



ON THE PATH

TO CIVIC LEADERSHIP

2025-2026 // PROJECT 55 FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY

2025-26 Project 55 Fellows

LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY FIRST NAME WITH PRINCETON CLASS YEAR:

Alessandro Troncoso '25
Allison Ha '25
Dariya Brann '24
Fatima Diallo '25
Jewel Justice '24
Megan Hannon '25

Nathalie Barnes '25
Oyshee Lahiry '25
Sabien Taylor '25
Thia Bian '25
Tiffany Tsai '25
Tristen Godfrey '25
Venezia Garza '25

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

What makes a Project 55 Fellowship unique is our holistic approach to personal and professional development. Fellows engage in enrichment and community building through various intentional aspects of the Fellowship program. Each Fellow receives a professional placement at one of our partner organizations, is matched with a mentor from within our network and supported by local volunteer area committees, and participates in a year-long curriculum of personal and leadership development.

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

We encourage you to follow our Fellows throughout the year as they share their experiences on social media.

Please also connect with us online on Instagram, Facebook, X, & LinkedIn.

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2025-26 Project 55 Fellows:

The Princeton AlumniCorps' Project 55 Fellowship consists of 13 Fellows working with 11 civic and community-based organizations located from Boston to San Francisco.



Alessandro Troncoso '25
(He/Him)

New York City

Programs Associate,
Association to Benefit Children

Alessandro Troncoso is from Rockland, NY. He hopes to pursue a career in public service as politician, focusing on the issues that most impact low-income communities. At Princeton, he majored in Politics and minored in both Jazz Studies and Spanish Language & Culture.

Alessandro's work at both the Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority and his family's business, Palenque Meat Provisions, has galvanized his passion for working with government and taught him of the many unsolved societal problems he now seeks to solve.

Alessandro is excited for the opportunity to work with the Association to Benefit Children, a non-profit with the mission of helping children in underserved communities through education, housing, and healthcare programs, as one of their Program Associates. He also looks forward to playing flute at Video Game Jam Sessions in OSNYC, playing poker with friends, and volunteering within Latino communities as a translator outside of work.



Allison Ha '25
(She/Her)

New York City

Developmental Assistant,
Housing Development Fund

Allison Ha is from Simi Valley, CA. She hopes to pursue a career in law, with a focus on juvenile and education law, driven by her passion for youth advocacy and equitable access to education. At Princeton, she majored in Public and International Affairs and was deeply involved on campus—as a project leader for the Community House After School Program and a member of the varsity softball team. She also served as President of Asian Student-Athletes of Princeton and wrote for The Daily Princetonian sports section, covering women's volleyball and basketball.

Additionally, Allison is passionate about art and brings a creative lens to her work through photography and a growing interest in visual storytelling. She is excited to join the Housing Development Fund in Connecticut, where she'll support affordable housing initiatives, engage in community outreach, and explore the intersection of housing equity and education access. She looks forward to blending her legal interests, teaching experience, and creative passions to make a lasting impact in the communities she serves.



Dariya
Brann '24
(She/Her)

Washington DC

Program & Communications Associate,
BroadFutures

Dariya Brann is a Computer Science graduate from Princeton University with a deep interest in the intersection of technology and public service. She is thrilled to join BroadFutures, where she will support professional development for neurodivergent youth by drawing on her experience in mentorship, education, and program administration.

Originally from Philadelphia, she values community, connection, and creating spaces where others can thrive. In her free time, she's excited to discover the arts, culture, and hidden gems of Washington, DC.



Fatima
Diallo '25
(She/Her)

Chicago

Research Assistant,
Sinai Community Institute

Fatima Diallo is from New York City and currently resides in Detroit, Michigan. She plans to pursue a career in global health. At Princeton University, she majored in Anthropology with minors in African Studies and Global Health and Health Policy. During her time at Princeton, she was involved in a variety of organizations, including serving as a member of the Princeton Health Literacy and Equity Club and as a Prose Editor for the Nassau Literary Review. She also held leadership roles as Co-President of Princeton's Muslim Advocates for Social Justice, Social Responsibility Director for Our Health Matters—a mental health initiative for Black women—and as a Creative Writing Student Adviser at the Lewis Center for the Arts.

Fatima is passionate about global health, immigration justice, and addressing social disparities. She is excited to support community health initiatives through her work with the Sinai Community Institute. Following her fellowship, she plans to pursue a Master's in Public Health. In her free time, Fatima enjoys reading, creative writing, and taking nature walks.



Jewel
Justice '24

(She/Her)

New York City

Development Associate,
The Baldwin Institute

Jewel Justice is a writer, multimedia journalist, and racial justice advocate based in New Jersey. As an "activist" dedicated to creating change through storytelling, Jewel's work across genres centers on the intricacies of Black life and culture. At Princeton, Jewel majored in African American Studies and minored in Dance. She has received the Certificate for the Princeton Prize in Race Relations for her activism and has recently completed New York University's Modern Journalism Certificate Program.

She has also interviewed prominent cultural figures including actress, producer, and activist Aunjanue Ellis and writer, producer, and actress Issa Rae. As a journalist, Jewel has held a range of writing and reporting roles at media outlets including Midstory, The Daily Princetonian, Front Runner New Jersey, Black in Jersey, and We Are Jersey. Jewel looks forward to working with Baldwin Institute to contribute to the effort of empowering underserved youth through education.



Megan
Hannon '25

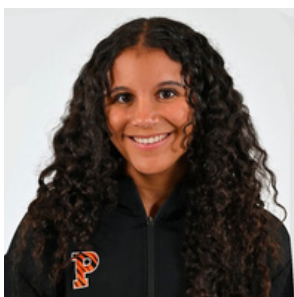
(She/Her)

Chicago

Project Management Fellow,
Origami Works Foundation

Megan Hannon is from Edgewood, MD. At Princeton, she majored in Computer Science while pursuing her strong interest in visual arts, through courses such as drawing and animation. Megan is also a musician, having dedicated her time to the Princeton University Band by playing tenor saxophone, as well as by serving as an officer for three consecutive years, which she feels has provided her with invaluable leadership experience and lifelong memories.

She commends the versatility of her CS degree; she believes that it has prepared her for virtually any field she could want to pursue in her career. Megan looks forward to finding leisure time to travel to new places, crochet fun patterns, experiment in the kitchen, and catch up on passion projects. Wherever her life takes her, through her work, Megan is motivated to create awesome things to be enjoyed by many!



Nathalie
Barnes '25

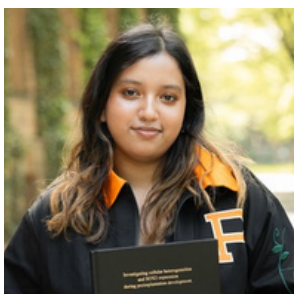
(She/Her)

New York City

Program Associate,
The Baldwin Institute

Nathalie Barnes is a member of Princeton's class of 2025 graduating with a degree in African American Studies: Race and Public Policy with minors in Gender & Sexuality Studies and Visual Arts. At Princeton, she researched racial justice within medicine and science, centering specifically on histories of medical violence against Black queer, and intersex individuals. In the Visual Arts minor program, she has predominantly worked as a narrative filmmaker, photographer, and video installation artist.

Outside academics, she has loved producing visual work for arts communities like BodyHype Dance Company, Sankofa, PU Ballet, and the Black Artists' Collective. Additionally, she competed as a diver on Princeton's Division 1 Swim & Dive program. Nathalie plans to continue pursuing both her film/visual media work and her political research. At the Baldwin Institute, she looks forward improving arts/humanities access for Black youth, supporting Baldwin's legacy, and immersing herself in the vibrant arts communities in New York.



Oyshee
Lahiry '25

(She/Her)

Chicago

Programs Associate,
Carole Robertson Center for Learning

Oyshee Lahiry hails from New Orleans, LA, and is passionate about public health, specifically addressing the social and economic factors that shape health outcomes for children. She will be graduating from Princeton University with a degree in Molecular Biology and a certificate in Global Health and Health Policy in 2025.

During her time at Princeton, Oyshee served as a Headfellow at the Emma Bloomberg Center for Access and Opportunity, mentoring fellow first-generation and low-income students. She was also actively involved with the Princeton Writing Center. Oyshee is excited to continue her journey at the Carole Robertson Center for Learning. In her free time, she enjoys reading, knitting, and practicing yoga.



Sabien
Taylor '25

(He/Him)

New York City

Programs Associate,
Association to Benefit Children

Sabien Taylor is originally from Southern California and majored in Medical Anthropology with a minor in Japanese Language and Culture at Princeton University. Passionate about global health, youth empowerment, and cross-cultural exchange, his academic and personal journey has taken him from ethnographic fieldwork in Okinawa, Japan to teaching and mentoring underserved youth in Senegal.

His senior thesis explores the declining life expectancy of Okinawans and how health is understood in postcolonial societies. At Princeton, Sabien has served as a Head Fellow Mentor for the Scholars Institute Fellows Program, supporting first-generation and low-income students as they transition into college life. He's also been a dedicated leader in student groups, including the Japanese Student Association and Sympoh Urban Arts Crew, where he built inclusive communities through cultural and creative expression. In his free time, he loves meeting new people and breakdancing!



Thia Bian '25

(She/Her)

Boston

Programs Associate,
Emergency Medicine Network (EMNET), Massachusetts General Hospital

Thia Bian is from southeastern Wisconsin. At Princeton, she studied comparative literature with minors in creative writing and global health & health policy; her research interests center around sociolinguistic frameworks of disease.

Her interest in a community-facing career stems from her time working with the Pace Center for Civic Engagement on the Student Volunteers Council, focusing mainly on community health-based projects as well as establishing sustainable, reciprocal relationships with community partners. She is excited to refine and sharpen her approach to public health research through her upcoming year working at Massachusetts General.



Tiffany Tsai '25

(She/Her)

New York City

Development and Communications Associate,
The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award USA

Tiffany Tsai is from Queens, NY, and graduated from Princeton with a degree in Psychology and minors in Cognitive Science and Global Health and Health Policy. A 1.5-generation immigrant from Taiwan, she is passionate about advancing healthcare equity at the intersection of psychology, technology, and public health.

At Princeton, Tiffany served as a research assistant investigating racial stigma and social perceptions, while also conducting her senior thesis on medical decision-making across socioeconomic groups. She led cultural organizations as President of both the Taiwanese American Student Association and the Chinese Student Association. After graduation, Tiffany is excited to join The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award USA as a Communications and Development Associate, where she looks forward to contributing to work in the education sector. In her free time, she enjoys photography, ceramics, cooking, and exploring new restaurants.



Tristen
Godfrey '25

(Any/All)

Boston

Generalist Teaching Fellow,
Community Day Charter Public School

Tristen Godfrey is from Spartanburg, SC. Graduating with a degree in Chemistry, Tristen has a passion for science and accessible research communication. Tristen discovered their love for teaching and mentorship through working as a tutor at the McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning, as well as working summers as a course fellow and residential advisor for the Freshman Scholars' Institute and Transfer Scholars' Initiative.

An activist for reproductive rights and queer belonging, Tristen was a member of Princeton Students for Reproductive Justice and worked as a Peer Educator at the Gender + Sexuality Resource Center. As a generalist teaching fellow at the Community Day Charter Public School in Lawrence, MA, Tristen hopes to instill a love for learning in the children they teach and is excited to get to know and love the community in Lawrence.



Venezia
Garza '25

(She/Her)

Bay Area

Clinical Research Assistant,
UCSF Breast Care Center

Venezia Garza is a proud Latina from Los Angeles, CA. At Princeton, she studied Medical Anthropology with a minor in Latino Studies and plans to pursue medicine. With a passion for health equity, Venezia has worked to bridge gaps in care through service and advocacy, having founded and led service organizations like Alzheimer's Buddies and Henry J.

Austin Health Connections to support medically marginalized communities. Venezia is thrilled to begin her next chapter as a clinical research intern with the UCSF Breast Care Center, where she'll support patient-centered projects aimed at improving breast cancer outcomes. While in San Francisco, she's looking forward to training for the SF Marathon and discovering the Bay Area's best eats.

AlumniCorps Staff:



Kimme Carlos

(She/Her)

Executive
Director

kcarlos@alumnicorps.org

Kimme joined Princeton AlumniCorps in 2016 and was appointed Executive Director in 2023. Her previous role was Director of Operations and Strategy. Kimme is also a certified health and wellness coach with the Institute for Integrative Nutrition; a certified instructor for Mental Health First Aid and author of the published book *The Window of Grace: Living in Recovery through Christian Faith*. As an advocate with lived experience, Kimme keynotes and facilitates on mental and emotional wellness, dismantling racism and the power of self-care.

Kimme has been a member of several nonprofit boards including Foundation Academies, Children's Futures, and The Center for Family, Community, and Social Justice; and the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Mercer County. She is a graduate of Regent University with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and a minor in Psychology. She has received numerous awards for her nonprofit and volunteer work, including the YWCA Princeton 2020 Tribute to Women Award. Kimme is the proud daughter of Dr. John W. Carlos, 1968 Olympian and civil rights activist. Kimme has two children, six grandchildren and lives in Pennsylvania.



Tim Schmidt

(He/Him)

Director,
Programs and
Strategy

Tim Schmidt is the Director of Programs and Strategy at Princeton AlumniCorps. He collaborates with dedicated staff, partners, and volunteers to support and strengthen AlumniCorps' programs. His work allows him to practice one of his core beliefs: bring out the best in leaders so they can bring out the best in those they serve.

A South Jersey native, Tim earned his B.A. in Political Science and Pre-Law, with a Minor in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, from Stockton University. He dedicated two years of national service with AmeriCorps at City Year, mentoring and tutoring students in North Philadelphia before joining their staff. As an Impact Manager, Tim led multiple teams of AmeriCorps members in their civic leadership development; while working alongside school district staff and community members to enrich the educational experiences of thousands of Philadelphia students throughout their K-12 journey.

Tim holds an M.S. in Nonprofit/NGO Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania. He continues to call Philadelphia home, where he enjoys the city's vibrant parks, culture, and community with his beloved dog, Ozzie.



Mateusz Pitrus

(He/Him)

Senior Office
Administrator

Mateusz “Matt” Pitrus recently joined the Princeton AlumniCorps team in November 2024 as the organization's Senior Office Administrator. Matt was born in Poland but raised in Central Jersey, where he still currently resides. Matt received his B.A. in Political Science from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey in 2010 and returned to earn his Master's in Public Policy in 2014.

Matt brings with him a variety of experience across non-profit and private sectors including but not limited to, non-profit program coordination, grant/proposal writing, grant program delivery, office administration, and project management. In his free time, Matt enjoys numerous hobbies including strength training, boxing/MMA, hiking, tennis, video gaming, Marvel and DC media, and improving his mechanical and home improvement skills in his spare time.



Mary Simms

(She/Her)

Development
Officer

Mary Simms came on board with the Princeton AlumniCorps Team in October 2024 as the Development Officer. A proud graduate of Indiana University, where she earned a B.S. in Public Affairs, Mary's journey has always been about serving the communities around her. After dedicating a year as an AmeriCorps VISTA at the Wood River Community YMCA in Ketchum, Idaho, her love for the mountains and the close-knit vibe of the Wood River Valley led her to dive into fundraising to support local causes. Mary's passion for these mountain communities also inspired her to write an article featured in Forbes, Crisis in Paradise, shining a light on the critical issue of food security in Sun Valley, Idaho.

Mary brings a wealth of fundraising experience that spans a diverse range of projects. Everything from supporting a transformative \$10 million capital campaign to building meaningful relationships that inspire generosity and exceed annual fundraising goals. She's a pro at crafting and managing grants programs with both public and private funding sources, and has a deep well of experience in designing and executing annual development plans. Mary has led CRM transitions that made donor engagement smoother and more impactful, while juggling event planning, annual appeals, and multi-channel fundraising campaigns. For her, it's all about making sure every donor feels deeply connected to the mission and confident in the difference their support is making.

Having recently relocated to New Jersey to be closer to family, friends, and music, Mary shares her home on Long Beach Island with her partner, and their dog Lucille.



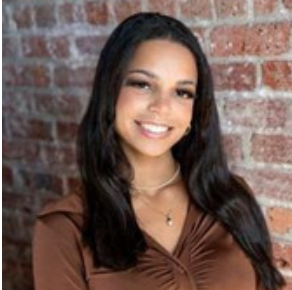
Andrijana
Bilbija

(She/Her)

Program Manager,
Partnership
Engagement
& Investment

Andrijana Bilbija Joined the team in February 2024 as Program Manager of Partner Engagement and Investment. She is a proud Project 55 alum, dedicating three years to her role at Housing and Neighborhood Development Services, Inc. (HANDS). At HANDS, she designed, executed, monitored, and evaluated economic development program aimed to increase the wealth of low-income immigrant communities in and around Orange, NJ.

A stark advocate for humanizing the experience of homelessness, she co-authored *When We Walk By: Forgotten Humanity, Broken Systems, and the Role We Can Each Play in Ending Homelessness in America*. She envisions a future where people show up with empathy, compassion, and an open mind for their neighbors in a civically engaged society that prizes mutual respect and responsibility for each other's collective and individual success, wellness, and livelihood. In her free time, Andrijana loves to read, write poetry, and tell her dog, Daisy, that she's the best girl in the world at least 100 times a day.



Laissa Gibson

(She/Her)

Program Coordinator,
Fellowship
Engagement
& Development

Laissa Gibson joined the Princeton AlumniCorps team in July 2023 as Program Coordinator for Fellowship Engagement & Development. She is a New Jersey native and currently resides in her hometown at the Jersey Shore. Laissa earned her B.A. from The College of New Jersey in 2021 where she majored in International Studies.

Following graduation, Laissa served as an AmeriCorps VISTA Member with the New Jersey YMCA State Alliance as Internship Program Liaison where she developed and implemented a statewide YMCA internship program for college students. Laissa is passionate about environmental protection and makes a concerted effort to be a conscious consumer. She loves coffee, animals, thrifting, and Taylor Swift.



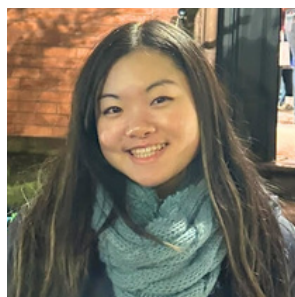
Serena
Williams

(She/Her)

Graphic Design
& Communications
Coordinator

Serena joined Princeton AlumniCorps as the Graphic Design and Communications Coordinator of Fall 2022. She has several years of experience with photography, illustration, and web design. She graduated with her B.A. in Graphic Design at La Sierra University. Serena has also interned with BKR, a reusable glass water bottle company and worked for various nonprofit organizations, including Restoration Plaza, a cultural community center & entertainment theater leading their graphic and design work.

Her photography has been featured in galleries like SALT NYC, Brandstater Gallery, and other private events. Serena brings a wealth of design experience to complement her communication background and believes that communication and graphics are a visual way to tell an organization's story and help realize its mission.



Alex Lee

(She/Her)

Summer Intern

Alexandra Lee joined the team in June 2025 as a summer intern, assisting with a program analysis of Project 55. Before Princeton AlumniCorps, she worked at various non-profits and businesses by spearheading outreach efforts and development initiatives on issues such as conservatorship reform and gender equality. In her spare time, she likes video editing and writing fiction.



2025-2026 Program Champions:

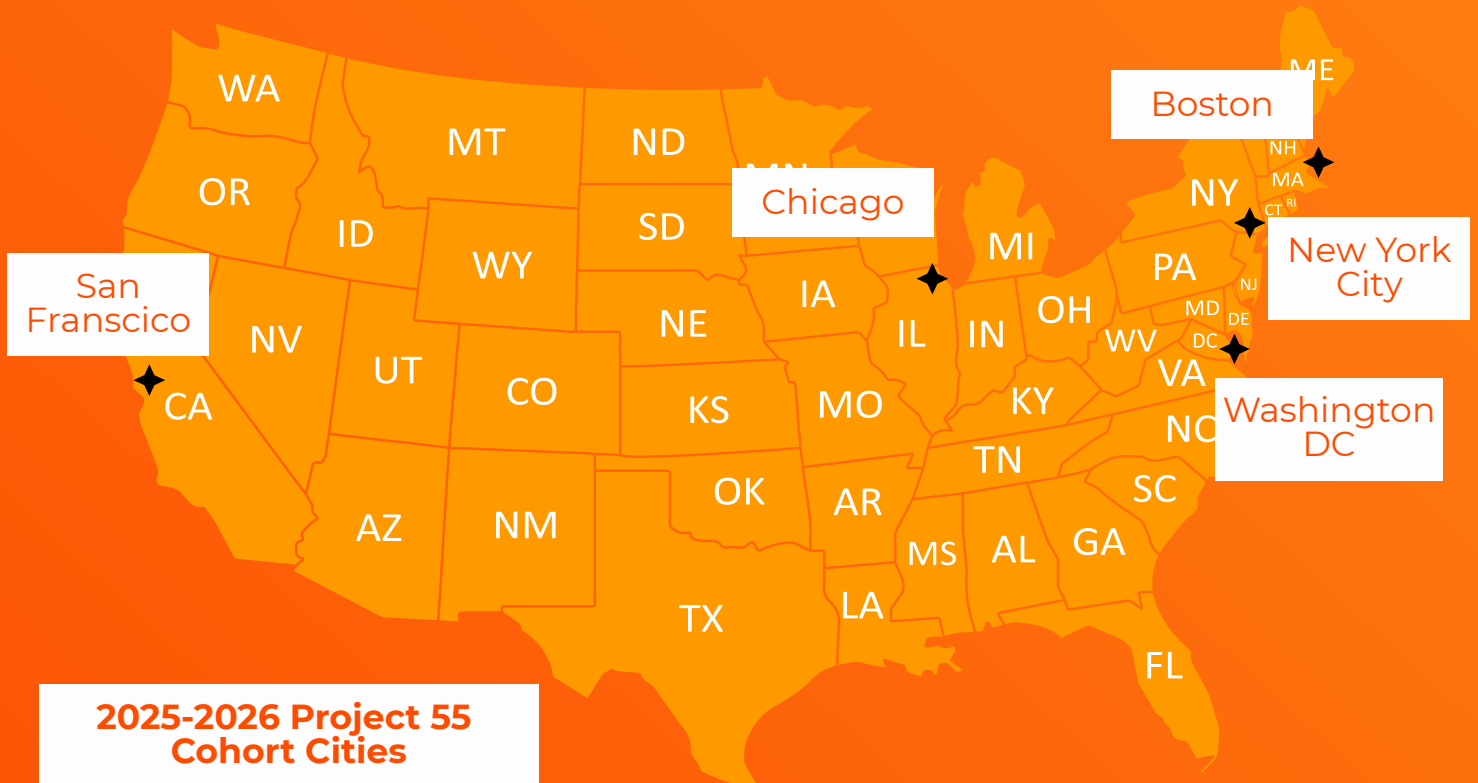
The Project 55 Fellowship Program is made possible by the leaders and professionals within Princeton AlumniCorps' network who volunteer their time, donate resources, and champion Project 55 throughout the United States.

AlumniCorps is grateful to the **16 Mentors** who are guiding Fellows through their personal and professional growth; the **10 Area Committee Members** providing local, place-based learning and holistic support to Fellows in their regions; and the passionate **Guest Speakers** who lend their expertise to enrich the civic leadership curriculum of the Project 55 program.

Thank you to the founders and family of the **Class of 1955**; to Princeton AlumniCorps' **Board of Directors**; and thank you to the **foundations** and hundreds of **individual donors** who advance the mission of Project 55 such as:

**The Jockers Family
Foundation**

**The Harris Finch
Foundation**





2025-2026 Community Organizations:

Learn more about the organizations partnering with the Project 55 Fellowship to host Fellows and support AlumniCorp's strategic administration for the 2025 - 26 program year.

Program Partnerships:



[Association to Benefit Children](#)



[Duke of Edinburgh's International Award USA](#)



[Housing Development Fund](#)



[Carole Robertson Center for Learning](#)



[BroadFutures](#)



[Community Day Charter Public School](#)



[Sinai Community Institute](#)



[Origami Works Foundation](#)



[The Baldwin Institute](#)



[UCSF Breast Care Center](#)



[Emergency Medicine Network \(EMNET\)](#)



[Massachusetts General Hospital](#)

Strategic Partnerships:





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Our Mission

Princeton AlumniCorps is committed to building a more just, equitable, and sustainable society by developing and engaging leaders and professionals of all ages to advance social change.