Summer was packed with opportunities for our high schoolers to interact with professionals from a range of industries. A group of SAYA young women visited the A.T. Kearney office to learn about consulting and how women are changing the world in every profession. The young women were encouraged to participate in an activity to simulate consulting. They identified a problem in the community and developed creative recommendations to address the issue. Employees from Goldman Sachs visited the SAYA center and spent the day with youth. During this annual event, the focus was skill-building activities, such as developing elevator pitches, participating in mock interviews, and editing resumes. Zoomdojo hosted an event for SAYA during which
youth learned about start-ups and the typical qualifications, characteristics and experiences of start-up professionals.

SAYA Youth Visit the New York Hall of Science

Our elementary school students visited the New York Hall of Science and gained scientific knowledge in an interactive and engaging way through games and other hands-on activities. They enjoyed creating bubbles with soap, water and a wire tool, as well as learning about outer space and our solar system.

SAYA Youth Visit Bibhu Mohapatra’s Studio

A few weeks ago, seven youth from our Elmhurst Center got the opportunity to gain insight into all that goes into preparing for a New York Fashion Week show. Bibhu talked candidly with youth about his process and his inspiration, as well as his personal journey and career trajectory, after which he took them on a tour of his studio. The best part came at the end where a youth expressed her appreciation for a piece and was invited by the designer to try it on, shoes and all.

Coding at SAYA

As a part of STEM education and enrichment, SAYA’s new initiative to offer coding classes has been a great hit. The coding classes introduce youth to the field and teach them useful and applicable technical skills, such as building a responsive website using HTML, CSS, and Javascript which can be opened on multiple platforms, and being introduced to Javascript Syntax. As a part of this program, in August, the youth attended a New York Tech Meetup event, allowing youth to get a further sense of tech professions. We look forward to continued success with this program into the fall.

GET INVOLVED

SAYA College Application Mentorship Program

This Fall, SAYA will begin our College Application Mentorship Program, running on Saturdays from October 2016 to February 2017. This program will focus on connecting high school seniors with volunteers to assist in brainstorming, planning, providing
feedback, and editing college materials, including personal statements, supplementary essays, and scholarship applications. Volunteer pairs will mentor two SAYA youth through the application process. If you would like to mentor youth through the college application process this fall and winter, please email fatima.malik@saya.org for more information.

2016 Gala

SAYA’s annual gala, on September 24, is just around the corner! Please join us in celebrating 20 years of empowering youth as well as this year’s honorees, Salman Amin and Bibhu Mohapatra. An exciting addition to the 2016 gala will be an exclusive fashion show featuring Bibhu Mohapatra’s Spring 2017 collection. We hope to see you at Pier Sixty for this evening of celebration!

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South Asian Youth Action (SAYA) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization established in 1996 and dedicated to K-12 students in need of support in New York City. While South Asian-focused, SAYA is secular, inclusive and committed to connecting youth from all backgrounds to opportunities. Our mission is to foster a strong sense of belonging in youth and provide them with the tools to thrive academically, professionally, and personally. SAYA’s holistic program model consists of academic support, college preparation, leadership development, career exploration, sports activities and arts enrichment.