CofC Students Spring into Service!

The Center for Civic Engagement is hosting its first ever Spring into Service. Spring into Service is a series of service events that provides students the opportunity to volunteer with different nonprofits in the Charleston area. This year’s Spring into Service events include the Cinderella Project, an Easter Egg Hunt at Cannon Street YMCA and a Habitat for Humanity Construction Project.

By volunteering with the Cinderella Project at the Outreach Learning Center at St. Matthews, volunteers will help make a little magic for high school girls by helping them pick out the perfect dress and accessories for their spring dance or prom.

Students are also encouraged to take part in the Easter Egg Hunt at Cannon Street YMCA. The Easter Egg Hunt will be a unique collaboration with Residential Life, the Center for Civic Engagement and Counseling and Substance Abuse Services. Volunteers will stuff Easter Eggs and then host an Easter Egg Hunt for kids in the afterschool program. Following the Easter Egg Hunt, students will be able to participate in a mini field day.

The final event in the Spring into Service series is a construction project with Habitat for Humanity. Volunteers will help build a three-bedroom home with a pole foundation for the Hudson family in downtown Charleston. The home will have solar thermal panels and will be EarthCraft certified.

Students can now sign up for Spring into Service and all other Center for Civic Engagement events on our blog. Visit blogs.cofc.edu/volunteer and click on the events tab to register today.
Homecoming 2010
Volunteers Read in Schools

As a part of College of Charleston Homecoming Week, College of Charleston students visited downtown schools to read “Where the Wild Things Are,” do an activity, and have lunch with elementary students.

First through fourth grade students received a classroom copy of “Where the Wild Things Are.” CofC students encouraged elementary students to keep reading and to always use their imagination. Participating schools included Buist Academy, Charleston Progressive, James Simons Elementary, Memminger Elementary and Sanders Clyde Elementary. College of Charleston students, faculty and staff also joined together and collected over 600 school supplies for participating schools.

CofC senior Heather Crouch reads with students at Memminger Elementary.

Alternative Break will be hosting its first ever Maymester trip. Students will travel to Rome, Italy from May 10-30 to participate in service activities. The focus of the trip will be on sustainability and restoration.

The main project is to host the second “Fiera dell’Autoproduzione.” The aim of the event is the exchange of knowledge as well as demonstration of how much things can be re-used instead of being bought and thrown away. The fair will have an exhibition and practical workshops, demonstrating the simplicity of creating reusable goods.

The secondary project will be to spend some time maintaining Casale Garibaldi, which includes structural repair to the building, cleaning, and enlarging the green area.

At the end of the service project, students will travel for several days to see another part of the country and participate in additional cultural activities. Possible destinations include Florence, Capri or Naples.

Bonner Leader Program to host annual Engage & Empower Week

Engage and Empower is an awareness week with events focusing on various issues affecting the community. The purpose of this event is to make the College of Charleston campus conscious of social concerns that surround us.

Monday, March 22  Faces of Homelessness Panel
Tuesday, March 23  Spoken Word Event for HIV/AIDS
Wednesday, March 24  Darkness to Light (Child Abuse Prevention Training)
Thursday, March 25  Photography Gala
Saturday, March 27  Service Saturday

Sophomore Exchange

Hosted by the Bonner Leader Program

Four Bonner Sophomores traveled to Charlotte, North Carolina in February to participate in a weekend of service with sophomores from three other Bonner programs. They worked with students from Pfeiffer, Davidson, and Wofford on three service projects which included landscaping at the Salvation Army, painting at a community school for girls, and hosting a game day at a home for pregnant teenagers.

Throughout the day programs were able to share ideas with each other based on their own Bonner programs. At the end of the day, the CofC Bonner Leaders left reenergized about their role on the CofC campus!