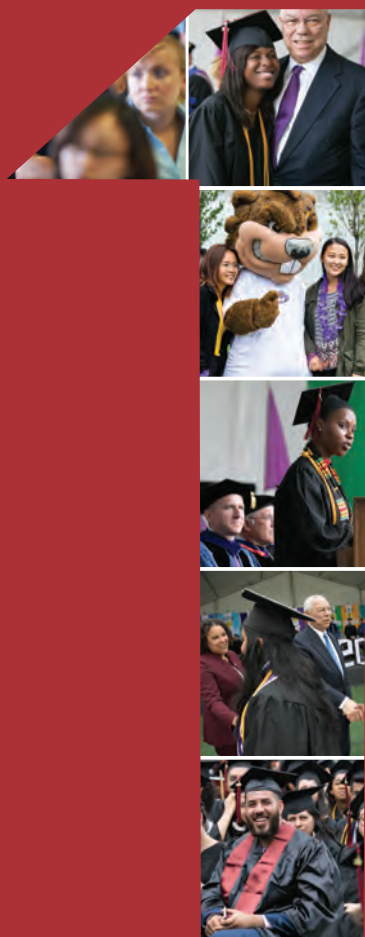


Colin Powell School  
for Civic and Global Leadership



The City College  
of New York



2013-2023

## A Decade of Growth

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

*The future requires globally-minded, diverse leaders who are able to engage in analytically rigorous and evidence-informed debates. We need people with deep training in the social sciences prepared to lead across industry and in every sector, with bold reimaginings of ways to address the current injustices and inequities in our world. Producing these leaders is the fundamental and essential mission of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership.*

# CL

*We combine a deep and rigorous education in the social sciences with values that advance leadership development and social justice. All of this is in service to social mobility for a student body that is 85 percent people of color, half immigrants and first in their families to go to college, and mostly from lower income neighborhoods. Our students come from communities that have historically been denied power. They arrive with both a determination to change that and valuable perspectives on the challenges and needs of their communities. As a school, we aspire to prepare them to take power—and along the way, challenge systems of power—in order to become leaders in service to the city and society.*



# Lifting Leaders

## Shifting Power | Transforming Society



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Dean Andrew Rich and Linda Powell, Chair of  
Board of Visitors, at the 2023 Colin Powell School  
Commencement

“

*Our mission comes directly from General Colin L. Powell, a 1958 graduate of CCNY who until his death in 2021 was the chairman of the Colin Powell School's Board of Visitors and involved day-to-day in the school's strategic direction and service to students.*

*We miss him. As we celebrate a decade of accomplishment, we believe he would be proud of the difference we are making in the lives of our students and in the progress of the school that he loved very so.*



## MESSAGE FROM

# The Chair *and* The Dean

Dear Colin Powell School Community,

This past May, we celebrated the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership at The City College of New York. A decade ago, we combined a small but fast growing campus-wide center focused on student leadership development and community engagement with our creative and vibrant division of social sciences. The new school was conceived as a central hub on CCNY's campus to train and lift students to become leaders across sectors and in service to society. Our success would help to shift power and transform society — lofty ambitions, for sure, but beautifully aligned with the vision that has animated CCNY, the nation's first "free academy", for almost two centuries.

We made student success our highest priority. A decade into our work, there are signs that it's all working. Today, the Colin Powell School is the largest student division of City College, having achieved record breaking enrollments semester-after-semester. Our students reflect the remarkable diversity of New York City, and they are determined to make a difference for themselves, their families, and their communities. We have assembled a world-class faculty, whose research tackles important societal problems and whose teaching positions our graduates for careers and active citizenship. We have developed an extraordinary professional staff, whose advice and mentorship ensure that our students have every tool and resource necessary to succeed. And the fulfillment of the vision set out for

our school a decade ago is reflected in the growing accomplishments of our graduates — now almost 10,000 of them — who are making a difference in every sector of society.

In this very special anniversary edition of our annual report, we reflect on the past decade. We share profiles of some of our first graduates. We share reflections from some of our faculty and staff leaders, people who have been part of the Colin Powell School since its inception, including our founding Dean — and CCNY's current President — Vince Boudreau. And as we always do in this report, we will share many of the highlights of the past year, including faculty, staff, student, and alumni accomplishments; new programs; and events.

Our mission comes directly from General Colin L. Powell, a 1958 graduate of CCNY who until his death in 2021 was the chairman of the Colin Powell School's Board of Visitors and involved day-to-day in the school's strategic direction and service to students. We miss him. As we celebrate a decade of accomplishment, we believe he would be proud of the difference we are making in the lives of our students and in the progress of the school that he loved very so.

Thank you for being a part of the Colin Powell School community. We could not succeed in our work without all of you. We hope you enjoy this look back, and we look forward to working together to make the next decade even better than our first one.

Best Wishes,



Linda Powell, Chair of Board of Visitors



Andrew Rich, Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean



## Reflections *on the* First Decade *of the* Colin Powell School



President Vince  
Boudreau

To mark the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Colin Powell School, Dean Andy Rich sat down with President

Vince Boudreau, who

was the Director of the Colin Powell Center and founding Dean of the Colin Powell School, to talk about the school's roots, its expansion, and its future. President Boudreau recalled how General Powell first became involved with the Center, the significance of his role in establishing and expanding the school, and the expansion of the school's reach and programs.



I had been the director of the Colin Powell Center for only a few months when I was told that the way to change the profile of the Colin Powell Center was to bring Secretary of State Colin Powell to campus to give a policy statement. When he stepped down from the stage, he pulled me aside, and he said, "I can't do anything while I'm in this office, but when I step down, I'm going to come back, and I'm going to see how I can help you." Sure enough, about six months after he left the office,

*he came back to the campus and we had a group of the really extraordinary first cohort of Colin*

*Powell Fellows. He sat in a room with them, and they talked about their lives and experiences. He asked them who they were, what they wanted to do, where they were from, and was deeply moved. As he would describe it later, he saw himself in them.*

Even before we launched the school, the Colin Powell Center was one of the things that people not involved in City College knew about. This idea of service and leadership, of involving students in taking the things that brought them to school in the first place: a desire for just housing policy, equitable distribution of resources, fair immigration policy, policing policy that isn't disproportionately visited on people of color — that a school that foregrounded those things and actually took students who were immigrants and people of color and people that had suffered at the hand of inequitable health systems or poor schools and put them in a position to make a difference, we'd have a much more informed set of policies in America. It was so important for me





**1997**

CCNY launches the Colin L. Powell Center for Policy Studies.

**2009**

The Honors Program in Legal Studies (then known as the Skadden Arps program) is established to increase the numbers of minority students attending law school

**2013 (May 2)**

CUNY's Board approves the formation of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership

**2013 (Spring)**

First Cohort of the Semester in DC program

**2014**

- Inauguration of Sternberg Family Lecture Series
- Viola Foundation Emergency Fund created by a generous donation from Vincent Viola



to figure out how to mobilize the voices of our students, and also to take faculty and staff who for the most part are not accidentally at City College, not accidentally at the Colin Powell School, but have come here to teach these specific students in this specific community around a set of specific concerns and commitment. That's what I hoped the Colin Powell School would become, this place where leadership was developed to carry students with a more democratic and just or equitable perspective on important questions into the world when they graduated.

I've always thought that people should recognize the Colin Powell School the way they recognize

[Syracuse's] Maxwell School or the [Harvard] Kennedy School. I don't mean that it should just be prominent, I mean that it should be prominent in a specific way with a specific set of commitments. I think the social and political and economic leadership of people who come from underserved communities — that should be the identity of the Colin Powell School. I think expanding the work on student success is important. I think being diligent about asking where is social justice work — climate change and racial justice, significant work in immigration — going in the U.S. over the next decade, and making sure that the Colin Powell School keeps up with that.



Few people have been with the Colin Powell School for the entirety of the ten years since its founding. Three members of the faculty — **Lotti Silber**, *Chair of the Department of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Programs and Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Colin Powell School*; **Bob Melara**, *Chair of the Department of Psychology*; and **Kevin Foster**, *Professor of Economics and Associate Dean* — shared their reflections on what makes the Colin Powell School distinctive.

**Lotti Silber**, *Chair of the Department of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Programs and Director of Strategic Initiatives*



We have grown with integrity, commitment, and renewed vision to support the bold call to action of our school's name, the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership. As a faculty member since its inception, and as a departmental leader for nearly as long, I am moved daily by the communities I am lucky enough to accompany — students stepping into the wide world of anthropology; brilliant interdisciplinary faculty whose teaching, research, and writing asks us to query the histories of exclusion that make up our local and global worlds, and significantly, offer us spaces of resistance; and dedicated, creative, and comprehensive student support and advising programs that are truly transformative.

**2016**

Minor in Community Change Studies approved by CUNY Board of Trustees

**2016**

Anthropology, Gender Studies and International Studies Department formed

Here, in the Department of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Programs, that includes the International Studies Program, Women's and Gender Studies, and the Program in Latin American and Latino Studies, we have been given the opportunity to soar. The fruits of this support are evidenced in the glorious successes of our students, alumni, faculty, and staff. At a time when public higher education is under threat in so many parts of our world, the Colin Powell School is a beacon of hope and possibility. It is a leader in the field, in no small part, because of Dean Andy Rich's vision and the spaces he's created. The school embodies and values diversity of experiences, situated knowledge, and the intergenerational and interdisciplinary conversations that can ground the pursuit of justice, equity, and dignity for all.

**Bob Melara**, *Chair of the Department of Psychology*



The power of the Colin Powell School in driving student success is palpable. During the past 10 years, the Colin Powell School has earned and enhanced its reputation as the most student-centered and student-friendly division on the City College campus. From the moment students arrive, they are treated to world-class academic and career

**2019**

- Andrew Rich named dean of CCNY's Colin Powell School in February 2019.
- Minor in Human Rights launched in Fall 2019

**2020**

- Launch of
- Climate Policy Fellowship
  - Racial Justice Fellowship
  - Boudreau Fellowship
  - Stuart Bernstein Scholars
  - Bridges to Success course

**2021 (spring & fall)**

- Launch of
- NBCU Academy Fellowship
  - Santander Fellowship
  - Democracy Corps Fellowship
  - JP Morgan Chase Advancing Black Pathways mentorship program

**2021 (October 18)**

Passing of our founder and namesake General Colin L. Powell

advising, onboarding to ease their transition to college, and unmatched resources to shape and maximize their college experience. The Colin Powell School is special in encouraging students to have a voice and to use their voice to become the next generation's leaders. Here, focus is placed on the importance of experiential work, whether completing internships in neuroscience research or community mental health, attending invited addresses to hear influential national figures, engaging in panel discussions from recent graduates, or receiving mentorship from leaders in residence. The Colin Powell School recognizes that our students have limited time and money — so we are generous with the resources we provide: scholarships, fellowships, paid internships. We are blessed to have extraordinary leadership in our Dean, Andy Rich, who has made so many of these resources and opportunities possible for our students. We are fortunate in having committed alumni, who provide the financial backing for our many student success initiatives. We are fortunate too in having extraordinary faculty, who devote so much of their energy to providing top-flight education to our students, and who feel comfortable reaching across the disciplines of social science to conduct their collaborative scholarship. The upshot is a school in the midst of dramatic growth: the Psychology Department, for example, which I lead, has seen in this decade a doubling in the size of both its undergraduate and master's programs, and has brought a nationally-recognized doctoral program in clinical psychology to campus. Prospective students now see the Colin Powell School as a destination, as the reason

to choose City College, and as the place where their career dreams can be realized.

**Kevin Foster**, *Professor of Economics and Associate Dean*



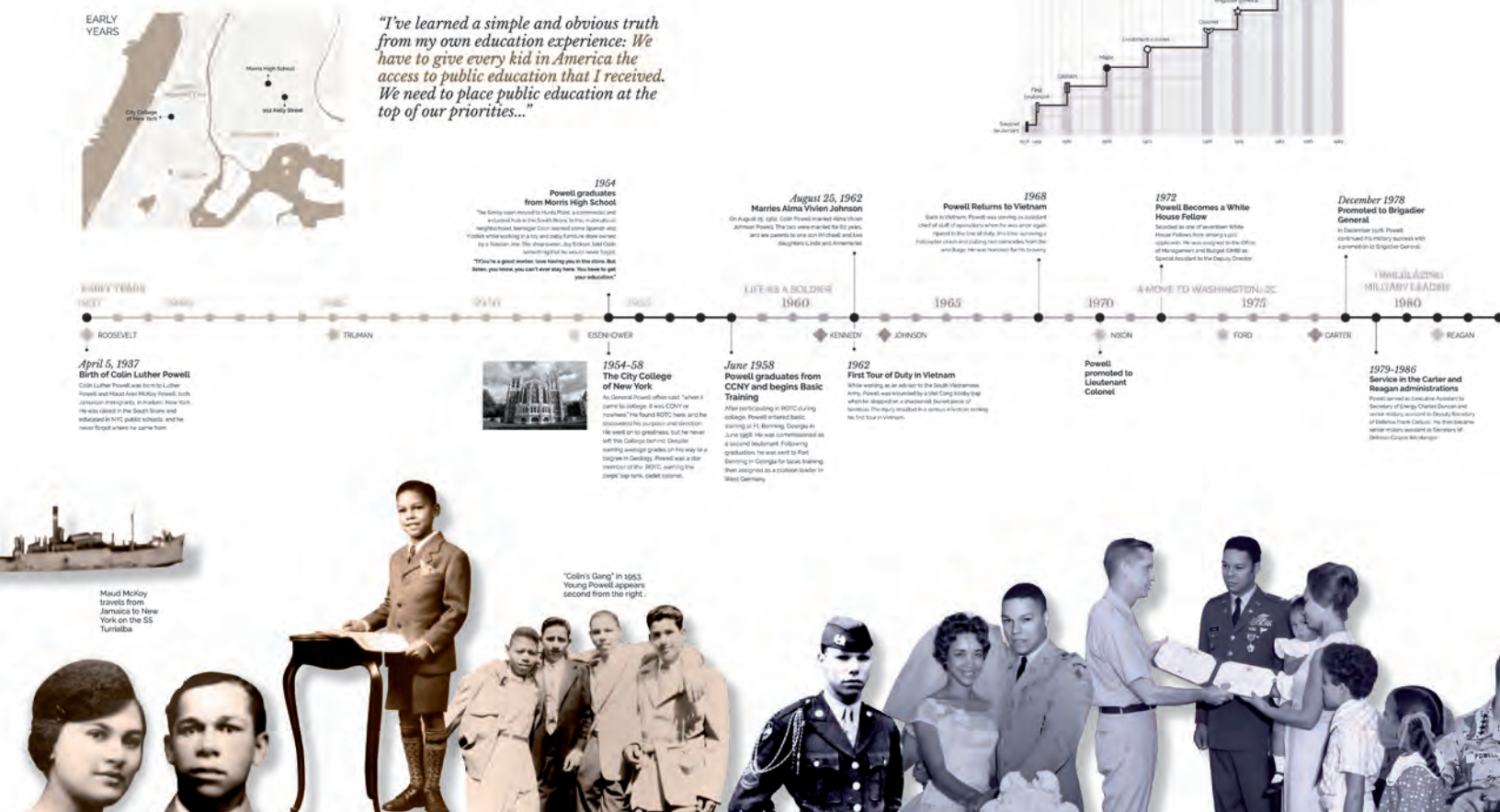
I was interim dean for 2.5 years, so about a quarter of the time the School has been around. I have had a good perspective on all the departments and programs that make up the school. I've been most impressed by the people: the amazing students and the staff and faculty who are dedicated to ensuring the success of those students. Sustaining and strengthening that culture has got to be one of the School's biggest achievements — it's hard to do! A lot of new people have come onboard but they live our mission every day. We've recruited people who have a passion for this, and then we've all deepened our commitments together. Thinking back to the discussions we had 10 years ago about the founding of the school — I think we're far beyond what almost anybody thought even possible! (Well, maybe Vince thought it possible.) We have a lot more students and many more programs to help them launch their careers; new degrees for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students. We've still got more to do but the School has transformed. I'm very excited to see what we can do in the next decade!

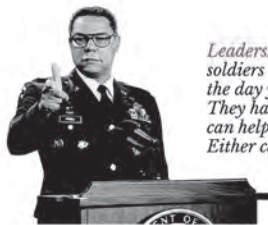


We are grateful to the team at Prodigioso Volcán for producing these pieces pro bono that will forever serve as a tribute to our school's namesake; and to board member Marco Antonio Achón for connecting us to the firm and his continued dedication to the mission of the Powell School, as well as General Powell's longtime aide and current board member Peggy Cifrino, who assisted in choosing the milestones of Powell's life to highlight. You can view the tribute website [here](#).



## 1937-2021





*Leadership is solving problems. The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them. They have either lost confidence that you can help or concluded you do not care. Either case is a failure of leadership.*

#### THE COLIN POWELL SCHOOL



## 13 RULES OF LEADERSHIP

Powell's "13 Rules of Leadership," first published in Parade Magazine in 1982

- 1 It ain't as bad as you think. It will look better in the morning.
- 2 Get mad, then get over it.
- 3 Avoid having your ego so close to your position that when your position fails, your ego goes with it.
- 4 It can be done!
- 5 Be careful what you choose. You may get it.
- 6 Don't let adverse facts stand in the way of a good decision.
- 7 You can't make someone else's choices. You shouldn't let someone else make yours.
- 8 Check small things.
- 9 Share credit.
- 10 Remain calm. Be kind.
- 11 Have a vision. Be demanding.
- 12 Don't take counsel of your fears or naysayers.
- 13 Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier.





# Inaugural Colin L. Powell Distinguished Leadership Award

In April 2023, Cesar Conde, chairman of NBCUniversal News Group, became the inaugural recipient of the Colin L. Powell Distinguished Leadership Award. The award recognizes individuals who have reached the highest level in their fields, and who embody the leadership values that General Powell, a 1958 graduate of City College, demonstrated throughout his career: integrity, humility, humor, pragmatism, and common sense. These values were articulated most famously in Powell's Thirteen Rules of Leadership, which culminate with "Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier." These words are memorialized on the award medallion.

In presenting the Award to Conde, Linda Powell, Chair of the Colin Powell School's Board of Visitors, cited Conde's professional accomplishments, his commitment to excellence, and his dedication to raising up others.

*"Cesar Conde is a visionary and innovative leader who has dedicated his career to shaping the future of media and empowering diverse voices in the industry. He has made it his mission to create a more inclusive and representative media landscape."*

Before becoming the first Hispanic to lead a major English-language television news organization, Conde held numerous positions within NBCU, including Chairman of NBCUniversal International Group and NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, and President of Univision Network.

Conde served as a White House Fellow for then-Secretary of State Powell in 2002-03. An honors graduate of Harvard University, he also holds a master's degree in business administration from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Conde is a member of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors.

The ceremony included a conversation between Conde and NBC News Chief Foreign Affairs and Chief Washington Correspondent Andrea Mitchell,





who recalled meeting General Powell when he served at the White House during the Reagan Administration in the 1980s. The conversation highlighted Conde's upbringing, the mentors who inspired him, including General Powell, and his business career.

"General Powell played such an important role in the lives of so many people," Conde said. "The School's legacy of providing educational opportunities and training, particularly to immigrants and first-generation Americans, was so important to General Powell. I am honored and humbled to accept this award in his name."

The event was conceived by Colin Powell School Board member Marco Antonio Achón, Co-head of Santander Corporate & Investment Banking US and General Manager of Banco Santander New York Branch and made possible through the generous support of Santander.

"General Powell's vision and passion is fully reflected

through the Colin Powell School activity, said Achón.

*"We want the school to grow with perpetual optimism as a force multiplier as Colin Powell said. We are very happy at Santander to support the Colin Powell School and have the Santander fellows program."*

"Cesar embodies the values of service and leadership that were so important to General Powell and that are important to the Colin Powell School," said Dean Andrew Rich. "Like General Powell, he is the son of immigrants — his father from Peru and his mother from Cuba. He is someone who has risen to the highest level in his field.

*"His journey is the same as that of so many of our students, 50% of whom are the children of immigrants. His is a model to admire and to inspire."*

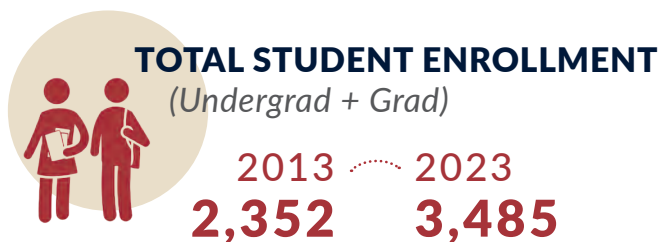


# Our Impact *by the* Numbers

## 2022-2023 *Fellows*



**\$1.2 million** total spent on **INTERNSHIPS**



## RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

FY2023 **\$6.6million**

**57%** increase over FY2020

**EMERGENCY GRANTS** totaling  
**\$274,103** were distributed  
 through **104 GRANTS**

**\$1,007,770** total  
 offered in **FELLOWSHIPS**

## COLIN POWELL SCHOOL'S EXTENSIVE DIGITAL OUTREACH

FACEBOOK



**4.6k** followers

YOUTUBE



**1.16k** subscribers  
25k+ views in last year

LINKEDIN

**3,715** followers

31.5K post impressions in past year

4.4k search appearances

2,100 members in Career opportunities Group

X (formerly known as Twitter)

**7,124** followers

TIKTOK REACH 8,743



**45k** Newsletter Subscribers

AUDIENCE (COMBINED REACH):

**88,991**

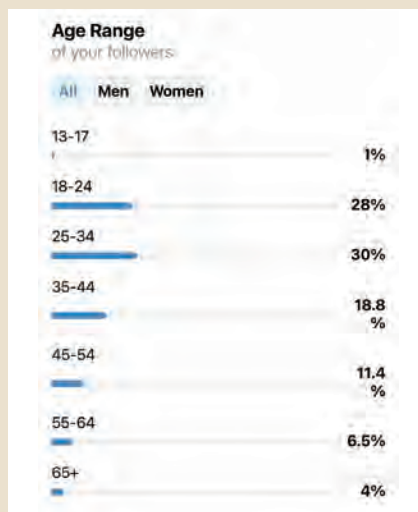
people/accounts reached through social media over the last year



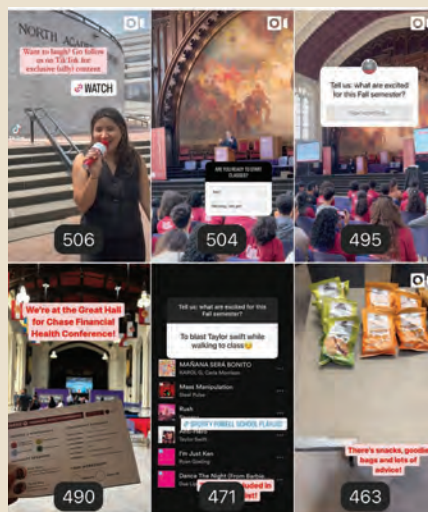
♥ **2,762** COLIN POWELL SCHOOL'S VIBRANT INSTAGRAM PRESENCE  
followers

28% between the ages of 18-24 and 30% between the ages of 25-34

Age Range of our Followers



Instagram Reach - Stories



Instagram Reach - Posts





# Centers *and* Institutes

## <sup>the</sup>Moynihan Center

In Fall 2023, with the support of a founding gift of \$6.96m from the Leon Levy Foundation, the Colin Powell School will formally launch the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Center with the purpose of supporting new leaders to make a difference in public affairs. Through two signature fellowship programs and a rich slate of public events, the Moynihan Center will ensure that the next generation of public scholars and public servants reflects the diversity of viewpoints and lived experiences represented at City College.

The Moynihan Center was approved to become a new CUNY center by the CUNY Board of Trustees in December 2022, and it aims to raise an additional \$4 million to support its first five years of operations. Part of the Leon Levy Foundation grant is earmarked to support the renovation of the fifth floor of Shepard Hall, the landmark and iconic neo-gothic centerpiece of City College's Harlem campus, to become the future home of the Moynihan Center.

The Moynihan Center takes inspiration from the late Senator's celebrated career, which began when he attended CCNY as an undergraduate in 1943, before joining the US Navy, earning a doctorate in history, serving in four White House administrations (two for each party), and ultimately becoming New York's longest serving Senator.

*"Although he earned his BA from Tufts, Pat always considered himself a City College man," said Elizabeth Moynihan, the late Senator's wife. "He understood well the value and the opportunity provided by a public education, and would have been deeply honored to have his name attached to this wonderful institution."*

In addition to the Leon Levy Foundation, the Center has received programmatic grants from Bloomberg Philanthropies, and the Teagle, Charles H. Revson, and Achelis & Bodman foundations.

*Shelby White, founding trustee of the Leon Levy Foundation, said: "The Leon Levy Foundation is proud to support the Daniel Patrick Moynihan Center at the Colin Powell School at City College, honoring the lasting legacy of Senator Moynihan. Pat was a towering figure as a scholar and statesman and a cherished friend to my late husband, Leon, and me."*



The inaugural Executive Director of the Moynihan Center, will be Professor Carlo Invernizzi Accetti, a member of the faculty in the Colin Powell School's political science department. "It is an honor to be part of this exciting project, which has the ambition

of transforming City College's public impact, but also the future of public service leadership in New York City, the country, and the international community at large," he said.

The pillars of the Center are two fellowships. The Moynihan Public Service Fellowship will support promising undergraduate students from CCNY interested in careers in public service with a distinctive curriculum, a summer internship, and stipends of up to \$10,000. The Moynihan Public Scholars Fellowship will invite diverse cohorts of early-to-mid-career professionals — academics, journalists, and public servants — to spend a year at City College writing, teaching, and participating in public events.

## 2022

- Launch of Office of Student Success
- Launch of Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice

## 2023

- Launch of the Moynihan Center

“We see these two fellowships as fundamentally intertwined, which is why it is critical that Public Scholars take residence at

City College,” said **Michael**

**Miller, Managing Director of the Center.** “The

senior fellows won’t simply spend a year working on individual writing projects — they will also become active

participants in a vibrant

intellectual community and model the variety of career trajectories open to our students.”



In advance of the formal launch of the Center, the Colin Powell school launched the NYC Leaders Fellows, with the support of the Teagle Foundation, for students particularly interested in pursuing public service in New York City. Moving forward, this fellowship will be folded into the Moynihan’s Center public service fellows.

Through the New York City Leaders Fellowship, students enrolled in two liberal arts courses to learn about local political systems ahead of beginning an internship program in public service in New York City. The courses provide a comprehensive overview of the history and operations of New York City’s government public service ecosystem. Additionally, students read transformative texts by authors such as Aristotle and Machiavelli to discuss ethical dilemmas that are central to living in and governing a city. After completing the liberal arts courses, the undergraduate students will pursue a fully-funded summer internship program in New York City government or non-governmental organizations.



*Christina Greer*



*Daphne Lundi*



*Yascha Mounk*



*Laurence Pevsner*

This past spring, the Center chose its first four Public Scholars Fellows: **Christina Greer**, *associate professor of political science at Fordham University*; **Daphne Lundi**, *deputy director for Living Streets & Public Spaces at the New York City Mayor’s Office of Climate and Environmental Justice (OCEJ)*; **Yascha Mounk**, *professor of the practice of international affairs at Johns Hopkins University*; and **Laurence Pevsner**, *director of speechwriting for United States Ambassador to the United Nations Linda Thomas-Greenfield*.

Each Moynihan Public Scholar will receive an unrestricted award of up to \$100,000 and will spend one year at CCNY writing, teaching, and engaging in public conversations on critical issues in public affairs.





*“At a time of unprecedented threats to democracy and intense backlash to social progress, we can think of no more urgent need than to be developing leaders from our communities who have all the wisdom, talent, and knowledge needed to lead large-scale movements for change,”*

## Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice

### Jennifer Disla and Chris Torres Join Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice as First Co-Executive Directors

In Fall 2022, Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice (LDSJ), the CUNY institute based at the Colin Powell School and the CUNY School of

Labor and Urban Studies, welcomed its first Co-Executive Directors: Jennifer Disla and Chris Torres. The new institute, formally launched in Spring 2022, is dedicated to developing and supporting the next generation of social justice leaders.



“At a time of unprecedented threats to democracy and intense backlash to social progress, we can think

of no more urgent need than to be developing leaders from our communities who have all the wisdom, talent, and knowledge needed to lead large-scale movements for change,” said Disla and Torres.

“We are thrilled to step into this role and establish this institute as a movement home, where thousands of social justice leaders working at the forefront of labor, immigrants’ rights, climate justice, reproductive justice, and gender and racial equity can hone their skills and build a community to imagine and execute powerful, long-term strategies to win.”

Disla and Torres both have roots in working communities and this informed their understanding of the importance of organizing people to build power and change. The co-leaders are experienced, engaged, and effective longtime organizers who know how to build and scale large movements for social justice. Their experience spans political, labor, and community organizing campaigns that have won victories for working class people, immigrants, and BIPOC communities, Disla most recently as the Co-Executive Director of Detroit Action, and Torres most recently as the Political Director of MoveOn. Their full bios can be found here.



### Appointment of New Distinguished Lecturers tied to LDSJ

With the support of Leadership for Democracy and Social Justice, two national leaders in movements for social change have been appointed to full-time Distinguished Lecturer positions at the Colin Powell School.

Cristina Jiménez Moreta is a community organizer and 2017 MacArthur Fellowship recipient. She moved to the United States from Ecuador at 13. While a student at CUNY Queens College, Jiménez Moreta, who was undocumented, became

an immigrant-rights leader. As co-founder and Executive Director of United We Dream (UWD), the largest immigrant youth-led organization in the country, her leadership was instrumental to the 2012 signing of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) into law.

Shanelle Matthews is Communications Director for the Movement for Black Lives and former faculty of Resistance Narratives at The New School. She is co-editor of a forthcoming anthology detailing world-building narrative campaigns and strategies led by social movement communications workers in the 21st century.

Jiménez Moreta and Matthews will teach and mentor students in the Colin Powell School



and fellows at LDSJ. Jiménez Moreta joined the College in January 2023 and taught two courses: “Power and Strategy” and “Leadership and Management for Social Change.” She is working on a full-length book manuscript currently titled *Here to Dream*, which is under contract with St. Martin’s Press. Matthews joins the Colin Powell School full-time in August 2023.

### CUNY Dominican Studies Institute Receives Historic Funding from Mellon Foundation and Federal Government

This past spring, the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute (DSI) received historic funding of more than \$1.5 million — from the federal government and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation — to launch new programs and initiatives at CCNY. DSI received \$809,092 in federal funding for the creation of a CUNY Cultural/Historical Legacy Initiative (CUNY CHLI) that will generate culturally and historically rich curricula and enrichment programs for K-12 students in partnership with NYC Department of Education. CUNY CHLI will provide special training and faculty development programs for teachers and educators.



With the support of the Mellon Foundation, DSI has launched a three-year \$750,000 fellowship program to support threatened Dominican scholars globally. The program will enable intellectuals to continue their work in safety at CCNY, while also broadening current discussions about the precarious state of intellectual freedom in the Dominican Republic, U.S., and around the world.



Read more on the Mellon Foundation grant [here](#).

*This new program will support intellectuals whose work challenges the ruling elite and the government, and who, for this reason, are threatened with chastisements such as loss of employment, loss of credibility, defamation of character, and barriers to move up in the socioeconomic ladder.*

— DSI Director Ramona Hernández





RICK AND SUSAN GOINGS

# Conversations *in* Leadership



In September, the Colin Powell School launched a new national speakers' initiative, the Rick and Susan Goings Conversations in Leadership Series. The program features discussions with marquee names from every sector who have taken unconventional paths to success at the highest levels of their professions.

The inaugural event featured Gayle King, host of CBS Mornings and editor-at-large for O, The Oprah Magazine. Ms. King reflected on her personal journey to success, the challenges she faced as a woman of color, and the many rejections she had to overcome early in her career in order to succeed.

"Look at failure as an opportunity. You can learn a lot from failure, but don't let it deter you," Ms. King advised students. She highlighted the

importance of counting on the support of mentors and loyal friends throughout her professional career, sharing some of the advice she herself received from Maya Angelou: "What you need to do right now is say thank you. Whining is so unbecoming; it lets them know there is a victim in the neighborhood." The event was moderated by Susan Porcaro Goings, an award-winning journalist, former TV anchor, and close friend of General Powell. She and Ms. King shared stories of their time with General Powell and reflected on the impact of his leadership and legacy. Watch the full conversation here.



*Look at failure as an opportunity. You can learn a lot from failure, but don't let it deter you.*

— Gayle King

For the second Rick and Susan Goings Conversations in Leadership, on November



16th, we welcomed the 66th U.S. Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice. In conversation with Susan Porcaro Goings, Secretary Rice spoke of her childhood in segregated Alabama and the resiliency of her community. “I’m glad I grew up in segregated Birmingham,” said Secretary Rice. “They [my parents] could have limited horizons for what was possible for us...but they had high expectations for us, and they never let us make excuses for our circumstances.” Much of Secretary Rice’s career has been defined by her skills at leading in difficult times. She became Stanford’s youngest provost during a budget crisis. She was also the youngest person to ever hold the position of National Security Advisor, a position she held when the September 11th attacks occurred. Rice then became Secretary of State following Colin Powell’s retirement. Susan Goings led Secretary Rice through a reflection on lessons learned, the meaning of mentorship, and her connection with General Powell, as well as current geopolitical

challenges, including the war in Ukraine.

Rick Goings, Chairman Emeritus of Tupperware Brands, and Susan Porcaro Goings are supporting this series to honor General Powell, their long-time friend and colleague. The Rick and Susan Goings Conversations in Leadership Series probes deeply into the careers of those whose leadership has made a difference and who have persevered despite the odds. Through this series, we will develop an understanding of the styles and critical elements of leadership.

Watch the full conversation here..

*“I’m glad I grew up in segregated Birmingham. They [my parents] could have limited horizons for what was possible for us...but they had high expectations for us, and they never let us make excuses for our circumstances.”*

— Condoleezza Rice





STANLEY FEINGOLD LECTURE IN AMERICAN POLITICS

Congressman **Hakeem Jeffries**



On February 22, the Colin Powell School was honored to host House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries for our 2023 Stanley Feingold Lecture on American Politics, entitled “America at the Crossroads.” Almost 500 attendees gathered in The Great Hall to hear a conversation between the Democratic Leader and Dean Andrew Rich.

Congressman Jeffries praised the accomplishments of the last Congress, saying that “There’s been tremendous progress that we’ve been able to make under the leadership of President Biden, Speaker Pelosi, and Leader Schumer, certainly, in the last Congress, one of the most consequential Congresses in American history.”

Taking a student’s question on the likelihood of the presidency returning to Republican control in 2024,

Congressman Jeffries argued that

*“there’s a really strong case to be made for [President Biden] in achieving a second term. I think also he’s going to have to draw a contrast with what we’re seeing from this version of the Republican party; it’s not a traditional version of the Republican party.”*

We were pleased to be joined by CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, who made opening remarks.

Watch the full conversation here.



## 9TH ANNUAL STERNBERG FAMILY LECTURE

# Jane Chu

On March 15, the Colin Powell School hosted Jane Chu, former Chair of the National Endowment of the Arts, for our 9th Annual Sternberg Family Lecture. This year's talk, entitled "Leadership in Ambiguity: A Celebration of Immigrant Stories," offered insight into Chu's background in multiple cultures, having been born in Shawnee, Oklahoma, and raised in Arkadelphia, Arkansas as the daughter of Chinese immigrants.

"Hearing stories of individuals who have immigrated to the United States has helped me to reflect on the characteristics, the attributes, of the type of leadership that rises to the top during times of ambiguity," said Chu. Through a presentation of her artwork, Chu visually outlined her family's experience with immigration and connected the lessons learned to leadership today.

Chu combines her academic research and professional practice in the arts, philanthropy, and business administration. In 2014, she was appointed to serve as the eleventh chairperson of the National Endowment for the Arts, completing her term in June 2018. During her four-year tenure, Chu traveled to 50 U.S. states and four countries, 200 communities, and made more than 400 site visits to meet with artists and arts leaders, government and civic leaders, philanthropists and the general public.

The NEA awarded \$430 million over those four years to support the arts in 16,000 communities covering 50 states, U.S. jurisdictions, and in every congressional district. Chu is now a Leader-in-Residence at the Colin Powell School.

Watch the event here.



*"Hearing stories of individuals who have immigrated to the United States has helped me to reflect on the characteristics, the attributes, of the type of leadership that rises to the top during times of ambiguity"*

— Jane Chu



# Timeline of Public Events



Sep 07th

## INAUGURAL RICK & SUSAN GOINGS CONVERSATIONS IN LEADERSHIP WITH GAYLE KING

A Conversation on Journalism with Gayle King, host of CBS Mornings.  
Moderated by: Susan Porcaro Goings - Co-founder & Chairman, World Federation of Youth Clubs



Mar 16th

## GOVERNING THROUGH CRISIS

A Conversation with Dr. Dave Chokshi, former NYC Health Commissioner



Mar 15th

## 9TH ANNUAL STERNBERG LECTURE

A Conversation about Leadership and the Immigrant Experience with Former Chair of the National Endowment of the Arts Jane Chu



Mar 07th

## BUILDING WORKER POWER

Discussion on advocacy for workers and the importance of building solidarity!



Mar 22nd

## HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION AND MASS ATROCITY CRIMES

Discussion of the legitimacy intervening in foreign countries to stop atrocities committed, a subject which has been debated for centuries



Apr 03rd

## COLIN L. POWELL DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

Linda Powell, Chair of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors, presents the inaugural Colin L. Powell Distinguished Leadership Award to Cesar Conde, Chair of the NBCUniversal News Group.



Apr 27nd

## DEMYTHOLOGIZING CHINA IN THE WORLD

Discussion about China's political legacies of imperial state formation and transnational exchanges



May 16th

## FELLOWSHIPS CLOSING CEREMONY

A reflection on and celebration of the work fellows accomplished in their respective programs



May 16th

## HONORING FACULTY & STAFF

A luncheon to honor faculty research and accomplishments, alongside outstanding staff, who received awards for their service



Sep 30th

**JPMORGAN  
CHASE FINANCIAL  
HEALTH CONFERENCE**

A panel on developing a better understanding of concepts related to planning, saving, investing, and borrowing

Nichol King Executive Director of Community and Business Development  
Jason Patton Divisional Director of Community and Business Development



Oct 06th

**FIGHTING FOR  
CUNY'S FUTURE**

A workshop with New York State organizers and legislators about CUNY's history and securing resources for its future.  
Karines Reyes, Assembly member of the 87th District.



Nov 16th

**CONVERSATIONS  
IN LEADERSHIP –  
CONDOLEEZZA RICE**

A Conversation on Leadership with Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice  
Moderated by: Susan Porcaro Goings - Co-founder & Chairman, World Federation of Youth Clubs



Feb 22nd

**STANLEY  
FEINGOLD  
LECTURE**

2023 Stanley Feingold Lecture on American Politics, featuring Hakeem Jeffries, Democratic Leader of the U.S House of Representatives, (D-NY 8th District) in conversation with Colin Powell School Dean Andrew Rich.



Dec 9th

**THE PEOPLE'S  
SUMMIT WITH  
AFRICA CENTER**

The Continent and the Diaspora Unite to Advance Africa. A virtual event to mobilize African Americans and African immigrants to join forces in support of the new U.S. policy toward Sub-Saharan Africa and to address ongoing turmoil in Haiti.



Nov 29th

**LES LENKOWSKY  
LECTURE**

Talk on "Inconvenient Facts and Public Policy:" What should policy makers do when facts may be legitimate, yet are profoundly inconvenient, as when they point toward policies and practices that are morally unacceptable and politically unfeasible?



Apr 17th

**THE EDWARD I.  
ALTMAN LECTURE  
IN ECONOMICS**

A Conversation with Economist Laura Veldkamp about Data and its Growing Importance



Apr 20th

**CIRO SCALA  
CELEBRATION**

A celebration honoring Ciro Scala, featured in the New York Times, of his return to City College decades after dropping out to finally finish and earn his degree



May 02nd

**DAY OF  
SERVICE**

Annual coming together of students, fellows, CPS staff, and other volunteers to provide support to the homeless, the elderly, and to local community organizations



May 09th

**UNMASKED,  
HOW COVID-19  
REVEALED PAINFUL  
TRUTHS ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS**

Speaker: Michael T. Hartney  
Who talked on COVID's impacts on schools.



May 04th

**COMMUNITY  
QUILT  
UNVEILING, CPS  
STUDENT LOUNGE**

Unveiling of a semester-long effort to learn sewing and craft-making that culminated in a new addition of various art pieces to the CPS student lounge



May 04th

**SENIORS  
CELEBRATION**

A celebration of our fellows and seniors with raffles and prizes for accomplishing all they have and for getting ready to graduate!



# Empowering Student Success

## A LOOK INSIDE THE COLIN POWELL SCHOOL'S OFFICE OF STUDENT SUCCESS

The Colin Powell School's Office of Student Success (OSS) launched in Spring 2022 to strengthen and expand co-curricular opportunities that enrich the student experience. During the 2022-2023 academic year, OSS supported more than 1,000 students and alumni through mentoring, paid internships, fellowships, workshops, networking activities, and more. The broad reach of OSS reflects enthusiasm among the Colin Powell School community for opportunities that support students beyond the classroom and that keep alumni engaged with the school and each other.

With seven full-time staff and additional part-time college assistants, OSS serves a wide swath of students at all points during their college journeys, from the moment they set foot on CCNY's campus to long after they graduate. OSS hosted more than 300 activities during the academic year, from Welcome Events for new freshmen and transfer students, all the way through to a fun-filled Seniors Day celebrating those who were graduating. Weekly tabling sessions and class visits expanded outreach, resulting in record-high applications for the various fellowship and internship programs. Career talks and site visits exposed students to professionals working in finance, mental health, and civic engagement. OSS launched a Faculty Fellowship that gives professors tools to better incorporate career and professional development concepts in the classroom, and refined its Student Success Guide peer mentoring program. Though many activities

focused on professional growth, OSS also organized social events for students to meet new friends and reconnect with old ones — often a challenge on a commuter campus.

In Fall 2022, we unveiled newly renovated space on the 6th floor of the NAC building, which includes the Office of Student Success, the Office of Academic Advising, and the Colin Powell School Dean's office. The open design of this space enables students to easily walk between offices — for advisors to refer students to OSS staff and vice versa. This proximity reduces the barriers that some students might feel when meeting new staff, learning about new opportunities, or scheduling appointments. As part of the renovation, the Colin Powell School created a Student Center, offering a place for students to socialize with one another, study, collaborate on assignments, or simply take a break from their classes while staying on campus.

Welcome Events      celebrating those who      Faculty Fellowship  
professional development      were graduating      Site visits

Career talks      **300 activities**      peer mentoring

Weekly tabling sessions      fellowship and internship programs

class visits expanded outreach      Seniors Day

In a touching event on April 20, 2023, the Colin Powell School and CCNY honored alumnus **Ciro Scala** by unveiling a plaque in his honor in the Student Center. Scala — who received his BA and MA from the Colin Powell School in 2020, more than 60 years after first enrolling at CCNY — supports the First Generation Empowerment Program, which provides additional resources for students who are the first in their families to attend college.



## PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER HUB WINS NATIONAL AWARD



The work of the Colin Powell School's Public Service Career Hub was recognized with the 2023 Exemplary Model Award from the American Association of University Administrators

(AAUA). Launched in Fall 2021

with support from the Carroll and Milton Petrie Foundation, the Career Hub guides students in their journeys to internships, jobs, and careers in public service.

Under the leadership of Maya Gutierrez, the Hub has excelled in engaging and preparing students for public service leadership roles. The AAUA recognized the Career Hub for its outstanding efforts in addressing challenges faced by students from diverse backgrounds, including students of color, immigrants, first-generation students, and those with low incomes.

Hub milestones between July 2022 - July 2023:

- 225 students in internships
- 77,000 internship hours
- Internship site partners included Office of Congresswoman Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez, United Nations, International Rescue Committee, NYC Commission on Human

Rights, Sonia and Celine Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program



The recognition by the AAUA highlights the Career Hub's innovative approach, which

prioritizes public service-oriented career pathways alongside traditional private sector recruitment. By providing personalized support, career advice, and assistance with job materials, the Hub has helped students navigate their academic careers and become "career-ready" upon graduation.

The Petrie Foundation's vital support has been instrumental in launching and sustaining the Career Hub's operations, enabling it to expand its reach and impact. The award from the AAUA is a testament to the Powell School's excellence in guiding students towards public service careers and reflects the School's commitment to preparing students for leadership roles that will positively impact their families, communities, and beyond. The recognition reaffirms the School's dedication to fostering future leaders who will make a meaningful difference in their communities through public service.



## “I’M FIRST!” CELEBRATING OUR FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT MAJORITY AT THE COLIN POWELL SCHOOL



Upwards of sixty percent of Colin Powell School students are the first in their families to go to college, and we are fully committed to helping first-generation students make the transition to college, build community, and succeed academically and professionally. That is why the second Tuesday of November, National First-Generation Student Day, is so meaningful. It is a day to celebrate the efforts and commitment of the majority of our students and their families. This year we hosted a celebration in our new student lounge on the 6th floor of the NAC Building. The event included food and dance and highlighted the resources available to help

first-generation students at CCNY, and it gave students a space to mingle, connect, and build a support network.



*It can be difficult to navigate the waters of what college has. So we really try to make it easier for them to transition from high school to college by having these types of events to expose them to everything we have to offer here.*

*Cynthia Gutierrez, Director of Mentoring and Alumni Relations, and herself a first-generation college student.*

The event was featured on local television news station WPIX.



### FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

#### SUPPORT FOR THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

The Leonard-Litz LGBTQ+ Foundation provided the Colin Powell School with a generous three-year gift to support the School's new Mixner LGBTQ+ Equal Rights Fellowship program and CCNY's LGBTQ+ Student Center. Both of these initiatives, launched last year, reflect a deeper institutional commitment to ensuring that our LGBTQ+ students build community among one

another, a goal which is sometimes difficult to achieve on a commuter campus. Our LGBTQ+ students should feel safe and seen; even more, and in the spirit of the Colin Powell School's mission to develop new leaders, we want to help our LGBTQ+ students learn how to wield their collective power for positive change in our city and society.



The Colin Powell School was the incubator and initial source of support for the LGBTQ+ Student Center, and is also home to the new fellowship program. This multi-year grant by the Leonard-Litz Foundation is the first major external investment in these efforts. Elliot Leonard, one of the Founding Trustees of the Foundation and a CCNY alumnus, commented, “CUNY helped me get to where I am today, and I am grateful that they’re still creating opportunities for young people of all backgrounds to have access to social and economic mobility in a time of increasingly prohibitive higher education costs.” The Leonard-Litz Foundation was established to fund organizations working to advance the interests and well-being of the LGBTQ+ community, with a specific focus on LGBTQ+ communities of color, and transgender and gender-nonconforming people.

The Powell School extends its thanks to the Leonard-Litz Foundation and to Mitch Draizin, the President of the CUNY LGBTQ+ Advisory Council, who introduced our work to the Leonard-Litz Foundation and has been a leader in efforts across CUNY to provide more intensive support for our LGBTQ+ students.

#### **David Mixner, LGBTQ+ Trailblazer, Speaks at the Colin Powell School**

On March 21, the Colin Powell School had the honor of hosting David Mixner,

for whom the program was named, for a talk on his life’s work in LGBTQ+ advocacy and public service. Mixner, a lifelong political activist, reminisced about his experiences and involvement in the movements to end the Vietnam War, pass civil rights legislation, achieve nuclear disarmament, and create a humane, stigma-free, education-based and treatment-focused approach to the AIDS epidemic.

His advice for students wishing to pursue a career in activism: “Know the difference between principles, values, and issues. You can never compromise on your principles and values. But issues come and go.”

*“CUNY helped me get to where I am today, and I am grateful that they’re still creating opportunities for young people of all backgrounds to have access to social and economic mobility in a time of increasingly prohibitive higher education costs.”*

*Elliot Leonard, one of the Founding Trustees of the Leonard Litz Foundation and a CCNY alumnus*



## CLIMATE POLICY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM EXPANDS TO SECOND CAMPUS



Thanks to a generous grant from the Heising-Simons Foundation, Florida A&M University became the first partner institution for CCNY's Climate Policy Fellows program.

Eric O'Rear, PhD, a 2008 FAMU alumnus and a senior analyst with Rhodium Group in the Energy and Climate Practice, directs the program, along with CCNY Alumnus Trevor Houser, director of the CCNY program. Houser, who is also a

member of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors, envisioned this as the logical next step to increasing the impact of the program, created in 2019 to increase the diversity of the environmental policy space. Twenty-one FAMU students were chosen this past fall as the inaugural cohort.

The Climate Policy Fellows Program is designed to introduce undergraduates to the linkage of engineering, economics, and climate related-science to public policy. Students receive training, professional development, internship opportunities, and participate in intensive workshops led by national and international climate policy experts. The program finished its third year at the Colin Powell School in 2022-23, and it has become one of the most competitive fellowship programs on campus.

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## BIANCA GUERRERO SERVES AS INAUGURAL RACIAL JUSTICE LEADER-IN-RESIDENCE



This past year, we welcomed Bianca Guerrero as the inaugural Racial Justice Leader-in-Residence. Their role was to develop and support racial justice initiatives

at the school, including the Racial Justice Fellows Program, which launched during the national uprising following the murder of George Floyd and aims to prepare fellows to build anti-racist movements and organizations. Guerrero's role included organizing public events, research, performances, and experiential learning opportunities for students. Among the events that they organized were a panel on the

importance and possibility of free tuition at CUNY, situating it within a broader context of student movements; and a panel which brought together union members and advocates to discuss building power through solidarity with one's coworkers. They also taught the class Gender and Sexuality in NY Politics in the spring semester.

One of the most fascinating projects Guerrero led connected to their own independent study, which focuses on quilts and social movements. Over 12 weeks, Guerrero led a community quilt project, in which students learned to sew and created a mini-quilt of their own design. Many of their works honor their personal or college experiences, while other works reflect their future goals. In the spring, they presented a community quilt built by

students, which now graces the wall of the Colin Powell School's new student lounge.

Guerrero previously served as an NYC Urban Fellow in the Mayor's Office and later worked on Jamaal Bowman's 2020 congressional race. In 2021, they worked at Make the Road

NY coordinating the Fund Excluded Workers campaign, a statewide coalition that secured a first-in-the-nation \$2.1 billion program for undocumented and other workers who were ineligible for federal unemployment insurance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## BLOOM ENERGY INNOVATION FELLOWSHIP



This past spring, Bloom Energy, in partnership with the Colin Powell School, introduced the first cohort of Colin Powell Bloom Energy Innovation Fellows at a ceremony in the rotunda of New York City Hall.

In spring and summer 2023, the eleven Fellows gained extensive work and professional development experience through a cohort-based program at Bloom's San Jose, California headquarters. The program provided students with experience in various business areas at Bloom Energy, a leading manufacturer in the fuel cell industry, including: mechanical, electrical and manufacturing engineering; human resources; marketing; finance; legal; business and data analytics; and information technology.

Bloom Energy and CCNY created this internship program to invest in the future of the clean energy

## COLIN POWELL Bloomenergy INNOVATION FELLOWS

workforce and to honor General Powell, a 1958 graduate of CCNY and a Bloom Energy Board member, as well as the company's chief mission and values officer. By training students for success in the clean energy field, Bloom and CCNY are carrying out Powell's vision of fostering the next generation of diverse global leaders.

This initiative is an important new component of the efforts by CUNY and the City of New York to diversify the ranks of tech and clean energy, efforts that aim to position New York City and New Yorkers — and especially younger New Yorkers — at the center of these industries and the good jobs they produce for our city and society.



# Alumni Insights & Inspirations

## *Stories, Updates and Development Programs*

### J. BRUCE LLEWELLYN ALUMNI DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



This past year saw the launch of the J. Bruce Llewellyn Alumni Development Program. Thanks to a generous gift by Shahara Ahmad-Llewellyn, a member of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors, this program supports efforts to connect Colin Powell School alums with one another — for professional networking and community-building — and with the school and its current students in more substantive and substantial ways than ever before. An online networking platform, mentorship program, and professional development workshop series are among the new opportunities available to Colin Powell School alumni. Lesly Calle '22 joined the team as Alumni Relations Coordinator alongside Mentoring and Alumni Relations Director Cynthia Gutierrez.

The Powell School launched its own digital alumni community platform on People Grove in Spring 2022. Since then, our alumni network on People Grove has grown to more than 300 people, an increase from 182 in January 2023. This platform facilitates the connection between students and alumni in mentoring programs,

alumni community, support for our fellowship programs, and provides a space for sharing career opportunities and resources.

We hosted our first-ever alumni mixer in October, with more than 50 alumni gathering for a memorable evening in Manhattan. The success of this first mixer inspired subsequent meetups, including an event in the newly-renovated Colin Powell School space. Virtual events such as a fireside chat with Dean Rich and an alumni panel on psychology careers expanded access to those outside of New York. A mixer in Washington DC, organized by alumnus Kay Atanda and held at the World Bank, brought together the Semester in DC students and regional alumni.

Over the past year, the Powell School has been actively engaging with its alumni community. The many activities and events held throughout the year have made our students' lives better, enriched their college experience and invigorated the school's alumni base. The impressive number of alumni actively participating in these endeavors demonstrates the appetite alumni have for connecting with each other and with the school.

## LINCOLN AJOKU '03 ON THE PURSUIT OF EDUCATION, PURPOSE, AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Lincoln Ajoku's journey is a testament to the transformative power of education and the pursuit of meaningful purpose.

Born in Manhattan to Nigerian immigrant parents, Ajoku's upbringing in a

working-class Brooklyn

neighborhood instilled in him a deep appreciation for hard work and education.

Growing up during challenging times in New York City marked by crime and struggling public schools, Ajoku developed a passion for addressing disparities in healthcare and education. This brought him to CCNY's Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education. Through self-exploration and faculty support, he found a new passion, majoring in Economics with a minor in International Studies at the Colin Powell School. He credits the

unique opportunity of interning and doing a study tour in Rwanda following his graduation as a "defining experience" and "a truly remarkable way to end my time at City College and embark on my career in international development."

Ajoku's career has included designing and evaluating complex interventions for education and social protection for vulnerable communities around the world, including in Haiti, Somalia, and Bangladesh, as well as managing diverse teams to achieve results in emergency settings. Now an education specialist with UNICEF in Nigeria and studying for his doctorate in Leadership and Change at Antioch University, Ajoku advises students to identify a core set of motivating values and purposes. "These... can range from empathy, to serving others, to putting family first, or addressing injustices in society through one's career. These are the pillars that will keep someone steady when things get rough."

## FROM CCNY TO BUSINESS OWNER: ALUMNA ALICE MILLS MAI'S PURSUIT OF MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING



Alice Mills Mai '13 MA '16 is the daughter of Ghanaian immigrants and considers the Bronx her home.

Following a family tragedy, she discovered the healing power of counseling and a passion for reducing the stigma around mental health.

She is the Founder/CEO of Centering Wholeness Counseling, which offers convenient and culturally affirming mental wellness services to Black and Brown people. "As someone currently on a healing journey, I know the significance of counseling and creating sacred healing spaces for individuals." With a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and a Master's degree in Mental Health Counseling

from CCNY, Mills Mai has gained experience in non-profits, correctional facilities, and private practice. As a professional in the field, and a student herself, she advises those pursuing a degree to "not neglect your mental health and self-care while pursuing your degree. Integrate small self-care practices into your day."

*"As someone currently on a healing journey, I know the significance of counseling and creating sacred healing spaces for individuals."*



# Deepening Support For Students

ACROSS THE COLIN POWELL SCHOOL

## PUMP PROGRAM

During the spring semester, the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program at CCNY launched the Psychology Undergraduate Mentorship Program (PUMP). Through PUMP, CCNY's doctoral students provide professional development mentorship to CCNY undergraduate psychology students. Mentee-mentor pairs meet monthly for a semester to discuss a range of topics of interest to the mentee, including internship experiences/opportunities, differences across graduate programs in psychology, application process, financial aid resources for standardized testing and application fees, networking, and more.

PUMP is part of a broader effort spearheaded by the Social Action @ Clinical CCNY Committee, a student and faculty collaboration designed to implement concrete, action-driven, and focused efforts that will contribute to our community.

Throughout Spring 2023, 26 Clinical Psychology PhD Students met several times with 26 graduating psychology seniors. We hope to continue this program for graduating seniors as well as expand PUMP to include a range of professional development programming for individuals earlier in their undergraduate training.

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## LEWIS MANDELL MEMORIAL FUND FOR STUDENTS OF ECONOMICS



Nancy Mandell, the widow of alumnus Lewis Mandell '64 has established the Lewis Mandell Memorial Fund for Students of Economics, an endowed fund that will permit the Department

of Economics to make student awards of approximately \$2,000 annually for urgent financial needs such as books and laptops, as well as emergency food, housing, commuter, or medical expenses. Mandell credited CCNY, and specifically the Economics Department, with giving him the foundation from which he launched an extraordinary academic career spanning more than four decades, including serving as the Dean of Business at Marquette University and SUNY Buffalo. He spoke nationally and internationally on consumer and investor financial literacy and education and entrepreneurship. Throughout his life, Mandell helped countless students to achieve academic success and a chance to pursue their dreams. In gratitude to CCNY and the Economics Department, Mandell's wish was to assist today's students in pursuit of their futures.

*This Endowment is a tribute to Lew's lifelong devotion to students and his abiding gratitude to the Economics Department and to City College of New York.*

## COLIN POWELL SCHOOL LEADERS-IN-RESIDENCE



This past year, the Colin Powell School launched a new Leaders-in-Residence program, with four distinguished, senior leaders joining us beginning in 2023: **Jane Chu**, *former Chairperson of the National Endowment of the Arts*; **Sarah Dyer**, *Co-Founder of 100 Women in Finance*; **Gara LaMarche**, *former President and CEO of The Democracy Alliance, Atlantic Philanthropies, and U.S. Programs at the Open Society Foundations*; and **Blair Miller**, *a Senior Strategist at Two Sigma Impact*, a private equity firm focused on workforce impact.

Developing our students to become leaders across sectors and in service to society is a fundamental part of our mission, and the Leaders-in-Residence will play a central role in helping us achieve that goal. Each is teaching a course, spending time on campus meeting with and mentoring students, and taking part in regular discussions about the strategic direction of the Colin Powell School.

Learn more about the Leaders-in-Residence Program here.



## KYLA BROOKE, THE NEW DIPLOMAT-IN-RESIDENCE BASED AT THE COLIN POWELL SCHOOL



Students interested in building careers in the U.S. Foreign Service and in foreign affairs are now able to receive guidance directly from Kyla Brooke, the new Diplomat-in-Residence for the New York Metro area,

stationed by the U.S. Department of State right here on the City College campus. Brooke has been a foreign service officer for 16 years and previously served in the Dominican Republic, The Netherlands, Afghanistan, the U.S. Mission to the United

Nations in New York, and most recently Israel.

Brooke graduated from Yale University with an MA in Diplomacy and International Relations, with a focus on international business and law. She holds a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles in Communications and Political Science. She served as a term member on the Council of Foreign Relations from 2016-2021.

Brooke first discovered foreign service careers by talking to a diplomat-in-residence at her alma mater, UCLA. She encourages students to connect with her to talk about how to build a meaningful career in public service and foreign affairs.



# Navigating Academic Success

## THE ROLE OF ACADEMIC ADVISING AT THE COLIN POWELL SCHOOL



This past year, the Colin Powell School's Office of Academic Advising initiated a number of new services to better serve our students and make sure that they are making satisfactory progress towards graduation. These included tailored information sessions for seniors, juniors, sophomores and freshmen. Advisers shared targeted messages for students based on the numbers of credits they have and the resources that are available to them. We also began a Junior's Degree Progress Campaign, which targets students who have between 60 and 75 credits. It is at this point that all students have declared a major. Using EAB Navigate, the college's coordinated care platform, advisers were able

to identify and communicate with students who fell into this category. Through the Navigate feature called "campaign," we sent out notices to the students informing them that they were required to see an academic adviser to review their academic progress and plan out the remainder of their time at the Colin Powell School. Last semester, the Junior's Degree Progress Campaign targeted 448 students; at the start of this semester, 442 students had seen an adviser to clear that hold and register.

In all of our sessions, we not only focus on students' academic track, but also work closely with the Office Student Success to emphasize the resources

available at the Colin Powell School, such as fellowship, mentorship and internship opportunities. Lastly, we encourage students to think of study abroad and life after City College.

With our enrollment numbers rising each year, it is more important than ever that we have a sufficient number of advisers to serve their needs. We were thrilled to welcome Jessica Powell to the team. Powell joined the Colin Powell School Advising office after nearly seven years at CUNY-Hostos, where she was an Academic Adviser for the ASAP program and also led their Peer Mentor program. Prior to that, she worked for community based organizations such as



the Harlem Children's Zone and dedicated two years to teaching abroad in South Korea. She has a BS in Elementary Education and Teaching from Penn State and an MA in Educational Leadership and Administration from NYU.

Reflecting on her first year, Powell said, "Since I have joined the advisement team at The Colin Powell School, I

have had so many eye opening experiences. I have been touched both by the vulnerability and tenacity of our students and the compassion and unrelentless support of our leadership. I am so thrilled to be a part of this team and looking forward to our continued growth and evolution as a department."

In 2022-23, we also welcomed three new "Embedded Advisers," staff fellows who worked full-time with students majoring in three of our largest departments –Psychology, Economics and Business, and Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Programs. The embedded advisers –

Kutay Agardici in Psychology; Jennifer Lavayen in Economics and Business; Lisa Babel in Anthropology –made sure students connected the dots between their general education requirements and their major requirements. They also worked closely with instructors to identify at-risk students and to reach out to those having difficulty in courses to make sure they tapped all of the academic support systems available to help them succeed. We thank the Foundation for City College and CCNY's President's office for supporting the embedded advisers initiative.

## Faculty Highlights

### COLIN POWELL SCHOOL WELCOMES TEN NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

The Colin Powell School was pleased to welcome ten new faculty members in 2022-23 – the most we've had starting at one time in more than a decade. These outstanding new hires bring expertise in a range of topics including globalization and technology, social inequality and mental health, human rights law, comparative welfare states and foreign policy in the Global South, adolescent psychology, genocide, and much more. We are thrilled to have these new voices animating

discussions in every one of our academic departments. We asked each of the new faculty members to reflect on their first year at the Colin Powell School.

**LARRY AU,**  
Assistant Professor, Sociology

*Research interests:* science, technology, and society; medical Sociology; globalization

"I am grateful to have been welcomed and supported by my colleagues and students in Sociology and in the broader Colin Powell School



community. I look forward to deepening these connections, and showing what Sociology has to contribute to pressing contemporary debates over the social implications of technological innovation, equity in science, and much more."

**LAURA BRANDT,**  
Assistant Professor, Psychology

*Research interests:* substance use disorder research and treatment; refining methods to predict/ compute human behavior; social mission of universities: targeted use and transfer of academic knowledge to help resolve diverse societal challenges

"It is truly rewarding to be part of this community. I quickly noticed many signs of kindness with which people tend to treat each other at CCNY. For example, it seems to be a universal rule that everyone holds the door for everyone. This seemingly simple act translates into a metaphor: here, no one will slam a door in your face — to the contrary, we will open it for you. This attitude makes CCNY and the Colin Powell School special and it is expressed in a myriad of opportunities offered to students (fellowships, stipends, and other programs) geared towards supporting them in pursuing their individual academic paths toward a career that best fits their unique skillset and interests."



**PAUL CLIFFORD,**  
Lecturer, Economics



*Research interests:* climate finance; global infrastructure; investment and finance

"I'm immensely proud to support the social and economic mobility mission of CCNY."

**OUAFAA HMADDI,**  
Assistant Professor, Economics and Business



*Research interests:* entrepreneurship; inequality; field and lab experiments

"In the midst of all the wonderful moments this year, one stands out as the brightest: teaching the Entrepreneurship class. The incredible minds I met were like a shining beacon of inspiration. As another fall approaches, I eagerly anticipate the chance to embark on

this transformative journey once more, in the presence of extraordinary souls.'

**OMNIA KHALIL,** Doctoral Lecturer, Anthropology

*Research interests:* political geography; violence; counterinsurgency; Egypt; cities; urban lives



"International students, immigrants, and different nationalities enrich the classroom by making comparisons internationally between contexts, and give a space not to answer their concerns of social justice and political ideologies through one lens of geographical location. In our conversations, we learn a lot about other countries and regions around the world, along with other histories to grasp a meaning of some other societies towards an imagination of our present worlds, and future ones in political economy, gender, and human life."

**RAPHAËLLE KHAN,**  
Assistant Professor, Political Science

*Research interests:* The role of the Global South and emerging





powers in shaping and contesting the international order; decolonization and international organisations; the international politics of South Asia, in particular India's foreign policy; the geopolitical reconfiguration of the Indo-Pacific region

"I received a warm welcome at the Powell School and had a great first year as an Assistant Professor. Colleagues and the staff share a great level of friendliness and professionalism, and students are both driven and very inspiring. A wonderful community to be a part of!"

**BRENT MAXIMIN, Doctoral Lecturer, Psychology**



*Research interests:* positive identity development in adolescence and emerging adulthood

"My highlight of the year, and one of the highlights of my career so far, was attending the Colin Powell School commencement ceremony and getting to congratulate some of my students as they crossed the stage."

**GREGORY DUFF MORTON, Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Programs**



*Research interests:* Reverse migration; conditional cash transfers; migrant community; social movements across the Americas; social class; the anthropology of economic growth; theories of property

"CPS bustles with the energy of people moving forward. Every day, I feel inspired by the people around me who want to change their own lives and change the world at the same time. This is the place to make that kind of thing happen."

**DIRK MOSES, Spitzer Professor of Political Science**  
*Research interests:* international



relations; genocide, human rights

"My first year at the Powell School has been deeply satisfying: full of opportunities to contribute and to learn."

**WALEED SAMI, Assistant Professor, Psychology**

*Research interests:* the effects that income-inequality and the political economy have on mental health outcomes; improving mental health access and care within the Muslim-American community



"City College has been like coming home for me. The faculty and students have made me feel very welcome and I'm eager to contribute to our learning community."

## DR. EUGENE SUROWITZ ASSISTANT PROFESSORSHIP



A generous gift from alumnus **Dr. Eugene Surowitz '68** will enable the Department of Psychology to support the salary and research expenses of a new assistant professor whose

work is at the intersection of psychology and computer science. Surowitz, a 1968 graduate of CCNY, made this gift with the hope that the department could identify an assistant professor who will be an innovator whose research program leads to new approaches for studying the mind, using techniques of computational and neural network modeling, artificial intelligence and/or machine learning. Dr. Surowitz worked for many years at IBM, in the

areas of large-scale parallel computer and parallel neural network models. He earned his PhD from NYU in 1988 and worked as an independent research professional, co-authoring the book *Einstein's Apple: Homogeneous Einstein Fields*.

We are pleased to announce that **Ed Vessel** will join the Colin Powell School as the **Eugene Surowitz Assistant Professor of Psychology**. Dr. Vessel is a computational cognitive neuroscientist who comes to the Powell School from the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics (MPIEA) in Frankfurt, Germany. His research group, the Visual Neuroaesthetics Lab, uses behavioral, computational and brain imaging techniques to study the psychological and neural basis of aesthetic experiences, creative insight and curiosity.

## PROFESSOR IRINA SILBER TAKES ON NEW ROLE AS COLIN POWELL SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

This year, **Professor Irina Carlota (Lotti) Silber** took on a new role as the first Colin Powell School Director of Strategic Initiatives. In this role, she leads in the school's efforts to organize new academic programs and develop stronger systems of institutional support for existing ones. She works closely with Dean Rich on bringing faculty, staff, and students together to think about future priorities and the strategic direction of the School.

In the spirit of this new vision, this spring the Colin Powell School received full approval from CUNY to rename what has been the Department of Anthropology, Gender Studies, and International Studies — of which Professor Silber is Chair — to the Department of Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Programs.

Along with the name change, CUNY also approved making the newly-named department the home for the Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program (LALS). The department now includes LALS, Anthropology, International Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.

*"I am honored to begin this new position and excited that we will be able to showcase and build upon the extraordinary and transformative work taking place across our Colin Powell School communities. We are at a pivotal moment of growth and vision for our school. This is a dream opportunity to think, work, and together develop new avenues for creative academic programs."*

In addition to Professor Silber, we also acknowledge the efforts of Norma Fuentes-Mayorga, Sherrie Baver, and Iris Lopez, the members of the Faculty Executive Committee

for LALS; and associate Provost Mary Ruth Strzeszewski for her key role in shepherding this change through the CUNY administrative processes.

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## PROFESSOR PRABAL DE, NEWLY ELECTED CHAIR OF DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

This past year, **Professor Prabal De** was elected to be the new Chair of the Department of Economics and Business.

*“I feel humbled and honored,” said Professor De. “I will devote a significant amount of my energy to the service of my students and colleagues.”*

In addition to continuing his own research and teaching, Professor De plans to build new partnerships with academic, community, and government institutions, revamp the department’s communications, and increase recruitment efforts through high school counselors.

As a high school student in Kolkata, India, Professor De became interested in the writings of the renowned Indian economist Amartya

Sen. After completing his undergraduate studies in economics, he came to the U.S. and completed a PhD in economics at NYU. Having grown up amidst the immense cultural diversity of India, he now considers himself an adopted New Yorker. As an economist, he has pursued a level of interdisciplinary research uncommon to the field, drawing links between poverty, inequality, mental health, education, and more, both in the countries of the Global South and among marginalized groups within the U.S. After a decade spent teaching the principles of macroeconomics, his enthusiasm for explaining the major economic headlines of the day hasn’t waned in the slightest.



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## Research, Grants, Publications, & Awards

### EMPOWERING DIVERSITY IN STEM: CCNY’S \$1 MILLION NSF GRANT FOR AIDE-STEM PROJECT

Three Colin Powell School professors — **Maritsa Poros (Sociology)**, **MC Binz-Scharf (Economics)**, and **Irina Carlota Silber (Anthropology)** — are among the leaders of a multidisciplinary team that has won a \$1 million National Science Foundation grant for the project, “ADVANCE Adaptation:

Advancing Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in STEM (AIDE-STEM).” The project is part of broader efforts to create an equitable and inclusive environment particularly for women and Black, Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) faculty as the college expands its research initiatives in STEM





*Maritsa Poros*



*MC Binz-Scharf*



*Irina Carlota Silber*

fields. It builds on a previous catalyst award that sought to better understand the experiences of women and BIPOC faculty members. The project will focus on retaining and supporting women and BIPOC faculty, improving workload equity, and

decreasing systemic racism. The team also includes professors from the Grove School of Engineering and the Division of Science. Find more about the project.



## DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH RESEARCH: CCNY FACULTY INITIATIVES IN CLIMATE SOLIDARITY, ADOLESCENT HEALTH, AND HEALTHCARE ACCESS



A multidisciplinary team of researchers led by **Associate Professor Yana Kucheva (Sociology)** was selected to receive up to \$600,000 in seed funding through the 2022 College-wide

Research Vision (CRV) Initiative hosted by the CCNY Office of Research. Calling themselves “Team Climate Solidarity,” the researchers bring expertise in architecture, engineering, data visualization, coastal ecology, urban planning,

and the social sciences. Their project, entitled “Energizing Equity: Co-creating Scalable Urban Resilience via Climate Solidarity,” centers around the question: Imagine if solidarity surrounding climate actions was leveraged to reimagine and co-create a future for New York City? The project was selected from among eight finalists drawn from an initial pool of fifteen concept papers on a range of topics including artificial intelligence, war and displacement, biodiversity, culturally affirming health care, and more. The CRV Initiative aims to cultivate a collaborative environment that fosters paradigm-shifting, cross-divisional research about crucial social challenges.

## BREAKING GROUND IN HEALTH RESEARCH AND ACCESS

**Assistant Professor Adriana Espinosa (Psychology)** is the principal investigator of a \$467,205 grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for an innovative study of

tobacco use and its varying impact on white and Black adolescents. Entitled “An intersectional examination of early tobacco use among white and Black adolescents,” the two-year study also



involves researchers from the University of Texas at Austin, and the Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. The collaborative work will be done at City College.

Espinosa's co-investigators include Colin Powell School clinical psychologist and PTSD and substance use disorder researcher Lesia M. Ruglass. In addition to this new research, Espinosa and Ruglass are also involved in an innovative National Institute on Drug Abuse-funded study to evaluate the effectiveness of substance use disorder treatments for Black people who use cocaine.

**Professor Espinosa also partnered with Professor Carlos Riobó (Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures) on a grant to train interpreters for Mandarin-speaking cancer patients.** This interdisciplinary program is training fifteen CCNY undergraduate and graduate students as interpreters and transcribers to help make cancer

*"A unique component of this fascinating project is that it brings together expertise across multiple fields, such as science, social science and humanities, and provides students with trailblazing skills that broaden their human capital,"*

treatment more accessible to Mandarin-speaking Chinese New Yorkers.

The students are being trained at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) to assist patients from all five boroughs of New York City via telemedicine. **The project was awarded a \$200,000 pilot grant** from the CCNY-MSKCC Partnership for Cancer Research, Education, and Community Outreach. Find out more.



## ADDRESSING GEOGRAPHIC DISPARITIES IN EARLY PSYCHOSIS CARE: AN NIH PLANNING GRANT



**Associate Professor Deidre Anglin (Psychology)**

was **awarded an NIH Planning Grant (R34) for her work titled "Geographic Disparities in the Availability and Accessibility of Coordinated Specialty Care Programs for Early Psychosis."**

Professor Anglin, a Licensed Clinical Psychologist,

is the co-investigator on this three-year grant, which will inform policymakers about where Coordinated Specialty Care programs are needed across the United States and how to provide this care more equitably.

Professor Anglin will be working with Oladunni Oluwoye from Washington State University School of Medicine. Professor Anglin's subaward research will focus on identifying specialty care programs for first episode psychosis.

## FOSTERING CHANGE: ADVANCING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH TO ADDRESS RACIAL MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES

**Professor Anglin's** project, *"It Takes a Village: Creating an Interdisciplinary Student Research Program in Bioinformatics and Psychology to Reduce Racial Mental Health Disparities,"* was selected for funding by the BRESI grant. BRESI is an historic initiative at CUNY with the overarching goal of reimagining and transforming CUNY programs in Black, Race and Ethnic Studies. This year, 500 proposals were submitted in one of nine categories, which included curriculum design, student mentorship, improving campus climate,

CUNY centers and institutes, and supporting faculty research, among others. Professor Anglin said she hopes this small grant will "light the fire for a real interdisciplinary bioinformatics and psychology partnership student research program between Guttman Community College CUNY and The City College of New York." The BRESI program was made possible by a \$1.9 million grant to CUNY from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Find out more about BRESI-funded projects.



## INVESTIGATING THE IMPACT OF CBT INTERVENTION FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS WITH ADHD



**Assistant Professor Sarah O'Neill (Psychology)**

is leading a study examining the effectiveness of a group-based cognitive-behavioral (CBT) intervention for college students with ADHD. In the

randomized control trial, participants receive training in strategies to improve their executive functioning, such as time management and task prioritization, and researchers will measure

changes in their concentration, attention span, and academic ability. The study will begin this fall with support from a three-year grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and will be run out of the CCNY Psychological Center. If the treatment proves effective, Professor O'Neill will train future PhD students to administer the therapy to students with ADHD in the Psychological Center. Professor O'Neill's co-researchers are Professor Mary Solanto of Northwell Health and Professor Anthony Rostain of Cooper University Healthcare.

## FORGING PANETHNIC ALLIANCES: EXPLORING HISPANIC CARIBBEAN COMMUNITIES IN GATEWAY CITIES



**Professor Ramona Hernández (Sociology and Director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute)** has won a grant from the Crossing Latinidades

Humanities Research Initiative, a program supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, for a research project entitled *"Forging Panethnic Alliances: Hispanic Caribbean Communities in Three Gateway Cities—Miami, New York, Orlando."* The project will bring together the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute, the Cuban Research



Center at the University of Miami, and the Puerto Rican Research Hub at the University of Central Florida. The co-investigators collaborating on the project will contribute expertise in a wide range of disciplines, including sociology, anthropology, education, public affairs, and Latin American and Caribbean studies. The project will examine the common challenges and social injustices faced

by Dominicans, Puerto Ricans, and Cubans; shed light on their history of collaboration and solidarity; and explore the possibilities for unified action to confront the ongoing marginalization of Latino/a/x people today. In addition, it will provide mentorship and financial support to the next generation of Latino/a/x scholars.

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## GRANTS SUPPORT ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION IN LIBERIA



**Assistant Professor Matthew Reilly (Anthropology)**

received two grants to support his groundbreaking archaeological work in Liberia. His project entitled “**Liberian**

**Archaeology for the**

**Bicentennial and Beyond: Building Sustainable Practice and Inclusive Heritage at Providence Island**” received a Wenner-Gren Post-PhD Research Grant of \$19,600. Additionally, his team collaborated with the World Monuments Fund in a successful application for the U.S. Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation. Their research component of the project was awarded \$20,000. The funds will be used to continue the team’s capacity-building mission in Liberia and develop a public archaeology program on Providence Island, the country’s premiere heritage site, where Black settlers from the U.S. arrived 200 years ago to

establish what would become Liberia.

Professor Reilly’s project was featured in an article he co-authored, published in Sapiens Magazine in honor of World Anthropology Day. The leading academic journal American Anthropologist published Professor Reilly’s research paper entitled “Aspirational architecture and AK-47s: Fragmented violence in Liberia from settlement to the contemporary” in what marks the project’s first major academic publication. The “Back-to-Africa Heritage and Archaeology Project” is the first to archaeologically investigate the Back-to-Africa movement and explores processes of nineteenth-century settlement at sites established by West Indians and Black Americans. In the published article, Professor Reilly focuses on the Barbadian-settled township of Crozierville to highlight the complex ways in which materials associated with the colonizing project are linked to vestiges of recent violence that persist on the postwar landscape. Read article



## EMPOWERING MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS: PROFESSOR DIANA GREENWALD RECEIVES MSI VIRTUAL BOOK WORKSHOP AWARD

**Professor Diana Greenwald (Political Science)** is one of six

scholars to receive the inaugural Minority-Serving Institution (MSI) Virtual Book Workshop Award, which allows authors at MSIs to hold

book workshops in which established experts in their field give them focused feedback on their manuscripts, an essential and often costly part of the process of publishing a scholarly book. MSIs often lack the resources needed to hold book workshops for their faculty. The award was an initiative of John Jay College and

Howard University with the support of a range of prestigious academic book publishers. It was launched at the 2021 national conference of the American Political Science Association. Professor Greenwald is an expert on Middle East politics specializing in nationalism and state-building in Palestine.

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## UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL: THE BENEFITS OF ONLINE INSTRUCTION



*Kameshwari Shankar*



*MC Binz-Scharf*



*Punit Arora*

**A study co-authored by Professors Kameshwari Shankar, MC Binz-Scharf, and Punit Arora of the Department of Economics and Business** reveals benefits of online instruction. The pandemic created a rare opportunity to study the effectiveness of online learning on a massive scale. The forced experiment revealed that remote coursework has greater benefits and wider acceptance and utility than pre-pandemic studies had concluded. For example, evidence collected during the pandemic suggests that online classes

make college classes more accessible and provide students in larger classes more opportunities to participate and ask questions. **The study reviews existing literature comparing online learning to in-person instruction at the college level.** The study was the centerpiece of an article published last fall in the New York Times. It calls for further empirical research to assess the specific conditions that optimize online instruction. Read article.



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## THE IMPACT OF LOCKDOWNS ON DRIVER BEHAVIOR AND TRUST

**Professor Matthew Nagler (Economics)** published an article in 360info, **“One devastating way lockdowns changed driver behaviour,”** exploring the recent increase in traffic fatalities as related in part to the decline in social cohesion that resulted from the lockdown and general disruption of customary economic and social life during the COVID pandemic. Nagler explains that when

people trust each other and their political institutions more, they exhibit more cooperative behavior on the road. The article cites evidence from the city of Gainesville, FL, showing that public policies can help to generate public trust and social consciousness, resulting in reduced pedestrian fatalities in crosswalks. Read article.



## POLICE UNIONS AND TRUST IN LAW ENFORCEMENT: EXAMINING THE RACIAL DIVIDE



*Matthew Nagler*



*Daniel Disalvo*

**Professor Matthew Nagler and Professor Daniel Disalvo (Political Science)** co-authored a paper for Political Science Quarterly titled “**Police Unions, Race, and Trust in the Police.**” The paper examines the effect of police unionization on trust in the police after police killings of civilians. The paper

analyzes trust responses and corresponding demographic data on approximately 5,000 respondents across 11 metropolitan areas from the 2006 Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey with matching data from several additional data sets. Their results confirm prior studies’ findings of a large gap between black and non-black trust in the police. The results also show that whereas police killings of civilians normally reduce trust among non-blacks while leaving black levels of trust unaffected, in jurisdictions where police are unionized the drop in non-black trust is effectively eliminated, resulting in a wider gap between blacks’ and non-blacks’ levels of trust with the police.

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## REVIVING RELATIONSHIPS: AN INSIGHT INTO LAST CHANCE COUPLE THERAPY WITH PROFESSOR PETER FRAENKEL

**Associate Professor Peter Fraenkel (Psychology)** was featured on the Australian podcast The Science of Psychotherapy to talk about his book *Last Chance Couple Therapy: Bringing Relationships Back From The Brink*, which explores his unique approach to therapy for couples on the brink of divorce. Fraenkel explains that “**many books on couple therapy provide case vignettes of couples on the brink of divorce, but there are few studies on the particular challenges these couples present**

**in therapy, and even fewer well-articulated models for working with them.**”

You can watch Professor Fraenkel’s conversation with Richard Hill and Matthew Dahlitiz here.



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## EXPLORING THE JOURNEY OF IDENTITY AND INDEPENDENCE IN A COUNTRY YOU CAN LEAVE

In February, *A Country You Can Leave*, the debut novel by **Assistant Professor Asale Angel-Ajani (Anthropology and Program Director Women’s and Gender Studies Program)** was featured in The New York Times’s shortlist

as one of “3 Books That Explore What It Means to Build a New Life.” The Times described the novel





as “a master class of a bildungsroman... Like childhood, Angel-Ajani’s novel is alternately horrifying and spellbinding in its lessons about love, family and growing up.” *A Country You Can Leave* tells the story of 16-year-old Lara

Montoya-Borislava, the American-born biracial daughter of a Russian immigrant, who wants two things: for her mother, the erudite yet scrappy Yevgenia, to finally see her, and for her mother to leave her alone.

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## EXPLORING THE MIGRATION EXPERIENCES OF DOMINICAN AND MEXICAN WOMEN IN NEW YORK CITY

In May, **Norma Fuentes-Mayorga, Director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program**, published *From Homemakers to Breadwinners to Community Leaders: Migrating Women, Class, and Color*. Fuentes-Mayorga compares the immigration and integration experiences of Dominican and Mexican women in New York City, a traditional destination for Dominicans



but a relatively new one for Mexicans. Her book documents the significance of women-led migration within an increasingly racialized

context and underscores the contributions women make to their communities of origin and of settlement. Fuentes-Mayorga’s research is timely, especially against the backdrop of policy debates about the future of family reunification laws and the unprecedented immigration of women and minors from Latin America, many of whom seek human rights protection or to reunite with families in the U.S. The book provides a compelling look at the suffering of migrant mothers and the mourning of family separation, but also at the agency and contributions that women make with their imported human capital and remittances to the receiving and sending community.

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## PROFESSOR ADEYINKA AKINSULURE-SMITH RECEIVES CITIZEN PSYCHOLOGIST FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD



**Professor Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith (Psychology)** was selected by the American Board of Professional Psychology to receive its annual Citizen Psychologist for Social

Justice Award, which recognizes professionals who apply psychological science to social justice or humanitarian challenges locally, nationally,

or globally. Professor Akinsulure-Smith, who is originally from Sierra Leone, is a board-certified group psychologist and an expert on war-related trauma, torture, and human rights, who co-founded a nonprofit focused on war survivors in the African diaspora. Professor Akinsulure-Smith had numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals, as well as the book *Mental Health Evaluations in Immigration Court: A Guide for Mental Health and Legal Professionals*, co-authored with Virginia Barber-Rioja (NYU Press).

## PROFESSOR KATHERINE CHEN RECEIVES JOYCE ROTHSCHILD BOOK PRIZE



**Professor Katherine Chen (Chair, Sociology)** was awarded the inaugural Joyce Rothschild Book Prize from the Institute for the Study of Employee Ownership at the Rutgers University School of Management

and Labor Relations. Professor Chen's book, *Organizational Imaginaries: Tempering Capitalism*

and *Tending to Communities through Cooperatives and Collectivist Democracy*, explores how collectively managed enterprises generate solidarity among members and network with other organizations and communities. The co-edited book includes case studies of cooperative and employee-owned enterprises and offers detailed analysis of central issues faced by organizations dedicated to democratic ownership and management. Professor Chen is an expert on transformative organizations.

## REVITALIZING CRITIQUE IN TIMES OF CRISIS



**Associate Professor Sarah Muir (Anthropology and Director, International Studies)** was awarded honorable mention for the Book Prize of the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology for her book *Routine Crisis: An*

*Ethnography of Disillusion*. Routine Crisis explores

the effect of recurring economic crises and political upheaval on people's capacity to critique and the usefulness of critique, with a focus on the context of Argentina. The book also explores new avenues for revitalizing critique amidst crisis. "If we feel things are being upended in a manner that is ongoing, tumultuous, and harmful, what would we need to do — and what would we need to give up — to usher in a revitalized critique for today's world?" the author ponders.

## NOMINATED FOR A NY EMMY— THE FIRST SLAVE REBELLION IN THE NEW WORLD

The CUNY Dominican Studies Institute (DSI) and the CCNY Electronic Design and Multimedia Program were nominated for a NY Emmy for their animation and short documentary project titled "*Visualizing Resistance — Animating The Story of The First Slave Rebellion in The New World*." Those named in the nomination include Professor Ramona Hernández (Sociology and Director of the CUNY DSI); Professor Mark Smith (Director of CCNY's Electronic Design and Multimedia Program); and Waldo Cabrera, the director of the documentary. The project grew out of an innovative, semester-long course titled "Visualizing Resistance: Experimental Illustration and Motion Graphics," taught by Professors Krisia

Ayala and Art Jones. The project exemplifies interdisciplinary, inter-institutional collaboration by bringing together a CUNY Institute and the Art Department to give students hands-on experience in both graphic design and history. "This course, animation, documentary, and now the NY Emmy nomination are all evidence that — when given the opportunity, time, and resources — here at CCNY we have all of the talent and creativity necessary to produce stellar output, break new ground, and advance any field of study, drawing on the talent from within CUNY," said Professor Hernández. Watch the documentary.







*"I stand here to celebrate you and your robes and to remind you they're not just yours. We are wearing the robes of forebears who ensured not only that we got here but that we remember why we came."*

*- Maya Wiley*



# 2023 Commencement



On June 1st, the Colin Powell School celebrated commencement on CCNY's South Campus Lawn with a record number 1,000 new graduates.

Commencement speaker Maya Wiley, the CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, encouraged the new graduates to be audacious in their demands for a better future — for themselves, their families, and our society. It took almost two hours for every new graduate to walk across the stage with cheers from family and friends. Linda Powell, Chair of our Board of Visitors, applauded every graduate from the front row, alongside Marco Antonio Achón, a member of our Board of Visitors. The whole event was moving and memorable. You can watch it here.



With this commencement, the Colin Powell School has graduated almost 10,000 students in our first decade. Our number of new graduates has gone up every year — quite an achievement and one that would have made General Powell, who never missed a graduation when he was alive, very proud.

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## CLASS OF 2023 VALEDICTORIAN JENNIFER GARCIA



Jennifer Garcia, a first-generation Mexican-American who was born and raised in Brooklyn, discovered City College after taking a gap year. She made a leap of faith, transferring from architecture to business and journalism. The Colin Powell School allowed her to level up her career aspirations and accomplish more than she thought possible, thanks to its diverse range of programs, internships, and fellowship opportunities. Jennifer was in the inaugural cohort of NBCU Academy Fellows. With the support of the fellowship and the Office of Student Success, Jennifer interned with CNBC en Español, integrating her business major with reporting to help promote financial literacy within the Spanish-speaking community. She produced multiple original segments on the topic and interned with the NBC Olympics.

research team as they prepare for the 2024 Paris Olympics. Post-graduation, Jennifer has been accepted into the Bilingual Journalism program at the Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism at CUNY, and the Master of Science program in journalism at Columbia University. Her goal is to inspire others with the stories she reports so that they can help spark conversations for change. She hopes to continue growing with NBC Universal and mentor aspiring journalists from underrepresented backgrounds.

## CLASS OF 2023 SALUTATORIANS



### NIJA DANIELS

Nija Daniels was born in New York to Jamaican immigrants. She majored in International Studies with a concentration in Comparative Public

Policy and minors in English

and Human Rights. Nija is a passionate advocate for equity and inclusion, as evidenced by her numerous leadership roles on campus. She founded and served as President of the CCNY Pre-Law Club, was a Vice President managing a Peer Mentorship Program under the S Jay Levy Alumni Board, and served as Secretary of the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government, where she contributed to uplifting student concerns. She has participated in several prestigious fellowships and honors programs, including the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service, S Jay Levy Fellowship, Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship, and Honors Program in Legal Studies. Nija's past personal and professional experiences have inspired her to pursue business law and protect individuals' economic human rights. She intends to support under-resourced entrepreneurs, create generational wealth in disadvantaged community groups, and help mitigate poverty worldwide through her work in this field.

### LORENA MODESTO

Lorena Modesto is a passionate community organizer, educator, and student leader double majoring in Political Science and Sociology.



Born in Guerrero, Mexico and raised in the Bronx after immigrating to the U.S. at the age of 5, Lorena draws from her personal experiences and her love for education to empower and uplift immigrant communities.

Lorena served as President of the CCNY Dream Team, an undocumented student-led space that upholds voices, experiences, stories, and rights of immigrant folks and allies. She was selected as the NY Dream Act Education Fellow in 2020 at the New York State Youth Leadership Council, the first undocumented youth-led organization in New York. She served as a CUNY Immigrant Student Ambassador, assisting students in applying for state financial aid, providing information about scholarship opportunities, and facilitating undocumented art events, and was involved with the Colin Powell School's Racial Justice Fellowship as a Street Vendor Project intern. Lorena plans to apply to law schools and dedicate herself to immigration law.



### KETHIA CALIXTE-SANON

Kethia Calixte-Sanon was a double major in Psychology and International Development, with minors in Public Policy and Economics. Through her academic and professional

experiences, Kethia has developed a dynamic understanding of social issues, working with various fellowships and internships under the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service, the CUNY Women's Public Policy Internship Program, the Honors Program in Legal Studies, and the S Jay Levy Fellowship for Future Leaders. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kethia served as an AmeriCorps member and a Licensed Practical Nurse, gaining valuable experience in addressing community needs. In 2022, she interned in Washington D.C., researching labor movements of the early 20th century, which sparked her interest in writing and conducting community-based research to inform policy and effective social change. She completed a service learning project in Senegal, studying sustainability and ongoing community initiatives to find relevant solutions to complex environmental and socio-economic challenges caused by climate breakdown. Having grown up in Rural Jacmel, Haiti, Kethia understands the importance of supporting communities and anchoring people in sustainable long-term solutions that are efficient and equitable. She plans to pursue law to help reimagine the future of sustainability practices.



## SHAHMIR ZAIDI

Originally from Pakistan, Shahmir Zaidi pursued a degree in Economics with a minor in Management and Administration.

Shahmir recognizes the importance of setting clear goals and maintaining a structured routine to achieve success, and this discipline has allowed him to excel academically and professionally. Shahmir finished his degree in December, and he is currently an Associate Risk Analyst for AIG, where he is continuously learning and growing in the financial services industry. He was a Boudreau Fellow, an award that recognizes students who are studying finance for their outstanding academic achievements. Shahmir motivates others to get involved and remains persistent in his efforts to make a difference in the lives of those he encounters. He is passionate about addressing issues such as poverty, lack of education, and malnutrition, and believes that everyone should do their part in the fight against these issues.

**This year, in addition to the Colin Powell School's own Valedictorian and Salutatorians, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for all of CCNY were Colin Powell School students.**

## CATHERINE HERNANDEZ



Catherine Hernandez, an anthropology major in the William E. Macaulay Honors College, was The City College of New York's Class of 2023 Valedictorian. The daughter of a 1993 CCNY alumnus, Hernandez received

a BA degree in anthropology with a minor in art history and Jewish studies. Hernandez proudly considers herself "a product of City College from

the moment I was born," because of her alumnus father, Francisco Hernandez. The Cuban immigrant came to CCNY in 1991 with only enough tuition money to take one class per semester. However, financial aid, scholarships, and a quality education would see him earn a bachelor's degree, enter law school after graduation, and begin a career as an immigration lawyer.

A participant in two overseas archaeological projects in Ecuador and Barbados as an undergraduate, Hernandez developed a focused,



*“For both me and my father, CCNY has been a place that allows immigrants and first-generation Americans to not only succeed but have the agency and power to aid in tearing down the systems that oppress their communities. It’s my honor to represent this legacy of social mobility and social justice.”*

activist-oriented research interest in Indigeneity, cultural patrimony, and repatriation. In her research and career, she hopes to implement community-based archaeological practices and to be a liaison with descendant communities to ensure that they have agency over the ownership

of their patrimony and the portrayal of their heritage in the museum setting.

At CCNY, Hernandez participated in a number of fellowships, including the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service, the Racial Justice Fellowship, and the Rockefeller Fellowship. She has also dedicated herself to the promotion of intersectional Feminist ideology as Co-President of the Macaulay Feminist Society NYC Collegiate Sexual Violence Prevention Changemaker. Currently, Hernandez is a Curatorial Intern at the MoMA PS1, an Education Intern at the Morgan Library and Museum, and a Program Facilitator for Art and Resistance through Education (ARTE). She looks forward to applying for PhD programs in archaeology.

## KIMBERLY PEREYRA MONERO



Kimberly Pereyra Monero, a political science major and community change studies minor, was CCNY’s Class of 2023 Salutatorian. A Brooklyn resident who emigrated to the United States

from the Dominican Republic at age 15, Pereyra Monero found in CCNY “a place of diversity, a place that teaches you how to be resilient, authentic, and how not to give up.” Mentors hail her academic excellence, civic-minded leadership and community involvement that make her truly representative of the best of CCNY.

A dynamo at CCNY, she dedicated three of her four years as an undergrad volunteering for

Youth Over Guns, a community organization that advocates against gun violence. She also had internships with the US Water Alliance, the Leadership Justice Center, and the New York City Public Advocate’s Office.

Pereyra Monero had numerous fellowships, including a Jeannette K. Watson Fellow (a three-year, citywide fellowship centered on public service), a Colin Powell Fellow, and a scholar in the Honors Program in Legal Studies. She is the 2022-2023 recipient of the Daphne and Stuart Wells Public Service Scholarship and was a finalist last spring for a Harry S. Truman Scholarship.

Pereyra Monero has been working as a project assistant at the Leadership Institute for Democracy and Social Justice, as well as interning at Vocal NY as a legislative intern.

# Student Accomplishments

## CCNY UNDERGRADUATE GILLES SEULIO EARNS PPIA JUNIOR SUMMER INSTITUTE FELLOWSHIP



Political science major Gilles Seulio was accepted into the highly selective Public Policy and International Affairs Program (PPIA) Junior Summer Institute at the University of Washington for the summer of 2023. PPIA is a not-for-profit organization supporting efforts to increase diversity in graduate studies in public policy and international affairs.

Originally from Cameroon, Seulio became interested in public service in 2008, while attending high school in Douala, when violent protests broke out following a transit workers' strike. Police began shooting people. Seulio recalls having to run home from school in a 20-minute terrified sprint. At that moment, he became interested in politics. "I wanted to understand why it happened and what could have been done to prevent it," Seulio said.

Seulio attended the PPIA program at the University of Washington Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, where he and the other participants learned new analytical skills through a variety of experiences, from academic study to field trips to engagement with community leaders, regional leaders, and elected officials.

Read the full story [here](#).



## COLIN POWELL FELLOW AWARDED TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP



Ayesha Khan, a member of the CCNY Class of 2023, was named as a Harry S. Truman Scholar. She is one of 62 exceptional students from 60 U.S. colleges and universities selected as 2023 Scholars by the Board of Trustees of the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation.

The highly competitive Truman Scholarship is the premier graduate scholarship for aspiring public service leaders in the nation. Selection is based on a combination of career and graduate study interests, community service and academic achievement.

Born of Indian immigrant parents, Khan received a BS in biomedical sciences from the Sophie Davis Biomedical Education Program in the CUNY School of Medicine, with a minor in public policy from the Colin Powell School, where she is also a Colin Powell Fellow in Leadership and Public Service.

Read more about Khan's selection for the award [here](#).





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