

## CATCH UP WITH THE ICA THROUGH OUR FALL INITIATIVES!



**Message from the Executive Director**

Editor's Note: This address is different than most; it is a transcript from Terry Bergali's speech at the [video launch through September](#). Staff and colleagues were so moved by Terry's impassioned words and thought they should be shared with you. Dear Friends, Neighbors, and Colleagues,

First of all, I would like to thank you all for attending the official launch of our solar panels. Also, a big, public thanks to all my staff. Yesterday our solar panels went live, and we are, in fact, using electricity that we are generating, as we speak. We have also been working a long time, for two years, to get a sign on the back of our building. As of yesterday at 4:30pm, it was finished. So if you haven't seen it, I hope you'll walk down Lawrence, take a look and check out the building.

Not only are our solar panels live, but, as of this morning, in our lobby we have a TV screen that shows [live monitoring](#) on (the energy) being generated. I am here to tell you that already there is a feature that says "Lifetime Savings: \$116,340.00" and as of right now we have saved a grand total of \$48.

Now all that is important, but, even though we love saving money, that's not why we did this solar project.

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**A Day to Celebrate: ICA GreenRise Goes Live!**

After the successful installation of 485 solar panels on the ICA GreenRise building, an event was held to celebrate both the installation and the entire Uptown community. On September 24, a wide range of [Uptown organizations](#), local and sustainable food trucks, members of the community, and ICA colleagues all gathered at ICA GreenRise to welcome in the next phase of the building. The morning was filled with spirit as the [Old Town School of Music's Jim Rand](#) played festive music and engaged the Uptown community members from the sidewalk in front of the building. Inside GreenRise, over 30 community organizations began to gather for the Uptown Share Fair in the newly named FREN City Room. The day commenced with an informative speech about the [ICA GreenRise building](#) given by building manager Lesley Showers, followed by a passionate address by ICA Executive Director Terry Bergali, and concluded with words of affirmation and praise from the City of Chicago's Chief Sustainability Officer Karen Wolpert and 46th Ward Alderman, James Cappelmann.

After the ribbon cutting, guests and fellow Uptown neighborhood service providers mingled at the Share Fair. Uptown is richly populated with service organizations that aim to serve the community. However, even in close proximity to each other, service providers are not always aware of each other, and the variety of services provided in the neighborhood. In hosting the Share Fair, ICA aimed to gather these organizations and create a space for them to learn more about each other and build potential for inter-organizational collaborations, and make better referrals to their current clients. The organizations in attendance had a wide range of focus areas, including:

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We have made the most of 2014 and have many stories to show for it!

**This Fall Initiatives includes:**

- \* A Day to Celebrate: ICA GreenRise Goes Live!
- \* ToP Around the Globe
- \* Chicago Sustainability Leaders Network Hub Activities
- \* Student Engagement Across the Nation & the World

...and a special highlight of our recent crowd-funding campaign!

[View the PDF](#)

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HAPPY COUPLE



Long-time ICA colleagues, Cheryl Hood and James Addington, chose to celebrate their marriage at the GreenRise on Nov 15th. We were all honored to witness the joining of these two individuals, families, and communities. All the best!

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## 2015 SUMMER STUDENT OPPORTUNITY: 8 WEEK SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INTENSIVE (SCDI)

Students will be immersed in creating a learning community where instructors and students alike are engaged in research and learning. Their time is based on a 1:1:3 ratio, split by one hour of **academic work** and one hour of sustainable community development **methods training** for every three hours of **community action**.

The academic work focuses on the intersection between social and environmental justice with training in methods and skills that can be used for engaging all types of community members.

Students are placed in Chicago non-profit grassroots organizations related to their interests. The leaders of these organizations are a part of the accelerate77 program. The program aims to ACCELERATE sustainability in a bottom-up fashion driven by practical action, expanded imagination, and greater organizational capacities among local groups.



[PDF Program Flyer/Curriculum](#)

VISIT WEBSITE TO APPLY

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## Can you sponsor a student?

The Institute of Cultural Affairs believes the value of education and experience should be accessible to **all** and are fundraising to provide **scholarships** for the summer 2015 Service Learning Program.

Tuition for the full 8 weeks is \$2,000, but every donation counts!

[Click here to donate](#)



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