

ECOPOWER '26 PRESS KIT

A verified guide to BKLVLUP's paid NYC environmental justice internship, its Operators and its community impact.

The power is local. The future is collective.

Prepared from EcoPower's public 2026 program record. For current media or applicant questions: info@bklvlup.org • bklvlup.org

Fast facts

9 weeks	Paid internship
10	NYC high school and college Operators
4	Project tracks
3	Survey languages
11	Published map stops
10	Individual portfolio sites
6+	Professional mentors
2	Program credentials

What is EcoPower?

EcoPower is BKLVLUP's nine-week paid environmental justice internship for NYC high school and college students. Interns are called Operators because they take responsibility for real neighborhood work: researching risks, gathering community knowledge, building public tools and reporting their work back to the community.

The program is rooted in The Flats — East Flatbush, Flatbush and Flatlands — and connects student leadership, community knowledge and technology to the development of East Flatbush's first Community Resilience Hub.

The four tracks

Environmental & Data: Read the land, climate and neighborhood data.

Tech & AI: Turn information into accessible digital tools.

Story & Media: Make urgent knowledge clear, memorable and human.

Community & Civic: Listen, organize and connect work to public action.

What Operators received

A paid stipend; community facilitator certification; certificate of completion; professional headshots; an individual portfolio website; a track-specific project and mentorship; and hands-on community and environmental experience.

Verified outcomes

The 2026 cohort produced a multilingual Community Resilience Hub survey, an interactive GIS walking tour, the Clean Blocks mobile prototype, ten portfolio sites, ten gallery posters and resident-facing heat and preparedness research.

Community Resilience Hub Survey

BKLV LUP's first Hub survey was built and tested in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole, grounded in local heat vulnerability and designed for reading-level and format accessibility.

Infrastructure Walking Tour of The Flats

Operators and Ground3D built a phone-navigable interactive map. The published Green Book — Energy Resilience Edition documents 11 stops across East Flatbush, Remsen Village and Canarsie.

Emergency Readiness

Operators audited emergency communication across language, generation and accessibility needs, tested canvassing scripts and developed flood-preparedness materials.

Powering the Block — Energy Clinics

The cohort developed a neighborhood-specific clinic model for elder residents covering home heat risk, blackout readiness and nearby heating and cooling resources.

Public record and links

Impact showcase: communityreportback.bklvlup.org/work

Operators: communityreportback.bklvlup.org/operators

Program model: communityreportback.bklvlup.org/program

Event recap: youtube.com/watch?v=BKPoz2d4pWU

Interactive map: wiloftheurban.github.io/BKLV LUP-Energy-Infrastructure-Walkshop-Map/web/

The 2026 Operators

Names, assignments, projects and biographies below are the program's verified public record.

Adela Halollari

Environmental & Data • Sustainable Seedlings

Turned a reading habit into a public sustainability blog — articles she was already devouring, now a platform other people can find.

<https://adelaholollari.lovable.app>

Victoria Vasilyeva

Community & Civic • Call for Artists

Built an open submission call for artists to make work around BKLVLUP's sustainability pillars — space for young artists who usually get left out.

<https://victoriavasilyeva.lovable.app>

Lexuan (Belle) Ren

Environmental & Data • Sweet Rot

Designed a composting trivia card game with accessibility built in from the start — screen reader support and high contrast mode, not added later.

<https://belleren.lovable.app>

Jayson Gittens

Environmental & Data • Waste Disposal Infographic

Made a fridge-magnet QR system so proper disposal knowledge lands where people actually make the decision — the kitchen.

<https://jaysongittens.lovable.app>

Carlisha Grant

Story & Media • Intergenerational Sustainability Guide

Bridged the generations: thrifting and fashion for youth, gardening and cultural practice for elders, sustainability as a shared language.

<https://carlishagrnt.lovable.app>

Krissa Williams

Community & Civic • Block to Table

Built a community recipe library with herb-growing guides, composting tips and substitutions — for families whose recipes never used measurements.

<https://krissawilliams.lovable.app>

Jayden Benn

Tech & AI • Community Cleanup App

Used AI to map illegal dumping, pull volunteers together and point sanitation toward the blocks that need attention most.

<https://jaydenbenn.lovable.app>

Jiaer (Jay) Li

Community & Civic • Fridge Find

Built an app locating community fridges and food pantries across The Flats, designed for elderly and low-income neighbors first.

<https://jayli.lovable.app>

Adiba Islam

Tech & AI • LightOff

Connected astronomy to environmental justice through a light pollution site, a community data survey and steps anyone can take.

<https://adibaislam.lovable.app>

Mohamed Ali Salhi (Mo)

Tech & AI • Heat + Air Quality Tool

Built a real-time heat risk checker with flood warnings and mitigation actions for East Flatbush.

<https://mohamedalisalhi.lovable.app>

Internship FAQ

Is EcoPower paid?

Yes. EcoPower '26 was a nine-week paid internship.

Who participated?

The 2026 cohort included ten NYC high school and college students.

Why are interns called Operators?

The title reflects the real projects and responsibilities students took on for the neighborhood.

What did Operators learn?

Skills included AI prompting, app development, GIS mapping, environmental data analysis, survey design, multilingual outreach, storytelling, facilitation and public speaking.

What did Operators receive?

A stipend, two program credentials, professional headshots, an individual portfolio site, mentorship and hands-on experience.

When are future applications due?

Future dates, eligibility rules and application details have not been published in this record. Contact info@bklvlup.org or visit bklvlup.org for confirmed updates.

Media and applicant contact

Brooklyn Level Up (BKLVLUP)

info@bklvlup.org

bklvlup.org

Instagram and TikTok: [@bklvlup](https://www.instagram.com/bklvlup)

This kit intentionally excludes unconfirmed future dates, eligibility requirements and application procedures.