

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO PURSUE GREATNESS

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE LAUNCH

COLLEGE LAUNCH

Founded in 2014, College LAUNCH for Leadership prepares high school juniors to be college-ready, social justice advocates. The FREE, 9-month program enrolls a diverse group of college-bound students in Charlotte and Winston-Salem, primarily serving first-generation, historically underrepresented students in higher education.



DISCOVER

connections between your career aspirations and passion for social change through mentorship and networking opportunities.



PREPARE

for the college application process with campus tours, resume and essay writing workshops, financial aid sessions, and interview coaching.



IMPACT

social change in your schools and communities by completing a Youth Participatory Action Research project.

333 NUMBER OF STUDENTS
WE'VE SERVED

65 NUMBER OF HIGH
SCHOOLS REPRESENTED

1 PROGRAM, 2 LOCATIONS



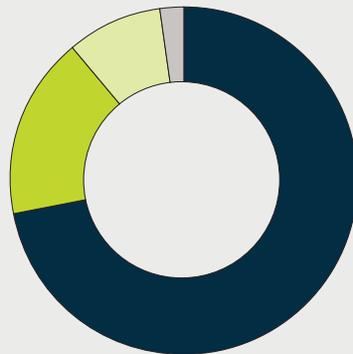
CHARLOTTE



FIRST-GENERATION STATUS



FREE & REDUCED LUNCH



COHORT DEMOGRAPHICS

● Black/African-American ● Hispanic/Latino
○ Asian ○ Two or More Races



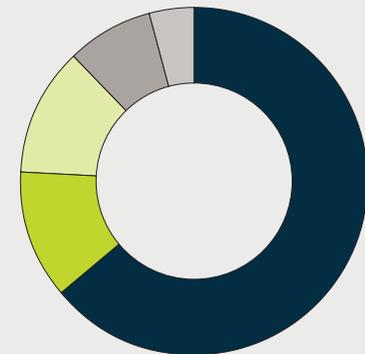
WINSTON-SALEM



FIRST-GENERATION STATUS



FREE & REDUCED LUNCH



COHORT DEMOGRAPHICS

● Black/African-American ● Hispanic/Latino
○ Asian ○ White ○ Two or More Races

MONTHLY SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

College LAUNCH for Leadership students meet one Saturday per month. Prior to each meeting, students are tasked with responding to a journal prompt aligned with that month's social justice topic. Students are invited to share their journal responses at the beginning of each summit before hearing from local industry professionals, community leaders, and activists who lead discussions or facilitate hands-on workshops related to the social justice topic. After lunch, students participate in a variety of college prep sessions such as creating a college list, learning about the FAFSA, resume and essay writing workshops and more.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SESSIONS

- Immigration Reform
- Law and Criminal Justice
- Food Insecurity
- Voting and Civic Engagement
- Financial Literacy
- Media Literacy
- Healthcare

TYPICAL SATURDAY SUMMIT

9:00 - 9:15 AM

Welcome, Icebreaker, Outline of Day

9:15 - 9:30 AM

Students share Journal Entries

9:30 - 12:00 PM

Social Justice/Leadership Topic Session

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 PM

College Prep Session

COLLEGE PREP SESSIONS

- Resume Writing
- Interview Coaching
- Building Your College List
- Scholarship Workshops
- Financial Aid/FAFSA Workshops
- Essay-Writing Workshops

YOUTH PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT

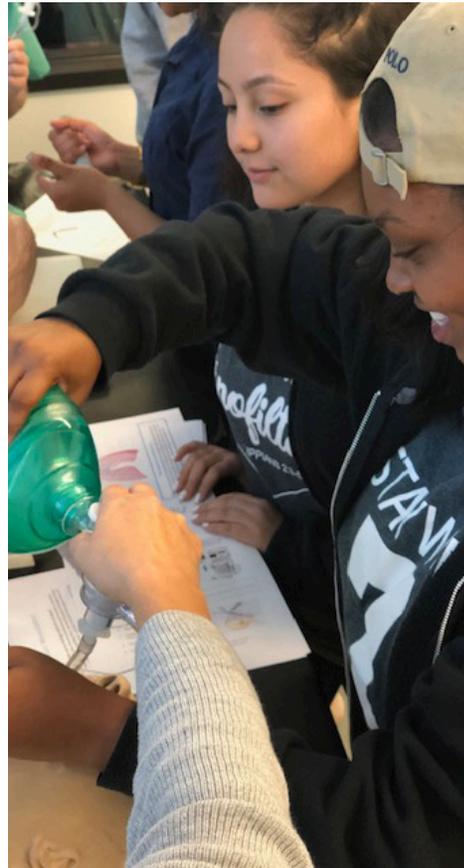
The College LAUNCH for Leadership curriculum culminates with a Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) project. This is an opportunity for students to identify a need in their community, design an independent research study, and implement a social action to address the specific need. It is our hope that students develop an understanding of how their future academic and professional goals align with their interest in and commitment to social change. Throughout the year, College LAUNCH students explore topics such as voting rights, food (in)security, access to healthcare, immigration policy and reform, media literacy and more.



LAUNCHING INTO HEALTHCARE

APRIL

A joint venture created by the Wake Forest School of Medicine and College LAUNCH for Leadership, LAUNCHing into Healthcare is a Saturday Summit designed to explore careers in healthcare with an emphasis on healthcare inequalities. Using a modified medical student case study, students address a patient's physiological needs and social determinants of health; including medical history, insurance status, mental health and access to community resources. Students learn how healthcare providers respond to patient needs by interacting with MDs, PAs, CRNAs, and clinical researchers (PhDs) in a simulated hospital setting.



DISCOVER WAKE FOREST DAY

FEBRUARY

Students and parents are invited to participate in an immersive college admissions experience at Wake Forest University. During Discover Wake Forest Day, deans of admission guide our College LAUNCH for Leadership families through an admissions committee simulation, where students review mock application profiles to determine whether or not fictional students should be accepted, waitlisted or denied to the university. Students and parents learn how admissions committees evaluate applicants and determine best practices for applying to colleges. In addition, College LAUNCH families learn about completing a FAFSA profile and different scholarship opportunities available at Wake Forest University. Parents and students also participate in an official campus tour and enjoy a meal in "the Pit", Wake Forest University's nationally-acclaimed dining hall.

PRIDE POINTS

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES STUDENTS WERE OFFERED ADMISSION

Air Force Academy	Hampton University	Spelman College
Appalachian State University	Harvard University	UNC: Asheville
Babson College	High Point University	UNC: Chapel Hill
Boston University	Indiana University	UNC: Charlotte
Clemson University	Kent State University	UNC: Greensboro
Coastal Carolina University	King's College	UNC: Wilmington
Columbia University	Morehouse College	University of Miami
Central Piedmont Community College	NC A&T State University	Villanova University
DePaul University	NC State University	Wake Forest University
Duke University	North Carolina Central University	Western Carolina University
East Carolina University	Norwich College	Wheaton College
Elon University	New York University	Wingate University
Fayetteville State University	Ohio University	Winston-Salem State University
George Washington University	Paul Mitchell the School - Charlotte	Xavier University of Louisiana

98% OF COLLEGE LAUNCH ALUMNI
ARE ENROLLED IN COLLEGE

\$2 MILLION+ RECEIVED IN
SCHOLARSHIP



MENTORSHIP

The College LAUNCH for Leadership program believes in inspiring students to pursue greatness by providing mentorship throughout students' 11th and 12th-grade years. Students are mentored by Pre-College Programs staff members and are given the opportunity to network with a variety of professionals from industries such as business, healthcare, law, as well as several other career fields. Students are connected with mentors based on their chosen YPAR topics.

LIFE AFTER LAUNCH

RITA VENANT

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Year: Junior

Major: Communications

Minor: Journalism



College LAUNCH helped me to strengthen my leadership skills and knowledge about college and the application process. I did not tour many campuses, so being able to tour WFU and hear what the admissions officers were looking for and about current college students' experiences helped lessen the stress of applying to college. Today, I am so thankful to be at Wake Forest University because it has brought me amazing opportunities that I couldn't imagine gaining at such a young age. I have been able to study and intern in Washington, D.C. for a semester, serve as a program assistant in Beijing and Shanghai, China for two summers, attend an international symposium in Monterrey, Mexico, be a global service volunteer in Chiang Mai, Thailand, study Christian-Islamic relations in Cairo, Alexandria, and Luxor, Egypt, among many other unique opportunities. My advice would be to join things that interest you, reflect on what you are learning, be a good listener, and ask questions. Always challenge yourself! It is okay to be and feel uncomfortable sometimes.

ADE AKANDE

BABSON COLLEGE

Year: Sophomore

Major: Finance and Global Business Management



I was interested in participating in College LAUNCH for Leadership because of my interest in furthering my knowledge of both business and collegiate expectations alongside other like-minded students seeking to explore opportunities. Through some of the Saturday meetings, I was able to gain a holistic understanding of various types of business (nonprofits, banks, consulting firms) and the operations required to help those businesses run. In addition, I received many insights into the important techniques used in the industry. These College LAUNCH experiences helped me better understand the advantages of communicating with others, the leadership needed in the workplace, and the importance of strategic planning to coordinate schedules in college. I am now a sophomore at Babson College in Massachusetts with interests in Finance and Global Business Management. I have had interests in entrepreneurship and investment management, in part, because of my experiences with College LAUNCH. I have been astonished by some of the connections and individuals I have met in the northeast who have been involved with College LAUNCH in some form, which speaks volumes to the program's diverse set of speakers and presenters.

KIMANI VIRELLA

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

Year: Sophomore

Major: Biology



College LAUNCH was a great program that I will cherish forever. It really exposed me to different career pathways out there during my time in the program. It also taught me that whatever you put your mind to, you can do it. I learned this from the vast array of excellent speakers we had come talk to us. One of my favorite Saturdays was the Promising Pages community service session. We wrapped books for elementary school students who didn't have any at home. To this day, I still remember that. Through College LAUNCH, I also got to attend the Wake Forest Summer Immersion Program for Medicine which was a huge blessing. I received a scholarship to attend and through this program, solidified my desire to pursue medicine.

DONOVAN MARTIN

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

Year: Junior

Major: Political Science

Minor: Entrepreneurship



College LAUNCH really shaped the importance of how I viewed higher education after high school. It made me realize how much potential I had as a person and where my talents could take me. I am currently a Junior Political Science major with a minor in Entrepreneurship at a school I never even thought I could get into. I think that College LAUNCH was a very important step on my path to seeing just how many possibilities would become available to me. Currently, my goals include establishing another internship for the summer and working on creating my business.

COLLEGE SIGNING DAY

College Signing Day is an amazing occasion, where our students spend a shining moment in the spotlight! Each May, we invite our graduating seniors and their families to celebrate their education and/or occupational plans after high school.

During the program, graduating seniors are invited to announce where they will be enrolling in college or their future plans, their scholarship funding, and their prospective majors. College Signing Day is a rite of passage and is a way for members of our College LAUNCH community to think about giving back as they begin to move forward. Each graduating senior writes a short letter of support and affirmation to students in the current junior class, giving words of advice and encouragement to lay the foundation for mentorship. College Signing Day concludes by inviting parents to recite letters of support for their graduating student as they begin to prepare for their college transition.

CONTACT

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@WFCollegeLAUNCH

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE LAUNCH
INSPIRING STUDENTS TO PURSUE GREATNESS

OUR PARTNER

