

Powering tomorrow's change leaders, today.



Inside The Tank

A monthly e-newsletter highlighting Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank's impact in the community, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities.

Announcing Philanthropy Tank's 2018 Finalists

After reviewing numerous applications and counting over a thousand community votes, the finalists that will be presenting at this year's Philanthropy Tank Finals are ready to be announced.

Drum roll please!

More than 1,600 people participated in our inaugural community vote and we are excited to announce that **Hurricane Helping Hands** is the winner. Congratulations!

Thank you to all the students who participated and Palm Beach County for voting!

Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank's 2018 Finalists are:



Project: Aquaponics Educational Enrichment for PBC Schools

Build two more outdoor aquaponics garden classrooms at a Palm Beach County middle and elementary school to enrich the lives of the students, teachers, staff, and the community by teaching sustainable farming, giving them an opportunity to grow organic vegetables, helping them understand where food comes from and giving back to the community. School: Boca Raton High School Students: Tess Flemma and John Schuttler

Project: canCode

canCode's mission is to spark an interest in coding in youth by using Scratch, a free online coding environment developed by MIT, with engaging and exciting lessons that allow children to create their own unique video games and projects. Teenagers, proficient in coding, are the teachers who will create the best experience possible. School: Rosenblatt High School Student: Noah Rubin

Project: Find the Keys Music Program

Offering an opportunity to underprivileged or musically ambitious students to receive an instrument and lessons with instruction from professionally trained Dreyfoos music majors to enable them to grow as a musician. **School:** A.W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts **Students:** Sophia Zheng and Hayley Huber

Project: Helping Hands

Supplies school uniforms for students whose parents are unable to provide them midyear. The program uses the report card as a form of payment to reinforce the importance of academics and encourage parents to participate in their child's education. **School:** Glades Central Community High School **Students:** Guadalupe Alcala-Garcia, Mya Rodriguez and Yalissa Baltazar

Project: Hurricane Helping Hands

Provides low-income seniors in Palm Beach County with hurricane safety kits at the beginning of each hurricane season. The kits will include items such as a three day supply of non-perishable food, a can opener, a flashlight, a first aid/hygiene kit, and a survival guide that will be placed in a water-proof Rubbermaid-style container. **School:** American Heritage School of Boca/Delray **Students:** Brianna Detamore, Kiah Kimpton, Zoe Deitelbaum and Naven Parthasathy

Project: Read With Me

Providing young people with dyslexia an opportunity to practice reading in stress-free environments through technology and supportive group settings. School: The Weiss School Students: Nestor Flores and Shane Herman

Project: Shoes2You

Collects gently used and new shoes for adults and children in need in Palm Beach County, FL and abroad. School: Oxbridge Academy Student: Joseph Rubsamen

Project: Surface 71 - Oceans, Plastics, and Marine Health

Aiming to reduce plastic use, improve marine habitats and advocate that water is life by providing education, promoting awareness and getting other students involved in beach clean-ups and recycling. #WATERisLIFE #ThinkBlueGoGreen School: Suncoast High School

Students: Emily Briceno, Jemma Currie and Angeli Romero

You're Invited



Click here to RSVP

Community Impact



Last November we met with the year 2 student-finalists to get a mid-year update on their projects. Check out the video and some highlights about each project below.

The **Boundless Dreams** Playground has made tremendous progress since the March 2017 Finals Event. After receiving \$15,000 in funding from all four philanthropist-investors, Ava was eager to learn how to bring her idea to life. In addition to the PI's, Ava was approached by two audience members about contributing additional money to the project!

Ava has worked with the City of Delray Beach and its Commissioners to determine the most effective ways to proceed with Boundless Dreams and on November 18, dozens of people gathered for the official Groundbreaking of the Boundless Dreams site.



Ava was also named **2017 Volunteer of the Year** from NonProfits First, which honors a volunteer or Board Member who has shown outstanding dedication to a Palm Beach County non-profit.



Since the finals, Julian launched the **Hydroponic Harvest Club**, which already has 100 members that participate in the weekly meetings. The group has successfully built a hydroponic system for seedlings and the prototype systems that will be in the greenhouse, which is near completion!

Hydroponic Harvest partnered with the Spanish River DECA chapter and the Stress Less Club to coordinate an assembly on the basics of nutrition and how high school students can improve their diets. Over 300 students were in attendance and listened to a professor speak on nutrition specifically aimed at high school students.

Looking ahead, Julian and the Hydroponic Harvest Club want to build a second greenhouse.



Holly was awarded \$14,000 during the Philanthropy Tank Finals and the money was used to purchase a reliable horse trailer that could accommodate all of their horses in one trip.

Since March, **Horses that Help** has served more than 150 children with special needs and more than 50 youth that are considered at-risk.



In the past six months, much progress has been made towards initiating this project. In April, Raveena met with **Cano & Manning Eye Center** and **Lighthouse for the Blind**to discuss her project and potential partnership opportunities.

Over the summer, Raveena attended the **Masters** of **Ophthalmology** conference in Miami and had the chance to network with ophthalmologists from all over Florida about her project.

This year, Raveena hopes to purchase her own Welch Allyn camera so she can hold vision screening events.

Materia Concerses Against Cancer Materia Gonzalez, Lauryn Megas, and Elizabeth Pino - Forest Hill HS **Princesses Against Cancer** has visited hundreds of children since the finals event. With frequent trips to the children's hospitals, Kids Cancer Foundation events, P.O.S.T events, Princesses have built awareness and have even been recognized by media outlets.

With the funds received from Philanthropy Tank, Princesses purchased new costumes, wigs, shoes and accessories to enhance their Princess



wardrobes. The Princesses also used money to build a dressing room and storage for their new costumes.

Princesses gained 20 new members over the last six months and hopes to continue to expand the organization over the next year.



RAY Band has made a huge impact in Palm Beach County since the finals. After receiving \$8,500 in funding, Jordan and Seth purchased 10 sunscreen dispensers and have delivered them to various public places in Palm Beach County including Loggerhead Marinelife Center, Jupiter Outdoor Center, Jupiter Community Center and Jupiter Tequesta Athletic Association, Jupiter Country Club and West Jupiter Recreation Center. RAY Band selected these locations because they are highly visited areas.

The **RDK Melanoma Foundation** has generously offered to work with RAY Band to take their project to new heights.

After pitching in front of a live audience and receiving **\$11,000**, the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) has developed a website, designed a logo, created a structure to their program and



were able to narrow down the elements that they'd like to focus on.

Thus far, YEP has 13 mentors committed to participate in the YEP and 24 mentees have expressed interest in being mentored. YEP also receives continuous support from seven faculty members and administration at both Atlantic Community High School and Carver Middle School. This month, YEP members will be participating in community service activities during Race for the Cure and Walk Against Violence.

Moving forward, YEP plans to attend Delray Beach city meetings to present and provide updates on their project. In addition, they hope to garner at least 10 partnerships in the community.

Testimonial



Avy Stein with mentees Bricen and Baron Fisher

Avy Stein, Philanthropist-Investor

"The opportunity to have young people come up with new ways to approach social problems is intriguing and the chance to teach young people principles of entrepreneurship, social impact and general execution techniques while, at the same time, helping their communities is unique."

Around Town

Philanthropy Tank's Executive Director, January Romero Reissman, recently spoke about the program and its impact to an audience of more than 60 at the Rotary Club of Boca Raton.



Join Us & Get Involved

Are you interested in getting involved with a nonprofit in the New Year? Look no further than ! We are seeking **volunteers** to join several new committees requiring various time commitments. Please consider reviewing the opportunities below and signing up to help us make this year's event the best one yet!

Ambassador & Outreach Committee Volunteer Event & Development Committee Volunteer Coaching Committee Volunteer Impact & Data Committee Volunteer Pro Bono Graphic / Logo Designer for Student Projects

For more information or to sign up, please visit: <u>http://philanthropytank.org/volunteer-opportunities/</u>

Stay Connected

Here are a few simple ways to stay connected and help us spread the word about Palm Beach Philanthropy Tank:

- Forward this email to a friend, family member or colleague
- Visit PhilanthropyTank.org and follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram

As always, we appreciate your ongoing support of Philanthropy Tank. With your help, we will continue to make Palm Beach County better, one idea at a time!

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