



Leaders to Leaders Youth Summit

Friday, March 7th, 2014
UJA-Federation of NY
130 East 59th Street, New York, NY

EVENT PROGRAM

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Breakfast & Registration	7th Floor Lobby
Greetings	Room 710/712
Workshop #1: Case Studies	Breakout Rooms
Workshop #2: Skill-Building	Breakout Rooms
Break and Snacks	7th Floor Lobby
Keynote Speaker	Room 710/712
Hon. Jumaane D. Williams NYC Council Member, District 45	
Action Planning	Room 710/712
Closing Remarks	Room 710/712

Thank you for participating at the Leaders to Leaders Youth Summit!
All questions may be directed toward volunteers in PURPLE YouthBridge-NY t-shirts.

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Keynote Speaker Biography



Jumaane D. Williams, District 45, NYC Council Member

Jumaane D. Williams is a first-generation Brooklynite of West Indian parentage. He is a proud product of our city's public school system, including Brooklyn Tech and Brooklyn College. It was while earning his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science at Brooklyn College that Jumaane realized civic engagement and community empowerment would be his focus. He received a Master's Degree, also from Brooklyn College, in Urban Policy and Administration; during these studies, Jumaane honed his skills as an organizer and also served as the graduate student body president. Council Member Jumaane D. Williams (D-Brooklyn) represents the people of the 45th Council District in Brooklyn, having originally been elected in 2009, and re-elected in 2013. Williams serves as Deputy Leader of the New York City Council, and chair of the council's Committee on Housing and Buildings. One of his most significant priorities as chairperson will be to fight for development and preservation of affordable housing options for low and moderate income New Yorkers. Williams is co-chair of the council's Task Force to Combat Gun Violence, a co-founding member of the Progressive Caucus, and a member of the Black, Latino, Asian Caucus. Council Member Williams was a lead sponsor of the Community Safety Act ("CSA"), which protects New York City residents of all backgrounds against the abuse of Stop, Question and Frisk by the New York Police Department. Jumaane also helped pioneer participatory budgeting in New York City, a revolutionary approach to civic engagement. As an initiative to bolster community engagement in the 45th District, Jumaane is pushing to establish the Shirley Chisholm Community Center, a full-service facility providing recreational, educational and social opportunities for youth, seniors and families.



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Case Study Presenter Biographies

Tsipi Ben-Haim, CITYarts, Inc.

Tsipi Ben-Haim is the executive & creative director of CITYarts, Inc., a 45-year-old non-profit organization in New York City. Twenty-five years ago, Tsipi was asked to take over an organization that was on the brink of extinction. Tsipi had the vision and the dream of what CITYarts could achieve. She created a structure of six programs, including the international *Young Minds Build Bridges* program, which was created following the tragic events of 9/11. Creating bridges of cultural understanding through art, *Young Minds Build Bridges* includes the flagship project *Pieces for Peace with Youth from Around the World*, which is now in 62 countries and has led to the creation of four Peace Walls in Harlem, New York; Karachi, Pakistan; Tel Aviv, Israel; and London, U.K., with plans underway for Peace Walls in Berlin, Germany and Sao Paulo, Brazil. Tsipi holds a B.A. from Tel-Aviv University and a Master's degree from New York University. Outside of her work with CITYarts, Tsipi is an accomplished poet, writer, public speaker, and art critic for various magazines and foreign press outlets. As a curator, Tsipi organized several exhibitions, including the recent traveling CITYarts exhibition *Pieces for Peace with Youth from Around the World*, which was most recently exhibited at the Saatchi Gallery in London, at the European Union Parliament in Brussels, and the U.N. headquarters in New York, among other locations, with plans already underway for bringing the exhibition to Morocco, Tunisia, and Colombia.

Dariana Castro, NYC Department of Education

Dariana Castro has worked for the NYC Department of Education (DOE) for the past ten years. She began her work at Bushwick High School, then helped to found the Urban Assembly Media High School. Most recently, Dariana spent the last six years at The International High School at Prospect Heights, where she served as the coordinator of Special Programs, managing all school partnerships, and a successful college and career readiness program comprised of internships and mentoring. Dariana has presented at various conferences and facilitated workshops for International high school teachers on the importance of career and college readiness initiatives that prepare students for the 21st century workforce, as well as developing and sustaining effective school partnerships. Currently, Dariana works at the NYCDOE's Office of Postsecondary Readiness, where she is the associate director for New School Model Development. She is completing an MPA at NYU Wagner.

Robert Cordero, BOOM! Health

Robert Cordero is the president and chief program officer of BOOM!Health, a newly merged and rebranded Bronx-based \$11.8 million nonprofit organization with a combined staff of 133, comprised of CitiWide Harm Reduction and Bronx AIDS Services. BOOM!Health delivers a full range of prevention, syringe access, harm reduction, health care coordination, behavioural health, housing placement, legal, advocacy and wellness services to over 8,000 individuals in the hardest to reach communities in the Bronx, New York. BOOM!Health strengthens efforts to remove barriers to accessing medical care, with particular emphasis on HIV and viral hepatitis prevention and care services. The vision of the organization is health, wellness and safety for all and BOOM!Health is driven by its mission to transform lives through health and wellness. From June 2009 through August 2013, Robert served as Executive Director of CitiWide Harm Reduction in the South Bronx where he successfully guided CitiWide Harm Reduction to fiscal and programmatic stability, resulting in a 3-year strategic plan (2011-2013); expansion to a 7-day-a-week syringe exchange drop-in center; an innovative partnership with HELP/PSI to create a co-located health and wellness center; development of a unique onsite community pharmacy partnership with Evers Pharmacy; renovation of a new 3rd floor 4,000 square foot drop-in and training space for enhanced services; and a 30% increase in CitiWide's operating budget from fiscal year 2010 to 2013. CitiWide's comprehensive model of harm reduction services has resulted in a dramatic increase in access to health care for injection drug users, as evidenced by 93% of CitiWide's HIV positive homeless and unstably housed program participants having a regular primary care provider. Furthermore, CitiWide's syringe exchange program has contributed to New York City's dramatic decline in HIV infection between the 1990s and 2009, with HIV prevalence among injection drug users dropping from 54% to 5% in the Bronx.



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Case Study Presenter Biographies (continued)

Kady Ferguson, Brooklyn Food Coalition

Kady Ferguson is the first executive director of the Brooklyn Food Coalition, a grassroots organization building a movement for a just and sustainable food system. The coalition is committed to building an inclusive, anti-racist, multi-cultural alliance of residents and community-based groups from all parts of Brooklyn to advance food justice. Through community organizing the coalition addresses a three-fold vision of healthy food for all, sustainable food systems, and justice for food workers. The coalition's organizing work and activism have led to significant victories on the front lines of democracy, blazing a trail to integrate environmental justice with food democracy, working from within low-income communities to build a broader consciousness and shared agenda that encompasses racial and social inequities. As a food and environmental activist, educator, community leader and organizer, Kady has a deep commitment to food justice, sustainable agriculture, holistic health and is passionate about empowering people of color, protecting civil liberties and those most affected by social justice issues. Her work expresses her deepest aspirations to affirm solutions that honor and sustain life. She is thrilled to announce that BFC will be honored by North Star Fund as the 2014 Frederick Douglas Award recipient April 22, being recognized for Food Justice achievements and the community leadership which BFC has developed over the past three years in their work to unite the food movement.

Emily May, Hollaback!

Emily May is an award-winning leader in the anti-street-harassment movement. In 2005, at the age of 24, she co-founded Hollaback! in New York City, and in 2010 she became its first full-time executive director. Hollaback!'s mission is to give women and LGBTQ folks an empowered response to street harassment, and ultimately, to end it. Emily brings a fresh perspective to social action in the digital age. She believes the internet provides opportunities to tackle discrimination, by transforming discrimination from a lonely experience into a piece of a larger, public movement. Hollaback! gives women, girls, and LGBTQ individuals an empowered, real-time response to street harassment that will build public awareness on why street harassment matters, and how it hurts. Emily, who hold a Master's Degree in Social Policy from the London School of Economics, argues that a crowd-sourced movement is the key to changing policy and minds, and ultimately, creating a world where everyone has the right to feel safe and confident. Prior to running Hollaback!, Emily worked in the anti-poverty world as a case manager, political action coordinator, director of development, and most recently, a one-woman research and development team. She has also worked on four political campaigns. Emily is a winner of the 2008 Stonewall Women's Award, a 2009 Progressive Women's Voices Fellow, a 2011 "21 leaders" recipient by Women's E-news, a "40 under 40" leader by the New Leadership Council in 2011, one of thirty "Women Making History" by the Women's Media Center, and an Ashoka "ChangemakHER."

Yvonne Shortt, Rego Park Green Alliance

Yvonne Shortt is the executive director of the Rego Park Green Alliance, an organization with three big goals: Revitalize underutilized spaces under 4000 square feet, revitalize underpasses that run through the hubs of communities, and spread 3d design and printing technologies to all. Armed with a vision and small staff, the Rego Park Park Green Alliance is doing just that. On May 4th the organization will host its first pilot 3d design and printing challenge, a challenge involving 10 teams, over 100 students, and the community of Queens. Ms. Shortt recruited the teams by going to schools, after school programs, and community organizations. Then she trained over 15 teachers in 3d design and printing. "When you have a goal realize it will take time, collaboration, and determination," says Ms. Shortt.



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Skill-Building Facilitator Biographies

Christopher Auguste, Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP

Mr. Auguste focuses his practice on corporate and securities law, with particular emphasis on private placement or public offering of debt and equity securities. He represents underwriters and issuers in initial and secondary public offerings. He represents private investment funds in their investment in public and private companies and investment banks in structuring PIPEs, CMPOs, ATMs, shelf offerings and equity line transactions. He represents private investment funds and funds of funds regarding their structure and formation and provides advice and analysis in connection with their portfolio investments. He also represents financial institutions and corporate clients in secured loan transactions and acquisition financings and has counseled corporate clients in debt restructuring.

Ryan Buck, CUNY Brooklyn College

Ryan Buck currently serves as the executive director of International Student Affairs at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. Until recently, Ryan served as the director of the Brooklyn College Student Center within the Division of Student Affairs where he developed new revenue generating enterprises to fund student programming. Prior to coming to Brooklyn College, Ryan was dean of Student Services at a small private college that served students underrepresented in higher education, where he oversaw new initiatives to engage at-risk youth, international students, and low-income adults. Ryan has worked for the United States Peace Corps in its Southwest Regional Office and served in the Russian Far East as a community educator in English as a Second Language and Information Technology. With a background in program and community development, Ryan worked as the director of Volunteer Services at an HIV/AIDS non profit. He also provided youth programming, education and social services to international refugees in the Czech Republic. Ryan has a MA in International Politics and Volunteer Management from the University of North Texas and a BA in History and Political Science. He is currently working on his PhD in Public Policy at New School University where he focuses on the economics of international education, higher education policy, and soldier reintegration policy (GI Bill). Ryan has most recently conducted research on student persistence, the international student experience using ethnographic methods, and veteran civic engagement. Ryan lives in Brooklyn, New York with his wife and daughter. He has also lived in London, Prague, Vladivostok, New York City, Dallas, and Houston.

Ivy Cohen, Ivy Cohen Corporate Communications Inc.

Ivy has spent more than 20 years advising companies and executives on how to build their reputations across the U.S. and around the globe. She is an accomplished executive and small business owner, as well as a results-oriented civic leader and sought-after speaker and moderator. Ivy brings large corporate experience and entrepreneurship to advise significant private and public clients to capture opportunities and confront challenges. She has worked with prestigious marketing and communications partners like Procter & Gamble, DHL, Frito Lay, KEEN, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Kaplan Higher Education, Digitas Health, the National Football League, MGM Studios and Kraft Foods. For 10 years she served as CEO of the nation's prominent youth empowerment and drug abuse prevention organization, "Just Say No" International. Under her leadership more than one million youth in 50 states and 12 countries participated in school- and community-based state-of-the-art programs, including its landmark program: YOUTH POWER. Her civic leadership was recognized by PENCIL with its 2009 Innovative Partnership Award for her collaboration with P.S. 247 to create the groundbreaking College Partnership Program™ for an elementary school in a low-income immigrant community of Brooklyn. Ivy has served on the Board of Directors of YouthBridge-NY since 2005, chairing its strategic planning and program committees. Under her leadership the organization rolled out its second generation teen fellowship program and established ongoing evaluation as a tool for continual program improvement. She was recognized for her contributions with the organization's 2012 Community Service Award. She has a BA from UC Berkeley and an MBA from Georgetown University.



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Skill-Building Facilitator Biographies (continued)

Gianna Dell'Olio, Preston High School

Gianna Dell'Olio joined Preston High School (PHS) as director of advancement in January 2012. Joining PHS represented a major career change for Gianna and her first experience working for a non-profit organization. Gianna possess an extensive background in sales, marketing, and corporate communications and had recently relocated her family to her hometown after living and working in California for several years. Gianna is an alumna of the Academy of Mt. St. Ursula and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Arts from St. John's University. In addition to being a We Are The Bronx alumni, Gianna serves on the Bronx Advisory Board for VISIONS Services for the Blind and is an active member of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce and the Throng's Neck Merchants Association. She resides in Throgs Neck with her husband Ray and two small children. "I consider it a privilege and honor to live and work in my beloved home the Bronx. I look forward to helping foster growth and vitality for PHS and the community alike." said Ms. Dell'Olio.

Allison Finn, Global Nomads Group

Allison Finn's passion is using storytelling, education, and technology to connect people across borders, creating more collaborative local and global communities. In her work with Global Nomads Group (GNG), she coordinates Global Citizens in Action (GCA), a youth virtual exchange program that fosters cultural exchange, media literacy, and civic engagement among secondary school students in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the US. A wearer of many hats, she previously served as GNG's development team to design and launch new youth programs in the Middle East, North Africa, and South and Central Asia. Allison is a proud alumna of Northwestern University, where she studied International Studies and Theatre, focusing on Arabic language, youth development, and human rights. Prior to joining GNG, she worked with the US Department of State on a junior diplomacy fellowship, studied in Jordan and Tunisia, launched student social change projects with the Northwestern Global Engagement Summit, worked with an education tech start-up in Chicago and New York public schools, and taught creative writing and theatre for ages 7-17. In addition to her work in international relations and global education, Allison is a playwright, director, graphic designer, and vegetable enthusiast.

Robert Gee, RFG Global Management, LLC

Robert is a top tier marketing and sales executive with classical Consumer Packaged Goods and Consumer Electronics expertise in Brand Marketing, Sales Management, Customer Marketing, Corporate Marketing Communications and C-level General Management experience. He has a successful track record in building leading national consumer brands and organizations both on a domestic and global basis. He has worked for top tier companies such as Procter & Gamble, Unilever, Pepsi-Cola, and COBY Electronics. In 2008, he founded RFG Global Management LLC, a Strategic Planning/Management Consultant practice that leverages his 25+ years of extensive and diverse Marketing, Sales and Business Development experiences. The mission of RFG Global Management is to provide executive level guidance in the areas of strategy, corporate planning, brand marketing, sales/business development, and organizational development. His clients range from "Start Ups" to global clients such as HSBC in "Corporate Spin Outs". He is an effective problem solver who is a resulted oriented, entrepreneurial and versatile thinker. Robert takes great pride in hiring, training and developing high performance teams. He received his undergraduate degree from Boston University (BA - Economics '85) and his Masters degree from New York University (MBA - Finance '89). Lastly, in his spare time, he gives back to community where he is the founder of the Pell Street Summer Day Camp and board member of YouthBridge - NY.



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Skill-Building Facilitator Biographies (continued)

Marsha Haygood, StepWise Associates

Marsha Haygood is a highly respected motivational speaker and a dynamic career and personal coach with a solid career development track record in corporate America. She founded and is president of StepWise Associates, LLC, which offers professional and personal guidance to individuals, corporations and small business owners through coaching and motivational speaking. Marsha cultivated her coaching expertise during 25+ years as a Human Resources Executive where she advised Senior Management and coached employees at all levels. In her last corporate position, she was executive vice president – Human Resources and Administration at New Line Cinema, a division of Time Warner. Prior to New Line, Marsha held executive positions in Human Resources at Orion Pictures, among other companies. Marsha is also the coauthor of *The Little Black Book of Success: Laws of Leadership for Black Women* published by Random House/One World Press. Dubbed as “A mentor in your pocket,” *The Little Black Book of Success* was nominated for the esteemed NAACP Literary Award. Marsha holds a BA degree from Lehman College in New York and Human Resource Training and Development Certification from New York University. She has won numerous awards for her accomplishments including the prestigious YMCA Black Achievement Award and The Trailblazer Award from The National Association of African Americans in Human Resources. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for YouthBridge-NY, a non-profit high school leadership development organization and formerly served as the senior advisory board member of the National Association of African Americans in Human Resources of Greater New York.

Sigal Hirsh, Jewish Educator

After many years enriched by her own learning in Jewish education, Sigal Hirsch is currently studying for a masters degree in Jewish Education and a masters in Jewish History at the Jewish Theological Seminary. She is incredibly passionate about the revival and preservation of Conservative Judaism, and looks forward to graduating and officially entering the field of Jewish education. Sigal also enjoys arts and crafts, playing basketball, and cooking. She has a terrible voice.

Belinda Lasky, B'nai Jeshurun

Belinda Lasky has been the assistant executive director and director of membership of B'nai Jeshurun (BJ) for over 10 years. BJ is a large synagogue on the Upper West Side of Manhattan with 1,750 than households representing 4,000 people. She is the liaison and staff partner to more than a dozen volunteer membership committees and task forces with functions including community building, leadership development, strategic planning, meeting preparation and design, and event management. Her favorite aspect of this very multi-faceted job is identifying and cultivating lay leaders and volunteers for leadership roles. Her professional Jewish communal service career began as a Hillel Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow, involving college students in Jewish life at the University of Arizona. Following graduate school, she studied and practiced fundraising techniques at UJA-Federation of New York as a development executive in the Real Estate Division. Belinda was a proud participant in the Community Connections Fellowship class of 2012-2013. This dynamic partnership of the Center for Community Leadership at the Jewish Community Relations Council of NY and UJA-Federation of New York is a professional development, leadership and networking program for professionals in the Jewish communal world. Belinda holds a Master's of Social Work from the Yeshiva University Wurzweiler School of Social Work, with a focus in Community Organization and a Certificate in Jewish Communal Service. She studied International Business at Lehigh University. Belinda loves living in New York City and exploring its culture through museums, art and music.



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Skill-Building Facilitator Biographies (continued)

Linda Ortiz, U.S. Department of Justice

Linda Ortiz is a conciliation specialist at the United States Department of Justice Community Relations Service (CRS). The CRS is a specialized federal agency responsible for addressing tensions and conflicts based on race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation and gender, including preventing and responding to hate crimes. Her role is to respond to such conflicts and tensions in the community, assess the issue, and offer assistance on behalf of the Department of Justice. Mrs. Ortiz's non-traditional path led her to her current position at the CRS. She grew up in public housing in the Soundview region of the Bronx. After working through high school and college, she became a teacher - first as a Spanish teacher at Saint Raymond's High School for Boys, then as an English and GED teacher in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The focus for CRS is on how a community marked by violence or hate can change itself to a community that is a good place for all its members. She is responsible for encouraging community members to work within the system, as well as encouraging local government officials to listen to the concerns of these community members. Mrs. Ortiz works with civic leaders, community advocates and law enforcement within diverse communities through challenging times to provide violence prevention and conflict resolution services. Mrs. Ortiz serves as a board member for Bronx Community Board 1. She is also a volunteer at MASA, an after school tutoring program for Mexican children in the Bronx.



Leaders to Leaders Youth Summit

YouthBridge-NY would like to thank all those who made the Leaders to Leaders Youth Summit possible:

Keynote Speaker

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams
NYC Council Member, District 45

Workshop Facilitators

Christopher Auguste, Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP
Tsipi Ben-Haim, CITYarts, Inc.
Ryan Buck, CUNY Brooklyn College
Dariana Castro, NYC Department of Education
Ivy Cohen, Ivy Cohen Corporate Communications, Inc.
Robert Cordero, BOOM! Health
Gianna Dell'Olio, Preston High School
Kady Ferguson, Brooklyn Food Coalition
Allison Finn, Global Nomads Group
Robert Gee, RFG Global Management, LLC
Marsha Haygood, StepWise Associates
Sigal Hirsch, Jewish Educator
Belinda Lasky, B'nai Jeshurun
Emily May, Hollaback!
Linda Ortiz, US Department of Justice
Yvonne Shortt, Rego Park Green Alliance

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YouthBridge-NY is managed by the Center for Community Leadership at the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York. The JCRC is an affiliate of UJA-Federation of NY.



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