

CYC Receives \$250,000 Gift from Bank of America, D. Steve Boland! 🎉



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CYC Receives \$250,000 Donation from Bank of America in honor of D. Steve Boland to Support Leadership Development



Carolina Youth Coalition and The Boland Family at 2025 ALUMNight event.

Carolina Youth Coalition (CYC) is honored to receive a \$250,000 gift from Bank of America in recognition of the retirement of its former Chief Administrative Officer, D. Steve Boland. This special gift, chosen by D. Steve Boland, advances CYC's goal to broaden and enhance our programming through 1:1 mentorship and college advising, career exploration experiences, financial literacy, and leadership development.

We are grateful for The Boland Family's ongoing commitment to service, leadership, and meaningful investment in the Charlotte community.

THE BOLAND FAMILY'S CYC JOURNEY



Katrice Boland (left) alongside her first CYC mentee, Tyller Mensa.



Steve Boland Jr. alongside his first CYC mentee, Priyanka Rai.

Katrice Boland and son, Steve Boland Jr., first began their CYC journey in 2019 as EmpowerMentors. Supporting CYC's first Torch Fellow, Tyller Mensa, and her peer, Priyanka Rai, Katrice and Steve dedicated their time and knowledge to guiding Fellows through the college admissions process. Their mentorship helped Fellows craft compelling personal essays, apply to colleges nationwide, and build the confidence to thrive as first-generation college students.

Following his service as a mentor, Steve Boland Jr. expanded his engagement by joining CYC's Young Professionals Auxiliary Board. Over the next 4 years, Steve and a cohort of young professionals helped CYC connect with emerging leaders, increase community awareness, and strengthen the organization's presence in Charlotte. Today, Steve serves as Treasurer on CYC's Board of Directors, leveraging his expertise in private banking and philanthropy to fuel the organization's growth and impact.



Steve Boland Jr. (far right) alongside CYC's 2023 Young Professionals Auxiliary Board.



Steve Boland Jr. shares a smile with his mentee, Jacob Desalegn, at CYC's 2021 annual Torch Awards celebration.

BANK OF AMERICA'S SUPPORT OF CYC

Since 2021, Bank of America has been a valued partner to CYC. With outstanding volunteer involvement, more than 140 associates have invested their time in supporting CYC Torch Fellows, making it one of our most active corporate volunteer partners to date. Bank of America has also strengthened CYC's program by providing financial literacy workshops through the Better Money Habits program, where Fellows learn about credit building, budgeting, and developing smart financial habits.



Bank of America's commitment goes well beyond supporting Fellows during their high school years. Musie Gebreegziabher, a CYC Alumni Fellow and graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, was recently hired by Bank of America as a Global Technology Analyst. His internship experience and professional connections with his CYC mentor and Bank of America employees played a pivotal role in strengthening his personal growth and career readiness, paving the way for a full-time position after graduation.

CYC'S SECOND ANNUAL ALUMNIGHT



CYC's Class of 2026 in front of the Bank of America Tower at this year's ALUMNight celebration.

Carolina Youth Coalition's annual ALUMNight is a signature networking and professional development event that strengthens Fellows' confidence, expands their connections, and enhances their career readiness. By uniting CYC alumni, corporate partners, and mentors, the event helps Fellows build early-career networks and supports their professional growth.

This year's ALUMNight, hosted at the Bank of America Tower, marked the second annual gathering and welcomed 80 high school senior Fellows from both CYC campuses. The evening opened with remarks from Kieth Cockrell, President of Bank of America Charlotte, followed by words of wisdom from D. Steve Boland. A dynamic panel discussion led by Frenchie Brown offered insights on leadership, career advancement, resilience, and adaptability.



Fellows participated in meaningful conversations during and after the session, gaining real-world perspectives and forming valuable professional connections. CYC extends its sincere appreciation to this year's panelists: Johnathan Hill, Senior Vice President, Program Management Executive; Heather Roberson, Managing Director, Risk Executive; Lauren Hood, Senior Vice President, Communications Executive; and Luis Sosa Andrade, Senior Vice President, Business Control Executive.

HONORING D. STEVE BOLAND'S LEGACY & IMPACT



D. Steve Boland shares lesson on leadership with CYC Fellows at 2025 ALUMNight event.

Carolina Youth Coalition recognizes and honors the profound legacy and impact of the Boland Family. To celebrate its longstanding service to CYC, including Board leadership from Steve Boland Jr. and years of mentorship from Katrice Boland, CYC has established the **Boland Family Excellence in Community Award**.

This award will recognize distinguished community leadership, mentorship, and volunteerism. Beginning at the 2026 Torch Awards, CYC will honor one Bank of America employee volunteer who exemplifies the Boland Family's remarkable commitment to service.

CYC expresses its deepest gratitude to the Boland Family and Bank of America for their investment in our mission and our Fellows.



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