



## New York City (NYC) Educational & Cultural Experience Application

### Description

The Compelling Why leverages our personal and professional network and access to individuals who believe as we do that with the right motivation and opportunity *every* student can create their best reality. That is why we are offering a unique cultural and academic enrichment opportunity for Compelling Why students to experience New York City, one of the most iconic places in the world known for finance, fashion, diversity, Broadway, pizza, its subway system, Central Park, art and freedom.

The *NYC Experience* is a unique 4-day/3-night experience curated by The Compelling Why and hosted by native Texan, Alan H. Green, actor of Broadway and TV. The trip will take place **June 4-7, 2020**.

This is an opportunity to have new experiences like attending a Broadway show, meeting the cast, visiting a college campus and touring NYC landmarks.

We are looking for **up to 12 students** who are living the Compelling Why pillars of success and leadership! \*

Applications accepted **February 14 thru March 6, 2020, midnight central time**.

### Eligibility Criteria

- Grade level: Currently enrolled in 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Student must have attended a Compelling Why Success Session or Leadership Series.
- Overall GPA 2.5 (If you're GPA is not quite there, let us know why and/or the steps you're taking to improve).
- Active member of a school-sanctioned extra-curricular organization, club or community-based youth development organization. Volunteering or holding down a part-time job counts too. Extra points awarded for officer level participation or involvement with a Compelling Why community partner.
- Must submit a 250-word essay describing, how the New York City experience will help achieve "Your Why."
- Letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor or youth development organization.

**Cost:** Airfare, lodging and most meals are included in your *NYC Experience* scholarship from the Compelling Why and its sponsors. You will need money for incidentals and souvenirs.

<b>* COMPELLING WHY PILLARS OF SUCCESS AND LEADERSHIP</b>	
<b><u>Success</u></b>	<b><u>Leadership</u></b>
Value their <i>education</i>	Strive for <i>integrity</i> in all that they do
Know their " <i>why</i> " (purpose)	Build <i>commitment</i> with passion and resilience
Own their success (and failures) <i>personal responsibility</i>	Create strong relationships using their <i>emotional intelligence</i>
<i>Actively engage</i> in extra-curricular activities	Work toward the best results in a <i>collaborative</i> manner

There will be a mandatory parent meeting for selected students where you will have the opportunity to meet Compelling Why staff and other participants. During the meeting we will review the proposed



itinerary, student behavioral expectations, family requirements, travel and safety protocols, and answer your questions.

### Next Steps

1. **Complete NYC Experience application.** APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED ELECTRONICALLY. No handwritten applications accepted.
2. **Ask teacher, counselor** or adult associated with the extra-curricular or community-based organization of which you are a member **to submit a Letter of Recommendation (LOR)** on your behalf directly to [nyc@thecompellingwhy.org](mailto:nyc@thecompellingwhy.org).

Applications and LORs accepted between February 14 and March 6, 2020 (midnight, central time).

3. **Submit completed application** electronically to [nyc@thecompellingwhy.org](mailto:nyc@thecompellingwhy.org)

OR

Mail to:           The Compelling Why  
                      PO Box 742463  
                      Dallas, TX 75375  
                      Attn: NYC Experience

4. NYC Experience student finalists will be notified no later than March 31, 2020. Finalists will be sent a Parent Approval and Release Form that must be completed by Parent/Guardian before award confirmation.

### About The Compelling Why

The Compelling Why is a North Texas-area nonprofit that partners with school districts and public charter networks to equip traditionally underserved students with the motivation and mindset to access academic and life skills enrichment resources available to them in their schools and communities. We partner with your student's school district to offer seminars (*Success Sessions*) and Leadership Series programming for predominantly African American and Hispanic high school and middle school *students of promise*.

Success Sessions provide students with the opportunity to learn from and interact with successful business and community leaders during a moderated panel discussion who speak with authenticity and cultural credibility while reinforcing the Compelling Why pillars of the ***importance and value of education, active engagement, personal responsibility*** and ***self-motivation***.

We supplement the seminar experience with our Leadership Series for seminar participants. Our Leadership programming consists of facilitated conversations by industry volunteers who incorporate visual media and their personal and professional experiences. Our goal is to help raise students' awareness and understanding of the leadership attributes required for success in today's globally competitive workforce – integrity, commitment, emotional intelligence and collaboration.

The Compelling Why believes that with the right motivation and opportunity *every* student can create their best reality! We believe travel experiences can help expand a young person's vision of what's possible in their lives thereby boosting the intrinsic motivation needed to excel in the pursuit of their aspirations.

We invite you to check out our website at [www.thecompellingwhy.org](http://www.thecompellingwhy.org) to learn more.