On the Path

to Civic Leadership

Princeton Project 55 Fellowship Directory
2019-20

www.alumnicorps.org

June 2019 Edition
The Princeton Project 55 Fellowships program connects talented Princeton graduates with some of the most effective and innovative public interest organizations around the United States. Our Fellows spend a year working in substantive, paid positions and join a lifelong community of more than 2,000 Princeton alumni who have launched their postgraduate lives through Project 55 since the program’s inaugural cohort in 1990.

What makes a Project 55 Fellowship unique is our holistic approach to personal and professional development. Fellows engage in enrichment and community building through intentional aspects of the Fellowship program: a professional placement, mentors from within our network, professional development seminars and webinars, a mid-year, weekend-long retreat, and community building via social events.

This formative, immersive experience instills in each Fellow a greater awareness of critical social issues, a deeper understanding of their capacity to bring about change, and a lifelong commitment to civic engagement. Fellows are able to affect social change by contributing to an organizational mission that is personally and professionally meaningful. On the Path serves as Princeton AlumniCorps’ directory, sharing details about each Project 55 Fellow participating in this year’s program.

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We encourage you to follow our Fellows throughout the year as they share their experiences on Instagram (@princetonalumnicorps) and The Leading Edge blog, alumnicorps.org/leadingedge. Please also connect with us online on Facebook (/AlumniCorps), Twitter (@AlumniCorps), and LinkedIn (company/princeton-alumnicorps).

The Project 55 Fellowship Program is made possible by over 120 volunteers, more than 500 donors, and 37 nonprofit partner organizations throughout the United States. There are 44 new Fellows, and 5 continuing Fellows participating in the Project 55 Fellowship Program during the 2019-20 program year.
2019-20 Project 55 Fellows

Fellows listed in alphabetical order by last name

Drew Brazer ‘19, Blue Star Families
Connor Bridges ‘19, PeerForward
Jasmeene Burton ‘19, Illinois State Board of Education
Rohana Chase ‘19, Coalition for Hispanic Family Services
Carson Clay ‘19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital
Maclean Collins ‘19, Capital Partners for Education
Shea Copeland ‘19, Read Alliance
Nadeem Demian ‘19, D&R Greenway
Jackie Dragon ‘19, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
Rochelle Forni ‘19, New York Center for Child Development
Jess Goehring ‘19, Great Lakes Academy
Rachel Gonzales ‘19, Carole Robertson Center for Learning
Ruby Guo ‘19, UCSF Breast Care Center
Kenya Holland ‘18, Partners for the Common Good
Edric Huang ‘18, Emma’s Torch
Sydney Jordan ‘19, Partners for the Common Good
Kasia Kalinowska ‘19, Bronx RHIO
Aly Kersley ‘19, Emma’s Torch
Mary Kim ‘19, Princeton Internships In Civic Service (PICS)
Marina Latif ‘19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital
Anna Leader ‘18, Teacher Prep & Capital Partners for Education
Sally Lee ‘19, New Alternatives For Children
Renee Louis ‘19, Eviction Lab
Alice Maiden ‘19, New Markets Support
Izzy Mangan ‘19, Association to Benefit Children
Alice Mar-Abe ‘18, NLEN
Anna Maritz ‘18, Lighthouse Community Public School
Aly Markovich ‘17, Lighthouse Community Public School
Katherine McClain Fleming ‘19, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services
Ariel Monique’19, National Dance Institute
Kieran Murphy ‘19, Partners for the Common Good
Victoria Navarro ‘18, PeerForward
Maddie Offstein ‘19, Sinai Community Institute
Tazz Orchi ‘19, The Rockefeller Foundation
Sarah Pacilio ‘19, Appleseed
Gabriella Pereira Feron’19, Fairfield County Community Foundation
Rae Perez ‘19, North Lawndale Employment Network
Charlotte Reyners ‘19, AltSchool
India Rogers Shepp ‘18, Housing Development Fund
Ashley Stone ‘19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital
Theo Tamayo ‘19, Success Academy Charter Schools
Rachel Todd ‘19, Coalition for Hispanic Family Services
Andra Turner ‘19, FiCycle
Saumya Umashankar ‘19, UCSF Breast Care Center
Lena Volpe ‘19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital
Tianyi Wang ‘19, UCSF Breast Care Center
Shani Williams ‘19, Quartet Health
Téa Wimer ‘19, Free Spirit Media
Evelyn Wu ‘19, Reach Out and Read
Project 55 Fellowship Program Staff

Program Staff are Princeton AlumniCorps employees who coordinate the recruitment and application process for the Project 55 Fellowship program. They design, evaluate, and amend the program each year, ensuring that it accomplishes AlumniCorps’ mission of mobilizing people, organizations, and networks for the public good.

Kef Kasdin, President and Executive Director

Kef Kasdin is Executive Director of Princeton AlumniCorps. She began working with AlumniCorps as a volunteer in 2010 when she piloted and led the expansion of AlumniCorps’ ARC Innovators program, which provides opportunities for experienced professionals to do meaningful pro bono projects in the nonprofit sector. She oversaw the expansion of the program from a pilot in New Jersey to operations in New York, D.C., and New Jersey as well as a doubling of the number of ARC Innovator annual projects. Kef joined the Board in 2012 and became active in all of AlumniCorps’ programming. She was instrumental in developing two strategic plans for the organization, including the most recent plan approved in February 2017. That plan recognizes AlumniCorps as a network of about 2000 program alumni, 500 organizations, and 200 volunteers. AlumniCorps seeks to mobilize that network for the public good while also enhancing and expanding current programs and launching a Bold Idea – a deep dive into a topical social issue that will provide opportunities for collaboration across the AlumniCorps network to effect key policy or other systemic changes.

In addition to her AlumniCorps responsibilities, Kef is Board Chair at Rachel’s Network, a vibrant community of women at the intersection of environmental advocacy, philanthropy and women’s leadership. In that capacity, she advises the President and works closely with the staff, board, and members on implementing Rachel’s Network’s strategic plan calling for collective action on key environmental issues as well as progress on women’s leadership. Kef has previously served on other nonprofit boards in leadership roles, including Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Greater Mercer County and Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Kef also created and has taught the introductory “Foundations of Entrepreneurship” course at Princeton University, where she mentored 50 Princeton undergraduates per semester, inspiring them to launch innovations that can create value and make a difference in the world. Earlier in her career, Kef held senior leadership roles at 3Com Corporation, a data networking company, including general manager of a $1 billion division. She became a technology-startup consultant in the late 1990s, a venture capitalist in 2000 and a founding general partner of Battelle Ventures, where from 2003 to 2015 she led the firm’s investments in clean energy and started several companies based on U.S. Department of Energy Lab technologies.

Kef holds a B.S.E degree in operations research from Princeton University, with a certificate in science and policy from the Woodrow Wilson School, and an MBA from the Graduate School of Business, Stanford University.
Caryn T omljanovich, Director of Programs and Strategy

Caryn joined Princeton AlumniCorps in November 2013 and focuses on growing and strengthening AlumniCorps programs across the country. Prior to joining AlumniCorps she worked for both the Hunterdon Land Trust and the Hunterdon Art Museum as Director of Development. At both organizations, she was responsible for grant writing, event planning, direct appeals, and major donor strategies. She previously helped start the Upstate Institute at Colgate University working with faculty and administrators to develop the Institute’s strategic plan and structure their summer fellowship program. Her work there involved connecting students and faculty with civic engagement projects in the Central New York region, and working with nonprofits throughout the region on their strategic plans. Prior to the Upstate Institute, Caryn worked for the Partnership for Community Development where she focused on downtown and small business development in Hamilton, NY. She also spent time teaching adult micro-enterprise classes throughout the beautiful Finger Lakes region of NY and managing a microfinance revolving loan fund while at Worker Ownership Resource Center (WORC). Caryn applied her expertise to develop and teach online undergraduate and graduate level grant writing classes for Excelsior College. During her career, she has developed and helped implement strategic plans for a variety of nonprofit organizations in multiple sectors.

She earned a BA in Economics from Connecticut College and a Masters in Public Policy with a focus in Community Development from Rockefeller College at SUNY Albany. She has also completed a certificate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from Cornell University.

Soraia Francisco, Program Associate

Soraia Francisco is a proud queer dog mama and cancer survivor. Born in Portugal, she migrated to the United States with her family, graduated from Rutgers University as a first generation college student, and then traveled to multiple U.S. cities as a two-term serving AmeriCorps member. During Soraia’s service terms, they provided relief and long term-recovery for natural disaster survivors, college readiness tutoring for underserved students, and various community oriented service projects. After their last service term, Soraia found a new home in the Pacific Northwest; there they spent four years building relationships with and serving youth as a School Outreach Coordinator for Communities In Schools. In 2016, they were diagnosed with stage three colorectal cancer and underwent treatment in Seattle. Soraia, cancer-free, resumed their graduate degree program in Human Sexuality Education; they became invested in pursuing transformative sexology as a student and emerging professional in the human sexuality field. She joined Princeton AlumniCorps in 2018 as a Program Associate and loves working with such a dedicated, justice-oriented and fun team.
Bay Area (San Francisco and Oakland)

This year, six Fellows will be working at three different partner organizations in the Bay Area. Organizations include UCSF, AltSchool, and Lighthouse Community Public School. Area Committee Chair for the 2019-20 program year is Michele Fort ’10.

Ruby Guo ’19, UCSF Breast Cancer Center

Ruby Guo is from the Jersey Shore and has always been fascinated by science; she attended a pre-engineering STEM high school and went on to study Molecular Biology at Princeton. She also earned two minors — one in Global Health & Health Policy, and another in Urban Studies — that reflects the intersection of her interests in medicine, research, and public policy. At Princeton, she served as Class Senator for three years; Co-Director of Camp Kesem Princeton, an organization that supports children through and beyond their parent’s cancer; and a Breakout Trip Leader to New York City to explore inequalities in access to cancer healthcare. She has conducted laboratory cancer research at Princeton and Memorial Sloan Kettering, and is excited to continue this work as a clinical research coordinator at the UCSF Breast Cancer Center. In her free time, she enjoys running, writing poetry, watercolor painting, and mentoring others.

Anna Maritz ’18, Lighthouse Community Public School

Anna Maritz is from Vail, Colorado. She majored in Religion with a focus on Buddhist Studies in America. Anna recently completed her teaching certification in Social Studies for Secondary Education after student teaching at Trenton Central High School through Princeton’s Teacher Preparation Program. She hopes to combine her interests in religious studies and education by incorporating mindfulness into her teaching practice. Anna has previously taught in the Bay Area through Summerbridge of Breakthrough Collaborative, a summer enrichment program for middle schoolers from under-resourced backgrounds. She is excited to return to the Bay Area as a Middle School Humanities Teacher at Lighthouse Community Public School in Oakland.

Alexandra ‘Ally’ Markovich ’17, Lighthouse Community Public School

Ally Markovich was born in Odessa, Ukraine and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. After working in an underserved school for a year after graduation, Ally became committed to educational equity and to reimagining traditional education. Next year, she will work as an English teacher at Lighthouse Community Public School in Oakland, CA, where she is excited to grow in her teaching practice and learn from her students. At Lighthouse, she hopes to learn more about project-based learning and restorative justice. Ally loves running, creative non-fiction, rock-climbing, podcasts, and vegetables.
Charlotte Reynders ’19, AltSchool Growth Analyst

Charlotte Reynders grew up on the North Shore of Boston, Massachusetts. At Princeton, she studied Art History and completed certificates in French, European Cultural Studies, and Humanistic Studies. While she has prioritized interdisciplinary studies in the humanities throughout her academic career, she has centered her extracurricular involvements on the theme of educational access. For example, at Princeton, she participated in a student volunteer group called LEAP (Learning Enrichment in the Arts Program), which facilitates educational arts and crafts workshops for children in Trenton. In her junior and senior years, she served as a co-leader for Princeton’s branch of Matriculate, a virtual college advising non-profit that aims to support high-achieving, low-income high school students through the college process. She looks forward to continuing her exploration of education and access next year by serving as a Growth Analyst at AltSchool in San Francisco. In her free time, she enjoys visiting museums, baking, and kayaking/paddleboarding.

Saumya Umashankar ’19, UCSF Breast Care Center

Saumya Umashankar is from New Delhi, India. At Princeton, she majored in Chemistry with a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy. Saumya’s interests lie at the intersection of strong clinical skills, research, and education guided by a strong people-focus; she is very excited to pursue them at the UCSF Breast Care Center. These interests developed in large part due to her work with Operation Asha in India throughout high school and summers in college, which helped provide last-mile tuberculosis treatment. Saumya’s most rewarding experiences at Princeton have been responding to calls with the Princeton First Aid and Rescue Squad as a volunteer EMT and Rescue Technician and working on community health education as a CPR and First Aid Instructor. She was also an Undergraduate TA for Organic Chemistry, a Head Tutor at the McGraw Center, a volunteer with Health in Princeton Schools, a volunteer at the Emergency Department at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center and a Community Action Leader for 2 years. Saumya is a classically trained Bharatnatyam dancer and enjoys dancing, watching dance and music shows, experimenting with food, and baking.

Tianyi Wang ’19, UCSF Breast Cancer Care Center

Tianyi Wang hails from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, but considers Bronx, New York her first hometown, where she lived until the age of 10. Born in Japan, but a child of Chinese immigrants, it is safe to say that she traveled more in her first two years of life than the next seven. She majored in the Woodrow Wilson School with a minor in Global and Public Health. She has had an undying romance with medicine for as long as she could remember, and is particularly interested in health disparities and medical humanities. Her volunteer work in hospice has also fueled an interest in end-of-life and palliative care, intangible sides of medicine that are often undervalued in modern practice. Tianyi loves to get to know a new city through runs, and is always on the look out for new routes. She is excited to explore the city and terrain of San Francisco next year, where she will be a Fellow at the UCSF Breast Cancer Care Center.
Boston

This year, four Fellows will be working at one partner organizations in Boston, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital. Area Committee Chair for the 2019-20 program year is Caitlin Sullivan '07.

Carson Clay ’19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital

Carson Clay is from Raleigh, North Carolina. She is interested in the interaction between medicine, research, and policy. At Princeton, she majored in the Woodrow Wilson School and minored in Global Health. Carson is excited to conduct research as a Fellow at EMNet, where she hopes to gain clinical research experience and learn from the incredible people at Mass General Hospital.

Marina Latif ’19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital

Marina Latif is from Wood-Ridge, New Jersey. At Princeton, she majored in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, where her research focused on communication among cells in the immune system. She also received a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy, as she has always had a strong interest in healthcare and pursuing a career in medicine. On campus, she has served as a hospice volunteer and co-director for Camp Kesem Princeton, a free summer camp for children in the Princeton area whose parents have or had cancer. She has also enjoyed writing and editing as former Chief Copy Editor for the Daily Princetonian. She is excited to join EMNet’s clinical research team in the coming year.

Ashley Stone ’19 EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital

Ashley Stone is from Kyoto, Japan. At Princeton, she majored in Molecular Biology and participated in laboratory research for all four years. She took many courses in global and public health which inspired her to pursue medicine. She volunteered with the Emergency Department at Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center, Ascend Hospice, and Big Sibs in addition to studying Korean and playing ultimate frisbee. As an aspiring physician, she is excited about participating in clinical research at EMNet. In her free time, Ashley enjoys running and cooking.

Lena Volpe ’19, EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital

Lena Volpe is from Winnetka, Illinois. She is the daughter of two doctors who inspired in her an interest in biology and medicine, and is particularly interested in the role nutrition plays in infection and preventing disease. At Princeton, she majored in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. On campus, she performed with the Princeton Triangle Club, the Princeton University Players, and the Princeton Tigressions. She was also a part of Girl Up and a volunteer for the CONTACT Crisis Hotline. She is ecstatic to be a Clinical Research Coordinator at EMNet at Massachusetts General Hospital this coming year, where she hopes to contribute to meaningful clinical research and learn more about the development of asthma in children.
Chicago

This year, nine Fellows will be working at eight different partner organizations in Chicago. Organizations include: Free Spirit Media, North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN), Sinai Community Institute, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services, New Markets Support Company, Carole Robertson Center for Learning, Great Lakes Academy, and Illinois State Board of Education. Area Committee Chair for the 2019-20 program year is Virginia Midkiff ’14.

Jasmeene Burton ’19, Illinois State Board of Education

Originally from Southern California, Jasmeene Burton sought adventure and a colder climate when she first came to Princeton University. This being her first big venture from home, she found many new adventures and experimental experiences, including delving into a cappella and musical theater during her time on campus. Having been an athlete pursuing pre-Med and chemistry in high school, Jasmeene found that she not only had a passion for working with people (which inspired her to change her major to Sociology with a certificate in Theater), but she also found that she enjoyed public works projects linking to education and the student experience. She finds joy in creating art that helps audiences to think about inequality and access, and to engage with young people. In her free time, Jasmeene arranges, sings, and occasionally music directs a cappella groups, gospel choirs, and church choirs. She also acts, designs lighting, and choreographs for dance and musical theater groups. She is passionate about her research on educational inequity and access, and relates this to her mentoring and tutoring work. She is excited to explore Chicago next year, where her interests in education, the arts, and the city will collide!

Jessica Goehring ’19, Great Lakes Academy

Jess Goehring was born and raised in Riverside, California—a town known for its oranges and beautiful sunshine. At Princeton, she majored in molecular biology. She found her home on campus through Pace Center programs like Camp Kesem and Community Action. Camp Kesem offers a free week-long summer camp for children whose parents have cancer. Jess has served as both a coordinator and counselor for Princeton’s chapter of the camp, which have both been experiences that have cultivated her love for working with children. She is excited to further grow this passion by serving as an Operations Fellow for the Great Lakes Academy (GLA) in Chicago. Through this experience, she hopes to learn more about the education system in Chicago as well as the unique needs of the community served by GLA.

Rachel Gonzales ’19, Carole Robertson Center for Learning

Rachel Gonzales is from Covina, California. As a concentrator in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs with an emphasis on health and well-being policy, she was able to pursue her interest in the ways that race, socioeconomic status, and immigration status affect health and health care access. During her summers at Princeton, Rachel had the opportunity to intern at an academic enrichment program in Boston and a maternal and child health clinic in Cape Town, South Africa. These experiences ignited her desire to create better opportunities for children to ensure they are well-equipped to grow up and unlock their full potential, and she is excited to do just that at the Carole Robertson Center this year.
Chicago

Alice Maiden ’19, New Markets Support Company

Alice Maiden is from Ocean Township, New Jersey. She majored in Philosophy (in the political track) at Princeton, and minored in Journalism and Humanistic Studies. She loves to travel and meet new people, and spent her summers at Princeton doing journalism classes and independent work around Europe and the Pacific, as well as doing a PICS internship in Philadelphia. She is excited to learn more about Chicago, economics, and policy during her Project 55 Fellowship. She hopes to eventually apply her experience to a career in public service and further education in graduate school.

Alice Mar-Abe ’18, North Lawndale Employment Network

Alice Mar-Abe is from Seattle, Washington. She concentrated in American Politics at Princeton and she spent most of her extracurricular time working with SPEAR (Students for Prison Education and Reform) in her roles as co-president and chair of the post-incarceration committee. Her projects with SPEAR included advocating for Princeton to admit formerly incarcerated students, running a protest against solitary confinement, and organizing the 2017 Conference Toward Abolition: Dismantling the Carceral State. She is also a jazz pianist and has performed with the Princeton University Jazz Ensemble, the Jazz Vocal Collective, and numerous small groups. She is incredibly excited to continue her career in social justice by joining the North Lawndale Employment Network, where she has been learning the skills required to provide effective direct services to the community.

Katherine McClain Fleming ’19, Chicago Volunteer Legal Services

Katherine McClain Fleming is from Brookline, Massachusetts. She is passionate about advocacy at the intersection of gender, race, and poverty, particularly in the realm of reproductive rights. At Princeton, she majored in History with certificates in Gender and Sexuality Studies, American Studies, and Humanistic Studies. She served as president of Princeton Students for Gender Equality and worked on the Student Government Menstrual Products Task Force, successfully advocating for the provision of free pads and tampons in campus bathrooms (to launch in Fall 2019). She was also a volunteer clinic escort at an abortion clinic in Cherry Hill, NJ and a member of Princeton Students for Reproductive Justice. Katherine is thrilled to join the team at Chicago Volunteer Legal Services in their important work of advancing equal access to justice.
Madison Offstein ’19, Sinai Community Institute

Maddie Offstein is from Frostburg, Maryland. She grew up in Appalachia and has always been interested in health disparities in both rural and urban settings. At Princeton, she majored in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and received a Global Health Program certificate. Maddie was vice president of the InsureJersey club on campus and feels passionately about the importance of providing assistance to low income/uninsured communities in navigating available state-subsidized health insurance options. She is also interested in how individuals with disabilities disproportionately experience negative health outcomes and spent the past summer interning at the non-profit, The Center for People with Disabilities in Boulder, CO. She is excited to continue non-profit work at the Sinai Community Institute, where she hopes to learn more about public health issues in urban settings and participate in community-based programs that focus on the social determinants of health. Maddie graduated as a Health Scholar and a three-season varsity athlete in cross country and indoor & outdoor track, receiving First and Second-Team All-Ivy honors her senior year.

Miranda ‘Rae’ Perez ’19, North Lawndale Employment Network

Rae Perez is an aspiring designer committed to using the methods of design to solve complex social problems. At Princeton, she studied Architecture and earned a certificate in Computer Science, yet her interests span across a wide range of disciplines from anthropology to visual arts. She was a member of the Princeton Brazilian Jiu Jitsu club and 2D, a co-op focused on sustainable eating and living. Her thesis was centered around the repurposing of closed schools in Chicago, which is what first drew her to the city and the challenges it faces. Rae is excited to engage with the issue of mass incarceration and gain experience with community-based organizations through her work at the North Lawndale Employment Network.

Téa Wimer ’19, Free Spirit Media

Téa Wimer is from Joppa, Illinois, a small village in southernmost Illinois of 500 people. She was raised by a single mother and is the oldest of four children. Growing up low-income in a mainly blue-collar community on the Bible belt forced Téa to think about the various ways that American Protestantism permeates perceived secular culture and impacts community formation, alongside how it informs attitudes surrounding social issues. At Princeton, Téa majored in Religion, and conducted an ethnography with an LGBTQ+ church on the Atlantic seaboard to investigate the connections between religious community, family formation, and community work through the imagery of God’s body. Téa spent most of her undergraduate career working and volunteering at WPRB, a freeform community radio station housed on Princeton’s campus, which ignited her interest in the radical potentialities of community-supported media. She will continue thinking about democratizing media as she works as a Fellow with Free Spirit Media in the 2019-20 year. Téa is interested in art of all kinds and hopes to strengthen her graphic design & illustration skills in the next year.
New Jersey & Philadelphia

This year, five Fellows* will be working at five different partner organizations in the New Jersey and Philadelphia area. Organizations include: D & R Greenway, Eviction Lab at Princeton University, Princeton Internships In Civic Service (PICS), Princeton University's Teacher Prep Program, and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital. Area Committee chairs for the 2019-20 program year are Melissa Hager and Jean Trujillo ’95.

Nadeem Demian ’19, D&R Greenway Land Trust

Nadeem Demian was born in Amman, Jordan but has lived in Pittsburgh, PA for most of his life. At Princeton, he majored in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and minored in Environmental Studies. Nadeem has been long-interested in questions surrounding health, and how issues of environmental health impact our human health. He has been heavily involved with the Mental Health Initiative Board, Peer Health Advisers, and the Men’s Ultimate Frisbee team. At D&R Greenway, Nadeem will explore possibilities of bringing nature into the doctor’s office in an effort to design an integrated conservation plan for the Princeton area. In his spare time, Nadeem enjoys writing poetry, listening to a wide range of music, relaxing in hammocks, and has recently become involved with maintaining the greenhouse at the Terrace Club.

Jacqueline Dragon ’19, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

Jackie Dragon is from Tenafly, New Jersey. She grew up in a vibrant and diverse town and is fascinated with hearing people’s stories and understanding how medicine and society function and interact. At Princeton, she majored in Chemistry and minored in Global Health and Health Policy, and Ethnographic Studies/Anthropology. Jackie has volunteered extensively with people with disabilities since junior high school, was a residential college adviser for first-year university students, and has conducted research projects in a variety of fields. She is excited to continue working at the nexus of healthcare, technology and communication, and society at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, where she hopes to learn more about the telemedicine and telehealth experience. Jackie is also a musician, an Argentine tango student, and a baking enthusiast.

Renee Louis ’19, Eviction Lab at Princeton University

Renee Louis is originally from Singapore, although she grew up moving between different cities in Southeast Asia. At Princeton, she concentrated in the Sociology department with a certificate in Statistics and Machine Learning. Renee has a passion for traveling, service, and story-telling, and has spent part of her summers doing videography work for community service projects abroad. Her love for telling stories extends to her academic and career aspirations of work in qualitative and quantitative sociological research. She is thrilled to begin this work at the Eviction Lab as a research specialist. The many things Renee loves include sad movies, R programming, Jesus, and spicy food.

*Continuing Fellow, Anna Leader ’18, will be in New Jersey at the Princeton University Program in Teacher Preparation between September and December. She will complete her Fellowship year in Washington, D.C. at Capital Partners for Education. Her bio can be found on page 18.
Mary Kim ’19, Princeton Internships In Civic Service (PICS)

Mary Kim is from Syosset, New York. Mary graduated from Princeton with a B.A. in English with a track in American Literature. Throughout her time at Princeton, Mary was a part of various volunteer groups on campus, including the CONTACT Suicide Hotline, the Petey Greene Tutoring Program, and the Trenton Youth Orchestra, where she served as a founding member. She held multiple leadership positions within the Princeton University Orchestra as the Social Chair in 2017-18 and Co-President in 2018-19. Mary was also a member of the 2018-19 Campus Life Leadership Council, and worked as a Student Intern at the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students (ODUS) from 2016-19. In this 2019-20 fellowship year, Mary will work as the Student Program Coordinator for Princeton Internships in Civic Service, better known as PICS. She looks forward to introducing Princeton undergraduates to opportunities in civic service and hopes to push forward to conversation surrounding the importance of serving under-resourced communities.
New York

This year, seventeen Fellows will be working at fifteen different partner organizations in New York City and Connecticut. Organizations include: Association to Benefit Children, the Bronx RHIO, Coalition for Hispanic Family Services, Emma's Torch, Fairfield County Community Foundation, FiCycle, Housing Development Fund, National Dance Institute, New Alternatives for Children, New York Center for Child Development, Quartet Health, Reach Out and Read, Read Alliance, the Rockefeller Foundation, and Success Academy Charter Schools. Area Committee Chairs for the 2019-20 program year are Andrew Goldstein ’06 and Karena Martin ’15.

Rohana Chase ’19, Coalition for Hispanic Family Services

Rohana is from Northern New Jersey. In her time at Princeton, she majored in History and earned a certificate in Environmental Studies. She is a dedicated musician and played the cello in the Princeton University Orchestra, among other campus ensembles. In addition, she was a staff editor of the Princeton Progressive and a bike mechanic at the University CycLab. As her mother is a Nepali immigrant, Rohana grew up within an extensive diaspora community. Her multicultural upbringing, coupled with her interests in racial and environmental justice, have steered her in the direction of public interest work. She is excited to join the Coalition for Hispanic Family Services this fall.

Shea Copeland ’19, Read Alliance

Shea Copeland was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She is the daughter of Erin Copeland, chief legal officer of an Indian Tribe, and Trent Copeland, a criminal defense attorney and television legal analyst. At Princeton, she ran track her freshman year before pursuing other interests such as becoming Vice President of Administration for her sorority — Pi Beta Phi. She is a sociology major with a niche interest in race and gender related experiences in the workplace. Additionally, she has always had a love for reading and writing which contributed to piquing her interest in the Project 55 Fellowship Program. She is excited to use her passion for developing intellectual growth as a Fellow at the Read Alliance Organization in New York City. She wants to help champion their mission of providing early literacy programs for underserved children as well as promoting youth employment opportunities for the youth tutors in these programs. She looks forward to honing her unique skills in creativity and collaboration to be an effective team member.

Rochelle Forni ’18, New York Center for Child Development

Rochelle Forni is from a small rural town right outside of Austin, Texas and bleeds burnt orange. At Princeton, she majored in Chemical and Biological Engineering with a minor in Engineering Biology. She was heavily involved in Princeton’s Society of Women Engineers, Colonial Club, and HomeFront. Rochelle has volunteered extensively with the young children in her local community, with a particular interest in the importance of early childhood education and health. She is excited to continue working in this area at the New York Center for Child Development. She plans to continue deepening her understanding of the current initiatives in the field of childhood educational psychology and build on the meaningful connections she’s forged with the students and parents she serves. Rochelle is an avid feminist and hopes to continue fighting inequality and gender stereotypes through her work this year.
Edric Huang ’18, Emma’s Torch
As the child of Chinese immigrants, Edric has always thought a lot about issues of migration and diaspora. He hails from Staten Island, New York and is forever grateful for the vibrant diversity that New York City has offered him. At Princeton, Edric majored in Anthropology and received a minor in Creative Writing. For his senior thesis research, Edric volunteered with two humanitarian NGOs in Paris that provided support, “legal, medical, and otherwise,” to over 2,000 refugees living in the streets. This project inspired his interest in refugee issues and his desire to improve humanitarianism such that it better aligns with the complex hopes of refugees across the world. He is excited to continue furthering this interest as a Project 55 Fellow with Emma’s Torch. Edric is also a poet and dancer and strongly believes in the power of art to influence politics.

Katarzyna Kalinowska ’19, The Bronx RHIO
Kasia Kalinowska is from the Bronx and is very excited to go back to the New York City borough she grew up in for her fellowship year. At Princeton, she majored in the History of Science with certificates in Global Health and Ethnographic Studies. Through her academic work, independent research, and various campus and summer jobs, Kasia became interested in exploring the qualitative and quantitative ways states and communities measure and regulate public health and its social determinants. She is excited to further develop her quantitative and community outreach skills while learning how the Bronx RHIO’s electronic health information exchange platform can improve patient care in her community and beyond. Outside her academic and professional work, Kasia was also heavily involved in the theatre and a cappella worlds at Princeton and hopes to maintain and seek out new creative pursuits this year in the city.

Alexandra Kersley ’19, Emma’s Torch
Aly Kersley is from Toronto, Ontario. At Princeton, she concentrated in History and pursued the certificate in Latin American Studies. Her independent work focused on the Brazilian military dictatorship and the transition to democracy. Aly’s academic work has intersected with her deep commitment to immigrant rights. Her senior spring, she was a Refugee Representation Intern at Human Rights First. She is excited to start working as a Fellow at Emma’s Torch this fall!
Ju Young ‘Sally’ Lee ’19, New Alternatives for Children

Sally Lee immigrated at a young age with her family from South Korea to the suburbs of Los Angeles, California. At Princeton, she majored in Molecular Biology. As a 1.5-generation immigrant, raised on the border between two cultures, she was always passionate about bridging the gap between identities, generations, and cultures. She was able to fulfill this passion at Princeton by working as co-president of the Asian American Student Association, holding campus-wide discussions and events regarding various aspects of the Asian-American identity and experience. Sally is dedicated to the intersection of race and medicine, and devoted to helping those in underserved communities attain the care they deserve. During her time at Princeton, she worked as the pre-medical representative of the Korean American Medical Student Association and volunteered at health clinics for the uninsured, while also volunteering in the emergency room and in hospice care. She is excited to further this passion at New Alternatives for Children, where she can deepen her knowledge and understanding of the foster care system and the interdisciplinary care required to serve its vulnerable communities. As an aspiring physician, she hopes to bring these valuable experiences and lessons with her to the medical field.

Isabella ‘Izzy’ Mangan ’19, Association to Benefit Children

Izzy Mangan is from Long Island, New York and is the youngest of four girls. She grew up playing sports and volunteering for a local charity, Every Child’s Dream. Isabella has continued her athletic career playing lacrosse at Princeton. During her time at Princeton, she majored in History and received a certificate in Environmental Studies. She is excited to work as a Project 55 Fellow for the Association to Benefit Children (ABC) because she will have the opportunity to contribute to a cause she believes in. ABC provides early childhood education for at-risk infants, mental health services, crisis intervention, and other services for families in New York. In working with them, Isabella hopes to gain experience in the non-profit sector and learn more about how NGOs operate.

Ariel Monique Fonner ’19 National Dance Institute

Ariel Monique Fonner is originally from Mount Holly, New Jersey, but grew up in Goldsboro, North Carolina. As a child, she was always interested in the arts, particularly dance, and the enriching avenues they can open for students of all ages. At Princeton, she majored in Psychology, finding a deep passion for educational psychology. Ariel has volunteered with multiple literacy promoting programs in the Princeton area. She is eager to join two of her areas of interest as the Program Assistant during her Fellowship year at the National Dance Institute (NDI). Ariel has 19 years of dance experience which she credits with instilling a strong sense of discipline and wonder in her overall life, within and apart from academics. She looks forward to working at NDI and finding areas of their programs to support, and when possible, implement positive change.
New York

Tasnuva ‘Tazz’ Orchi ’19, The Rockefeller Foundation

Tazz Orchi was born in Bangladesh but grew up in Queens, New York City. Tazz is a first generation low-income (FLI) student who is grateful to have been exposed to both diverse people and beliefs in her home borough and at Princeton. At Princeton, Tazz was a student in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and minored in Gender and Sexuality Studies. Tazz was highly involved in the Muslim Students Association (MSA). She served as Social Chair and, later, Vice President. The religious community has played a large role in Tazz’s experience at Princeton especially during her time as a Co-convener for the Religious Life Council. After experiencing the difficulty of being a FLI student at Princeton, Tazz decided to give back by working as a Learning Consultant at McGraw and serving as a Head Fellow for the Scholars Institute Fellows Program (SIFP). Tazz hopes to one day also give back to her community in Bangladesh and do her part to advocate for women’s rights. She is excited to work for the Rockefeller Foundation for her Fellowship year!

Gabriella Pereira Feron ’19, Fairfield County Community Foundation

Gabriella Pereira Feron grew up in a bilingual Portuguese-English household in Silver Spring, Maryland. From a young age she became highly involved in the local Brazilian and Jewish communities, and cultivated various interests, such as language and music. While at Princeton, Gabriella studied Chemistry with a certificate in Portuguese Language and Culture. Outside of classes, she was a dedicated tutor at the Princeton Writing Center, an officer at Quadrangle Club, and sang in two a cappella groups: Acapellago and Koleinu. Gabriella looks forward to joining the Fairfield County Community Foundation team as the Data Analyst fellow, where she hopes to continue to combine her love of science with a passion for communication.

India Rogers-Shepp ’18, Housing Development Fund

India Rogers-Shepp is from New York City. She is driven by the desire to ensure that people have spaces and language in which they can discuss and learn about stigmatized bodies and their health. Her classes at Princeton and Brown taught her how to explore the intersection between biology and the social and historical aspects of health and health care. India sees her position at the Housing Development Fund as the perfect place to explore the connection between housing justice and health outcomes. She is excited to bring her inquisitive and compassionate nature with her as she starts work as a development assistant. In her downtime, India is also a dancer and choreographer.
New York

Theodore Tamayo ’19, Success Academy Charter Schools

Theo Tamayo is from Boston, Massachusetts. The son of a Colombian-American father and a Jewish-American mother, he grew up committed to the idea that diversity of backgrounds and beliefs contribute to the richness of culture and society. At Princeton he studied History and Spanish, focusing on the domestic political developments of the post-World Wars twentieth century and writing his senior thesis on curtailments of the civil liberties of Communists during the period. On campus, Theo was involved with the Princeton Pre-Law Society and the Men’s Club Soccer Team. He also tutored both voluntarily and professionally throughout college, and is very excited to continue his passion for teaching at Success Academy Charter Schools. He hopes to be able to teach his students not only to absorb information, but to question it and draw their own conclusions of what it means by evaluating and criticizing the arguments presented to them.

Rachel Todd ’19, Coalition for Hispanic Family Services

Rachel Todd is from Blairsville, Georgia. She is the child of a Filipina immigrant and a homegrown Georgia native. She is a pre-medical student who is interested in different forms of medicine and how to best integrate these ideas, along with collaborations with community organizations, to create an effective support network for each of her future patients. At Princeton, she majored in Spanish, minored in Latin American Studies, and continued her piano studies via private lessons through Princeton’s Music Department. She worked as an undergraduate TA for the organic chemistry classes and volunteered in Trenton teaching English Language Learner (ELL) courses. She is excited to continue working with Latinos as a Fellow at the Coalition for Hispanic Family Service, where she hopes to learn how community organizations successfully design initiatives and collaborate with other community-based entities. She hopes to take the lessons learned during this Fellowship to her future career when she begins her medical studies in Fall 2020.

Andra Turner ’19, FiCycle

Andra Turner is from Evans, Colorado. She comes from a large family of five children, and has three nieces and nephews. Andra loves music, art, the outdoors, and she has many other interests, as well. At Princeton, she majored in Politics and focused her independent work on the intersection of faith and politics. She was deeply involved in her faith community, and spent her time in various other roles on campus, including managing the campus ceramics studio. Andra will be working as a fellow at FiCycle, where she will have the opportunity to step into new environments and responsibilities at the small organization. She is excited to learn more as a Project 55 Fellow, both professionally and personally.
New York

Shani Williams ’19, Quartet Health

Shani Williams is originally from Georgetown, Guyana but moved to the US with her family at the age of 14. At Princeton she majored in French & Sociology, while also completing her pre-medical courses. She has always had an interest in helping others and giving back to her community, and aims to enrich herself by learning as much as possible about how social dynamics and policies affect health. As a result, she has committed herself to learning various languages (currently French and Spanish), interacting with individuals from diverse backgrounds, and learning more about the policies created to address the nation’s growing mental health dilemma. Finally, she is excited to join Quartet Health and assist in bridging the gap between mental and physical healthcare to ensure that patients receive effective and efficient care.

Evelyn Wu ’19, Reach Out and Read

Evelyn Wu is from Princeton, New Jersey. At Princeton, she majored in Molecular Biology and minored in Global Health and Health Policy. She has a strong interest in infectious diseases and conducted her senior thesis research in a virology lab. Outside of academics, Evelyn played the violin in the Princeton University Orchestra and led the Orientation Leader Program as a co-chair for two years. Additionally, she served as a hospice volunteer, spending time with patients at assisted living centers, and volunteered with Health in Princeton Schools, where she had the opportunity to help an elementary school nurse teach health classes. She is excited to continue to serve and develop relationships with communities as the Regional Program Coordinator at Reach Out and Read in New York. She has always loved working with kids and is looking forward to supporting children through her work in the upcoming year. In her free time she enjoys cooking, running, and spending time with her friends.
Andrew Brazer ’19, Blue Star Families

Drew Brazer is from Simsbury, Connecticut. At Princeton, he concentrated in Politics, specializing in American constitutional theory, and minored in Italian as well as History & the Practice of Diplomacy. For his independent work, Drew studied how the U.S. constitutional system of checks and balances has been undermined since the Framing (1789). In his free time, Drew tutored Italian, was a leader for Princeton Faith & Action (a Christian ministry on campus), and volunteered as a student tour guide at the Princeton University Art Museum. He enjoys running, reading, drumming, and chatting with friends. Having worked for the U.S. Senate during the summer of his sophomore year, Drew is excited to return to D.C. and gain further experience in the world of federal policymaking as the Policy and Development Fellow at Blue Star Families.

Connor Bridges ’19, PeerForward

Connor Bridges is from London, England. At Princeton, he majored in Operations Research and Financial Engineering with a certificate in Applications of Computing. On campus, he has volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters for several years and undertaken roles as a Peer Academic Advisor, a Peer Health Advisor, and as a BSE Interactor. He also been a member of both the Men’s Heavyweight Crew team and the Men’s Rugby team. As a first-generation college student, Connor is excited to work with PeerForward and help guide other first-generation, low-income students to college.

MacLean Collins ’19, Capital Partners for Education

MacLean Collins is from Princeton, New Jersey. She grew up playing soccer and running cross country, as well as drawing and painting from a young age. At Princeton, she majored in the Practice of Art under Art and Archaeology. She was involved in various groups, such as Fuzzy Dice Improv Comedy, Princeton Christian Fellowship, and Princeton Presbyterians. She was also a residential college advisor for Rockefeller College. She has taught English to students in Myanmar and art to students in Boston. At Capital Partners for Education, she will serve as Program Coordinator and she is very excited to meet the student mentees and mentors in the program. In the long term she hopes to go to graduate school and become a psychotherapist.
Kenya Holland ’18, Partners for the Common Good

Kenya Holland is from Stafford, Virginia, a suburb outside of Washington, D.C. She is the third of four children and was raised in a racially and socioeconomically diverse community. From her earliest years, Kenya demonstrated a propensity for artistic, academic, and athletic achievement. Her parents were highly engaged in their local church and community and spent countless hours serving those in need. This is the environment that cultivated a heartfelt desire in Kenya to commit to a career in which she can inspire others to overachieve educationally and socially, and help ensure that they have access to all the opportunities required to reach their full potential. At Princeton, she majored in Sociology and played for the Varsity Women’s Basketball Team. Last year she worked as a Project 55 Fellow with AltSchool in New York City; now she is excited to further her interests as a Fellow at Partners for the Common Good.

Sydney Jordan ’19, Partners for the Common Good

Sydney Jordan is a philosophy major from Manassas, VA. Her thesis discusses the intersection of free speech and corporate social responsibility given cultural trends like the increasing popularity of social media and growing emphasis on socially conscious capitalism. At Princeton she played on the Varsity Women’s Basketball team, winning Ivy League championships in both her junior and senior year. She also served as Chair of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) Diversity & Equity Committee and as a representative of Cannon Dial Elm Eating Club on the Inter-Club Community Service Council. Through these positions; her summer experiences studying abroad in Berlin; and working for the nonprofit LIFT through the Princeton Internships in Civic Service (PICS) program, Sydney learned a lot about the struggles low-income families face and how innovative programs can address them, both at home and abroad. She also developed a deep commitment to pursuing a career in civic service. Sydney is excited to continue helping underserved communities access the resources and opportunities they deserve.

Anna Leader ’18, Capital Partners for Education

Anna Leader grew up in Luxembourg with a passion for languages that led her to major in Comparative Literature at Princeton University. After graduating in 2018, she completed a one-year Project 55 Fellowship at Capital Partners for Education (CPE) in Washington, D.C. As a CPE Program Coordinator, Anna managed a caseload of 60 high schoolers and worked on college access and educational equity issues. Anna will complete her student teaching semester at Princeton High School in the fall of 2019, becoming certified as an English teacher, before returning to her work at CPE as a continuing Project 55 Fellow. In her free time, she loves to read and to write poetry, fiction, and plays.
Washington, D.C.

Kieran Murphy ’19, Partners for the Common Good

Kieran Murphy is from Fruitland, Maryland. At Princeton, he majored in Politics with a concentration in International Relations. His main interests are migration, human rights, and combating crimes against humanity. On campus, Kieran was involved with Shere Khan a cappella, Princeton University Rock Ensemble, and Princeton University Players. He was also a Community Action leader and Peer Academic Advisor. He is looking forward to fighting for equality of opportunity with Partners for the Common Good, where he hopes to learn about the inner workings of non-profit organizations.

Victoria Navarro ’18, PeerForward

Victoria Navarro grew up along the U.S.-Mexico border, in El Paso, TX. She is the child of Mexican immigrants, and was raised surrounded by a blend of music, food, and languages from both cultures. At Princeton, Victoria majored in Spanish and Portuguese, with a certificate in Latin America Studies. In her academics, she has studied contemporary art and literature in Latin America to see the different ways these mediums are used to speak on violence, gender, race, and class. Outside of the classroom, she has been involved in dance and spoken word poetry groups on campus. She is passionate about college access for low-income/first-generation students, being that she is from that community as well, and is excited to continue this work at PeerForward this upcoming year.

Sarah Pacilio ’19, Appleseed

Sarah Pacilio is a Politics major from Sackets Harbor, New York. She has always valued community engagement and working toward social change, and she is looking forward to working for an organization that shares these goals. Previously, Sarah has interned with Minority Leader Chuck Schumer on Capitol Hill as well as with a refugee resource center in Central New York where she designed an English Language Learner (ELL) course for newly arriving refugees. Sarah is excited to continue this work in the position of Network Associate at Appleseed in Washington D.C. She hopes to learn extensively about the work of a national NGO and help the organization achieve its goals of connecting non-profit organizations in a variety of fields to pro bono lawyers.
2019-20 Partner Organizations

We encourage you to learn more about the partner organizations that will be hosting Project 55 Fellows for the 2019 - 20 program year.

ALT School
Appleseed
Association to Benefit Children (ABC)
Blue Star Families
Bronx Rhio
Capital Partners for Education
Carole Robertson Center for Learning
Chicago Volunteer Legal Services
Coalition For Hispanic Family Services
D & R Greenway
Emma's Torch
Emergency Medicine Network (EMNet) at Massachusetts General Hospital
Eviction Lab at Princeton University
Fairfield County Community Foundation
FiCycle
Free Spirit Media
Great Lakes Academy
Housing Development Fund
Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
Lighthouse Community Charter School
National Dance Institute
New Alternatives for Children
New Markets Support
New York Center for Child Development
North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN)
Partners for the Common Good
Peer Forward
Princeton Internships In Civic Service (PICS)
Princeton University Program in Teacher Preparation
Quartet Health
Reach Out and Read
Read Alliance
Rockefeller Foundation
Sinai Community Institute
Success Academies Charter Schools
Thomas Jefferson Health
UCSF Carol Franc Buck Breast Care Center
The mission of Princeton AlumniCorps is to mobilize people, organizations, and networks for the public good.


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