At the YWCA of Canberra, we know that developing women’s leadership potential is fundamental to advancing gender equality.

She Leads is an innovative and evidence-based women’s leadership program, comprised of a Diploma of Management, and an annual, one-day conference.

She Leads is at the cutting edge of leadership development. It applies a framework of knowing, doing, and being, which has been highlighted in the latest research as the key to leadership development.

The She Leads program is designed to develop participants’ cognitive capabilities and emotional intelligence (knowing), practical leadership skills (doing), and leadership identity (being).

The She Leads Diploma of Management interweaves this framework with a traditional Diploma of Management, allowing participants to build their leadership skills while working towards a nationally recognised qualification.

Leadership identity has been uncovered in contemporary research as the missing link in leadership development. The She Leads program provides participants with the opportunity to explore and hone their leadership identity, and reflect on their experiences, strengths, values, and vision for the future. Through this process, participants will learn how to become an authentic and effective leader.

The YWCA of Canberra believes that leadership should be transformational and intergenerational. This year, we have drawn on our networks to provide a program featuring outstanding women leaders to inspire, motivate, and challenge participants.
The inaugural She Leads Conference provides women leaders and those aspiring to leadership with the opportunity to develop the skills, knowledge and networks to accelerate their leadership journey.

As an organisation at the forefront of leadership development in Australia, the YWCA of Canberra has designed a conference program that includes keynote presentations, panel discussions, and interactive practical skills and personal development sessions. Facilitators, presenters and panellists will share insights into their personal leadership journeys, debate some of Australia’s biggest leadership challenges across the private, government and not-for-profit sectors, and provide you with tips and tricks to advance your leadership journey.

You will have the opportunity to participate in three dynamic and interactive break-out sessions which will provide you with practical tools to help you explore your leadership identity, develop your personal effectiveness, and enhance your leadership profile.

All sessions are informed by current research into women’s unique leadership experiences and pathways.

Many women tell us that they have never experienced discrimination in their workplace. That’s wonderful news, but unfortunately the statistics show that in the top echelons of most industries, women are significantly under-represented.

Women hold only 9.2% of key executive management positions in the top 500 public companies listed in Australia!

Many women achieve leadership positions despite gender bias, but their gender nonetheless shapes their developmental and leadership experiences. Many women unknowingly internalise gender bias which may discourage them from engaging in assertive, self-promoting behaviours, and taking key steps on their leadership development pathway.

She Leads is a tool for aspiring, emerging and established leaders to explore and reflect on their personal leadership experiences, and learn how to mitigate the impact of gender bias to accelerate their leadership potential.

The She Leads Diploma of Management is an accredited, nationally recognised program that is offered to aspiring and emerging women leaders.

This unique program offers a customised curriculum addressing the specific needs of women in the early stages of their career.

Upon completion, participants will obtain a Diploma of Management, recognising their competency in the following areas:

- managing personal work priorities and professional development
- providing personal leadership
- using complex workplace communication strategies
- ensuring team effectiveness
- managing people performance
- managing budgets and financial plans
- facilitating continuous improvement.

The Diploma is delivered over nine dynamic, full day classes including seminars, practical exercises with case studies and role plays, personal development sessions, and peer coaching.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn from the experiences of distinguished women leaders during in-class panel discussions. Our 2013 program featured:

- Julie McKay, Executive Director of UN Women Australia
- Leah Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer of Reconciliation Australia
- Virginia Haussegger, ABC news reader, journalist and author
- Ellyse Perry, elite athlete
- Anna Rose, environmentalist and campaigner
- Hilary Charlesworth, Professor of International Law and Human Rights, ANU
- Natalie Howson, Director General, Community Services Directorate.
Register now for the 2014 She Leads launch event!

Come along to the launch of the 2014 She Leads program and hear award-winning journalist Sophie McNeill speak about her incredible leadership journey. Executive Director of the YWCA of Canberra, Frances Crimmins will share highlights from the 2013 She Leads program, and Member for Canberra, Gai Brodtmann will provide insights into the importance of investing in women’s leadership, and officially launch the 2014 She Leads program.

Information about the inaugural She Leads Conference and the She Leads Diploma of Management will be available on the night.

When: Thursday 27 March 2014, 6:30pm – 8:00pm
Where: National Portrait Gallery, Canberra
Cost: members & students $15, non-members $20, new members + ticket $30

Register at:
www.ywca-canberra.org.au

Stay in touch!

To receive important updates and announcements about the 2014 She Leads program, subscribe to our e-newsletter at: www.ywca-canberra.org.au

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