

THE PREMIER AGRICULTURE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



ABOUT MARL

The Minnesota Agriculture & Rural Leadership (MARL) program is a dynamic leadership development program for engaged adult agricultural and rural leaders in Minnesota. With over 300 past participants, MARL has created a footprint across Minnesota and the nation. MARL ignites growth and success by practicing real world scenarios in and out of the classroom, challenges participants to get out of their comfort zone by immersing themselves around people with opposite beliefs and enhances participants knowledge of agriculture and rural Minnesota.



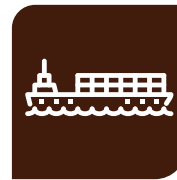
Classroom Leadership Training

- Conflict Management
- Communication Skill Building
- Advocacy Techniques
- Emotional & Cultural Intelligence
- Meeting Facilitation & Governance



Applied/Experiential Opportunities & Networking

- Agriculture Industry Tours
- Build Personal and Professional Network
- Capstone Projects
- Guest Speakers
- Active Alumni Network
- EQI Groups



Policy & International Relations

- Trip to St. Paul, State Legislature
- Trip to Washington D.C., US Legislature
- International Trip (Location Varies)



MARL COMMITMENT

Through a rigorous application process, MARL hand selects up to 30 participants for each cohort. Although not every candidate is picked for the cohort, MARL encourages them to reapply in the future. For the selected participants, there is a time commitment expectation that needs to be followed. The program is an 18 month commitment with expectations to be at all 12 seminars. The first year will include 13 in-person days, three days online/hybrid and 16 hours self-paced. Year two will include 19 in-person days, three days online/hybrid and 24 hours self-paced. The overall time commitment of Year 1 and 2 combined, is estimated at 43 days, of which 32 are away from home/work.

10 out of the 12 sessions will take participants across the state of Minnesota highlighting rural agriculture with one seminar taking place at the state capitol. The other two sessions will take place outside of Minnesota which includes a four day long session in Washington D.C. and an international experience.

Interested in applying? Apply online at: marlprogram.org/application/



THE VAST SUPPORT YOU RECEIVE

Without sponsorships, MARL wouldn't be able to help grow Minnesota's rural leaders. According to Ben Winchester's U of M Extension paper, 1 in 34 people in rural communities is expected to step up to be a leader, and without MARL there is no program out there to continue to drive rural agriculture success. Participants only pay \$6,000 to participate in the program; however, this is only a portion of the total cost of \$17,000 per participant. MARL relies heavily on grants and sponsorships to continue build leaders.

Want to make a difference and become a sponsor? Go online at smsualumni.com/MARL to invest in the program. Thank you to all our current sponsors and a special thanks to Minnesota Corn for their generous support of the program.



MARL SUCCESSES

MARL continues to make an impact in Minnesota and across the nation. Every participant that has graduated from the program has become a more polished leader whether it is in their job, their community, in the state or organizations that they are part of.

With over 300 participants in the MARL program, there are many MARL successes. MARL leaders account for:

- State representatives
- County commissioners, including the first female commissioners in Polk and Kittson County
- Participants on governor advisory teams
- Board members and leaders in national and state commodity/ agricultural organizations
- Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture
- Corporate board members
- City/township/school board/local leaders
- Regent of University of Minnesota
- Business and enterprise owners
- Cooperative leaders

CONTACT US

marlprogram.org



507-537-6430



Olga.Brouwer@smsu.edu