. Liberal students push the same ideology they hear in class: free markets exploit people, conservatives are racist, and socialism cures the world’s ills.

But with the Leadership Institute’s help, conservative students have a voice through the printed word. In the Institute’s Student Publications Workshop, students learn how to write, edit, fund, and publish a student newspaper, and engage in investigative journalism.

3) Run for student government through Campus Election Workshops

Student governments control important aspects of life on campus. Often packed with liberals, they channel funding to leftist causes and speakers and deny official recognition to conservative student groups on campus. With no opposition, liberal students monopolize campus life and silence the voices of conservatives – until now.

So far this semester, Institute staff have trained 86 students on 14 campuses to run for student government elections this spring.

Conservatives elected to student governments can vote to formally recognize conservative groups and fairly allocate funding to these students to promote conservative principles on campus.

4) Expose leftists on national TV as Campus Correspondents

Since 2009, the Institute’s campus news website CampusReform.org has proved to be a huge game-changer in efforts to fight back against leftists on campus. Through donor support, the Leadership Institute has recruited and trained so far 31 student Campus Correspondents as eyes and ears in the classroom to:

• Record a professor’s in-class indoctrination
• Write and publish a factual story of the incident on our CampusReform.org website
• Be invited to speak on TV to expose the professor to a national audience and generate outrage
• Hold the college to account through the pressure generated from national exposure

Already in 2015, LI Campus Correspondents have appeared on national television 20 times to expose leftist bias and abuse at college. (See pages 2-3 for screenshots of their TV appearances).

Through donor support, Morton Blackwell aims to expand to 50 Campus Correspondents in 2015 to force more professors to stop their leftist indoctrination – or else be publicly shamed, suspended, and even fired as others have been, thanks to the Leadership Institute’s work.
Gabby Hoffman helps college students fight campus leftists

Daughter of immigrants who suffered under communism fights leftists at UCSD

“I grew up with a love for freedom and hatred of communism,” said Gabby Hoffman.

The American-born daughter of Lithuanian immigrants who fled Soviet rule, Gabby Hoffman brought her conservative principles to bear as a student at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD).

The Leadership Institute employs the best and the brightest. Today, Gabby works at the Leadership Institute to help students fight campus leftists, just as she did at UCSD.

President of student group uses Leadership Institute training for campus activism

Gabby became president of a conservative student group shortly after she began her political science degree. Fortunately, thanks to Leadership Institute donors, the Institute held its “boot camp of politics” – the Youth Leadership School – in California just after her election.

At the Leadership Institute’s Youth Leadership School, Gabby learned how to:

- Increase the size and effectiveness of her student group
- Motivate members with exciting projects
- Engage in campus activism to promote conservative principles
- Host successful speaker events on campus

Later that semester, Gabby’s group invited conservative activist David Horowitz to speak on her campus and promote conservative principles. At the event, UCSD student Jumanah Ahmed al-Bahri challenged Horowitz to prove her Muslim Student Association’s connection to terrorism.

Horowitz asked the student: “I’m a Jew. The head of Hezbollah has said that he hopes we will gather in Israel so he doesn’t have to hunt us down globally. For it, or against it?”

Al-Bahri replied: “For it.”

Gabby’s Horowitz event helped expose the threat from radical Islamists. Video of the exchange between Horowitz and the student went viral, viewed millions of times on national TV and online by outraged conservatives and pro-Israel Americans.

All-American who loves fishing, shooting, and blogging

Throughout her college career and after graduation, Gabby continued to hone her conservative skills and engage in activism.

Gabby has written op-eds for Townhall.com, produced a conservative radio show on KCBQ 1170AM in San Diego, and gained more than 37,000 followers who read her political commentary on the social media network Twitter.

With her sister Anna Maria, Gabby manages Counter Cultured, a website to advocate for culturally conservative issues through articles, videos, interviews, and new media. They also run A Taste of Patriarchy – a food blog that takes a jab against leftism while “promoting cultural conservatism and good eating.”

For fun, Gabby goes fishing and shooting. But she admits that’s not really taking a break from politics.

“Every time I fish or shoot is a political act – because leftists want to take away those rights from Americans,” Gabby proclaimed.

Behind enemy lines in the liberal Northeast

The Leadership Institute hires conservatives who were leaders on their campuses to train new leaders. Today, Gabby works for the Leadership Institute as a regional field coordinator in the Northeastern United States.

In the liberal-dominated Northeast, Gabby organizes conservative students into groups, trains them to fight back against the left, and mentors them to promote conservative principles on campus.

“Thanks to donors, I was given an opportunity to take the Leadership Institute’s training when I was a student,” said Gabby. “Now I get to train students to stand strong for conservatism on campus like I did.”

— By Mitchell Nozka
Candidate and campaign manager engineer a political knockout

“The Leadership Institute was helpful in providing the knowledge and experience that helped us win in a Democrat-held district,” said Maine’s new congressman, Bruce Poliquin. Leadership Institute graduates Bruce Poliquin and Matt Hutson, his campaign manager, put together a grassroots campaign to win a district held by liberals for the past 20 years.

Today, Poliquin serves in the U.S. House of Representatives for Maine’s 2nd Congressional District, with Hutson by his side as his chief of staff in Washington, D.C.

Escapes Harvard as a conservative, reins in Maine’s spending

A third generation Mainer, Bruce Poliquin grew up in a Catholic family with parents who worked hard, spent wisely, helped their neighbors, and volunteered at church. Poliquin “escaped” from Harvard University with an economics degree and remained a strong conservative.

In 2008, Bruce took the Leadership Institute’s Future Candidate School – a training designed to prepare conservatives to run for elected office. Thanks to his family background, economic philosophy, and Leadership Institute training, Bruce became Maine’s State Treasurer in 2010 and slashed wasteful spending. Then in 2014, he captured the Republican nomination for Maine’s 2nd Congressional district with 56.8% of the vote, and won a three-way general election with 45.2%. As a congressman, Poliquin stands for pro-life, free market principles to create “more jobs, less welfare, more liberty, and better lives for our citizens.”

Poliquin is one of 30 Institute graduates who currently serve in the U.S. House and Senate – thanks to a campaign put together by Leadership Institute veteran Matt Hutson.

Leadership Institute donors turn a conservative activist into campaign powerhouse

Poliquin’s campaign manager, Oklahoma native and Oklahoma State University graduate Matt Hutson, has a long history with the Leadership Institute. An LI intern, field staffer, and graduate of 21 Institute grassroots and political trainings, Hutson has worked on several campaigns, including ones for Governor Bobby Jindal (Louisiana) and

Bruce Poliquin took the Leadership Institute’s Future Candidate School and won election to the U.S. House of Representatives for Maine’s 2nd District. Congressman Poliquin is also a donor to the Leadership Institute to help others receive the same training to win campaigns.

Congressmen Roger Williams (Texas) and Andy Harris (Maryland).

In 2014, Matt used his Leadership Institute training and said he “built an army of hundreds for our grassroots efforts” to make phone calls, knock on doors, get out their message – and turn Maine’s 2nd Congressional district from what commentators called “Likely Democrat” into a conservative gain.

Now, Matt serves as Congressman Poliquin’s chief of staff in Washington, D.C. “It is truly an honor to serve and work for a leader who not only talks about conservative principles, but displays them as a congressman,” said Matt.

Recently named by Campaigns & Elections magazine as a top influencer in the country, Matt has given back to the Leadership Institute by serving as volunteer faculty for LI’s Youth Leadership School.

Donors helped him get trained, so Poliquin became a Leadership Institute donor

“I’m grateful to the Leadership Institute and their donors for providing me the opportunity to learn valuable campaign skills and insights,” said Matt.

Generous donors to the Leadership Institute made possible the political trainings Bruce Poliquin and Matt Hutson took and built a winning campaign with.

Congressman Poliquin became a Leadership Institute donor the same week he took the Institute’s Future Candidate School in 2008. “Bruce Poliquin joined the ranks of conservatives who took our training and became donors,” said Leadership Institute president Morton Blackwell. “These graduates realize they’ve discovered a goldmine, and donate to help others get the same training they have.”

“Congressman Poliquin’s campaign is a fine example of a victory our donors made possible,” Morton continued. “When a race is close, Leadership Institute training gives our graduates a competitive edge to come out head and shoulders above the rest.”

— By Mitchell Nozka

Leadership Institute veteran Matt Hutson harnessed the knowledge from his 21 Institute trainings to propel Bruce Poliquin to election victory in a district held by liberals for 20 years.
Sower of seeds, puller of weeds

Farmer fights leftists with Leadership Institute training

Martha Boneta holds produce grown on her Liberty Farm in Paris, Virginia. Martha used her Leadership Institute training to organize a coalition and pass two bills to protect Virginia farmers and entrepreneurs from abusive bureaucrats.

A childhood dream turned nightmare by red tape and regulations

Leadership Institute graduate Martha Boneta grew up on what was George Washington’s farmland in Mount Vernon, Virginia. As she helped her mother grow a kitchen garden behind their home, Martha knew she wanted to be a farmer.

“Fulfilling my childhood dream to be a farmer meant everything to me,” Martha said. “But I never dreamed there would be miles and miles of red tape and regulations that would interfere with being an entrepreneur in farming.”

After she armed herself with Leadership Institute training, Martha built a coalition of allies to fight against vicious leftist regulators and pass legislation to protect her farm – and other farmers – from abuse.

It’s your birthday? Pay $15,000 to the government

In 2006, Martha and her family purchased Liberty Farm in Paris, Virginia. “I have gone through an unbelievable amount of hardship based on years and years of an environmental group acting in collusion with realtors and the local county government to force my family off our land,” said Martha.

In 2012, Fauquier County administrators threatened to fine Martha up to $15,000 a day for three “violations”:

- Hosting a 10-year-old’s birthday party on her farm without a permit
- Selling produce directly to individuals on her farm
- Advertising pumpkin carvings

County administrators forced her to stop selling produce. And suspiciously, the county supervisor revealed he knew Martha would be audited by the government – days before she received the actual notice from the IRS. Outraged by this bureaucratic terror, Martha fought back.

Leadership Institute training bears fruit

In 2013, Martha took the Leadership Institute’s Future Candidate School, Crisis Communication Workshop, and Public Speaking Workshop. Using the skills she cultivated from her Institute training on how to build coalitions and organize grassroots campaigns with effective messaging, outraged Americans flocked to Martha’s side to help.

Martha gained the support of conservative legislators to introduce the Boneta Bill. The bill died in the Virginia Senate in 2013. Undeterred, Martha and her coalition fought again, got the bill passed in both chambers of the Virginia General Assembly, and signed into law by Democrat governor Terry McAuliffe in 2014.

“As a result of the training I had through the Leadership Institute, we passed legislation in the Virginia General Assembly,” said Martha. “It was an honor and privilege to go to the Leadership Institute and learn the skills I needed to create legislation and get a bill passed.”

The Boneta Bill protects farmers and allows them to be entrepreneurs free from overbearing regulation and difficult-to-obtain permits.

Martha Boneta gets another bill passed in Virginia

The Piedmont Environmental Council, who holds the easement on her farm, “overstepped their authority by trespassing, interfering with my farming activities, and even looking through my personal belongings,” said Martha.

In a stunning repeat of her first success, Martha rallied conservatives to pass another bill in March 2015. This time, the bill provides protections to property owners like her from overzealous easement enforcement by abusive administrators.

Martha thanks Leadership Institute donors

“The Leadership Institute has trained thousands and thousands of conservative activists to fight back,” said Martha. “If it weren’t for the extraordinary donors who make that possible, we wouldn’t have these stories of success from all across the nation. Thank you so much, Leadership Institute donors. We appreciate you, we value you, and we’re so grateful – thank you.”

Leadership Institute donor support continues to train conservatives like Martha and transform them into effective activists and leaders – who will fight leftists and win.

— By Mitchell Nozka and Karl Melton

Leadership Institute graduate Martha Boneta appeared on national TV to expose a vicious bureaucracy. Fauquier County, Virginia, administrators threatened to fine Martha $15,000 a day to host a birthday party without a permit on her farm.
**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT ...**

The Leadership Institute’s CampusReform.org stops American flag ban at the University of California-Irvine

In March, the University of California-Irvine’s Legislative Council voted to ban the American flag from the student government’s main lobby. The council said, “The American flag is a weapon of nationalism, colonialism, and imperialism,” and doesn’t belong in an “inclusive space.”

The Leadership Institute’s CampusReform.org coverage on this outrageous incident went viral, making national headlines. The pressure generated from Campus Reform’s coverage was so intense, an executive board at UC-Irvine vetoed the flag ban.

Then, the Legislative Council said they would vote to ban the flag again. The Leadership Institute activated two student groups in its national network at the University of California. Institute staff supplied those students with flags, sign-making materials, and a plan to rally Americans in a successful protest on campus.

Fox News invited the Institute’s investigative reporters to appear on TV to explain to the American people what was at stake at the college. The Leadership Institute also emailed supporters on March 11th to call UC-Irvine’s chancellor to express their outrage against this anti-American policy. His phone line was jammed all day.

As a result, three members of the Legislative Council changed their minds and said they would not vote to ban the flag.

Though this is a victory for conservative principles, more than 90 professors signed a petition demanding the ban be reinstated because “U.S. nationalism contributes to racism.” The Leadership Institute will remain vigilant and keep an eye on this development and campus leftists who impose their anti-American indoctrination at America’s universities.

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**UPCOMING SCHOOLS**

**APRIL 2015**
- 18  Women’s Leadership Training
  Arlington, VA
- 18-19  Youth Leadership School
  Greensboro, NC
- 25-26  Youth Leadership School
  Chicago, IL
- 27-29  Public Relations School
  Arlington, VA

**MAY 2015**
- 4-7  Campaign Management School
  Arlington, VA
- 9-10  Youth Leadership School
  New York, NY
- 12-13  Career Skills Workshop
  Arlington, VA
- 19  On-camera Television Workshop
  Arlington, VA

**JUNE 2015**
- 9-10  Online Journalism Workshop
  Arlington, VA
- 12  Debate Workshop
  Arlington, VA

For a complete list of classes, visit: www.leadershipinstitute.org/training

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“The website Campus Reform – there’s your reason to be optimistic…. One of my all-time, fast-becoming favorite websites.”
 — RUSH LIMBAUGH