



Class of 2019 Training Weekend #2 Shreveport - February 16th & 17th

**All of this information can be found on the [Class Member Resources webpage](#).*

Friday, February 15th

6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Meet the Class Reception
STEM Events & Lunch, 1513 Line Ave #115, Shreveport, LA 71101

**You are welcome to invite your Shreveport-area contacts to this event. The suggested donation to attend is \$25. Any donations you bring in will be counted toward your \$500 fundraising goal. An event flyer and description can be found at the end of this memo and on the Class Resources webpage.*

**At 8 p.m., all are invited to attend a murder mystery show. The cost is \$15. Please call STEM Events directly for more information: (318) 626-5970*

Saturday, February 16th

8:30 a.m. Breakfast & check in
Office Hub: 331 Milam St, Shreveport, LA 71101

9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Training Day 1: Campaign Nuts & Bolts, Campaign Planning
**Lunch served at 12:30 p.m.*
Office Hub: 331 Milam St, Shreveport, LA 71101

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Class Dinner
Parish Taceaux 708 Texas St, Shreveport, LA 71101

Sunday, February 17th

8:30 a.m. Breakfast & check in
Office Hub: 331 Milam St, Shreveport, LA 71101

9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Training Day 2: Developing Your Message, Diversity & Inclusion Debrief
**Lunch served at 12:30 p.m.*
Office Hub: 331 Milam St, Shreveport, LA 71101

Pre-Work:

1. Go over glossary of campaign terms.
2. Using “how to find election results in Louisiana” one-pager, find the election results of the past 6-10 years for the seat you are thinking of running for. Also note what else was happening and what else was on the ballot during that election year. If you do not have an election picked out, pick an election of your choice.
3. Write a five-ten sentence biography for yourself (real) and for your opponent (real or imaginary).

Hotel Block Information: Rooms are available Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights. \$85/night for a room with one king bed or a room with two double beds. Parking is included. Room Block Name: Emerge Louisiana.

Holiday Inn Shreveport Downtown - 102 Lake St, Shreveport, LA 71101
Phone number: (318) 222-7717 | [Click here for online booking.](#)

Supporter Housing: I have a limited number of rooms available for supporter housing in Shreveport (3 rooms on Friday, 4 rooms on Saturday). If you are interested in a room at one of these homes, please email Melanie with your interest and any pet allergies, etc. I should be made aware of.

Carpooling: You are encouraged to carpool with your Emerge sisters to Shreveport! Please facilitate those plans on your own.

Social Chair: Vickey Range | The Social Chairs are responsible for setting up one social event in the month before the class.

Emcees: Megan Snider & Erica Williams | The Emcees are responsible for introducing all the speakers on that class day. A great way to practice a valuable skill and get to know some of our speakers!

Whips: Dora Lambert & Erica Martinez | The Whips are responsible for helping the class run on time, getting classmates back from breaks, keeping speakers on time, passing out handouts, etc.

Breakfast | Yogurt, granola, fruit and an assortment of pastries & spreads

Lunch | Earnestly Tootie’s Chef Services: Grilled Lime Chicken and Shrimp, Seasonal Vegetables, Saffron Rice, Black Beans, Garden Salad, Pasta Salad (more to be added)

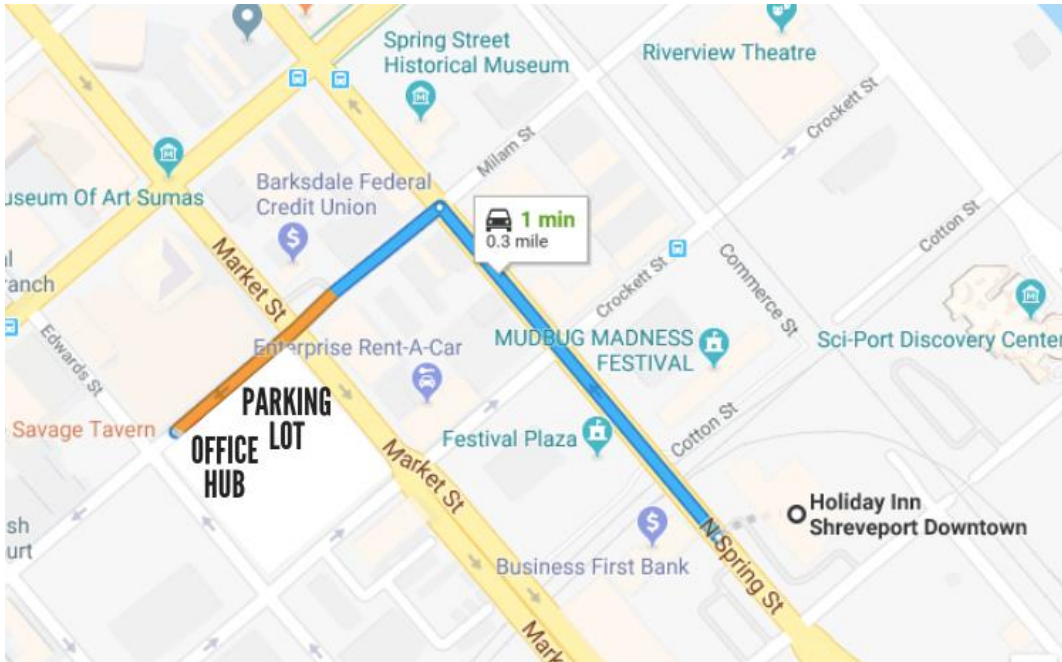
Attire | Attire for the weekend is business casual. Comfort + layers are key!

Bring from home | Notebook, pens, uncompleted forms, tuition installments, a 2-3 sentence caption for your Emerge social media introduction post, pre-work

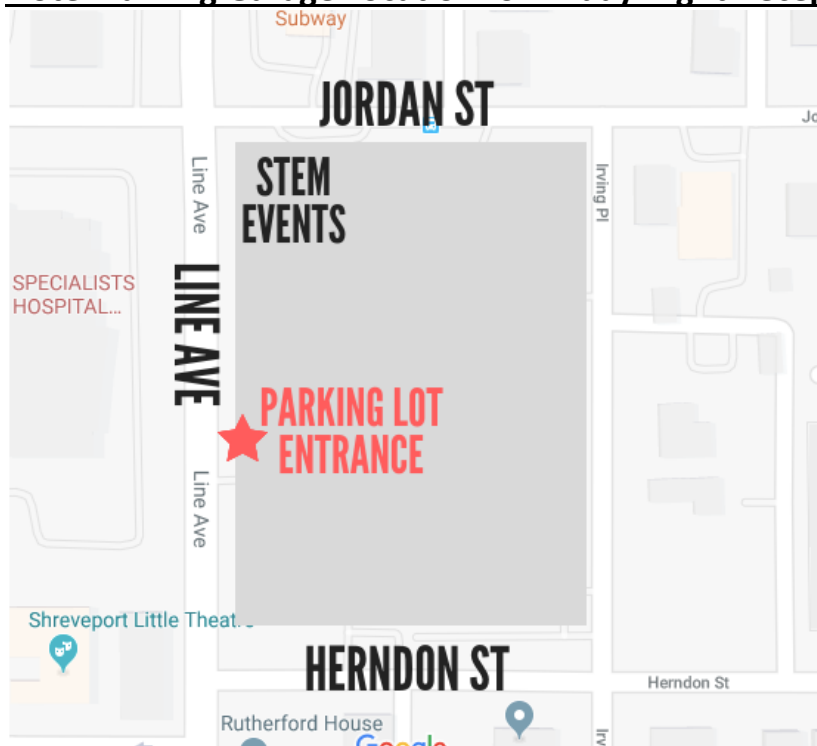
Directions to Class: Office Hub is a new co-working space located in downtown Shreveport. From the hotel, it is a .3 mile walk (approximately 7 minutes). Address: 331 Milam St, Shreveport, LA 71101

How to get to Office Hub from the Holiday Inn:

- Take a right out of the Holiday Inn onto N Spring Street toward Crockett Street.
- In two blocks, take a left on Milam St.
- In one block, Office Hub will be on your left at the corner of Milam and Edwards St.
- The parking lot is located on the side of the building. Enter on Milam St.



Note: Parking Garage Location for Friday Night Reception:





Trainer Biographies – February 16-17, 2019



Emily Arata

Emily Arata is the Assistant Vice President of Government Relations and Community Initiatives at the Ochsner Health System. In her role, Emily develops community investment and outreach strategies that advance Ochsner's mission. She represents the health system in complex legislative efforts and works with government officials at the local, state and federal level. Prior to joining Ochsner, Emily served as a Deputy Mayor for the City of New Orleans. Arata oversaw communications, local and federal government affairs, and policy for the mayor's office. She was campaign manager for Mitch Landrieu's runs for lieutenant governor and mayor before joining his executive staff in 2010. She was also a staff member for former Sen. Mary Landrieu in Washington, D.C.

Arata was also the mayor's designee on his Committee on Sexual Violence Response and was chairwoman of a working group to implement new domestic violence policies. For her work, the New Orleans Family Justice Center presented her with a 2015 Champion Award.



Candice Battiste

Candice Battiste is a bold, progressive advocate for her community and state. She is a proud graduate of Louisiana State University and the Southern University Law Center where she served as the President of Law Students for Reproductive Justice and was a recipient of the prestigious Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Fellowship.

She is the past Shreveport-Bossier Field Director with Citizen SHE United and the Unanimous Jury Coalition, Vice President of the Women's Democratic Club of Northwest Louisiana, currently serves on the executive board of the New Leaders Council- Louisiana Chapter, and was recently selected as a United Nations Association Delegate. When Candice is not discussing progressive politics, she can be found at one of many Louisiana food and music festivals or curling up with a good book. She is also an active member of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier.



Sumer Cooner

Sumer Cooner is a proud graduate of Emerge Louisiana's Inaugural 2018 class. Upon completion of the Emerge program, Sumer announced her candidacy for Caddo Parish School Board. With a determined ground game and proven community leadership, Sumer challenged a sitting School Board Member in a "red" district. Sumer earned 43% of the vote in a district that voted 88% Republican just four years prior- a 45 point swing.

Sumer attended public school K-12 and graduated from The University of Texas at Austin in 2007 where she studied Advertising at one of the top advertising programs in the country. While in Austin, Sumer took night classes to become a Realtor to earn money during college. She married her wonderful husband, Nick, in 2006. Sumer was the Marketing Director at Shreveport Opera before welcoming her two beautiful children, Henry and Lucille, into the world. She enjoyed being able to spend those first precious years with them at home. She started an in-home sewing Etsy business, HopScotch Stitches, while she was home with her children and continues to help with her parent's oil and gas companies, T-M Well Service and McDonald Resources. Sumer is currently the Development Coordinator at The Strand Theatre.

She proudly volunteers as the pianist at Church for the Highlands and loves volunteering to help families in need at Highland Center Ministries. You can also find Sumer at AC Steere, her children's school, where she helps lead the running club or assisting a teacher in their classroom. Her hobbies include water skiing, gardening, sewing, playing the piano, and spending time with her husband, two children, and their dog, Banjo. Sumer loves her neighborhood and the people in it.



LeVette Fuller

LeVette Fuller serves on the Shreveport City Council. In 2018, LeVette answered the call to run for office. She advanced to the runoff and won her election with 74% of the vote. Councilwoman Fuller now serves the people of District B which includes downtown Shreveport. Fuller's win created the first African-American majority council in more than four decades under the mayor-council form of government.

LeVette is an associate with the Shreve Memorial Library system and a dedicated community activist. Fuller is a graduate of Caddo Parish Magnet High School and Centenary College. In addition to her work with local schools and community partners through the public library system, she serves on the Leadership Council for Step Forward, an organization focused on cradle-to-career success for North Louisiana. Fuller has served as a board member for the Shreveport Caddo Metropolitan Planning Commission and is a founding member of Re-Form Shreveport, an organization dedicated to bringing citizens together to share ideas and find implementable solutions to improve Shreveport's built environment. She is also an active member of the Junior League of Shreveport-Bossier.