

YOUNG PEOPLE FOR

A PROGRAM OF  
**PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY**  
FOUNDATION


## WHAT'S GOING ON


Dear <<First Name>>,


It has been a summer filled with both joys and heartbreaks for those of us who care about progressive values in our country.

It's been a joy to have [members of Young People For's newest class of Fellows](#) from 33 states and 110 campuses convene this summer in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, and New Orleans for our 2013 regional trainings. We were joined by some of our most dedicated alumni, who served as both trainers and support staff throughout the weekend. In the workshop-filled days, Fellows shared their personal stories; explored power, privilege and oppression; identified their progressive values; examined various approaches to social change; and brainstormed how to organize their communities around progressive issues and values.

Fellows also learned how partner organizations are putting these lessons and skills into action to create change. We want to thank Lynn Paltrow from the National Advocates for Pregnant Women, Alicia Bannon from the Brennan Center, Rafael Hurtado from Little Village Environmental Justice Organization, Veronica Lozano from the Center on Halstead, Sofia Campos (YP4 '10) from United We Dream, Rosana Cruz from Voices Of The Ex-Offender, August Collins from Youth Empowerment Project, and Ruth Idakula and Ashana Bigard from Community Educators Project of New Orleans, who shed light on the current climate for issues ranging from reproductive justice to immigration to voter suppression.

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This month's featured Fellow is **Monique Gillum**, a 2005 Fellow and Senior Advocate at the Southern Poverty Law Center. She has also been actively working with the Dream Defenders in their peaceful sit-in at the Florida State Capitol.

[\[Click the link to read more about Monique\]](#)

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Watch videos, upload your YP4 pictures and more! YP4's on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Future 5000... you name it.

Fellows left the weekend ready to take what they learned back home and promote social justice on their campuses and in their communities. In the year following the regional trainings, each Fellow will be paired with a mentor from our alumni network. Each mentor will guide the Fellow through an individual leadership development plan and help them set realistic and measurable goals for their Blueprint for Social Justice – the heart of the Fellowship work. **Please consider giving your time to support this year's Fellowship program and [apply to be a mentor](#), deadline August 25th.** As a mentor, you'll feel the excitement of making a real difference in the life of an up-and-coming progressive leader, while learning skills that will help you to be more effective as a progressive who care about the future of this country.

Finally, over the past several months we have been incredibly proud of the Fellows and alumni who are mobilizing campuses or communities around important issues, designing local campaigns, and making their voices heard through the arts or media. As you know, just three days after the jury handed down a heartbreaking "not guilty" verdict in George Zimmerman's trial, more than sixty young people known as the Dream Defenders flooded into Florida Governor Rick Scott's office. Led by Phil Agnew -- an early alumnus of the Young People For program -- the activists are pushing for a [repeal](#) of Florida's Stand Your Ground law and a special [legislative session](#) on racial profiling and the school-to-prison pipeline, among other demands. After spending 31 days in the Capitol, Phil Agnew recently announced that the Dream Defenders will be leaving the Capitol, and refocusing on civic engagement in their communities to amplify the need for reform.

And the action is not just in Florida. We want to thank all of the folks who came together to show solidarity with the courageous and peaceful action of the Dream Defenders through vigils, marches, and our solidarity campaigns. We hope this served as a reminder for all of us that as part of the

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### **Alumni in Action:**

Congratulations to 2011 Fellow **Amanda Matos**, for being one of the few finalists for the Peace First Prize. Amanda, and her work with her Blueprint project: WomanHOOD was nominated for this award, please help her win this!

Congratulations to 2011 Fellow, **Jamira Burley**, for being recognized as BET's Millennial Makers: Working Today to Innovate Tomorrow!

Check out 2005 Fellow **Phillip Agnew** and 2013 Fellow **Regina Joseph and Yaki Gonzalez** who are both participating in the peaceful sit-in to [#callthesession](#) for [#trayvonslaw](#).

Check out 2005 alumnus **Paul Kendrick** on the [Hill's 50 Most Beautiful list!](#)

Congrats to 2011 Fellow **Mayra Hidalgo** for receiving the prestigious Davis Putter Scholarship!

Congrats to YP4 alumnus **Gigi Traore** for being a recipient of the Cuyahoga

YP4 network, you don't have to go it alone. Here you can find a family to support, inspire, and challenge you to take your social justice work to the next level.

Onwards,



Director  
Young People For,  
A program of People for the American Way Foundation

P.S. Thanks again to all the alumni and partners who helped us review applications, interview, and select the newest Fellowship class. Our work would not be possible without you! There are a number of ways to engage with the new fellows this year, so if you're interested in serving as a mentor, trainer, or in some other capacity please contact [Paloma Ibañez](#) in our Alumni department.



### Program Updates

YP4 is excited to announce that the application for the 2014-2015 YP4 Fellowship opens on September 17, 2013. **Please nominate leaders who would be good fits for our program using the [YP4 Nomination Link](#) and staff will follow up regarding updates in the application process.**



In addition to regional trainings, this summer staff of YP4 participated in a series of events and conferences to build and

County section of the National Council of Negro Women Trailblazers Awards!

Congratulations to **Richard Aviles**, 2010 Fellow, for his placement in City Year in NYC!

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**NEED A JOB?**

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As alumni, we encourage you to take advantage of the Career Center, as well as other training and resources available on our website. Please sign up to receive our Career Center Newsletter and be on the look-out for exciting changes and additions to the resources we feature in the coming months. You may sign up by [clicking here!](#)

*We're always looking for new jobs!  
Please [send us](#) local job boards, listservs, and job descriptions.*

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**We are building the future...now!**

support partnerships and continue our recruitment efforts, including:

- Choice USA's Generation to Generation Celebration
- Planned Parenthood Youth Organizing and Policy Conference
- The Knapsack Institute
- National Student Power Convergence
- Generation Progress National Convening
- Students United for Democracy Training
- Sierra Student Coalition's Summer Grassroots Leadership Training Program (SPROG)
- Strong Families Planning Convening

As YP4 staff has limited capacity, we would like to ask fellows and alumni to represent YP4 at conferences and events, assist in our recruitment efforts, and identify cutting edge grassroots leaders as potential fellows, trainers, and mentors. [Please let us know if you'll be participating in any conferences this fall and would like to represent YP4.](#)



The Front Line Leaders Academy (FLLA) will welcome Fellows in the 2013-14 class to their first training in Washington, DC August 22-25<sup>th</sup>. [This year's class brings](#) together twenty bright young organizers and political professionals from ten states throughout the country. We are excited to meet these great folks and look forward to the great work they will do as part of the Front Line Leaders Academy. Our first training will cover aspects of candidacy, personal narrative storytelling, and progressive values. The application for the 2014 FLLA will launch in the fall; up to the minute information may be found on the [Young People For website](#)

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Each year, Young People For makes a significant investment in empowering and training young leaders from across the nation to be agents of progressive change in their communities. This critical work depends on the generous support of our alumni and friends.

[Will you invest in building the new generation of progressive leaders?](#) We're counting on your support!

This year alone, YP4 has 152 Fellows from 110 campuses and 33 states. Please help support our investment in these incredible young leaders by [making a contribution today.](#)

#### **By the Numbers:**

This regional training cycle, over **60** alumni volunteered approximately **720** hours to make them a success! Thus far over **60** Alumni have applied to be potential mentors to 2013-2014 Fellows.

**Our 6** YP4 Staff attended **7** national conferences and met **140** potential Fellows. Our **2013-2014** Fellowship class is comprised of **152** dynamic and

diverse leaders from **110** campuses  
in **33** states

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