Eugene M. Lang founded Project Pericles in 2001 to tackle the growing political cynicism and civic disengagement among young people. In 2016, Project Pericles is celebrating its 15th anniversary, and to honor Mr. Lang’s vision we are expanding a program he cherished: Student Choices – Student Voices (SCSV).

SCSV fuels engaged citizenship by (1) sharing information and resources to encourage students and community members to be knowledgeable about candidates and important issues, (2) creating a space for constructive dialogue, and (3) helping to register eligible students and community members to vote. The three components of SCSV build on the strengths of our national consortium to support, share, and collaborate on initiatives involving all participating campuses.

Our SCSV student taskforce serves as a focal point and shares tools, and information on national issues with students, faculty, staff, and community members. Pericleans have shared their ideas and inspired other campuses to organize similar activities. Since the launch of SCSV last November, our campuses have successfully registered thousands of voters and distributed important information about candidates and issues.

As part of this year’s program, Project Pericles is offering grants to students to support their work on campus. Through November 2016, we will review proposals on a rolling basis and fund the most ambitious and innovative efforts to promote political participation.

Project Pericles is organizing Student Choices – Student Voices Week, September 24-30, 2016. During SCSV Week, Periclean campuses across the country will organize activities connected to the 2016 Presidential Election. SCSV Week includes National Voter Registration Day on September 27 and represents a concerted effort at the national level to engage eligible voters in the election process.