

SHAPE

BUILDING COMMUNITY PRIDE On the cover: Samantha Bernadette Lozano

Towson University
Hometown: Baltimore

Sam Lozano immigrated to Baltimore from the Philippines in 2002. As a Baltimore City Public Schools graduate, she appreciates the power of education to uplift minds and communities.

Sam's vision is for Baltimore to become a city that provides the best possible education to its students with a core emphasis on community service. She plans to organize an annual volunteer fair for high school students, where they can learn about local service organizations. Sam speaks from experience when she motivates students to get involved in their communities; she

volunteers with a college readiness program at W.E.B. Dubois
High School, Art with a Heart and
Pimlico Elementary/Middle Schools'
Dream Academy program.

Creating a vision for Baltimore has helped Sam create a vision for herself: to use her education to promote positive and sustainable

"Baltimore Collegetown Leader-Shape is one of the most challenging and inspiring programs out there. It motivates students to do something extraordinary."

changes in the lives of Baltimore residents and their communities. When she graduates, Sam plans to apply her talents and enthusiasm to help nonprofit organizations with a focus on education and youth.

The Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape® program connects students across campuses and with their communities to make Baltimore a better city. Students not only develop visions, but learn to be visionary and discover how to apply their skills and passions to urban problems.

This first-of-its-kind program brings students from 10 colleges together for a week of leadership development followed by programming and support throughout an academic year to begin working on visions that may guide and inspire them throughout their lives.





◀ INVESTING TIME IN OTHERS

Jesse Michael Pulliam

University of Baltimore Hometown: Catonsville, MD

Jesse Pulliam's career goal is to become a police officer. He is passionate about serving Baltimore and giving back to the people who have contributed to his early successes.

The challenge he's choosing to address is to create and instill in people the need for civic engagement along with the importance of supporting nonprofit agencies in Baltimore.

Currently, Jesse is developing a pilot class and internship for future students to provide lay advocacy to low-income persons who cannot obtain a lawyer. Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape has given Jesse the opportunity to reflect on how

"I learned to keep learning, keep networking, allow people to invest in you and then take what you've been given and start to invest your time in others."

successful, well-rounded leaders develop innovative approaches to solving real-world problems. He has learned about his own leadership style and how to adapt to become a successful leader; knowledge that he will need as he prepares to serve alongside and lead the men and women with whom he will one day work.

PROMOTING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN THE ARTS

Tom Doyle

Maryland Institute College of Art Hometown: Pittsburgh

Cindy Jian

Maryland Institute College of Art Hometown: San Francisco

When the John Eager Howard Recreation Center decided to update the center's mural, the center staff contacted the Community Arts Partnership (CAP) at the Maryland Institute College of Art. CAP interns Tom Doyle and Cindy Jian were asked to create a new mural to engage and inspire students who attend the center's after school programs.

After participating in Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape, Tom and Cindy were excited to take on the challenge. Both have a vision to

promote community engagement through the arts in Baltimore.

Tom and Cindy began by teaching weekly art workshops for the students to develop topics for the mural and to garner interest. After weeks of drawing, they chose the topic, What I Like to do at the John Eager Recreation Center. The mural shows a cutout of the inside of the building where kids draw, paint, learn computer skills and play drums, and it shows the outside where kids go on swings and play basketball.

Tom and Cindy applied and received funding from a school grant to complete their project. They spent 25 hours over the course of a week painting and they presented the completed mural to the center.

▼ ENDING ANIMAL ABUSE

Kelly M. Cyr UMBC

Hometown: Millersville, MD

Kelly Cyr wants to put an end animal abuse in Baltimore. A leader and campus spokesperson for animal rights, Kelly interns at the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter, Inc. She recruits and trains new volunteers and leads reflection sessions.

Kelly plans to have a career as a large-animal veterinarian. Her participation in the Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape program, has helped her take her love for animals and the outdoors to the next level. Collaborating with other campus leaders has broadened her perspective and fueled her career and service goals.

Reflecting on ways to improve Baltimore has helped Kelly draw a clear connection between animal abuse and the social condition of Baltimore communities. She is excited about the mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Commission. When she becomes a veterinarian, she plans to serve the commission by performing forensic necropsies in animal abuse cases, using her knowledge to help animal abusers get convicted and get psychological counseling to prevent them from abusing animals and people in the future.

AN INNOVATIVE PATHWAY TO COLLEGE

Victor Ekanem

Johns Hopkins University
Hometown: Baltimore

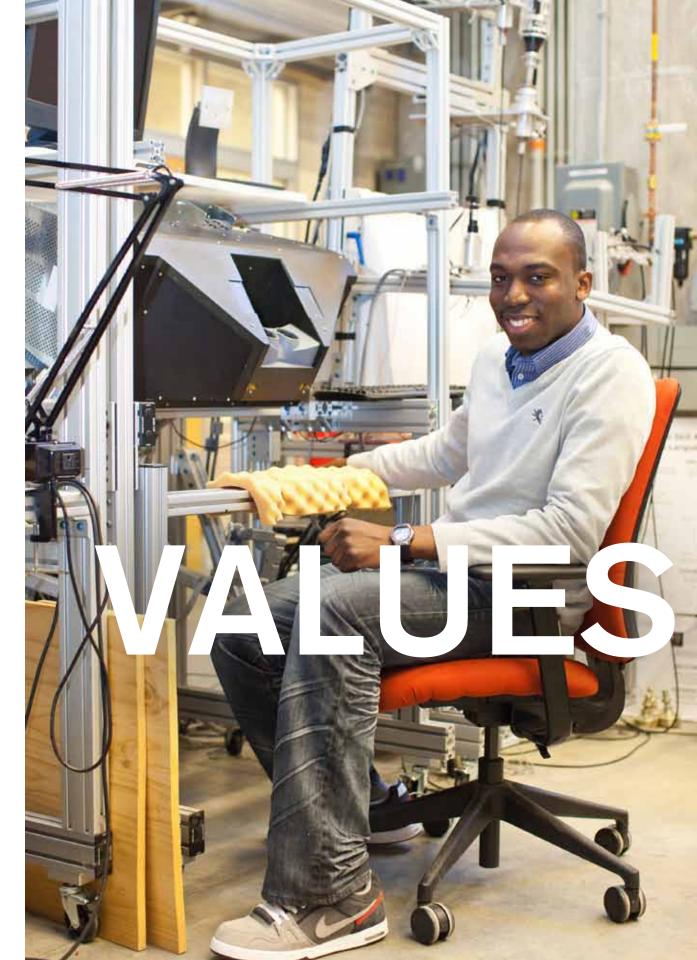
Victor Ekanem uses robotics to teach students community values. The biomedical engineering student is working on a robotics mentoring institute for middle and high school students in partnership with Baltimore City Public Schools, Johns Hopkins University and the FIRST (For the Inspiration of Science and Technology) program.

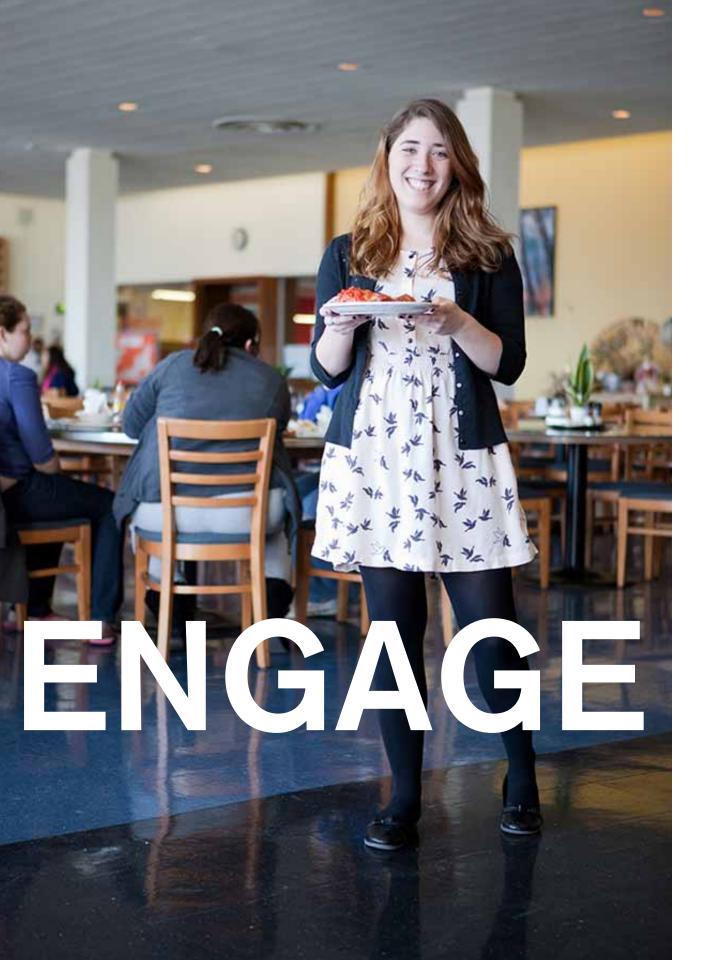
"This experience was not all application or all theory; it was a combination of community activism and leadership skills that completes the big picture."

Students who participate in the institute learn about teamwork, effective public speaking skills and the importance of community service. The end goal is to encourage Baltimore students to attend college and give back to their communities.

When students get involved in robotics and form lasting relationships with university-student mentors, Victor sees student confidence and







academic achievement grow. An experienced mentor, Victor is robotics team manager at his alma mater, the Digital Harbor High School.

Victor's experience in Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape has encouraged him to pursue a career in education and social enterprises. His first step is to be a teacher, preferably at his former high school.

◆ CREATING WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINICS

Taylor Riley

College of Notre Dame of Maryland Hometown: Towson, MD

Taylor Riley has a vision to transform Baltimore's abandoned row houses into women's health clinics. She is especially interested in serving women who have experienced abuse.

Taylor volunteers at My Sister's Place, a women's center in Baltimore that provides meals, job training and pregnancy support. She serves meals to homeless women at the center and their kindness and friendship inspire her to continue serving women in need.

A Baltimore native, Taylor wants to see the city thrive. Her goal is to become a physical therapist and to one day help provide free healthcare assistance to low-income communities in Baltimore.

Taylor worked with two other Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape participants, Meshal Ali and Jeremy Vidal, who are equally passionate about their shared vision. Taylor credits the program with giving them the skills and perspective that they need to lead and work in the community, and it gives them a network of young leaders who can help each other as they move forward in their careers.



CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THOSE WHO CAN HELP

Kassandre Monsanto

Morgan State University Hometown: Brooklyn, NY

Kassandre Monsanto plans to run and own a public relations firm one day. Since she began Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape, she's been thinking a lot about her career path. Now she has a new focus: to use her communications expertise to help nonprofits.

One step closer to achieving her career goals, Kassandre was hired by Chase-Brexton Health Services as an intern in their marketing department. She is working to convey Chase-Brexton's message

"Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape taught me to dig deeper and stretch beyond myself, keep integrity and create positive change around me."

of offering quality, compassionate healthcare to diverse populations. She is assisting them in determining how to best get their message out to people in the community who need their services most.

Kassandre has grown to love Baltimore and believes in the potential for progress at the community level. She looks forward to making a living helping people improve their lives.

▼ RAISING AWARENESS

Siobhan O'Brien

Loyola University Maryland Hometown: Reading, MA

Siobhan O'Brien thinks Baltimore can learn a lot from its men and women with intellectual disabilities. She has. Through the Loyola chapter of Best Buddies, Siobhan met and formed a friendship with her buddy, Tracy.

She visits with Tracy during monthly socials for the buddies, they talk on the phone and they attended a Loyola basketball game. Before Siobhan joined Best Buddies, she had never worked with the adult population with disabilities. Unsure of what to expect, she found the buddies welcoming and open to friendships. They take any opportunity to give a hug or share a story.

"It was wonderful to be around people who are so motivated to make a difference in not only Baltimore but the world."

After her experience with Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape, Siobhan has a clear vision for Baltimore and the confidence to pursue it. She wants to raise awareness of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. So often adult members of the community with intellectual disabilities are ignored or seem invisible. She's starting with an on-campus campaign to end the use of the word, retard: "Spread the Word to End the Word."

HEALTHIER LIFESTYLES FOR BALTIMORE STUDENTS

Keisha Johnson

Coppin State University
Hometown: Randallstown, MD

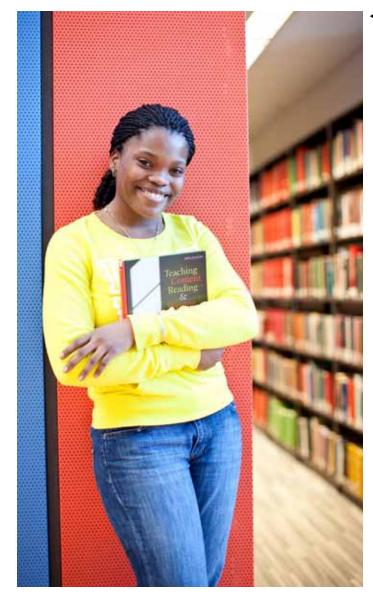
Keisha Johnson believes that helping Baltimore students lead healthier, active lifestyles can improve the city's graduation rate. Lowering the childhood obesity rate can mean students have more self-esteem and spend more time in the classroom and less time sick at home or in the hospital.

Her vision for Baltimore combines Keisha's two passions, sports and helping others. When she graduates, she plans to start a career in sports marketing. She's excited about the opportunities for mentoring and inspiring youth that the sports industry offers.

Keisha's experience in Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape has not only helped her develop her vision, but the steps she needs to take toward achieving her goals. Her peers in the program have become another family with a common purpose to work for a better Baltimore.







■ GIVING BACK TO CITY SCHOOLS

On the left: Nadiera Young Goucher College Hometown: Camden, NJ

Nadiera Young feels a sense of hope and possibility when she volunteers in Baltimore City Public Schools and mentors students through Upward Bound. A native of Camden, NJ, Nadiera knows what it's like to be in the position of many Baltimore students. She feels a responsibility to help ensure these students are afforded the same, if not more, opportunities than she has been given.

Her vision for Baltimore is for alumni to give back to their communities by returning to their high schools and mentoring students within the schools, academically and culturally.

"LeaderShape has helped me in my growth toward becoming a teacher and has prepared me for situations I did not see as possible."

Nadiera's experience in Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape has given her new confidence to see what is extraordinary in her life and in the lives of each student she teaches. Nadiera plans to be a high school English teacher, a principal and ultimately a superintendent.

VISIONS

We invite you to meet all of the members of our first class of Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape students. They are our next generation of civic-minded leaders who will transform our city and our world.



HEALTHY FAMILIES

Meshal Ali

College of Notre Dame of Maryland **Vision:** Create awareness about abuse and provide support to female abuse victims.

Next steps: Volunteering at My Sister's Place.

Amy Lacosse

UMBC

Vision: Provide all children with disabilities the possibility to achieve their highest standard by supporting their caregivers.

Next steps: Developing a special event at the local Arbutus Middle School for Best Buddies.

Eryn McNulty-Kowal

Goucher College

Vision: Help society be more open to new ideas and perspectives in order to help individuals reach their full potential.

Kassandre Monsanto

Morgan State University

Vision: Create a program that supplements class work with tutoring and mentorship for elementary or middle school age girls in Baltimore City.

Next steps: Supporting an area nonprofit through an internship at Chase Brexton.

Devon Ogle

Loyola University Maryland Vision: Create a future Baltimore where no homelessness exists through teaching self-sustainment. Next steps: Volunteering at an area shelter.

Taylor Riley

College of Notre Dame of Maryland Vision: Develop a network of healthcare and employment clinics in abandoned Baltimore row homes. Next steps: Volunteering at My Sister's Place.

Jeremy Vidal

Johns Hopkins University

Vision: Acquire an abandoned
home in the city and set up a
health and wellness center geared
toward women. Eventually expand
to the greater community and
other locations.

Next steps: Volunteering at My Sister's Place.

Danny Weissman

UMBC

Vision: Create a community where the youth are involved in extracurricular activities and involved in their community.

Next steps: Planning to host a lacrosse workshop at UMBC for Baltimore City students.

K-12 EDUCATION GROUP 1

Elisabeth Chadbourne

Goucher College

Vision: Create or work with an after-school program to develop sustainable communities and positive outlets through urban gardening.

Next steps: Volunteer in a school system to learn about agricultural activities.

Rachel Doring

Loyola University Maryland Vision: Enable each student in Baltimore schools to read at their grade level or above.

Next steps: Planning to volunteer in Baltimore City Public Schools.

Victor Ekanem

Johns Hopkins University

Vision: Start an organization that
helps college students mentor
robotics teams in Baltimore City
high schools.

Next steps: Implementing robotics mentoring program in partnership with JHU and Baltimore City Public Schools.

Christina Fahey

Loyola University Maryland Vision: See full involvement in extracurricular activities for students in Baltimore City schools. Next Steps: Working with the photography club at St. Ignatius Academy and learning about the struggles that keep students from getting involved.

Alissa Falcon

Loyola University Maryland Vision: Create a summer camp in Baltimore for children who have developmental disabilities and to get them involved with their community.

Next steps: Planning to volunteer with Arc of Baltimore.

Julie Laufer-Cintron

Goucher College

Vision: Create a world where everyone lives free of oppression, hate and discrimination.

Next steps: Tutoring Baltimore City Public School students through a Goucher mentoring program.

Anthony Laus

Towson University

Vision: Help students in Baltimore City become involved in their communities and take action to improve where they live.

Next steps: Creating a short documentary about the Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape program.

Mindy Or

UMBC

Vision: Inspire every individual to have an interest, passion, hobby and/or curiosity that they take ownership of and pursue throughout their life.

Next steps: Leading the Splash program at UMBC where high school students spend a Saturday taking classes from undergrads on everything from Chemistry of Flavor to Topology to Quidditch.

K-12 EDUCATION GROUP 2

Dwayne Dubarry

Morgan State University

Vision: Create a safe and nurturing
environment for diversity inclusion
and promotion on Morgan State
University campus.

Next steps: Working with campus leadership to create a safe space room and resource center.

Kate Garden

Loyola University Maryland Vision: Start an after-school program where high school students feel safe and have the resources to share their inner feelings and struggles.

Next steps: Planning to work with a high school in Baltimore City.

Brandon Johnson

Morgan State University
Vision: Bridge the education gap
and increase standardized test
scores by 50% in the next 5 years
for African-American students.

Ryan Kirlin

Johns Hopkins University
Vision: Create a sustainable
program that perpetuates an
awareness of healthy food choices.
Next steps: Working with the
Healthy Community School Initiative
at JHU to host nutrition workshops
for parents and students at Waverly
Elementary School PTO meetings.

Alane Lim

Johns Hopkins University
Vision: Improve literacy in the
Baltimore school system through
creative writing, art and drama.
Next steps: Developing a proposal
for a writing and arts education

program in city schools.

Siobhan O'Brien

Loyola College Maryland

Vision: Change the education
of people with physical and
developmental disabilities targeted
in elementary schools.

Next steps: Volunteering with the Best Buddies program.

Rachel Park

Maryland Institute College of Art **Vision:** Expand art classes in Baltimore City for children with physical and mental disabilities. **Next steps:** Planning to offer art lessons to students who don't receive art classes.

Madeline Peters

Maryland Institute College of Art **Vision:** Open a community center in Baltimore, at the Hexagon, to promote and provide access to the arts. **Next steps:** Planning to become

involved with the board at the Hexagon.

Jessica Wilkie

Coppin State University

Vision: Create a future where atrisk and low-risk students of color know where they fit in society and are proud of that place.

Nadiera Young

Goucher College

Vision: Create a future where alumni, students and parents in urban areas come back to their high schools to mentor students culturally and academically. A Baltimore where people give back to their communities and are proud of where they are from.

Next steps: Tutoring with Upward Bound in Baltimore City.

NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

Jeremey Cornitcher

University of Baltimore

Vision: Change public colleges and
universities so that they are free for

Deunte Ford

all students.

Maryland Institute College of Art Vision: Implement a neighborhood revitalization program within Baltimore City, specifically Greenmount Ave., that will help engage area residents and businesses in socio-economic development.

Cindy Jian

Maryland Institute College of Art Vision: Improve the neighborhood around the Reservoir Hill area by beautifying it and uniting families through a mural painting at John Eager Howard Recreation Center. Next Steps: Received a community arts grant and worked with another LeaderShape student to complete a mural.

Keisha Johnson

Coppin State University

Vision: Create a free sports program
for children in Baltimore to help with
childhood obesity, diabetes and
other health-related problems.

Next steps: Working with
Baltimore City Parks and
Recreation to learn more about
existing programs.

Lovell Kosh

Goucher College

Vision: Help community members who may not be able to help themselves.

Next steps: Volunteering with a Baltimore City schools mentoring program.

Olivia Lane

University of Baltimore Vision: Create an employment assistance program in Baltimore which provides professional attire to individuals for interviews.

Luke Smith

University of Baltimore
Vision: Bring communities together
by making local churches a central
source to support sports programs
for students in elementary and
junior high school.

Jackie Thomas

Morgan State University

Vision: Start a cultural exposure initiative that would introduce young men to different cultural experiences such as music, food and the fine arts.

Next steps: Working with sorority Sigma Gamma Rho on hosting a Health and Wellness Fair for Morgan State students.

Christine Wozniak

Johns Hopkins University

Vision: Coordinate a sociallystructured alternative spring break
trip for JHU students that will
focus on friendships, community
service and leadership training
geared toward students who
feel disconnected on campus
and unfulfilled by their college
experience.

Next steps: Working to confirm the need and importance of this trip and gain support.

HEALTHCARE

Bella Barone

Goucher College

Vision: Educate and enforce action toward environmental sustainability and living with the earth.

Kierra-Joanee Copes

Coppin State University

Vision: Create and operate a
functional health care center
in Coppin Heights to increase
physical, mental and spiritual health.

Next steps: Leading Coppin
State's campus activities and
encouraging other students to get
involved.

Chelsea Hayman

Goucher College Vision: Create a community museum in an underfunded/ impoverished neighborhood to document its history, stories and memories.

Samantha Lozano

Towson University

Vision: Start an organization that provides Baltimore Polytechnic Institute students seeking service-learning hours better access to community-focused groups.

Next steps: Participating in the AmeriCorps Service Program and volunteering in multiple education settings.

Ziphe Ncube

Coppin State University

Vision: Help Baltimore youth
accomplish their academic goalswith an emphasis in the medical field.

Jesse Pulliam

University of Baltimore

Vision: Instill in people the need for civic engagement along with the importance of supporting non-profit agencies in Baltimore.

Next steps: Helping those in need of legal assistance.

Natasha Seelam

Johns Hopkins University

Vision: Empower girls in Baltimore
high schools to seek internal confidence, using educational tutoring facilities, health facilities and counseling.

Next steps: Working with Sisters
Together and Reaching (STAR) to
understand women's health dynamics
and issues in Baltimore.

Jiah Sin

Maryland Institute College of Art **Vision:** Create an art therapy mural painting project at a senior citizen apartment building to enhance self-reflection, story-sharing and healing time.

Next steps: Developing lesson plans and researching contemporary arts and subconscious studies.

SUSTAINABILITY

Christopher Antoine

Morgan State University Vision: Create an organization that promotes environmental awareness among the Baltimore community.

Next Steps: Developing a business plan for the organization

Tasnim Choudhury

College of Notre Dame of Maryland **Vision:** Organize events and create awareness for cleaning up the Inner Harbor.

Next steps: Working with sustainability groups on and off campus to see what is currently being done.

Kelly Cyr

UMBC

Vision: Promote spay/neuter programs to ensure pets have loving homes and are not in abusive situations.

Next steps: Interning and developing a volunteer program for BARCS.

Toney Dixon

Morgan State University Vision: Create a safe, loving and peaceful Baltimore where citizens do not rely on violence but instead strive for peace and cooperation.

Next steps: Creating a pledge for members of the Baltimore community to sign to help raise awareness of issues surrounding our community.

Tom Doyle

Maryland Institute College of Art Vision: Create a community in Baltimore that, through art, feels that its passions and stories have been heard. I want Baltimore to be viewed as a city of murals.

Next steps: Created a mural with students at an area recreation center in partnership with another LeaderShape student.

Oluomachi Ebiringa

Towson University

Vision: Create a world where children who are lacking love, affection and attention will receive it. Children will be encouraged and nurtured so that in turn they will become encouragers for others.

Yasmin Radbod

UMBC

Vision: Promote a healthier diet that is plant based, organic and all natural, fresh and local. The environment, wellness, animals and nonviolence are all important aspects.

Next steps: Hosting Baltimore VegFest 2011 at UMBC with vendors promoting a vegan lifestyle.

Patrick Yevsukov

University of Baltimore Vision: Create a way to provide accessible food that is fresh and nutritious in urban "food deserts."

THANK YOU TO OUR **PROGRAM LEADERS**

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Thank you to the Maryland Institute College of Art for hosting our retreat week.

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About BCN

The Baltimore Collegetown Network is a consortium of 14 colleges, which includes 120,000 students, \$17.2 billion in economic activity and more than 60,000 employees, that works to attract, engage and retain students and raise the profile of Baltimore as a college town. Key initiatives include joint marketing campaigns, the Collegetown Shuttle, Baltimore Collegetown LeaderShape, and internship and student programs. More information may be found at www.BaltimoreCollegetown.org.

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CREATE A BETTER BALTIMORE. CREATE A BETTER WORLD.

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