

Local official named to state leadership group

From staff reports

SANDUSKY

Marcus Harris, the diversity and economic opportunity Manager for Sandusky's government, was recently selected as a 2024 Leadership Ohio Fellow.

Harris, who's also running for Erie County commission, "joins a prestigious group of 35 leaders from across the state who will embark on a transformative journey aimed at shaping the future of Ohio," according to an organizational statement.

"I am extremely honored and humbled to be named a 2024 Leadership Ohio Fellow representing the Erie County region," Harris said. "I look forward to an engaging learning experience to bring best practices and new ideas from around Ohio back home to Erie County to aid in the collaborative effort of moving our region forward."

Leadership Ohio, the state's premier leadership development program, aims to connect diverse leaders to promote positive change.

After a rigorous selection process, Harris and his fellow fellows

were chosen from a record 147 nominations.

The program spans eight months, during which participants will explore critical issues, engage in social discourse and identify opportunities to impact their communities.



Shon Christy, president of the Leadership Ohio board of trustees, emphasized the significance of cultivating leadership in today's society, stating, "The cultivation of leadership is not just a necessity, it's a responsibility. We've spent months reviewing applications and

conducting interviews to get us to this point."

The Class of 2024 represents a wide array of sectors, including energy, transportation, education and economic development.

With diverse backgrounds and viewpoints, "These leaders aim to steer Ohio toward a thriving future for all its citizens," the statement read.

Fellows will participate in intensive sessions covering topics such as agriculture, manufacturing, the Great Lakes, human trafficking,

opioid addiction, fair chance hiring, economic development and civil discourse.

Moreover, they will establish meaningful relationships with other leaders statewide with the goal of fostering lasting change throughout their careers.

Lisa Duty, executive director of Leadership Ohio, expressed excitement about the potential impact of this year's class.

"We're excited to welcome these distinguished changemakers who are on the leading edge of solutions for a future-driven Ohio," Duty said. "I look forward to the ways they will inspire lasting, positive change throughout our state."

Upon graduation, fellows will join the esteemed ranks of Leadership Ohio alumni, a network of accomplished individuals dedicated to making a difference in their communities.

Recent area alumni include:

- Beth Maiden, executive Director for the Erie County Community Foundation

- Eric Wobser, CEO of the Greater Sandusky Partnership

3.28.2024