2019 Cohort 2
Duke Management Academy
Amy Baskin

Title: Director of Communications
Department: Department of Medicine, SOM

Quote:
“The impact of DMA is immeasurable.

This program has given me the skill set to understand how to be a better leader, manager, and person.

The connections I have made throughout this Academy have also been invaluable!”
Beth Perry

Title: Research Practice Manager
Department: Neurosurgery, SOM

Quote:
“I learned that I am a capable middle manager that has instinctive skills to handle those above and below me.

DMA has taught me to be humble, considering how others view my leadership, and to develop my talents for my current and future roles and the institutions future plans.”
Cathy Lewis

**Title:** Grants & Contracts Administrator  
**Department:** Center for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies

**Quote:**

“The DMA program helped me identify ways I could be a better leader and improve the experience of my team.

After exploring our individual values, my team created a set of team values that we all had a part in cultivating and now strive to show them through our work.”
Christine Preddy

**Title:** Nurse Manager  
**Department:** Duke Children’s Hospital

**Quote:**

“The DMA Program has been helpful in learning about different parts of the organization. I’ve made new friends in those different departments and have a feeling of connectedness.

The DMA Program reveals a lot about yourself, that in turn impacts how you lead.”
Dawn Cronce

**Title:** Administrative Manager  
**Department:** Duke Reading Center, SOM

**Quote:**

“DMA has been essential to my professional growth as a manager and as a leader.

The classes helped me build upon the skills I had and gain valuable new skills to help me lead my team.

I was given the invaluable opportunity to network with other managers across the University and Health System.”
Deann Corum

Title: Senior IT Analyst
Department: Nicholas School of the Environment

Quote:
“In DMA, I learned the best leaders do not find solutions or success alone. Team cohesiveness and project success comes through collaboration and situational leadership.

Duke's continuance of the program even during COVID demonstrates the institution's commitment to developing leaders.”
Heather Parnell

**Title:** Research Project Manager  
**Department:** Center for Health Policy & Inequalities Research, SOM

**Quote:**

“Participation in DMA provided an opportunity for me to identify my areas of strength as a leader, while also helping me identify and improve the skills that still need honing.

Most impactful was the opportunity to work and learn alongside other Duke managers. Learning from colleagues throughout Duke University and Health is a rare opportunity.”
Jamie Mills

Title: Sr. Grants & Contracts Manager
Department: Duke Global Health Institute (DGHI)

Quote:
“Participating in DMA taught me how a leader should be adaptable and tailor their approach to the specific needs of their employees.

I learned about my own strengths and weaknesses, and to leverage my skills to best serve my employees.”
Jan Taylor

**Title:** Director of Strategic Operations & Analytics

**Department:** Department of Radiology, SOM

**Quote:**

“This program has enriched my leadership skills, and I’m very grateful for the learning opportunity. The curriculum is well rounded and extremely relevant for today’s environment.

I thoroughly enjoyed our class time – learning with a great group of engaged professionals, and knowing there were at least 1 or 2 pearls of wisdom I could immediately put into action.”
Jillian Hauser

**Title:** Director  
**Department:** Performance Services

**Quote:**

“DMA has been a really rewarding investment in my growth as a leader. The content was relevant and valuable.

Additionally, the breadth of leaders that participated in the program allowed a variety of personalities and experiences to add to the discussion.

The friendships I made were also a highlight of the program for me!”
Melinda Strickland

Title: Associate Director
Department: Fuqua School of Business, Executive MBA, Shared Services

Quote:
“I am so thankful that I participated in DMA. My network across both the university and health system has grown. I was able to learn more about myself and to think about critical issues such as financial management and diversity. Understanding the challenges faced by others helped me to think more creatively about new solutions.”
Nicole Yates

Title: Scientific/Research Laboratory Manager

Department: Center for Human Systems Immunology, Department of Surgical Sciences, SOM

Quote:
“DMA made me aware of my strengths as a leader and taught me how to harness them to work in alignment with Duke’s mission to bring out the best in my team.

I enjoyed getting to know and work with other leaders and managers across Duke and sharing struggles and successes with one another. I have also become a big fan of the Duke L&OD Programs!”
Rich Kless

**Title:** Associate Director

**Department:** University Center for Activities & Events, Venue & Production Management

**Quote:**
“DMA has given me the confidence to know that who I am as a leader and how I have been leading has been good for my team and for Duke.

I have come to better understand the importance of setting goals and what a positive impact setting clear goals has on our teams. Not setting goals FOR but WITH my team can change how a year turns out for our entire department.”
Richard Outten

**Title:** Information Technology Director  
**Department:** Office of Information Technology

**Quote:**

“DMA helped me refine my management skills, including putting things into common terminology and introducing me to some new concepts and experiences. This helped me see the larger picture of management at Duke.

The chance to get to know and work with colleagues from around Duke in the cohort was a real pleasure.”
Sara Johnson

**Title:** Director of Population Health

**Department:** Duke Primary Care

**Quote:**
“DMA helps leaders to pinpoint strengths and weaknesses, and provides direction on how to improve.

This program required a lot of thoughtful self-reflection, and helped me better understand how to support my team members.

I also really enjoyed getting to know the other members of my cohort and building relationships across Duke.”
Tarun Saxena

**Title:** Clinical Trials Project Leader II  
**Department:** Duke Clinical & Translational Science Institute

**Quote:**

“I enjoyed this program greatly. I had recently taken up a formal management role for the first time, and this program was an excellent opportunity to learn with a group of other aspiring leaders.

By having a safe space to discuss any issues, the group got to learn from each other. Although the pandemic disrupted the flow and timing of the program, the L&OD team did a fantastic job in recalibrating and getting us to completion.”
Thomas Davis

**Title:** Director  
**Department:** Performance Services

**Quote:**

“DMA is a terrific program to network with leaders throughout both Duke University and Duke Health.

The program provides a foundation for leadership growth through self-reflection, insights from senior leaders, and collaboration with peers in the program. DMA is a catalyst for growing as a leader.”