## ICMA conference

# STRENGTHENING LIBRARIES AS COMMUNITY & ENTREPRENEURIAL HUBS

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#### **DURHAM AT A GLANCE**

- Durham is a County in North Carolina with over 300,000 residents. The City of Durham is the fourth most populous in the state with a population of 274,291 according to recent estimates.
- Durham is most-known for its role within the "Research Triangle" of North Carolina, which also includes the cities of Raleigh and Chapel Hill. Durham is home to Duke University and is a diverse community that is known for its cultural events, schools and institutions, sports, music and the arts.
- The city has a land area of over 108 square miles, with a population density of 2,100 people per square mile.
- Over 22% of the population is under the age of 18.
- Over 33% are in the 25 to 44 age range, while just 8.9% are aged 65 or older.
- The median age for the city is 32.1 years.
- There is a higher ratio of females to males living in Durham, with 86.9 males for every 100 females.
- Population estimates according to 2014 data show that Durham is the second fastest-growing city in North Carolina. It is the 46th fastest-growing in the country.

http://worldpopulationreview.com/us-cities/durham-population/



## ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Chamber is the premier conduit for business connections and economic growth in Durham County. With unparalleled access to talent and a strong appetite for entrepreneurship, Durham has undergone an economic evolution, having successfully transformed from tobacco and textile products to a thriving technology and research economy.

www.durhamchamber.org

### ENTREPRENEURIAL BOOM

Durham is amid an entrepreneurial boom. Entrepreneurs and startups are attracting national attention from the public sector, Silicon Valley investors, and talented individuals worldwide.

From its beginnings in tobacco and textiles to Black Wall Street and the Research Triangle Park, Durham is a community of entrepreneurs who value creative ideas, asking "What if?" and bringing talented people together to answer that very question.

www.durhamchamber.org

## ENTREPRENEUR I OPPORTUNITIES

There are so many people and so many companies that continue to drive and build Durham's world-famous tech hub.

This is just one slice of how the Durham Chamber played a role and some of the successful marketing programs that helped to create opportunities for tech entrepreneurs.

Since 2013, Google for Entrepreneurs has partnered with American Underground in Durham after recognizing the organization and the city as one of the key tech hubs in the United States.

www.durhamchamber.org

## DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY AT A GLANCE

Vision: Inspiring Lives, Transforming Durham

Mission: Encourage Discovery, Connect the Community, Lead in Literacy

#### Strategic Goals:

Literacy & Lifelong Learning
Bridging the Digital Divide
Workforce Development & School Readiness
Capturing the Culture of Durham
Accountable, Efficient & Visionary Libraries



## DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY AT A GLANCE

- Main Library
- > Four Regional Locations
  - East Regional
  - North Regional
  - South Regional
  - Southwest Regional
- Community Library
  - > Stanford L. Warren Library
- Neighborhood Library
  - Bragtown Library
- Various Outreach Efforts



## DURHAM COUNTY LIBRARY AS AN INCUBATOR HUB

- This Cohort was formed and sponsored by the Urban Libraries
   Council and the Kauffman Foundation with a focus on ensuring that
   all potential entrepreneurs, particularly women, people of color and
   immigrants have access to the support needed to succeed.
- Durham County Library applied to be a part of the ULC Cohort. Our application was chosen among approximately 80 applications.
- The Cohort's goal was to allow library systems of all sizes to come together to learn from each other through sharing of evidence-based best practices, challenges, and other experiences.
- Our goal in applying to the cohort was to gain valuable information to support business programming and the business-focused space in the renovated library







#### **WHO**

Skilled staff to cultivate relationships with the entrepreneurial community

#### **WHAT**

Art of the One Page Business Plan

**Budgeting Your Business** 

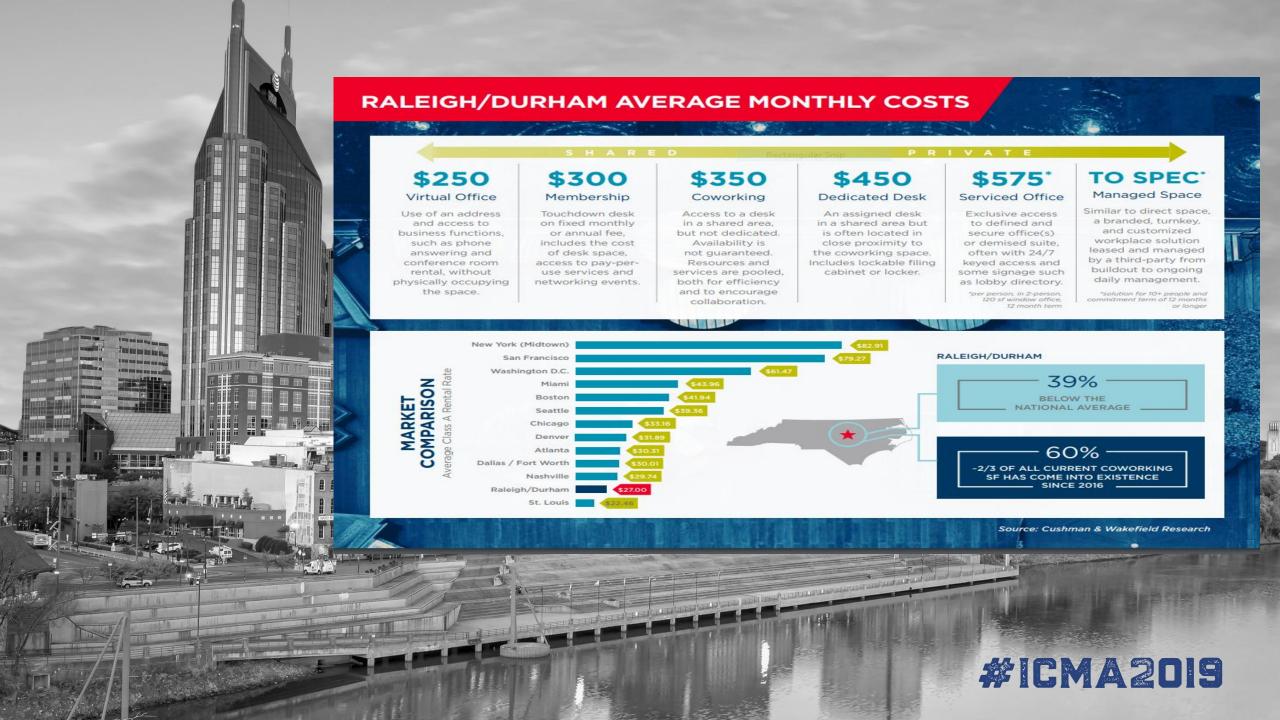
The Entrepreneur Mindset – 6 Week Certification Program

#### **HOW**

Build library reputation as an incubator hub









- Establish transformed Main Library as a hub for business & development
- Foster a co-working environment that is highly utilized
   & sought after by all community members
- Utilize technology & co-working concepts to provide a location where community members can create and prototype business products and models.







## THANK YOU

Questions?

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