

YOUNG PEOPLE FOR

A PROGRAM OF
PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY FOUNDATION

WHAT'S GOING ON

Dear [[First_Name]],

In his [State of the Youth](#) address, 2005 alumnus Phillip Agnew said, "the emerging face of our country has begun to fight for the world we will inherit. Our generation knows true change is more than words."

Last month, we witnessed the power and potential of our generation when we convened the 9th annual [Young People For Summit](#) and 7th annual [Front Line Leaders Academy graduation](#), where 130 YP4 Fellows and 19 FLLA Fellows gathered for four days of trainings, networking, speaker series, and strategic planning hours.

We couldn't be prouder of our Fellows and alumni who take the vision of our founder, Iara D. Peng, forward by moving this country in a decidedly more progressive direction. From getting money out of politics to fighting for a more just economy -- and more -- you are creating change today.

In his remarks, Phillip said, "We must be about the business of building power. Person by person." We are so thankful for all the support you provide us in developing the next generation of progressive leaders, and hope you will continue to do so by volunteering for the [Selection Committee](#) to help us select our next Fellow cohort.

Finally, it is with profound appreciation that we thank and send our best wishes to Paloma Ibanez, who left staff on February 7th to return home to Tucson, Arizona. While we were sad to see her go, we are thankful for all the amazing work she has done at YP4.

With Paloma's departure, we are excited to announce that Chagan Sanathu has been promoted to become the Alumni Program Coordinator. Please take a moment to [appreciate Paloma](#) and [congratulate Chagan](#).

Many thanks, and we look forward to being a part of the change you continue to create.

Warmly,

 [Friend on Facebook](#)

 [Follow on Twitter](#)

E-mail or address change?

[Update your contact info](#) so we can keep you in the loop!

[Connect with YP4](#) and watch videos, see pictures, and more! We're on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, you name it.



Alumni in Action

Congrats to [Italia Aranda](#) '13, [Cairo Mendes](#) '13, and [Valeria Carranza](#) (FLLA '12), whose pieces on immigration were featured on YP4 and PFAW's blogs!

Congrats to [Jordan Howard](#) '13 for being recognized on the 2013 EBONY Magazine [Power 100 list](#) and being highlighted as a "[Fresh Face of Activism](#)" by the Sierra Club!

Congrats to [Jenny Marks](#) '13 on her Youngist publication regarding immigration and criminalization!

Congrats [Alray Nelson](#) '12 for being featured on [Al Jazeera America](#) and the [LA Times](#) for his work to advance LGBT equality in Native American communities!

Congrats to [Poy Winichakul](#) '10 for her op-

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



Having wrapped up our 9th annual National Summit, 2013 Fellows are working hard on their Blueprints for Social Justice. Over the next month, YP4 staff, mentors, and other alumni will provide comprehensive review and feedback to Fellows on their Blueprints and fundraising plans so Fellows' projects are strategic, sustainable, and community-driven. Fellows can be awarded up to \$500 seed grants to jumpstart their work.



Several Fellows are already making change in their communities through their Blueprints, including [Bianca Rodriguez](#), who founded the Miami non-profit [Art Critically](#) to explore social injustice and develop critical awareness with young folks through the fine arts. [Cindy Nava](#) is also using her Blueprint to advocate for higher education access for low-income and first-generation students in New Mexico.

[Alumni Opportunities](#)

Alumni are the foundation of the Fellowship Program, and we have a number of exciting opportunities for former Fellow engagement. Now that the 2014-2015 Fellowship application closed February 7th, 2014, we need your support in reviewing this year's stream of applications. If you wish to play a role in this process, apply for the [Selection Committee](#), or contact [Andrew](#) with questions about recruitment and selection.

eds in the [National Journal](#) and [HuffPo](#), and for being featured on [HuffPo Live](#) with 2006 FLLA Fellow [Jon Hoadley](#)!

Congrats [Zephania Smith](#) '12 on receiving a University of the Pacific's MLK Award and competing in San Joaquin County's Scholarship Pageant!

Congrats to [Lamonte Moore](#) '13 and [Selma Aly](#) '13 of Wisconsin's Sankofa Squad for being highlighted as a "[Millennial Movement to Watch](#)" by the Nation!

Congrats to [Jamira Burley](#) '11 and [Donya Nasser](#) '13 on their [nominations](#) for Running Start's Emerging Young Leader Award!

Another congrats to 2013 Fellow [Donya Nasser](#) '13 for being a Feminist Campus "Feminists You Should Know" finalist, and on being accepted to UC Berkeley's Junior Summer Institute as a Public Policy and International Affairs Law Fellow!

Congrats to [Ryane Ridenour](#) '10 on her nomination for WIN's Young Women of Achievement award!

Congrats to [Sandra Zuniga Guzman](#) '12 for being featured in USA Today's article on student health care!

Congrats to [April Zinobar](#) '12 on being selected as Miss Central Florida 2014!

Congrats to [Casey Anne Dupelle](#) '12 on being nominated as a Westfield State University leader!

Congrats to [Natalie Cook](#) '12 for getting her BP project, Atlanta Word Works, featured on CNN!

Congrats to [Athena Matyear](#) '11 and [Beth Huang](#) '10 on joining the United States Student Association Team!

Congrats to [Ev Rivera](#) '12 for all her work on Indivisible, a film project covering the negative effects of our broken immigration



In addition, our Fellows are continuing to holistically develop leadership skills by working with mentors through the implementation of their Individualized Leadership Development plans. If you would like to support this critical component of the Fellowship year by reviewing Blueprints or by serving as a mentor in the next cycle, [email Chagan](#).

Lastly, the [Alumni Board](#) is another great way to give back to YP4 and further enhance your leadership skills, and [applications](#) for are open until February 24th. Oh, and be sure to complete the [Alumni Survey](#) to update us on how we can best support you!

Civic Engagement



YP4 Fellows were exposed to a number of civic engagement and advocacy opportunities during the National Summit. For one, David Simas of the White House spoke about the importance of enrolling young people in healthcare, and over 50 Fellows and alumni signed up to partake in [National Youth Enrollment Day](#) efforts on February 15th to do just this. Additionally, approximately 20 YP4 Fellows stayed after the Summit on January 20th to join affiliate People For the American Way for an intensive Money in Elections training on lobbying tactics and the effects of the Supreme Court's 2010 *Citizens United* ruling. Lastly, we launched an Immigration Blog Series -- check out pieces by [Valeria Carranza](#), [Cairo Mendes](#) and [Italia Aranda](#) and contribute your own! If you're interested in any of this or YP4's VOTE Program, email [Gabriela](#).

Advanced Leadership

system!

Congrats to [Katherine Warren](#) '12, now a Rhodes Scholar!

Congrats to [Tyler Geoffrey](#) '13 for covering UT Austin's "Catch an Illegal Immigrant" incident on the YP4 Blog!

Congrats to [Mayra Hidalgo](#) '11 for her powerful piece in HuffPo about being undocumented!

Congrats to [Barry Weinberg](#) '11 on being appointed by Manhattan's Borough President to Community Board 9!

Congrats to [Nekpen Osuan](#) '07, [Tiffany Bahnimptewa](#) '11, and [Dorthea Thomas](#) '12 for participating in the 2013 White House Youth Summit!

Congrats to [Ernesto Villasenor, Jr.](#) '13 for being appointed Chair of Compton's Equal Health Opportunity Committee, and for being a Hispanic Scholarship Fund's [Scholar of the Month](#)!

Congrats to [Sara Kragness](#) '13 for speaking out at Fond du Lac's housing discrimination hearing and advocating for LGBT rights.

Congrats to our countless alumni who are participating in the New Leaders Council program in cities across the country!

**Have something you want to share?
Email [Chagan](#)!**





In January, Front Line Leaders Academy staff and fellows celebrated the 4th and final 2013-2014 FLLA training and Graduation Weekend, during which 19 fellows received supplemental trainings and completed assessments in five learning circles to test their campaign fluency. The program is now recruiting for the 2014 Front Line Leaders Academy: Los Angeles (FLLA:LA) program, and we'd love your help identifying dynamic leaders from LA county! If accepted, you will receive numerous trainings and personalized mentorship on how to increase your civic participation and advance progressive values in your community. [FLLA:LA applications](#) are open until February 26, and contact [Anthony](#) with questions.

[Upcoming Travel and Trainings](#)

YP4's recruitment is year-round, and staff will be travelling and training to meet the newest generation of movers and shakers. We'd love to connect with anyone who's around during our travels on the following dates:

- [Take Root](#) from February 21-22 in Norman, OK. Contact [Laura](#).
- [The Civil Liberties and Public Policy Annual Conference](#) from April 11-13 in Amherst, MA. Contact [Chagan](#).
- [Midwest Academy Organizing Training](#) in Chicago, IL from March 24-28 and a [Wisconsin Recruitment Trip](#) from March 29-April 2. Contact [Gabriela](#).
- [FLLA-LA Recruitment](#) in Los Angeles, CA from February 21-March 1. Contact [Anthony](#).

[By the Numbers: Noteworthy Facts and Figures](#)

- **\$7500** were raised by 2013 FLLA Fellows to benefit this year's FLLA:LA class
- **92 applications** have been started for FLLA:LA
- **137 Alumni Surveys** have been received
- **12 Alums** have applied for the Alumni Board
- **Over 50 Alumni** came to the National Summit to train, help out, and say hello!



Want to receive monthly updates about job openings, fellowship opportunities, and more? Sign up for our [Career Center Newsletter](#), check out some of our [career resources](#), or email [Anthony](#)!

Help us spread the word about job openings by [sending us](#) job descriptions, listservs, etc.

[We are building the future now!](#)



Each year, YP4 makes a significant investment in empowering and training young leaders to be agents of progressive change in their communities. This year alone, YP4 has over 140 Fellows from more than 100 campuses in 33 states. This critical work depends on the generous support of our alumni and friends, so please help us invest in these incredible young leaders -- [make a contribution to YP4 today](#).

[Follow on Twitter](#) | [Friend on Facebook](#)

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)

