

# Rising Philanthropist Institute

A program of Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee



## Mission

Connecting, cultivating, inspiring, and engaging the rising generation of philanthropic leaders in Middle Tennessee.

## Who should participate?

Individuals across Middle Tennessee who are ready to deepen their understanding of strategic philanthropy and strengthen their capacity to create meaningful, lasting change through thoughtful, community focused giving.

## Why Join Us?

### In this cohort, you will:

- Understand the difference between charity and philanthropy to move from reactive giving to strategic, impact-driven investment in community.
- Craft your philanthropic story and identity, including values and motivations, and design a personal giving plan to maximize your impact.
- Learn what nonprofits do, how to assess their impact and financial health, and how they create change.
- Explore local and national giving trends to understand what's shaping philanthropy today, and move beyond social gestures to intentional giving that meets both long-term and urgent needs.
- Work alongside other emerging philanthropists to build a shared giving identity; create thoughtful grants together.
- Build your community leadership skills to support local giving now and in the future.

### Additionally, program participants receive access to:

#### ▶ Philanthropic Advising

Two one-hour individual advising sessions with a CFMT Philanthropic Services Team member to strategically select a grantee and finalize your personalized giving plan.

#### ▶ Community Foundation Donor Education & Programming

Access CFMT donor learning programs and events.

#### ▶ Rising Philanthropist Institute Alumni Network

Graduates of the program become part of the Rising Philanthropist Institute Alumni Network, a community dedicated to lasting impact. Alumni can continue their philanthropic journey by opening Donor Advised Funds or pursuing other personalized giving opportunities.

## 2026 Program Schedule



**February 22 | 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**Program Kick-Off Event:**

*Getting to Know One Another and CFMT*



**March 19 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Learning Event:**

*Developing a Personal Philanthropic Identity*



**April 16 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Learning Event:**

*Exploring the Nonprofit Sector and the Local Community*



**May 14 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Learning Event:**

*Building a Group Identity*



**June 18 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**From Nonprofit Research to Site Visits:**

*The Many Ways to Learn About Nonprofits*



**August 13 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

**Grant Presentations & Group Grantee Selection**



**September 17 | 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

**Individual Giving Selection Presentations**

**& Celebration**

## Program Support

**Instead of a tuition fee, each participant makes a \$1,000 charitable contribution** to the Rising Philanthropist Institute Fund. Each participant's gift will be granted to a strategically selected nonprofit organization of their choice at the conclusion of the program. In addition, the cohort will collectively select a nonprofit to receive grant funds provided by The Tomorrow Fund, an endowed fund at CFMT to build community awareness, leadership, and responsibility in young Nashville residents by establishing a pattern of community service and charitable giving.

## How to Participate

To learn more or to nominate a candidate for a cohort, please complete the **CFMT Rising Philanthropist Institute Interest Form**. Or contact Amy Fair at [afair@cfmt.org](mailto:afair@cfmt.org) and Jacob Tudor at [jtudor@cfmt.org](mailto:jtudor@cfmt.org).

*The Rising Philanthropist Institute cohort is limited to 20 participants annually.*