

# DOUBLING DOWN

YOUNG  
VOICES

2021-22

ANNUAL  
REPORT



# Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Supporter,

This was a year of meteoric growth for Young Voices. We've nearly doubled our impact on every measurement of success, and we're doubling down on our programs for the coming year. Consider this:

- Young Voices just accepted our largest program cohort yet, with 105 students and young professionals on board in the fall of 2022 to utilize our media training and public relations services compared to 62 last year.
- Our total article and broadcast media hits rose from 811 in fiscal year 2021 to 1,522 in 2022.
- Our estimated media reach rose from 47 million to 80 millions views as a result over the same time period.

We more than doubled our revenue this fiscal year, crossing the one million dollar milestone.

While I'm proud of these numbers in aggregate, the real proof of our impact is the faces behind these statistics. In the coming pages, you'll find stories and testimonials from our program participants about how Young Voices changed their career for the better — be it by helping them score a contributorship at a magazine, a new job or promotion, or reorienting their career entirely towards their passion. You'll find a consistent theme among their stories: Young Voices opens doors they never imagined were possible.

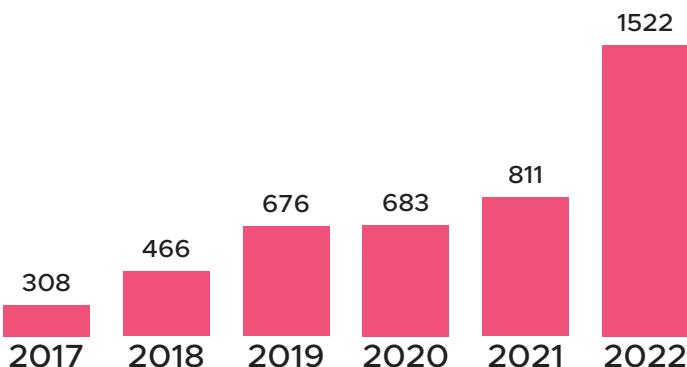
It is only through the generous support of our donors that this work has been made possible. Thank you so much. With your continued investment, Young Voices can change tomorrow's political possibilities by investing in leaders for liberty *today*.

Sincerely,



**Casey Given**  
Executive Director

# By the Numbers



**80 million**  
Estimated Views

**1,522** media hits  
**576** article publications  
**946** broadcast interviews  
**97%** article placement success rate



**133**  
Program  
Participants

**289**  
Total Applications

**159**

For the Contributor Program  
serving aspiring policy  
professionals and political  
commentators

**121**

for our Advanced Tracks  
offering continued learning  
opportunities for alumni  
of our Contributor and  
Accelerator programs

**9**

For the Accelerator Program  
serving new media creators

# Media Highlights

**This fiscal year, Young Voices' writers were published in *National Review* over 20 times**



Over our last fiscal year, Young Voices' writers achieved seven publications in *The Wall Street Journal*. **Alexander Salter**, **Daniel J. Smith**, and **Travis Nix** were all featured with articles on topics ranging from inflation to crypto to outer space. Travis's first ever WSJ piece appeared in the print edition and was a thoughtful critique of the Biden administration's plan to expand IRS powers.

In addition to his WSJ placement, **Travis Nix** won **Bloomberg Tax's** first annual tax policy competition for law students with a piece about best practices for taxing the gig economy.



Young Voices' writers were also featured twice in **Newsweek**. **Georgia Gilholly** wrote an article about the authoritarian influence that China is having on Western academia, and **Alexander Salter** wrote about the political biases that economists bring to inflation analysis.

**Newsweek**



**Kir Nuthi** was published in **Fortune** with a piece on the American Choice and Innovation Online Act. The article argued that the Act threatens free speech in the name of online safety.





Garion Frankel wrote a *USA Today* op-ed that defended the wellbeing of special needs children in public schools. Garion noted the negative consequences of school mask mandates on an already vulnerable community.

In the UK, Young Voices' commentators have become fixtures at major British stations such as **GB News** and **TalkTV**. Since joining Young Voices in January, **Albie Amankona** has made over 30 interview appearances on British television.



## Top Broadcast Hits

**Alexander Salter**, who won Young Voices' 'Contributor of the Year' award, joined **Stu Does America** on **Blaze TV** to break down inflation — the political, the economic, and what it means for you and me.

**Andrew Donaldson** joined the breakfast show on **NewsRadio 1040 WHO**, a Fox-affiliated Iowa radio station, to react to Biden's trip to Europe for a NATO summit earlier this year.



Andrew Donaldson on  
Need to Know with  
Jeff Angelo  
Friday 25 March 2022  
@YoungVoicesOrg



# Speakers Bureau Highlights

## Young Voices Speaker Track

Alongside commentary in TV, radio and podcast interviews, Young Voices offers a speakers bureau for select graduates of our Contributor Program through our Advanced Tracks. In the last 12 months, participants in the Young Voices Speaker Track spoke at a total of 41 events. Here are some highlights:

At **FreedomFest** 2021, no less than **nine** Young Voices speakers spoke to large audiences, covering topics ranging from marijuana to social media regulation, and from foreign policy to gun rights. Nine more spoke at **FreedomFest** 2022.

In February 2022, the **John Locke Foundation** put on its **Carolina Liberty Conference**, featuring **James Czerniawski** as a panelist speaker on the topic of barriers to the free exchange of ideas and how entrepreneurs are overcoming those barriers to get their voices heard.

After Young Voices launched the Regional Leaders Program in February 2022, **Sarah Montalbano**, regional leader for the northwest, appeared before a **Young Americans for Liberty** (YAL) group at **Montana State University** to discuss the program and the future of freedom in America.

In March, **Addison Hosner** gave a very well-received talk to the **Conservatives of Public Policy** group at

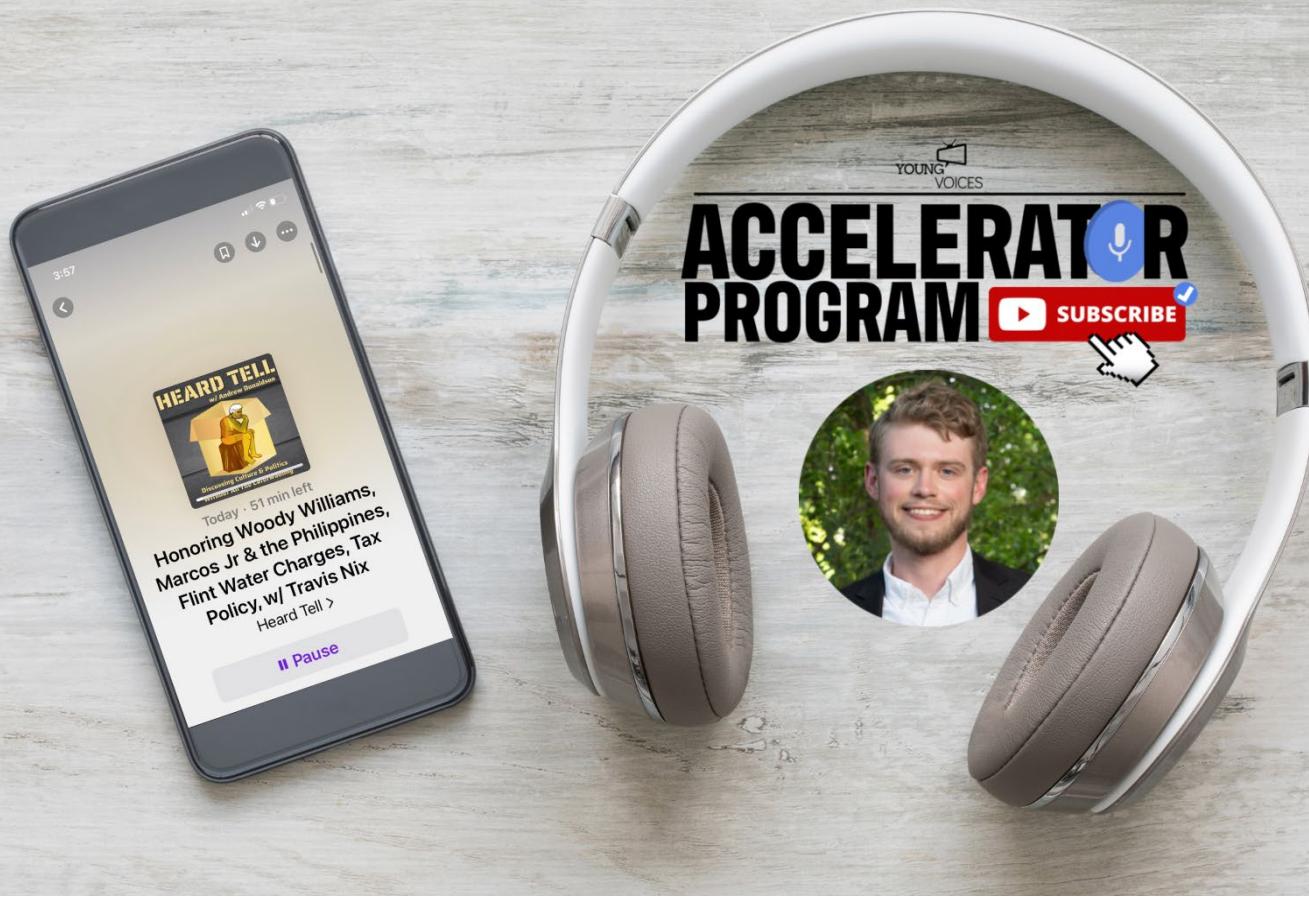
**Pepperdine University**, California to discuss religious liberty.

Also in March, **Andrew Donaldson** and **Caleb Franz** spoke to **America's Future Raleigh**. They appeared on the “**Podcasting Excellence**” panel to discuss, among other things, the Young Voices Accelerator Program.

**Gabriella Hoffman** gave a host of talks on environmentalism and how conservation can be conservative to groups including **Young Americans for Liberty** (YAL), **Young Americans for Freedom** (YAF) and **Turning Point USA**.

In May 2022, **Cooper Conway** traveled to Tennessee to speak twice on educational freedom and school choice to the **Beacon Center's** young professionals group in Nashville as well as to a group which is seeking authorization for a Hillsdale-affiliated charter school in Jackson.



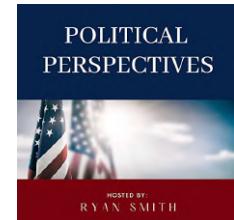


## Accelerator Program

In 2019, Young Voices launched the Accelerator Program for current and aspiring podcast hosts to take the message of liberty to new media. The Accelerator Program has managed to identify and project even more programs into the stratosphere over the past year. In the fall of 2021 and spring of 2022, Young Voices has trained and mentored 13 hosts and content creators in podcasts and video streaming shows. As a direct result of this program, our creators, many of whom started their projects from scratch, have managed to break thousands of listeners/viewers.

Here are some of the highlights of the programs we've managed to help in the past 12 months:

**Andrew Donaldson** is hosting his own streaming show called **Heard Tell**. The show is a refreshing program that seeks to turn down the noise on the news cycle and discuss current events in a measured and thoughtful manner. Last month it broke 20,000 downloads. As a way to pay it forward, Andrew has also used his show to highlight the work of countless Young Voices contributors. He also now serves as a mentor of the Accelerator Program itself, helping future classes achieve similar success.



**Ryan Smith** has been hosting the **Political Perspectives Podcast** since before he joined the Accelerator Program. However, since joining the Young Voices network, he has managed to utilize the talent roster of contributors and tap into new levels of interesting and nuanced conversations. Doing so has allowed his program to reach new heights.

**Fabio Fernandes** has created an internet show on consumer choice that is one of a kind. **Freedom to Choose** is the first program in Portuguese dedicated to consumer freedom. Each week, he releases new episodes on the hottest topics affecting consumers. From market news to laws and regulations, Fabio brings the most important issues to the fore through engaging interviews that are light and enjoyable.

## Advanced Tracks

Beginning in 2022, Young Voices improved our talent pipeline further by offering graduates of our Contributor Program continuous learning opportunities to advance their careers after they complete their initial six months with us. To that end, we launched a number of courses for our graduates to take advantage of that we call Advanced Tracks. Here are the tracks we have launched so far:



*The Writer Track* — for the most exceptional graduates of our Contributor Program to continue submitting one op-ed draft per month to our team of professional editors for pitching and publication.

*The Commentator Track* — for our most exceptional talent for broadcast interviews on TV, radio, and online streaming shows to be kept on our talent roster for future pitches.

*The Speaker Track* — for aspiring policy communicators to speak before student and civic groups both virtually and in person.

**Our tracks are fluid, with application periods every six months allowing our alumni to join our tracks twice a year. We also hope to launch additional tracks for alumni in the future as we build staff capacity, potentially to include skill sets like editing and public affairs.**

# Regional Leaders Program



To strengthen the recruitment and outreach across the U.S., Young Voices launched a new program in March 2022 called the Regional Leaders Program. We appointed five leaders from our roster of talent to serve as regional outreach heads for universities, think tanks, and media outlets across the country.

The Regional Leaders are recruiting new writers, coordinating events and opportunities in their region, and pitching writers on our roster in their area to state and local media outlets. Over time, we believe the program will enhance the quantity of our placements by working with more outlets and think tanks to give our contributors the opportunity to report on government waste, fraud, and abuse on the state and local level. Meet our Regional Leaders!

## Gabriella Hoffman

Northeast

Gabriella is a freelance media strategist, political columnist, host of the *District of Conservation* podcast, and award-winning writer. Concurrent with her client work and media endeavors, she's also a Visiting Fellow with **Independent Women's Forum**.

## Sarah Montalbano

Northwest

Sarah is a Young Voices Commentator and Research Associate at **Alaska Policy Forum**. She is concluding her B.S. in computer science with minors in economics and data science from **Montana State University**. Her work has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Examiner*, and *The American Spectator*.

## Aaron White

Southwest

Aaron Lloyd White is a graduate from **Tel Aviv University's Porter School of Environmental Studies**. He currently works as the Director of Individual Giving for **The Forward**. In his spare time, Aaron can be found translating Yiddish prose, writing, or making woodcuts.

## Addison Hosner

South

Addison is a Florida attorney and champion of civil liberties and respectful political discourse. He attended **Florida Atlantic University** for undergraduate studies and completed his Juris Doctor alongside two Masters of Science at **Creighton University School of Law**. He believes in the art of objectivity and tackles each challenge with curiosity, understanding, and honesty.

## Patricia Patnode

Midwest

Patricia is from Waterloo, Iowa, and is an alumni of **Loras College in Dubuque**. Patricia has worked on various political campaigns and other volunteer work throughout her home state. Currently, she is a columnist for **The Cedar Rapids Gazette** focusing on pop culture and utility issues. Patricia also coaches figure skating on the side.



# The Dissident Project

[dissidentproject.org](http://dissidentproject.org)

**The Dissident Project is a speakers bureau that aims to bring high school and college audiences first-hand testimonials from young people who escaped authoritarianism**



## DISSIDENT PROJECT



It's no secret that public education in the United States is in crisis. Gallup has been tracking Americans' confidence in the public school system for four decades now. This year, only 28 percent of Americans claimed to have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the institution. By contrast, that number was 58 percent in 1973.

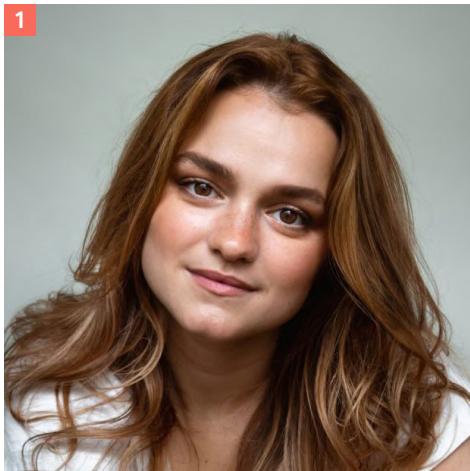
The importance of liberty cannot be taken for granted. It must be taught to every new generation. That's why Young Voices is launching the Dissident Project, a speakers bureau that aims to bring high school and college audiences first-hand testimonials from young people who escaped authoritarianism.

Young Voices will serve as a talent agency for a starting roster of six political dissidents from Venezuela, Eritrea, Hong Kong, and North Korea, training them on how best to share their inspiring stories with large audiences, promoting their brand as public speakers, and funding trips to teach the importance of freedom to curious audiences across the United States.

Our long-term vision is for the project to defeat the growing positive attitude to socialism in younger generations and position Young Voices as the national leader in booking dissident speakers to high schools to teach freedom to the next generation and to imbue America's youth with a sense of agency and self-determination.

# Personnel Changes

Young Voices has grown our full-time staff from five to ten over the past year. We're thrilled to introduce you to the new members of the team!



## 1 Grace Bydalek

Program Manager, Dissident Project

Grace Bydalek is a writer, performer and administrator based on the Upper West Side. Her acting has been featured on **Netflix**, **HBO**, and several pre-Broadway workshops. She has written for political candidates and magazines. She is a graduate of the **Gotham Fellowship**, and winner of the **Cultural Renewal Grant** with which she co-founded **It Is Good: A Festival of Arts + Faith**. Find her at off-leash hours in Central Park or training for the NYC Marathon. In her role as Program Manager for the Dissident Project, Grace is our staff liaison for speakers and schools, booking talks across the country.



## 2 Molly Kate Listenberger

Associate Editor

Originally from Washington state, Molly Kate graduated from **Hillsdale College** in 2019 with a bachelor of arts in English and went on to work for various institutions as a writing tutor, a 6th grade classroom teacher, and a copy editor in Austin, Texas. She currently resides in Hillsdale, Michigan, with her husband, Henry. Molly Kate is passionate about language and communication and in her free time can be found running, cooking, and trying to read while getting distracted by every possible conversation.

## 3 Anders Fahey

Public Relations Associate

Anders holds a Master's in Ethnomusicology from **Newcastle University** and a Bachelors of Arts in Music from **Webster University**. Originally hailing from Saint Louis, Missouri, Anders now lives in Colorado and spends his free time playing banjo in a band with his wife and hiking in the Rockies.

# Testimonials



"Little did I think in one year's time I would become a regular panelist on primetime radio and television, see my bylines in national publications, and land my dream job at the *Daily Mail*. All of this was made possible by the mentorship and guidance of Young Voices. Without doubt the best career choice I have made to date."

**Bill Bowkett**

"Young Voices taught me how to publish op-eds and prepare for media interviews, all in a supportive community that fosters learning and growth ... On several occasions, readers have reached out to tell me that they see their own story in my writing, or that the issue I covered has affected them personally. Interactions like these have made my Young Voices experience both professionally-enriching and deeply meaningful."

**Rachel Chiu**



"Young Voices is an elite organization filled with talented people that have helped my policy writing beyond my wildest dreams. Because of Young Voices, I have been able to keep writing about tax and economic policy in law school and to be published in outlets like the *Wall Street Journal* and *National Review* as well as to win *Bloomberg Tax's* first annual tax policy competition for law students. Young Voices has helped me advance in my career and has helped me make lifelong friends!"

**Travis Nix**

"Over the years, Young Voices has helped me craft the meaningful career I want. The team gave me the confidence to pivot my nonprofit career, try my hand at public policy analysis, and become a more effective communicator in my field. Young Voices gave me the tools and mentorship I needed to learn what issue areas I wanted to focus my communication, advocacy, and research on and how to find meaningful roles within that community."

**Kir Nuthi**



# Testimonials



“Joining Young Voices was an excellent opportunity to meet new like-minded people and hone my skills as a political commentator. The contributor program gave me the tools, encouragement and direction I needed to take my career in political commentary to the next level. Thanks to the guidance of the program leads, I have been able to become a regular commentator on British media outlets like the **BBC**, **LBC**, **GB News**, **TalkTV**, **Times Radio** and others. I am also thrilled to have made many friends on the program, some of whom I have had the pleasure of debating with live on air.”

**Albie Amankona**

“The effect Young Voices has had on me both professionally and personally is immense, and it starts with the most important part of the organization: the exceptional people. The network of supportive, highly motivated, very talented folks pushes everyone involved to be better, inspires others to do the same, is always there to assist when needed, and opens doors of opportunities few get. I’m very proud of being a part of Young Voices and the work we do, and grateful for all Young Voices has done for me.”

**Andrew Donaldson**



“Since starting the Young Voices Contributor Program last July, I’ve improved my writing abilities and honed my skills for media appearances with the help of our excellent editing and communications staff. The program has opened many doors for me, challenged me to be better, and enabled me to grow as a media professional.”

**Gabriella Hoffman**

# Alumni Updates

## Book Publications



Nolan Gray



Abigail R. Hall



Alexandra Hudson



Alexander Salter

**Nolan Gray's** book *Arbitrary Lines: How Zoning Broke the American City and How to Fix It* was published. Young Voices will host two events for the launch in California this August.

**Alexandra Hudson** signed a book deal for *Against Politeness: Why Politeness Failed America & Civility Can Save It* and is the slated contributing editor of a new magazine being launched by Francis Fukuyama called *The American Purpose*.

**Alexander Salter** co-authored *Money and the Rule of Law: Generality and Predictability in Monetary Institutions*, a #1 best seller on Amazon in Macroeconomics.

**Abigail R. Hall** co-authored *Manufacturing Militarism: U.S. Government Propaganda in the War on Terror*.

## New Jobs & Promotions



Bill Bowkett



Garion Frankel



Joshua Hardman



Kir Nuthi



Sarah Weaver

**Garion Frankel** is now a reporter for *Chalkboard Review*; he found this position through a Young Voices connection.

**Bill Bowkett** joined the *Daily Mail* as a trainee reporter and will be based in Holyrood (the Scottish parliament) covering Scottish politics and home affairs.

**Joshua Hardman** got a new job as Development Communications Coordinator at the **Cato Institute**.

**Kir Nuthi** became a Senior Policy Analyst for European Digital Policy at the **Information Technology and Innovation Foundation's Center for Data Innovation**. Kir also got married to her husband Matthew in January and is planning a move to the UK.

**Sarah Weaver** graduated with a Masters in politics from **Hillsdale College** and started a job as a Staff Writer for the *Daily Caller*.

# Alumni Updates

## Fellowships & Contributorships



Cooper Conway



Conner Drigotas



Gabriella Hoffman



Sarah Montalbano



Zachary Yost

**Conner Drigotas** became the Managing Editor of *Connecticut Inside Investigator*.

In January 2022, **Zachary Yost's** paper, *Victory Without Battle: A Smart Vision for US-Taiwan Policy*, was published by the **John Quincy Adams Society**. Zachary also recently became co-host of the Mises Institute's new foreign policy podcast: *War, Economy, and State*.

**Cooper Conway** became the youngest member of the national education reform group **50CAN National Voices Fellowship**.

**Gabriella Hoffman** was promoted to Senior Fellow at **Independent Women's Forum**.

**Sarah Montalbano** graduated from **Montana State University** with a B.S. in Computer Science and a minor in economics and data science. Sarah will be interning as a Bartley fellow at the **Wall Street Journal editorial page** this summer and returning to **Alaska Policy Forum** to work on education issues in the fall.

## Financials

Young Voices reached a major milestone raising **over \$1 million** this fiscal year and **more than doubling** revenue from the previous year. Please find a full financial breakdown below.

Fiscal Year	2022	2021
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1,289,528</b>	<b>624,101</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>859,984</b>	<b>499,330</b>
Programs	654,757	408,199
Operations	38,959	20,677
Development	166,252	70,453
<b>Total Assets (5/31)</b>	<b>832,761</b>	<b>403,218</b>
Cash	732,761	375,564
Accounts Receivable	100,000	27,654

2021  
2022

2020

**Thank you for your support!**

Feeling generous? Support our work by  
making a secure, tax-deductible donation  
at [young-voices.com/donate](https://young-voices.com/donate)