



# On the Path

*To Civic Leadership*



## Princeton Project 55 Fellowship Directory

2016-17



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





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 1,500 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 learning opportunities through three intentional aspects of the Fellowship program: a professional placement, an alumni mentor, and educational seminars.

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 *The Leading Edge* blog found on AlumniCorps' website, [www.alumnicorps.org](http://www.alumnicorps.org). Please also connect with us online on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

The Project 55 Fellowship Program is made possible by the more than 200 volunteers, 600 donors, and nonprofit partner organizations throughout the United States. The 2016-17 Program Leaders for the Project 55 Fellowship Program are Rebecca Deaton '91 and Olympia Moy '05.

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# Bay Area (San Francisco and Oakland)

This year, seven Fellows will be working at five different partner organizations in the Bay Area. Organizations include: Envision Education, Great Oakland Public Schools, Pahara Institute, University of California San Francisco Carol Franc Buck Breast Care Center (UCSF), and Youth UpRising. Area Committee chairs for the 2016-17 program year are Julie Rubinger '09, Tiffany Lee '11, and Leesy Taggart '78.

## Sharim Estevez '16, Envision Education



Sharim grew up in New York City, in a predominantly Latino neighborhood. At Princeton, Sharim majored in Sociology. Sharim felt that through Sociology she could learn about humanity and get a deeper understanding of the role race, socioeconomic class, etc. play in many of our social justice problems. She earned a certificate (minor) in Latino Studies and Chinese Language & Culture. At Princeton, Sharim was involved in the Latino cultural group. She was also part of the leadership team for a service group that helps high-school students in Trenton with the college application process. She is interested in education and criminal justice. Sharim really enjoys dancing and even co-founded Princeton's own Latin dance company, Mas Flow. She is excited to move to the Bay Area and take in the culture of a new place. She is hoping to learn a lot about education management through Envision Education.

## Ramie Fathy '16, UCSF



Ramie Fathy grew up in Knoxville, Tennessee and is the second of three children. Because of his interest in how cells and organisms are able to maintain life and perform complex functions, Ramie majored in Molecular Biology and received a certificate in Neuroscience. On campus, he served as a Residential College Advisor, but started an online Q & A platform for current and incoming students to provide advice and answers to anonymous questions that may be sensitive but crucial ([www.realtalkprinceton.edu](http://www.realtalkprinceton.edu)). Ramie also served as the Academics Chair of the USG, where he worked to reform the Academic Calendar and a number of other Academic policies to improve the Princeton experiences of his peers. More personally, Ramie comes from an Egyptian household, and is currently on a quest to further his understanding of his family's background and culture. Finally, Ramie is an avid fan of music, having hosted a radio show while at Princeton and attended around a hundred concerts during his four years at Princeton. He can't wait to move to San Francisco to explore the city, enjoy its famous food, and learn more about the music scene there.

## Colby Hyland '16, UCSF



Colby Hyland was born in raised in Leicester, Massachusetts, and has two older brothers and a younger sister. He majored in Molecular Biology at Princeton, where his thesis work involved studying the maintenance of polarity in the mammalian skin. He received a Certificate in Dance and was very active in dance at Princeton. He served as artistic director of diSiac Dance Company and was a member and choreographer of Princeton University Ballet. He plans to attend medical school in the near future and is extremely excited about working in clinical research and patient care at UCSF this coming year.

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## Bay Area (San Francisco and Oakland)

### Prianka Misra '16, [Great Oakland Public Schools](#)



Prianka Misra was born in Castro Valley, California and lived there until she arrived at Princeton, where she majored in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. In addition to dancing, acting, and writing at Princeton, Prianka cultivated her interest in education policy in developing contexts by writing both her Junior Papers and her Senior Thesis on education policy in Ghana and South Africa. She is excited to continue exploring her passion on a domestic scale during her fellowship at Great Oakland (GO) Public Schools, a nonprofit that serves students and communities in the eclectic city where she once went to school herself.

### Chiamaka Onwuzulike '16, [Youth UpRising](#)



Chiamaka Onwuzulike was born in Nigeria but moved to the U.S. with her family at the age of three and has lived in the Bay Area ever since. At Princeton she majored in Sociology with a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy. She has a passion for youth advocacy and has hopes to become a pediatrician one day. In terms of academics, she is most interested in the interactions between race and health and her thesis focused on the effect of race and class on women's reproductive rights narratives. At Princeton she was part of the African Students Association, Dancing to Christ's Beat (a Christian dance group) and Princeton Faith and Action. She loves to try new things (especially related to food) and is excited to start a new phase of life doing work that she is passionate about!

### Marisa Remez '16, [Pahara Institute](#)



Marisa Remez grew up in Washington, D.C., where she attended D.C. public schools for elementary, middle, and high school, which was part of what inspired her to want to work with the Pahara Institute. She has a younger brother, who will be living in San Francisco as well next year, who dances with San Francisco Ballet. She also has a younger sister who is a sophomore in high school. At Princeton, Marisa majored in anthropology, and received a certificate in dance. In addition to her extensive work in the dance department, she held many officer positions with the Princeton University Ballet, and was also a member of BodyHype Dance Company. Additionally, she was a volunteer for CityStep Princeton, a group that sends students to Trenton Public Schools to teach classes in performing arts and creative movement.

### Sunny Zhang '16, [Envision Education](#)



Sunny Zhang grew up in Marlboro, New Jersey. She majored in the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton, focusing on development. She discovered her interest in social change during a summer in beautiful South Africa. Sunny is excited to continue learning and growing this coming year through Project 55 and cannot wait to move out to the Bay Area to work with Envision Education.



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# Boston

This year, five Fellows will be working at two different partner organizations in Boston. Organizations include: Community Day Charter Public School and OpenBiome. Area Committee chairs for the 2016-17 program year are Kathy Qu '13 and Tom Flynn p'10.

## Dinara Gabdrakhmanova '16, OpenBiome



Dinara Gabdrakhmanova was born in Moscow, Russia, and lived there until 2004, when she, her older brother, and her parents moved to Irvine, California. Dinara majored in Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Cultures, and minored in Global Health. At Princeton, she was a Peer Health Adviser, volunteered in the ER department at the UMCPH hospital, was a member of Premeds Without Borders, and an active member and choreographer of BodyHype Dance Company and Raqs Dance Company. Aside from dancing, Dinara loves to travel and meet new people, and with the generous support of Princeton, had the opportunity to take a Princeton Spanish class for six weeks in Buenos Aires, studied abroad in Barcelona for four months, spent ten weeks interning at a global health organization in Madrid, and returned to Madrid for a week to conduct interviews for her senior thesis research. She is extremely excited to move to Boston, a city she has heard so many good things about and to learn about microbiome research and help people suffering from a recurrent C.diff infection via her work as a clinical outreach associate at OpenBiome. She also hopes she will get an opportunity to continue practicing her Spanish on the job.

## Clara Kerwin '16, OpenBiome



Clara Kerwin grew up in the small town of Ashland, Oregon. She attended Princeton where she majored in Politics with a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy. Clara is fascinated by the intersection of medicine, public health, and international development. Accordingly, she has studied the political and health care systems of a variety of countries including Nepal, Israel, and Saudi Arabia. In her free time, Clara loves traveling, running, reading, and simply talking to people. She also enjoys games and puzzles, and hopes to utilize her curiosity and problem-solving skills during her fellowship at OpenBiome.

## Nina Narayanan '16, Community Day Charter Public School



Varshini Narayanan is from Scotch Plains, New Jersey. She is the child of Indian immigrants and grew up in a vibrant diaspora community, and has always been particularly interested in the way music, language, and ethnicity interact. At Princeton, she majored in Anthropology and minored in Spanish and Vocal Performance. Varshini has volunteered extensively with her local immigrant community, designing ESL and Citizenship programs and working to provide various other social services. She is excited to continue this work as a fellow at the Community Day Charter Public School, where she hopes to learn what allows social and educational initiatives to be successful. Varshini is also a dedicated musician and performs regularly as a choral singer, an operatic soprano, and a Carnatic flautist.

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# Boston

## Sanjay Rao '16, [OpenBiome](#)



Sanjay Rao grew up in Cleveland, Ohio with his parents and younger brother. At Princeton, he majored in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology with a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy. He also was the student board chair for Princeton Internships in Civic Service, a position that sparked his interest in social change and public health. He is incredibly excited to merge those two passions at OpenBiome. Outside of classwork and PICS, he is a die-hard Cleveland and Ohio State Buckeyes sports fan, for which a year in Boston will be an interesting experiment in fandom.

## Emilee Tu '16, [OpenBiome](#)



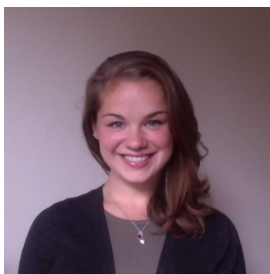
Hailing from the small town of Blacksburg, Virginia, Emilee Tu is a recent graduate of the Molecular Biology department at Princeton. She is interested how the inner processes of a cell at a microscopic level can interact and influence a person at the broader level. One day, Emilee aspires to be a doctor. Outside of science and medicine, Emilee loves dancing, singing, playing the piano, and finding new places to try new food! She is excited to move to Boston and explore a new city while learning more about clinical research and the role of non-profits in healthcare at OpenBiome.

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# Chicago

This year, five Fellows will be working at five different partner organizations in Chicago. Organizations include: North Lawndale Employment Network, Illinois State Board of Education, National Equity Fund, Sinai Community Institute, and Free Spirit Media. Area Committee chairs for the 2016-17 program year are Kirsten Hull '99 and Maddy Woodle '13.

## Ellie Albarran '16, Carole Robertson Center for Learning



Ellie was born and raised in Chicago and is grateful for the opportunity to return to her hometown as a fellow, working with communities less than a mile away from her high school. At Princeton, she studied German Language and Literature with a focus on media and aesthetics while also earning certificates in European Cultural Studies and Dance. In her independent work, she compared the use of art education as a means to spiritual development in the early phases of two contemporaneous German schools - the Bauhaus and Waldorf schools - by analyzing visual artifacts of each. Her interests in art education and community engagement stem partly from her involvement in Princeton University Ballet, DiSiac Dance Company, the Princeton Garden Project, 2D Co-op, and Brown Co-op. She is beyond excited to replant herself in Chicago by working and learning at the Carole Robertson Center, volunteer tutoring, working in local gardens, and going to as many social dances as she can find.

## Yoni Kirsch '16, North Lawndale Employment Network



Yoni Kirsch grew up in Cleveland, Ohio as the fourth of five children. Before coming to Princeton, she spent a year in Ghana as part of Princeton's Bridge Year Program. At Princeton, she majored in Economics and was also involved in Petey Greene, a prison-tutoring program. She is excited to continue working within the criminal justice system at the North Lawndale Employment Network next year. She also hopes to attend medical school in Fall 2017. While still undecided on a particular field of medicine, she plans to continue working with underserved populations.

## Allie Lichterman '16, Illinois State Board of Education



Allie Lichterman grew up in Huntington Woods, MI. She majored in History with a certificate in African American Studies. Her independent work focused on twentieth century urban history, mainly in Detroit. Allie was an engaged member of the Princeton community through her work with Students for Education Reform and the Center for Jewish Life, as well as her involvement with Sinfonia Orchestra, Community House After School Academy, and Black Jewish Dialogue. Allie is the second of three children and enjoys baking, playing the violin, and interacting with younger students. She is extremely excited to move to Chicago and begin her work with the Illinois State Board of Education.

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# Chicago

## Virginia Midkiff '16, [National Equity Fund](#)



Virginia Midkiff grew up in the small town of Center, Texas before attending Princeton. She majored in Religion, with a special focus on Christian ethics and treatment of the mentally and physically disabled. Throughout her time at Princeton, Virginia worked with individuals with disabilities through organizations such as Best Buddies and Princeton Disabilities Awareness. She hopes to continue her work with the disabled and disability awareness in her postgraduate life. She is passionate about service, traveling, art and eating delicious food, and is very excited about all the opportunities her time in Chicago, under the National Equity Fund, will provide towards these interests.

## Beverly Nguyen '16, [Sinai Community Institute](#)



Beverly Nguyen is from Davis, CA. She majored in Molecular Biology at Princeton because she is interested in public health. Beverly was drawn to this field because she feels that it is the best way for individual actions to have a larger impact. At Princeton, Beverly had many leadership roles. She served as tri-captain of the Women's Varsity Swim and Dive Team. She was also a residential advisor of Wilson College and a peer health advisor. Beverly is very excited to begin working with the Sinai Community Institute so that she can obtain first-hand experience in the public health sector.

## Aisha Oxley '16, [Free Spirit Media](#)



Aisha Oxley is an artist and writer from Plainfield, New Jersey. At Princeton, she majored in History and earned a certificate in the Visual Arts. While at Princeton, she founded the Stripes, the only campus publication dedicated to issues of race and minority identity, and was a founding member of Ellipses, Princeton's first slam poetry group. She is excited to begin working with Free Spirit Media, an organization committed to arts education, and hopes to grow as an aspiring filmmaker and teacher.



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# New Jersey (including Philadelphia)

This year, four Fellows will be working at four different partner organizations in New Jersey and Philadelphia. Organizations include: D&R Greenway Land Trust, International Schools Services, Princeton University - Office of Religious Life, and University of Pennsylvania - Perelman School of Medicine. Area Committee chairs for the 2016-17 program year are Tom Magnus '77 and Marsha Rosenthal '76.

## Kelsey Kane-Ritsch '16, D&R Greenway Land Trust



Kelsey Kane-Ritsch grew up in Los Angeles before moving to Princeton to pursue a B.A. in Anthropology. As her major suggests, Kelsey loves exploring new cultures and devoted her last three summers to pursuing this passion. She has worked on the development and teaching of environmental education curriculum in Kenya, maintenance of Monet's Garden in Giverny, France, and an environmental anthropology research project in New Caledonia which became the core of her senior thesis. Whether at home or abroad, Kelsey is always dancing. While at Princeton, she had the pleasure of serving as the Artistic Director of Princeton University Ballet, a member of BodyHype Dance Company, and a volunteer teacher with the dance outreach group CityStep Princeton. She is looking forward to entering the field of non-profit environmental work with D&R Greenway Land Trust.

## Aliisa Lee '16, International Schools Services



Aliisa Lee has always enjoyed telling stories and drawing, so majoring in English and minoring in Visual Arts at Princeton has been a beautiful extension of those passions. Next year, she is excited to take her love of youth, education, and international experience to International Schools Services. While most of Aliisa's childhood was spent growing up with her five siblings in sunny Hawaii, she finished her last two years of high school with a move to Bahrain. Her family has continued to move since her high school graduation, so her flights "home" from college have taken her mainly around Southeast Asia. In her free time, Aliisa loves to read, blog, paint digitally ([aliisalee.com](http://aliisalee.com)), and Skype with the people she loves who are scattered around the world.

## Maya Wahrman '16, Princeton University



Maya Wahrman grew up in Bloomington, IN and also in Jerusalem, Israel, the younger of two sisters. At Princeton she was a History major with certificates in Creative Writing (in poetry) and the Program in Near Eastern Studies. In 2011-12, Maya worked in an Arab-Jewish welfare nursery school in the city of Jaffa as well as in the Mesila Refugee Organization of Tel Aviv. She returned to Jaffa in the summer of 2013 to intern at the Open Clinic at Physicians for Human Rights, Israel, where she worked with and translated for refugees from Sudan and Eritrea. Her future career interests lie in community development, refugee issues, the role of religion in peacemaking, and education and health rights and access on a grassroots level. On campus Maya was a music co-director of Umqombothi African a Capella, a Residential College Adviser, a student-leader at the Center for Jewish Life and for Muslim-Jewish Dialogue, and a volunteer teacher in prisons and nursery schools. She loves meeting new people, playing guitar and singing, and hanging out with kids and dogs (adults too).

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# New Jersey (including Philadelphia)

Sahana Jayaraman '16, [University of Pennsylvania](#)



Sahana Jayaraman grew up in Plainsboro, NJ and is an only child. She majored in Chemical and Biological Engineering at Princeton, with a certificate in Biological Engineering. She wants to become a physician, and continue bioengineering or biomedical engineering research, and hopes to have a career that combines both clinical practice and research. At Princeton she spent a lot of time in lab, but also volunteered as a Spanish translator at the local hospital, was a Project Leader for the SVC UMCP group, writer for the Innovation science magazine, and was a member of the Bhangra dance team from freshman to senior year. Sahana is excited to return to Philly and live there for a year (she has spent 2 summers there prior). She loves meeting new people, exploring, and eating at new restaurants. She enjoys watching TV/movies, reading, and exercising in her free time (especially playing tennis or running).

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# New York

This year, ten Fellows will be working at nine different partner organizations in New York City. Organizations include: All In Together, Coalition for Hispanic Family Services, Harlem R.B.I., Hospital for Special Surgery, New Alternatives for Children, New York Academy of Medicine, New York Center for Child Development, New York District Attorney's Office, and The Rockefeller Foundation. Area Committee chairs for the 2016-17 program year are Andrew Goldstein '06, Andrew Protain '08, and Scott Taylor '75.

## Sophie Andreassi '16, [Harlem R.B.I. - DREAM Charter School](#)



Sophie Andreassi grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland and is the youngest of three children. She majored in History at Princeton, with certificates in French, European Cultural Studies, and Dance. She is deeply committed to education and the arts. She is a co-founder of CityStep Princeton, a performing arts outreach group that offers dance workshops at an elementary school in Trenton and at Community House in Princeton each week. She is also the outgoing president of the Performing Arts Council, where she was a lead organizer for "This Is Princeton 2015: Black Lives Matter," a historic and celebratory performance in which students, alumni, and professors came together as artists in solidarity for the Black Lives Matter movement. Sophie is also a choreographer and dancer, and has created pieces for the Dance Department, the Theater Department, Princeton University Ballet, Grind Arts Company, and BodyHype Dance Company. She is thrilled to be joining the DREAM team at DREAM Charter School in Harlem! She is amazed by the passion, energy, and talent with which every staff member approaches their work and is honored to be a part of an organization that is so successful in giving children the opportunity to succeed.

## Dennisse Calle '16, [Coalition for Hispanic Family Services](#)



Dennisse Calle was born in Ecuador and moved to the United States when she was three years old. She lived in New York for a short period of time, but has been living in Trenton, New Jersey since the age of seven. She majored in Sociology because of her own first-generation, working class, and public school background. Sociology has provided a way to understand how inequalities are created and perpetuated in our current society. She's excited to understand the ins and outs of Coalitions for Hispanic Family Service and how non-profits contribute to grassroots change and community building. She loves to read about anything and everything, but is particularly interested in memoirs because she is interested in the lives of others and their stories. She also loves to attend open-mike poetry slams and musical bands.

## Shruthi Deivasigamani '16, [New York Center for Child Development](#)



Shruthi Deivasigamani grew up in Cresskill, NJ. She majored in Molecular Biology at Princeton, and completed certificates in Neuroscience and Creative Writing. At Princeton, Shruthi worked on research investigating the role of the cerebellum in autism and also wrote a novel about schizophrenia for her fiction thesis. She loves working with children as well as learning about neuroscience and the brain, and is very excited to unite these two interests during her fellowship with the New York Center for Child Development in the coming year.

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# New York

## Maguire Herriman '16, [New Alternatives for Children](#)



Maguire Herriman grew up in Westampton, NJ, a small town about a half hour south of Princeton. After bouncing around a few majors at Princeton, he settled on the Woodrow Wilson School and also pursued a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy. Outside the classroom, he was also an OA Leader and Leader Trainer, ran with Princeton Running Club, gave tours with Orange Key, and was the intramural sports chair for TI. Maguire will be working for New Alternatives for Children during his fellowship year, after which he plans to attend medical school. Maguire is excitedly anticipating his fellowship year having already had two great “mini Project 55” summer experiences through the PICS program – one at the Crisis Ministry of Mercer County, the other at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

## Sydney Kersten '16, [Hospital for Special Surgery](#)



Sydney Kersten grew up in Spokane, Washington and is the oldest of three sisters. She majored in English, also following the pre-health track. At Princeton she was a part of the Women's Varsity Golf Team, Athletes in Action, and volunteered with various organizations in the community. She also served as a Student Athlete Wellness Leader, acting as a liaison between her teammates and various resources on campus. She is excited to move into New York City and begin research at the Hospital for Special Surgery, and hopes to donate even more time to serving the community.

## Amanda Li '16, [New York Academy of Medicine](#)



So far in her life, Amanda Li has had the opportunity to live and grow up in New York, China, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and New Jersey. Her interest in parasites and their interactions with our gastrointestinal tracts drove her to pursue a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Princeton, while her experiences with Engineers Without Borders prompted her to consider a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy. She cares greatly about providing high quality and affordable healthcare for the homeless and medically under-served. Her ultimate career dream is to be a doctor. She is extremely excited to have the opportunity to work with and learn from the team at the New York Academy of Medicine next year!

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# New York

## Yessica Martinez '15, [Coalition for Hispanic Family Services](#)



Yessica Martinez was born in Medellin, Colombia and migrated to Queens, NY when she was 10 years old. She is a graduate from the departments of Comparative Literature and Creative Writing. Her creative thesis was a book of poems on borders and migration inspired by her experiences as an undocumented migrant and her travels along the US-Mexico border. She is currently completing a year long fellowship in Medellin where she is exploring the role of the arts in community transformations while facilitating poetry, literature and hip-hop workshops for children and youth. She is excited to begin her job as an arts and literacy teacher with the Coalition for Hispanic Family Services because it will allow her to continue developing her skills as an artist and educator. She is considering an MFA in creative writing and/or a PhD in Spanish literature.

## Maylin Meisenheimer '16, [All in Together](#)



Maylin Meisenheimer grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas. She majored in the Woodrow Wilson School with a focus on international institutions and global governance. She also received a certificate in East Asian Studies, and is fluent in Mandarin. For her thesis, she studied the influence of US interests on multilateral development banks. In the future, Maylin hopes to attend law school or pursue a graduate degree in international relations. At Princeton, she was a member of the Women's Varsity Swim & Dive Team and the co-coordinator of the Special Olympics Swimming Program. She also served as Chair of the Whitman College Council. She is very excited to move to New York City next year in order to contribute to the work of All in Together, empowering women in political and civic life!

## Ilana Polster '16, [The Rockefeller Foundation](#)



Ilana Polster was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio and is the youngest of three children. She studied at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton, because she wanted to set herself up to put her love for problem-solving to use at a national or international scale. She spent a year and a half working and volunteering between high school and college, including three months as a preschool teacher in Morocco and six months as a volunteer medic in Israel. At Princeton, she became a coxswain for the Men's Lightweight Crew team, and focused her studies on Arabic and food and nutrition policy. She is inspired by the Rockefeller Foundation's efforts to combat global hunger, and is excited to join their newest initiative to reduce post-harvest food waste and loss.

## Cameron Ruffa '16, [New York District Attorney's Office](#)



Cameron Ruffa is from Darien, Connecticut. She attended Greenwich Academy before Princeton. At Princeton, she majored in History with a certificate in American Studies. She is passionate about law and eager to go to law school, so she is extremely excited about this opportunity at the New York District Attorney's Office. She also loves traveling and meeting new people.



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# Washington, DC

This year, eight Fellows will be working at six different partner organizations in Washington, DC. Organizations include; Areas, CityBridge Foundation, Elevated Effect, EveryoneOn, Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, and Regional Primary Care Coalition. Committee chairs for the 2016-17 program year are Thomas Graham '55 and Amber Petty '14.

## Shira Cohen '16, [EveryoneOn](#)



Shira Cohen is from Charleston, South Carolina. She majored in History at Princeton and pursued certificates in European Cultural Studies and Humanistic Studies. Her favorite course of study is history through literature. At Princeton, she was the President of the Center for Jewish Life—Princeton's Hillel. She also enjoyed mentoring other students as a Peer Academic Advisor and a Humanities@Princeton Mentor. Shira loves reading for fun, traveling, and meeting new people. She is excited to explore DC this coming year, especially through her work with EveryoneOn and their critical steps towards closing the digital divide and reducing structural disadvantage by increasing connectivity to the Internet.

## Joelle Deleveaux '16, [CityBridge Foundation](#)



Joelle Deleveaux grew up in the sunny Miami, Florida, making her first trip to New Jersey to attend Princeton. She majored in History, specializing in modern Latin America, and earned a certificate in Contemporary European Politics and Society. At Princeton, she was involved in the Davis International Center and coordinated the International Orientation program for two years. She also worked at Matriculate, a nonprofit focused on assisting low-income students apply to college, which allowed her to pursue her interests in education policy and access issues. She is very excited to join CityBridge's dynamic team and to learn more about the K-12 school system and the educational community in DC.

## Kristen Duncan '16, [Regional Primary Care Coalition](#)



Hailing from Dacula, GA, Kristen Duncan is a southern transplant living life in Princeton, NJ. At Princeton, she concentrated in Molecular Biology with a certificate in Neuroscience. She is passionate about health and wellness, and aspires to pursue a career in medicine. Outside of the classroom, she spent most of her time on campus cheerleading (Go Tigers!), coordinating blood drives with SVC American Red Cross, and serving as a Peer Health Adviser. She loves yoga, running, baseball, and football, and cannot wait to call our nation's capital her home!

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# Washington, DC

## Molly Fisch-Friedman '16, [Elevated Effect](#)



Molly Fisch-Friedman is originally from Princeton Junction, New Jersey. She majored in Politics, studying the American media and American public opinion toward Israel. While at Princeton, she was involved with Koleinu (the Jewish a cappella group), Naacho (the Indian dance group), and was an RCA in Butler College. She is excited to enter the workforce and the nonprofit world as a Grant Writing Associate for Elevated Effect. Molly is also a self-proclaimed politics junkie and is looking forward to moving to DC.

## Yendé Grell '16, [Aeras](#)



Yendé Grell was born and raised on the Caribbean Island of Dominica and graduated with a degree in Molecular Biology and certificate in Global Health and Health Policy from Princeton. During her time at Princeton she served as President of the Princeton Caribbean Connection, Academic Liaison for the Minority Association of Pre-health Student and was a Cofounder of the Princeton Steel Orchestra. Yendé's desire to one day become a physician and passion for issues of global health drew her to pursue independent thesis research on the Chikungunya virus, an emerging virus that caused a major outbreak in the Caribbean and Latin America from 2014-15. She spent the summer before senior year working at the Pasteur Institute in Paris characterizing the capsid protein function of the virus, and spent the summer before her junior year working in a clinic in the northwest region of Kenya creating patient handouts and designing treatment protocols to standardize the delivery of care. Yendé enjoys traveling, playing musical instruments and sightseeing, and is excited to explore DC next year and learn about the process of vaccine development at Aeras.

## Maggie Kent '16, [Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County](#)



Maggie Kent grew up in Hopewell, New Jersey and is one of four children. She majored in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Princeton and studied abroad in Bermuda and Kenya. While at Princeton she was a member of the Club Lacrosse and Club Equestrian teams, and engaged in community service by volunteering at Merwick Care & Rehabilitation Center. She enjoys traveling, reading, and spending time with friends and family. Maggie is very excited to move to Washington, DC and to join the team at Primary Care Coalition. She is looking forward to being a part of fulfilling Primary Care Coalition's mission to expand access to care and improve quality of care.

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# Washington, DC

## Michael Moorin '16, [CityBridge Foundation](#)



Michael was born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky. He majored in Public Affairs at Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School and is interested in law, education reform and policy, and bioethics. He is also an outdoor enthusiast. Michael will be moving to California after his fellowship year to attend Stanford Law School. Michael is looking forward to living in DC and beginning his work with CityBridge.

## Rebecca Neil '16, [Aeras](#)



Rebecca Neill grew up in Mount Holly, New Jersey with two immediate family members having serious disabilities. At Princeton, she majored in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology with a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy because she was interested in large-scale biological principles and thinking about the health of populations. At school she was involved with Peer Health Advising and was a co-coordinator of the Safer Sexpo, a program intended to teach basic sex ed to students. She plans to take two glide years and then hopefully matriculate to medical school, where she intends to focus on LGBTQ and women's health issues. She loves learning new recipes, meeting new people and hearing about their passions, and listening to music and going to concerts of all kinds. Rebecca is very excited to finally get out of New Jersey and see what DC is all about.

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# Continuing Fellows

Project 55 Fellowships are designed to be one-year fellowships that introduce recent Princeton graduates to the public interest sector. However, it is common for Project 55 Fellows to continue working at their partner organization beyond the fellowship year. The following 2015-16 Project 55 Fellows will participate in the 2016-17 Project 55 Fellowship program.

## Daniela Bartalini '15, [Association to Benefit Children](#)



Daniela Bartalini, was born and raised in New York with her four siblings. Before arriving at Princeton, Daniela took part in the Princeton Bridge Year Program in Varanasi, India. At Princeton, Daniela concentrated in Classics and received a Medieval Studies certificate. She was also an Residential College Advisor in Rockefeller College in her senior year after studying abroad in Rome during her junior spring semester. On campus, Daniela was involved in several service initiatives including organizing the Poverty and Peacemaking Conference. Daniela is excited to continue her Project 55 Fellowship with the Association to Benefit Children and looks forward to exploring the city some more and watching her beloved Yankees and Giants win!

## Lelabari Giwa-Ojuri '14, [Prep for Prep](#)



Lelabari Giwa-Ojuri comes from Los Angeles, California. She majored in Comparative Politics and obtained a certificate in Near Eastern Studies. Before attending Princeton, she participated in the Princeton Bridge Year Program in Serbia. She enjoys biking, cooking, puzzles and Sci/Fantasy. She plans to apply to law school in the Fall of 2016. She is entering her second year as a Middle School Post-Placement Counselor at Prep for Prep.

## Rose Lapp '15, [Association to Benefit Children](#)



Rose Lapp was born in Princeton, NJ and lived there through graduation from Princeton, where she majored in Comparative Literature with certificates in Linguistics and Translation. She hopes to continue to use her Spanish and French language skills in translation throughout her professional career. Rose is excited to continue work with ABC through Project 55, working to improve educational access and quality of life for children in New York City. She is grateful for the opportunity to work for a non-profit focused on children, as she is considering pursuing a career in this field, possibly from a legal perspective. Outside of academic and professional spheres, Rose enjoys running, reading, and going to concerts and plays.

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# Continuing Fellows

## David Zheng '15, [Emergency Medicine Network](#)



David Zheng was born in Guangzhou, China, but spent most of his childhood in Carmel, Indiana. At Princeton, David majored in Psychology and received certificates in Neuroscience and Spanish. He spent much of his time in college dancing, whether on the Theatre Intime stage with BodyHype Dance Company or in World of Dance with Chaos Theory Dance Crew. This past year, David has worked with the Emergency Medicine Network at the Massachusetts General Hospital, where he helps coordinate an NIH-funded research study investigating the link between infant bronchiolitis and childhood asthma. He will continue work at his fellowship for a second year, and is thankful for the opportunity afforded to him by Project 55 to contribute to the public service sector in the spheres of medicine and healthcare. On the side, David enjoys travel photography, long distance running, and live concerts.

## 2016-17 Partner Organizations

We encourage you to learn more about the partner organizations that will be hosting Project 55 Fellows for the 2016-17 program year. Click on each organization to visit their website.

[Aeras](#)

[New Alternatives for Children](#)

[All In Together Campaign](#)

[New York Academy of Medicine](#)

[Carole Robertson Center for Learning](#)

[New York Center for Child Development](#)

[CityBridge Foundation](#)

[New York District Attorney's Office](#)

[Coalition for Hispanic Family Services](#)

[North Lawndale Employment Network](#)

[Community Day Charter Public School](#)

[OpenBiome](#)

[D&R Greenway Land Trust](#)

[Pahara Institute](#)

[Elevated Effect](#)

[Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County](#)

[Envision Education](#)

[Princeton University - Office of Religious Life](#)

[EveryoneOn](#)

[Regional Primary Care Coalition](#)

[Free Spirit Media](#)

[The Rockefeller Foundation](#)

[GO Public Schools](#)

[Sinai Community Institute](#)

[Harlem RBI](#)

[UCSF - Carol Franc Buck Breast Care Center](#)

[Illinois State Board of Education](#)

[University of Pennsylvania—Perelman School of  
Medicine](#)

[International Schools Services](#)

[Youth UpRising](#)

[National Equity Fund](#)





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