



## WHAT'S GOING ON

Dear [[First\_Name]],

Ten years ago this year, a couple of intrepid young leaders developed a vision for a leadership development program that would identify, train, and provide sustained support to the newest generation of progressive leaders. It was with that vision and a great deal of hard work that [Young People For](#) was founded. Today, YP4 boasts a dynamic network of almost 1,500 emerging and established progressive leaders across the country who are at the front lines of social change.

As we move into our 10th year, we are thrilled to announce the addition of the newest cohort of YP4 Fellows. Hailing from 127 campuses and communities in 39 states, the 2014 class represent the broadest and deepest class of YP4 Fellows to date.

These 150 bright young people will begin their engagement with YP4 at four regional trainings in New York, San Francisco, Chicago, or Houston this summer. Through these trainings, Fellows will develop new frameworks and tools for their social justice work and their roles in the progressive movement.

As our 2014 Fellows begin their leadership journey, we also want to highlight the success of the 2013 Fellows. They hosted campus and community conferences on racial justice, launched non-profits to encourage women of color to run for office, spearheaded initiatives to dismantle the school to prison pipeline, and much more. You can read about their accomplishments in the [2013-2014 YP4 Yearbook](#).

We are also proud to announce the finalization of our first ever local [Front Line Leaders Academy](#). This year for the first time, our prestigious academy will be providing basic campaign and candidacy training to 20 emerging young leaders from the Los Angeles County.

Additionally, we will be supporting select YP4 Fellows and alumni to get new and returning voters engaged in this November's midterm elections. Through YP4's nonpartisan 2014 Vote Program, our organizers will increase the representation of youth and other underrepresented

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

### Featured Fellow: Jennifer Rubio



Jennifer is a graduate of the University of Washington with a degree in Social Welfare. She is relocating to Manhattan this summer to attend Columbia University for her MSSW (Masters of Science in Social Work). As a McNair Scholar, Jennifer conducted programmatic assessment research with results aimed at assisting in the development of best practices for a women's leadership program on her campus. She has dedicated much of her time to volunteer service in her community, focusing on LGBTQ issues, sexual assault research and prevention, and grant writing/fundraising for the Latino community. Jennifer plans to continue her work in the field of policy research to bring about macro change through legislation.

communities in the electoral process.

Finally, it is with great excitement that we congratulate YP4 Director Joy Lawson on the arrival of her first child, Astra Verity Lawson-Scott, born on April 29th, 2014, and PFAWF Youth Leadership Director Andrew Gillum on the birth of his first two children, Jackson Bailey and Caroline Jai, born on May 19th, 2014. Please join staff and the entire network in welcoming the newest additions to our ever-growing family!

Laura Williamson  
Fellowship Program Manager  
Young People For,  
A program of People for the American Way Foundation



As we close out your Fellowship year and welcome phenomenal young leaders into our dynamic and dedicated alumni network, we want to recognize the truly outstanding work and growth that has occurred this year! Fellows submitted over 65 Blueprints for Social Justice, creating the change they seek for their communities now. To support their work, YP4 has allocated over \$9,000 of funding to Fellows so they can implement their projects. Check out the breadth and depth of the 2013 Fellowship class' work through the [2013-2014 Yearbook!](#)



Young People For is excited to welcome 150 of the best and brightest young activists into this year's 2014-2015 YP4 Fellowship Class. These young people hail from 127 campuses and communities in 39 states. Additionally, this year's class includes a higher representation of students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, community colleges, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges than in years past.

2014 Fellows will be joining us in New York City, NY for the Northeast Regional Training from June 19-22, in San Francisco, CA for the West Regional Training from July 10-13, in Chicago, IL for the Midwest Regional Training from July 24-27, and in Houston, TX for the South Regional



### Alumni in Action

Congrats to Sasha Ahuja '09 on becoming the new Deputy Director of the Policy Division at the New York City Council!

Congratulations to Preston Mills '13, who will be interning in Congressman Cedric Richmon's DC office this summer!

Congrats to Carl "Mike" Woodward '07 on being chosen as an exceptional educator by the [Bezos Family Foundation!](#)

Congrats to Charlotte Sawyer '12 for being granted a fellowship with HIPS in Washington, DC!

Congrats to Rachel Chung '12 for her fellowship with Religious Action Center!

Congrats to Elana Harrison '13 on her new position with the Environmental Law Institute!

Congrats to Allie Lahey '13 on being highlighted for her social justice work with YP4 and Choice USA for her Blueprint on sex education being [featured by BG News and her campus!](#)

So proud of Zoe Ridolfi Starr '13 for speaking out [against sexual assault at Columbia University](#) alongside people like Sen. [Kristen Gillibrand](#).

Congrats to Kelly Meza Prado '13 on receiving \$10K from [Davis Projects for Peace for her Blueprint!](#)

Congrats to the 12 inspiring and influential leaders that will serve on the [2014-2015 YP4 Alumni Board!](#)

Training from August 7-10. If you will be any of these cities at these times, please get in touch with [Laura](#) for opportunities to engage as an alumnus, partner, or supporter.

### **Civic Engagement**



We are excited to announce that approximately 30 YP4 Fellows and alumni will be attending our nonpartisan Vote Summit in Houston, Texas from August 5-7 to receive comprehensive training on how to engage youth and other underrepresented communities in the 2014 election cycle!

Additionally, we will soon be launching the YP4 Blog Team for a select group of young progressives who want to strengthen their advocacy writing skills and promote our progressive values through social media.

If you are interested in either the Vote Program or joining the Blog Team, writing on issues you care about for the Blog, please reach out to [Gabriela](#).

### **Alumni Opportunities**



YP4 just hosted its 4th annual Alumni Board meeting. We were joined by [12 diverse board members](#)—who represent each Fellowship year, from our inaugural class in 2005 to the current graduating class for 2013 Fellows—and who will represent the vast alumni network over the course of the next year. This year's board members hail from New Mexico, California, Oklahoma, Illinois, Ohio, and Texas, and are working as educators, advocates, social entrepreneurs, software engineers, and activists on college campuses. They convened from April 25- 27th for their first in-person meeting to plan opportunities for other alumni to engage

Congrats to Brielle Giesemann '13 on her acceptance to the Fulbright Teaching Assistantship Program and placement in Medellín, Colombia!

Congrats to Omar Kashef '13 on being hired as a Housing Specialist over the summer, enrolling in UNC-Chapel Hill's Masters of Public Administration, and for publishing a YP4 Blog piece [on the Moral March on Raleigh!](#)

Congrats to Pierre Joseph '13 and Donya Nasser '13 on being selected as 2014 [Truman Scholars!](#)

Another congrats to Donya Nasser '13 on being selected as one of Glamour Magazine's [Top 10 College Women](#) 2014!

Congrats to Mina Itabashi-Fraga '10 on getting a political organizing job in Washington, DC!

Congrats to Dennis Chin FLLA '11 for being featured on BuzzFeed's piece on [LGBT microaggressions](#) (he's #13)!

Congrats to John Harris III '11 for being [featured on AP](#) for his social justice work!

Congrats to Quiana McKenzie FLLA '08 on her election to the Local School Council in Chicago, IL!

Congrats to Carlos Gonzalez '13 on being selected as a Humanity Action Fellow!

Congrats to FLLA '11 alum Brandon Upson on being [highlighted by MSNBC](#) for his campus protests!

Shout out to 2006 fellow Crystallee Crain for being nominated as a [Social Changemaker](#) in Oakland!

Congratulations to Jamira Burley '11 for being honored as a [White House Champion for Change!](#)

Congrats to Rosie Contreras '12 on

with the YP4 network, prepare to serve as YP4 trainers, and engage in strategic planning for the upcoming 10th year anniversary.



The alumni board are working on engaging the alumni network, so if you'd like to connect with them or have any alumni programs related questions, please contact [Chagan](#). Additionally if you are in NYC, Bay area, Chicago and Houston while YP4 is hosting the regional trainings and would like to help, please email her as well. As usual, come fall we will be looking for alumni to serve as mentors, so keep an eye out for those applications that will be launched June 1st.

### ***Advanced Leadership***



YP4 is excited to announce that we are finalizing preparations for our first ever local Front Line Leaders Academy, which will take place this year in Los Angeles County. FLLA-LA will empower a new, emerging generation of Angelinos to connect with their communities, increase their civic participation, and advance progressive values in the region. Through this program, 20 young activists will grow into life-long contributors to Los Angeles and cultivate a stronger progressive community within the county.

Also, if you haven't already signed up to receive job listings, resume writing tips, and more resources for your professional development through our monthly [YP4 Career Center newsletter](#), be sure to do so today!

### ***Staff Travel and Trainings:***

YP4 recognizes that one of the most effective way to recruit and support the work of young people is by being spaces where young movement leaders come together. Recently we have been to the following: so staff have been busy attending and training at conferences to recruit for YP4:

- Chagan attended the Civil Liberties and Public Policy conference in

receiving a 2014-2015 Fulbright U.S. Student Award to Spain!

Congrats to FLLA '13 Alum Brandon L Green for being [published in HuffPost!](#)

Congrats to Phil Agnew '05 for showing how [beneficial youth leadership](#) can be in the lives of young folks!

Congrats to Zach Komes '13 for getting his policy research [published in the Roosevelt Reader!](#)

Congrats Jasper Katz '13 for launching the Blueprint, [Define Depression](#), Facebook page!

Congrats Zane Ballard '13 on [his blog piece](#) regarding Mississippi's religious discrimination bill!

Congrats to Jill Nguyen '13 on [her publication regarding](#) immigration and private prison systems – great piece!

Congrats to Mani Martinez '13 for his powerful [piece on being a queer](#) and undocumented youth!

Congrats to Will Dale '12 for being named a University of Kansas [Man of Merit!](#)

Congrats to Micah Melia '13 for getting her piece on [Kansas' broken voter registration](#) system published!

Congrats to Ben Gellman '13 on launching his Blueprint, the [Converge for Change](#) conference at Brown from March 15-16!

Congrats to Cindy Nava '13 for [testifying to maintain lottery scholarship](#) for students in New Mexico.

Congrats Charlene Carruthers, YP4 2005 and FLLA 2012 alum, for being one of [11 Civil Rights Leaders under 50](#) highlighted by AARP!

Congrats to Lulu Mickelson '13 for having her Blueprint, [the Manhattanville Community](#)

April at Hampshire College in Amherst, MA.

- Gabriela and Chagan facilitated a session on Self Care during USSA's LegCon conference in March.
- Gabriela and Andrew plan to meet with hundreds of high school students to talk about youth civic engagement in June with the CloseUp Foundation.
- YP4 staff will be attending Generation Progress' MakeProgress Summit in July.
- Anthony and Gabriela attended Generation Progress' Gun Violence Prevention Summit in February.
- Anthony attended Black Youth Vote Summit on Civic Engagement and My Brother's Keeper's Round Table on Mentorship in April.
- Andrew Humphrey attended the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Creating Change Conference in January and February.

### ***By the Numbers: Noteworthy Facts and Figures***

- **12** alumni board members able to reconnect with 140 other YP4 alumni through call time during the first Alumni Board meeting
- **326** people are signed up to receive our monthly Career Center Newsletter – help us reach our goal of **500** by the end of June by signing up today!
- This year's selection of the 2014-2015 Fellowship Class included participation from **45** YP4 alumni, who supported staff to select **150** Fellows from over **430** applicants.
- Each Regional Training will involve at least 1 local partner trainer, 3 YP4 alumni board members as trainers, 4 YP4 alumni support staff, 4 YP4 staff, 20 YP4 alumni attendees, and 35-45 new YP4 Fellows!

[Arts and Employment Initiative](#), featured by Barnard!

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!](#)



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 150 Fellows from more than 127 campuses in 39 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.](#)

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