

CHALLENGE
YOURSELF
CHANGE YOUR
WORLD



Message from Premier Mike Baird

I lend my support to The Benevolent Society for the Sydney Leadership program.

This worthy initiative lends encouragement to those who have difficulty overcoming challenges in their life and sends the message that nothing is unachievable.

It encourages people to think about issues affecting NSW and in turn take action to solve them. This falls in line with the NSW Government's *NSW 2021 Plan* goal of better protecting the most vulnerable members of our community and breaking the cycle of disadvantage. Together we can take on the important issues affecting NSW.

I wish the very best to everyone involved in The Benevolent Society and all those participating in Sydney Leadership.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Baird". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mike Baird

Premier of New South Wales



Message from Lord Mayor Clover Moore

Sydney Leadership makes an important contribution to the life of Sydney, working at many levels and across sectors on difficult social issues that lie beneath the surface of any large city.

I am encouraged by a program that puts the public interest at centre stage, challenging people to speak up and take action in the interests of the wider community.

With their focus on improving the quality of life in our society, I wish participants in the program all the best in taking a leadership stance on these important issues.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clover Moore". The signature is cursive and includes a horizontal line underneath.

Clover Moore

Lord Mayor of Sydney

Challenge yourself. Change your world.

You're ready to create significant change in your work and life. Wherever your ambitions lead you, take the next step with Sydney Leadership.

On our program you'll be inspired by and learn alongside talented people across all sectors. You'll develop the skills, abilities and perspectives to lead in challenging and uncertain environments, make progress on the things which matter most, and forge professional and personal bonds that bring lifelong rewards.

What makes us different?

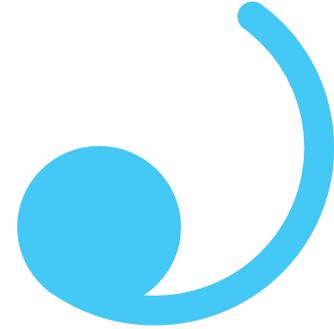
As our world, communities and organisations become increasingly complex and chaotic, there is an ever increasing imperative to enable individuals from all walks of life to adapt in order to live and work with purpose for broader social sustainability.

Many challenges now faced by businesses, governments and communities are too complex and interconnected for any one person or sector to solve. This changing environment requires a new approach to tackling these challenges and makes social leadership a highly relevant and important practice.

At Social Leadership Australia we believe that leadership can be taught, but academic theory is meaningless if leaders lack the practical tools they need to apply their learning. Established in 1999, Sydney Leadership continues to be a catalyst for change, providing this new type of leadership thinking and a shared framework for change which is now being applied by more than 600 graduates.



PREPARE FOR A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE



**SYDNEY LEADERSHIP WILL TRANSFORM THE WAY YOU VIEW
THE WORLD AND WHAT YOU DO IN LIFE.**

It focuses on tackling complex challenges.

When a different approach or new direction is needed, our program, with teachings based on the Harvard Adaptive Leadership Model, will equip you with a new way of working with and thinking about complex organisational or systemic challenges.

It provides a diversity of perspectives.

Our vibrant and diverse community of participants brings valuable skills and perspectives. We believe working across this difference is not only beneficial but necessary to solve our biggest challenges.

It develops purposeful leadership.

You'll get clear about your purpose – as an organisation and as an individual – and the skills you need to work with it, creating a competitive edge.

It's based on experiential learning.

Sydney Leadership program days give participants an insider's view of complex issues. They are delivered in real-life situations, in real-time—not in a classroom—because we believe the deepest learning comes from experience.

It inspires transformation.

You'll discover your potential and learn how to work more authentically. This increase in your social leadership capacity will transform lives, both yours and those around you.

It provides a network for change.

Connections built during the program, and to the broader Social Leadership Australia Alumni, provide a life-long support network.

You will learn to...

- **Work with increased self awareness with clarity of purpose and values.**
- **Build resilience and confidence to work in unfamiliar circumstances.**
- **Recognise and respond to complex, adaptive problems.**
- **Lead change in times of crisis and chaos or when faced with uncertainty and resistance.**
- **Develop high levels of community and cultural awareness, and be able to link this to your work.**
- **Understand the purpose and necessity of collaboration for achieving outcomes.**
- **Have an increased awareness and appreciation of power and rank.**
- **Have a greater awareness of working with diversity and conflict.**



Sydney Leadership graduates are part of a diverse community of talented individuals inspired to change the world.

WHO IS THIS FOR?

SYDNEY LEADERSHIP IS FOR ANYONE...

- Looking for 'next practice' as opposed to an imaginary best practice solution to a problem.
- Facing a problem that has no obvious solution where a new approach is needed.
- Driving a change program that calls for learning by you and your system.
- Working in an area with potential for social impact.

From CEOs and senior managers to up-and-coming talent with the desire to make a difference, Sydney Leadership is for people with intelligence, courage, determination and a generosity of spirit. It is for people who care about their world and who are motivated to change it for the better—to help their organisation progress and make a positive impact in the broader community.

Selection is competitive. We are looking for a diverse group of participants from across all sectors including those working in the private sector, in not-for-profit organisations, in government, in small business and entrepreneurs.

SYDNEY LEADERSHIP HAS CHALLENGED ME PERSONALLY AND PROFESSIONALLY; PROVIDED ME THE SPACE, TEACHINGS AND CAMARADERIE TO EXPLORE LEADERSHIP; AND THE COURAGE TO CONTINUE FOR PURPOSE.

Sharon Morris

CEO, Women in Super Mother's Day Classic & National Secretary, Women in Super

Where does Sydney Leadership take you?

LET SOME OF OUR ALUMNI TELL YOU...



Steven Gal
Sydney Leadership 2012

Director Regional Co-ordination
at Aboriginal Affairs NSW

Courageously changing the world.

For many of us, delivering success from failure might seem like an impossible task. But for Steven the challenge was accepted as a chance to change the world.

While participating in Sydney Leadership, Steven took over a new role implementing the state-wide expansion of Ability Links, a new way to support people with disability, their families and carers as part of the ongoing reforms of the disability services system in NSW.

“At the time I was really struggling with the work I had to do. Not from a technical point of view. But I was trying to change the world and I needed some assistance. The timing was right, and I had a living, breathing issue to apply it to.”

Where earlier attempts had failed, Steven successfully delivered upon his goal of leading a new approach to the initiative.

He focused on developing conversations and engagement, with previously untapped stakeholders, to create a more unified approach. The program strengthened Steven’s ability to work across different types of organisations. Where there had once been judgement, factions and power struggles, he bravely fostered collaborative networks based on shared purpose.

“A real strength of the Sydney Leadership program is that it brings people together who wouldn’t otherwise come together. You learn that you can form alliances with people you never thought you were going to have a relationship with. We had a good cross-section of corporate, not for profits and government people on the program. That showed us all that the sorts of issues we are facing are not unique to the industry sectors, or the department we are in, or the company we work for. They are universal.”



Rita Marigliani
Sydney Leadership 2014

Head of Corporate Social Responsibility,
Health and Wellbeing at Medibank

Solving tough problems and embedding organisational change.

Rita’s goal was to shape her organisation’s culture, shifting social responsibility from being a ‘nice to do’ on the side, to the core of business, having a real business benefit.

“What I was hoping the Sydney Leadership program would do was help me work with people who have different views and to really look at how we can accommodate diverse perspectives to create a better way of working rather than a win or a lose type situation.”

Being put into a complex and challenging situation outside of her organisation and alongside people from different sectors with diverse perspectives created the learning experience she was looking for on many levels.

“It’s something you probably wouldn’t experience, certainly not on an in-house program where you tend to be put with

like-minded individuals, in a certain culture, with a certain approach. When you are taken out of that and you’re mixing with people from all different kinds of backgrounds and with different focus areas, diversity really adds to the learning experience. There is an element of freedom of that you have to be yourself. It enables you to test a few things that you might not be brave enough to do within your work environment.”

The Sydney Leadership experience has changed Rita’s way of working often in very subtle, yet powerful ways.

“The program really challenged me to look at what I was doing and how I was doing it and to look at it in a different way. I’m much more conscious of how I react, assumptions that I make, how I approach problems, opportunities that I provide for teams to participate and to lead and to develop themselves. I have certainly noticed the change in outcomes as a result.”



Anna Rose
Sydney Leadership 2010

National Manager Earth Hour
at WWF Australia

Building real conversations around a critical issue.

Anna is used to being in the limelight but Sydney Leadership prepared her for one of her most formidable challenges yet - spending four weeks on a trip around the world in 2011 with former finance minister Nick Minchin attempting to help him accept the science of climate change.

"The journey I went on with Sydney Leadership was important in developing some of the skills and tools I used on the trip around the world with Nick Minchin, in a way that allowed me to hold the issue of climate change lightly enough to function effectively."

Anna says the Sydney Leadership program gave her a critical opportunity to reflect on her work and, importantly, to benefit from a structured leadership development experience.

"Sydney Leadership was my first formal training in leadership. At the time I had spent 14 years in activism and it's pretty much a field where you learn on-the-job. It's quite rare for people to have formal leadership training."

Sydney Leadership taught her that everyone, no matter their role, can exercise leadership.

"I mentor a lot of young people and run a lot of trainings, and always make sure to reference the concept of adaptive leadership. I stress that leadership is something you DO rather than something you ARE - which is a much more liberating concept, especially when you're just starting a journey into social change work."

Anna is the Australian Geographic Society's Conservationist of the Year 2015, an author, co-founder of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition, and was recently a finalist in the ACT Australian of the Year awards.

**READ MORE OF OUR ALUMNI
STORIES ON OUR WEBSITE.**

SYDNEYLEADERSHIP.ORG.AU

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Opening Retreat – To kick-start the program, you will spend two days outside of Sydney being introduced to new concepts of leadership and stepping into an alternative learning space that provides a framework for the year ahead.

Program Days – Our program days are held at various locations around Sydney and in communities or institutions that relate to the theme or issue being explored.

Canberra Study Tour – Spend two days immersed in Australia's national political system observing first-hand the motions of power, authority and system in action.

Closing Retreat – During the final two days of the program, the group will re-gather to reflect, consolidate and celebrate what has been achieved and what lies ahead.

Mentoring – Participants will be offered the opportunity of a mentor from a Social Leadership Australia alumnus.

Coaching – The program includes coaching sessions which help you to integrate learnings from the program into your role and organisational work.

Syndicate group work – Throughout the program, participants are placed into small groups to work together on a selected task and create another network of support.

PROGRAM COSTS

\$12,000 plus GST

Talk to us about finance options

Take the next step

Sydney Leadership offers you an extraordinary leadership experience. If you are ready for the challenge we encourage you to apply now.

Complete an application form via our website www.sydneyleadership.org.au. Alternatively, we can post or email a form to you.

For more information, contact:

www.sydneyleadership.org.au

E leadership@benevolent.org.au

T 02 8262 3588

We are The Benevolent Society

We help families, older people and people with disability live their best life, and we speak out for a just society.

We're Australia's first charity. We're a not-for-profit and nonreligious organisation and we've helped people, families and communities achieve positive change since 1813.

benevolent SOCIETY