

N Northeastern City and Community Engagement

Fall 2021 Newsletter



Mural art by Sophia López Chavez on Ruggles Station, photo by Ruby Wallau/Northeastern University

Happy Fall to our community partners, students, residents, and faculty! As we continue to navigate our current reality, the City and Community Engagement team remains committed to fostering collaborative relationships and partnerships that connect, educate, and engage our network while protecting our community's health. With the vast majority of our campus community vaccinated and COVID protective measures in place, we're excited to be able to bring back in-person programming as well as continue virtual opportunities for our campus and surrounding communities to connect.

In this newsletter:

- A review of our initiatives over the past few months - including the opening of a new black-owned business on campus, summer programs for youth, and back to campus community service projects
- Upcoming educational and engagement initiatives - including opportunities to utilize our programming space, collaborate with Spring service-learning courses for partners, and apply to service weekends for students
- Northeastern Community Engagement News Highlights
- More opportunities to engage and connect on our campus and beyond

LOOKING BACK - Highlights from the Summer and early Semester



Grand Opening of The Underground Cafe + Lounge

On Monday, September 20th, City and Community Engagement joined our colleagues at Northeastern as well as many neighbors, community organizations, and artists to celebrate the much-anticipated Grand Opening of [The Underground Café + Lounge](#) in Lightview. The Underground is the latest venture from Nia Grace, owner of Darryl's Corner Kitchen and Bar on Columbus Ave. The Underground is also part of a joint initiative between Northeastern and [American Campus Communities](#) to support local small businesses owned by women and people of color. Guests enjoyed delicious food and drinks made by the Underground team and a dynamic program that included remarks from Mayor Janey, a spoken word performance by Valerie Stevens, and live music from Gregory Groover Jr. The event was emcee'd by our VP of City and Community Engagement, John Tobin.



Be sure to stop by the Underground at 742 Columbus! Read more about the Underground in [News@Northeastern](#) and the [Boston Globe](#).





Summer Youth Employment Program participates in Mock Trial with DA Rollins

As part of City & Community Engagement's ongoing partnership with [Madison Park Community Development Corporation](#), Northeastern was proud to host students from their Summer Youth Employment Program, as well as special guest Suffolk County DA Rachael Rollins in the School of Law's moot courtroom with Street Litigators Academy. Co-facilitated by Northeastern alum Dexter Rowell, [Street Litigators Academy](#) is a series of interactive workshops designed to empower young people to think and advocate like lawyers by analyzing legal documents, preparing for a mock trial, and advocating in a compelling manner. Thank you to our partners at MPDC, our colleagues in the School of Law, and DA Rollins for making this opportunity possible for the SYEP youth!





Community members and students connect at Fall Volunteer Fair

In September, we welcomed our community partners, neighbors, and students to the annual Fall Volunteers Fair. The first in-person fair since the COVID-19 pandemic, Northeastern students and our community partners were able to connect and discover opportunities for campus and community to collaborate. Thank you to everyone who joined us at the fair and to the Community Service and Civic Engagement team for organizing the event!

Are you interested in finding local volunteer opportunities? Sign up to receive the [Weekly Volunteer Digest](#) curated by the Community Service and Civic Engagement office.

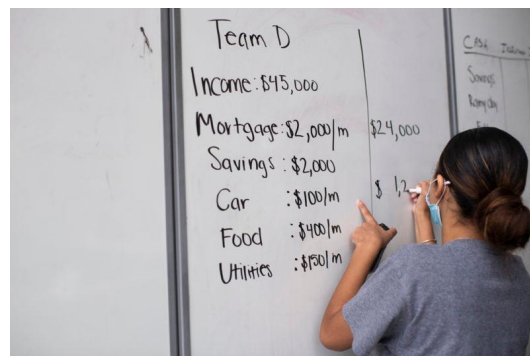




CCE Hosts Financial Literacy Workshops for Youth

This summer, we were proud to partner with Northeastern alum Nick Josey '90 and Madison Park Development Corporation to host a series of financial literacy workshops for young people in Northeastern Crossing. Founder of local non-profit financial organization the [Vincita Institute](#), Nick has been teaching people of all backgrounds how to make informed financial decisions for the past 17 years.

Read more in the full story by [News@Northeastern!](#)



MPF Welcomes 23rd Cohort and New Director

In August, The Mass Promise Fellowship kicked off its 23rd service year with 28 new AmeriCorps Fellows. Fellows are serving at 22 youth-focused organizations across Massachusetts - including schools, non-profits, and city agencies.

MPF was also excited to welcome new Director

and MPF alum, Christine Roque. After graduating from Boston University, Christine spent two years as a Fellow where she served with the BE SAFE Initiative at the AIDS Action Committee and Health Resources in Action - she is certainly a proud MPF Alum! Prior to starting her new role with the Fellowship, Christine spent 10 years with uAspire where she directed the MA high school advising efforts, supporting 30+ partnerships in the Boston area and 3,000+ students in their endeavors to achieve an affordable college education. Christine lives in Boston with her husband and two sons.



Meet the Co-ops!

In July, CCE welcomed new co-ops Ben Whitaker and Maria Jose Salazar to the CCE team. Learn more about them below!

Ben is a fourth year Sociology student from San Francisco, California. His academic interests include learning about inequality, social justice, and environmental justice. He is specifically passionate about learning how corporations and governments use their power to produce profitable yet socially and environmentally destructive outcomes. In his previous co-op experience with The Food Project on Dudley Street, he was able to see the effects of discriminatory policies through a food justice lens, while working with an organization led by neighborhood residents. At CCE, he hopes to continue learning about Roxbury from residents, while using his privileged position as a Northeastern student to help drive important and

Northeastern
City and Community Engagement

**MEET OUR
CO-OPS!**

Ben Whitaker

MAJOR:
SOCIOLOGY

HOME TOWN:
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

equitable change. Outside of work, his personal interests include basketball, music, food, and spending time outdoors.

Maria is a third year Business and Communications student from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Her academic interests include learning about marketing and public relations. Back home, she worked closely with multiple nonprofits like Pediatric Cancer unit at a local hospital and with multiple hurricane relief organizations as an active volunteer and fundraising event organizer after Hurricane Maria. She was very proud to be recognized by these organizations and her community for her efforts and is looking forward to continuing her volunteer work with the Boston nonprofit community. Outside of her academic interests and her passion for service, she enjoys spending time at the beach and learning about different cultures in her community.



Fenway Civic Association and ACES partner for Neighborhood Clean-up

During Campus Move-In week, the Alliance for Civically-Engaged Students (ACES) partnered with the Fenway Civic Association to help with trash pick-up, mending fences, and mulching trees in the Fenway. This event was one of several volunteer efforts happening during ACES Welcome Week, in which students participated in service projects around Boston. Thank you to our ACES students and the Fenway Civic Association for your dedication to lending a hand in our communities.

[Watch the WCVB report on the ACES service project at Veterans Memorial Park in the Fens!](#)



CETR Team Authors Report for the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*

Congratulations to Community-Engaged Teaching & Research staff Dr. Becca Berkey and Chelsea Lauder on the recent publication of their report, **"Utilizing Disruption as an Opportunity: A Comparative Case Study on the Impact of COVID-19 on Community Engagement Partnership Formation"** in the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*. This article focuses on the implications and creative possibility catalyzed by the COVID-19 pandemic and reinvigorated racial justice movement on infrastructure that seeks to build transformational community-engaged teaching and research partnerships.

[Read the report here!](#)

Pictured top to bottom; Dr. Becca Berkey, Director of Community-Engaged Teaching & Research at Northeastern and Chelsea Lauder, Program Manager of Community-Engaged Teaching & Research



CAB Members Shout-out!

This semester, several members of our Community Advisory Board are serving as

instructors of the Discovery course for the Honors Program. Honors Discovery empowers students to define their aspirations and goals and chart an initial pathway towards achieving those goals. Students learn about personalized advising, awards for undergraduate research and creative endeavors, and support for global experiences. Further, Honors Discovery introduces freshmen to life as an Honors student at Northeastern University within the city of Boston, while fostering a sense of belonging to the Honors community.

Shout-out to **Jeremy Kazanjian-Amory, Kali Boston, Kasey Boston, Genevieve Day, Sheyla Carew, Cynthia Wilkerson, and Patti Wilder** for lending their expertise as community leaders in Boston to guide our Northeastern first years in their course work!

LOOKING FORWARD - Upcoming Engagement Opportunities & Events

Northeastern Crossing re-opens for community event reservations

City and Community Engagement is excited to re-open our classroom and conference space reservations to organizations and individuals to host community programming!

Advance reservations are required for both spaces.

All programming must be free to participants.

[Click here to request a booking](#) and read our reservation guidelines!

Book your next community event at Northeastern Crossing!



Our conference space



Our classroom space



City and Community Engagement at Northeastern is excited to re-open our classroom and conference space reservations to organizations and individuals to host community programming!

Advance reservations are required for both spaces. All programming must be free to participants.

Please visit our website at communityengagement.northeastern.edu for all reservation policies.

N Northeastern City and Community Engagement

Visit bit.ly/NUcrossing_reservations or scan the QR code to request a booking



Follow us on social media @nuengaged

Come to Savor the Square!

Join CCE and community organizations and vendors at the final event in the American City Coalition's **Savor the Square: Open-air Market Series** on Saturday, October 16th to celebrate "Indigenous Peoples' Day!"

Where: Blair Lot - Nubian Square
When: Saturday, October 16th, 12 - 3pm

[Learn more!](#)

SAVOR THE SQUARE

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 16th, 12 - 3 pm
Blair Lot - Nubian Square

Use **#SavortheSquare** on social media!
Music By: The ZYG 808 and Mwalim of the GroovaLotos.
affordable organic produce, BIPOC vendors and performers, Covid-19 outreach, kid's activities, and More...



Partner with Community-Engaged Teaching and Research in Spring 2022

- **Mid-Late October:** Call for Service-Learning Courses and other community-engagement programs/projects
- **Mid-November:** Release of Request for Partnerships, open to community-based organizations interested in collaborating
- **December-January:** Conversations and connections about Spring 2022 collaborations and engaged partnerships.



EMAIL SERVICE-LEARNING@NORTHEASTERN.EDU WITH QUESTIONS AND TO BE ADDED TO OUR EMAIL LISTS

Alternative Breaks Program - Now Recruiting!

Community Service and Civic Engagement at Northeastern is excited to announce the launch of the 2021-2022 **Alternative Breaks** program for students! Don't miss this great opportunity to serve across the country alongside a team of dedicated Northeastern volunteers!

The Alternative Breaks program serves to create immersive service and learning experiences, during which volunteers work with community organizations that address critical social issues such as affordable housing, environmental conservation, youth education, and sustainable agriculture. Through meaningful action, reflection, and education, volunteers explore new places and cultures, work with people from different communities, and build problem-solving and leadership skills for the future.



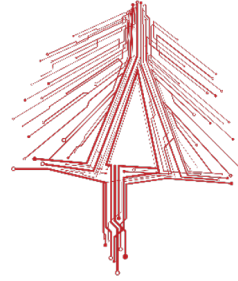
More info
here!



Urban Informatics: Data Training for all Boston Communities

This joint collaboration with BARI and City

and Community Engagement will provide data training on the Boston Data Portal for Boston communities. The training cover the Boston Data Portal, an online platform where visitors of all experience levels can browse, map, analyze, and download a variety of data describing the people, places, and neighborhoods of Boston.



Boston Area Research Initiative

[Register here!](#)

Financial Literacy Workshops for Seniors

The Vincita Institute is back in Northeastern Crossing for three financial literacy workshops for seniors! Individuals ages 60+ are invited to join this three-part series to gain knowledge to make better informed financial decisions, identify any gaps or needs in your existing plan, and get yourself on the road to economic empowerment and wellness. The workshops will run from 10-12pm on the following Saturdays: 10/30, 11/6, and 11/13. **Registration is for all three parts of the workshop.**



[Register here!](#)

Due to COVID space protocols, space is limited to 20 participants. Please be advised that this event is indoors and masks are required.

One Day, One Goal with the NU Writing Center

One Day, One Goal is a writing retreat to help Northeastern faculty, students, staff, and local community members achieve their writing goals. The NU Writing Center will provide the public with writing expertise on Saturday, October 23rd from 9am-3pm in Barrs Room, 472 Holmes Hall. Writing specialists will assist you with any writing project.

Contact the Writing Center at WritingCenter@northeastern.edu if you are interested in participating.

Northeastern University

One Day, One Goal

A Writers' Retreat to Celebrate National Day on Writing

Saturday, October 23rd
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM EST

Barrs Room
472 Holmes Hall

Contact the Writing Center at WritingCenter@northeastern.edu

NORTHEASTERN NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

The Boston Globe: With The Underground, Darryl's owner Nia

Grace opens a new door

"Nia Grace used to drive past the new LightView building on Northeastern University's campus every day on her way to Darryl's Corner Bar & Kitchen, the famed Roxbury restaurant she took ownership of in 2018. But she never imagined she might occupy it herself...." [Read more](#)



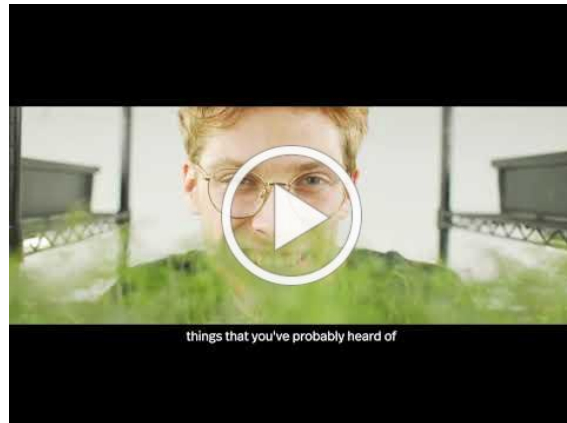
Northeastern University program has first-year students beautifying parts of Boston

"Northeastern University students are spreading out throughout the Back Bay Fens to beautify Veterans Memorial Park. 'I wanted to give back to my community,' said freshman Sebastian Caicedo. 'I'm really about helping others, and I have a passion for it.' The volunteers are part of Northeastern's Alliance of Civically Engaged Students, which has freshmen complete service projects throughout Boston." [Read more](#)



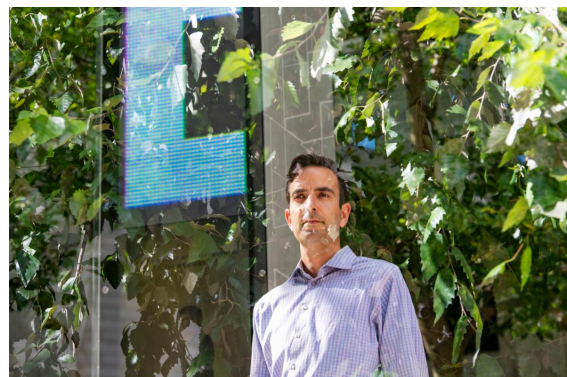
Boston Microgreens: How to Sprout a Business with a Hyperlocal Urban Farm

Oliver Homberg, who earned his international affairs degree from Northeastern in 2013, launched Boston Microgreens in 2018, blending organic farming methods with modern technology in a highly controlled indoor environment. The result: "a beautiful temple for plants." [Watch the micro-doc!](#)



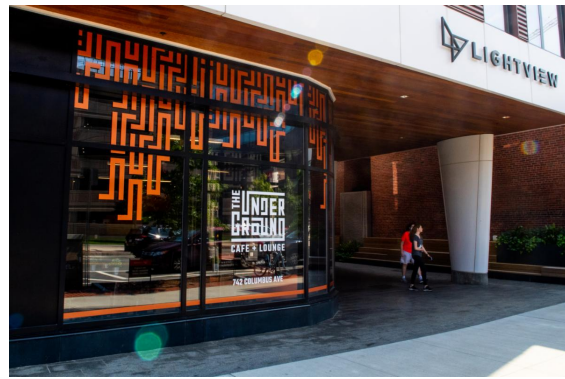
New course to cultivate ideas about how to expand campus sustainability efforts

"A weekly seminar this fall will bring together researchers, campus operations, and people who live near the Boston campus into the discussion about the environment. Universities are anchors in their communities, and the class is an opportunity to demonstrate best practices for environmental sustainability and resilience, say faculty experts." [Read more](#)



A new restaurant and a soul food connection between students and the community

"Darryl's, which sits between Boston's Roxbury and South End neighborhoods, and is located just several blocks away from The Underground on Columbus Avenue, has been a fixture in the Black community for more than half a century. The opening of The Underground, which Grace says will be a soul food-inspired breakfast and lunch spin-off of Darryl's, will come just two days before the start of the fall semester. News@Northeastern sat down with Grace to learn more about the new venture, the menu, and to hear about how preparations have been going..." [Read more](#)



Pushing teens out of their comfort zone energizes cadets at Youth Police Academy

"Niashay Bruton, an 18-year-old senior at Dearborn STEM Academy in Roxbury, had already overcome her chronic fear of dogs during a challenging week at Northeastern's Youth Police Academy when suddenly she was grappling with another—her fear of heights..." [Read more](#)



Community-Engaged Teaching & Research Recognized for 12th Year in a Row as Leading Service-Learning Program

"In service-learning programs, such as those at the schools listed below, volunteering in the community is an instructional strategy – and a requirement of a student's coursework. The service relates to what happens in class, and in turn, the coursework plays off of the volunteering. In spring and summer 2021, we invited college presidents, chief academic officers, deans of students and deans of admissions from more than 1,500 schools to nominate up to 15 institutions with stellar examples of service learning..." [Read more](#)



He teaches financial literacy to young people, and the lessons transcend money

"Based on an enduring promise he made to a brother who died four decades ago, Nicholas Josey is teaching a course in financial responsibility. The weekly classes are held at Northeastern Crossing in partnership with Madison Park

Development Corporation, a 56-year-old nonprofit organization in Roxbury, a community that neighbors Northeastern." [Read more](#)



MORE EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES FROM NORTHEASTERN AND BEYOND

NORTHEASTERN PUBLIC EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES :

[Northeastern's Sustainability and Resilience Seminar on Zoom - Tuesdays at 5pm now through October 26th](#)

[School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs' Open Classroom Fall 2021: Repairing a Divided America - Race, Hate Crimes, and Reconciliation](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES:

[Register for the Northeastern IMP Task Force Meeting led by the Boston Planning and Development Agency on October 26th](#)

[Fenway CDC Community Conversations - TONIGHT, Oct. 13th 7 - 8:30pm](#)

[Re-imagined Mission Hill Road Race: Sat, Oct. 23rd at Kevin Fitzgerald Park 11am - 3pm](#)

[Boston Small Business Expo - Free registration! October 27th 10am - 5pm in the Seaport](#)

[Boston residents ages 12-25 - apply for an MBTA Youth Pass!](#)

[Sparks for Arts: MPDC's 55th Anniversary Gala November 18, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm](#)

OFFER COMMUNITY INPUT:

Community groups, residents, and Fenway representatives are working on solutions for the [MBTA #55 bus line](#), which was recently cut and then restored to a limited schedule and route. Take a [short survey](#) to be used in planning the future of the #55 - please share your feedback on how to improve local transit!

NORTHEASTERN NEWS:

[You're With Us! Disability Mentoring Co-op Expands Inclusivity](#)

[Meet the Community Resource Dog Northeastern's Been Waiting For](#)

[She saw a niche for an arts magazine. Now it's been embraced by the Boston arts community](#)

Want to learn more? There are a number of ways to stay engaged with Northeastern and our communities.

Follow us on social media!

[Search or Submit Opportunities to our Service Finder!](#)

[Sign up for the Weekly Volunteer Digest!](#)



[Visit our website!](#)