THE BRIDGE
Opportunities from the
Rochester Center for Community Leadership
March 2012

IN THIS ISSUE:
1. You’re invited: Community Leadership Celebration!
2. Social Entrepreneur David Bornstein to Give Talk
3. Hunt4hope Scavenger Hunt In Progress!
4. Peace Corps Virtual Information Session
5. Volunteer Opportunity: Spring Family Brunch
6. Summer Program: Foresight Immersion
7. Volunteer Opportunity: Southwest Rochester Clean Sweep
8. 2012 Crop Fundraising Walk
9. Alternative Film Series Explores Issues of Community
10. Volunteer Opportunities: CP Rochester
11. Internship Opportunity: Youth As Resources
12. Resources for Programming on Hunger
13. Leadership Tip: Learned Optimism
14. About The Rochester Center For Community Leadership

Featured Programs

YOU’RE INVITED: COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION!
March 28, 6:00 p.m., The Meliora, Salon D
The RCCL is teaming up with the Community Service Network for the second annual Community Leadership Celebration and Community Service Awards. This reception is intended to recognize students and community members involved in all RCCL programs over the past year. In addition, the Community Service Network will present awards to selected students and to a community partner for their dedicated efforts to strengthen the community. The event will feature light refreshments and remarks from Dean of Students Matt Burns, as well as UR alumna Erica Fee ’98 (’99 T5), producer of the inaugural Rochester Fringe Festival. RSVP to community.leadership@rochester.edu by midnight on Thursday, March 29.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR DAVID BORNSTEIN TO GIVE TALK
Monday, April 2, 8:00 p.m., RIT, Carlson Auditorium
David Bornstein, social innovator, founder of Dowser.org, New York Times columnist, and author of How to Change the World: Social Entrepreneurship and the Power of New Ideas will give a talk entitled, “Are We on the Verge of a New Enlightenment?” This event is free and registration is not necessary.

HUNT4HOPE SCAVENGER HUNT IN PROGRESS!
Ends March 31.
The Volunteers of America has organized an online scavenger hunt to help raise awareness about the Rochester community. VOA Hunt 4 Hope is a fun, interactive online treasure hunt where you can win amazing prizes! Sign up now for FREE and also earn 2500 points to start you off. You can earn more points simply by answering tasks. Every point you earn is one chance at daily prizes. The more you earn, the more chances you have at winning. Thanks to sponsors, they are giving away some great prizes like $25 and $100 AMEX cards, $25 to Applebees, $25 to Bed, Bath and Beyond, $25 to Cheesecake Factory, and $600 Droid phone. Join in the fun!
Community Leadership Opportunities

**PEACE CORPS VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION**
March 28, 6:00 p.m.
There will be an online information session led by Peace Corps recruiter James Kostenblatt to talk about opportunities to serve in the Peace Corps. The online session provides the opportunity to learn about Peace Corps from wherever you may be! Click here to register for the session.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: SPRING FAMILY BRUNCH**
Saturday, March 31, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Asbury Church, 1040 East Avenue
The Eastern Service Workers Association is planning a spring brunch for low-income families and needs volunteers to help set up, serve the meal, plan and conduct children’s activities, and clean up. To volunteer, call Baly at 654-9640.

**SUMMER PROGRAM: FORESIGHT IMMERSION**
June 18-August 8, Chicago, IL; Applications due April 2
Foresight Immersion is the nation’s leading hands-on sustainable civic innovation program. Developed over ten years, the program provides emerging leaders with the guiding methodologies, foundational knowledge, project experience, skills and professional network to create sustainable impact in an evolving landscape. The program allows participants to deepen their knowledge of sustainability drivers, issues and trends by interfacing with experts “in the trenches.” Speakers include business leaders, environmentalists, policymakers, academics, urban farmers, social innovators and researchers. Participants simultaneously work on projects that are grounded in real world constraints, gain the practical experience necessary to understand the sustainability landscape and how to overcome challenges in the areas of business, the built environment, design, and civic innovation. Limited scholarships and payment plans available. Visit the website to learn more, browse alumni profiles, and apply!

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: SOUTHWEST ROCHESTER CLEAN SWEEP**
Saturday, May 5, starting at 8:30 a.m.
If your finals schedule allows, end the academic year in service by joining community residents for the Southwest Quadrant Clean Sweep. Volunteers are needed to help with the pedestrian bridge Westside clean-up plus Riverway Trail work near the warehouse at Flint Street. I will not be able to work at Flint Street if the pedestrian bridge clean-up is approved. The goal is to get 1,000 volunteers out-and-about helping to clean up neighborhoods, vacant lots, the park, school grounds, etc. To be a Project Lead or a participant, please register online or by calling 585-428-7630.

**2012 CROP FUNDRAISING WALK**
Sunday, May 6, Wilson Foundation Academy, 275 Dr. Samuel McCree Way
If your finals schedule allows, the CROP Walk is a great way to take an active study break and support a good cause. The annual Walk raises awareness and funding for local and international food availability. The 2012 walk will focus on the variety of floral and food gardens in southwest Rochester, including Dr. Samuel McCree Way, Jefferson & Troup, Susan B. Anthony park and will include Brown Street from Jefferson Ave to Genesee Street. Participants may even bring flowers or plants and a trowel to plant in a community garden along the way! Last year the Walk raised $9,025.25, and had over 80 walkers, 2 strollers, and 4 dogs. Interested students/groups should contact Cheryl Frank at 241-3078.
ALTERNATIVE FILM SERIES EXPLORES ISSUES OF COMMUNITY
Graduate students from the Program in Visual and Cultural Studies are hosting a series of alternative film screenings in the coming weeks centered on communities and issues of belonging, collectivity, and inclusion. Titled OnFilm, the project began in 2009 with the mission to show rarely seen films from around the world, centered on a select theme, and shown in their original formats. Click here to view the lineup of films.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: CP ROCHESTER
CP Rochester supports people with physical and developmental disabilities in choosing and accomplishing successive life goals. Volunteers are needed to assist with a cookie making project on Saturday, April 28, at 11:30 a.m. Also, CP Rochester is staffing the Al Sigl Center’s Elmwood Campus for the 2012 Lilac Festival Parking, and needs six volunteers for each of three shifts to secure the parking lot entrances and collect money from people parking to go to the festival: Sunday, May 13 (9 a.m.-noon; Noon-3 p.m.; 3-6 p.m.) Finally, for the Augustin Children’s Center Annual Garage Sale, volunteers are needed to help set up on May 2 & 3, anytime between 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. To sign up for any of these opportunities, contact Christine Bennett, volunteer coordinator, at 334-6000 ext. 1321.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY: YOUTH AS RESOURCES
Youth As Resources (YAR), a program of the Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau, seeks to empower and engage youth as partners with adults in creating positive community change and development. Youth and adult members govern the YAR board and provide grants of up to $1000 to local youth in order to develop and carry out community service and service-learning projects that address a clear community need. The YAR intern will work alongside the Rochester Youth Year AmeriCorps*VISTA member, under the supervision of YAR’s Program Coordinator. If accepted into the internship, an Internship Assignment Description will be provided. For more information, contact Leanne Richardson, Rochester Youth Year Fellow, at (585) 753-6456

RESOURCES FOR PROGRAMMING ON HUNGER
Oxfam America is the U.S. affiliate of an international relief and development organization that creates lasting solutions to poverty, hunger, and injustice. Together with individuals and local groups in more than 90 countries, Oxfam saves lives, helps people overcome poverty, and fights for social justice. Students can connect to this mission in various ways. To find out more about Oxfam and its programs, visit the Oxfam website or contact Celeste Bettencourt at Oxfam America.

Leadership Tip of the Month
LEARNED OPTIMISM
Effective leaders are optimistic and always try to see the glass as half full. When a leader chooses optimism, he or she also chooses vitality and success. Here are five simple tips that will get you on the road to optimism. From David Chinsky’s book, The Fit Leader’s Companion: A Down-to-Earth Guide for Sustainable Leadership Success.

1. **Know that most bad things are not permanent.** When something goes wrong, try not to blow things out of proportion. Ask yourself if the negative effect is permanent.
2. **Give yourself credit for positive events.** When something good happens, take time to pat yourself on the back. Celebrate your strengths and think about the ways you contributed (both directly and indirectly) to this accomplishment.
3. **Cut yourself some slack.** Pessimists often blame themselves for every negative event. But when things don't go as planned, it's not always your fault. Consider the extenuating circumstances that could have contributed to the bad outcome. Not every failure is caused by one of your own personal weaknesses.
4. **Remember there's always next time.** Instead of dwelling on your mistakes, try to think about how you can do better next time.

5. **Challenge your negative thoughts.** When you catch yourself thinking negatively, stop, take a deep breath and make a conscious effort to change your thought pattern. The more often you challenge negative thoughts, the more natural it will become for you to think like an optimist.

For more tips on how to “choose optimism,” visit [http://instituteforleadershipfitness.com/](http://instituteforleadershipfitness.com/)

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**About the Rochester Center for Community Leadership**

*Better Yourself ~ Better Your Community!*

The [Rochester Center for Community Leadership](http://www.rochestercenter.org) is a unit in the office of the Dean of Students at the University of Rochester. The Center educates students to become engaged citizens and leaders capable of effecting positive social change in their communities. We envision a world in which all people collaborate to transform their communities.