

AUGUST 2023

2023-2024



The Leaders Digest

EMERGING LEADERS PARTICIPANT DIRECTORY



Emerging Leaders is an eight-month professional development program that transforms young professionals working in the public interest into invested nonprofit leaders. Participants develop the leadership capabilities, management skills, and confidence necessary to accelerate their careers while generating tangible results and lasting value for their organizations and the nonprofit sector. Emerging Leaders nurtures the connection between self-development, leadership development, relationship building, and strengthening nonprofit and social sector leadership for the long-run.

The program employs experiential learning, professional experts, and speakers to build management skills, leadership competencies, and sector-specific knowledge. The following learning tracks are woven together throughout the course of the program:

- Self-Management and Self-Awareness
- Managing Others and Team Dynamics
- Nonprofit Management and Skill-Building
- Leadership Beyond the Organization

Nonprofit professionals from any topical or educational background are encouraged to apply. The work of Princeton AlumniCorps is made possible by more than 200 volunteers, 500 donors, and a network of 300 nonprofit partner organizations that support Princeton AlumniCorps's mission throughout the United States. The Princeton AlumniCorps Emerging Leaders program is made possible by grants from [Harris Finch Foundation](#), [Robert Sterling Clark Foundation](#), and individual donors.

We encourage you to follow our Leaders throughout the year as they share their experiences on Instagram.

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

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2023-24 Emerging Leaders

FELLOWS LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BY LAST NAME

Rhonda Abel	Yasmine Dyson	Rimie Marandy
Cynthia A. Bouldrick	Kenny Jean	Nic Morrow
Lakin Corbett	Saad Kabir	Ashley Pirovano
Colleen Coyne	Rachel Kotler	Razeya Rahman
Annie Cromwell	Anita Lederer	Meg Soffen

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Program Staff:

Program staff are Princeton AlumniCorps employees who coordinate the recruitment and application process for the Emerging Leaders program. They collaborate with the Program Facilitators to design, evaluate, and amend the program each year, ensuring that it accomplishes AlumniCorps's mission.



Kimme Carlos
(SHE/HER)

Executive Director

Kimme is the Executive Director of Princeton AlumniCorps; CEO and Founder of Kimme Carlos Motivational Consulting, LLC and is currently an ordination aspirant to the priesthood in the Episcopal Diocese of NJ; where she is certified as an anti-racism trainer. 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 selfcare.

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 joined the Princeton AlumniCorps team in July 2023 as Program Manager of Partnership Engagement and Investment. He was promoted to Director of Programs and Strategy in January 2024. Born and raised in South Jersey, Tim attended Stockton University, where he earned his B.A. in Political Science/Pre-Law. Tim served two AmeriCorps years with the national education nonprofit, City Year, mentoring and tutoring students in North Philadelphia. He joined City Year's staff full-time as an Impact Manager where he directly managed several teams of AmeriCorps members through their service year. Tim administered programs at City Year that impacted more than 800 AmeriCorps members and staff in their journey of discovering their most authentic leadership styles as civically minded professionals. Tim earned his M.S. in Nonprofit/NGO Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania, and continues to reside in Philadelphia with his partner and their dog, Ozzie. They greatly enjoy the beautiful parks, culture, and community of the city.



Andrijana Bilbija

(SHE/HER)

Program Manager,
Partnership Engagement
and Investment

Andrijana Bilbija is Princeton AlumniCorps' newest member, joining 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.



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 BA 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 her communication background and believes that communication and graphics are a visual way to tell an organization's story and help realize its mission.

Lead Facilitator:

Program Facilitators serve as the lead designers and facilitators of the Emerging Leaders curriculum.



Jayson Council
(HE/HIM)

National Cohort Facilitator

Jayson Council has spent over twenty years working to strengthen the social and educational sector through representation, respect, repair, and – above all – the power of opportunity.

With a deep understanding of the community, corporate, academic and non-profit worlds as well as a finger on the pulse of the cultural and social movements, Jayson has a unique ability to create understanding and develop forward-looking approaches.

In order to remain active as a thought leader in his areas of impact, Jayson currently serves as Principal of Adjacent Consulting as well as the inaugural Head of Culture at Gersh talent agency. He is also Associate Faculty at Columbia University's School of Professional Studies.

Jayson received a BA in History from Virginia State University, a Master's in Business Administration from Robert Morris University, and a Master of Science in Nonprofit Management from Columbia University.



Kandasi Griffiths

(SHE/HER)

Guest Facilitator

Kandasi Griffiths is an international development strategist and project management professional. As the Founder and Chief Curator of SR Collaborative, she consults non-profit and private sector clients on how to develop innovative initiatives and partnerships for sustainable impact, with a focus on marginalized leaders. Kandasi is a strong advocate for the EL curriculum to build community and empower leaders across the non-profit sector and is an alum of the NYC EL Cohort 2018-2019. She has facilitated EL cohorts for the NJ Department of Health and is excited to serve as Co-Facilitator for the National Cohort.

Kandasi has worked in the technical and operational domains of development programs across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. She has executed projects in health, education, and global poverty reduction. While working to transform the impact of medical equipment and access to quality community based care in low-resource settings, Kandasi managed flagship initiatives in Benin, Togo, and Guinea with the Ministries of Health. She managed operations and logistics as a USAID contractor to increase public healthcare access and effectiveness in Afghanistan, Jordan, and Tanzania. She also organizes multi-national conferences and workshops, engaging multiple stakeholders. As a public speaker, she discusses the future of the sector and nuanced approaches to international development.

Kandasi holds a B.A. in Politics - International Relations, with a minor in French from Princeton University. She is currently an M.B.A. Candidate at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. In addition to pursuing sustainable and innovative solutions to global problems, she is an avid letter-writer, jewelry-maker, and lover of languages.



Hilary Joel

(SHE/HER)

Guest Facilitator

Hilary Joel developed the original Emerging Leaders curriculum in 2011 and is the lead designer in refining it each year. She is an executive coach and management consultant with 30+ years of experience across numerous industries. As the founding principal of WJ Consulting, Hilary has partnered with the leadership and management of scores of nonprofit organizations, businesses, and government agencies to help them advance toward their own definitions of professional and organizational success more deeply, intentionally, quickly, and sustainably than they could on their own.

Hilary focuses primarily on nonprofit organizations, providing one-on-one coaching, leadership development, team/retreat facilitation, and guidance in organizational effectiveness to nonprofit leaders, their teams, and their boards. She has partnered with international as well as national and local organizations. Before starting her own coaching and consulting firm, Hilary spent a dozen years with management consulting firms focused on corporate clients in a range of industries.

Hilary holds an MBA degree from Harvard Business School where she was a Baker Scholar, and a BA degree in Economics from Princeton University. Hilary graduated from the Georgetown Leadership Coaching Program and is a Professional Certified Coach (PCC) with the International Coach Federation. She is also a certified administrator of several assessment tools, including Myers-Briggs, DiSC, and The Leadership Circle(T) 360-feedback profile. Hilary's passion for a strong nonprofit sector extends into her personal and volunteer life. She is a cofounder and board member of Compass, which provides pro bono strategic consulting to nonprofits. She also serves on the Boards of Washington Improv Theater and CollegeTracks, which helps first-gen-to-college high school students enter college and succeed. Those who know Hilary well would describe her as positive, insightful, and supportive.

2023-24 Cohort New York:

The Princeton AlumniCorps Emerging Leaders New York City cohort consists of 15 mid-career professionals who work for 13 nonprofit organizations located across the Northeast.



Rhonda Abel

(SHE/HER)

Association to Benefit Children

A New York City native, Rhonda Abel, received her B.A. in Sociology from St. Francis College in 2015 and her Masters in Social Work from The Silberman School of Social Work in 2017. She began her social work career working in nonprofit with the Association to Benefit Children as a Child and Family Psychotherapist providing home-based child-parent psychotherapy to children ages 0-5 who experienced trauma. She continued her journey in nonprofit within The Association to Benefit Children's school-based mental health.

As the Assistant Director of School-Based Mental Health, Rhonda supports a team of mental health therapists and supervisors who provide therapeutic interventions to children and families while supporting the growth and sustainability of the program.



Cynthia A. Boulbrick

(SHE/HER)

Uncommon Schools

Cynthia Boulbrick is a committed operations professional and educator who seeks to provide opportunities for students across different communities. Having worked in education for 12 years, Cynthia has worked inside and outside of the classroom to enrich students' lives and academics. She began her career as a Teach for America Corp Member in Wilmington, DE, where she was a middle school science teacher at EastSide Charter School. She also worked at the New York Public Library where she developed the curriculum for their two Out of School Time programs, Innovation Labs and Enrichment Zones.

Cynthia joined Uncommon Schools as the Special Projects Coordinator of Excellence Boys Elementary Academy in November 2015. Three years later she stepped into the role of Director of Operations. In her time at Excellence Boys, she has overseen awards ceremonies, served thousands of lunches, managed an operations team of 5, guided the leadership team in strategic planning, managed facilities, and supported the education of hundreds of young men throughout the years. After 7 years supporting and leading Excellence Boys, Cynthia transitioned to her current role as Senior Manager of the Home Office Operations team at Uncommon Schools. As Senior Manager, Cynthia designs and maintains systems in the central office and drives culture building initiatives for over 250 staff members.

Cynthia holds a Bachelor of Science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Master of the Arts in Secondary Teaching from Wilmington University.



Lakin Corbett

(SHE/HER)

Storm King Art Center

Lakin has a Bachelor of Arts in Art Administration and Art History from Seton Hill University. Shortly after moving to New York they began working in Visitor Services at Storm King Art Center. Today they work as the Visitor Services Manager, where she oversees a seasonal cohort of up to 40 seasonal staff.



Colleen Coyne

(SHE/HER)

Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation

Colleen Coyne is a passionate advocate for helping nonprofits use better data to tell powerful stories. After receiving her undergraduate degree in political science and history, Coyne moved to Washington, D.C. where she discovered her love for analytics. Coyne spent 7 years at KABOOM! helping to build a measurement and evaluation team from the ground up before moving onto her most recent role as Research and Business Analyst with Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). At MCEDC, she is helping to streamline data management and collection ensuring accurate and timely information is available to drive local economic decisions.



Annie Cromwell

(SHE/HER)

Planned Parenthood Federation of America

Annie Cromwell is the Director of Mobile Strategy & Digital Supporter Engagement at Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Annie is a digital strategist with more than a decade of experience using social media, email, and SMS strategy to craft and cultivate outward-facing organizational narratives and fundraising.

Prior to her role at Planned Parenthood, she was the SMS Manager at the Democratic National Committee (DNC), responsible for their broadcast and peer-to-peer programs. Before that, she was a digital strategist at Revolution Messaging, a digital fundraising firm where she raised money for progressive candidates up and down the ballot.

Annie graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park with a degree in Communications and a concentration in Public Relations. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, attending concerts, and assuring her 6-year-old Wheaten Terrier, Wednesday, that she is, in fact, a very good girl.



Yasmine Dyson

(SHE/HER)

American Flood Coalition

Yasmine is impact-driven and committed to work that advances social growth and environmental sustainability. She has spent the last 12 years practicing that aspiration through active engagement in national and international initiatives with a focus on climate resilience, equitable economic growth and sustainable food systems. In her current role as a senior strategy associate at the American Flood Coalition, Yasmine develops partnership strategies, explores relevant emerging topics, supports engagement with funding partners and leads local projects to help flood-affected communities.

Yasmine has cultivated core expertise at the intersection of strategic planning, analytical research, program development, and capacity building and utilizes that toolkit to support initiatives in the non-profit, public and academic sectors - including several assignments with multi-country programs at the World Bank.

Yasmine is a certified project manager and has a master's degree in Law and Development from the University of Manchester in the UK. She is an amateur photographer, enjoys the outdoors and volunteers in youth mentoring programs for historically marginalized communities.



Kenny Jean

(HE/HIM)

KABOOM!

Kenny was born and raised in New York City and is the youngest of six in his Haitian family. In 2014, he graduated from Williams College where he majored in English with a double concentration in Africana Studies and Justice & Law. Kenny has spent his entire professional career teaching, mentoring, and supporting students of color across educational spaces, from classrooms to community based organizations. His experiences have taught him the importance of preparation, discipline, guidance, and building strong relationships with his students and teammates. Kenny holds a Masters in Education from NYU and currently resides in Harlem. He is entering his 5th year at SEO Scholars, an educational nonprofit here in NYC, where he holds the title of Senior Program Manager, College Advising and helps to lead his team as they provide extensive college application support to NYC high school seniors.



Saad Kabir

(HE/HIM)

NYC Department of Education

Born and raised in the heart of New York City, Saad Kabir is not just a product of his environment, but a catalyst for change within it. An alumnus of The City College of New York, where he received a B.A. in English Education, he is currently pursuing an M.P.A. at Baruch College, specializing in policy analysis and evaluation. In a world disrupted by a global pandemic, Saad didn't just adapt; he thrived.

Capitalizing on a unique historical moment when interest rates plummeted to all-time lows, Saad founded Saturn Investment Group. The venture delves into a broad spectrum of investments—stocks, options, real estate, and beyond—providing not only financial security for himself but also for his burgeoning group of investors. This entrepreneurial journey endowed Saad with invaluable insights into market dynamics and private sector acumen.

Yet Saad's heart has always been committed to the public good. Leaving his footprints at the NYC Department of Education as a Senior Recruitment and Marketing Manager, Saad has been instrumental in a myriad of projects aimed at enhancing the quality and diversity of educational staff. A testament to his ingenuity is his groundbreaking podcast, 'Education in Color,' developed in partnership with NYC Men Teach. This platform hosts a constellation of thought leaders, from CUNY College Presidents to Senators and Borough Presidents, sparking conversations that underscore the necessity of a diverse educational landscape.

As Saad navigates the complex interplay of private and public sectors, he is driven by a simple yet powerful belief: "If you want to go fast, go at it alone; if you want to go far, go at it together." In uniting the strengths of the varied and talented individuals he encounters, Saad is not merely dreaming of a better world—he's laying the bricks to build it.



Rachel Kotler

(SHE/HER)

Uncommon Schools

Rachel is a Project Manager of Marketing at Uncommon Schools. She has worked at Uncommon for nearly 10 years since graduating from Emory University with a Bachelor of Business Administration concentrating in Marketing and Information Systems, Operations Management. Her expertise is in leading marketing staff recruitment projects and ensuring team productivity by building systems and processes. Rachel lives in Brooklyn with her husband and small dog, Arlo, where she enjoys walks to Brooklyn Bridge Park, finding great restaurants to try, and exploring new neighborhoods.



Anita Lederer

(SHE/HER)

UNICEF USA

Anita Lederer is the Assistant Director of Community Engagement at UNICEF USA. In this role, Anita oversees the work of Community Engagement Associates across the US. Before joining UNICEF USA, Anita worked as a Researcher at the American Institutes for Research working on community partnership with educational institutions and improving the outcomes of students of color, low-income students, and students from immigrant communities. Anita started her career has working as field organizer, focusing on women's rights and immigrant rights. Anita graduated from New York University, Wagner School of Public Service with a Master in Public Administration, specializing in International Policy and Management and from Boston College with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History with a minor in Women's Studies.



Rimie Marandy

(SHE/HER)

New Alternatives for Children

Driven by her deep commitment to advancing social justice, educational initiatives, and advocacy work, Rimie Marandy currently holds a position at New Alternatives for Children. In this role, she serves children and adolescents within the foster care system who have special medical, behavioral, and educational needs.

Before relocating to New York City, Rimie devoted significant time and effort to working with at-risk children and youth, with a particular focus on trauma-informed care and educational development, in Asheville, North Carolina.

Rimie brings a wealth of knowledge from her background in Psychology, Writing Studies, and anti-oppression teaching and scholarship. Her extensive research experience has equipped her to assume pivotal roles rooted in civic engagement and community empowerment throughout her career.

Looking ahead, Rimie is committed to advancing her efforts in creating social change and understanding and addressing systemic inadequacies in education, politics, and social welfare.



Nic Morrow

(SHE/THEY)

Planned Parenthood Federation of America

Nic Morrow (she/they) is a 26 year old manager on the Revenue Operations team at Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA). She has been with PPFA for four years this October. Before PPFA, Nic worked as a logistics manager, social media manager, store manager, and mobile food vendor for an ice cream shop in Western Massachusetts while they pursued their bachelor degree in Marketing. She lives in Bushwick, Brooklyn with her three partners whom she married in January of 2023. She loves learning about being a better and more equitable manager through webinars, professional development opportunities, and books. In their spare time, Nic is an avid reader and gamer, and enjoys playing DND with her partners, in-laws, and friends.

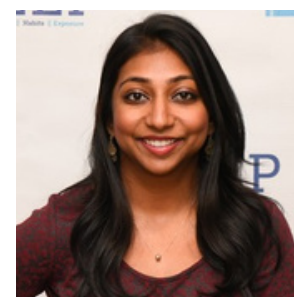


Ashley Pirovano

(SHE/HER)

BioBus

Ashley works at BioBus, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping students K-12 and college engage in authentic, meaningful science. At BioBus, Ashley is the Director of Community Science on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, leading a team of incredible scientists to develop and execute hands-on, inquiry-based STEM programs. Ashley graduated from Marymount Manhattan College with a B.S. in Biology and earned a Master's degree in Plant Biotechnology at SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry while studying communication between bacteria and plants. Ashley has worked in formal and informal science education for the past six years. She has developed several community-driven programs such as the Neighborhood Soil Science Curriculum, The Afterschool Science Hour, and The Student Town Hall YouTube series. Ashley was awarded the PASEsetter Award for her achievements in out of school education in 2022. Ashley is proud to work at BioBus where she has the platform to empower children of color to reach their scientific potential!



Razeya Rahman

(SHE/HER)

NJ LEEP

Razeya is a graduate of The College of New Jersey, where she received a B.A. in English. She is now NJ LEEP's full-time Operations and Program Manager. NJ LEEP is an organization that she holds close to her house as she was a graduate of NJ LEEP's Class of 2012. During her summer breaks from college, she interned at NJ LEEP in different capacities in order to learn more about non-profits. She is thankful for the opportunity to work at and give back to an amazing program that has helped her with her social and professional development. She comes from a large family, being one of six siblings. She likes to read and spend time with friends and families in her spare time.



Meg Soffen

(SHE/HER)

New Canaan Community Foundation

Meg joined the New Canaan Community Foundation in 2021 with a goal of strengthening the local nonprofit community and leveraging philanthropy and collective action to solve critical community issues. She currently serves as Program Officer, where she manages the Foundation's grant and scholarship cycles, emergency financial assistance fund, and Young Philanthropists Program, among other programming.

Meg is proud to serve on numerous local funders collaboratives and to represent the Foundation in region-wide community collaboratives including the New Canaan Coalition, the New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance, and the Fairfield County Housing Funder's Group, to name a few.

Previously, Meg worked as an Account Associate at DS Consulting Group, an agency that helps New York City-based nonprofits execute their large-scale fundraising events. Meg holds a B.A. in Public Policy from New York University, and she is currently pursuing her Masters in Public Administration at the University of Connecticut.

Originally from a suburb of Baltimore, Meg currently lives in Stamford, CT with her boyfriend and two dogs, Janet and George.



2023-2024 Partner Organizations:

While the Emerging Leaders program is a personal development program, it is also designed to have an immediate impact on the organizations who support their staff's participation.



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