

NEWS RELEASE

Michelle Obama Launches National Civic Leadership Institute for Girls

New Chicago-based initiative aims to empower the next generation of women leaders through education and public service

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The Obama Center for Girls' Civic Leadership today announced that Michelle Obama will serve as founder and chief executive officer of the newly launched national institute dedicated to preparing high school girls for leadership roles in civic life and public service. Based in Chicago, the institute will provide year-round programming for girls ages 14-18, including leadership workshops, mentorship opportunities, and summer intensives focused on civic engagement, policy literacy, and community advocacy.

The institute aims to increase young women's participation in public life by equipping them with practical leadership skills and direct access to community leaders and policymakers. Chicago was selected for its diverse communities and history of civic activism, and the program will prioritize accessibility through need-based scholarships and partnerships with public schools. "This institute is about giving girls the tools and confidence to lead in their communities and shape the future," Obama said. "When young women understand their power and their voice, they can transform the world around them."

Founded in 2026, the Obama Center for Girls' Civic Leadership builds on Michelle Obama's longstanding commitment to education, youth empowerment, and civic participation. The organization's mission is to cultivate confident, informed, and engaged young women who are prepared to lead in their schools, neighborhoods, and beyond.

About the Obama Center for Girls' Civic Leadership

The Obama Center for Girls' Civic Leadership is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering the next generation of women leaders through education, mentorship, and civic engagement. Through innovative programming and community partnerships, the institute works to ensure that young women have the resources and opportunities needed to participate fully in public life.

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PITCH EMAIL

Subject: Michelle Obama Launches National Civic Leadership Institute for Girls in Chicago

Hi John,

Former first lady Michelle Obama has launched a new national initiative empowering high school girls to become the next generation of civic leaders.

The Obama Center for Girls' Civic Leadership, based in Chicago, will offer leadership training, civic education, and mentorship opportunities for girls ages 14–18, with a focus on increasing participation in public service and community engagement.

Given your coverage of education and civic leadership, this announcement may be of interest to your audience. I'd be happy to share additional details or connect you with the organization for an interview.

Best,

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