

Interview Guide

A group of eight to ten students will be interviewed by a panel of three to four business and community volunteers. Please allow one hour for your interview.

At the start of the interview, you will introduce yourself to the panel. Please prepare a **thirty second** overview of your interests, experiences and any other information that may be helpful to the panel. Selection panel members will then ask you various questions about your leadership experiences, future goals, commitment to education, etc. This is designed to be a group conversation; not every student will answer every question, and students are encouraged to respond to other students' ideas and share their viewpoints.

How to Prepare:

- **Know the program:** Browse the website (www.21stcenturyleaders.org/cnn)
- **Research yourself:** Know the talents and abilities that you would bring to the program; skills that you would like to develop or improve; current career and educational goals; past experiences that you would like to highlight and what you have learned from them. These could include work, volunteer, academic, athletic, artistic, and travel experiences. Think broadly.
- **Differentiate yourself:** Let the interviewer know why you should be in this program and what areas of the program you are excited and curious about. Show your enthusiasm. You should ask questions, but don't dominate the interview.
- **Work on your introduction:** This is the easiest way to promote yourself. Please prepare what you are going to say and practice so you will stay within the time limit.
- **Demonstrate your abilities:** Be prepared to answer questions about your knowledge, skills and abilities, especially about projects you've worked on in class or related work experience and hobbies that demonstrate your responsibility, commitment, motivation, etc.
- **Dress appropriately:** We've all heard the phrase, "You only get one chance to make a first impression." This is your first impression. The dress for this interview is professional attire. See the dress code on our website www.21stcenturyleaders.org/cnn
- **Be yourself:** Be certain to answer the questions honestly so that the interviewer can get a good feel for the real you... and have fun!

References: MGAA Kid's Corner, <http://www.mgaa.com/kidscorner/resume.htm>
YouthJobs.CA, <http://www.youthjobs.ca/interview.html>