



INSPIRE

December 2020

From the Executive Director

I don't think any one of us will ever forget the year 2020. I will be forever amazed by the LGS Class of 2020 – our 30th class. Somehow, while managing the pandemic, and the work crises and family upheaval it brought, they persevered in LGS - a testament to their leadership skills. I know it wasn't easy for any one of them, but throughout the year they heard from community leaders and inspirational individuals who are moving our community forward. Most importantly they forged new relationships that have led to new jobs, new perspectives, customer leads and most importantly partners in community engagement activities. Please check out their [class day blogs at the link here](#). They decided to hold their graduation in the summer of 2021 in the hopes that they can all be together, safely. Congratulations LGS Class of 2020 – you really are exceptional; dare I say, THE BEST CLASS?



Pam Brunet
LGS Executive Director
Class of 1998



So, the financial realization of COVID is impacting LGS, but we are doing better than my worst fears. We ended up with plenty of applicants for the LGS Class of 2021 – and what an amazing group of people! [You can see the class list here](#). Even with a great number of

applicants, we couldn't accept everyone as the goal is to meet in person which required us to accept a class smaller than 50 people. This financially impacts the organization. Further, our government and corporate support has decreased dramatically, and we couldn't hold our Let's Get Social event which reduced the opportunity for fundraising.

This means **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** If you had a great LGS experience, and I know you did, please consider a cash gift today so that we can ensure LGS is around for another 30 years. I am very grateful for the 45 graduates who have already donated, but we have 1,300 graduates! This is one organization where a \$50 donation goes a very long way. It is easy, just mail in a check, call us with a credit card or [donate via our website](#). There are many worthy organizations in our community that we may have even introduced you to, but I sincerely appreciate your consideration. THANK YOU!

Happy Birthday LGS!

Because of COVID we couldn't hold a REAL birthday party, so we created a birthday video which is being shared across our social media. Click on the cake or the link below to watch it. We extend a very special thank you to our founding sponsors and stars of the video: Rob Simpson president and CEO of CenterState CEO, Dr. Casey Crabill, president of OCC; Ben Walsh, mayor of the City of Syracuse; and J. Ryan McMahon, II Onondaga County Executive.

[LGS Celebrates 30 Years !](#)



Interested in the Political Process?

Did this last election cycle motivate you to learn more about the political process? **Registration for our 12th CNY Political Leadership Institute is now open.** This nonpartisan program will run eight Tuesday nights starting on February 9. We will cover how to get on the ballot, how to build a team, how to create your message and utilize social media, how to fundraise and meet financial obligations and how to create a get-out-the-vote strategy. There is a saying that “all politics is local,” and getting involved locally, is where an individual can make a difference. Please check out the [CNY Political Leadership Institute](#) on the LGS website.

PLI co-chairs Joe Rossi and David Knapp



Election 2020: What the H@#! Happened?

Wednesday, December 16, 8:30-9:30, a.m. via Zoom

Wow, what a crazy election! Not only were the races fierce, but we threw in early voting and a pandemic! Are you looking for a post-mortem and perspective on how it all went? Register for this event with one of LGS's all-time favorite Government Day speakers and LGS grad, **Dean Burrows**. He will take us through it all and, LIKE ALWAYS, he will help us put it into perspective.

This Zoom event is open to the public. It will **NOT** be a debate on the issues, rather a discussion about the process. You can submit questions at the time of registration or during the session.

Registration is \$20 and you can register here! [Events Calendar - Leadership Greater Syracuse](#)

Congratulations NTL Grads

Since 2014, LGS has been partnering with The Gifford Foundation, the CNY Community Foundation and the Human Services Leadership Council to offer Nourishing Tomorrow's Leaders. This board training program is designed to:

- increase the inclusiveness and racial diversity on nonprofit boards;
- increase and enhance the pool of effective board members;
- educate and inspire those who participate on boards; and
- provide quality training to Central New Yorkers.

The partners provided the program in the fall of 2020 and we are so proud of the graduates! You can learn more at: [Nourishing Tomorrow's Leaders - The Gifford Foundation](#)



*Happy Holidays
To all of our
LGS Family*

A Time for Thanks

With the staff of two, LGS simply couldn't survive without the help of its board of directors and volunteer committee members. They create strategies, look over our financials, review our class day evaluations, create marketing plans and now even serve as our on-site IT company helping to deliver hybrid class days. “Everyone is busy with their work and family commitments, so we are especially appreciative of all the volunteers who keep LGS going,” said Pam Brunet, executive director.

LGS thanks **Neil Webb** of Ramboll, Class of 2015, for serving a three-year term and who is now rolling off the board and we **welcome Scott Schuhert**, dean of students at OCC. Scott is a graduate of Leadership Broome and we are looking forward to welcoming him and hearing new perspectives.



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Reminder: LGS accepts donations any time. Please [consider a gift today at this link.](#)