

Young people improving their lives by improving their communities.

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TNT Partnership Kicks Off With a Party

Taco's and Tequila (TNT), a new restaurant coming to Austin, has chosen Urban Roots as its community partner.

Opening soon at 5th and Pressler, TNT is hosting a pre-opening party to kick-off this long-term relationship. Mark your calendar for May 1st when a \$25 donation at the door, all benefiting Urban Roots, gets you in for a fun night of drinks, dinner, dessert and entertainment.

TNT's opening party also kick's-off it's Good Karma Guacamole program. With the program, 50 cents of each order from the rolling guacamole cart will go to Urban Roots.

"We are delighted to begin this partnership. The owners are amazing people and have connected each of their restaurants to a local non-profit in Dallas. We are excited to be that partner in their first Austin location, and have already begun talking about ways to connect TNT deeper into the program." --Russell Smith, LMSW, YouthLaunch Executive Director

Keep an eye out for the TNT pre-opening party invitation coming soon!

To learn more about Urban Roots, click [HERE](#)

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Goodbye Cold. Hello Produce!

A Few CSA Shares Still Available at Triangle

The cool spring weather has caused Urban Roots to delay the start of its CSA pick-ups. That means there is still time to join and receive 17 weeks of farm fresh produce.

Our shares at the Austin Farmers' Market - Downtown are SOLD OUT. We do still have a few CSA shares with pick-up on Wednesday (4pm-8pm) at the Austin Farmers' Market at the Triangle available. A portion of the CSA membership is tax-deductible. For more information or to register click [HERE](#).

Where You Can Find Urban Roots Produce

1. Join our [CSA](#)
2. Visit the [Austin Farmers' Market - Downtown](#) on Saturdays beginning Saturday, April 10th
3. Visit the [Austin Farmers' Market at the Triangle](#) on Wednesdays beginning Wednesday, April 7th
4. Visit us on the farm (e-mail rsmith@youthlaunch.org to arrange a personal tour).
5. [Volunteer!](#)
6. Bring your [class or workgroup](#) to the farm.
7. Join us for the 3rd Annual Summer Farm Fest (in June) and our Community Lunches (in June and July). Details to follow.

YouthLaunch Scholarship for Outstanding Service

Luncheon to be Held Friday, June 18th at Hilton

As winter turns into spring, high school seniors look forward to graduation as they wrap-up their scholarship

and college planning. For us at YouthLaunch, we look forward to this time of year for the snapshots of youth service we see as scholarship applications flood in.

This year we received 122 applications highlighting the service work of truly inspiring young Texans. In all, this year's scholarship applicants completed a total of 86,920 hours of service- that's 42 service years. Individually, applicants completed an average of 712 hours of service.

The Scholarships for Outstanding Service will be awarded Friday, June 18th at the Hilton Austin. If you are interested in hosting a table or would like to attend, please contact Jen Lester at jlester@youthaunch.org.

To learn more about the Luncheon click [HERE](#)



New Faces at YouthLaunch

There are several new faces around the office these days. No Kidding has brought on Jeni Brazeal as Program Specialist. Jeni previously worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters and brings with her an extensive knowledge working with youth.

Urban Roots said good-bye to VISTA Carly Blankenship in December and has welcomed Ashley Carker in as a new VISTA working with the program. Ashley will be with us for a year assisting with capacity building.

Also, new to Urban Roots is Program Specialist Leigh Gaymon-Jones. Leigh is a wonderful addition to Urban Roots. She has experience teaching and mentoring youth as well as agriculture experience gained right here in Central Texas.

To find out about our team, click [HERE](#)



On The Road With YPC

Youth Partnership for Change is facilitating a Student Track for the Texans Standing Tall Regional Forums. The Student Track is intended to educate high school and college students on local and statewide data concerning underage alcohol use.

This year's theme is Social Host Laws, focusing especially on the ways in which these types of laws are environmental strategies for prevention, and how we can bring awareness to this issue in our communities.

Community Educator Ashley Corona and Program Specialist Laura Maher facilitated the first Forum in San Antonio. Additional Forums are scheduled for Austin, Lubbock and Lee College.

To learn more about YPC click [HERE](#)

Thank You to Our Supporters

YouthLaunch is grateful for the generous support of the following individuals and institutions in February and March: Cynthia Bryant, April Garner, Pete Gaitan, Debra Smith-Stevens, Colleen Garland, Suzanne Rittenbury, ER Stoddard, Michael Hayes, Amanda Koplos, Stacy McCracken, Adrienne Lowenstein, Paxton Knight, Bradley Maples, Eric Scott, Gwendolyn Jewiss, Margaret Young, Deidra Mills Ryan, Jennifer Wuamett, Nikki Winningham, Michael Mackert, Richard Hogeda, Marshall Heath Johnson, Brian Bremen, Nereida Cantu, Michael & Shannon Huebner, Hallie Jenkins, Abigail Lord, Janelle Manner, Dana & David Zucker, Hispanic Women's Network of Texas and 3M.

On the Calendar

- Saturday, April 17th [Eco Series](#) Earth Day Event at the Austin Farmers' Market-Downtown
- Tuesday, April 20th Lunch with YouthLaunch (featuring our No Kidding program)
- Tuesday, April 27th [Whole Foods 5% Day](#) (benefiting Urban Roots & 4 other local non-profits)
- Saturday, May 1st TNT Opening Night
- Friday, June 18th YouthLaunch Service Awards Luncheon

[FORWARD](#) this e-mail.

Click [HERE](#) to support our efforts.

YouthLaunch's Vision is that all young people develop skills, confidence, and resiliency through empowering service experiences and grow into healthy, active, and community-minded citizens.

*The **Mission** of YouthLaunch is to provide empowering service opportunities for young people.*

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