AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

DEVELOPING FUTURE AFRICAN ENGINEERS
A complete mind-shaping experience

Through engineering leadership program, individuals and groups implement transformative change and innovation to positively influence technologies, organizations, communities, society, and the world at large.

About ALA ELP

The Chevron-sponsored African Leadership Academy Engineering Leadership Program (ALA ELP) is designed for highly motivated and talented high school students aged 15 to 18 who are interested in a career in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math).

The program seeks to develop future African engineers equipped with leadership skills to lead a change on the continent. Participants get to engage in various engineering and leadership practices as they collaborate in groups to create and design a solution to an important, relevant engineering design challenge, being led by a team of talented STEM educators,

For the past three years, the program has drawn participants from all over the African continent with its curriculum, which is designed to provide these young leaders of tomorrow with the tools and techniques they need to become more effective changemakers, as well as to inspire them to discover and apply solutions.

FACTS

- 60 Scholarships awarded by Chevron.
- 50 African schools have participated in the past since 2020
- 20 Ideas and solutions created for Africa's peculiar situation
- Since 2020, three cohorts successfully completed the program.
- Participants are divided into teams of 3 and paired with a mentor to develop innovative technological solutions.

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Program Requirements

- African nationality
- High school student
- 15 to 18 years for the duration of the program

Program Cost:

$1500 excluding visa applications and flight arrangements

Program fee covers:

- Full meals and accommodation
- Site visits and field trips
- Cultural activities
- Access to curriculum and workshop materials
- Transportation costs within South Africa (including airport pickup and drop off)
Discover
The program also provides a wide range of excursions where participants learn about South Africa's rich history and cultural heritage while making new networks on the continent.

Participants take part in the following activities:
- Explore the city of Johannesburg
- Cultural Night
- Country parade
- Group presentations

Innovate
- The curriculum challenges both participants' thinking and their skills.
- Participants are supported by mentors and given an opportunity to practice problem-solving by identifying immediate problems, co-creating relevant and impactful solutions that serve the communities that the problems are situated in, use the power of prototyping to test solutions and receive feedback from industry experts to improve their ideas.

Create
The program supports the participants to tackle the engineering design challenge, they brainstorm, and craft possible solutions, receive and respond to feedback, and, ultimately, present their projects on the final day.

Develop
- Participants develop the six traits that will empower them to lead today and in the future. In groups, participants practice and develop these key leadership skills through impactful experientials and training led by talented educators.
- Participants practice these skills while building community and networking with peers, mentors as well as, professionals who are leaders in the STEM education and industry.

The curriculum is both theoretical and practical: Students are paired with mentors and given the opportunity to practice problem-solving by identifying problems, investigating root causes, and co-creating meaningful solutions. Students discover the power of prototyping.
I My name is Excellent Iyuke, I am from Irhodo Jesse in Idjerhe kingdom, Ethiope West Local Government Area of Delta state, Nigeria. I was born in 2005 and I attended Brainers International school Delta state Nigeria. My academic focus area is on applied technology.

I heard about African leadership academy from my uncle, and I proceeded to apply for the SEA program which lasted for 2 weeks. I went through various process to get all my documents ready since it was my first time leaving my country Nigeria. When I got to African leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa, I was overwhelmed with joy as this was a dream come through. I learnt a lot of things like how to operate a laptop, how to he outspoken, how to face the crowd to give a presentation, and how to live freely with other people.

At African leadership academy I made my first presentation on Pecha Kucha (my story). Initially I was a bit nervous because I had to face the crowd and talk about myself (past, present, future) which was a first-time experience. After the presentation I realized it was a great privilege to face the crowd and speak. I also learnt on how to collaborate with teams which gave me the idea that together we can change the world into a better place for the next generation.

Overall, it was fun getting to move along with different students from different countries and going on trips with them. I enjoyed every second of my program at African leadership academy and I hope to lead great change on the African continent.

On 10th February, 2022 my phone produced the "Tin-Tin," Outlook's unique notification sound, with the title "Outcome of ALA SEA 2022," which turned my life upside down—falling in love with the endless chances that experience would afford.

I was excited to learn more about our world in a varied and tolerant culture. I applied in 2022 and was selected as one of 24 students to attend Johannesburg, SA. It's not a feat; it's a life-changing experience to know how to think as an engineer.

Nevertheless, with various cultural colleagues, we accomplished our accessible project "Hydra-Life" in the program to solve 60% of Africa's water crisis in only 9 days following the Engineering design process. In addition, the curriculum enhanced my leadership, engineering mindset, collaborative attitude, and cultural diversity. Finally, I learned how to complete what I had already started.
Taking part in the ALA SEA 22 program has changed me as a leader and allowed me to experience the world of engineering. Throughout the program, I engaged in different scenarios that challenged my creative and critical thinking skills. It allowed me to learn new perspectives of other Africans and different approaches to problem-solving.

I also had the chance to learn more leadership skills, through team-building activities and understanding how people's strengths and weaknesses contribute to the group's learning experience. Apart from all the academic input and learning experiences, I also explored cultural aspects, socialising and making friends during social events, fun activities, and excursions around the city.

This program allows African teenagers to be more thoughtful about how to positively impact our continent and attempt to develop solutions to improve any issues around African countries. It was also a fantastic opportunity for me to build long-lasting friendships, explore my personal boundaries, share my story, and learn so much more about my continent.

"Honestly it impacted me in so many ways, mentally and physically. It was a beautiful experience, if I had a chance to attend the program again, I'll take it in a heartbeat.

The most beautiful part of the program was that I got to meet different people across Africa, Egypt, Nigeria, Angola and even Lesotho. I had no idea what engineering truly was until I reached the African Leadership Academy, they helped me in many ways than one. They helped me with my social skills. They helped me gain some sense of independence, waking up early in the holidays was no joke, but it was so worth it being in the company of such amazing, friendly, and intelligent people.

People say birds of the same feather flock together. Technically I felt like I was the odd one out, but hence I've tried my best, and in the end... I am indeed every grateful".

MOEGAMMAD UZAIR ABRAMHS, SOUTH AFRICA, CLASS OF 2022

CHELSEA PASCOAL, ANGOLA, CLASS OF 2022

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A succinct report about the program that shares some intriguing findings based on data from the most recent cohort of 2022.

The Work Engineers Do...
A graphical representation of how students' level of understanding the Engineering Design Process (EDP) increased after participating in the program.

This demonstrates the impact of the program on the students' perspectives of the work engineers do.

A 95% increase was observed in the participants understanding of the EDP.

Mentors
On one hand, the participants were satisfied with the various mentors assigned to their team, on the other hand, the mentor were contented with the structure, organization and support from the program including the experientials and non-curricular activities which aided bonding and connection as they also got to learn from the participants.

Visiting educators
The program enabled the visiting educators to understand the EDP, the importance of leadership traits and diversity, and the role of projects in their work as educator. They further hinted on their intention to include all acquired knowledge from their experience into the curriculum and execution of their duties back in their home countries.

Visiting Educator testimonial
"Looking back at the whole event, I am really grateful to have worked with you. Thanks for this opportunity. I truly learnt a lot especially the way the event was handled. To be honest, I would really love to work with you again. Thank you so much once again"

Mr Chidike, STEM teacher, 2021 Nigeria
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To be part of this amazing program for future engineers, apply today.

“I was inspired to do more, because being limited to one location or area makes one overconfident and sometimes hesitant to learn more. I met people from all walks of life at ALA ELP, and it inspired me to get back in the game and keep learning and solving problems. In the end, I formed lifelong friendships. I now approach problems differently and think more like an engineer; anyone can be an engineer, and you don’t have to have a degree in engineering to think like one.”

Class of 2021, Participant