ARE YOU A FUTURE LEADER?

For more than 20 years, the NFI Future Leaders program has been broadening horizons for young leaders in the seafood industry thru networking, programming and unique experiences. The vision of the program was to bring the seafood industry’s next generation into the National Fisheries Institute community; today more than 500 individuals are alumni of this illustrious program. Today, many of the alumni of this program are the CEO’s of major US seafood companies. The Future Leaders program provides skills and experiences that help emerging leaders grow. It also serves to help these individuals establish a network of industry contacts.

Host cities are selected based on the following criteria: importance to the U.S. Seafood Industry and representative of the global industry; the presence of NFI companies, as well as other seafood companies; opportunities to tell the story of imports, aquaculture and the domestic industry; how seafood is brought to market; and the opportunity to share something unique. The group will always visit Washington, D.C. to better understand NFI’s role in shaping policy.

The 2020 Future Leaders Program will kick off with a Sunday morning orientation breakfast in Boston prior to the Seafood Expo North America; and four two-day sessions running from May thru August. Each session is designed to enhance knowledge and leadership skills in the areas of government relations, production, sales, marketing and the industry in general. The 2020 Future Leaders will visit: Washington, D.C./Williamsburg, VA; Tampa/Orlando, FL; Ketchikan, AK; and Seattle, WA; with an optional trip to Brussels during the European Seafood Show. NOTE: A valid passport is required to attend the optional trip to Brussels. The Class is also asked to attend the 2021 Global Seafood Market Conference in San Diego, CA to be recognized as graduates of the program.

Optional for 2020 Brussels!
Europe plays an important part in the global seafood supply chain. The EU fishing industry is the 4th largest in the world and works with the international community to make sure all waters are regulated and sustainable for years to come. Europe is also the 2nd largest importer of seafood. As such, NFI is offering an optional session during the Seafood Expo Global, April 22-24, 2020, Brussels. Participants will join NFI’s president John Connelly to meet with international policymakers to learn more about fisheries, trade and food safety. In addition, there will be a joint dinner with the Fisheries Council of Canada Future Leaders and the Young Leaders from the Australian Fisheries Research and Development Corporation and United Kingdom’s Seafish Authority. Additionally, there will be education session opportunities focused on Global Leadership, Global Trade and Alternative Proteins. The cost is additional $550 and participants are responsible for all travel and meals, lodging and travel arrangements. Passport required to participate.
What to Expect
The seafood industry is diverse and has many different working components. This program seeks to expose participants to many facets, while including ample opportunities for networking with classmates. Prior to the last session, the class will elect a president to represent them at Future Leader Alumni meetings. There will also be a class project that runs from May thru December. In addition to facility tours, each Class is shown several one-of-a-kind experiences. Participants should expect long days, including early mornings. Be prepared for a rewarding experience with a full and engaging agenda.

What is Expected
NFI is proud to offer The Future Leaders program, which boasts more than 500 alumni. Future Leader participants are expected to conduct themselves professionally and with integrity at all times when traveling with NFI, including after-hours social outings. Participants are held to the highest standards and are expected to treat each other and all others with respect and consideration. A successful Future Leader will be prepared, on-time and professional throughout each session. NFI expects all Future Leaders to adhere to their own policies and code of ethics (including Sexual Harassment). A copy of NFI’s Sexual Harassment policy is included.

Tuition
Tuition is $3,750 for NFI Members and $5,750 for non-NFI Members. The tuition includes all sessions but optional Brussels session. Students are responsible for hotel, travel and some meal expenses, as well as the cost of any additional activities.

The class size is limited to 40; NFI Members have priority. To apply:

1. Complete the attached application form.
2. Attach a one-page written bio on yourself, your seafood experience and why you would like to be a Future Leader.
3. Include tuition payment made payable to NFI ($3,750 for members/$5,750 non-members); if applicable $550 for the optional Brussels session. (Please note there is a 5% surcharge for credit cards)
4. The deadline for applications is January 27. If you are selected to be in the Future Leaders Class of 2020, you will be notified no later than January 31. In the event that you are not selected, your tuition payment will refunded. There will be no refunds allowed after attending the first session.
Future Leaders Class of 2020
Dates and Preliminary Curriculum

ORIENTATION BREAKFAST: BOSTON, MA   MARCH 16, 2020 (optional)
Join the Class of 2020 for an Orientation Breakfast in the NFI Member Lounge on Sunday morning prior to the start of the Expo. Note: Not required for those not attending SENA.

OPTIONAL SESSION: BRUSSELS, BELGIUM   APRIL 22-24, 2020 (optional)
Attending the session will give you a greater understanding of the European seafood industry. The itinerary will include a dinner with NFI president John Connelly and meetings with EU regulatory agencies and education session opportunities focused on Global Leadership, Global Trade and Alternative Proteins. Note: Valid passport required.

SESSION I Washington, DC/Williamsburg, VA
May 17-21, 2020
4 nights/4 days
The itinerary includes:
- Overview of Regulatory Agencies
- Day on the Hill
- Communications Training
- Networking Event

Arrival: Sunday, May 17 by 5pm (Recommended airports: Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) and Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD).
Departure: Leave for airport no earlier than 12pm on Thursday, May 21 (Recommended airports: Richmond International Airport (RIC) and Norfolk International Airport (ORF).
SESSION II  Tampa/Orlando, FL  
June 23-25, 2020  
2 nights/3 day  
Itinerary includes:  
- Networking event  
- Retail & Foodservice Overview  
- Supply Chain Discussion  
- Restaurant Tour  

Arrival: Tuesday, June 23 by 5:00pm.  
Departure: Leave for airport no earlier than 3:00pm on Thursday, June 25.

SESSION III  Ketchikan, AK  
July 21-23, 2020  
2 nights/3 days  
Itinerary includes:  
- Salmon Hatchery Tour  
- Networking Event  
- Oyster Farm Tour  
- Alaska Seafood Industry Overview  

Arrival: Tuesday, July 21 by 5:00 pm.  
Departure: Leave for airport no earlier than 3:00pm on Thursday, July 23.

SESSION IV  Seattle, WA  
August 18-20, 2020  
2 nights/3 days  
Itinerary includes:  
- Safety at Sea Survival Training  
- Processing Plant Tour  
- Networking Event  
- Culinary Event  

Arrival: Tuesday, August 18 by 5:00 pm.  
Departure: Leave for airport no earlier than 3:00pm on Thursday, August 20.

For questions, contact NFI’s Gerrie Thomas, Director at 703.752.8888 or gthomas@nfi.org.
Prior to applying to the program, please make sure you are available to attend all sessions. 

*The key to your success will be full participation in the program*

**November 11, 2019**  
Application Process Opens

**January 27, 2020**  
Application and Payment Deadline

**January 31, 2020**  
Future Leaders Class of 2020 Announced

**March 16, 2020**  
Orientation Breakfast, Boston, MA at Seafood Expo North America (optional)

**April 22-24, 2020**  
Brussels, Belgium (optional)

**May 17-21, 2020**  
Washington, DC/Williamsburg, VA

**June 23-25, 2020**  
Tampa/Orlando, Florida

**July 21-23, 2020**  
Ketchikan, Alaska

**August 18-20, 2020**  
Seattle, Washington

Graduation: NFI Global Seafood Market Conference January 19-21, 2021  
Loews Coronado Bay Resort, San Diego, CA
Future Leaders Class of 2020 Application

Name

Company

Position/Title

Years in the Seafood Industry

Business Mailing Address

Cell Phone

Email Address

Sponsoring Member
(for Non-NFI Members)

Emergency Contact and Phone

If accepted into the Future Leader Class of 2020, I agree to attend and actively participate in each session. I commit to conduct myself professionally and with integrity, treat all with respect and consideration, and be prompt.

Applicant’s Signature/Date

Supervisor’s Signature/Date

Send Application, Biography, and Payment to:
National Fisheries Institute
Attention: Gerrie Thomas
7918 Jones Branch Drive, Suite 700, McLean, VA  22102

☐ I plan to participate in the optional Brussels Session, April 22-24
☐ I do not plan to participate in the optional Brussels Session, April 22-24
The National Fisheries Institute fully supports the right of all people to seek, obtain and hold employment without being subject to harassment or discrimination based on any legally-protected class such as race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age or disability. NFI is specifically committed to maintaining a work environment free of inappropriate and disrespectful conduct and communication of a sexual nature. Toward that end, NFI adopts the following policy:

- No employee may harass another. Anyone who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, discharge.
- Any employee or supervisor who learns of harassment and fails to take corrective action pursuant to this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, discharge.
- It is the policy of NFI to encourage employees who feel that they have been subjected to discriminatory treatment or harassment, including sexual harassment, to bring these problems immediately to the direct attention of management.
- No NFI Future Leader Participant may harass another. Anyone who violates this policy will be subject to dismissal from the Program.

**Definition**

Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, when:

- submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual’s employment;
- submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; and
- such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a person’s work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Prohibited acts of sexual harassment can take a variety of forms ranging from subtle pressure for sexual activity to physical assault. Examples of the kinds of conduct included in the definition of sexual harassment are:

- threats or intimations of sexual relations or sexual conduct which is not freely or mutually agreeable to both parties;
- unwelcome continual or repeated verbal or physical abuses of a sexual nature including graphic commentaries about the person’s body, sexually suggestive objects or pictures placed in the work area that may embarrass or offend the person, sexually degrading words to describe the person, or propositions of a sexual nature; and
- threats or insinuations that the failure to submit to sexual advances may affect a person’s employment, wages, promotional opportunities, assignments, or other conditions of employment.

These examples are by no means all inclusive of the types of conduct that can constitute sexual harassment.

**Enforcement Procedure**

1. Any employee or Future Leader participant who believes he or she has been the subject of discrimination or harassment should report the alleged act immediately to the president or senior authority.
2. If a complaint involves the president, or, if for any reason, the employee is uncomfortable bringing the complaint to the attention of the president or senior authority, then he or she shall file the complaint with the NFI attorney.
3. NFI will handle all complaints in a timely manner. NFI will endeavor to maintain the complaint and the investigation as confidential as circumstances reasonably permit. NFI will not release information concerning a complaint to third parties or to anyone within NFI who is not involved with the investigation. Nor will NFI allow anyone involved in the investigation to discuss the subject outside of the investigatory process. The purpose of this provision is to protect the confidentiality of the employee who files a complaint and to encourage the reporting of any incidents of discrimination or harassment.
4. Investigation of a complaint will normally include conferring with the parties involved and any named or apparent witnesses. Employees shall be guaranteed an impartial and fair hearing.
5. NFI will make its best efforts to protect all employees from coercion, intimidation, retaliation, interference or discrimination for filing a complaint or assisting in an investigation. The purpose of this provision is to encourage the reporting to management of any incidents of discrimination or harassment.
6. If the investigation reveals that the complaint is valid, NFI will take appropriate disciplinary and/or remedial action designed to stop the discrimination or harassment immediately and to prevent its recurrence.

I affirm that I have read and understand NFI’s Policy Regarding Harassment & Discrimination in relation to both NFI Employees and my fellow Future Leaders; and agree to abide by the policy and failing to do so will result in dismissal from the Future Leaders Program.

__________________________
Applicant’s Signature/Date