

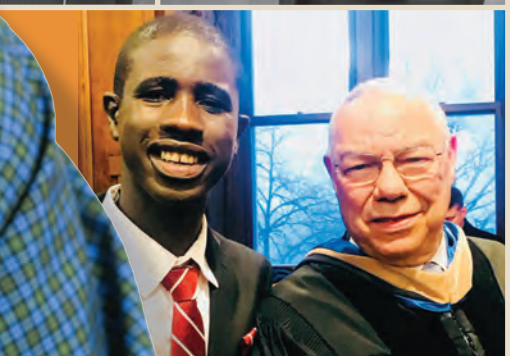
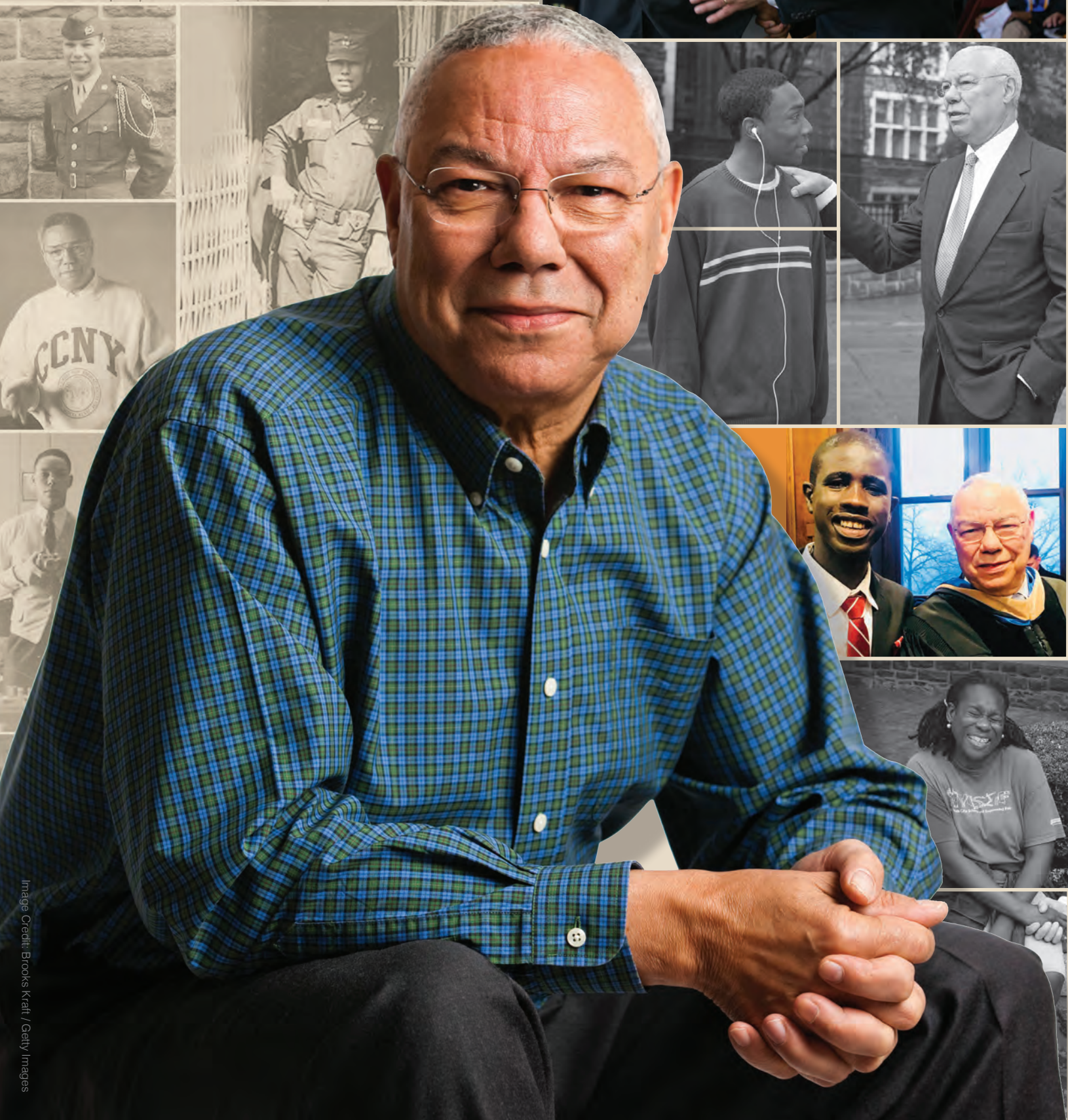
ANNUAL REPORT  
2020-21



**Growing  
and Thriving in  
an Extraordinary  
Year**











November 12, 2021

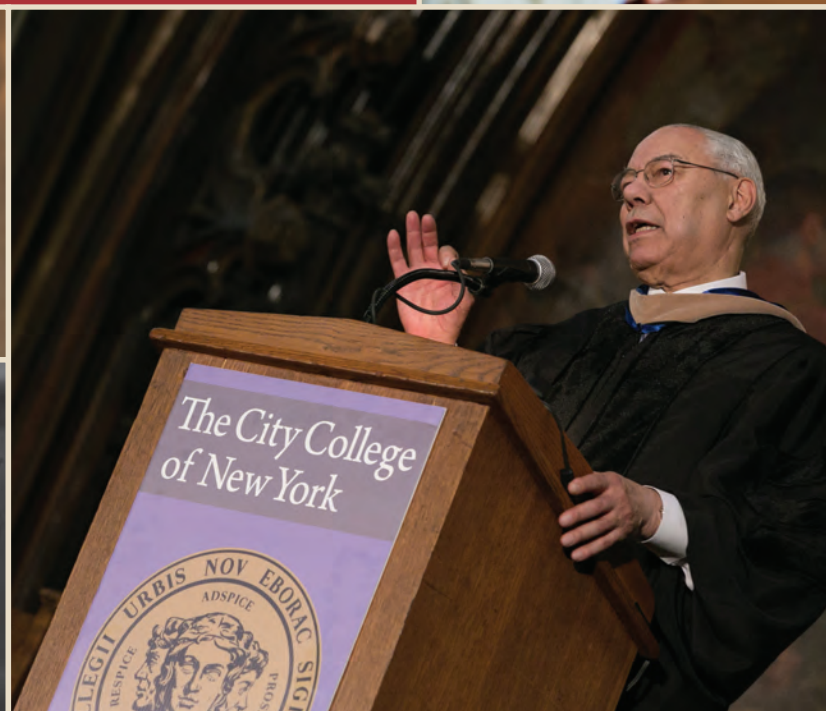
When we completed this report in early October, we never dreamed that it would be the last one that would include a personal message from General Powell. His sudden passing on October 18 left us all reeling.

The Colin Powell School reflects General Powell's vision, his passion, and his never-ending belief in the essential nature of this place. He committed himself to every student who walked through our doors. He would show up early to meetings on campus so that he could stand in front of Shepard Hall and meet students as they walked by. He'd hear their stories and tell them his own. He would encourage them to work hard and pursue their dreams. He always reminded them—and all of us—that “they're just like I was” some 65 years ago now.

General Powell never missed a Colin Powell School graduation, and he took the time to shake the hand of every student earning a degree. It's hard to imagine graduation without him. But this school remains his, and every graduate of the Colin Powell School is a part of his legacy. He was proud of this place, and we are even prouder to have had him as our leader.

I am pleased to share that Linda Powell — General Powell's daughter and a member of the board since the early days of the Colin Powell Center — has agreed to chair the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors. She knows our students, programs, and priorities well. We are grateful to her and to the entire Powell family for their steadfast commitment to our students.

**ANDREW RICH** | Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean  
Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership







## Growing *and* Thriving *in an* Extraordinary Year

The 2020-21 academic year will forever be associated with the pandemic, which shaped and reshaped how every part of higher education operated. At the Colin Powell School, it will also be remembered as a time of growth and tremendous progress in student, fellowship, academic, and faculty programs. With record high enrollments, the Colin Powell School had a greater reach and a deeper impact on student success than ever before. Instruction adapted to

remote modalities, and the faculty and staff of the Colin Powell School offered vital services—emergency grants, mentoring, advising, and mental health counseling—to support our students. It was an extraordinary academic year, and we thrived in a period of great difficulty.

We finished the year with more than 1,000 new graduates—the most in our history—who left with the knowledge and skills, the relationships and friendships, to

make a difference as leaders in service to our world. Achieving this record of success at such a difficult moment signals hope for our city and nation.

Almost two-thirds of our students are the first in their families to finish college. More than half are immigrants, representing more than 100 nations and speaking nearly as many native languages. Our students' determination to succeed enables them to take advantage



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of all that the Colin Powell School offers by way of education, mentorship, professional development and support. And by finishing their degrees, our students break barriers, challenge expectations and set new trajectories—for themselves, their families, and our society.

How does the Colin Powell School do it? In this year's annual report, we review some of the programs and initiatives that are central

to our students' success. We reflect on what makes the Colin Powell School so special—and essential—in higher education and in our nation. When we put all of the right pieces in place, the Colin Powell School puts our students on a path to success, transforming the world's most diverse student body into tomorrow's global leaders.





# Message *from* General Colin L. Powell

Letter from General Powell dated August 19, 2021

## DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

I am pleased to share this annual report from the Colin Powell School.

For the Colin Powell School, as for the entire country, this has been a year of unprecedented challenges. New York City was the early epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic, and our students spent the entire 2020-21 academic year learning and working remotely. Throughout this pandemic, our students suffered disproportionately, with loss of jobs, income and health. The crisis has put an extraordinary set of demands on all of us, and I am so proud of the ways in which the faculty, staff and students of the Colin Powell School successfully navigated remote learning and teaching.

We rose to the challenge as a community, and we have now refined and perfected new ways of teaching and working online. We intensified our systems of advising, mentoring and support for students. With help from our Board of Visitors and alumni, students managed to maintain a focus on their career and professional development through remote internships. And, with the help of members of our Board and many others, we were able to build out new capacity to provide mentoring for students as they begin and conclude their Colin Powell School journeys.

In May, we graduated more than 1,000 students, the most in the Colin Powell School's history. Throughout the 2020-21 academic year, we

maintained the high quality of our work, uninterrupted, as the CCNY unit with the most graduates and majors, educating almost 4,000 of CCNY's nearly 15,000 students. At the Colin Powell School, we promote the values of service, engagement, and leadership in ways that prepare graduates to tackle big issues and take on tough jobs. Our graduates make their mark on domestic and international policy, law, business and finance. Their work has never been more important, and I am proud of how much they—and we—have accomplished working together during this challenging year.

Our Board of Visitors continues to provide essential guidance and critical support for our students. Two members of our Board passed away



**With resilience and determination, our students—supported by the creativity and compassion of the entire Colin Powell School community—embody the American dream.**



this year—Vartan Gregorian and Vernon Jordan. Both were not only devoted supporters of the school but also close friends of mine over many decades. They are missed. We were privileged to welcome two new members, Richard Henley and Trevor Houser. Henley, a 1978 alum and President and CEO of Healthcare Strategic Solutions, LLC, brings a deep knowledge of mentoring and leadership development to the school. Houser, a 2006 alum and Partner at the Rhodium Group, was in our first class of Colin Powell Fellows and is now directing our Climate Policy Fellows Program, an initiative to diversify the ranks of climate policy leaders internationally. Both bring an appreciation for what a CCNY education can do to launch students into the professions, and it is great

to have their wise counsel on the board. I want to extend my special thanks to Richard Henley, who along with his wife Susan Davis made a major gift in 2020 to endow what is now the Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis deanship at the Colin Powell School.

The Colin Powell School's mission of transforming the world's most diverse student population into tomorrow's global leaders is more important than ever. With resilience and determination, our students—supported by the creativity and compassion of the entire Colin Powell School community—embody the American dream. And thanks to our supporters, the same excellent public education that gave me such a solid foundation more than 60 years ago is preparing the next generation of

leaders to step forward and take on the issues facing our world today.

This has been a year of challenges matched by progress. I look ahead with optimism and hope that the accomplishments described in this year's annual report will inspire you to find new ways to support the continued success of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. L. Powell".

**GENERAL COLIN L. POWELL,  
USA (Ret.)**

Chair of the Board of Visitors  
Colin Powell School for Civic and  
Global Leadership



# Message *from the* Dean



## DEAR COLIN POWELL SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

The past year has been extraordinary for all of us, and I begin this report by recognizing and sharing my deep appreciation for the unprecedented work and commitment to instruction, learning, and scholarship of every member of our community during the pandemic. This has been an unprecedented year — one matched by the exceptional determination and hard work that reflects our shared commitment to the Colin Powell School's mission.

For all of its challenges, this was a year of growth and success on many fronts. We enjoyed record high enrollments in every term—the most in our history in summer, fall, winter, and spring. These enrollments suggest how attractive the social sciences have become at CCNY and are a tribute to the extraordinary lengths our faculty and staff have gone to support student success. With support from our Board of Visitors, alumni, and foundations, we launched new fellowship programs in everything from journalism and finance to elections and racial justice. This year was marked by new leaders for several of our undergraduate and graduate programs, alongside the celebration of retirements. And our faculty have been as productive as ever, publishing important new research—including about the pandemic's impact on our students in New York City—at a rate that is undiminished by the difficulties the year wrought for all of us. We report on all of this in the pages that follow.

During this most difficult year, we did not simply carry on. We came together as a community to play important leadership roles in CCNY's response to the pandemic. We responded with direct and continuing assistance to students, thanks to the generosity of alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of the Colin Powell School who enabled us to increase the availability of student emergency relief grants and provide enhanced student support services. Our Psychological Center, which serves both the student population and the surrounding community, increased services via teletherapy. We convened important campus conversations about the ways in which both our local community and the nation were responding to and affected by the pandemic. We examined the critical role that public higher education plays in this moment, and we addressed the national and international anti-racist





8148

STUDENTS  
ENROLLED IN FY21



1060

GRADUATED  
IN JUNE 2021



40+

EVENTS IN  
LAST 12 MONTHS

**Our students  
bring with them  
an unparalleled  
determination  
to succeed, and  
we provide them  
with the learning  
resources to make  
that success  
possible.**

uprisings that arose in response to police brutality and state-sanctioned violence.

Even as we faced unique challenges, we also celebrated the achievements of our students this year, including a very special virtual celebration for our graduating Class of 2021 in early June. The celebration was different in so many ways from our usual commencement, but it was in the most important way the same—a community affirming the achievements of 1,000 new graduates, more than two-thirds of whom are the first in their families to finish college. The purpose of the Colin Powell School is to create new pathways to success for our graduates, and thereby, change our city and nation for the better. Even at this difficult moment, our school continues to do just that.

As you read this year's annual report, I hope you will reflect upon what makes the Colin Powell School distinctive. We imbue all of our students with the values of service and leadership and the sense of responsibility to one another that accompany those values. Our students bring with them an unparalleled determination to succeed, and we provide them with the learning resources to make that success possible. We have a first class faculty and staff and a tremendous range of programs and initiatives. We can only accomplish all this with the investment of time, energy, and resources from our supporters, alumni, and donors, and the leadership of General Powell, President Boudreau, and our Board of Visitors. I am grateful to all of them.

In this annual report, we offer updates on our students, our programs, and our alumni. We have much to celebrate and hope you enjoy this report. I am proud to be a member of this exceptional community and look forward to working with you as partners in our very important mission.

**ANDREW RICH**

Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Dean  
Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership



# Programs of Excellence

## *New Fellowship Programs*

### **Racial Justice Fellows**

This past fall, in partnership with CCNY's Black Studies Program and with the generous support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Colin Powell School launched a new Racial Justice

In the past year, fellows had the opportunity to hear from guest speakers such as Brian Jones from the New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and Professors John Rufo, Griselda Rodriguez,

### **NBCU Academy**

The Colin Powell School is grateful to have been selected as one of 17 academic partners nationally in NBCUniversal News Group's new NBCU Academy, an innovative, multiplatform journalism training



Fellows Program, creating a pipeline for students to become deeply involved in antiracist movements. This program was created in direct response to last year's Black Lives Matter protests following George Floyd's murder, which represent the largest social movement in U.S. history. Fellows receive a \$5,000 stipend to support summer internships at nonprofit organizations and government agencies working on racial justice and equity. They also participate in three intensive workshops that cover topics such as the history of racial injustice in the US, criminal justice reform, educational disparities, and maternal health.

and Mariposa Fernandez. The Colin Powell School also co-sponsored two related public events:

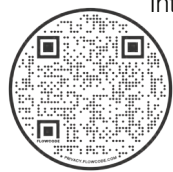
1. Archaeology and the Making of the American Past: Race, Community, and the Struggle for Social Justice; and
2. Environmental Justice and Just Sustainability in Harlem.

Fellows received professional development support, including internships at organizations such as the Innocence Project, the Department of Education, and the New Economy Project. The inaugural class was 13 fellows and there will be 20 fellows for the Fall 2021 semester.

and development program for four-year university and community college students. The Colin Powell School and other institutions, from California to Florida, will benefit from NBCU Academy's investment of \$6.5 million in the initiative, including scholarships worth \$3.5 million over the next two years. In addition to providing scholarships and collaborating with professors to develop seminar courses, NBCU News Group journalists, executives and management from editorial and production teams across NBC News, MSNBC, CNBC and Telemundo will participate as guest lecturers to provide real-world insight and mentorship. The Colin Powell School



is pleased to be partnering with the Journalism Program in the Department of Media and Communications Arts in the Division of Humanities and the Arts on this fellows program. It is led by Barbara Nevins Taylor, a CCNY Alum who has a distinguished career as an investigative director and is now



Interim Director of CCNY's Journalism Program.

[Read the press release.](#)

### Democracy Corps

For the first time, in June's primary election, New Yorkers used a ranked-choice ballot to select candidates for city offices. To help ensure a successful election, 16 CCNY students from different majors spent the spring helping voters understand the new voting system, the role and function of the various public offices, and the myriad issues relevant to their communities and the city as a whole. The students were part of the Colin Powell School's Democracy Corps Fellowship, a paid, part-time opportunity to build professional experience working for DemocracyNYC (part of the Mayor's Office), NALEO Educational Fund,

and Brooklyn Voters Alliance. The Democracy Corps Fellows program was established with support from the Lucius N. Littauer Foundation.

In September 2021, the Colin Powell School launched the **Santander Financial Sector Boot Camp and the Santander Fellows Program**. The three-year, \$300,000 initiative, fully supported by Santander, is designed to prepare Colin Powell School students for careers in banking and finance by providing them with the tools they need to apply for analyst and internship experiences in their junior years. Ultimately, the initiative will contribute to the diversification of the financial sector by supplying it with historically underrepresented groups, including racial and ethnic minorities, immigrants, and first-generation students.



[You can read more about the initiative here.](#)

### New Funding Models

In Fall 2020, the Climate Policy Fellows program, which piloted in 2019, received a two-year, **\$200,000 grant from the Heising-Simons Foundation**.

For more than a decade, the **CCNY Honors Program in Legal Studies** was supported by a generous grant from the law firm **Skadden, Arps, Meagher, Slate and Flom**. An initiative designed to address the legal profession's lack of diversity, the program provides scholarships, specialized seminars, LSAT preparation, mentoring and intensive advising to prepare students for legal careers. Beginning with its fall 2021 cohort of students, the program is partnering with an expanded group of law firms. Skadden continues to sponsor students, joined by Fried Frank, Millbank, Paul Weiss and Reed Smith. The mission of the program remains the same: preparing students from underrepresented backgrounds for law school and legal careers.



# New Leadership

## NORTH ACADEMIC CENTER



### TIFFANY FLOYD

*Director of the Mental Health Counseling Program*

**Professor Tiffany Floyd is the new director of the Mental Health Counseling Program.**

Tiffany Floyd is a clinical psychologist whose research and clinical work focuses on reducing health disparities. Her specific areas of interest include mood disorders,

*“One of my top priorities has been to ensure that our students have the information, resources, and support they need to navigate this unusual time. This pertains not only to CCNY-specific factors, but also to the various professional training requirements associated with their path towards licensure.*

women's health, behavior change, and prevention/risk reduction. After receiving her PhD from Temple University, Dr. Floyd completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York, where she served as Co-Chief Research Fellow and developed several grant-funded projects aimed at reducing cancer risk among low income and/or racial and ethnic

minority females. Her research has been presented at both national and international conferences, and she has been an invited speaker at numerous academic, community-based, and private organizations. While at MSKCC Dr. Floyd began her faculty career at CCNY, where she is currently a tenured faculty member in the Department of Psychology and teaches both undergraduate and graduate

courses in personality science and group dynamics/group counseling, among others. In January 2021, Dr. Floyd became director of the department's MA in Mental Health Counseling program. "As a clinical psychologist with a focus on health disparities, I am deeply committed to the MHC program's mission to increase diversity among mental health counselors working in the community." Assuming leadership of the MHC program in the middle of the ongoing pandemic presented unique challenges: "One of my top priorities has been to ensure that

our students have the information, resources, and support they need to navigate this unusual time. This pertains not only to CCNY-specific factors, but also to the various professional training requirements associated with their path towards licensure. Hosting regular program-wide town hall meetings, enhanced oversight of clinical internships, and implementing new systems for connecting with students are just a few of the tools that have been introduced during this period, and that will remain key features of the program. Above all, I want

students to know that they are not alone. We are here to help them successfully negotiate the various demands of this unique period of time. The need for quality mental health care has risen dramatically in the past year, making the MHC program's role in producing well-trained, highly effective counselors more vital and salient than ever. It is extremely gratifying to know that our program contributes to the body of professionals equipped to meet the mental healthcare needs of diverse communities."



**BOBBY DERIVAL**  
*Executive Director,  
MPA Program*

**Bobby Derival reflects on his first year as Executive Director of the MPA Program:** This past year has been like no other. We've all been doing what we can to take care of those we love, all while we struggle to take care of ourselves. I observe this dynamic within my own family, I see it with my colleagues, and who can deny seeing this dynamic persist amongst our student populations here at City College. The last 18 months have been really hard.

We've also seen our democracy put

*Our program invites students to co-create a social justice leadership practice that is values driven, and inclusive of the multitude of perspectives and diverse experiences that define our communities.*

to the test - either by riot, or through the continuous assault on our most fundamental principles, the ongoing attack on voting rights being a prime example. Our communities are precariously navigating the worsening impacts of climate change, with its disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable among us. This, as we manage a resurging pandemic that continues to expose racial and economic fault lines, deeply woven into our American fabric.

Yet through it all, this year taught me the tremendous power of us.

I've served as Executive Director of the Master in Public Administration

Program at the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership for more than a year now. I could not be more grateful to be here – a member of this community, at this institution, at this pivotal moment in history. The MPA program at CCNY equips public service professionals, especially those from communities traditionally underserved and deliberately marginalized, with the skills and capacity to drive equitable change in public sector and social mission driven organizations. At its most elemental, our program invites students to co-create a social justice leadership practice that is values driven, and inclusive of the multitude of perspectives and



diverse experiences that define our communities.

Over the past year, I've seen our MPA students adapt and flex to navigate the uniquely challenging remote educational experience — an experience, need I remind you, that was NOT what our students signed up for. Still, our students thrived! During the Spring 2021 MPA capstone experience, I witnessed firsthand the power of MPA students working with a community based organization to advance economic equality by reimagining social impact investing. And just this summer, I've become re-energized by our students' eagerness to

return to campus, to forge deep relationships with peers, and to explore new ways of thinking and doing.

To my changemaking MPA students, your resolve and determination are a testament to your readiness for this moment in history. I remain inspired by your indomitable spirit, and your steadfast commitment to social change.

Now more than ever, we need public service professionals ready to face the tremendous adversity of this moment. The emergent and intersectional nature of society's biggest challenges — environmental degradation, racial injustice, health disparities, and inequality in all its forms — call for a new brand of public service

management. Crucially, I believe that we need practitioners of change who are primed to drive efforts that undue systemic inequity, prepared to manage change in the public's interest, focused on advancing collaborative problem solving processes across groups and sectors, and committed to supporting community-based work and grassroots movement building.

I sense that this moment calls for changemakers undeterred from the work of co-creating a collective future that is equitable and just. I am excited to stand with our MPA students — social change agents who are eager to lead change, challenge the status quo, and reimagine what is possible.

A year in, I have never felt more hopeful.



**KATHERINE K. CHEN**  
*Chair,  
Department of Sociology*

*Through the courses, research opportunities, and mentoring that our faculty provide, we give students the training and knowledge they need to generate positive social change.*

Beginning Fall 2021, **Professor Katherine K. Chen** takes over as the new chair of the Sociology Department and **Professor Punit Arora** as chair of the Economics and Business Department. In addition, **Professor Yochanan Shachmurove** will be the director of the Master's Program in Economics. All three professors were selected for these leadership roles by their peers.

**Professor Chen** is an organizational researcher, who specializes in studying how innovative democratic organizations can transform people's relationships and help a broader range of stakeholders to collectively pursue their interests. She has published widely on this research, including the award-winning book *Enabling Creative Chaos: The Organization Behind the Burning Man Event*. "My priorities as chair are to help our

department grow in ways consistent with CCNY's unique role within the community, as a linchpin, historic institution that fosters economic mobility. Our faculty have a wealth of expertise on topics of great societal importance: ranging from housing policy and environmental issues, to the well-being of local and ethnic communities in the US and elsewhere. Through the courses, research opportunities, and mentoring that our faculty provide, we give students the



training and knowledge they need to generate positive social change. Since our students are embedded in local communities – for instance, most live in NYC households, rather than dorms, and many also work in the NYC area – they are already well-positioned to make a broader societal impact, such as by connecting the people in their neighborhoods and organizations with resources and opportunities.”

**Professor Arora** looks forward to bringing his own experience with business, interdisciplinary entrepreneurship, and government to the EcoBiz department. He describes his decision to pursue academia as accidental. “After several high profile, high-pressure jobs with the Indian government, I decided I needed a break. I wanted to experience a new culture and

### **PUNIT ARORA**

***Chair, Department of Economics and Business***

came to the US for a masters program. That one-year break ended up becoming a PhD. More importantly, I fell in love both literally and metaphorically in my personal and professional lives. What could be better than creating and disseminating new knowledge (and getting paid for it)?”



### **YOCHANAN SHACHMUROVE**

***Director,  
Master's Program in Economics***

**Professor Shachmurove**, who received his BA and MBA from Tel Aviv University and his PhD from the University of Minnesota, plans to add an international perspective to the MA program in Economics and intends to strengthen the relationship between our program and the CUNY PhD program. He looks forward to guiding CCNY MA students to explore a variety of career possibilities, from academia to the Federal Reserve to international institutions to law school.





# Student Success

## *Bridges to Success*

In Fall 2020, the Colin Powell School piloted a new course intended for Freshmen and new Transfer Students:

**“Bridges to Success: Leadership and the Social Sciences,”** designed to prepare students to turn their college experience into personal and professional success. The course covered three topics:



### **Essential skills and tools for successfully navigating college & career.**

Landing an internship, finding a job, and living your dream require equal parts knowledge, skill, and network. In this portion of the course, we help students translate what they have studied, what they are interested in, where they have worked, and who they know into a seamless personal narrative, essential for positioning them as the perfect candidate for any role. Building relationships with people and places that are of interest exponentially increases the chances of job opportunities. In this part of the course, we reflect on student interests, realities, and notions of success. Students participate in workshops to finalize their personal portfolios, practice presenting themselves and pitching their ideas.


### **Exploration of student power and activism at CCNY.**

CCNY's founding created access to higher education for the previously excluded poor and working classes. The vision was to create a more equitable society by offering opportunities for social mobility for all free people. However, many continued to be excluded by the public policies of society at the time. As changes to the social, economic, and political climate of society were contested, so were the policies on admission, tuition, and curriculum throughout the college's history. City College students have long been known as contributors to major social movements from the fight against fascism to anti-war movements, and supporting free speech. Students should be proud of being part of an institution founded on principles of equity and access while also critically analyzing the world and continuing to

improve our college. In this portion of the course, we explore this history and its implications for current students at CPS and CCNY.

### **Introduction to the social sciences.**

The Colin Powell School is home to CCNY's five social science departments: Anthropology, Gender Studies and International Studies; Economics and Business; Political Science; Psychology; and Sociology. The social sciences examine societies and the relationships among individuals, institutions, and systems within societies. We consider patterns in our cultures, economic, political and social activity and reasoning, the relationships among institutions of power, and the dynamics of cognition and social interactions. In this portion of the course, students meet faculty and become familiar with the depth and breadth of the social sciences.

A photograph of three students in profile, looking towards the left. The student on the right is a young woman with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark blazer over a blue top and a purple lanyard. The student in the middle is a young woman wearing a black hijab with a white headband. The student on the left is a young man with dark hair. A large red circle is overlaid on the lower left of the image, containing white text.

The course launched with 75 students in 2020, and will be repeated and scaled to serve many more new students in the coming year. Cheri Keating, a student in the pilot class, had this to say:

*“The Bridges to Success class was very informative about the Colin Powell School and, by extension, the City College’s position in New York, national, and global history. It was inspiring to hear of the long history of student activism and made me feel I had chosen well for my education. Additionally, Bridges to Success had a profound impact on my ability to maintain full-time enrollment by exposing me to scholarship and fellowship opportunities, particularly the Colin Powell Fellowship in Leadership and Public Service, of which I am now a First-Year Fellow.”*





## Career and Professional Development events



### JP Morgan Chase Advancing Black Pathways

*“Because of the mentorship program, I stayed the course of my job search journey, faced a lot of letdowns, close calls, and in the end, I persevered. It took a village to get me where I am today, and the mentorship program was a big part of it.”*

In February, to mark the start of Black History Month, the Colin Powell School and the Advancing Black Pathways (ABP) team at JP Morgan Chase, launched a pilot mentorship program, connecting 21 students across all Colin Powell School majors with professionals at JP Morgan Chase who volunteered to assist with their career and professional development. These students were selected based on

recommendations from faculty and staff. One of the selected students, Amanur Rahman, was paired with Liz Weikes, Managing Director at JP Morgan Chase Wealth Management. Liz and Amanur met every other week to discuss how he would break into the finance industry. Liz also coached Rahman before interviews, ensuring he presented himself well. Through the program, Rahman was connected

to his mentor's network and was able to network for himself. As his time with the mentorship program came to a close, Rahman reflected on its impact. “Because of the mentorship program, I stayed the course of my job search journey, faced a lot of letdowns, close calls, and in the end, I persevered. It took a village to get me where I am today, and the mentorship program was a big part of it.”

**Nov. 19, 2020**

**CCNY+UNIVERSITY  
OF ROCHESTER-  
RESEARCH INFO  
SESSION**

**Jan. 15, 2021**

**CCNY+UNIVERSITY OF  
ROCHESTER - SUMMER  
INTERNSHIP INFO  
SESSION**

**Mar. 16, 2021**

**INTERVIEWING AND  
NETWORKING SKILLS**

Guest: Dr. Eddwina Bright is a VP  
Product Manager on the Digital  
Payments team at Chase.

**Apr. 13, 2021**

**HBS CORE INFO SESSION**

**Dec. 03, 2020**

**MORGAN STANLEY  
INFO SESSION**

**Mar. 09, 2021**

**RESUME WRITING, LINKEDIN AND  
SOCIAL MEDIA**

Guest: Billy Kacyem is an Associate on the  
U.S. Public Fund Sales team within J.P.Morgan  
Securities Services.

**Apr. 08, 2021**

**HOW TO GET A JOB AFTER  
COLLEGE**

Guest: Melissa Checker and Peggy Shepard  
Moderator: Talal Butt, Ateea Kazi, and  
Aimen Khan

## *Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Deanship*

This past fall, Alumnus Richard J. Henley '78, a member of the Colin Powell School Board of Visitors, and his wife Susan L. Davis, made a major gift to establish the Richard J. Henley and Susan L. Davis Deanship at the Colin Powell School. The \$2.5 million endowment will provide flexible funding to enable the Dean to invest in programs and initiatives to advance the school's mission.

*“For us, this gift is about paying it forward by helping to create academic opportunities for students at the Colin Powell School so they can help make our world a better place.”*

*- Richard J. Henley*

## *Increasing Capacity: Support for new positions*

**Thanks to a generous grant from the Zankel Scala Family Foundation**, the Colin Powell School has created a new position, Manager of Mentorship and Alumni Relations, which will focus on developing and managing peer, alumni, and professional mentoring programs. This role will have a particular focus on assisting first generation college students in finding their way at CPS and CCNY, and will oversee efforts to engage our alumni as mentors—a long-time priority but one for which we never previously had staff capacity.

**Thanks to generous grants from the Petrie and Teagle Foundations**, the Colin Powell School will launch a Public Service and Social Justice Career Hub. CUNY campuses typically organize career services through central offices

that rely primarily on private sector recruiters. While these offices serve important workforce development goals, this approach to career and professional development is less well-equipped to help CUNY students connect the dots among (1) their education, (2) issue and activist inclinations, (3) public service and social justice career paths.

We have an opportunity to develop a public service-oriented career services hub that provides a road map to internships and careers in social justice organizations and across government and public service.

**A generous gift from a group of alumni** will support a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Colin Powell School's Clinical Psychology Program, the search for which will begin in Fall 2021.



# Timeline of Public Events



July 09th

## REDUCING THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE - ADVANCING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Radley Horton, Lamont Associate Research Professor, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University



Nov 16th

## THE STORIES OF SOCIAL MOBILITY IN AMERICA

Paul Solman, Economics Correspondent for PBS Newshour  
In Conversation with Bob McKinnon, Adjunct faculty member and Director of the Moving Up Media Lab.



Nov 10th

## STANLEY FEINGOLD LECTURE SERIES ON AMERICAN POLITICS

Congressmember Karen Bass (D-CA)  
Congressmember Jamie Raskin (D-MD)  
Moderated by - Errol Louis, Political Anchor, Spectrum News NY1



Oct 29th

## THE HOMESTRETCH: THE 2020 NATIONAL ELECTIONS & WHAT TO EXPECT

Dan Palazzolo, Professor of Political Science, University of Richmond  
In conversation with Dan DiSalvo, Chair and Professor of Political Science, Colin Powell School.



Nov 17th

## DEMOCRACY & ELECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Keith Boykin, CNN political commentator, New York Times best-selling author, and a former White House aide to President Bill Clinton.  
Maria Hinojosa, Anchor and Executive Producer of the Peabody Award-winning show Latino USA, distributed by NPR, as well as Co-Host of In The Thick, the Futuro Media's award-winning political podcast



Jan 27th

## CUNY'S FUTURE IS KEY TO NEW YORK'S FUTURE

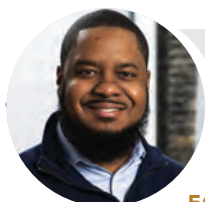
Dan DiSalvo, Professor and Chair of Political Science and author of the recent article about CUNY in City Journal.



Feb 16th

## LEADING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE AT A CRITICAL TIME: WHAT DO LEADERS NEED?

Cristina Jiménez - Co-Founder and former Executive Director, United We Dream,  
Nsé Ufot - CEO, New Georgia Project,  
Deepak Bhargava - Distinguished Lecturer, CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies



Apr 30th

## COMMUNITY POWER & ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY

Michael Partis - Executive Director of the Bronx Cooperative Development Initiative  
In Conversation with Bobby Derival, Executive Director, MPA Program



Apr 22nd

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE IN POST-PANDEMIC AMERICA?

Lane Kenworthy and Oren Cass

## HATE IN THE HOMELAND: THE NEW GLOBAL FAR RIGHT

Dr. Cynthia Miller-Idriss, professor at the American University in Washington, DC, and director of the Polarization and Extremism Research and Innovation Lab (PERIL) in conversation with Dr. Rajan Menon, Anne and Bernard Spitzer Chair in Political Science.



Apr 15th

## STANLEY NELSON'S CRACK: COCAINE, CONSPIRACY, & CORRUPTION

Acclaimed documentarian and CCNY alum Stanley Nelson discusses his latest film with Elizabeth Hinton, Associate Professor of History and African American Studies and Professor of Law at Yale University and Vanessa K. Valdés, Director of CCNY's Black Studies Program



**July 16th**

**COURTING JUSTICE: LGBTQ PROTECTIONS, DACA, REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**

**Tico Almeida** Founder and former Executive Director of Freedom to Work

**Stephanie Delia**, Managing Attorney, CUNY Citizenship Now!

**Kathryn Kolbert**, Reproductive Rights Attorney; Co-Founder Center for Reproductive Rights



**Oct 01st**

**POLLUTION AND BLACK AMERICA: THE STRUGGLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

A conversation between **Linda Villarosa**, award winning journalist and author, and Director of CCNY's Journalism Program and **Shawn L. Rickenbacker**, Director of the J. Max Bond Center for Urban Futures. Moderated by **Trevor Houser**, a CCNY alumni and director of the Climate Policy Fellows program



**Oct 06th**

**INTERSEX RAGE, BIOPOLITICAL PROTEST, AND THE MOVEMENT FOR BLACK LIVES**

**David A. Rubin** is Associate Professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at the University of South Florida, the author of *Intersex Matters: Biomedical Embodiment, Gender Regulation, and Transnational Activism* (SUNY Press, 2017), and co-editor of *Queer Feminist Science Studies: A Reader* (University of Washington Press, 2017).



**Oct 27th**

**RETHINKING NATIONAL SECURITY**

**Martin E. Hellman** is best known for his invention, with Diffie and Merkle, of public key cryptography, the technology that, among other uses, enables secure Internet transactions. **Rajan Menon** holds the Anne and Bernard Spitzer Chair in Political Science at CCNY and is a Senior Research Scholar at the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University. **Dr. Greenwald's** research focuses on the politics of the Middle East, nationalism, conflict, and state-building.



**Oct 21st**

**FRANCHISE: THE GOLDEN ARCHES IN BLACK AMERICA**

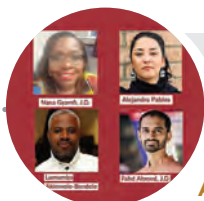
**Marcia Chatelain** is a Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor of History and African American Studies at Georgetown University. The author of *South Side Girls: Growing up in the Great Migration*, Chatelain lives in Washington, DC.



**Oct 08th**

**THE AMERICAN IDEA, ERIC LIU, STERNBERG FAMILY LECTURE**

**Eric Liu** is the co-founder and CEO of Citizen University, which works to build a culture of powerful and responsible citizenship in the United States.



**Feb 16th**

**OUR STRUGGLES ARE INHERENTLY INTERTWINED**

**Nana Gyamfi**, J.D. Executive Director, Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI)  
**Alejandra Pablos**, Reproductive Justice and Migrant rights activist  
**Lumumba Bandle**, Malcom X Grassroots Movement



**Feb 24th**

**"CONVERSATIONS IN LEADERSHIP" - FEATURING WILLENE JOHNSON**

**Willene A. Johnson** serves as a consultant advising institutions, national governments, and international organizations on issues related to finance and development.



**Mar 02nd**

**LEADING FOR SOCIAL CHANGE AT A TIME OF CRISIS**

**Rahna Epting**, Executive Director, Move On Maurice Mitchell, National Director, Working Families Party

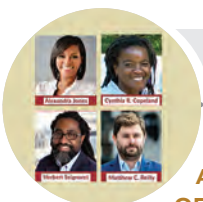
**Gara LaMarche**, President and CEO, The Democracy Alliance; Senior Fellow and Instructor, Colin Powell School, CCNY



**Mar 25th**

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND JUST SUSTAINABILITY IN HARLEM AND BEYOND**

**Melissa Checker**, Hagedorn Professor of Urban Studies at Queens College, and Associate Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Psychology at the CUNY Graduate Center and **Peggy Shepard**, co-founder and executive director of WE ACT for Environmental Justice. Moderated by **Shawn L. Rickenbacker**, Director of the J. Max Bond Center for Urban Futures"



**Mar 11th**

**ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE MAKING OF THE AMERICAN PAST**

**Dr. Alexandra Jones**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Archaeology in the Community, **Cynthia R. Copeland** Copeland Adjunct Faculty, Department of Teaching and Learning NYU-Steinhardt, Co-Director Seneca Village Project, and **Herbert Seignoret**, Director, Academic Advising Office, Colin Powell School, CCNY  
**Moderated by Dr. Matthew C. Reilly**, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at CCNY



**Mar 10th**

**"CONVERSATIONS IN LEADERSHIP"- FEATURING MERVYN KING**

**Lord King**, a graduate of King's College, Cambridge with a first-class degree in economics, Lord King also studied at St. John's College, Cambridge. He was a Kennedy scholar at Harvard University.



# Continuing Response *to* COVID

## Faculty Research



### **NORMA FUENTES-MAYORGA**

*Assistant Professor,  
Sociology*

This past fall, **Professors Norma Fuentes-Mayorga and Yana Kucheva of the Sociology Department were awarded a Social Sciences Research Council grant to examine the impact of COVID-19 on low-income Hispanic workers.** Drawing on census data, in-depth interviews, and a survey conducted in collaboration with the Mexican Coalition of New York City, the professors pursued a mixed-method study of the working and housing conditions and environmental hazards that Latinx immigrants experience in NYC and the risks these conditions have created during the pandemic. The study revealed a number of preliminary findings. First, Census data results show that Latinos living in the Bronx and Brooklyn experienced the highest rates of infections and deaths, but the study's qualitative insights provide a new caveat: Latinos with 20 or more years of residence in the City were the most negatively impacted despite



### **YANA KUCHEVA**

*Assistant Professor,  
Sociology*

their access to more resources (i.e., living in households with families with citizenship status; secured employment; health insurance; and/or safety net). Yet, the undocumented and those with lower than a high school education were the most ravaged: unqualified for stimulus or unemployment benefits, most were forced to work to provide for their families. According to the investigators: "These immigrants paid the highest of price, serving not only as essential workers but also as human buffer to protect privileged Americans from death."

*According to the investigators:  
"These immigrants paid the highest of price, serving not only as essential workers but also as human buffer to protect privileged Americans from death."*



### **SASHA RUDENSTINE**

*Assistant Professor,  
Psychology*

Last fall, a team of researchers from the Psychology Department published a study showing high levels of depression and anxiety among low-income college students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study, published in the *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, was based on an online survey of nearly 2,000 CUNY students, and tells a devastating story of psychological distress among students from lower socioeconomic groups living in the COVID-19 epicenter of the U.S. pandemic. **The lead author was Colin Powell School Assistant Professor of Psychology Sasha Rudenstine.** Co-authors included four doctoral students from the Colin Powell School: Kat McNeal, Talia Schuder, Michelle Hernandez, and Kseniia Gvozdieva, as well as two faculty members from the Boston University School of Public Health.

[Read the study.](#)





**BOB MELARA**

*Professor and Chair,  
Psychology*



**TERESA LOPEZ-CASTRO**

*Assistant Professor,  
Psychology*



**ADRIANA ESPINOSA**

*Assistant Professor,  
Psychology*



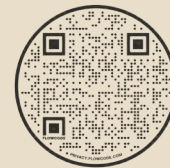
**NISHANTHI ANTHONOPILLAI**

*Assistant Professor,  
Psychology*

**Professors Teresa Lopez-Castro, Nishanthi Anthonipillai, Adriana Espinosa, and Bob Melara** collaborated with Columbia post-doctoral researcher Laura Brandt to document the breadth of COVID-19 experiences, including

the economic hardship and mental health of CCNY students. Their findings illustrated how our students have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The investigators hope that their results may inform best practices to

support students' well-being and serve as a benchmark for future studies of US student populations facing COVID-19 and its aftermath.



[Read the study.](#)

## Course work

From January 10-15, the Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology held a virtual Spanish immersion course for 15 PhD students. The course consisted of 10 hours of intensive Spanish classes and four hours of workshops in topics ranging from Mexican and Latinx culture to working with patients in the context of COVID-19 and asylum interviewing. Grounded in the program's social justice mission, the course responded to urgent topics that grew from the PhD students' experience during the pandemic.



[Read the syllabus.](#)



**STANLEY AZUAKOLA**

## Students

During the fall semester, MPA students Stanley Azuakola and Tarik Fathallah completed innovative projects to address issues that emerged during the pandemic. Azuakola produced and edited three stellar documentary videos titled the [Future of Work in a Post-COVID World](#) exploring remote

work, the gig economy, automation, and other trends accelerated by the pandemic.




**TARIK FATHALLAH**

Fathallah worked with an international team of social entrepreneurs to develop [Accurolab](#), an AI-powered tool to provide credible fact-checking about COVID-19 and other public health issues. These projects were the culmination of the Program's year-long Social Innovation Fellowship, for which participants received financial support, mentorship, and

designed projects aimed at solving issues related to poverty and inequality in the US and globally.





A photograph of three men standing outdoors. On the left, a young man with a beard and short dark hair, wearing a teal suit and a bright blue tie, is smiling. In the center, another young man with short dark hair, wearing a light gray zip-up sweater, is looking towards the older man. On the right, an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark pinstriped suit and a blue tie, is gesturing with his right hand while speaking. The background shows a modern building with large windows and some greenery.

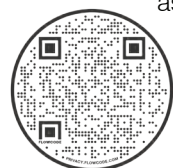
*Lots of students  
that come to City College  
are first in their families to  
go to college and they come  
with an implicit sometimes  
unconscious understanding that  
they are changing their family  
history, as simply being here  
is an active leadership*

# Student, Faculty/Staff and Alumni Accomplishments



**DEIDRE ANGLIN**  
Associate Professor,  
Clinical Psychology

This spring, a team of social scientists led by **Deidre Anglin (Psychology)** co-authored a study published in *The American Journal of Psychiatry* examining the legacy of structural racism in the United States and its role in shaping racial inequities in social determinants of psychosis at neighborhood and individual levels. This first-of-its-kind review details evidence showing that Blacks and Latinx populations suffer disproportionately from risk factors within three key areas (neighborhood factors; cumulative trauma and stress; and prenatal and perinatal complications), in large part



as a result of racial discrimination and social disadvantage. [Read more about the study.](#)

This past fall, Anglin was appointed to the Editorial Board of *Psychiatric Services*, a peer-reviewed journal published by The American Psychiatric Association.



**MARTA BENGOA**  
Professor,  
Economics

This past fall, **Marta Bengoa (Economics)** was elected by a group of her peers as the new Executive Vice President of the International Trade and Finance Association in the United States. Professor Bengoa has published numerous articles about the determinants of economic growth and incidence of inequality and poverty in Latin America. She has also collaborated with the World Bank and United Nations in projects about economic growth in Latin America. Bengoa is a 2015 recipient of the CCNY Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching.

This spring, **Matthew Reilly (Anthropology)** received the [2021 Feliks Gross Award](#), which is presented to outstanding assistant professors selected from throughout the 25 CUNY campuses by the CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences. Reilly is assistant professor of anthropology, gender studies, and international studies at City College and affiliated faculty in anthropology



**MATTHEW REILLY**  
Assistant Professor,  
Anthropology

at the Graduate Center, CUNY. His archaeological research explores issues of race, colonialism, slavery, and freedom in the Caribbean and West Africa.

*“With specific attention to the Caribbean and the African Diaspora, Matt’s work is also a critical interrogation of Whiteness. Combined with his fluency across the four-fields of anthropology, Matt’s research is key to contributing to our department’s commitment to public scholarship and anti-racist pedagogies.”*

Irina Carlota Silber, Chair Anthropology,  
Gender Studies and  
International Studies



Visit the  
Project website  
<https://www.bahaliberia.com/>





**HERBERT SEIGNORET**

*Director, Office of  
Academic Advising*

In June, **Herbert Seignoret**, who has led the Colin Powell School Office of Academic Advising as it has increased support for the school's nearly 4,000 students in response to the extraordinary challenges of the pandemic, was selected to receive the Alumni Association of CCNY 2021 Administrative Staff Service Award. Seignoret is a CCNY alumnus and long-time dedicated student advisor. In response to the award, Seignoret wrote:

*"I feel humbled by this gesture of appreciation. This award recognizes my service to the students. However, this is also a team effort. It is a great privilege to work with colleagues who are dedicated to CCNY's mission and who prioritize the success of our students."*

Climate Policy Fellow **Evana Said '21** was one of two winners across CUNY of the 2020 Paul A. Volcker Careers in Government Essay Contest. In her prize-winning essay, Said reflected on what her



**EVANA SAID '21**

upbringing in Brooklyn taught her about how design and law affect New York City's inhabitants. In May, Said earned her bachelor's degree in architecture, with a minor in legal studies. She is committed to environmental justice and aspires to a career in the public or nonprofit sector that will allow her to contribute to mitigating climate change and helping marginalized communities. Another Colin Powell student, Alexander Huaylinos, was named a finalist in the contest. This past fall, alumna and former

achievement in their chosen field. Dr. Allen, a family medicine physician currently residing in Central Minnesota, has made it a goal to serve underserved populations and to reach millennials both locally and globally. She is the co-host of the podcast, "Race and Medicine", as well as co-host and creator of the podcast, "Millennial Health". While a student at CCNY, she founded Women of Excellence, Strength, & Tenacity (WEST), an organization focused on helping young women reach their career goals and highest potential. She has dedicated her time to speaking up for diversity in the medical field. She was named a 40 under 40 Leader in Health by the National Minority Quality Forum and was featured in the book *Against All Odds: Celebrating Black Women in Medicine*.



[Read an interview  
with Dr. Allen here.](#)



**DR. JAY-SHEREE ALLEN '11**

Colin Powell Fellow **Dr. Jay-Sheree Allen '11** was awarded the Townsend Harris Medal by the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association of the City College of New York. The award recognizes those who have demonstrated outstanding postgraduate



**DHARAMJEET SINGH '19**

An immigrant from Burma, **Dharamjeet Singh '19** developed a keen interest in studying the U.S. political system at the Colin Powell School. That prompted him to switch his major from business to political science and to participate in the Colin Powell

School's Semester in Washington, DC program. He also earned a scholarship to spend a summer in the Netherlands, where he studied laws and antiquities and criminal justice in Amsterdam, visited The Hague, and met with people working for the International Court of Justice. Singh now works as a legislative correspondent in the US House of Representatives and takes pride in having contributed to greater representation for the Sikh community in the US government.



[Read a full interview with Singh here.](#)

### **Nonya Khedr '21**

is an Egyptian immigrant and graduate of international studies and human rights at the Colin Powell School. As a student she developed a deep commitment to advocating for women and



**NONYA KHEDR '21**

eradicating the practice of Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C) globally. Focusing on this goal, she started an organization called SheFFA with support from the Zahn startup incubator, re-established the United Nations campus chapter, and was both a

Colin Powell Fellow and Skadden Scholar.



[Read a full interview with Khedr here.](#)

*“Through my work advocating against FGM/C, I was recognized as a Forbes Under 30 Scholar and also selected to be a Clinton Global University Fellow — learning different skills and forms of leadership to implement back to my non-profit organization. The passion I grew for women’s rights also encouraged me to become more involved in Human rights and therefore prompted me to bring back the United Nations Association Campus Chapter to City College.”*



**CHUKWUDI ONIKE - MPA '14**

Born in Côte d'Ivoire and raised in the United States, **Chukwudi Onike (MPA '14)** grew up with a keen awareness of global issues and an aspiration for a career in International Development. To achieve this end, Onike enrolled at CCNY to earn a bachelor's

degree in International Studies. While completing his degree, he was selected as a Public Policy Fellow at what was then the Colin Powell Center for Policy Studies. He also completed an internship at the Roosevelt Institute and became a prolific student leader, participating in the Model United Nations and serving as president of the Student Association for International Studies. To develop his program management skills, Onike returned to CCNY to pursue a Masters in Public Administration (MPA). With support from the MPA's summer internship program in Washington, DC, Onike served as Congressional Intern for the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In his final semester, he completed a research consultancy with the World Bank's Public Sector Governance practice, focused on capacity building in post-conflict and fragile states to inform the Bank's efforts in South Sudan. Onike now works at the forefront of global development as a Senior Associate for the Rockefeller Foundation's Innovation team. In his role, he partners with governments, nonprofits, and private sector organizations to harness the power of digital technology to improve people's lives. He hopes to continue his career in social impact at the intersection of technology and economic development. Onike found his experience at CCNY invaluable in preparing him for his career.

*“The knowledge and relationships I developed here have made me a better and well-rounded professional and I will always be grateful for it.”*



### **Valedictorian '21:**

#### **Aisha Fuenzalida Butt**

is a first-generation college student who majored in Anthropology and minored in Women's and Gender Studies. The inevitability of climate change intensifying underlying inequalities in marginalized communities ignited her passion for social, racial and environmental justice. Aisha is a recipient of the Chancellor's Global Scholarship which allowed her to participate in three study abroad programs in Costa Rica, the Galapagos Islands, and a semester-long program in Australia. While abroad, she worked with such organizations as Reserva Playa Tortuga, Equipo Tora Carey, and Hacienda Tranquila, observing first-hand the various challenges of conservation projects and their impact on local communities. Her experiences overseas, along with her coursework, inspired her to develop an interdisciplinary independent research project as a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, which became her senior thesis. Aisha's work investigates the sociocultural and ecological effects environmental protections have on local communities in Costa Rica. Outside the classroom, she served as a mentor in the BliMP program to first-year students of color and aided in the development of a peer mentoring

program as a member of the Colin Powell School Student Advisory Committee. A Climate Policy Fellow, she is interning at the National Resources Defense Council during the Summer of 2021. In the coming year, Aisha has an English Teaching Assistantship as a Fulbright Scholar in Spain, after which she plans to apply to Anthropology graduate programs.

*"Growing up in the very red, conservative borough of Staten Island, I was really drawn to City College for its commitment to inclusion, equity and justice. City College's long history of expanding the intellectual and professional experiences of students of color and its dedication to granting accessibility to students from underrepresented communities is what motivated me to apply and ultimately enroll".*

### **Salutatorian '21:**

**Sangida Akter**, a student in the City College Honors Program, graduated with a double major in Psychology and Sociology. At

the Colin Powell School, she challenged herself to apply the tools and frameworks she learned in the classroom to the mental health experiences of minority communities. As an aspiring clinical psychologist, she is passionate about shedding light on the complex mental health needs of marginalized communities and the implications such findings have for clinical intervention and policy. At CCNY she pursued research projects that sought to understand how cultural/religious identities, the immigrant experience, and stigma interact with psychopathology to create unique risk and protective factors. Through the CCNY S Jay Levy Fellowship for Future Leaders, she interned as a research assistant at the NYU Headache Center. There, she acquired a deeper understanding of the barriers patients face in accessing behavioral therapies and the need for innovative clinical interventions that are accessible, affordable, and inclusive. Sangida hopes to use the insights and curiosities generated by her upbringing as a South Asian and Muslim American, and the skills and principles obtained during her time at the Colin Powell School, to diversify the field of clinical psychology research.



**AISHA FUENZALIDA BUTT**



**SANGIDA AKTER**



**HEBH JAMAL**

### Salutatorian '21:

**Hebh Jamal** is widely regarded as an advocate against education inequality, Islamophobia, and the occupation of Palestine. Hebh was profiled on many platforms such as the NYTimes, TeenVogue, Netflix documentary Teach Us All and many more. Hebh Jamal worked for organizations such as IntegrateNYC, NY Appleseed and most recently at the NYU Metro center as a youth policy fellow tackling school segregation in NYC. She was the president of CCNY's Students for Justice in Palestine. She graduated with a history and political science degree Summa Cum Laude. During her time at CCNY, Hebh received the Koch Fellowship, Arthur Tiedman's Best Undergraduate History Paper, and has been on the Dean's List multiple times. She pursued her activism within the walls of CCNY and the Colin Powell School by advocating for education reform and Palestinian liberation. Hebh recently moved to Germany where she plans to continue her education with the hopes of pursuing a career in academia.

*"I think my career at CCNY helped me become a more rounded person. It taught me to be hyper critical and to never be complacent in what I think I know".*

### Salutatorian '21:

**Tony Huertas** was born and raised in Queens, New York and is of Puerto Rican descent. After a long career as a paralegal and

a thirty-five year absence from the classroom, Tony once again became a student at BMCC in the Spring of 2017, where he majored in Liberal Arts and graduated with Honors in the Spring of 2019. At the BMCC Graduation convocation, Tony was awarded the Orville N. Hill College Discovery Award and the Abner B. Rosenfield Award for Outstanding Scholarship/Citizenship. He was also Valedictorian for the College Discovery Program. Upon graduating from BMCC, he was named the recipient of the Mitsui USA Foundation CUNY EDGE Scholarship. Tony transferred to CCNY, where he became a political science major and a SEEK student enrolled in the Skadden Arps Honors Program. During his junior year at CCNY, he was awarded the prestigious Herman Badillo Scholarship for service to the community and academic excellence. Tony has volunteered at Gay Men's Health Crisis, God's Love We Deliver, Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen and Housing Works. He is a passionate advocate for Human Rights and plans to represent the LGBTQ community either as an attorney or Social Worker.



**TONY HUERTAS**



**SHILPA SHAJU**

**This year's salutatorian for CCNY was also a Colin Powell School student, Shilpa Shaju.**

Shilpa is a first-generation college student and Macaulay Honors College Scholar. She graduated with a dual major in political science and international relations, with a minor in legal studies. She worked as a legal assistant at the law firm of Moumita Rahman and served as the president of the Macaulay Honors College Pre-Law Club. She will begin her studies at UC Hastings School of Law this fall and plans to become the first lawyer in her family. She is interested in practicing immigration law and helping immigrants who qualify for Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) or asylum status.

*"As a CCNY student, I understand how vibrant a space can become if we give others an opportunity. This is what I want to do with my legal career. I want to open the door for others to have a chance to not only live in a safe country, but to be recognized in its law as well."*



# Transitions



MEHDI SAMIMI



BILL CRAIN



RAJAN MENON

## *New Faculty*

In fall 2020, the Colin Powell School welcomed a new assistant professor of management, **Mehdi Samimi**. Mehdi holds a PhD in management from Iowa State University and a master of science in management and bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Sharif University of Technology. His research focuses on managerial cognition, and specifically how strategic leaders' cognitions influence their firms' innovations. Prior to receiving his PhD, Mehdi worked as a management consultant in the oil and gas industry.

## *Retirements*

**Professor Bill Crain (Psychology)** is retiring after 51 years at City College. A native of Los Angeles, CA, Professor Crain is a developmental psychologist by training, whose work focuses on how children's minds and personalities evolve. He is the author of *Theories of Development: Concepts and Applications*, which is now in its sixth edition. A much-loved teacher, Professor Crain

has been a staunch advocate for open admissions and free speech at CCNY. He has organized against tuition hikes and standardized entrance exams, and he urges new faculty and students to learn about the college's history and its role in promoting equality of opportunity. Along with his wife, Dr. Ellen Crain, Professor Crain runs [Safe Haven Farm Sanctuary in Dutchess County, NY](#), which provides a safe home for farm animals rescued from abuse and neglect. "My classes have always been exciting, and I have had many terrific students," Professor Crain said as he reflected upon his career.

"I believe CCNY continues to be a terrific place to teach. Colleagues tell me that our undergraduates are much more interesting and outspoken than those at Ivy League colleges". Professor Crain advises new colleagues to take time to learn about the history of the college.

***"You will realize that you are teaching at a place that has played a central role in promoting equality of opportunity in the United States."***

**Professor Rajan Menon**, the Anne and Bernard Spitzer Chair in Political Science at the Colin Powell School, will retire at the end of 2021, after more than ten years at CCNY. A native of Kerala, India, Professor Menon grew up in New York City and Wichita, Kansas. He is a prolific author, whose research focuses on American domestic and national security policy, globalization, and the politics of Asia, Russia, and the post-Soviet states. During his time at CCNY, he dedicated generous amounts of time and energy to students and published widely in both academic and mainstream publications. Professor Menon previously taught at Lehigh University, Columbia University, and Vanderbilt University and has held fellowships and other positions at the New America Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the National Bureau for Asian Research. He also served as Special Assistant for Arms Control and National Security to Congressman Stephen J. Solarz (D-NY). "This is an extraordinary place, not only because of its storied history and beautiful campus, but also on account of its exceptional faculty and students. I have met some truly outstanding scholars here. As for the students, when someone from another university asks about them, I say this:

*“I have never taught at a school where I am in awe of the students. What our students achieve despite the hardships many endure, and the comes-with-birth advantages they lack, is extraordinary. It has been a privilege to witness their successes.”*

This past spring, after more than half a century at CCNY, Professor **Bill King (Psychology)** retired. Raised in Newark, New Jersey, he graduated from Rutgers University and the University of Colorado and has been with CCNY since 1967. Professor King has served in multiple tenures as department chair, graduate program director, director of the Mental Health Counseling program, and dedicated advisor to countless students.

“I experienced great satisfaction advising students all along from the very beginning of my time at the college. Not having any advisement as a high school student or early in my undergraduate career and yet succeeding through the good fortune of meeting a few extraordinary professors has motivated me to help students, especially those for whom college is a great unknown and who like me are the first generation in their family to have the opportunity to attend College.”



**BILL KING**

After 35 years of teaching psychology, Professor **Irvin Schonfeld** announced his retirement in December of 2020. Professor Schonfeld graduated from Brooklyn College, majoring in psychology and mathematics, and became a math teacher in the New York City public school system. He later left teaching to complete a doctorate at the CUNY Graduate Center, combining educational psychology and developmental psychology in his research on children's mathematical cognition. He developed expertise in the impact of job stressors on the mental health and morale of teachers and the self-employed and came to identify with the emerging field of occupational health psychology. A member of the doctoral faculty of both CCNY and the CUNY Graduate Center, Schonfeld was the founding editor of the Newsletter of the Society for Occupational Health Psychology and is co-author of the book, *Occupational Health Psychology: Work, Stress, and Health*. In November, Professor Schonfeld co-authored a study that introduced a model called the Occupational Depression Inventory (ODI), which is designed to quantify the severity of work-attributed depressive symptoms and establish provisional diagnoses of job-ascribed depression. According to the study's abstract, the ODI comprises nine symptom items and uses them to better identify, monitor,



**IRVIN SCHONFELD**

and treat job-ascribed depression. In reflecting on his career, Professor Schonfeld advised: “One of the best things you can do in college and in life in general is to forge relationships. Those relationships can be with fellow students. They can be with colleagues. They can be with people in your neighborhood. Those relationships don't have to turn into friendships, but sometimes they do. Friendships are almost always rewarding.”

**Scarlett Farray**, one of the longest-serving student academic advisors at City College, retired at the end of 2020. Farray cared deeply about student success and was patient and caring always. She served as the assistant director of City College's central student advising office and then became a student academic advisor in the Social Sciences Division, which became the Colin Powell School. Over the course of her career, Farray worked under nine different deans. In her final staff meeting with the Colin Powell School team, she received tearful accolades in the form of both poetry and prose from long-time colleagues as well as student college assistants whose lives she impacted. Farray was beloved for her steadfast dedication to student well-being, and her compassionate and personalized approach to helping each student overcome their individual challenges and pursue their goals.



**SCARLETT FARRAY**



# In Memoriam



**VERNON JORDAN**

This year, the Colin Powell School lost two long-time members of our Board of Visitors. In March, **Vernon Jordan** passed away at the age of 85. Jordan had a trailblazing career, as a lawyer, a civil rights leader, and an influential Washington power broker. A long-time friend of General Colin Powell, he served on the original Board of Advisors for the Colin Powell Center; played a central role in the campaign that led to the creation of the Colin Powell School; and helped to develop the school's mission-oriented profile. He regularly hosted students and graduates of the Colin Powell Center and School and encouraged them to see themselves as leaders in the continuing movement for civil rights for all.



**VARTAN GREGORIAN**

In April, **Vartan Gregorian**, President of the Carnegie Corporation, died at the age of 87. Prior to his tenure at Carnegie, Gregorian, an Armenian immigrant, served as President of Brown University and of the New York Public Library, which he was widely credited with saving during a period of economic crisis. For more than two decades, the Colin Powell Center and School benefited from his unmatched intellect, dedication to social change, and deeply held commitment for bettering the lives of young people, not least those who shared his experience as immigrants.

In June, the Colin Powell community was devastated by the loss of **Class of 2021 alumna, Amna Syed**, who died in a fire in her Queens home. Professor Bob Melara (Psychology) wrote this remembrance:



**AMNA SYED**

*"Amna represents the very best of City College. A SEEK student, Amna graduated from City College in January 2021 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a minor in Anthropology. She was an immense presence in the Psychology Department. Amna worked closely with the Psych Club to create a Psychology Alumni Association. And she worked closely with me on research experiments exploring the neural basis of attention and distraction. Amna was always animated and fun loving but very serious about her studies. She was deeply committed to helping her fellow students. In my lab, she taught students how to measure brain waves and how to give effective lab presentations. After she graduated, she stayed at City College, helping students as a teaching assistant for the always challenging Experimental Psychology course. Teaching became her passion. She accepted a teaching position at a charter middle school for the upcoming school year and planned to attend graduate school in the fall to earn her master's degree. The City College community, and especially the Psychology Department, was Amna's second family. We will deeply miss her verve, her tenacity, and the love that she brought to everyone with whom she interacted."*

# Welcome to our new Board Members



**RICHARD J. HENLEY**

President and CEO,  
Healthcare Strategic Solutions, LLC



**TREVOR HOUSER**

Partner,  
Rhodium Group

This past year, the Colin Powell School welcomed two alumni as members of its Board of Visitors:

**Richard J. Henley '78** (BA-MA Economics) is President and CEO at Healthcare Strategic Solutions, LLC, an advisory firm focused on optimizing enterprise value for health systems, private equity firms, portfolio companies, and other business entities through strategy, leadership and business development. He has spent more than thirty years in senior leadership positions in a broad range of healthcare settings including an academic medical center, a multi-hospital system and community hospitals. An émigré from Poland whose family fled from communism and anti-Semitism when he was a toddler, Henley received his primary education in New York City public schools. During his time at CCNY, he became interested in healthcare and economics. He credits the College's placement office for helping him to land his first job after graduation, at Mount Sinai Medical Center. He brings to the board a dedication to the Colin Powell School's mission and a deep commitment to and experience with the critical importance of mentorship.

International climate policy analyst **Trevor Houser '06** is the newest member of the Board of Visitors and the first to have been a Colin Powell Fellow. While an undergraduate, Houser developed an interest in international economic and environmental policy. He subsequently learned Chinese, and began working on Chinese energy and environment policy during a six-month U.S. State Department internship at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. Today, Houser is Partner with the Rhodium Group, where he leads the firm's Energy & Climate Practice. He also co-directs the Climate Impact Lab, a collaboration of leading research institutions combining climate, economic and data science to quantify climate risk around the world. In Fall 2019, Houser worked with Dean Andrew Rich to create a Climate Policy Fellows Program for CCNY undergraduates from various disciplines.



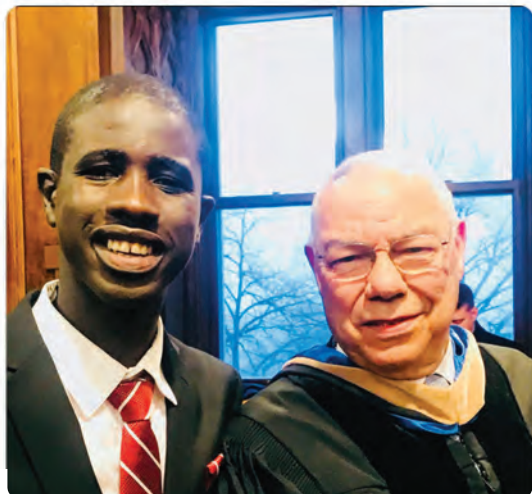
# Tributes to General Colin L. Powell

from Students, Staff, Alumni, as well as Prominent Figures



Mustapha Camara  
@MustaphaCamar10

And I am lucky to be one of those he open the doors of success @cpowellschool when I was selected to be one of his fellows from 2016/17. He has inspired and help many students in many ways @CityCollegeNY unlock their potentials and shape their careers to build more just society.



debbina77  
The City College of New York



Liked by mpaccny and 44 others

debbina77 When I initially declined Colin Powell's offer to join this photo @ccnycitycollege @cpowellschool, thinking it was just for the fellows, he mildly berated me: "When a general tells you to get in the photo, you get in the photo!" Needless to say I did, and now I'm very glad that I have this memory. #colinpowellschool #cpsfellows #citycollegeofnewyork



Luis Cornello  
@luisrcornello

I'm heartbroken at the passing of Gen. Colin Powell. I am thankful to him for his leadership at my alma mater, @cpowellschool — my condolences to his family.



Garri Rivkin  
October 19 at 1:22 PM

I am not sure I would still be leading The City Tutors, or that The City Tutors would even exist today, if it weren't for General Colin L. Powell's vision for, commitment to, and generous philanthropy in support of my alma mater The City College of New York.

In 2014, I came to the newly created Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership at CCNY with an opportunity to take the idea I had for The City Tutors, and make it into a resource for students at the school and for those in the Harlem community.

For the next 7 years, I worked on growing The City Tutors' reach, guided by Colin Powell's vision to build toward a greater common good, and to serve every student that walks through our doors. The school he founded incubated our growth, and positioned us to make an impact much greater than we could have hoped when we started our journey.

I am indebted to what he built. And The City Tutors is committed to continuing to act on his vision to strengthen the many and varied communities across NYC so all can be positioned to achieve their goals regardless of socio-economic status.

Thank you General Powell, and RIP.



K A T  
@ragamuffin\_ESQ

Powell spoke when I graduated from @cpowellschool. He told us to celebrate our diversity and to never be intimidated by those who attended more "big name" schools. I really appreciated his message and his service to our country.



Elvin García, MPA  
@ElvinGarciaNYC

RIP Secretary Colin Powell. A true American hero, a son of humble beginnings who represented the best of #TheBronx, and a trailblazer for countless others across the nation in pursuit of their version of the American Dream. @cpowellschool @AndrewOwenRich #ColinPowellRIP







*Colin Powell knew that one of the best antidotes to inequality is education and that business has a responsibility to help.*

*As a child of immigrants, he credited his parents and teachers with his meteoric rise. On our calls, he spoke with pride about his work with underserved youth and the City College of New York where he graduated.*

**TIME** *- What I Learned From Colin Powell -  
Marc Benioff, co-owner of TIME Chair and CEO of Salesforce*

*He found great fulfillment in the creation of the Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership at the City College of New York.*

*The school would, he hoped, make possible more stories like his: a son of immigrants who, as he freely admitted, wandered for a while until the military gave him a sense of purpose and discipline. A young man who was educated in the City of New York system — not in a military academy or the Ivy League but in a place devoted to opportunity and second chances.*

**The  
Washington  
Post**

*- Colin Powell's greatest legacy is in the people he inspired -  
Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice*

*As Secretary of State, Colin Powell advanced U.S. values of democracy, diversity, and freedom all around the world. And through his philanthropic work, this son of immigrants raised in the South Bronx set out to expand opportunity for young people, helping them find something they do well and love doing, just as he had found in the U.S. military.*

*-Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III*



# Fundraising *and* Development

*Preserving the quality of our school also depends on robust philanthropic support. The Colin Powell School has benefited from having wise and generous donors, and reserves that cushion the blow when times have grown tight.*

*New programming and our capacity to deliver on the great promise of our founding depend on philanthropic investment to augment the wise stewardship of public support in our work.*

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