

Skit to pitch idea for
Garrison Future Leader Culture Badge
at Think Big Coworking space, 17th and Main, KCMO,
September 7, 2016, 5:30 pm

1. High Schooler: Hi, I'm Cecelia. I'm a sophomore at Liberty High School. I hear you're sponsoring a Future Leader Culture badge.

Garrison representative:

That's right. My name is Kathryn Toure, from Garrison Cultural Center – in the Northland, where 30% of metro Kansas Citians reside. Are you interested in the badge?

2. High Schooler: Yeah, but I was wondering what I have to do to earn it.

Garrison representative:

There are five XPs or experiences. For one of them, you visit, hopefully with a team, a site of historical and cultural significance to the people of Clay County.

3. High Schooler: What if I'm interested in African-American culture?

Garrison representative:

Then you could visit Garrison School, for example, near downtown Liberty. It was established in 1877 for black students in the community.

4. High Schooler: Wow, I've been to Liberty's downtown square many times, but I've never seen the school.

Garrison representative:

So this'll be an opportunity for you to learn more about your community. Visit the school with friends or family, send us a photo with a written or audio file about what you learn, and you'll be on your way to earning the **Future Leader Culture badge**.

5. High Schooler: That's all I have to do?

Garrison representative:

You'll also need to visit the Clay County Archives to learn about some Clay County pioneers, and interview someone in the community, about cultural, historical or leadership issues. Then meet with others working on the badge to present and discuss as a team what you learned.

6. High Schooler: Wow, it sounds like this goes beyond what we learn at school. But what opportunities will the badge unlock for me? I want to be a teacher, a politician, or a businesswoman.

Garrison representative:

In all those professions, Cecelia, you need to know and care about community, cooperate and communicate with others, and contribute to change. In our increasingly diverse and multicultural country, you'll need to understand the complexities of society. Plus, you learn and practice skills in interviewing, oral history, archival research, synthesizing new information, and preparing audiovisual presentations.

7. High Schooler: Sounds intimidating.

Garrison representative:

Don't worry. It'll be fun. You can ask questions. You'll receive feedback and support. Most importantly, you'll be proud of your achievements.

8. High Schooler: But what about concrete opportunities and connections, while I'm still in high school?

Garrison representative:

You could meet someone from an organization where you would like to intern or work over the summer. We will be working with many partners, such as:

- the Liberty school district,
- William Jewell College, and
- the Clay County Historical Society.

9. High Schooler: Impressive. I'm almost sold. Any other opportunities?

Garrison representative:

The experience could inform and transform your college application essays. The badge will stimulate your curiosity and put you in contact with new places, people, organizations and ideas. All this will help you, and your community, whether you become an architect, an electrician or a social worker.

10. High Schooler: Or a doctor or an engineer. But can you all really pull this project off?

Garrison representative:

At Garrison Cultural Center, we have a decade of experience and have mentored over 200 high schoolers. We look forward to sharing some of our approaches to leadership building and community and cultural awareness on a digital learning platform, and to serving young people in Liberty and beyond.

11. High Schooler: Ok, I'm sold. When can I start?

Garrison representative:

As soon as the people here provide some support.