





# WHAT'S GOING ON

Dear [[First\_Name]],

The past few months have yielded many developments within Young People For and across the country. We know many members in our network have been impacted, involved in, or following the events in Ferguson and – more explicitly – the painful reality of institutionalized racism in this country.

As a program that represents young leaders and work to advance social justice, we call for a real moment of reflection in our public offices, our campuses, and our communities. We offer our thanks and support to our members who are speaking out – YP4 alumni like the Dream Defenders' **Phillip Agnew**, Atlanta Word Works' **Aurielle** Lucier, and Front Line Leaders Academy alumni Terrance Laney and Charlene Carruthers, among countless others.



Seeing the outcry from YP4 members and meeting our dynamic 2014-2015 Fellow cohort this summer during their Regional Trainings made us proud to work with a network of young people who are not willing to accept the status quo. We support these acts of reflection, real public dialogue, and community engagement to create change that will truly allow America to live up to its promise of equal justice.

Finally, we would like to thank Laura Williamson for all her contributions to Young People For (YP4) as she transitions into her new role as Manager for Program Advancement at People For the





E-mail or address change? Update your contact info so we can keep you in the loop!

Connect with YP4! We're on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, you name it.

# In Memory



It is with deep sadness that we mourn the loss of Zoraida Reyes '09, whose role as a community leader helped advance justice for immigrant and LGBTQ communities. We encourage network members to read Black Girl Dangerous' piece about her work and her legacy, and may we continue to fight for justice in her honor.

## Featured Fellow

American Way and PFAW Foundation. In this capacity, she will raise the profile of our youth leadership programming leading into **YP4's 10 year anniversary** and beyond. If you would like to be involved in planning for 10th year celebrations, please reach out to **Chagan** and **update your contact info**.

In solidarity,

Joy Lawson

Director

Young People For

A program of People for the American Way Foundation

# THE YPA FELLOWSHIP

YP4's four 2014 summer **Regional Trainings** were a major success. Starting in New York City, YP4 then headed to the San Francisco Bay Area before heading to Chicago and finally closing in Houston. Our Fellows – who hail from 35 states and over 110 campuses and communities – received trainings from YP4 staff, alumni, and local partner trainers designed to build their Personal Story Telling skills, Root Cause Analysis, Anti-Oppression Analysis, and awareness of grassroots social justice work. They left the transformative weekend with new perspectives, a renewed and collective energy, and a taste of the YP4 network.



Once the Regional Trainings were completed, staff engaged in an



Nicholas Sheffield '14 has distinguished himself as a top scholar and an ardent advocate for social equity at the University of Texas at Austin -- read his full interview!

#### **Alumni in Action**



YP4 is proud of YEO Network members **State Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal** and **Alderman Antonio French** for joining the movement for justice in Ferguson.

Congrats to **Phillip Agnew '05** for his <u>interview on MSNBC</u> regarding the recent murders of black men in America and his <u>piece on</u> <u>empowering minority youth!</u>

Congrats to YEO member
Representative **Joe Sanders '05** for his <u>nomination</u> as one of 12 LGBTQ candidates to watch this year. He's #7!

Congrats to **Kevin Killer** '06 and other YP4 family members for <u>advancing Native American</u> justice in South Dakota!

intentional mentorship matching process centered on the support, skills, and needs of each fellow in relation to an impressive pool of experienced alumni and partner applicants. All 2014-2015 Fellows have been matched with a mentor who will support and challenge them as they work through their Individualized Leadership Development Plans and begin planning their Blueprints for Social Justice.

### **ALUMNI UPDATES**



YP4 extends a heartfelt thanks to all alumni who were involved in this summer's Regional Trainings. The success of our program is greatly dependent on alumni support, and Fellows acknowledged that their experiences were enhanced because of your presence at trainings. We are also excited to welcome nearly 90 alumni to this year's mentorship program and to see how you assist Fellows in their growth as progressive leaders.

#### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT HAPPENINGS



From August 5-7, 25 Fellows gathered in Houston for YP4's 2014

Vote Summit, an intensive training on voter education and mobilization tactics. We were honored to be joined by local alumni partner trainers Nick Savelli '09 and Christina Sanders FLLA '11, and YP4 Vote Organizers are now implementing their Arrive With Five pledge campaigns in anticipation of the November elections (commit to vote today!).

Many thanks to **Nick Savelli '09** for training YP4's 2014 Vote Organizers at the Vote Summit!

Congrats to **Beth Huang** '10 for her <u>PFAWF Blog piece</u> on SCOTUS' recent decisions and how they impact women workers!

Many thanks to Christina

Sanders FLLA '11 for training YP4's

2014 Vote Organizers at the Vote

Summit!

Congrats to **Rayza Goldsmith**'11 for her <u>YP4 Blog piece</u> on
SCOTUS' decision regarding
affirmative action!

Congrats to **Paul Cato '11**, partook in the Young Adult Epilepsy Summit this past July in Washington DC!

Major congrats to **Amanda Matos**'11 for getting her Blueprint,
WomanHOOD, <u>featured on Bronx</u>
Net!

Congrats Terrance Laney FLLA
'11and Charlene Carruthers FLLA
'12 for their piece about ending
police brutality!

Congrats to former YP4 Director
Rebecca Thomson and Charlene
Carruthers FLLA '12 on their
nomination for IMPACT-DC's Leader
of the Year 2014! Vote for
them here.

Another congrats to **Charlene Carruthers FLLA '12** for her

awesome interview on youth activism

with MSNBC!

Congrats to **Lena Khader '12** for her Blueprint, Making HERStory, being featured in Oklahoma University

Daily!

In addition to vote work, YP4 is gearing up for its **Courts Matter collaborative campaign** through which network members will learn to use federal courts as an avenue for progressive change. If you're interested, contact **Poy**!

# ADVANCED LEADERSHIP UPDATES



The first-ever local **Front Line Leaders Academy** (FLLA) hosted its first training for the 2014-2015 class, during which **20 Fellows from underrepresented communities across Los Angeles County** learned effective candidacy skills such as public speaking, personal story telling, background assessment, and long-term planning. Check out the Fellows <u>bios</u> and <u>pictures</u> from the training!



#### BY THE NUMBERS: NOTEWORTHY FACTS & FIGURES

- 25 YP4 Fellows from 14 states and 22 schools have joined
   YP4's 2014 Vote Program cohort
- Over 100 Alumni were involved in this year's Regional Trainings as trainers, support staff, reception attendees, and
- 88 Alumni have been selected as mentors for this year's Fellows
- 425 people are signed up to receive YP4's Career Newsletter
   become one of them!

WE ARE BUILDING THE FUTURE NOW --DONATE TO YP4 Congrats to **Alray Nelson '12** for receiving the Friend and Ally Honor by the organizing committee for the second Annual Navajo LGBTQ Symposium!

So proud of **Lisa Sendrow**'12 for <u>calling out sexual assault</u>
dismissals!

Congrats to **Sarah Lewis '13**, who was just appointed to serve on Virginia's Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice!

Congrats to **Cindy Nava '13** on participating in the Dept. of Ed's celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act!

Congrats to **George Markarian**'13 for his <u>piece on making higher</u>
education tuition-free!

Congrats to **Brent Hamlet**'13 for telling his story about
violence in Chicago and the heroes
that grow out of it (p. 125)!

Congrats to **Zoe Ridolfi Starr**'13 for <u>responding passionately</u> to
Columbia's sexual assault policy!

Congrats to **Gaby Cabrera '13** for being featured on <u>BuzzFeed</u> about reclaiming Latina identity!

Proud of Aurielle Lucier
'13 for speaking out in Atlanta about the Ferguson atrocities!

Congrats to **Rohan Grover FLLA**'13 for this <u>interview with NBC!</u>

Congrats to **Emma Halling '14** for passing a Kansas University student resolution condemning poor sexual assault procedures and speaking about rape culture on <u>HuffPo</u>.



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 120 Fellows from more than 110 campuses in 35 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.

Congrats to **Areeba Kamal '14** on her <u>publication</u> in the Express Tribune!

Congrats to **Sherman Justice**'14 for his <u>NPR</u> and <u>HuffPost</u>
<u>Live</u> interviews on justice for the formerly incarcerated!

Congrats to **Armani Madison '14** for his piece on the Ferguson tragedy.

Congrats to all the **2014 FLLA Los Angeles cohort** for completing their <u>first training on candidacy!</u>

Have something you want to share? Email <u>Chagan!</u>



Want to receive monthly updates about job openings, fellowship opportunities, and more? Sign up for our <u>Career Center Newsletter</u>, check out some of our <u>career resources</u>!

Help us spread the word about job openings by <u>sending us</u> job descriptions, listservs, etc.

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