

**CCI Media Contact:**

Charity Johnson

[charity@civicatlanta.org](mailto:charity@civicatlanta.org)

(678) 637-7721



**The Center for Civic Innovation Unveils its  
2022 Class of “Good Troublemakers” in Annual Fellowship Program**

**(Atlanta)** – The Center for Civic Innovation (CCI), a coalition of Atlanta’s good troublemakers who help drive transformative policy change, today announced its 2022 Civic Innovation Fellowship (CCI Fellows) class. This year’s cohort represents some of the city’s most inspirational leaders who are dedicated to solving social and economic inequality across Atlanta communities.

“The 10 civic entrepreneurs we’ve selected are a new guard for social change in our city,” said Rohit Malhotra, founder and executive director of CCI. “They are the leaders who show up for our communities — regardless of election season, in spite of a pandemic, and especially in times of crisis. Our program is designed to show up for them and give them the coaching, capital, and community they need to succeed.”

These ten leaders were selected from a pool of almost 100 applicants across metro Atlanta. During the six-month training program, participants will learn how to grow and scale their existing community work through a series of workshops, site visits, peer coaching, and community sessions.

“Our Fellowship program identifies, invests in and amplifies the work of movement builders whose ideas have the potential to influence local policy change,” said Malhotra. “With new leadership across the city, we see a real opportunity for community-driven innovation and cross-sector collaboration.”

**Congratulations to the Class of 2022 CCI Fellows:**

- **Sharmaine Brown – Jared’s Heart of Success (@jaredsheart)** is a youth mentoring program dedicated to advocating for gun violence prevention through education and youth empowerment.
- **Arelious Cooper – Art in the Paint (@artinthepaintorg)** is a community center without walls that fosters a sense of belonging through programming centered around the restoration of basketball courts and parks.
- **LaTrice Lyle – EdQuity Consulting (@consultedquity)** bridges the gap between theory and practice to provide high-quality educator development on anti-bias and anti-racist practices for equitable learning programs.
- **Raioni Madison-Jones – 3D Girls (@3dgirlsinc)** educates and empowers women to be advocates for themselves by making investments in their health and their families.

**CCI Media Contact:**

Charity Johnson

[charity@civicatlanta.org](mailto:charity@civicatlanta.org)

(678) 637-7721



- **Brandon Martin – Close Ties Leadership (@close\_ties)** creates a safe space for Black boys to reflect on who they are and garner the tools necessary to become who they aspire to be.
- **Candi Reddick – Mindful Maroon (@mindfulmaroon)** is a social enterprise designed to make healing more equitable and accessible to Black and Brown folks.
- **Elissa Russell – READI Consulting (@consultreadi)** exists to impact multigenerational literacy through workforce training and development.
- **Cordero Tanner – Athleaders 360 (@athleaders360)** teaches athletes how the skills they have gained from sports translate into leadership skills that can be leveraged to better their communities and themselves.
- **Adrienne Wesley – Swim Life Fitness (@swimlifefitness)** helps make a swimming lifestyle accessible to everyone by offering mobile swim lessons, water safety programs, adaptive aquatics and various other swim camps and classes.
- **Teresa Wright Johnson – Zaria’s Song (@zariassong)** supports the community by teaching seizure awareness, CPR and first aid. The group also provides special needs advocacy information and supports parents coping with the loss of a child.

**About the Center for Civic Innovation**

The Center for Civic Innovation is focused on elevating solutions that address the needs and reflect the voices of all people who call our city home. Our goals are to increase civic participation, elevate more effective solutions, and change local public policy. We use data and research to inform and engage the public, support and invest in the work of homegrown leaders, and advocate for short and long-term policy change. Learn more at [www.civicatlanta.org](http://www.civicatlanta.org).

###