



Annual Report

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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Supporter,

May marked Young Voices' fifth anniversary as a nonprofit organization. I've spent a lot of time recently reflecting on my life and on our network's progress. What a journey it's been! It gives me so much fulfillment to dedicate my work to empowering future leaders of liberty. This is only possible thanks to supporters like you. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Last year, I outlined a long-term vision for Young Voices to grow to a scalable, comprehensive nonprofit talent agency and public relations firm for liberty. That is, to grow both the number of writers that we serve and the types of services we offer. I'm pleased to report that we've seen success on both fronts over the past 12 months.

On scalability, we launched our first international cohort of writers in the UK in January and just closed out a record-breaking application period in May. 139 students and young professionals just applied to our program. On comprehensiveness, we've launched a speakers bureau and expanded our podcast incubator over the past 12 months.

More important than any growth, however, is the impact that we've had on individual writers' lives. With five years under our belt, we now have several stories of how Young Voices has changed contributors' lives. I'm excited to share a few in the coming pages.

Here's to another five years of Young Voices, and hopefully many more after that!

Sincerely,



Casey Given
Executive Director



By the Numbers

811 media hits



18 Million in estimated coverage reach



 105 writers served

 476 article publications

 Median age: 24

 335 broadcast interviews

 30 U.S. States

 92% article placement success rate

 4 Countries



Media Highlights

Alex Salter makes a splash

This past year saw Young Voices in *The Wall Street Journal* more than ever before. Senior Contributor **Alexander Salter** was published a whopping seven times, tackling important economic topics during an unprecedented era of government growth. His most popular piece, “*How Economics Lost Itself in Data*,” resulted in the publication of a letters-to-the-editor page in response and even a tit for tat with Paul Krugman.



Senior Contributor **Brad Polumbo** appeared on *The Daily Wire* with Ben Shapiro to discuss President Biden’s bloated infrastructure and COVID stimulus packages. Brad has made such a name for himself on these topics as a policy correspondent for the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) that he was invited to testify before Congress earlier this year by Senator Rand Paul.

As a Senior Contributor with Young Voices for five years now, **Nolan Gray** has made a name for himself as an urbanism expert. Now studying a PhD in Urban Planning at UCLA, Nolan regularly contributes for *The Atlantic* and *Bloomberg’s CityLab* thanks to our connections. Nolan is also putting urbanism into action by running for local office in Los Angeles.



It’s not just our senior writers getting contributorships, either! One of our newer additions, UK associate contributor **Alice Calder**, recently joined *City AM* as a regular writer. *City AM* is London’s business-focused newspaper and one of the largest regional titles in the UK. Alice wowed editors there with her erudite Brexit commentary and trade policy analysis, leading to the paper offering her a monthly column!

Media Highlights



Perhaps the most exciting professional advancements over the past year, former Public Relations Manager **Stephen Kent** was hired to host a show on a new **Al Jazeera** network, ***Rightly***, which is aimed at the center-right in the United States. Stephen's show, ***Right Now***, airs weekly and features many Young Voices contributors. Stephen is still working with Young Voices as a consultant to ensure our writers are ready for TV, radio, and other broadcast media.

Associate Contributor **Jacob Rich** was featured as an expert on Students For Liberty's **Learn Liberty** channel on the lingering effects of the Prohibition era as seen in the War on Drugs.



Young Voices UK Lead **Jason Reed** has had a slew of publications lately, including in top British papers ***The Independent***, ***The Telegraph***, ***The Daily Express***, and ***The Daily Mail***.

Young Voices pitches our writers to new media outlets as well! **Nolan Gray** and **Daniel Di Martino** were interviewed on the popular ***Everyday Bastiat*** Twitch stream. We're excited to welcome the host Bastiat as a mentor for our 2021-22 Accelerator Program as well.



Speakers Beareu

Since then, we booked 40 of our writers for virtual events where they presented to an estimated total audience of 300 people. When restrictions on gatherings subside, we plan to significantly increase our live, in-person events around the country as a means of recruiting for our contributor program and making new connections with state and local newspapers, radio, and TV stations.



In addition, during the last few months of the pandemic, Young Voices has been engaging our various stakeholders by hosting a bimonthly virtual series of talks we call the “Young Voices Forum.” We’ve seen good attendance from the two events we’ve held so far with Virginia Postrel and Atlas Network President Matt Warner. Over the coming year, we plan to host more virtual events and eventually develop the Forum into an in-person event series, engaging guests from across the political aisle in debates and panel discussions.



Accelerator Program



In late 2019, after observing that there was no one in the liberty movement helping young thinkers start podcasts, Young Voices, with the help of the Atlas Network, launched an incubator program for existing and aspiring podcast hosts. The program offered training, technical equipment, and regular mentorship to launch or expand shows. Originally intended as a one-off program, the experiment exceeded our modest expectations for success. We helped two think tanks get their podcasts off the ground, the Cardinal Institute of West Virginia and the Australian Taxpayers Alliance. One participant, Christian Watson, had his show *Pensive Politics* picked up by a podcast network. Hannah Cox, now gets 1,000+ downloads and streams per episode of her podcast – well within the top 10% of podcasts.



Last year, we highlighted Young Voices’ aim to make this program a permanent offering. I am excited to report that we are doing so in the coming 12 months, revamping and relaunching it as the “Accelerator Program” to include streaming video as well. In just one month, we have already received 24 applications for what was intended to be just 10 slots. Due to this demand, we intend to expand the program to serve even more hosts.

We’ve brought on popular creators from Twitch and YouTube to mentor participants. From left to right: ***Everyday Bastiat***, ***Gothix***, and **Matt Larosi** of Young Voices & FuddBusters.



Board of Advisors

Young Voices was thrilled to welcome 12 outstanding professionals to our Board of Advisors last spring. Our staff aims to actively engage with advisors both one-on-one and with quarterly conference calls, utilizing their knowledge, advice, and networks to help Young Voices become one of the liberty movement's most effective media organizations.



Robby
Soave

Reason
Magazine



Beverly
Hallberg

District Media
Group



Stephanie
Slade

Reason
Magazine



Matt
Kibbe

Free the
People



Marian L.
Tupy

Cato Institute



Lindsay
Craig

National
Review
Institute



Sal
Rodriguez

Southern
California
Media Group



David
Boaz

Cato Institute



Alexandra
Hudson

Civic
Renaissance



Tom G.
Palmer

Atlas Network



Ilya
Somin

Antonin
Scalia Law
School



Shoshana
Weissmann

R Street
Institute

Staff & Board Changes

Young Voices was thrilled to add two staffers and one new member to our Board of Directors over the past year. Meet our expanded team!



Kerry Halferty Hardy
Board of Directors

Kerry has extensive experience in strategic communications, public affairs, and the nonprofit sectors, particularly in strategic planning and development. Currently consulting with her firm, Alcuin Advisors LTD, Kerry serves on the board of the Institute for Economic Studies Europe, the American Club of Paris, and is a voting member of the American Institute for Economic Research, and an advisor to the Competitive Enterprise Institute.



Jason Reed
UK Lead & Program Associate

Jason recently graduated from the London School of Economics with a concentration in sociology. He was previously deputy editor of 1828 and external communications officer for the British Conservation Alliance. He has also worked with the Adam Smith Institute, the TaxPayers' Alliance, the Institute of Economic Affairs, and Students For Liberty.



Jon Ashken
Development Associate

Jon Ashken assists in securing financial and partnership support for Young Voices' programs. Jon is originally from "The Land of Steady Habits" – the great State of Connecticut. He holds a Master of Public Policy from University of Michigan and a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from The George Washington University. Jon is based out of Washington, DC.



Caleb Franz
Program Manager

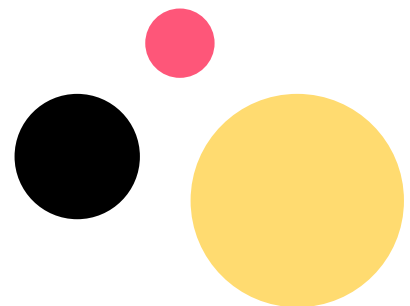
Caleb Franz is a writer, podcaster, and longtime advocate in the liberty movement. He has previously served as Head Media Producer for the OUTSET Network. He has also been the host of the MilLiberty podcast and he served in the U.S. Army for six years. In his current position with Young Voices as Program Manager, Caleb works with and mentors contributors, ensuring they get the most out of the program they are going through.

Young Voices UK

On top of maintaining the steady growth we've seen in our cornerstone Contributor Program over the past year, Young Voices also aims in the coming years to slowly and strategically grow the number of countries we serve. We began our international effort in January 2021, accepting our first significant cohort of nine writers in the United Kingdom. Since their acceptance in January, UK contributors have already had 100 articles with a combined reach of over 1.5 million readers. In addition, they've secured major broadcast interviews, including regular spots on **Times Radio**. This success has confirmed a hypothesis that we have had for a few years now: that the Young Voices model could be even more powerful in a smaller country with a more concentrated media market.



In the long-term, we aim to help more leaders of liberty around the globe launch programs like our Contributor Program, empowering them in the media to fundamentally change the trajectory of history for the better.



Testimonials

Ibrahim Anoba

Fellow, *Center for African Liberty*

*Joining the Young Voices program in 2016 helped kick-start my professional and academic careers. I came to the United States through an internship offer on the back of YV's recommendation in 2017. I was hired to my current job as managing editor at **African Liberty** in 2018 largely based on my publishing experience with Young Voices. That same experience made writing and publishing academic papers extraordinarily convenient for me over the years, which was a critical component of admission consideration for the UC Davis Ph.D. African History Program in 2021.*



Fiona Harrigan

Reason Magazine

*When I first joined Young Voices, I was just a college sophomore without much direction. Young Voices gave me the tools and space to explore my interests, all while getting me published in national outlets. Thanks to the resume and confidence I was able to build as a Young Voices contributor, I'm now an editor at **Reason**, the premier libertarian media outlet. Without Young Voices, I would be nowhere near as sure of myself and my professional path as I am now.*



Shaun Cammack

Founder, *The Narratives Project*

The training and networking at Young Voices is fantastic, and they've opened a lot of doors and introduced me to some incredible people. And now I have a promising start to a promising career! I am very grateful for everything Young Voices has done for me. And above all, the folks at Young Voices are some really lovely people.



Testimonials



Brad Polumbo

2020 Young Voices Award Winner

*Young Voices has honestly changed the trajectory of my life... Getting work professionally published when you're in your early 20s is a really difficult thing to do, and only through Young Voices was I able to get a bunch of bylines in **USA Today**, **National Review**, and **The Washington Examiner**. If I didn't have those bylines, I never would have gotten hired as a journalist straight out of college. It never would have happened. It's almost impossible to overstate the value that that added to my career... I'm really thankful to receive the award, but I'm really just thankful to Young Voices in general for steering me in a totally new direction.*

Jacob Rich

Reason Foundation

I truly appreciate the opportunities that Young Voices has provided me during the start of my career in Washington, DC. Your organization's support has allowed me to ascend quicker than almost anyone else I know in the liberty movement, starting as an intern at the Cato Institute and now directing healthcare policy at Reason Foundation. Through and through, you have stood by my controversial work and helped me make many heterodox ideas more.



Alexander Slater

Rawls College of Business

*Young Voices has taken my writing to new heights. They helped me transition from academic to popular writing and get published in outlets like **National Review** and the **Wall Street Journal**. Thanks to Young Voices, doors are opening for me as a public intellectual that I couldn't have gotten through on my own!"*

Alumni Updates

Alexander Hammond ('20) launched the Institute for Economic Affairs' Institute for African Trade & Prosperity, now serving as its director.

Thomas Savage's ('16) research on the public pension crisis was featured on the October 2020 cover of *Tax Notes State Magazine*.

Conner Drigotas ('20) and his wife welcomed their first child, Rowan, in April 2021. Conner also started a new role as the director of strategic partnerships at Americans for Fair Treatment in February 2021.

John Kristof ('20) started a new job as research analyst at EdChoice.

Sam Peak ('20) was promoted to an immigration policy analyst at Americans for Prosperity.

Abigail Narbe ('20) was hired as a manager of member relations at the National Association of Manufacturers.

Kenny Xu ('20) and **Nate Hochman** ('21) are 2021-22 recipients of The Fund for American Studies' prestigious Robert Novak Journalism Fellowship



Alumni Updates

Preston Cooper ('17) was hired as the research fellow for higher education policy at the Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity.

Oluwafemi Ogunjobi ('17) was promoted to be the African programs manager at Students For Liberty.

Ann Marie Miller ('20) was hired as a writer for the Illinois Policy Institute.

Nathan Goodman ('16) earned his PhD in economics from George Mason University and will begin a postdoctoral fellowship at the Department of Economics at New York University.

Shannon Watkins ('18) was promoted to an associate editor at the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal and had a second child.

Oluwafemi Ogunjobi, now African programs manager at Students For Liberty.

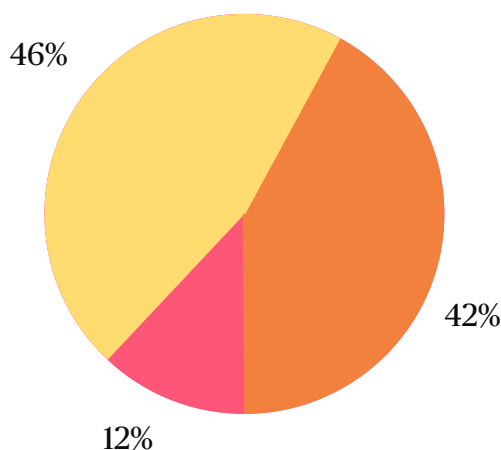
Jacob Bruggeman, now editor-in-chief of the *Cleveland Review of Books*.

Tanner Aliff ('21) was hired for the position of Healthcare Policy Manager at the Cicero Institute, the new libertarian think tank backed by tech venture capitalist Joe Lonsdale.



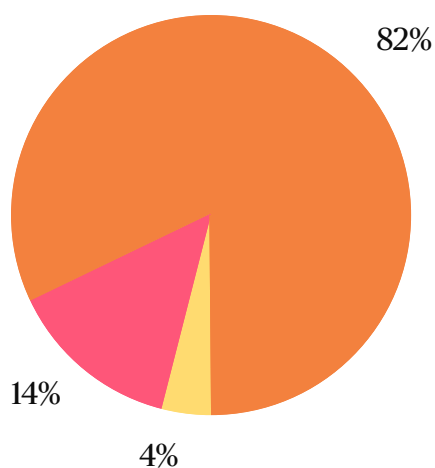
FY21 Financials

Fiscal Year 2021 ran from June 1, 2020 through May 31st, 2021. Final figures are subject to independent financial review. Our IRS Form 990s, reviews, and other corporate documents are available for inspection on our website.



Income

Corporations	265,218
Foundations	284,618
Individuals	74,169
Total	624,005



Expenditures

Programs	408,199
Operations	20,677
Development	70,453
Total	499,330



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