

The Social Innovators Program

To Earn a Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania

Application Process

Current Stuart students may apply online:
www.schoolyardventures.com/stuart

Applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on Wednesday, January 23, 2019. Phone admissions interviews will be scheduled with students after their applications are received. Please note, this program will reach capacity quickly, so we encourage you to apply early.

The Social Innovators Program allows students to learn about entrepreneurship and experience it first-hand while earning a Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania. During the thirteen-week program, students learn how to launch ventures of their own that create value and a positive impact on society.

The Entrepreneurial Mindset

Entrepreneurship is much more than merely learning how to start a business. It's a mindset—a creative problem-solving framework that can be applied to any number of situations and opportunities—and it's fundamental to students' long-term success in school, work, and life. It allows them to see opportunities where others don't, make risk-adjusted decisions, persevere through adversity, and communicate effectively with stakeholders and the public.

The Social Innovators Program is a partnership between the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice, Stuart Country Day School, and Schoolyard Ventures, an organization that develops university-level, real-world learning opportunities for ambitious high school students. Stuart and Schoolyard Ventures believe that developing an entrepreneurial mindset while in high school gives students substantive differentiation from their peers, better insight into their future educational and career opportunities, and more grit and resilience to accomplish their goals.

Program Details

The thirteen-week program has both in-person and virtual components. It starts with a kick-off event at Stuart, followed by virtual lessons and recitations, and then concludes with a graduation event at the University of Pennsylvania. Lessons will be viewed online and include engaging interviews and case studies with young entrepreneurs. During recitations, students will participate in live online group discussions led by Schoolyard Ventures staff. Students will also have continual access to personalized guidance and support from the whole Schoolyard Ventures team. Because every student chooses their own project, each student's experience in the program is unique to his or her interests and goals. Schoolyard Ventures has helped students launch ventures ranging from tech companies and fashion retailers, to community-based non-profits and social movements. Each student is encouraged to find something that makes them curious and to use that intrinsic motivation as the basis for developing an entrepreneurial mindset.

At the end of the program, students will have the opportunity to present their work and most importantly, their personal development during their entrepreneurial journey. Students who successfully complete the requirements of the course will earn a thirteen-week Certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from the University of Pennsylvania.



Important Dates

February 26, 2019 at 6:30pm

Kick-Off at Stuart

March 11 - May 31, 2019

Weekly Online Recitations
(evening options are available)

June 2, 2019, time TBD

Graduation at UPenn



Program Cost

Stuart students receive a discounted tuition of \$1,925. A 50 percent deposit is due upon acceptance, and the balance is due by Feb 26.