Hear the stories of four of our youth and learn how SAYA has helped them thrive!

**College**

**Professional Development for College Students**

In January, a group of SAYA college students visited the IBM offices to participate in a question and answer panel and a design-thinking workshop. While there, they received valuable career advice and workplace exposure, and used teamwork and creativity to generate innovative solutions to business cases. Recently, SAYA also held a speed networking mixer for our college students. Attendees met with professionals from six different industries, and gained exposure to different career paths within each sector. A big thank you to Deloitte for donating the space for this event.
High School

Creative Expression at Newcomers High School
This past fall, a group of young women participating in SAYA programming at Newcomers High School took part in I AM, a poetry and performance-based workshop that encouraged self-expression and strengthened their language skills. Their pieces can be viewed here.

Talking Movies at Richmond Hill High School
SAYA screened “Bend It Like Beckham” at Richmond Hill High School, after which youth discussed and analyzed thematic social issues presented in the film, such as gender inequality, racism, homophobia, colorism, standards of beauty, immigration, and intergenerational conflict. In a lively post-movie conversation, youth expressed how these issues impact their daily lives, as well as their school community as a whole. Another movie-themed event, held this past December, invited youth and staff to view a holiday film in the school auditorium and purchase snacks and baked goods to support the SAYA Red Cross Club’s fundraising efforts. At this event, the club raised over $300 for victims of Hurricane Harvey.
Career Exposure at Elmhurst Center
High school youth visited the offices of Deloitte in December to better understand consulting and business career paths. Youth learned about branding and marketing from a number of Deloitte employees, and also had the opportunity to participate in an interactive marketing competition.

Middle School
Leadership through Improv
In September, SAYA partnered with the Harnisch Foundation to offer improv to our young women’s group at MS 172, using the Foundation’s Funny Girls curriculum. While having a ton of fun, participants are learning critical leadership skills that will serve them well in the future. The program has been hailed in the press - to read more, click here and here.
Promoting Science through Robotics
SAYA has been offering robotics as an afterschool activity at MS 202 for two years, and at Central Queens Academy (CQA) starting this school year. CQA youth created pet robots this semester, and MS 202 youth participated in a citywide tournament earlier this month.
Elementary School

Exposure to Science and Art

With support from Con Edison, SAYA fifth graders at PS 124 are exploring the architecture of skyscrapers this semester. The weekly class focuses on real world applications of math and science using hands-on projects. At PS 230, our youth are developing their artistic talents in animation and visual arts classes. Using painting and collage, they have created pieces that promote harmony and inclusion.
Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 14: SAYA Young Change-Makers Cocktail Fundraiser
Our dedicated young professional volunteers, the SAYA Young Change-Makers, are hosting a fundraiser in support of our College Access and Success program. For more information and to purchase tickets, please click here.
South Asian Youth Action
54-05 Seabury St. Elmhurst, NY 11373
Phone: 718-651-3484 | Email: saya@saya.org
South Asian Youth Action (SAYA) is a 501(c)3 youth development organization in New York City for students in elementary school through college. 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.