

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION YOUTH DESIGN PROGRAM

Ten rising high-school juniors, each nominated from area high schools, will comprise the 2017-2018 Community Foundation Youth Design Committee. The students will learn about various local challenges, specifically through the lens of diversity, equity and inclusion. Given the racism and violence of recent events, the Foundation would like to include area youth, as our future leaders, in conversations acknowledging and understanding the complexities of race and intolerance in our community. Specifically, the committee will have the opportunity to work directly with one selected non-profit to design an innovative approach to an identified challenge, and consider how imagined solutions may impact Charlottesville's diverse communities.

The Foundation will provide support to the selected non-profit in the form of a \$10,000 grant, as well as expert guidance from UVA professor and design thinking specialist, Elgin Cleckley. At the end of the year, each student will receive a Joe Gieck Youth Service Award for their participation and contributions to the community.

This program responds to increasing recognition locally, as well as nation-wide, by high-school administrators, researchers, parents, and students themselves, of the importance of preparing students for real-world engagement through greater emphasis on skills-based learning rather than content-based learning. In the process of collaborative design, students will discover and develop powerful skills, including critical thinking, problem-solving, creativity, communication and empathy; all important principles for building a more inclusive and just society.

The program was designed with consultation with high-school principals, guidance counselors, high-school students, and a local non-profit dedicated to moving education towards more innovative solutions. The 2017-2018 program is envisioned as a first step towards a more robust program, fundamentally prioritizing authentic community engagement and skills development. In future years, the program will aim to implement a credit-based system, wherein students can receive credits towards their graduation, for their participation on the Committee.

YOUTH DESIGN AWARD

Eligibility:

- Grantseekers must be a 501(c)3 organization, governmental or religious entity, or fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)3 organization. The Foundation will consider applications from organizations working to benefit the City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Nelson and Orange.

Details:

- Grantseekers may submit one application per grant cycle, unless serving as a fiscal agent for another organization.
- Deadline: October 13, 2017
- Funding Limit: This program awards grants up to \$10,000
- Decision: Mid-December
- For questions: Aidyn Mills, amills@cacfonline.org

Concept Note Guidelines:

- The Foundation will host a workshop on September 6, 2017 at 9:30AM to answer questions and provide guidance with the development of concept notes.
- Proposals should address how projects may impact different communities along racial and ethnic lines.
- Design thinking is a process for creative problem solving. Concept notes should identify a challenge, to which a committee of ten students nominated by their high schools, can contribute their ideas for an innovative approach.
- The collaborative design of the project between the selected non-profit and the Youth Design Committee will take place between January and April 2018. Timeline for implementation of the proposed project can be determined once the approach has been developed. Implementation of the designed approach may or may not include the students' participation.
- Proposals are encouraged to explain how participating high school students will have the opportunity to cultivate the skills of problem-solving, creativity, communication, and empathy through their participation in this project.
- Budget proposals may include expenses for resources required for design and/or implementation phase of project. Budgets may be determined in collaboration with Youth Design Committee.