



SOCIAL CHANGE INTERNSHIP

"Eye of an Immigrant was a passion project for us. Through our work with the internship, that's where we really started getting momentum and put down the foundation for what we wanted to do. We published the website and started getting a lot of traction through the internship[...] We couldn't have done it without the help of Startland and all our community members."

- *Jasmeet Kaur, Social Change Intern*

THE OBJECTIVE

Students are immersed in the entrepreneurial mindset, networking with peers, local entrepreneurs and organizations in their community, and a real-world problem to create potential solutions during this 8-week internship.

Students will have a viable solution at the end of the internship that can be pursued beyond the program.

THE IMPACT

Students were immersed in design thinking training through this collaborative learning experience.

Startland piloted a new evaluation tool in collaboration with the Urban Education Research Center for this cohort of interns. Below are the preliminary results:

- **100% of participants** said that, through their Startland experience, they **improved their ability** to "put [one]self into the shoes of users" and "see problems from a user's point of view".
- During the final event of the Social Change Internship, participants completed a survey that asked them to think about how they were before and then after their experience. **The results indicate growth in participants' comfort level and self-efficacy related to specific skills central to the design thinking model** – including the ability to experiment, envision, and explore new ideas, and believe in their own ability to make an impact.
 - In addition to design thinking skills, **the results indicate growth in participants' networks and career literacy**, suggesting that their Startland experience gave them the opportunity to network and consider their career interests and opportunities.
- Based on comparison to a group of students in a more traditional school classroom setting, **Startland participants reported far more frequent engagement in the type of meaningful dialogue that helps further their understanding of topics and of one another.**

To read the full report on preliminary results, click [here](#).



Watch the recap video of our Social Change Internship: Holiday Exhibition [here](#).

Listen to our interns answer the question, "What are you passionate about?" [here](#).





COMMITMENT TO REAL WORLD LEARNING

MAKE IT REAL

Our Social Change Interns often continue to pursue their solution once the program is over.

Read about what some groups have accomplished since their term:

Eye of An Immigrant (Cohort 2)

Eye of An Immigrant is an organization committed to providing resources to and telling the stories of immigrants in Kansas City.

Since the internship, founders Jasmeet and Komal have been working on gaining 501(c)(3) non-profit status and spreading the organization's message. Recently, the organization received the Power of Youth Grant from America's Promise Alliance, and featured in a PBS podcast called "The Filter". [Learn more >](#)

GirlsLeadKC (Cohort 2)

GirlsLeadKC is an empowerment group looking to bridge the gender gap in politics.

Founders Elise, Annie, Kripa and Becca held an event in September 2021 where young women were able to network with women in leadership. Now, the founders are working on creating a curriculum to empower young girls in local schools. [Learn more >](#)

Students of Change (Cohort 1)

Students of Change is an international, nonpartisan organization of student activists.

The organization's founders Leila, Vari, Matthew, and Zara were able to push a bill through their city legislation to prohibit secondhand smoke in vehicles with minors present. As of late, the organization is working on spreading infographics through social media. [Learn more >](#)

OUR PARTNERS

