

## Web Appendix A:

### Relational Engagement Partners: Youth Social Entrepreneurs

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Website</b>
W-1 Aakriti Agrawal	Girls Code Lincoln	<a href="https://girlscodelincoln.com/">https://girlscodelincoln.com/</a>
W-2 Russell Agustin	Sole2Soul	<a href="https://sole2soul.xyz/">https://sole2soul.xyz/</a>
W-3 Jean Black	Black Camera Productions	<a href="https://unitedrootsoakland.org/meet-the-fellows-jean-black-black-camera-productions/">https://unitedrootsoakland.org/meet-the-fellows-jean-black-black-camera-productions/</a>
W-4 Alexandria Brady-Mine	The Human Projects	<a href="https://www.thehumanprojects.com/">https://www.thehumanprojects.com/</a>
W-5 JI Cruz	Aceleradora de Cooperativas Eléctricas de Puerto Rico	<a href="https://www.acepr.org/">https://www.acepr.org/</a>
W-6 Riley Damiano	Blue Lollipop Project	<a href="http://www.childrensbraintumorproject.org/dosomething/rileys-blue-lollipops/">http://www.childrensbraintumorproject.org/dosomething/rileys-blue-lollipops/</a>
W-7 Jaden Deal	Iowa Student Learning Institute	<a href="https://www.iowasli.org/">https://www.iowasli.org/</a>
W-8 Katie Eder	Future Coalition	<a href="https://futurecoalition.org/">https://futurecoalition.org/</a>
W-9 Alex Francke	Adopt An Art	<a href="https://www.adoptanart.org/">https://www.adoptanart.org/</a>
W-10 Adam Friedman	Team Enough	<a href="https://www.teamenough.org/">https://www.teamenough.org/</a>
W-11 Natalie Hampton	Sit with Us	<a href="https://sitwithus.io/#!/Home">https://sitwithus.io/#!/Home</a>
W-12 Merrit Jones	Student Voice	<a href="https://www.stuvoice.org/">https://www.stuvoice.org/</a>
W-13 Chanice Lee	Young Revolutionary	<a href="https://chanicelee.com/">https://chanicelee.com/</a>
W-14 Lily Levin	Triangle People Power	<a href="https://www.tripeoplepower.org/">https://www.tripeoplepower.org/</a>
W-15 Dani Miller	MoCo for Change	<a href="https://www.mocoforchange.org/meet-the-team-1">https://www.mocoforchange.org/meet-the-team-1</a>
W-16 Sara Miller	SODA Student Organ Donations Advocates	<a href="https://www.sodanational.org/">https://www.sodanational.org/</a>
W-17 Elijah Nichols	Youth Activism Coalition; Everytown for Gun Safety	<a href="https://everytown.org/">https://everytown.org/</a>
W-18 Briana Spainhour	March for Our Lives	<a href="https://marchforourlives.com/">https://marchforourlives.com/</a>
W-19 Tatiana Washington	50 Miles More	<a href="https://50milesmore.org/">https://50milesmore.org/</a>
W-20 James Wellemeyer	Young Voices	<a href="https://youngvoicestext.org/">https://youngvoicestext.org/</a>



Teaching girls about technology through creativity, community, collaboration, and confidence.



In 2012, Aakriti Agrawal came from India to Nebraska to study at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She graduated with degrees in actuarial science and finance, and then taught herself computer programming. By working in the STEM industry, she saw firsthand the lack of female representation in the field. So, she decided to do something about it. Aakriti co-founded the grassroots nonprofit Girls Code Lincoln to help bridge the gender gap in STEM. Girls Code Lincoln offers weekly coding clubs, free of cost, to provide code education for girls in grades 4 through 9. The volunteer-powered nonprofit focuses on confidence-building and leadership development by partnering with local organizations and individuals to build in-house curriculum. That curriculum, tailored to the students, centers around the tenants of technology, leadership, and life skills. The regular session runs for 12 weeks. For those unable to commit to an entire semester, one-off project-oriented workshops are also available. As of now, Girls Code Lincoln has impacted more than 200 girls across more than 15 multiweek Tech and Leadership Clubs. Of those girls, more than half have participated in the clubs for two semesters or more. Through the efforts of over 50 volunteers, including Aakriti herself, Girls Code Lincoln seeks to cement a place for women in the technology industry, and prepare their young participants for bright futures.



Contact:  
Aakriti Agrawal  
Co-Founder, Girls Code Lincoln  
[aakriti@girlscodelincoln.com](mailto:aakriti@girlscodelincoln.com)  
[www.girlscodelincoln.com](http://www.girlscodelincoln.com)





Contact:  
Russell Agustin  
CEO & Founder  
[s2sbayarea@gmail.com](mailto:s2sbayarea@gmail.com)  
[www.sole2soul.xyz](http://www.sole2soul.xyz)



Russell Agustin and his siblings run Sole2Soul with one goal in mind: to bring people and planet together. Agustin is a high school senior in Union City, California, and serves as both founder and CEO of Sole2Soul. Agustin's plan is to highlight the importance of community while emphasizing the necessity of sustainability. Originally from the Bay Area, Agustin is currently a junior in high school. He participates in Cross Country and Track & Field, and it is that intimacy with athletics that helped inspire Sole2Soul. The non-profit works to provide athletic shoes to low-income youths and communities. Any school, coach, student, or organization can contact Sole2Soul, and the non-profit will work to help provide them with the necessary equipment. Shoes can be donated directly to Sole2Soul, or monetary donations can be made to support the mission. Once Sole2Soul has the resources to support a low-income community, it works doubly to both supply shoes and educate about sustainability. After learning that the U.S. annually wastes one million pounds of material per person, Agustin wanted to draw attention to the fragility of the environment through his altruistic non-profit. Therefore, Sole2Soul uses the recycled and re-used shoes as a platform to educate the recipients about sustainability and the importance of nurturing the environment. Sole2Soul exists in the space between sustainability and community, and Agustin is confident that the non-profit can and will make a difference. In Sole2Soul's two-year lifespan, the non-profit has already reached out and supported the youth of communities in Kenya, the Philippines, and more. Future shipments will be distributed to Oakland, California, Mexico, Thailand, and India. Just as his non-profit is expanding, so too is Agustin. He is in his second consecutive term as Associated Student Body President of his high school, he is the two-time CEO of his Marketing and Management class, and he's a varsity athlete. What's more, he's a T-Mobile and Ashoka Changemaker in the rising *YouthInCharge* movement.





# BLACK CAMERA PRODUCTIONS

JEAN BLACK

FOUNDER

FILMIVIST



As a filmmaker and activist, Jean Black has always been able to express herself through storytelling. As her proclivity for the visual arts developed, it merged with her desire to help others and her belief in the power of community. From that marriage, Black Camera Productions (BCP) was born. BCP lives in the space between community and impactful film, and responsibly uses media like film and video to promote solutions and positive change in the places it's needed the most. By creating a visual and, necessarily, visible creation, BCP seeks to counter the negative and harmful representations of certain aspects of life, instead transforming lived experiences into art that uplifts and empowers communities. To empower those communities, BCP first works with them. It offers media skills training workshops for young people, so that they might find a way to express themselves through art while simultaneously highlighting problems and solutions within their communities. Among other things, BCP uses media to address mental health, community involvement, and housing insecurity in the hopes of uplifting communities and teaching and encouraging their youth to build a better future. Jean Black was inspired to found BCP after realizing that filmmaking was a way to apply her creative side to social issues. Through her films and those created through BCP, she hopes to hold up a mirror to society as way to create solution from conflict. By showing real life and encouraging human connection, Jean Black and her Black Camera Productions help viewers see and experience the issues on film. By creating a meaningful viewing experience instead of simply telling audiences how to feel, the films offer different perspectives on the human condition and foster connection.

### **Mission:**

Empowering young leaders to solve human rights issues in their own communities.



### **We Believe:**

In supporting solutions led by young people living in the communities they serve.

The Human Projects is a global nonprofit, and it knows the power of young people. So much so that its Founder and current Executive Director, Alexandria Brady-Miné, was only six when she founded her first community project. Now nineteen, Brady-Miné empowers young leaders across the world to inspire youth driven, community focused change. She speaks about the importance of youth leadership in global human rights, and spends her free time mentoring young leaders and advocating for meaningful Gen Z involvement in human rights. And, of course, she heads the Human Projects. Centering on human rights, the Human Projects seeks to educate and support young people around the world so they can address and solve the human rights issues in their own communities. Over the past two years, the Human Project has impacted over 27,000 people across 24 countries. To help cement their mission, the Human Projects offers fellowship programs, pilot programs designed around empowerment and education, and clubs which encourage the creation of grassroots projects at local levels. The initiative provides educational materials to classrooms around the world, and is currently piloting a new program – Young Human Rights Changemakers – to bring the Human Projects’ model of youth-led change to classrooms around the globe. The Human Projects believes that youth leadership is the key to global human rights. By utilizing that key, the nonprofit seeks to amplify the power of young people to transform communities and change the world.



### **Contact:**

Alexandria Brady-Miné | Founder, Executive Director  
[alexandria@thehumanprojects.com](mailto:alexandria@thehumanprojects.com) | [www.thehumanprojects.com](http://www.thehumanprojects.com)





**ACE PR**

# Aceleradora de Cooperativas Eléctricas

PUERTO RICO

**New Grids.  
New Power.**

J. I. Cruz is a young entrepreneur who co-founded ACE PR (Aceleradora de Cooperativas Eléctricas, Puerto Rico), a not-for-profit social initiative based in Puerto Rico. ACE PR seeks to empower communities by, literally, powering them. The social enterprise supports community leadership with the resources, financing, and knowledge necessary for their endeavors to begin electric cooperatives, both developmentally and operationally. ACE PR understands that the value of electric utility companies goes beyond providing energy. The cooperatives also drive the economies of their communities by partnering with local municipalities and cooperatives. ACE PR provides a step-based process to help secure the industry-best techniques and equitable financing necessary for developing renewable energy microgrid cooperatives. Through this process, and through the tireless efforts of the Changemakers like Cruz who drive it, ACE PR seeks to create new grids and new power to light up communities throughout Puerto Rico. But Cruz isn't stopping at ACE PR. Recognizing the power of the church to mobilize large communities, Cruz has facilitated an environmental campaign to help transition 600 churches and faith-based institutions to resilient renewable energy infrastructure. Cruz is passionate about the natural world, and he's helping improve Puerto Rico's relationship with it, one microgrid at a time.



Contact:

J.I. Cruz

Co-Founder,  
Operations &  
Partnerships

[ji@acepr.org](mailto:ji@acepr.org)

[www.acepr.org](http://www.acepr.org)

[www.jicruz.com](http://www.jicruz.com)





Riley Damiano was inspired by pediatric brain cancer warrior, Ty Louis Campbell, to start The Blue Lollipop Project. Ty loved blue lollipops and, as a nine-year-old who had begun to follow Ty's journey by way of his mom's blog, Riley was able to connect to the simple joy that blue lollipops brought. In Ty's honor, Riley founded The Blue Lollipop Project when she was twelve years old. Now seventeen and a senior at the Wooster School in Danbury, CT, Riley continues to run The Blue Lollipop Project to fund pediatric cancer research and to bring joy to children in hospitals. For every dollar donated to The Blue Lollipop Project, the donor receives a blue lollipop, a child in a hospital receives a blue lollipop, and all the proceeds fund innovative pediatric cancer research through The Ty Louis Campbell Foundation. While direct donations can be made online through [bluelollipop.org](http://bluelollipop.org), many groups have also hosted Blue Lollipop Fundraisers at their schools, offices, and community events. Holding a Blue Lollipop Fundraiser is fun and easy, and allows for a sweet way to raise money and awareness for pediatric cancer research! An informational toolkit and a form to request to hold a fundraiser can be found at [bluelollipop.org](http://bluelollipop.org).

Riley dreams of a day when a pediatric cancer diagnosis does not mean that children lose their chance to experience the simple joys of childhood. The Blue Lollipop Project strives to continue reaching childhood cancer patients throughout the United States and to put a blue smile on their faces, all while funding the necessary research to lead to better treatment options. In addition to pediatric cancer research and awareness, Riley is also passionate about helping other young people find their changemaking passion. She has had multiple opportunities to speak about changemaking, including at #Digital4Good Day with #ICanHelp at Facebook Headquarters, through her TEDEd, and as the Keynote Speaker at the Annual District 7210 Rotary Conference.

### **Contact**

Riley Damiano  
Founder

[thebluelollipopproject@gmail.com](mailto:thebluelollipopproject@gmail.com)  
[bluelollipop.org](http://bluelollipop.org)





# IOWA STUDENT LEARNING INSTITUTE

## Contact:

**Jaden Deal | Board Member | [jadenddeal@iowasli.org](mailto:jadenddeal@iowasli.org) | [www.iowasli.org](http://www.iowasli.org)**

Des Moines, Iowa native Jaden Deal is an activist fueled by passion and caffeine. The first-generation college student—currently enrolled in the Harvard class of 2023—is constantly working to dig deeper into issues of inequality. He advocates extensively for student voice and for the LGBTQ community. Through his advocacy efforts, Deal had added a student representative to his school board, introduced bills to the legislature, and empowered students across the state of Iowa through IowaSLI, a student-led nonprofit. Founded in 2013, the Iowa Student Learning Institute (IowaSLI) has since formed a vast web, connecting thousands of students, teachers, and administrators with a common goal: to give students a voice. IowaSLI is a nonprofit run by students, for students. The nonprofit seeks to revolutionize the state of Iowa's approach to education in order to better serve the needs of the students and better communicate with the desires of the teachers and administrators. Since the student is the most impacted member of any classroom, IowaSLI wants to make the student heard. As such, the nonprofit is promoting student voice across the state of Iowa through Power of Voice teams. These teams work to establish student representatives on school boards in order to implement student voices at a local, school level. They then work with the student representatives to collaborate with the education community and enact change to further their educational experiences. Outside of the local level, IowaSLI hosts Rise and Rally events to spark conversation, draw awareness, and mobilize the passions of the education community and policy-makers at large. By promoting student voice across the state of Iowa, IowaSLI hopes to achieve student representation on at least ten percent of school boards across the state by 2023.



**RISE**



**RALLY**





## VISION

To make the future a better, safer, and more just place for everyone.

Young people are inheriting this world, and it's fallen to them to better it. As such, Changemakers among the youth are ripe and ready for action. As Changemaker Katie Eder says, we are "pick up the ball types. We pick up the ball and run with it." But for so many young people, it's not always clear how to pick up that ball, or where exactly to take it once they start running. Enter Future Coalition. Built for youth activists by youth activists, Future Coalition is a national network which promotes collaboration between youth leaders and youth-led organizations. The youth activists who have developed Future Coalition, like Katie Eder, recognize that young people have the energy, the ideas, and the fire to instigate change in their communities and in the larger world, and Future Coalition helps those Changemakers to make their ideas a functioning reality. Three pillars—community building, future accelerator, and initiatives—support Future Coalition and drive collaboration on resources and ideas.

Katie Eder is 19-years-old, and is the co-founder and Executive Director of Future Coalition. Katie is also a co-founder of 50 Miles More, an organization working to end gun violence in the United States, and Kids Tales, a nonprofit that empowers kids with creative writing. Originally from Wisconsin, Katie is currently taking two gap years before starting at Stanford University in the fall of 2020.

Contact:

Katie Eder, Co-Founder and Executive Director  
[keder14@gmail.com](mailto:keder14@gmail.com)  
[www.futurecoalition.org](http://www.futurecoalition.org)







Kentucky native Alex Francke is a 22-year-old graduate of the University of Kentucky Gatton College of Business and Economics. During her time at university, Francke was involved in DanceBlue, belonged to Alpha Delta Pi, and was an Alumni Ambassador. Francke is involved with the Miss America Scholarship Organization and works on behalf of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture as the spokesperson for Kentucky Proud. Francke recognizes the power of a platform, and she does not intend to waste hers. Awarded the title of Miss Kentucky, 2019, Francke has used that platform to continue work on her private, non-profit organization, Adopt An Art. Francke founded Adopt An Art in 2014 to provide Kentucky public schools and community programs with high quality arts lessons and classes, free of charge. The non-profit celebrates the humanities by engaging children across Central Kentucky in its various disciplines. Adopt An Art centers around the idea that art empowers children, and combats the fact that many children have no access to the arts. The non-profit partners with schools whose arts programs are either dead or dying, and works to revitalize the arts within that community. Volunteers who are passionate about the humanities and dedicated to community building teach a curriculum centered around the arts. Adopt An Art offers curriculum in three disciplines within the humanities: Visual Art, Drama, and Dance. By working to inspire young people through humanities and by offering a creative outlet for them to express themselves, Adopt An Art seeks to serve the new generations and empower them to pursue the arts.



### **Contact:**

Alex Francke, Founder & Director  
[adoptanart@gmail.com](mailto:adoptanart@gmail.com)  
[www.adoptanart.org](http://www.adoptanart.org)

# TEAM ENOUGH

Adam Friedman is a sophomore at George Washington University, where he studies political science. With a background in activism, including organizing activists from over 40 high schools in the Bay Area to take unified action in the wake of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, his involvement in activism has only increased at university. Along with serving as a head peer educator for George Washington University's sexual violence prevention organization, Friedman is also the national lobbying coordinator and an Executive Council Member for Team ENOUGH, a youth-led initiative

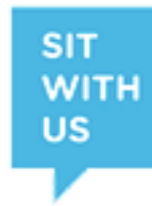


powered by Brady which is fighting to end gun violence by mobilizing young people. His fellows on the Executive Council are diverse, ranging from Parkland survivors and high school students to university activists and movement organizers. But one thing connects all these Changemakers: they are young. Team ENOUGH is driven by young voices, because they recognize the power in America's youth. By educating young people on the issues of gun violence, Team ENOUGH seeks to harness the fresh perspective of youth, as well as their curiosity, motivation, and blunt, unapologetic need for solutions. Team ENOUGH, furthermore, is driven by diversity and intersectionality. The initiative recognizes the amplified threat of gun violence on minorities, women, and the LGBTQ+ community, and seeks to promote understanding of the causes and motives behind those spiked numbers. By monitoring trends and statistics in gun violence, Team ENOUGH offers resources to young people to educate and empower them as they begin Team ENOUGH groups at a local level, thereby expanding the national community of activists. The initiative also provides background on the lifesaving policies that can be changed at a political level, all while offering assistance in voter registration and additional resources to those affected by gun violence. By mobilizing the minds and hearts of America's youth, Team ENOUGH is saying ENOUGH to gun violence.

## Contact

Adam Friedman, Executive Council Member  
[www.teamenough.org](http://www.teamenough.org) | [afriedman@teamenough.org](mailto:afriedman@teamenough.org)





Contact:

Natalie Hampton, Founder/CEO  
[nobodyeatsalone@gmail.com](mailto:nobodyeatsalone@gmail.com)  
[www.sitwithus.io](http://www.sitwithus.io)

L.A.-based Natalie Hampton is an anti-bullying activist, app developer, and the CEO of a non-profit called Sit With Us, Inc. At just 18, Hampton is committed to making change. Where? In school lunch rooms. After experiencing loneliness and bullying after eating lunch alone for most of her seventh-grade year, Hampton wants to ensure that no other student ever has to face that experience.

According to Hampton, “seemingly small, incremental changes in the overall dynamic of a school community can bring about change, so that everyone feels welcome and included.” So, she designed the app “Sit With Us” to help combat exclusion in school communities by offering a spot at the table to kids who have no one to sit with. Students can launch a Sit With Us movement at their school by downloading the app and Welcome Packet, and signing up as an Ambassador. A student designated as an Ambassador invites others to join them by posting an “open lunch” event, which lets any student seeking a table know that they’re welcome to join the Ambassador’s table. Hampton developed the app with those isolated students in mind, and therefore most of the initial interaction takes place through the app itself. “It’s private,” says Hampton. “It’s through the phone. No one has to know.” No one is publicly rejected, no one has to open themselves up to vulnerability and bullying, and everyone comes out happy. Hampton hopes that with Sit With Us, no one will ever feel left out again.





# Student Voice

Contact: Merrit Jones  
Executive Director  
[merrit@stuvoice.org](mailto:merrit@stuvoice.org)  
[www.stuvoice.org](http://www.stuvoice.org)

## VISION

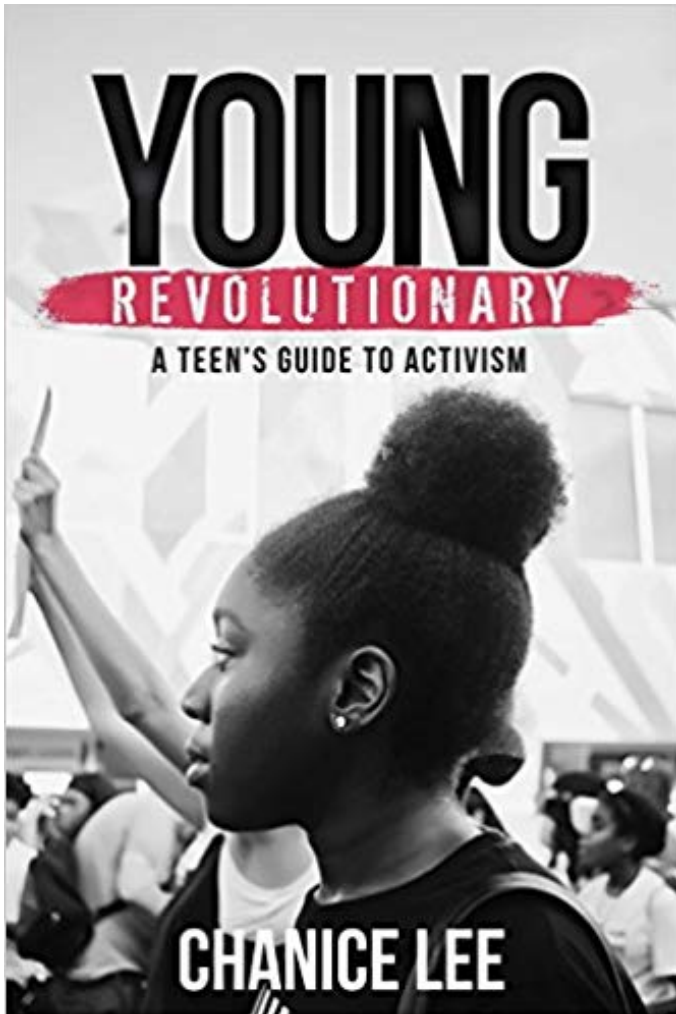
To identify student-centric and student-created solutions to address the systemic inequity in the American education system.

Student Voice sees the inequity in the American education system, and is doing something about it. Instead of waging war on the system, however, Student Voice has become a movement meant to empower the basic building block of education: the student. Student Voice, aptly named, seeks to provide a voice to those who are smothered by the system, specifically to socioeconomically disadvantaged students and school districts. Since the issues that affect the students are as varied as the students themselves, Student Voice goes to the grassroots. By offering chapters, ambassador opportunities, and journalism fellowships, Student Voice has become a community of students across the U.S., manifested in local student groups and schools. Together, the Student Voice community is empowering students to hold educational institutions accountable as partners in shaping their educations and foundational experiences.

Merrit Jones is a third-year studying at UNC-CH and Duke through the Robertson Scholarship Program. She serves as the Executive Director of Student Voice, a national student-led nonprofit organization that is working to make sure students have a more powerful voice in order to combat the systemic inequity in education. She joined the Student Voice team after having founded Student Space when she noticed disparities among South Carolina schools and the lack of students in the conversation around how to improve them.







Chanice Lee is a teen activist, author, and speaker. She recognizes the power of young voices, and understands their potential for changemaking. Lee herself is a Changemaker through and through, but even she had to start somewhere. And she knows how difficult that can be. So, she wrote *Young Revolutionary* as a guide for restless young teenagers seeking to inspire change in their communities and beyond. Created from a mix of personal experiences and accounts of other teen activists, *Young Revolutionary* is written by teenagers, for teenagers. It supplies the tools, support, and confidence needed to take the next step into changemaking. Teenagers provide the passion and the will, and Lee provides the know-how. From event organizing and raising awareness to reaching out to elected officials, *Young Revolutionary* covers all the bases for rising and established activists. Lee is also the Creator and Editor-in-Chief of “The Melanin Diary,” which is an online global platform for social justice, history, and politics—all written from a black teen’s perspective. Lee founded Florida Changemakers, Inc. as well, which is a nonprofit dedicated to educating, inspiring, and

empowering Florida youth through the annual Florida Changemakers Summit. Lee has also: been a 2017-2018 Teen Advisor for a Girl Up; served on the “Advocate for Youth Young Women of Color for Reproductive Justice Leadership Council”; been a Youth Organizer for Black Lives Matter Broward; been a LEAD Nation Fellow; and been a 2019 Nyah Project Fellow. Lee’s goal is to positively impact the community on a large scale, by bringing awareness to the advocacy programs that she’s involved in. Lee is confident that young people are the engines that have driven movements throughout history, and she’s ready to back today’s youth as they take their place at the forefront.

**Contact:**  
Chanice Lee  
Author

[hello@chanicelee.com](mailto:hello@chanicelee.com)  
[www.chanicelee.com](http://www.chanicelee.com)





Lily Levin, a freshman at Duke University, is passionate about the intersection of social advocacy and narrative-sharing. She believes that crafting and telling stories will help humankind to envision and embody a more just world. Lily is most proud of her founding of and organization efforts for Triangle People Power, the first youth branch of the ACLU's grassroots nonprofit. Additionally, she is a NARAL Campus Leader, a Poor People's Campaign NC Youth Leader, active in social justice groups on campus, and a Student Advisor for the Duke Human Rights Center. She is an avid creative writer, and she recently became an opinion editor for the Duke Chronicle.

Triangle People Power (TPP) is based on the Reverse Triangle model of power, which recognizes the inherent instability of a solo ruler and advocates for the power of the people to uphold order. In that same vein, TPP champions the people and utilizes an intersectional activism to advocate for a variety of civil liberties. TPP is based in North Carolina and, unlike People Power, TPP is youth-run. By maximizing on the power of youth leadership, TPP challenges the systems that limit and repress minorities throughout both North Carolina and the United States. TPP uses a combination of short-term initiatives and long-term agendas to not only achieve change now, but also to build a better future. The organization thrives under that challenge, and advocates for incremental and systemic change that will fulfill its vision. By participating in events such as art auctions and Youth Advocacy Summits and by promoting education and alliances, TPP hopes to create a North Carolina with fewer systemic injustices, tangible plans for equity, and active youth leadership.



***JOIN THE MOVEMENT***

**Contact:**

Lily Levin, Co-Founder | [tripeoplepower@gmail.com](mailto:tripeoplepower@gmail.com) | [www.tripeoplepower.org](http://www.tripeoplepower.org)





A current freshman at Pitzer College, Dani Miller helped plan the March 14<sup>th</sup> walkout to the Capitol Building and has since been working tirelessly to create change. Miller has presented poetry at the opening of the Poor People's Campaign, worked for the David Blair campaign, organized rallies attended by 3,500 people, lobbied members of Congress for common sense gun legislation, and helped register 2,500 young people through a countrywide voter registration drive. She is also one of the founders and former presidents of MoCo for Change. Montgomery County Students for Change, or MoCo For Change, is an initiative born in the wake of the school shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. The organization required the coming together of students from schools across Montgomery County, both public and private, and has grown in strength since its inception. Originally intended to support the March for Our Lives Movement, MoCo for Change has expanded its platform to address not only gun violence, but also systemic racism, discrimination, voter registration, and immigration policy. MoCo For Change recognizes that such intersectional issues go beyond Montgomery County, but they aren't shying away from the challenge. Rather, MoCo For Change is promoting civic engagement among the youth of Montgomery County at both a local and a national level. For its debut, MoCo For Change mobilized an estimated 6,000 students to attend a rally against gun violence, drawing national media coverage. In the months since, the organization has only expanded its boundaries. Through the tireless efforts of its young leaders, MoCo For Change hopes to galvanize the next generations to fight for change and a better future for all.

**Contact**  
Dani Miller  
Founder & Former President  
[drmiller00@gmail.com](mailto:drmiller00@gmail.com)  
[www.mocoforchange.org](http://www.mocoforchange.org)





## Our Mission

SODA: Student Organ Donations Advocates is a non-profit organization that inspires and supports student-led organ donation education and registration efforts through campus chapters.



Educate



Register

Sara Miller was acquainted with the power of organ donation at just twelve years old, when her sister tragically passed away but became an organ donor. Inspired by her sister Laura, whose donation saved a life a thousand miles away, Sara Miller launched a national movement for organ donation education and registration. SODA: Student Organ Donations Advocates was founded at Washington University in St. Louis in the fall of 2014. Since then, SODA has expanded to include a network of 18 chapters and more than 90 student leaders across the country. SODA chapters nationwide host event and registration drives every semester in order to help educate students and community members about organ donation and register them as organ donors. By discussing organ donation and helping to educate and inspire possible donors, Sara Miller and SODA are working to save lives across the United States.

Contact:  
Sara Miller  
President & Founder  
[sara@sodanational.org](mailto:sara@sodanational.org)  
[www.sodanational.org](http://www.sodanational.org)



*By sparking conversations about organ donation on campuses and in communities, we are helping to inspire organ donation miracles.*

-Sara Miller, SODA President and Founder





# YOUTH ACTIVISM COALITION

Changemaker Elijah Nichols is a student at George Mason University, but he hails from Muskegon County, Michigan. As a high school senior, he organized a march with fellow students in order to start conversations about gun control in West Michigan. Coming two months after the international movement “March For Our Lives,” which was inspired by the Parkland, Florida school shooting, the Muskegon County march was not only an attempt to draw attention to the issue of gun violence and apply pressure to obstinate politicians. According to a statement from the organizers, the march was also meant to “act as a place of empowerment for the youth voice and forming of a cohesive [...] youth group dedicated to fighting for common sense gun legislation.” But the march was not the end of Nichols’ changemaking. He also co-founded the Youth Activism Coalition. Echoing the ideas of cohesiveness and collaboration borne out of the

march, it is an organization meant to promote connections between young students and encourage political activism. His own political activism has led him to co-found the George Mason chapter of Students Demand Action—which is a gun violence prevention organization. Furthermore, he leads the university’s Pride Alliance as President, and takes advantage of Changemaker collaboration as a core member of “Not My Generation,” which aims to host a coalition-based gun violence prevention strategy conference. Nichols is currently studying Government and International Politics to learn how best to bridge the gap between the people and their policymakers.







On March 24, 2018, the student-led demonstration March For Our Lives took place in Washington D.C. The march was organized following the mass shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida and was help in support of legislation to eradicate gun violence in the United States. While the demonstration was initially organized and announced by survivors of the Parkland shooting, almost 900 sibling marches were also organized across the globe. Student Briana Spainhour was one such organizer, founding the March For Our Lives chapter in Huntington Beach. Later, Spainhour also helped to coordinate the Orange County stop on the March For Our Lives: Road to Change tour. While the marches on March 24 served to draw international attention to and pressure on the gun crisis in America, the Road to Change tour sought to foster local conversation and debate on the topic of gun violence and control. According to Spainhour, “The town hall is mean to allow different stakeholders in the community to share their perspective on the issue and how it affects them. They may find out this issue really isn’t all that divisive.” Aside from efforts towards local discussion, Spainhour and other Changemakers are engaging politicians in the hopes to create dialogue. What’s more, Spainhour is confident that those politicians are listening, if only because they’re scared of the power behind the movement. “We scare politicians a little bit,” Spainhour said. “They’re afraid of us because we show up.” As long as young Changemakers keep showing up, the movement will survive and continue pushing for a safer America.



Briana Spainhour is a part-time student and full-time organizer working in Washington DC. She began her advocacy work six years ago and has expanded her Changemaker portfolio ever since. After advocating for mental health, youth civic engagement, lower voting ages, and gun violence prevention, Spainhour has since taken on a role as the Regional Director for March For Our Lives National.

Contact: Briana Spainhour | DC State Director  
[briana@marchforourlives.com](mailto:briana@marchforourlives.com) | [www.marchforourlives.com](http://www.marchforourlives.com)





50 Miles More is a non-profit, youth-led organization formed in the wake of the massacre at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Sparked by the international outrage following the mass shooting and nurtured through grassroots action, 50 Miles More seeks to end gun violence in the United States. The organization was inspired by the 54-mile march for civil rights between Selma and Montgomery, and invoked the history of that march while walking the 50-mile stretch between Madison, Wisconsin and Janesville, hometown of Speaker of the House Paul Ryan. Standing in solidarity with the Parkland students, 50 Miles More keeps the national spotlight on the issue of gun reform and demands attention from the political leaders of America. The organization will not stand for any more children living in fear, and they're just getting started. 50 Miles More depends on the strength of their diverse organization and the wealth of perspective and experience that comes with it. Confident in their mission and with a number of policy demands in tow, 50 Miles More demands change, and promises a reckoning come Election Day if they don't get it.

### 50 Miles More demands basic freedoms:

**Freedom** to go to school without being shot.

**Freedom** to walk our neighborhood street without being shot.

**Freedom** to go to the movies without being shot.

**Freedom** to go to parks or playgrounds without being shot.

**Freedom** to go shopping without being shot.

**Freedom** from living in fear of being killed. Period.



Contact: Tatiana Washington | [www.50milesmore.org](http://www.50milesmore.org)

# YOUNG VOICES

## A Civics E-Resource Focused on Youth Political Involvement.



Upon observing the low turnout among youth voters in the 2016 Presidential Election, then college student James Wellemeyer was determined to understand the trend. He concluded that young people might be more inspired to vote if civics courses were altered to better represent them and their generation. So, he set out to create a resource that would do just that. Thus, *Young Voices* was born. *Young Voices* is an e-resource available to interested schools that utilizes student narratives to engage readers with a civics curriculum. In effort to reach younger generations, the resource addresses the formation of a political identity, the impact of technology on politics, bias in news and reporting, voter registration, and stories of young people taking political action as well as the classic curriculum. Created from almost 60 interviews with politically involved young people, *Young Voices* attempts to reach young voters through that mouthpiece of political youth. The discussion-based course turns into a dialogue between youth, rather than a lecture across a generational gap. That conversation, when dominated by students and potential young voters, educates the next generations about their political climate and inspires them to take action in their next elections. Currently, *Young Voices* is being used in over 40 schools. James Wellemeyer, meanwhile, is now a freelance journalist based in New York. He writes about tech, social media, Gen Z, money, politics, and more. Beyond his work in journalism, Wellemeyer has continued working to increase civic engagement and voter participation among young people.

James Wellemeyer, Author | [youngvoicestextbook@gmail.com](mailto:youngvoicestextbook@gmail.com) | [www.youngvoicestext.org](http://www.youngvoicestext.org)

