A WORLD CLASS SCHOOL IN AFRICA

African Leadership Academy has established itself as a transformational educational institution. Through continuous innovation led by talented staff and faculty, the Academy is driving progress in leadership development and entrepreneurship globally.

The Academy is at the forefront of advancements and dialog in international education and leadership through its membership of several bodies including:

ALA is an accredited Cambridge International Examinations Centre

The World Leading Schools Association was established to bridge cultural differences and to improve collaboration between leading schools and institutions of higher education around the world.

The Allan Gray Orbis Foundation Circle of Excellence recognises South Africa's top schools including ALA for their consistent excellence in education.

ALA is the only African member of the Global Online Academy (GOA) an exclusive community of some of the world’s leading independent schools that allows students to enrol online in courses offered at member schools.

The Winchester International Symposium has ten member schools who over the long term exchange educational practices and ideas. ALA hosted the Symposium in 2013.

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WELCOME TO YOUR FUTURE

At African Leadership Academy we define the future of education through our ground breaking programs. We are shaping tomorrow by developing young leaders with the courage to think differently, to break boundaries, to lead teams and enable positive change.

We design programs that reflect all we know about how leaders are developed. Our programs mould thinkers with the capacity to act; they create strong networks and offer access to transformative opportunities; they challenge students to practice and commit to continuous innovation and improvement. Our programs continue over the course of a lifetime.

Education at ALA is not about a grade, it is about a way of life. We seek young leaders who commit each day to authoring the future they desire for themselves and for others.


We comb Africa for youth aged 16 to 19 years who have shown the spark of initiative, who see what can be and strive to make it so.

Selected young leaders complete an intensive Two Year Pre-University Program that accelerates their intellectual growth and builds practical leadership skills.

Young leaders are aided and guided by a powerful network along their path to transformative impact in Africa.

POTENTIAL

16-19 yrs

Selected young leaders complete an intensive Two Year Pre-University Program that accelerates their intellectual growth and builds practical leadership skills.

PRACTICE

2 YEARS

We look for bold visionaries who are inspired to be more, who individually will write the future in their chosen fields and collectively will be a catalytic force for good, transforming Africa and the world. Our values: integrity; excellence; curiosity; compassion; humility; and diversity.

– Chris Bradford

Founder and CEO

– Uzo Agyare-Kumi

Dean

African Leadership Academy
A CURRICULUM THAT ENABLES AUTHORSHIP

Our Two Year Curriculum is uniquely designed to be intellectually enriching and to provide students with a strong academic grounding for the future. Central to this is the core curriculum of courses in Entrepreneurial Leadership, African Studies, English and Mathematics. The core curriculum is compulsory for all students with courses in Entrepreneurial Leadership, African Studies and English running throughout the two years at the Academy.

Students can also complete other subjects drawn from the sciences, humanities, commerce and independent research. These courses are delivered using multiple modes including on campus delivery by our world class faculty, or online from a partner institution through the Global Online Academy.

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

Our academic courses prepare students to sit Cambridge International Examinations including A - Levels, the world’s most widely recognised pre university credential. A-levels are proof of academic preparedness to enter outstanding universities around the world.

THE FIRST YEAR: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM

During the first year of studies at ALA, each student takes a range of courses designed to highlight connections across disciplines and to build deep knowledge in individual subjects of their choice.

THE SECOND YEAR: ACADEMIC FOCUS SUBJECTS

In their second year, students will continue with their core curriculum and focus on preparation for their Cambridge examinations. Students who demonstrate sufficient capability are able to pursue additional challenges through research in the sciences, humanities, creative arts or international relations. Students are supported by a faculty member in this research and are asked to deliver a final paper and presentation detailing their findings.

CRITICAL THINKERS WHO WILL SHAPE THE FUTURE

Our approach to teaching and learning develops young people into critical thinkers who can take on any challenge in the 21st century. We provide a framework that guides students to form and test their own views.

SEMINAL READINGS

Our regular classes are discussion based, fostering inquiry. Beyond this, every term the entire Academy takes part in a reading and discussion exercise known as Seminal Readings. Over the course of the week, all regular classes pause and groups focus entirely on reading and discussing thematic texts by influential thinkers including Plato, Julius Nyerere and George Orwell. This exercise provides an opportunity for members of the Academy to discuss issues of universal importance. Faculty members facilitate the discussions, allowing students the opportunity to debate, critically analyze and reflect on values.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIA

Through the independent research symposia, selected students can complete independent research in a topic of interest to them in the sciences, humanities, creative arts or international relations. Students are supported by a faculty member in this research and are asked to deliver a final paper and presentation detailing their findings.

The goal of the ALA curriculum is to provide young leaders with the knowledge and strategic insight they need to take action as agents of positive change on the African continent. The Academy’s comprehensive course offering currently includes the following subjects:

- African Studies
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Creative Art
- Economics
- Entrepreneurial Leadership
- French
- Geography
- History
- International Relations
- Literature in English
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Writing and Rhetoric

The experience of leading the ALAMAU team, Arnold was able to hone his management skills and to affirm his interest in diplomacy. He is in his first year at Macalester College, the alma mater of former United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan and Fred Swaniker, one of the founders of ALA.

African Leadership Academy Prospectus 2016
The Academy’s Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership has developed and tested BUILD, a unique curriculum framework for teaching youth entrepreneurship as a way of fighting unemployment and engaging youth to lead solutions to local problems. Students are first trained to BELIEVE that they have the power to change the world around them, and embrace a mind-set of continual improvement. They then learn to build empathy and UNDERSTAND the community they intend to serve with an entrepreneurial venture. Young entrepreneurs then INVENT a wide range of possible solutions, prototyping and testing their ideas by LISTENING to feedback from potential customers and other stakeholders. After a process of iteration and improvement, they DELIVER impactful new ventures and solutions by mobilizing resources and leveraging networks. The BUILD framework is one of the pillars of Entrepreneurial Leadership and is applied in all of the Academy’s programs and work.

As Chief Executive Officer of Footprints Ltd, a student-run enterprise that sells ALA branded merchandise, Rim developed and implemented business strategies, managed the overall operations and resources of the business. In May 2014, Rim was awarded the 2014 Milead Fellowship as part of an African Women Empowerment Program becoming one of the 25 most promising young women leaders on the continent. As part of her fellowship, she attended a 3-weeks intensive leadership training in July in Accra, Ghana. After her first year at ALA, Rim founded Empower Education in her home country, Tunisia. Empower Education is a not for profit organization that prepares students for professional life through soft skills development and complementing the hard skills that are taught in the conventional school system.

Rim is passionate about economics and exploration and currently attends Yale - National University of Singapore.
LEARN FROM OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS AND INDUSTRY PRACTITIONERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The quality of teaching and mentoring greatly influences the development of young people. At ALA, we recruit teachers and staff who match the intellect, leadership potential and drive what we expect in our students. Our staff come from across the globe and are a distinguished group of industry practitioners and experienced educators. What they share in common is belief in the Academy’s vision and the commitment to enabling our young leaders to reach their full potential.

MEET SOME OF OUR HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF AND FACULTY WHO BRING A RANGE OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES TO THEIR WORK WITH OUR YOUNG LEADERS:

FROM EDUCATION

- Claire Wilson
  - South Africa
  - Writing & Rhetoric Faculty

- Usu Aggarwani
  - Nigeria
  - Dean of the Academy

- Cheewi Ejikawir
  - Zambia
  - University Guidance Coordinator

- Seni Morris
  - United States
  - United States Naval Academy Program

- Stella Kangau
  - Cameroon
  - Economics and African Studies Faculty

- Shoki Mapokgole
  - South Africa
  - African Studies Faculty

- Divine Kangami
  - Cameroon
  - Economics and African Studies Faculty

- Uzo Agyare-Kumi
  - Nigeria
  - Dean of the Academy

- Sana Mierke
  - United States
  - Director of Global Programs

- Chris Bradford
  - United States
  - Founder and Chief Executive Officer

- Divale Ewinyu
  - Uganda
  - Africa Careers Network Manager

- Ayade Oummih
  - Morocco
  - North Africa Strategic Relations

- Sarmi Surianarain
  - India
  - Director of Lifelong Engagement

- Chris Bradford
  - United States
  - Founder and Chief Executive Officer

- Elmahdi Oummih
  - Morocco
  - North Africa Strategic Relations

- Dave Tait
  - South Africa
  - Head of Entrepreneurial Leadership

FROM SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

- Iwalaili Olise
  - United Kingdom
  - Mathematics Faculty and Sports Program Director

- Dewees Mwendaoggo
  - United States
  - Head of Mathematics

- Gosielle Olawale
  - United States
  - Director of Student Life, Arts and Culture

FROM THE CREATIVE AND DESIGN ARTS

- Sharmi Surianarain
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FOSTERING A DIVERSE Community

The Academy is a community, we offer a home away from home for our young leaders that enables them to grow and learn. The Two Year Program is fully residential (boarding) with separate dormitories for boys and girls. Each student shares a room on campus with someone from another country or region of the continent. This challenges them to develop as a leader with greater understanding of the world beyond them and enhanced tolerance.

HEALTH, WELLNESS AND RELIGION

We have a dedicated wellness team that includes full time registered nurses, psychologists and coaches who cater to the health and well being of our students.

The Academy promotes inter-faith dialog and understanding, enabling all students to practice their faith freely. The campus has a dedicated room for all spiritual practices and hosts an interdenominational Christian service on Sundays and Muslim service every Friday.

THE ADVISORY SYSTEM

In an effort to provide a high level of support to each individual student, the Academy assigns every student to an Advisory Family led by a member of the ALA faculty. Each Advisory Family has between four and seven students and two Academy staff members who act as “parents”.

The Advisory Family is the nucleus of each student’s support on the ALA campus. Advisors provide emotional, social, psychological and academic support as required. They also help students choose their subjects, advise on emotional decisions and act as a source for social interaction, on or off campus.

Each student’s Advisor will typically be the primary point of contact with parents and guardians back home.
The campus is designed around a quad, with dormitories, classrooms, dining hall, auditorium and our science laboratories radiating from that center.

As part of our Campus Master Plan, additional buildings will be constructed including the Pardee Learning Commons and an innovative Arts Precinct. The new spaces and buildings will elevate our campus and continue to inspire students to design transformative solutions.

OUR CAMPUS AND DORMITORIES
ALA’s campus is located on the outskirts of Johannesburg in the suburb of Honeydew and provides a tranquil environment ideal for learning and discovery. The campus is designed around a quad, with dormitories, classrooms, dining hall, auditorium and our science laboratories radiating from that center.

In June 2015, the Nelson Mandela Residence, a new dormitory was opened on the ALA campus by former South African first lady, Graça Machel. This is the first building to be completed as part of our bold Campus Master Plan. Additional buildings will include the Pardee Learning Commons and an innovative Arts Precinct. The new spaces and buildings will elevate our campus and continue to inspire students to design transformative solutions.

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Extracurricular activities at ALA are ever changing and student driven. The list of clubs and activities running on campus changes every term to reflect the interests of the student body, and if there is an activity that you are interested in that is not offered on campus, then you can start it! The Student Government administers the budget for clubs, societies and other recreational activities on campus.

SPORTS AND FITNESS

Every student is required to participate regularly in a sporting activity. The Academy offers a range of sports at different levels to meet each student’s needs. Football, basketball, volley ball and ultimate frisbee are offered year-round, with the Academy’s teams competing in local leagues in these sports. Recreational sports on offer include netball, yoga, tennis, track athletics, touch rugby, martial arts, table tennis and cross-country.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Our dynamic roster of clubs and societies currently include highly regarded school choir - ALApella, Ubuntu Drama Club, Maths Club, a Writing Society and Science Club.

THE HOUSE PROGRAM

Every member of the ALA community, including staff is assigned to one of six houses that are named after major African rivers: Congo, Niger, Nile, Tana, Volta, and Zambezi.

Each house meets at least once a week to plan social events, coordinate participation in upcoming competitions and build community spirit by playing games and getting to know each other.

Eunice Mwabe (ALA Class of 2013) from Kenya is passionate about visual and performing arts. At ALA Eunice was the head of Drama Theatre, Choir and the student director of ALApella, the school choir. In her first year at ALA she played the lead role in the school play, a musical called Lifetime. In her second year, Eunice expanded her repertoire to theatrical director of an original production called Scarlette. Set in a future where mankind has advanced thanks to science, war, famine and disease are things of the past, scientists have been relegated to a lower status and there is insatiable demand for artistic entertainment. Eunice co-wrote Scarlette with her classmate, Keith Mundangepfupfu from Zimbabwe.

As she enters Harvard University, Eunice has this to say, “I feel ALA has prepared me to take on anything and for the intellectual challenges of college.”

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Prospectus 2016 | African Leadership Academy
Our young leaders are engaged in every level of decision-making at the institution including on our Board of Trustees. In 2015, Lillian Maboya (South Africa, ALA Class of 2009) was elected by her fellow ALA alumni to a two-year term on the Academy’s Board. Lillian is passionate about the environment, she founded Tumbuka, a social enterprise that prioritizes education and green technology development in rural areas, and is an Allan Gray Orbis Foundation Fellow.

At ALA, she was the house captain for Zambezi house, served on the student government, led a community service project then named Grow Green Itsuseng, and received the Africa Award for greatest passion for Africa. It is therefore unsurprising that her peers elected to the Academy’s peak governing body.

Having recently graduated with an honours degree in Environmental and Geographical Sciences from the University of Cape Town, Lillian has joined GE’s highly regarded Global Early Career Developments Programme in Johannesburg.
An Outstanding Track Record of University Placement

The Academy has a dedicated team of experienced university guidance counsellors who work with each young leader as they prepare for their next step after ALA. The university guidance team supports each student and their family through the entire university application process, including identifying schools that fit career goals and interests; preparation for entrance exams and interviews; identifying and securing scholarships and financial aid; and finally in making a decision on which university to attend.
LEARNING THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Our lifelong engagement begins with graduate support to our young leaders when they are in university. Regardless of where in the world they study, ALA alumni have assigned graduate support officers or host families who help them transition to a new culture and new life in university.

ALUMNI REUNIONS
Each year, the Academy hosts alumni reunions across the United States and in cities in each of the four major regions of Africa. These events enable our young leaders to reconnect with each other, including on-going professional development training and provide a platform for alumni to collaborate on ventures and projects.

CAREERS AND INTERNSHIPS
Africa Careers Network (ACN) connects ALA students, alumni and MasterCard Foundation Scholars to career and internship opportunities across the African continent. ACN connects our young leaders to meaningful roles with the continent’s leading employers in sectors including healthcare, finance, and technology.

ALA offers more than a Two-Year Program; we continue to promote the development of our young leaders beyond their time on campus by supporting them, connecting them to each other and to powerful networks for a lifetime.
African Leadership Academy’s vision is to identify, develop and connect a generation of ethical, committed leaders who will transform the African continent and shape the future. Our growing network of young leaders and staff are achieving impact in education, entrepreneurship and development. We offer a range of programs that are designed to unlock the potential of highly motivated young people from across Africa and the world. These programs include:

**The Global Scholars Program**
- The Global Scholars Program (GSP) is a 3-week leadership development program for teenagers aged 15 to 19. It focuses on community service and exploring South Africa’s culture, history and ideas. Participants come from the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa. GSP is held in July and August of each year.

**Catalyst Term**
- Catalyst Term students come from secondary schools around the world and study alongside young leaders in the Two Year Program in one of two streams: honors based study abroad, or internship based gap year. Catalyst is designed for globally minded young people who would like to become catalysts of positive social change.

**ALA Model African Union**
- ALA Model African Union is a week long simulation of the African Union providing a platform for young leaders to practice international diplomacy. The conference affords young leaders the opportunity to engage with complex international issues and to learn the art of negotiation. It is held in March of each year.

**The Anzisha Prize**
- The Anzisha Prize is delivered in partnership with The MasterCard Foundation. It is the premier award for young African entrepreneurs aged 15 - 22 years. Each year, 12 entrepreneurs are recognized as Anzisha fellows for their ingenious, scalable and high impact business ventures. They win a share of USD75,000 and join a powerful network that enables them to grow their businesses.

**BUILD in a Box**
- BUILD in a box allows ALA students to pay it forward and grow their own peer networks by running Entrepreneurial Leadership workshops for youth in their home countries, applying what they have learnt while at the Academy. Each year, ALA students organize and facilitate over 80 camps for more than 700 other young Africans.
APPLICATION CRITERIA

The Academy seeks to enroll the most outstanding young leaders aged 16 - 19 years from across Africa. We are looking for young people who excel in the academic environment and who have potential to lead and impact the world around them through their courage, initiative and innovation.

We receive thousands of applications each year and they are assessed on the following criteria:

LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL
Applicants are encouraged to share with us the activities in which they participate and the leadership roles they assume at home, at school and in their communities.

ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT
We invite applicants to celebrate their entrepreneurial spirit and share their original ideas with us.

PASSION FOR AFRICA
We seek applicants who will enrich and thrive in our community of individuals from a wide range of cultural, ethnic, socioeconomic and religious backgrounds from across Africa.

COMMITMENT TO SERVICE
When leaders use their skills for the benefit of society, we all benefit, we hope applicants will tell us about how they plan to give back to their communities.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
We review scores from national examinations, marks and comments on school reports to ensure that selected applicants can cope with the rigorous ALA curriculum.

In addition to direct applications from interested candidates themselves, we invite ministries of education, schools, civil and profit organizations, and individuals working with youth to nominate a young leader who they think would be a good fit for the Academy by emailing admissions@africanleadershipacademy.org.

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In addition to direct applications from interested candidates themselves, we invite ministries of education, schools, civil and profit organizations, and individuals working with youth to nominate a young leader who they think would be a good fit for the Academy by emailing admissions@africanleadershipacademy.org.
FINANCING YOUR ALA EDUCATION

Our young leaders come from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds and we are committed to building a united community that truly reflects the diversity of the African continent. On our campus, every student wears the same Academy issued school uniform and has equal access to opportunities.

We believe that financial means should not be a barrier to attending the Two Year Program, as such every admitted student is eligible to receive financial aid toward the full cost of tuition.

Every student at the Academy pays school fees in accordance with their financial situation. Financial aid towards the remaining tuition cost is awarded in the form of a forgiveable loan.

Once a student has been admitted to ALA, we ask them, their parents and guardians to provide comprehensive information to enable a confidential financial aid assessment. This assessment informs the school fees that each student will be required to pay and the amount of financial aid awarded.

Financial aid at the Academy is awarded as a forgiveable loan. A young leader’s loan is fully forgiven with no repayment required if they return to Africa by the age of 25 and live and work on the continent for at least ten years.

RETURNING TO IMPACTFUL CAREERS IN AFRICA

DIPO FASAWE
Nigeria, ALA inaugural class

After graduating from Dartmouth College in May of 2014, Dipo returned to Nigeria where he was the Operations Lead for Africa Courier Express (ACE), a logistics start-up founded by leading African e-commerce entrepreneurs. Dipo says this of his experience, “In my position as Operations lead, I was able to get a hands-on practical experience on what it takes to build and run a company. I was able to cut lead time for delivery from 48 hours to 24 hours in Lagos – a key achievement for the company. In hindsight, my experience with ACE was a culmination of my previous experiences in that I got to work on high-level business planning and also execute on set targets.”

Dipo has now joined Bain and Company’s Johannesburg office as an Associate Consultant.
ALA IN NUMBERS

WHO ATTENDS ALA?
20,064 applicants to ALA since 2008
733 young leaders from 45 African countries
94% of students at ALA have received financial assistance

ACADEMICS, UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND
99th PERCENTILE
ALA students are consistently placed in the 99th percentile of the Southern African Science Olympiad each year and take home top awards in life and physical sciences

128 universities attended by ALA alumni in 26 countries around the world

624 internships completed by ALA students and graduates to date (72% in Africa)

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND COMMUNITY IMPACT
57 young people have completed a BUILD-in-a-box camp led by ALA students in Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria.

131 ventures founded by ALA students and graduates

253 full-time jobs created by ALA alumni

A POWERFUL AND TRANSFORMATIVE NETWORK
35 guest speakers every year at ALA

225 universities attended by ALA young leaders including the Aspen Ideas Festival, Model UN and Model United Nations
“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has”
Margaret Mead