Announcing the 6th Annual BB&T Discovery Forum Series!

Beginning this month, IEI is once again hosting its annual BB&T Discovery Forum Series! In 2011, the Institute for Emerging Issues and BB&T launched a partnership to inspire, support and develop young social entrepreneurs and innovators across North Carolina through the annual Discovery Forum series. For four years, the Discovery Forum attracted young, local social entrepreneurs (ages 18-30) to pitch their ideas or social ventures in Raleigh. Last year, after much success in the Triangle, IEI and BB&T decided to take the Discovery Forum on the road. This year, we will be doing the same!

The 2016 Discovery Forum series will make six stops with the goal of attracting teams of young social entrepreneurs who are working to improve their communities, and our state, through social innovation.

This month’s latest civic engagement blog was contributed by Monica Ospina, with Keep Durham Beautiful. This nonprofit, volunteer organization works with the City of Durham, as well as private businesses, citizens, and community organizations, to conserve and enhance the appearance and environment of Durham. Stay tuned to our blog (and read the older posts) here.
Research

Looking for data on how best to engage youth in your community? Here's what we’re reading this month. Share your favorite youth engagement literature, and your pick could be featured in the October newsletter!

Social Entrepreneurship: 7 Ways to Empower Student Changemakers
Vicki Davis

A Critical Geographic Approach to Youth Civic Engagement
Kevin J. Burke, Stuart Greene, Maria K. McKenna

Engaging Youth in Community Decision Making
Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP)

Opportunities

Every month, we’ll highlight great opportunities for youth to engage across North Carolina. Let us know if you have an opportunity you’d like us to share!

Youth Leadership Greenville
Youth Leadership Greenville is designed to bring awareness to young people, to challenge them to become engaged citizens, and to prepare them to serve in leadership positions within our community.

Western North Carolina Nature Center
Check out the different volunteer programs with the WNC Nature Center
Center! They are currently accepting applications for spring volunteers.

City of Durham After School Programs
The City of Durham's Parks and Recreation Department offers many affordable after school programs across the city. Find the program site nearest you!

Summer in the Commons
Our Summer in the Commons program was an incredible success in its second year! As the summer officially draws to a close, we encourage you to be on the lookout for more information about how we engaged youth in our Emerging Issues Commons this year.

- Learn more about how Special Pedals Inc. is gearing up to close the gap for adults with disabilities!
- Informative Technologies is working to solve the root causes of the digital divide. Find out how and why!
- Think outside the hive with Bee Downtown!

Interested in applying?
We are seeking applications from young social entrepreneurs across North Carolina. To apply, submit an online application to the Discovery Forum closest to you! We welcome submissions from all experience levels—from the ‘just an idea’ phase to full-fledged social ventures. For questions, please contact one of our Emerging Leaders Fellows, Maggie Woods or Caroline Dawkins.

Interested in attending?
Come out to support young social entrepreneurs from your community! Register (for free) to attend the event nearest to you by going to emergingissues.org/df. To guarantee your seat, we do request that you register at prior to the event. Light appetizers and drinks will be served. We would love to fill the room with support for these young entrepreneurs!

Caroline Dawkins
Emerging Leaders Fellow
cedawkin@ncsu.edu