



CCCE at a Glance 2019-2020

What We're About

The Center for Community and Civic Engagement (CCCE) connects the Carleton community to its broader public purpose and contributes to students' preparation for life as civic-minded graduates. We are a hub for

- real-world learning that contributes to a more just, thriving, and sustainable community;
- reciprocal community-campus partnerships that advance shared goals; and
- civic agency and collaboration in the public sphere that is attentive to racial equity, power, and positionality.

We support Academic Civic Engagement courses, student-led community initiatives, fellowships, volunteer opportunities, community-based work study jobs, faculty public scholarship, and more. Our focal issue areas include food and environmental justice, educational equity, health & belonging, and peace, conflict & democracy.



Strands of Work

Academic Civic Engagement (ACE): The CCCE supports faculty to develop course-based projects done in collaboration with community partners. ACE courses such as Historians for Hire, Stats Consulting, and Nonfiction serve community partners through project-based research and resource development. ACE courses intersect with each of the CCCE's co-curricular focus areas and create opportunities for engagement across a wide variety of academic departments.

Co-Curricular Programs: Co-Curricular programs in the CCCE connect student volunteers from 40 volunteer programs with local community partner organizations, promoting positive social change and fulfilling community-expressed needs in the focus areas of food and environmental justice, educational equity, health & belonging, and peace, conflict & democracy.

Student Leadership: 30 student Fellows, all part of Carleton's Peer Leader collaborative, coordinate and support CCCE and Public Scholarship work, as well as promote an ethic of life-long service, emergent leadership, and civic engagement broadly in the Carleton student body. 74 student program directors coordinate peer volunteers in our co-curricular programs.

Community-Based Work Study: The CCCE facilitates community engagement through community-based work study opportunities. Around 60 students each year earn their work study awards with local schools and nonprofit organizations by assisting teachers with Spanish language programming, advocating for public policies concerning adults with disabilities, and offering one-on-one support for students in math and literacy. This benefits our local partners as they are able to hire students to boost their organization's capacity at a very affordable cost while helping students develop professional skills in a real world setting with the support of both the College and community.

Student Break Fellowships: During summer and winter breaks, students join our partner organizations to provide continuity of support between terms. They receive stipends from the CCCE thanks to our generous donors. The stipends make these valuable experiences possible for students regardless of their family financial circumstances. Examples of recent fellowships include sustainability work for the City of Northfield and emergency food access work with The Key, the Healthy Communities Initiative, and the Community Action Center.



Campus Reach

CCCE data collection shows that 1,390 unique Carleton students participated in community or civic engagement through the CCCE in 2018-19, or 69% of our student body.

Academic Civic Engagement is a distinguishing characteristic of a Carleton education. In 2019, 59.5% of Carleton seniors reported having taken an Academic Civic Engagement course, applying their academic learning through an assignment in the community. We have seen a marked increase in the percent of students who report having this experience in recent years from 35.4% in 2011 to 59.5% in 2019.

Historically underrepresented Carls choose ACE courses at higher rates than their peers. Compared to students who took no ACE courses, students who have taken one or more ACE courses are more likely to identify as Latinx, female, first-generation, or low-income. Students who have taken two or more ACE courses are more likely to identify as the above or Black or African American, according to enrollment and registration data compiled by Institutional Research and Assessment.

Public Scholarship

Public scholarship includes a broad set of scholarly or creative activities that join serious intellectual endeavor with a commitment to public practice and public consequence. The CCCE exercises its commitment to mutually-beneficial partnerships between higher education and community collaborators to support the specific work of community-engaged scholarship. Through the faculty Broom Fellowship, the CCCE also aims to help foster conversations about public scholarship across campus, provide resources and support for faculty engaged in public scholarship, and raise the profile of the exciting and diverse public scholarship carried out by Carleton's faculty.

Public Scholarship: Of note this year, the COVID-19 archive is a public scholarship initiative collecting personal records that speak to experiences of the pandemic at Carleton and in its communities. This archive was created with leadership from Serena Zabin, Broom Fellow for Public Scholarship and Professor of History; Susannah Ottaway, Professor of History; Elizabeth Budd, Program Associate for Public Arts and Humanities; and students from the History Department, along with additional funding from the Mellon Public Works Initiative and the Broom Fellowship.

Community-Engaged Scholarship: The Corporation for National and Community Service currently funds a multi-year Participatory Action Research (PAR) project focused on the educational experiences of Somali and Latinx families in Faribault, MN. The project is done in deep collaboration with the Faribault school district, community organizations, and co-PIs Professor Anita Chikkatur and Associate Director Emily Oliver. The project leverages the knowledge and expertise of the community to examine and address concerns. PAR exemplifies the CCCE's desire to utilize more egalitarian models of community-based work.

Co-Curricular Focus Areas



Food & Environmental Justice aims to promote sustainable initiatives through community activism, engagement, and collaboration. Areas of focus include mitigation of food insecurity, education and practice of sustainable agriculture, and diversion of food and consumer waste from landfills. One example of programming in this focus area includes the Food Recovery Network (FRN), whose volunteers recover an average of 300 pounds of food per week to be distributed to organizations serving food insecure communities in Northfield and Faribault. Environmental Systems has collaborated with Carleton's Sustainability Office, the City of Northfield and the Community Action Center of Northfield (CAC) to develop a community-wide response to food insecurity.



Educational Equity programs focus on students in the Northfield and Faribault public school districts. Both districts are striving to improve the equity of their schools in the context of rapidly changing demographics and the welcoming of thousands of new citizens and residents. CCCE Fellows and Carleton volunteers actively tutor and mentor students across college access programs, homework help, after-school, community school, and other collaborative programming.



Health & Belonging connects students to local organizations working to better the physical, mental and/or emotional health of our communities. These programs support community-based efforts to provide healthcare to under and uninsured families, build lasting relationships with youth and seniors, and support survivors of gender-based violence.



Peace, Conflict & Democracy is a focus area that seeks to engender conversation about the root causes of inequality, injustice and violence. We address current local and global issues through lectures, community conversations, film screenings, podcast listening and discussion sessions. One major theme within this focus area is migration, which cuts across many aspects of the CCCE's work. Paper Airplanes, a CCCE program created by then-student Bailey Albricht '15 that provides virtual tutoring to Syrian refugees, has spread to over 60 colleges.

Thanks

We are grateful for the investments of time and trust from community partners who serve as co-educators for our students, faculty, and staff, and have welcomed us into their organizations. We are equally grateful for the generosity of Carleton alumni and Carleton's investment in the CCCE as a vital function of the College. This work would not be possible without your support!

