

SIENA

BONNER SERVICE LEADERS PROGRAM



WHAT ARE BONNER SERVICE LEADERS?



Bonner Service Leaders are undergraduate students who utilize their academic talents to lead community change through service. They help to build a world that is more just, peaceable and humane through direct service, professional development and scholarly examination of injustice. Some of Siena College's partner organizations work with at-risk youth, people suffering from disability and addiction, immigrants, formerly incarcerated, and other marginalized populations.

The Bonner Service Leaders Program is a four-year commitment for a student at one site that aims to combine service with academics and career goals. Placements are developmental, moving students through increasing levels of experience and responsibility across four years. This program is unique because students get the opportunity to focus on social justice issues locally, nationally and internationally. Siena College is the only higher education institution in New York with this program.

Bonner Service Leader students are eligible for up to \$8,000 over their four years in the program based on their Federal College Work Study qualifications. This amount is a combination of Bonner institution and federal work-study funds.





PROGRAM DETAILS

Bonner Service Leaders will participate in the completion of an 18-credit certificate of Community Development. This is a culmination of their Academic Pathway, which includes the following Cornerstone Activities:

- First Year—students embark on a **first-year service** trip that brings them to West Virginia. Students are exposed to rural poverty on this trip and learn about the challenges of poor rural communities.
- Second Year—students engage in a **second-year exchange** where they attend a regional or national conference and are exposed to the National Bonner Network of more than 60 institutions in the United States as well as international partners.
- Third Year—students explore poverty at an international site through Academic Community Engagement's five-week **Global Internship Program**. Current sites include Carmen Pampa, Bolivia and Botshabelo, South Africa.
- Fourth Year—students complete a **senior capstone** where they culminate their four-year experience in a final thesis and presentation at the Siena College Academic Celebration.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Siena Bonner Service Leaders Program is recognized as a model for Bonner schools in the national network of more than 60 schools.
- Bonner Service Leaders Program provides financial and training resources to students who want to serve, but would otherwise have to work out of financial necessity or who could not otherwise afford to go to college.
- Bonner Service Leaders Program students participate in weekly training throughout their four years that hone professional development skills.



BONNER PROGRAM GRADUATE OUTCOMES

The students obtain a well-rounded understanding of working with non-profits at all levels. Students gain a skillset that includes public speaking, working with diverse groups, volunteer management, conflict resolution, program development and management, and ability to work with high-level professionals.

- Over the last five years, 100 percent of Siena Bonner Service Leaders have gone on to either the graduate school of their choice, national service, or employment of their choice.
 - Graduate schools include Brandeis University, Boston University School of Public Health, Columbia University, University of Michigan, University of Rochester, Russel Sage Graduate School, The College of St. Rose, Empire State College, SUNY Downstate Medical School and Albany Medical College, Merrimack and SUNY Albany.
 - Post-graduate national service opportunities include the New York City Teaching Fellows Program, City Year, AmeriCorps*VISTA Fellows Program and Peace Corps.
 - Employers include Siena College, America Works, New York Cares, Target Management Training Program, Father Peter Young Housing Industries and Treatments in Albany, MS Society, West Chester Community Opportunity Program, Boys and Girls Club of Albany, and the AIDS Council
- Nationally, 46% of Bonner graduates earn an advanced/graduate degree, which is more than double the national rate for similar students who are not part of the Bonner Program.



Siena College's beautiful, suburban campus is home to **3,000 undergraduates** and is located in Loudonville, N.Y. The Schools of Liberal Arts, Business and Science offer countless program combinations so students can explore and customize their education to make their personal and professional dreams happen.

For further information, visit www.siena.edu/bonner or contact:

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