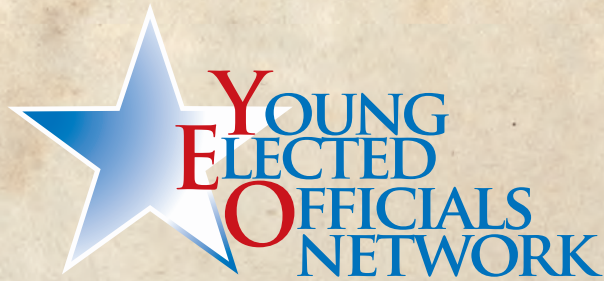




**A NEW GENERATION  
OF LEADERS**  
ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

*5 years in the making*



**5th Annual YEO Network National Convening  
May 13-16, 2010 Washington, DC**



# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CONVENING SPONSORS

We would like to give an extra special thank you to those foundations and supporters who have made continuous investments in the YEO Network throughout the years. We want to thank new partners Barbara Lee Foundation and Turner Foundation for their investment in our women electeds and their progress. Special thank you to the board, members and staff of People For the American Way Foundation who contributed to making this event a success!

In the Spirit of Democracy,  
*Andrew*



**THE SANDLER FOUNDATION**

**Ambassador James Hormel**



**GILL FOUNDATION**

**JON STRYKER** Henry van Ameringen

**NEW WORLD  
FOUNDATION**

**BARBARA LEE  
FAMILY FOUNDATION**

**TURNER  
FOUNDATION  
INC.**





# WELCOME

Welcome to the Fifth Annual Young Elected Officials Network National Convening!

We are excited to have you participate in this great event! The Young Elected Officials (YEO) Network, created by People For the American Way Foundation, is by us and for us in its focus to serve the needs of young leaders around the country. The goal of the YEO Network is to unite and support progressive elected leaders and to ensure that we are sufficiently supported as we advance positive change in our communities.

Yet as we celebrate our 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary and I reflect back on the past years, I realize this program has become so much more than just a support organization for young electeds and a network of colleagues – it has also become a strong circle of friends who share the special qualities of youth, optimism, perseverance, and a desire to inspire justice, equality, freedom, and access for all people. These friendships span all fifty states and cross the boundaries of race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, and socio-economic status. Together, we have become a unique and inspiring portrait of America's young leaders on the front lines of change.

We have been passed the torch of progress from a long line of inspirational advocates for freedom, and let me tell you: that torch has never been in more capable hands. I am excited to see the heights you will reach as public servants and the progressive change you will inspire over the next decades.

We hope you will enjoy your time here at the YEO National Convening, and that it will serve to rejuvenate your spirits and renew your dedication to public service. This event is filled with opportunities and resources to ease your challenges and build upon your strengths. In this space, you can share experiences, access policy development assistance, share best practices, and expand your knowledge base – both personally and professionally. Here you will find a family to support you, inspire you, and encourage you in your service.

If there is anything that we can do to enhance your experience while you are here, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We look forward to connecting and growing with you as we all pursue higher levels of leadership.

Again, welcome. And, thank you for inspiring me.

Yours in service,

**Andrew D. Gillum**  
Executive Director, Young Elected Officials Network  
City Commissioner, Tallahassee, FL





# SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Young Elected Officials team would like to extend a very special thank you to the program participants, workshop presenters, and everyone who has been part of our 2010 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary YEO Network National Convening. We thank each of you for your contribution to the progressive movement and for helping to make this Convening and the YEO Network a tremendous success.

*Thank you to our 2010 National Convening Host Committee and to the Young Elected Officials State Directors. We appreciate the vital role you have played throughout the year to ensure that the National Convening and the overall YEO program remain "of us, by us, and for us."*

## 2010 National Convening Host Committee

Quintevalia Cato	Elesha Gayman	Tony Madrigal	Rachel Quintana
Henry Davis, Jr.	Anton Gunn	Michael Makarski	Kesha Ram
Carmelo Garcia	Anders Ibsen	Nina Morris	Paul Roales
Angela Garretson	Marko Liias	Tony Payton, Jr.	Nathan Shinagawa
Darrell Gaston	Karen Liot Hill	Quentin Phipps	Kyrsten Sinema
			Airick Leonard West

## Young Elected Officials State Directors

Oscar Braynon, II	Henry Davis, Jr.	Anders Ibsen	Tony Payton, Jr.
Shane Broadway	Marina Dimitrijevic	Chris Jones	Craig Rice
Alan Brock	Michael Frerichs	Scott Kawasaki	Brian Rowland
Gina Calder	Carmelo Garcia	Kevin Killer	Carl Sciortino
Karim Camara	Angela Garretson	Matthew Lesser	Kyrsten Sinema
Melvin Carter	Darrell Gaston	Nickolas Levasseur	Rachel Weston
Maria Chappelle-Nadal	Elesha Gayman	Evan Low	Faith Winter
Y. Laketa Cole	Anton Gunn	Michael Makarski	David Woodward
Tricia Cotham	Heather Hudson	Ryan McMullen	

*Thank you to the staff of People For the American Way Foundation and our volunteer staff from the Front Line Leaders Academy. This conference would not be possible without the hard work and dedication of the People For family.*

Special thanks to:

### **PFAW Foundation**

Michael Keegan  
Nick Ucci  
Marge Baker  
Debbie Liu  
Miranda Blue  
Diallo Brooks  
Lindsey Catlett  
Drew Courtney  
Jen Herrick  
Sergio Lopez  
Kristin Smith  
Patrick St. John  
Scott Yanish

### **Young People For**

Rebecca Thompson  
Zachary Dryden  
Joy Lawson  
William Dennis

### **YEO Network**

Ryan Hurst  
Alisha Thomas Morgan  
Linda Morris  
Elisabeth Pope  
Raquel Simon-Petley

### **YEO Network**

#### **Extended Family**

Cierra Alexander  
Christopher Petley  
Nick Savelli  
Riley Smith  
Angela Whitaker  
Alphonso B. Whitaker

### **FLLA Alumni**

Dustin Cox  
Monica Crane  
Liz Fossett  
Andrew Jones  
Katie Kramer  
Quiana McKenzie  
Nekpen Osuan  
Bernardita Yun



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Young Elected Officials,

I am thrilled to welcome you to Washington, DC for the fifth annual convening of the Young Elected Officials Network.

People For the American Way Foundation launched the YEO Network in 2006 to fill a need in the progressive movement: a forum to bring together young progressive leaders from around the nation to share ideas, develop policy initiatives, learn new skills, and support each other.

We provided the forum, but you have made it your own. In just five years, the YEO Network has grown to include over 500 passionate, committed, capable, and effective public servants. Last year, YEO Network members took action on dozens of measures to improve health and safety in their communities, to revitalize their local economies, to better their schools, to ensure equal rights for all their constituents, and to tackle any number of other critical and difficult issues for your communities. Your support and encouragement for each other as you take on these efforts has been invaluable.

Your dedication and energy are inspirational, and your leadership makes me optimistic for the future of our country. Your work is a resounding affirmation of what we truly believe is “the American Way” – respect for diversity; freedom of thought, expression, and religion; equal justice; and a sense of community.

Because of your hard work, the YEO Network has been a great success and has become a true force for good in our government. I look forward to talking with many of you at this conference and working with you in the coming year as you continue to bring strong, progressive leadership to our school boards, city halls, and legislatures. Together, we can effect positive change throughout the country. I can’t wait to see what the next year will bring.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Keegan  
President, People For the American Way Foundation





*Welcome*

*To Washington, DC*

*Young Elected Officials Network  
2010 National Convention*

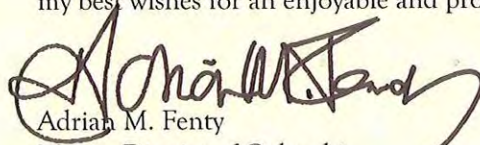
May 13 - 16, 2010

As Mayor of the District of Columbia, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to the Young Elected Officials Network to Washington, DC, on the occasion of your 2010 National Convention.



This event brings together young elected officials from across the country to provide an opportunity to network, share best practices, discuss innovative policy initiatives and develop professional skills needed to make our country a better place to live, work and visit. As you gather to reflect on your accomplishments, I invite you to visit our monuments, museums, diverse neighborhoods and enjoy all that our nation's capital has to offer.

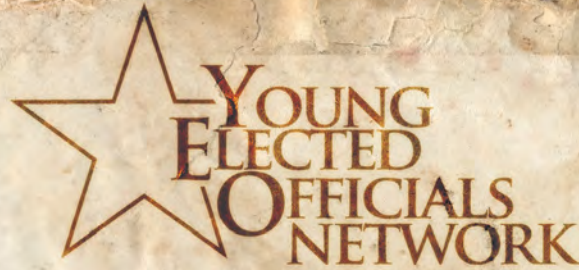
On behalf of the residents of the District of Columbia, you have my best wishes for an enjoyable and productive event.

  
Adrian M. Fenty  
Mayor, District of Columbia



# 2010 NATIONAL CONVENING

MAY 13-16, 2010  
WASHINGTON, DC



A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

# CONVENING SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY, MAY 13**

**SHERATON CRYSTAL CITY HOTEL**  
**1800 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY - ARLINGTON, VA 22202**

All events will take place at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel unless otherwise noted.

**7:30 AM**

**Conference Registration Opens**

*Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, Lobby Level*

**12:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Pre-Conference Tracks**

**Women's Caucus**

*Meeting in Crystal 5, 2nd Floor*

**FLLA 2.0**

*Meeting in Crystal 6, 2nd Floor*

**Local Policy in Action**

*Meeting in Hotel Lobby at 11:50 am for departure*

**In the District**

*Self guided tours*

**5:30 PM**

**Buses Depart to YEO Gala**

**6:30 PM**

**5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Opening Gala**

**6:30 pm – Cocktail Reception**

**7:30 pm – Banquet Dinner**

*National Press Club*

*529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor - Washington, DC 20045*





# CONVENING SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY, MAY 14

**7:30 AM – 8:30 AM**

**Breakfast**

*Sheraton Crystal City Hotel; 2<sup>nd</sup> Level Ballroom*

**8:30 AM – 9:30 AM**

**Opening Plenary**

**“Courageous Leadership”**

Keynote Speaker: Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton  
District of Columbia

*Ballroom*

**9:45 AM – 11:00 AM**

**Issues Workshop Series 1**

State Level - Foreclosure & Anti-Predatory Lending

Uriah King, Center for Responsible Lending  
Nathan Newman, Progressive States Network

*Crystal 5*

State Level - The High Cost of Crime and Incarceration: Rethinking the Criminal Justice System

Jeremiah Grace, Progressive Strategies  
Tracy Velazquez, Justice Policy Institute

*Crystal 3*

Local Level - Local Economic Development: Building Sustainable Communities

James Carr, National Community Reinvestment Coalition  
Kevin Jordan, Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
County Commissioner Dave Woodward, MI

*Crystal 6*

Local Level - Juvenile Justice

Abby Anderson, Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance  
Erin Davies, Campaign for Youth Justice

*Crystal 2*

School Board - Innovative Programs and Savings for School Districts

School Board Member M. Janet Chin, CA  
Keno Deary, Sr., M. Janet Chin Youth Foundation  
Chris Petley, Leon County School Board

*Crystal 4*

**11:10 AM – 12:10 PM Skills Workshop Series 1**

Fundraising for State Level YEOs

Rachel Hirschberg, Berger Hirschberg Strategies

*Crystal 3*

Fundraising for Local Level YEOs

Stacey Chavis, StaceySpeaks

*Crystal 5*

Strategic Leadership Positioning

Rhonda Briggins-Ridley, Women of Will

*Crystal 6*

Conflict Transformation

Register of Deeds Jeff Thigpen, NC

*Crystal 4*

# CONVENING SCHEDULE

**FRIDAY, MAY 14**

**12:20 PM – 1:20 PM**

**Lunch Plenary**

**“Drug Reform Policy”**

Keynote Speaker: Ethan Nadelmann  
Executive Director, Drug Policy Alliance Network

*Ballroom*

**1:30 PM – 2:45 PM**

**Issues Workshop Series 2**

**Lost in Translation: National Initiatives at Home**

National Popular Vote

Christopher Pearson, National Popular Vote

*Crystal 2*

Human Rights and Equality

Representative Mark Ferrandino, CO  
Michael Lieberman, Anti-Defamation League

*Crystal 4*

Immigration Reform

Afton Branche, Drum Major Institute for Public Policy  
Rebecca Headen, Rights Working Group  
Suman Raghunathan, Progressive States Network

*Crystal 6*

Corporate Personhood? A  
Discussion of Citizens United and  
Corporate Speech Rights

Marge Baker, PFAW Foundation  
Jeffrey Clements, Clement Law Office, LLC and Free Speech for People  
Senator Jamie Eldridge, MA  
Debbie Liu, PFAW Foundation  
Water District Board Member Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap, CA

*Crystal 5*

Economic Democracy

David Schweickart, Loyola University

*Crystal 3*

**3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Travel and White House Security Check**

**4:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**White House Issue Symposium**

(FOR YEOs ONLY)

**9:00 PM – 11:00 PM**

**YEO 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party**

*Party sponsored by YEO Convening Host Committee, IMPACT DC*

*Lima Restaurant and Lounge*

*1401 K Street NW - Washington, DC*

# CONVENING SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, MAY 15

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**

**Breakfast**

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**

**Opening Plenary**

**“From Cradle to College:**

*Ballroom*

**Keys to Providing a Complete and Equitable Education for All Students”**

Panelists: Dr. John Jackson, President, Schott Foundation for Public Education

Robert Shireman, Deputy Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

**10:15 – 11:30 AM Issues Workshop Series 3**

Job Creation Strategies for Elected Officials	Nathan Newman, Progressive States Network William Smart, LAANE	<i>Crystal 5</i>
Education Equity: The P-16 Alignment and Community Investment	Beth Glenn, NAACP Amy Wilkins, Education Trust	<i>Crystal 4</i>
Revenue Restructuring and Reform	Joe Mareane, County Administrator, Tompkins County, NY Jon Shure, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities	<i>Crystal 3</i>
Energy and Environment: Climate Change, Renewable Energy Initiatives, and Sustainable Green Policy	Senator Philip Bartlett, ME John Dybvig, Blue Green Alliance Charlotte King, Snowden & King Marketing Communications	<i>Crystal 6</i>
Redistricting for Fair Representation	Anthony E. Fairfax, CensusChannel, LLC Allison Riggs, Southern Coalition for Social Justice	<i>Crystal 2</i>

**11:45 – 1:00 PM Issues Workshop Series 3 (Repeated)**

Job Creation Strategies for Elected Officials	Nathan Newman, Progressive States Network William Smart, LAANE	<i>Crystal 5</i>
Education Equity: The P-16 Alignment and Community Investment	Beth Glenn, NAACP Amy Wilkins, Education Trust	<i>Crystal 4</i>
Revenue Restructuring and Reform	Joe Mareane, County Administrator, Tompkins County, NY Jon Shure, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities	<i>Crystal 3</i>
Energy and Environment: Climate Change, Renewable Energy Initiatives, and Sustainable Green Policy	John Dybvig, Blue Green Alliance Town Councilman Dominic Frongillo, NY Charlotte King, Snowden & King Marketing Communications	<i>Crystal 6</i>
Redistricting for Fair Representation	Anthony E. Fairfax, CensusChannel, LLC Allison Riggs, Southern Coalition for Social Justice	<i>Crystal 2</i>



# CONVENING SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, MAY 15

### 1:15 PM – 2:30 PM

#### Lunch Plenary- Regional Lunches

*YEOs will be split into the four regions: Northeast, South, West, Midwest*

### 2:45 PM – 3:45 PM

#### Skills Workshop Series 2

e-Democracy: Constituent Outreach, Communication, and Involvement	Town Clerk David Carlucci, Clarkstown, NY Phil Perry, Penn Schoen Berland	<i>Crystal 6</i>
Camera Interview Skills	Joel Silberman, New Organizing Institute	<i>Crystal 3</i>
Developing a Media Strategy	Drew Courtney, PFAWF	<i>Crystal 2</i>
Values Training: Progressive Messaging for a Non-Progressive Community	Beth Kennedy, Progressive Policy Institute	<i>Crystal 5</i>
Coalition and Consensus Building	Representatives Kyrsten Sinema, AZ Wendy Willis, Policy Consensus Initiative Greg Wolf, Policy Consensus Initiative	<i>Crystal 4</i>

### 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

#### Skills Workshop Series 2 (Repeated)

e-Democracy: Constituent Outreach, Communication, and Involvement	Town Clerk David Carlucci, Clarkstown, NY Phil Perry, Penn Schoen Berland	<i>Crystal 6</i>
Camera Interview Skills	Joel Silberman, New Organizing Institute	<i>Crystal 3</i>
Developing a Media Strategy	Drew Courtney, PFAWF	<i>Crystal 2</i>
Values Training: Progressive Messaging for a Non-Progressive Community	Beth Kennedy, Progressive Policy Institute	<i>Crystal 5</i>
Coalition and Consensus Building	Representatives Kyrsten Sinema, AZ Wendy Willis, Policy Consensus Initiative Greg Wolf, Policy Consensus Initiative	<i>Crystal 4</i>

### 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

#### Exhibition Fair YEO Group Picture

- *Networking Reception*
- *Open Spaces*
- *Wine and Beer Bar*

# CONVENING SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY, MAY 16

**9:00 AM – 9:45 AM**

**Networking Breakfast**

*Sheraton Crystal City Hotel; 2<sup>nd</sup> Level Ballroom*

**9:45 AM – 11:00 AM**

**General Plenary**

**“Health Care Implementation: The Way Forward in the States”**

Panelists: Ann Kempfski, Service Employees International Union  
Judith Solomon, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities  
Maya Wiley, Center for Social Inclusion

**11:15 AM – 12:45 PM**

**Breakout Series: State of the Union**

*Panels of young electeds will present and discuss the challenges and successes they are facing at their respective levels of government*

***State of the States***

Representative David Schapira, AZ  
Senator Phil Bartlett, ME  
Representative Tishaura Jones, MO  
Representative Scott Kawasaki, AK

*Crystal 5*

***State of the Cities***

Mayor Heather Hudson, MI  
Mayor Sean Becker, MT  
Mayor Ryan Coonerty, CA  
City Councilwoman Karen Liot Hill, NH

*Crystal 6*

***State of the Schools***

School Board President Jane Kim, CA  
School Board President Airick Leonard West, MO  
School Board Member Carmelo Garcia, NJ  
School Board President Janet Chen, CA

*Crystal 3*

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

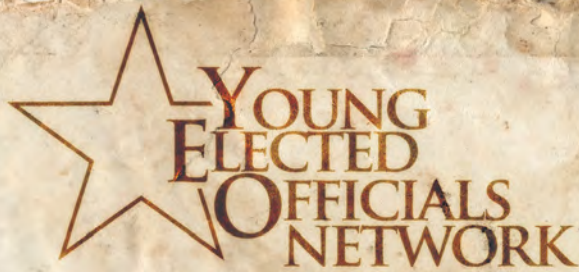
**Closing Plenary Lunch**

**2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

**YEO Open Spaces (optional)**

YEOs will have the space to meet in their caucuses or task forces as needed





A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

# SESSIONS AND TRAINERS: DETAILED AGENDA



## Opening Plenary

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Courageous Leadership

Ballroom

Each generation of leaders passes the torch of progress to the next with the hope of seeing both the continuation and the growth of positive change and greater opportunity for our nation. Young elected officials across the country are now holding that torch, and there is much work to be done. This opening plenary will provide today's young and dynamic agents of change with an inspirational discussion on what it means to be a progressive leader and the important role state and local leaders have in moving an agenda that reflects the values of freedom, fairness and opportunity for all.

### **THE HONORABLE ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON** **UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Eleanor Holmes Norton is now in her tenth term as the Congresswoman for the District of Columbia. Named by President Jimmy Carter as the first woman to chair the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, she came to Congress as a national figure who had been a civil rights and feminist leader.



Norton's work for full congressional voting representation and for full democracy for the people of the District of Columbia continues her lifelong struggle for universal human rights. Her success in writing bills and getting them enacted has made her one of the most effective legislative leaders in the House. She has the full vote in House committees and serves on the Committee on Homeland Security, the Government Reform Committee, and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Congresswoman Norton, who taught full time before being elected, continues as a tenured professor of law at Georgetown University, teaching a course there every year. She received her bachelor's degree from Antioch College in Ohio and simultaneously earned her law degree and master's degree in American studies from Yale.

## Issue Workshop Series 1

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

State Level-  
Foreclosure & Anti-Predatory Lending

Crystal 5

Over the past decade, neighborhoods that were once redlined were flooded with high-cost and abusive loans, which were often unaffordable and unsustainable for working class families. The excessive foreclosures of these loans are at the root of the financial crisis, destroying family dreams and threatening neighborhood stability throughout the country. In this session, policy experts will discuss policy options for state legislators who want to reduce and prevent the instances of foreclosures and combat predatory lending in their states.

### URIAH KING

#### CENTER FOR RESPONSIBLE LENDING

Uriah King, vice president of state policy at the Center for Responsible Lending (CRL), coordinates CRL's resources in support of state policymakers and state-based coalitions seeking to address abuses in the financial services market. Additionally, he coordinated CRL's resources in support of several successful legislative campaigns. Prior to CRL, he was a predatory lending specialist at the Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, where he was a lead investigator into predatory lending practices that led to the filing of several major class actions and dozens of individual suits. He also served as a domestic violence civil protection order advocate and guardian ad litem for abused and neglected children. King graduated magna cum laude from Wright State University, and studied at Cambridge University and Beijing Normal University.



### NATHAN NEWMAN

#### PROGRESSIVE STATES NETWORK

Nathan Newman is executive director for the Progressive States Network. Newman, a lawyer and PhD, has an extensive history of supporting local policy campaigns, from coalition organizing work to drafting legislation. Previous to coming to Progressive States, he was associate counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice, program director of NetAction's Consumer Choice Campaign, co-director of the University of California, Berkeley Center for Community Economic Research, and a labor and employment lawyer. He received his JD from Yale Law School and his PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley and has written extensively about public policy and the legal system in a range of academic and popular journals.





# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME

SESSION

LOCATION

9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

State Level- The High Cost of Crime and Incarceration:  
Rethinking the Criminal Justice System

Crystal 3

Crime exacts a heavy toll on the communities where it occurs. So, too, does incarceration, which has a heavy financial and social cost. Many states are facing rising prison populations, and with their financial resources diminishing and many communities being seriously affected by crime and recidivism, a drastic rethinking of our criminal justice system is needed. In this session, policy experts and community leaders will discuss restorative justice policies and programs that support smarter and more effective alternatives while saving money, promoting public safety, lowering recidivism, and building stronger communities.

## **JEREMIAH GRACE**

### **PROGRESSIVE STRATEGIES**

Jeremiah Leviticus Grace, one of the youngest commissioners ever elected to the Elizabeth, NJ Board of Education and one of the nation's youngest NAACP Branch presidents, in January 2007 became head of the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey's Racial Justice Program allowing him to work full-time on issues such as voting rights, criminal justice, education, and immigration. Grace was later promoted to field manager, where he led the non-legal advocacy at the ACLU-NJ. Grace founded Progressive Strategies, a public affairs consulting firm geared to providing lobbying, fund-raising, capacity building, strategic planning, and project management for the nonprofit community as well as political campaign services for progressive candidates.



## **TRACY VELÁZQUEZ**

### **JUSTICE POLICY INSTITUTE**

Tracy Velázquez is the executive director of the Justice Policy Institute (JPI), a nonprofit organization focusing on reducing reliance on incarceration and promoting just and effective social policies. JPI published reports, "The Costs of Confinement" and "Pruning Prisons," look at reducing juvenile and adult criminal justice system costs and incarceration rates while improving public safety, and "The Release Valve," reports on Maryland's parole system. While at the Vera Institute of Justice in New York City, Velázquez worked on criminal justice policy issues, parole reform and improving alternatives to incarceration for drug offenses. She also was the executive director of the Montana Mental Health Association. She has a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and a master's in public administration from Montana State University.





# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
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9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

Local Level- Local Economic Development:  
Building Sustainable Communities

Crystal 6

Local officials promote economic development initiatives to help create sustainable communities – ones where residents of various income levels have the opportunities and tools to build assets, participate in their communities, raise families, engage in business, and become part of the mainstream economy. However, effective and sustainable economic development initiatives must be planned and implemented in a comprehensive way. In this session, economic development experts will present their policy and program recommendations for local level policymakers to help increase family income and wealth, build community assets, and stimulate local economic and workforce development in their communities. Additionally, they will provide information on how YEOs can implement policies that promote fair and equal access to credit, capital, and banking services for low-income and underserved communities.

## **JAMES CARR**

### **NATIONAL COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT COALITION**

James Carr is chief operating officer for the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, an association of 600 local development organizations across the nation, dedicated to improving the flow of capital to communities and promoting economic mobility. He is also a visiting professor at Columbia University in New York and an Executive Committee member of Americans for Financial Reform. Prior to his appointment to NCRC, Carr was senior vice president for financial innovation, planning and research for the Fannie Mae Foundation and vice president for housing research at Fannie Mae. He has also held posts as assistant director for tax policy with the U.S. Senate Budget Committee, and research associate at the Center for Urban Policy Research at Rutgers University.



## **KEVIN JORDAN**

### **LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION**

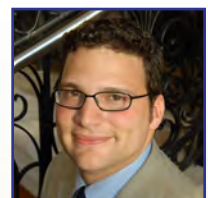
Kevin Jordan, the director of family income and wealth-building at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), oversees the company's Centers for Working Families national expansion and is working to formulate LISC's overall family asset building and economic self sufficiency initiative. Jordan has a significant amount of experience in multiple aspects of economic self-sufficiency, including income improvement, asset building, and financial services. Most recently he served as director of the Working Families Department of the Bon Secours Baltimore Health System, where he developed and managed six family asset building and income support programs. He has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Le Moyne College in Syracuse, NY, and a master's in community planning from the University of Maryland. He is based in LISC's Washington, DC office.



## **DAVE WOODWARD**

### **OAKLAND COUNTY COMMISSION**

Dave Woodward is a county commissioner in Oakland, Michigan where he was born and raised. He served as former chairman to the Oakland County Democratic Party between 2003 and 2009, and was also elected to the Michigan House of Representatives from 1999 to 2004. He is a member of the Center for Progressive Leadership, and is a graduate of Wayne State University where he received a BS in mathematics and a minor in economics. He is president of Oakland Health Plan, Inc., which manages health care services locally for the very poor in Oakland County.



# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
9:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Local Level- Juvenile Justice	Crystal 2

Research has proven that trying juveniles as adults not only fails to reduce crime, it also has a harmful and long-lasting impact on youth. Recent public opinion polling has shown greater support for policies that work to rehabilitate young offenders. However, the impetus for change must be championed by and come from the local level. Policy experts will discuss with local-level YEOs substantive policy issues and effective messaging around juvenile justice issues. Community practitioners will also educate YEOs on the areas where they can advocate for change and collaborate with their state and federal counterparts to coordinate successful campaigns to reform the juvenile justice system.

## **ABIGAIL ANDERSON**

### **CONNECTICUT JUVENILE JUSTICE ALLIANCE**

Abby Anderson joined the Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance as a senior policy associate in September 2004 and became executive director in October 2007. She has a track record of success in juvenile justice reform in Connecticut and has steadily gained the respect of state agencies and other key stakeholders and partners. With a broad range of skills in program content, management, communications, and advocacy, Anderson serves the Alliance successfully in a variety of roles, a key strength given the small staff size. She was elected to the executive committees of the National Juvenile Justice Alliance and the Coalition for Juvenile Justice. Anderson also serves as a commissioner for the Connecticut Commission on Children. She holds a master's degree in nonprofit management from Regis University.



## **ERIN DAVIES**

### **CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH JUSTICE**

Erin Davies joined the Campaign for Youth Justice in March 2008. As legislative director, she sets the Campaign's legislative and administrative agenda, establishes relationships with federal and state elected officials, and develops and implements legislative strategy on federal and state juvenile justice legislation. Davies's leadership roles include formerly serving as co-chair of the National Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Coalition and coordinating the Act4JJ Working Group, which focuses on reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Prior to joining the Campaign, she worked for Representative Robert C. "Bobby" Scott and Representative Earl Pomeroy and wrote regulations at the Department of Agriculture. Davies is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and The Ohio State University's Michael E. Moritz College of Law.



9:45 AM - 11:00 AM	School Board- Innovative Programs and Savings for School Districts	Crystal 4
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School districts across the country are facing unprecedented cuts to their budgets, leaving them to try to expand their programs with little to no money. Now, more than ever, school board members and district officials must find creative ways to meet the dire needs of their schools. This session will provide information and discussion about innovative ways for revenue savings and program funding – from green and energy-saving initiatives to education charities that fund after-school programs and leadership academies.

## **M. JANET CHIN**

### **GARVEY SCHOOL BOARD**

M. Janet Chin was elected to the Garvey School Board in 2007, and currently serves as president of the Board. As a veteran of the United States Army and the founder and president of the M. Janet Chin Youth Foundation, Chin has been able to contribute to youth issues worldwide. Overseas, she serves on the Board of Directors of CalSunshine, Inc., an American educational center in China. As an extension to her civic engagement, Chin also serves the public as a Southern California U.S. Army Recruiting Community Advisory Board member. She has a degree in business production. She resides in Rosemead, CA with her husband and three young sons.





# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
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9:45 AM - 11:00 AM

School Board-  
Innovative Programs and Savings for School Districts

Crystal 4

## **KENO DEARY, SR.**

### **M. JANET CHIN YOUTH FOUNDATION**

Keno Deary's early career training at top acting schools in Los Angeles, led him to star in commercials for Honda, Miller-Lite, and afforded him guest appearances in television and film. In 2006, Deary transitioned his experiences from the entertainment world into being a social entrepreneur—"At some point giving becomes a bigger priority for some." Currently, he is the executive director of the M. Janet Chin Youth Foundation, a 501(c)3 educational public charity. Deary also serves as director of the Foundation's two divisions—the Rosemead Youth Leadership Center and the San Gabriel Valley Center for Youth Issues, which focuses on developing the next generation of civic leaders. He received his BA at Oral Roberts University in radio communication with a minor in business management.



## **CHRIS PETLEY**

### **LEON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Chris Petley, the communications director for the Leon County School District (Tallahassee, FL) and a seasoned campaign veteran with experience at almost every level of state government, focuses on finding creative ways to communicate with voters. As former political director for the Florida Democratic Party, he launched groundbreaking youth outreach campaigns: At Your Door in 2004, UrbanPolitix, Donkey's Rock, and Campout for Change. Petley is a frontrunner at combining politics, social media, and instant communication embracing Web 2.0 platforms. The Tallahassee Democrat and the Florida Channel (TV) featured his innovative use of Twitter to connect the school board with parents and the community. He also is an instrumental member of the team that is bringing the first compressed natural gas fueled school buses to Florida.



## Skills Workshop Series 1

11:10 AM - 12:10 PM

Fundraising for State Level YEOs

Crystal 3

This is definitely not Fundraising 101! This session is geared toward state-level YEOs who have already run, raised funds for, and won their campaigns for higher office and now want to take their skills to the next level. Fundraising professionals will discuss the key dos and don'ts of major fundraising, and YEOs will be presented with examples of out-of-the-box approaches and helpful strategies for maintaining and expanding their fundraising success.

## **RACHEL HIRSCHBERG**

### **BERGER HIRSCHBERG STRATEGIES**

Rachel Hirschberg, the co-founder of Berger Hirschberg Strategies, has developed strategies for numerous political candidates and advocacy organizations. A veteran of five presidential campaigns, her successful record has afforded her the opportunity to work with some of the most well-known, high powered elected officials in the country—including Governor Christine Gregoire, Governor Jennifer Granholm, Governor and now Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano, Senator Jeanne Shaheen, and Chairman of the Senate Banking Committee Senator Christopher Dodd. Hirschberg earned her master's in business administration with a concentration in international business at The George Washington University and her bachelor's degree in political science and communication arts (TV, radio, and film) at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She lives in Bethesda, MD with her husband, son, and daughter.



# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
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11:10 AM - 12:10 PM      Fundraising for Local Level YEOs      Crystal 5

Asking for money isn't as scary as it seems...or at least it won't be after this session. This interactive fundraising session is geared specifically toward local level YEOs with a more grassroots base for fundraising. Participants will learn how to overcome the fear of "making the ask," maximize their potential, and create a winning plan for raising money.

## STACEY CHAVIS

### STACEY SPEAKS

Stacey Chavis is the former southern regional director for the White House Project. She directed the Vote, Run, Lead training program for the Southeast region. Previously, she served as the deputy finance director for the Democratic Party of Georgia where she directed the Georgia delegation selection process for the Democratic National Committee Convention held in Denver, CO. in 2008. During the 2006 primary and run-off elections, Chavis served as finance director for Congressman Hank Johnson (D A 4th) and was responsible for tracking more than \$500,000 in campaign funds. She also worked for former Congresswoman Denise Majette (D-GA 4th), gaining expertise in congressional politics and constituent services.



11:10 AM - 12:10 PM      Conflict Transformation      Crystal 4

We are experiencing a time of division and fragmentation in American politics. In order for YEOs to create lasting change and be effective leaders, they need to have a keen understanding of power, policy, and rights, but they also need to develop a transformative mindset in order to build relationships, even among their adversaries. During this session, participants will explore examples of the conflicts and challenges facing YEOs. They will be challenged to develop advanced listening skills when dealing with conflict situations, exposed to the key concepts in a partnership approach to problem solving, and encouraged to move beyond position-based politics toward discovering the needs and interests of friends and foes alike.

## JEFF THIGPEN

### GUILFORD COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

Jeff Thigpen, a trained mediator, is the register of deeds for Guilford, NC. As a coordinator of the Business/Pulpit Forum Work Group, he helped convene a cross-section of leaders who helped resolve a nationwide boycott of Kmart that involved 170 arrests for civil disobedience. Thigpen testified before the Greensboro Truth and Reconciliation Commission (created to review a 1979 violent conflict between Communist Workers Party and Nazi/Klan members that led to the deaths of five community organizers). He is conducting research for his book, Generation NOW-Young Elected Leaders in a New Era of American Politics. He has BA and BS degrees in political science and justice and policy studies, respectively, from Guilford College and a master's degree in public affairs from University of North Carolina, Greensboro.





# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
11:10 AM - 12:10 PM	Strategic Leadership Positioning	Crystal 6

How do you get your message out and heard by your constituents and your peers? How do you position yourself among the pack? What are people saying about you? What do you want them to say? This session will show elected officials how to strategically position themselves in a place of leadership. YEOs will be taken through a proven and thought-provoking process that will help them to better assess their leadership and networking skills, as well as their leadership position. Each YEO will leave this session with an outline of how to start his or her repositioning process.

## **RHONDA BRIGGINS-RIDLEY**

### **WOMEN OF WILL**

Rhonda Briggins-Ridley is a professional political trainer and the co-founder of Women of Will (WOW), an organization that focuses on empowering and uplifting women. Her introduction to politics as a youth and her participation in the 21st Century Youth Leadership program in Selma, Alabama helped her cultivate an extensive career in politics including managing and supporting several congressional, state, and local campaigns. Currently, Briggins-Ridley serves as the senior director of external affairs for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA). She previously served on the cabinet of Alabama's governor as his director of community relations. She also serves as the southern political strategy advisor for the White House Project (WHP).



## **Lunch Plenary**

12:20 PM - 1:20 PM	Drug Reform Policy	Ballroom
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The war on drugs is unsustainable in both fiscal and human terms. It has proven remarkably ineffective in controlling drug use, even as its costs and negative consequences have mounted. The United States ranks first in the world in per capita incarceration rates, with less than 5 percent of the world's population, but nearly 25 percent of the world's prison population. Almost two million people are arrested each year for violating a drug law. The number of people incarcerated for drug law violations has increased from 50,000 in 1980 to over 500,000 today. The drug war's other consequences include broken families, striking racial injustices, erosion of civil liberties, increasing overdose fatalities and tens of billions of dollars wasted annually on ineffective policies. Few government policies have failed for so long without any serious effort to question or revise them.

The tide, however, is beginning to turn, with state legislatures and even Congress proposing and enacting meaningful reforms – in some cases following in the footsteps of successful ballot initiative campaigns. Dr. Ethan Nadelmann has played a leadership role both in articulating a new vision for dealing with drugs inside the United States and globally, and in building a nascent political movement to ground drug policies in science, compassion, health, and human rights. During this plenary, he will discuss with young elected officials how drug policy reform presents an opportunity to simultaneously improve public policies, elevate public debate, save taxpayer dollars, reduce pain and suffering, mobilize young people, and advance basic rights and liberties.

## **DR. ETHAN NADELMANN**

### **DRUG POLICY ALLIANCE**

Ethan Nadelmann is the founder and executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance, the leading organization in the United States advocating for drug policies grounded in science, compassion, health, and human rights. Nadelmann was born in New York City, received his BA, JD, and PhD from Harvard, as well as a M.Sc. in International Relations from the London School of Economics, and then taught politics and public affairs at Princeton University from 1987 to 1994. He has authored two books on international criminal law enforcement - *Cops Across Borders* and (with Peter Andreas) *Policing the Globe* – as well as many dozens of articles on drug policy. Described by *Rolling Stone* as “the point man” for drug policy reform efforts, Ethan Nadelmann is widely regarded as a principal proponent of drug policy reform both in the United States and abroad.



# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME

SESSION

LOCATION

## Issue Workshop Series 2- Lost in Translation: National Initiatives at Home

1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

National Popular Vote

Crystal 2

States are coming together to fix the Electoral College. The National Popular Vote bill has been introduced in all 50 states, has the support of 75 percent of the public, and solves a major problem in presidential elections. Once adopted by enough states, the National Popular Vote bill will make every vote equal, make every vote meaningful, and guarantee that the presidential candidate with the most votes wins the election. This session will provide a discussion of the National Popular Vote effort and how YEOs can get involved in this effort in their own states.

### CHRISTOPHER PEARSON

#### NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE

Christopher Pearson has been organizing with National Popular Vote since its beginning in 2006, where he coordinates Eastern states for the project. From 2006-2008 Pearson served in the Vermont House of Representatives where he led the House Progressive Caucus. He served on the House Government Operations Committee and was recognized by the Vermont State Employees Association as the Legislator of the Year in 2007. Before serving in the Vermont House he worked at FairVote and for former Congressman Bernie Sanders (I-VT). He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1995 with a degree in psychology.



1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

Human Rights and Equality

Crystal 4

Since our country's inception, we have struggled to make the phrase "all men are created equal" a reality for every American. Each group's fight for equality is part of the greater struggle for human rights for all – it is everyone's struggle. A panel of YEOs and advocates will lead a discussion on the overarching national issues of anti-bullying, LGBT equality, and hate crimes, as well as the state and local legislation that can be implemented to put an end to the cycle of discrimination.

### MARK FERRANDINO

#### COLORADO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representative Mark Ferrandino was first elected to the Colorado House of Representatives to fill a vacancy in 2007. He was re-elected in 2008 with roughly 80 percent of the vote, in both the primary and general election. Ferrandino graduated with a master's in public policy analysis and a BA in political science and economics, both from the University of Rochester. Representative Ferrandino lives in the Baker neighborhood of Denver with his partner Greg and their dog Dagny.



### MICHAEL LIEBERMAN

#### ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE

Michael Lieberman, the Washington counsel for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) and the director of the League's Civil Rights Policy Planning Center, helps coordinate ADL's involvement in legislative initiatives and helps develop and implement ADL policy positions on a variety of domestic and international affairs. Before joining ADL, Lieberman served as legislative assistant and counsel in Washington to former Representative Dan Glickman, who served as the Secretary of Agriculture in the Clinton administration. He also worked for former Representative Tony Hall (D-OH). Lieberman received his BA in Judaic studies and international relations from the University of Michigan and his law degree from Duke University where he served as a member of the Duke Law Journal and editor-in-chief of the Duke International and Comparative Law Institute.





# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Immigration Reform	Crystal 6

We are a nation of immigrants. Since before our nation's founding, newcomers have made lasting positive contributions to our society. Nevertheless, immigration has often been a controversial issue, inseparable from racial, religious, and ethnic prejudice. Certain periods of our nation's history have been marked by significant anti-immigrant sentiment and legislation, and forces on the Right are once again ginning up the same old fears and hate. YEOs can counter their demagoguery and make lasting, significant, and progressive change. While this is a national issue, policy shifts at the state and local level have a significant impact on the lives of immigrants. In this session, a panel of immigration policy experts will share local and state policies that encourage integration, promote economic justice and growth, and protect the rights of immigrants of all nationalities.

## **AFTON BRANCHE**

### **DRUM MAJOR INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY**

Afton Branche joined the Drum Major Institute in February 2009 as an immigration researcher focusing on federal, state, and local immigration policy. In particular, her research examines the shared economic interests of immigrants and the American middle class. Her report, "The Next Economic Imperative: Counting Undocumented Immigrants in the 2010 Census," has been highlighted in *The American Prospect* and *Newsday*, and her writing has appeared in *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and *Open Left*. Branche graduated from Georgetown University with a BS in foreign service in 2008. She majored in culture and politics with a focus on international development, and received a certificate in African studies. While in Washington, DC, she worked with Vital Voices Global Partnership, focusing on global women's leadership initiatives and grant management.



## **REBECCA HEADEN**

### **RIGHTS WORKING GROUP**

Rebecca Headen is the national fellow at the Rights Working Group, where she is responsible for coordinating the Racial Profiling: Face the Truth campaign. Previously, she worked with the ACLU of North Carolina, as the Racial Justice Project staff attorney focused on racial profiling, immigrants' rights, and the school to prison pipeline. Prior to becoming an attorney, she worked for the Maine State Attorney General's Civil Rights Unit and later for the ACLU National Campaign Against Racial Profiling, where she contributed to public education resources on "traditional" and "post-9/11" racial profiling.



## **SUMAN RAGHUNATHAN**

### **PROGRESSIVE STATES NETWORK**

Suman Raghunathan has deep experience advancing immigrant rights via grassroots, advocacy, and policy organizations. The daughter of Indian immigrants and the former interim executive director of Chhaya Community Development Corporation, where she now serves on the Board of Directors, Raghunathan's expertise lies in crafting policy platforms and advocacy strategies. She has also developed programs to engage immigrants in the electoral process at the NY Immigration Coalition and OneAmerica, including managing the nation's largest voter registration project for new citizens. Most recently, she was an immigration policy consultant, developing progressive policy agendas for Demos and the Drum Major Institute. Raghunathan holds a bachelor's degree in international relations from Brown University and a master's in nonprofit management from Milano, The New School for Management and Urban Policy.



# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
1:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Corporate Personhood? A Discussion of Citizens United & Corporate Speech Rights	Crystal 5

Recently, the Supreme Court decided in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* to reverse its decades-old decision in *Austin v. Michigan Chamber of Commerce* (1990), which upheld a state law's restriction on the independent expenditure of funds from a corporation's general treasury for political speech. In overturning that precedent, the *Citizens United* majority held that "the Government may not suppress political speech" of corporations and found that "[n]o sufficient governmental interest justifies limits on the political speech of nonprofit or for-profit corporations." Some believe that the majority's decision is an important victory for the First Amendment and that the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 was an unconstitutional restriction of political speech. Others believe that the decision grants corporations the same political speech rights as individuals and represents an outrageous misinterpretation of the First Amendment. In either case, the Court ruled for the first time that governmental restrictions on independent expenditures from corporate general treasury accounts are invalid and unconstitutional and, at the very least, the decision has made it possible for corporations to wield extraordinary influence on elections at all levels in our country. The session will discuss the implications of the decision, the majority's interpretation of the First Amendment, and the expansion of corporate personhood jurisprudence and its impact.

## MARGE BAKER

### PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY

Marge Baker has worked for nearly 35 years in various public service roles. She is currently executive vice president for policy and programs at People For the American Way, a non-profit advocacy organization working to protect core constitutional values under attack from the far right. Prior to her current position she was the staff director for the late Senator Paul Wellstone on the Senate's Employment, Safety and Training Subcommittee. Baker is a graduate of Yale Law School, has served as a law clerk in the federal judiciary, as a counsel on the Senate Judiciary Committee, and as head of consumer protection for a state regulatory agency. Baker is married, and has three children, ages 24, 26, and 29.



## JEFFREY CLEMENTS

### FREE SPEECH FOR PEOPLE

Jeff Clements founded Clements Law Office, LLC in 2009. He served for many years as an assistant attorney general and chief of the Public Protection & Advocacy Bureau in Massachusetts, as a partner in the Boston law firms of Mintz Levin and Clements & Clements, LLP, and as a trial lawyer handling public interest and private litigation matters. He filed a Supreme Court amicus brief on behalf of several citizens in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission*. Following the decision, he helped found Free Speech for People and serves as its general counsel. Clements graduated with distinction in history and government from Colby College in 1984, and magna cum laude with a concentration in public law from the Cornell Law School in 1988.



## JAMIE ELDRIDGE

### MASSACHUSETTS STATE SENATE

Senator Jamie Eldridge has served the Middlesex and Worcester Districts in Central Massachusetts since January 2009. He previously served as state representative for the 37th Middlesex District, after being the only "Clean Elections" candidate to win public office in Massachusetts's history. As a legislator, he led and supported initiatives to protect marriage equality in Massachusetts, and to close corporate tax loopholes. He proposed and passed the state's newest anti-poverty program and was part of an effort to overhaul the way education is financed in Massachusetts, resulting in more state education aid for local communities. Senator Eldridge advocates for campaign and ethics reform, increased environmental protections, and universal access to health care. He is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, and Boston College Law School.





# FRIDAY, MAY 14

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
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1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

**Corporate Personhood?**  
A Discussion of Citizens United & Corporate Speech Rights

Crystal 5

## DEBBIE LIU

**PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY; PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY FOUNDATION**

Debbie Liu is the general counsel of People For the American Way and People For the American Way Foundation. In that capacity, she serves as the legal advisor to both organizations, and their Boards of Directors, and advises and trains the staff on guidelines and rules for 501(c)(3) and (c)(4) organizations. Ms. Liu also provides analysis of laws, legislation, regulations, and judicial decisions affecting non-profit advocacy and core issues of the organizations, including, among other things, the First Amendment, civil liberties, voting rights, and LGBT equality. She also has the primary responsibility of ensuring that the organizations are in compliance with relevant tax and election laws, and she oversees compliance and proper reporting by PFAW's connected federal PAC, PFAW Voters Alliance, and its 527 organization, PFAW Action Fund. Previous to joining People For in 2003, Liu served as assistant general counsel to the NAACP National Office in Baltimore, MD.



## KAITLIN SOPOCI-BELKNAP

**DISTRICT BOARD PRESIDENT, EUREKA, CALIFORNIA**

Water Board President Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap was elected to the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Board in 2004. She is the first woman and youngest person to serve on the District Board. She is the director of a local organization dedicated to growing democracy at the grassroots level and protecting local control over resources. She attended Hampshire College in rural Massachusetts for three years where she studied education and community. After moving to Eureka, she graduated from New College of California in Santa Rosa.



1:30 PM - 2:45 PM

**Economic Democracy**

Crystal 3

There are currently two crises engulfing us, one economic and the other environmental. During this session, Professor David Schweickart will discuss these crises and their relationship to a more democratic social order. YEOs will be presented with a model of a viable alternative economy that creates a "realistic utopia," as well as a variety of concrete reform proposals that could be put on the political agenda today.

## DAVID SCHWEICKART

**LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO**

David Schweickart is a professor of philosophy at Loyola University Chicago. He holds Ph.Ds in mathematics and philosophy. Professor Schweickart is the author of "After Capitalism" (Rowman and Littlefield, 2002), "Against Capitalism" (Cambridge University Press, 1993), and many other works dealing with issues at the intersection of economics and philosophy. His books have been translated into Spanish and Chinese. Professor Schweickart has lectured in the U.S., Canada, El Salvador, Cuba, Venezuela, China, the Philippines, Italy, and France.



# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
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## Opening Plenary

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

From Cradle to College:  
Keys to Providing a Complete and  
Equitable Education for All Students

Ballroom

When President Obama addressed the schoolchildren of our nation, he urged them to take responsibility for their education and to stay in school. He encouraged them to find what they're good at, and explained that what they make of their education not only determines what they make of their future, but also the future of America. Many children in our public school system must overcome incredible obstacles and hardships in order to succeed, but as President Obama poignantly explained, "Where you are right now doesn't have to determine where you'll end up. No one's written your destiny for you, because here in America, you write your own destiny. You make your own future." However, elected leaders can play a large role in ensuring that each student has an equal chance to succeed, and a strong and equitable educational foundation.

This can be done by adopting an "Opportunity to Learn" framework for education policy, which focuses on ensuring that resources are provided for all students to have an equal opportunity to learn and achieve. Granted, education equity is very much tied into the bigger issues of community and state economies, intergenerational poverty, the prison pipeline, and the civil rights implications of the achievement gap; however, during this session Dr. John Jackson will provide young elected officials with a powerful "Opportunity to Learn" communications and policy framework with which to build bipartisan support and engage the business community, faith leaders, and parents in the critical issue of public education. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Education will provide a response regarding current federal education policy, as well as the resources the department can provide to elected officials.

### DR. JOHN H. JACKSON

#### THE SCHOTT FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

As President and CEO of The Schott Foundation for Public Education, Dr. John H. Jackson leads the Foundation's efforts to ensure a high quality public education for all students, regardless of race or gender. Dr. Jackson joined the Schott Foundation after seven productive years in leadership positions at the NAACP, having served as the Chief Policy Officer and National Director of Education. He has also served as an Adjunct Professor of Race, Gender, and Public Policy at the Georgetown Public Policy Institute. In 1999, President William Jefferson Clinton appointed Dr. Jackson to serve in his administration as Senior Policy Advisor in the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at the U.S. Department of Education. Most recently, Jackson served on the Obama-Biden transition team as a member of the President's 13-member Education Policy Transition Work Group. Jackson possesses a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Xavier University of Louisiana; a Master of Education in Education Policy from the University of Illinois' College of Education; and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Illinois' College of Law. In addition, Dr. Jackson received a Master of Education and Doctorate of Education in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.



### ROBERT M. SHIREMAN

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Robert Shireman is the deputy under secretary at the U.S. Department of Education, and has played a leading role in the Obama Administration's efforts to simplify the federal financial aid application process, to strengthen program integrity and consumer protection, to develop strategies to increase college completion, and to improve the reliability and reach of federal grants, loans and other college aid. Shireman worked for President Clinton in the 1990s for two years, and before that for U.S. Senator Paul Simon (IL) for seven years. Before joining the Department of Education in February 2009, Shireman was president and founder of a California nonprofit, the Institute for College Access and Success, whose leadership brought public attention to the issue of rising student debt, prompting Congress to adopt income-based repayment for federal loans. Shireman earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California at Berkeley, and master's degrees from the University of San Francisco and the Harvard Graduate School of Education.





# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME

SESSION

LOCATION

## Issue Workshop Series 3

10:15 AM - 11:30 AM  
11:45 PM - 1:00 PM

Job Creation Strategies for Elected Officials

Crystal 5

While the American economy is beginning to experience moderate growth as we work ourselves out of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, jobs have been far too slow to return. The number of Americans unemployed or underemployed has reached over 27 million, making job creation and workforce development critically important. Policymakers should not despair of encouraging new job creation during a recession: the seeds of future innovation and growth are often sown during recessions, as failures from the previous boom are analyzed and new ventures are launched. This session will focus on effective job creation strategies for both states and cities, with specific examples of state and local legislation from communities around the country.

### **NATHAN NEWMAN**

#### **PROGRESSIVE STATES NETWORK**

Nathan Newman is executive director for the Progressive States Network. Newman, a lawyer and PhD, has an extensive history of supporting local policy campaigns, from coalition organizing work to drafting legislation. Previous to coming to Progressive States, he was associate counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice, program director of NetAction's Consumer Choice Campaign, co-director of the University of California, Berkeley Center for Community Economic Research, and a labor and employment lawyer. He received his JD from Yale Law School and his PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley and has written extensively about public policy and the legal system in a range of academic and popular journals.



### **WILLIAM D. SMART, JR.**

#### **LOS ANGELES ALLIANCE FOR A NEW ECONOMY**

Rev. William D. Smart, Jr. is director of training and outreach for the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE). Starting as an organizer on the LAX Community Benefits Project and later for the Safe and Secure Coalition, his role now spans nationwide with several initiatives in the African American community. He directed LAANE's campaign—in partnership with the Teamsters and Change to Win—to support truck drivers to and from the ports. He also was director of the Century Boulevard and Long Beach Hospitality Projects. Rev. Smart, senior pastor of Christ Liberation Ministries, has a bachelor's degree in social work from Miles College and a master's in divinity from Duke University. He and his wife, Thembekila have three children, Gregory, Karmania, and Jehoshua.



# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM 11:45 PM - 1:00 PM	Education Equity: The P-16 Alignment & Community Investment	Crystal 4

To ensure an equal education for all students, we must begin to take a holistic approach that supports the collaboration of public schools and higher education leaders at the state and local levels in the effort to increase students' access to quality education from pre-K through college. We must also encourage community investment. During this session, education reform advocates will discuss the P-16 alignment, which aims to connect pre-school, K-12, and postsecondary education in order to increase high school graduation rates, improve college readiness, and increase the number of bachelor's degrees awarded. Additionally, YEOs will be provided with policy suggestions for community investment in student success.

## BETH GLENN

### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP)

Beth Glenn is the national education director for the NAACP. She formerly served as the director of policy and outreach for the Forum for Education & Democracy. The daughter of an educator, Ms. Glenn grew up talking, thinking about, and observing first hand, the inner workings and political processes around public education. She followed her passions for government, politics, and writing into the journalism program at UNC Chapel Hill and later into positions as a newspaper reporter and editorial writer. Ms. Glenn earned her master's degree in policy analysis at The New School in New York, NY; with a thesis project analyzing changes to federal education policy to increase teaching quality and student learning. She went on to serve as a staffer on Capitol Hill before joining the Forum and the NAACP.



## AMY WILKINS

### EDUCATION TRUST

Amy Wilkins is the vice president for government affairs and communications at the Education Trust. She is an experienced political and community organizer with a special skill in media communications. Wilkins oversees the Trust's media, data, government affairs and coalition work. She has sharpened her skills in advocacy over years of successful work for the Children's Defense Fund, the Democratic National Committee, the Peace Corps, and the White House Office of Media Affairs, among others.





# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM 11:45 PM - 1:00 PM	Revenue Restructuring and Reform	Crystal 3

The longest, deepest national recession since the Great Depression has caused record-breaking drop-offs in state and local revenues. The cruel irony is that just as people's needs are rising dramatically, the resources available to meet those needs are shrinking. Over-reliance on spending cuts offer people less of what they need, severely damage state and local economies in ways that threaten recovery, and significantly reduce investments in future prosperity. A more balanced approach recognizes there is no single way to tackle a problem this big. It makes the case that helping families that are struggling takes precedence over inflexible policies that put a small-government ideology over practical problem-solving. This session will discuss the drawbacks of relying too heavily on reductions in spending, local and state case studies, specific revenue increases that make sense, and tips on how to "talk taxes" in a way that helps shape the debate and win public approval.

**JOE MAREANE**  
**TOMPKINS COUNTY, NEW YORK**

Joe Mareane is the county administrator of Tompkins County (Ithaca), NY, where he is charged with managing a \$156 million budget and 750-person workforce engaged in services that range from home health care to snowplowing. Prior to coming to Tompkins County, Mr. Mareane served as chief fiscal officer for Onondaga County (Syracuse), where he managed the County's \$1.3 billion budget and was involved in most major projects and policy initiatives undertaken by the County. He holds a master's degree in public administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and a BA degree from Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne. Mr. Mareane has been married to his wife, Amy, for 35 years and has three grown children.



**JON SHURE**  
**CENTER FOR BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES**

Jon Shure is deputy director of the State Fiscal Project at the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. He founded the New Jersey Policy Perspective in 1997 and served 12 years as president. Previous roles include being a vice president at the Twentieth Century Fund (now The Century Foundation); a staff member of the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Commerce, Competitiveness, and Consumer Protection; and a communications director for New Jersey Governor Jim Florio. He is a visiting associate at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University and taught in the Political Science Department at Rutgers in New Brunswick. Shure has a BS in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University and an MA in journalism from the University of Missouri.



10:15 AM - 11:30 AM 11:45 PM - 1:00 PM	Energy and Environment	Crystal 6
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Americans represent five percent of the world's population but produce more than 40 percent of the world's landfill waste, carbon emissions, greenhouse gases, and other environmental threats. More audiences want to be actively engaged in the effort to decrease dependence on fossil fuels, seriously address water issues, and adopt the standards for livable and sustainable communities – urban and rural, large and small. This type of effort impacts virtually every market sector and requires a new type of elected official – one who is more informed about sustainability, willing to make it a priority, and who understands the revenue and jobs attached to it. This session will examine the policies and practices that can be adopted by cities, states, and other public entities to help combat climate change and build a long-term sustainable community. Additionally, it will help YEOs map out the tools to address these issues, establish their credibility on the issues in various communities, and leverage business, funding sources for municipal projects and services, and the projected 2-3 million green job opportunities.

# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM 11:45 PM - 1:00 PM	Energy and Environment	Crystal 6

## PHIL BARTLETT

### MAINE STATE SENATE

Senator Phil Bartlett was first elected to the Maine Senate by the voters of Gorham, Scarborough, and Westbrook in 2004. Elected at age 28, Bartlett continues to be the youngest member of the Maine Senate. He chairs the Utilities and Energy Committee and serves on both the Natural Resources and Government Oversight Committees. He graduated from Tufts University with a BA in economics and political science and from Harvard Law School. In addition to serving on the Maine Senate, Senator Bartlett practices law with the firm of Scaccia, Lenkowski, Aranson & Bartlett.



## JOHN DYBVG

### BLUE GREEN ALLIANCE

John Dybvg, the economic development director for the Blue Green Alliance (BGA), works with stakeholders across the country to coordinate green economic development initiatives. Prior to joining the BGA, he served as the policy aide to Minneapolis City Councilmember Scott Benson. While with the City, he helped develop and implement the City's sustainability indicators, environmentally preferable cleaning policy and purchasing policy, and LEED silver requirements for municipal buildings. He also collaborated with Mayor R.T. Rybak and city staff in the establishment and execution of the Minneapolis Climate Change Micro Grants and Innovation Grants. Dybvg is a former congressional staffer and is a LEED Accredited Professional (LEED-AP). He has a bachelor's degree in history with a concentration in Near Eastern studies from St. Olaf College.



## DOMINIC FRONGILLO

### CAROLINE TOWN COUNCIL

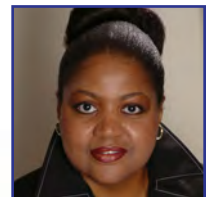
Councilman Dominic Frongillo made history when he was elected to the Caroline, NY Town Council at age 22. Now 26, he serves as his county's youngest-ever deputy town supervisor. A graduate from Cornell University in 2005, he earned an independent degree with honors in sustainable community development. Councilman Frongillo participated in the U.N. Climate Negotiations in Copenhagen in 2009 and Bali in 2007, as a member of the U.S. Youth Delegation.



## CHARLOTTE KING

### SNOWDEN & KING MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

Charlotte King has reached 1.2 million consumers, attracted corporate sponsors, and increased internal program success for Shell Oil, Motorola, Coca-Cola, and others. She is president and creative director for Snowden & King Marketing Communications, which specializes in environmental marketing nationwide and publishes Marketing Zone. She is an environmental expert on municipal, conservation, and forestry projects and for national conferences, training, and radio broadcasts. King authored the 2004 Congressional Briefing for Forestry, and several official advisories to the Secretary of Agriculture. She received numerous recognitions for her environmental leadership including awards from Proctor & Gamble and the Georgia Urban Forest Council. King was recently appointed to the Georgia Conservancy Board of Directors and is a 2007 member of The Georgia Environmental Leadership Fellowship Program.





# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM 11:45 PM - 1:00 PM	Redistricting for Fair Representation	Crystal 2

Following the 2010 Census, all 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives will be reapportioned among the fifty states, and boundaries for congressional, state, and local legislative districts will be redrawn. These redrawn electoral districts must comply with various legal requirements and will directly impact the preservation and expansion of minority electoral opportunities. In many areas, these opportunities depend on districts containing a sufficient number of minority voters to form a strong voting block. This session will discuss redistricting for fair representation and explain the redistricting process and the legal standards for congressional, legislative, and local governing bodies. The session will also address technical and logistical elements of redrawing districts.

**ANTHONY FAIRFAX**  
**CENSUSCHANNEL, LLC**

Anthony E. Fairfax, a geodemographic consultant for a variety of public and private organizations and president of CensusChannel LLC, is an expert in the development of redistricting plans and developed over 300 plans for jurisdictions ranging from small towns to large congressional districts. He provided redistricting and geographic information systems training at several universities as well as technical services as a non-testifying expert for four court cases, including renowned redistricting Supreme Court case, *Shaw v. Reno*. Fairfax published two books, *A Step-by-Step Guide to Using Census 2000 Data* (2004) and *The Democratic Trend Phenomenon* (2008). He holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Tech and resides in Hampton, VA with his wife, Dr. Colita Nichols Fairfax, and has two daughters, Layla and Natalie.



**ALLISON RIGGS**  
**SOUTHERN COALITION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Allison Riggs received her BS, MA, and JD from the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. She has worked on a variety of voting rights issues, from redistricting to felony disenfranchisement. As a staff attorney with the Southern Coalition for Social Justice in Durham, NC, her primary areas of practice are voting rights and environmental justice.



## Skills Workshop Series 2

2:45 AM - 3:45 AM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	E-Democracy: Constituent Outreach & Communication	Crystal 6
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Elected officials must stay current to stay relevant. This means understanding and using the latest technology that allows for easy and effective communication between elected officials and constituents. This session will provide case studies of current elected officials – nationally and locally – who are effectively using the Internet to work with their base, communicate with constituents, and expand their resources. YEOs will also be provided with instruction on how to best use social media, email, text messaging, online advertising, and online video, as well as how to hold an online town hall and solicit vital feedback from constituents.

# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
2:45 AM - 3:45 AM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	E-Democracy: Constituent Outreach & Communication	Crystal 6

## DAVID CARLUCCI

### CLARKSTOWN TOWN CLERK

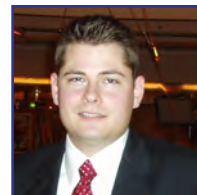
David Carlucci was elected as Clarkstown town clerk in 2005, making him one of the youngest elected officials in New York. Since being elected, Carlucci has been working hard towards his mission of making the clerk's office as accessible and user-friendly as possible. To accomplish this, Carlucci has staggered the hours of the office to have weekend and evening hours. Additionally, he has received grants to digitize all of the clerk's office records in the dating back to 1752. Carlucci is working to incorporate new technologies in the clerk's office, such as: podcasts, blogs, widgets, Facebook, and Twitter. For his efforts, Carlucci was recently recognized by Innovation Generation as one of the nation's top 100 technology leaders.



## PHILLIP PERRY

### PENN SCHOEN BERLAND

Phillip Perry is the Internet strategist for Penn Schoen Berland, and previously served as the technology director for President Barack Obama's campaign in Florida. In 2009, he designed an innovative campaign website and managed online operations for the Democratic Party of Albania in their 2009 parliamentary elections. He also provided strategic Internet consulting to several statewide candidates in Florida and international campaigns in several countries, including the Czech Republic, Kosovo, Mauritius, and Sri Lanka. Previously, he was the Internet technology director for the Florida Democratic Party and also founded Philter Media, an Internet consulting firm that develops custom website solutions and provides guidance on Internet strategy to political campaigns, nonprofits, and small businesses. He received a bachelor's in business management from the University of Florida.



2:45 AM - 3:45 AM  
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Camera Interview Skills

Crystal 3

Conveying your message clearly and concisely during a media interview can be a challenging experience. The camera is an unforgiving medium that scrutinizes your every word and move, and records them for posterity. In this interactive session, media experts will educate YEOs on the most effective ways to create a strong and professional camera presence and how to put your best face forward.

## JOEL SILBERMAN

### NEW ORGANIZING INSTITUTE

Joel Silberman is a senior communications strategist and media consultant to the progressive movement, in addition to his theatrical career as a performer, director, and producer. He serves as director of Media Talent 2.0, a media-training program for new progressive political voices in Washington, D.C. He has been a senior media fellow at the New Organizing Institute, senior consultant/creative director for Media Matters for America, and is a recipient of the Kos Media fellowship, where he was media/message strategist for Markos Moulitsas and the DailyKos.com contributing editors. Other consulting clients have included PFAW Foundation, GLAAD, Jane Hamsher/ FireDogLake, Digby, Nate Silver, Jerome Armstrong, Working Assets, Young People For, Democracia USA, the Center for Progressive Leadership, and the National Women's Law Center. In addition his media training, Silberman currently prepares progressive electoral candidates and organization leaders for public speaking and media appearances.





# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
2:45 AM - 3:45 AM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Developing a Media Strategy	Crystal 2

Leveraging the media is an incredibly important skill for elected officials. This interactive session will take media training to the next level by discussing “when, how, and who” in communicating with and developing relationships with the press, how to answer the tough questions, and what to do in a crisis situation. Additionally, communications professionals will answer the specific questions asked by YEOs about dealing with the media.

## DREW COURTNEY

### PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY FOUNDATION

Drew Courtney is press secretary at People For the American Way Foundation, where he oversees the organization’s communications and messaging. His writing has appeared in The Washington Post and the National Law Journal. He has served as spokesperson for print, television, and radio interviews, including an appearance on Finnish television as an expert in political advertising. Prior to joining People For, Courtney worked in the office of Senator Blanche Lincoln of Arkansas and at an NGO dedicated to sustainable development in Africa. He also worked as a public school teacher in rural Arkansas as a Teach For America Corps Member.



2:45 AM - 3:45 AM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Values Training: Progressive Messaging	Crystal 5
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Many YEOs live in districts where the progressive platform may not be the most popular game in town. This session will help young electeds better speak to their constituents by focusing their message on the values and core beliefs that are central to the vast majority of voters – not just progressives or conservatives.

## BETH KENNEDY

### PROGRESSIVE POLICY INSTITUTE

Beth Kennedy is the executive director of the Progressive Policy Institute (PPI). She came to PPI from Tallahassee, Florida, where she served as executive director of Florida Mainstream Democrats (FMD), an organization dedicated to electing centrist Democrats in swing districts all over Florida. Prior to her work for FMD, she was the district aide for State Representative Lorraine Ausley (D-Tallahassee). Born and raised in Ohio, Kennedy is a proud alumna of Florida State University.



# SATURDAY, MAY 15

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
2:45 AM - 3:45 AM 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Coalition and Consensus Building	Crystal 4

In the face of today's complex problems, great demands on resources, and polarization, citizens increasingly express dissatisfaction with government's seeming inability to solve problems. Few structures exist for leaders to bring multiple partners together to identify solutions and to share resources, accountability, and credit for making complex projects succeed. This session will provide an overview of what collaborative government is, as well as present the success stories and tools to help young electeds engage their communities and their colleagues to address complex problems and public issues together.

*Following the training session, the Policy Consensus Initiative (PCI) will be conducting listening sessions to hear from young elected officials on how they engage the public in community decision-making, how they work with the public in priority settings, and how they implement on-the-ground projects that are important to their constituents. PCI hopes that, following these sessions, they will be able to support YEOs in designing and implementing collaborative projects in their communities.*

## **KYRSTEN SINEMA**

### **ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Kyrsten Sinema, in her third term, serves as the assistant leader to the Democratic Caucus in the Arizona House of Representatives and is the ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations and House Judiciary Committees. She is an adjunct professor and a PhD candidate at Arizona State University where she received a law degree and a master's degree in social work. Representative Sinema practices law when not in session and serves as faculty for the Center for Progressive Leadership. She chaired Arizona Together, which successfully defended a same-sex marriage ballot initiative (2006) and Protect Arizona's Freedom, the coalition that defeated the effort to eliminate equal opportunity programs (2008). Her book, *Unite and Conquer: How to Build Coalitions that Win and Last*, was released in July 2009.



## **WENDY WILLIS**

### **POLICY CONSENSUS INITIATIVE**

Wendy Willis is the deputy director of the Policy Consensus Initiative (PCI), which supports elected leaders and communities in designing and implementing innovative, collaborative solutions for community-based problems and opportunities. Willis has taken the lead at PCI in connecting between citizen-based decision-making and collaborative implementation. Formerly, Willis was the executive director for City Club of Portland, where she became a visible leader in the field of civic engagement. She graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown Law Center and holds a BA from Willamette University.



## **GREG WOLF**

### **POLICY CONSENSUS INITIATIVE**

Greg Wolf is the executive director of the Policy Consensus Initiative (PCI), a national, nonprofit organization that works with leaders to establish and strengthen the use of collaborative forms of governance to address public issues. Wolf advocates collaborative planning and mediation in resolving public policy issues and has 30 years experience working in state and local government. Wolf worked seven years as the community policy advisor for Oregon Governor Kitzhaber. He also served as the Governor's sustainability and dispute resolution advisor. Previously, Wolf served as the assistant director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development. He co-founded Oregon's dispute resolution program in 1989. Wolf graduated from the University of Oregon Honors College with a BA in interdisciplinary studies focusing on land use issues.





TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
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## Opening Plenary

9:45AM - 11:00 AM

Health Care Implementation:  
The Way Forward in the States

Ballroom

For the last 75 years there have been various efforts to reform health care in the United States. It has been, and remains, a contentious topic, coming to a head during the 2009 legislative debate. From that discussion, history was made and 2010 brought us comprehensive health care reform – propelling millions of Americans into a system of coverage that recognizes the value of all human life. It is now up to the states to implement these new changes in a way that the bill intended. This plenary session will provide elected officials with the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary to make comprehensive health care reform a reality in their states.

### ANN KEMPSKI

#### SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

Ann Kempinski is the director of health policy for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Ms. Kempinski and a team of policy analysts provide analytic and strategic support for the union's agenda to promote high quality, affordable, universal health care. Before becoming the director of health policy in 2009, she was the deputy director of legislation for SEIU. Before joining SEIU in 2002, Ms. Kempinski was the associate director of public policy for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), where she focused on tax policy, and Medicare and Medicaid. She earned a master's degree from Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations and a BA in economics from the College of William and Mary.



### JUDITH SOLOMON

#### CENTER FOR BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES

Judith Solomon joined the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities in 2005 as a senior fellow. Her work at the Center specializes in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Plan, with a focus on state-level issues. She also focuses on issues related to health reform, particularly policies to make coverage affordable for low-income people. Previously, Ms. Solomon was a senior policy fellow at Connecticut Voices for Children and executive director of the Children's Health Council. She directed the Council's work on policy analysis, outreach, education and training, and independent oversight of health care services provided through Connecticut's Medicaid managed care program. She has also worked as a legal services attorney and taught at the Yale University School of Medicine. Solomon is a graduate of the University of Connecticut and Rutgers University School of Law in Newark.



### MAYA WILEY

#### CENTER FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

Attorney Maya Wiley is a racial justice activist and the founder and executive director of the Center for Social Inclusion, a research and policy organization focused on addressing issues of racial inequity and its impact on all racial groups. Prior to founding the Center, Wiley was a senior advisor on race and poverty to the Director of U.S. Programs for the Open Society Institute, and helped develop the Open Society Foundation - South Africa's Criminal Justice Initiative. She has worked for the American Civil Liberties Union National Legal Department, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. in the Poverty and Justice Program, and the Civil Division of the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York. Ms. Wiley graduated from Columbia University School of Law in 1989 and received her Bachelor degree from Dartmouth College in 1986.





# SUNDAY, MAY 16

TIME

SESSION

LOCATION

## Break Out Series: The State of the Union

11:15 AM -12:45 PM

State of the Union

Just as our Constitution declares that the President "...from time to time give to Congress information of the State of the Union and recommend to their Consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient," so, too, will we provide to this convening accounts on the condition of the nation as seen through the eyes of your fellow young electeds at all levels of government.

In three separate breakouts, you will be able to explore the state of our states, cities, or schools to gain a true picture of America today.

11:15 AM -12:45 PM

State of the States

Crystal 6

Some of the most innovative, equality-driven, and progressive policies are currently being introduced in the states, and can serve as great examples for the nation. Unfortunately, some of the most destructive and harmful policies are being pushed at the state level, such as the immigration bill recently signed into law in Arizona. States are the laboratories of national policy; policies passed on the state level can have positive impacts on the larger society, or can be dangerously destructive if replicated around the country. In this panel, leading state legislators will discuss their innovations, as well as the state of their states in the wake of a new presidential administration, sweeping federal legislative reform, and severe budget cuts.

SEN. PHIL BARTLETT (ME)  
REP. TISHAURA JONES (MO)

REP. SCOTT KAWASAKI (AK)  
REP. DAVID SCHAPIRA (AZ)

11:15 AM -12:45 PM

State of the Cities

Crystal 5

Our cities and municipalities, both small and large, are the heartbeat of America. Cities are where we work, live, and play – and they have been hit the hardest financially with rapidly decreasing property values, fleeting local economies and the increasing barrage of unfunded mandates. During this panel, mayors from across the county will discuss the state of their cities, as well their difficulties and successes in keeping Main Street alive.

MAYOR-ELECT SEAN BECKER (MT)  
MAYOR RYAN COONERTY (CA)

MAYOR HEATHER HUDSON (MI)  
CITY COUNCILWOMAN KAREN LIOT HILL (NH)

11:15 AM -12:45 PM

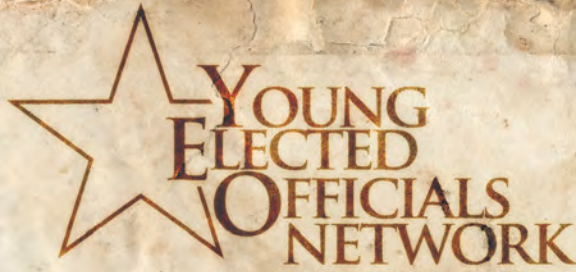
State of the Schools

Crystal 3

The education of our children lays the foundation for our country's future, yet America's education system continues to struggle under the weight of economic and racial disparities. Education reform is a pressing national issue, with the President and U.S. Secretary of Education making radical reform a core part of the country's domestic agenda, and states around the country moving sweeping reforms. In this panel, school board members at the pulse of education reform will discuss the state of their schools, as well as their innovative ideas for ensuring an equitable education for all.

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT JANET CHEN (CA)  
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER CARMELO GARCIA (NJ)

SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT JANE KIM (CA)  
SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT AIRICK LEONARD WEST (MO)



A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

# THE YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **DANIELLE IMANI ASAKO ADAMS**

**DISTRICT SUPERVISOR**

**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor Danielle Imani Asako Adams is the youngest elected official in Durham County. She is currently a senior at North Carolina Central University, pursuing a degree in political science with minors in German and music. Prior to becoming Soil and Water Conservation District supervisor in 2008, she served as the chair of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Caucus for the North Carolina Federation of College Democrats (NCFCD) and is the most recent past director of membership for the NCFCD. She has worked

with the International Affairs Council and the Middle East Partnership Initiative of the US Department of State, hosting a delegation of eight Middle Eastern women from the nations of Yemen, Morocco, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia.

Top Issues for 2010: Sustainability; Conservation; Climate Change



## **MARCUS AFZALI**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND**

City Councilman Marcus Afzali serves on the city council of College Park, Md. His family first moved to College Park in the 1980s after immigrating to the United States from England. He is currently a doctoral candidate in government and politics at the University of Maryland. Councilman Afzali also works as a graduate assistant at the University of Maryland.

Top Issues for 2010: Route One Redevelopment



## **FELIPE AGREDANO**

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSIONER**

**SOUTH SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA**

Commissioner Felipe Agredano's academic journey started at East LA College, he holds dual baccalaureate degrees in government and Chicano studies from UC Berkeley and a master's from Harvard University's Divinity School. He was former fellow at Oxford University and a teaching fellow at Harvard University's Afro-American Studies, where he also served as an officer at Radcliffe College and research assistant at the W.E.B. Du Boise Institute. Formerly elected to the local school board, he served as president of the Board of Education and was recognized by the State Assembly for his work as a member of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Equity



## **JEFF ANDERSON**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

Councilman Jeff Anderson was born and raised in Ely, Minn. He studied political science and journalism at the University of Minnesota Duluth. In 2007, Anderson was elected as an at-large member of the Duluth City Council. Since taking office in 2008, he has served as both vice-president and president of the council and president of the Duluth Economic Development Authority.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Local Government Aid





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JESSE ARREGUIN**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA**

On November 4, 2008, Jesse Arreguin was elected by the voters of District 4 to represent them on the Berkeley City Council. Arreguin is the first Latino to be elected to the council and is the youngest councilmember in recent memory. Councilman Arreguin brings years of experience as an activist and public official to the city council, previously having been appointed to the Housing Advisory Commission, as well as being elected to and serving as chair of the Rent Stabilization Board. He attended the University of California, Berkeley.



## **SHANNON J. AUGARE**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
BROWNING, MONTANA**

State Representative Shannon Augare was elected to the Montana House of Representatives in 2007. He is a past member of the United States/Thailand Trade Negotiations taskforce and the Montana Board of Crime Control. Augare is currently a member of the Equal Justice Taskforce of the Montana Supreme Court.

Top Issues for 2010: DUI Legislation



## **KARL BAIA**

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR  
AMSTERDAM, NEW YORK**

Karl Baia is a county supervisor in Amsterdam, N.Y. Supervisor Baia currently serves on the Amsterdam Citizens Review Board, Amsterdam Civil Service Board, and Montgomery County Planning Board. He studied business administration at Fulton Montgomery Community College, and has a daughter, Gabriella.

Top Issues for 2010: Property Taxes; Creating a Cleaner Community; Economic Development & Job Creation



## **PHIL BARTLETT**

**STATE SENATOR  
GORHAM, MAINE**

State Senator Phil Bartlett was first elected to the Maine Senate by the voters of Gorham, Scarborough, and Westbrook in 2004. Elected at age 28, Bartlett continues to be the youngest member of the Maine Senate. He chairs the Utilities and Energy Committee and serves on both the Natural Resources and Government Oversight Committees. He graduated from Tufts University with a B.A. in economics and political science and from Harvard Law School. In addition to serving in the Maine Senate, Senator Bartlett practices law with the firm of Scaccia, Lenkowski, Aranson & Bartlett.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development & Job Creation; Renewable Energy



## **SEAN BECKER**

**MAYOR  
BOZEMAN, MONTANA**

Mayor Sean Becker is currently the mayor of the City of Bozeman, having previously served since 2005 as a commissioner. In addition to city commission responsibilities, Mayor Becker works as an economic development market analyst for one of Bozeman's many small businesses. After graduating from Denison University and working as a health care provider in Nepal, he moved back to teach, conduct research, and complete graduate work at Montana State University. Mayor Becker is a former fireman, the youngest of 11 children, and an avid glider pilot, mountain biker, and telemark skier.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Growth; Tax Equity; Water Conservation



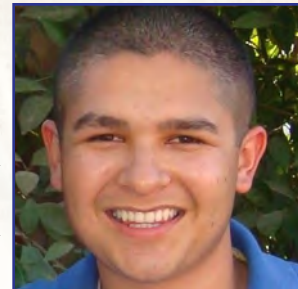
# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **ALEX BEJARANO**

**COUNCILMEMBER  
WELLTON, ARIZONA**

Alex M. Bejarano is a council member for Wellton, Ariz. He was elected to the council at age 19 and is currently the youngest elected official in Arizona. Council Member Bejarano's main priorities at the moment are keeping all of the City's employees in their jobs, ensuring public safety, and maintaining their water treatment facility. He is currently attending Arizona Western College.

Top Issues for 2010: Employment for City Employees; Economic Development



## **ASHLEY BELL**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA**

Ashley D. Bell, a Hall County native, was elected in 2008 at age 27 to become Hall County's youngest ever commissioner, and one of the youngest in the State of Georgia. Bell is a graduate of Valdosta State University and attended law school at the University of Georgia and Louisiana State University. Commissioner Bell is a trial attorney and partner at Bell & Washington, LLP, practicing law throughout the State of Georgia. He has been involved in politics his entire adult life, being active in local, state, and national politics in various capacities, including being the two-term national president of the College Democrats of America, as well as advocacy work on behalf of all young Americans at the federal level.

Top Issues for 2010: Water Conservation; Environmental Conservation; Transportation

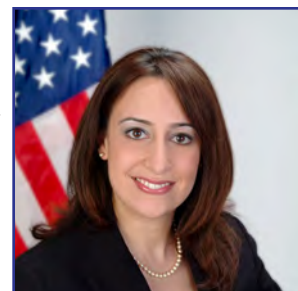


## **MARIA ANTONIA "TONI" BERRIOS**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

Maria Antonia "Toni" Berrios is serving her fourth term in the Illinois General Assembly as the 39th District State Representative. Berrios is the first Puerto Rican woman to serve in the Illinois House of Representatives and the legislature's youngest Hispanic. Before her election in 2002, she worked with the Illinois Liquor Control Commission on improving the health of the state's residents. Representative Berrios is a graduate of Northeastern Illinois University with a Board of Governors degree.

Top Issues for 2010: State Funding for Minority Businesses & Agencies; Education



## **JONATHAN L. BING**

**STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

Assemblyman Jonathan Bing is currently serving his fourth term in the New York State Assembly. During his seven years in the Assembly, he has authored sixty pieces of legislation that have passed the Assembly, twenty-four of which have been signed into law. He is the recipient of a 2009 honorary doctor of law degree from LIM College, and is a graduate of the New York University School of Law, the University of Pennsylvania, and the Horace Mann School. Assemblyman Bing is a member of Central Synagogue, and lives in Turtle Bay with his wife, Meredith Ballew, and their daughter, Charlotte Bing.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Managed Care Reform; Divorce Law Reform; State Funding for Libraries





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **DAVID BOBZIEN**

**STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER**

**RENO, NEVADA**

Assemblyman David Bobzien was elected to the Nevada State Assembly in 2006 with 55 percent of the vote. He received his master's of public administration, with an emphasis in public lands and natural resources policy from Boise State University. The Nevada Conservation League named Bobzien the "2009 Assemblyman of the Year." He and his wife, Lisa, live in northwest Reno with their sons, Luca Carson and Finnegan Walker, and their dog Maggie.

Top Issues for 2010: Renewable Energy; Education; Budget



## **AISHA N. BRAVEBOY**

**STATE DELEGATE**

**MITCHELLVILLE, MARYLAND**

Delegate Aisha N. Braveboy was elected to represent the 25th Legislative District in the Maryland General Assembly in 2006. She currently serves on the House Economic Matters Committee, as well as the Business Regulations, Consumer Protection, and Alcoholic Beverage Subcommittees. Delegate Braveboy is the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chair for the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland, chair of the Prince George's County Delegation Bi-County Committee for Water, Sewer, and Transportation, and a member of the Maryland Women's Caucus. She is also a private practice lawyer, with a focus on real estate, condo/homeowners associations, and corporate law. Delegate Braveboy is a graduate of the University of Maryland at College Park and Howard University School of Law.

Top Issues for 2010: Protecting Rights of Homeowners; Education; Economic Development



## **ALAN BROCK**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**WAKULLA, FLORIDA**

County Commissioner Alan Brock was elected to the Wakulla County Commission in 2008. Commissioner Brock began his public service career as a spokesperson for the original Florida "Truth" Anti-Tobacco Campaign, which went on to become a model for the nation. He previously served as the North Florida and youth outreach director for the Florida Democratic Party, and as the North Florida field director for the 2006 "Vote Yes on 4" campaign, also known as "Floridians for Youth Tobacco Education." He is a graduate of Florida State University.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Growth; Job Creation; Tax Reform



## **DWIGHT M. BULLARD**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**MIAMI, FLORIDA**

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and raised in the Richmond Heights community in Miami, Florida, Representative Dwight Bullard serves in the Florida Legislature, following the footsteps of his parents, Florida State Senator Larcenia Bullard and former Florida State Representative Edward Bullard. Since 2000, Rep. Bullard has been a teacher at Coral Reef Senior High School in Miami until he was sworn into office in 2008. He received his Bachelor's of Science in History Education at Florida A&M University.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Reform; Economic Development; and Job Creation





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **GINA L. CALDER**

**ALDERWOMAN**

**NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

Alderwoman Gina Calder is the youngest African American elected official in Connecticut, and began her term on the New Haven Board of Aldermen in 2008. She founded and chairs the Dwight Central Management Team Youth Concerns Committee, with the goal of exposing youth to positive experiences. Alderwoman Calder is also one of the founders and executive committee members of the CALLED, a Connecticut-based organization of young professionals of African descent that focuses on meeting the needs of the state's urban areas. She is an administrative fellow with the Yale New Haven Health System, a Connecticut Health Foundation leadership fellow, and a member for the New Haven Ward 2 Democratic Committee. She received both her bachelor's degree in psychology and M.P.H. from Yale University.

Top Issues for 2010: Community Health & Safety; Foreclosures; Budget



## **KARIM CAMARA**

**STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER**

**BROOKLYN, NEW YORK**

Assemblyman Karim Camara was elected to the New York State Assembly in 2006. He served as the New York State faith director for President Barack Obama in the Democratic primary for the 2008 elections. Assemblyman Camara is executive pastor of First Baptist Church of Crown Heights, Brooklyn, and previously worked with the Children's Defense Fund, and as a congressional intern for Congressman Major R. Owens (D-N.Y.). He received his B.A. in English literature and chemistry from Xavier University of Louisiana and his M.Div. from the New York Theological Seminary.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Equity; State Government Reform; Economic Development; Funding Youth Programs



## **APRIL CAPONE-ALMON**

**MAYOR**

**EAST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT**

Mayor April Capone-Almon was the first woman elected to the office of mayor of East Haven, as well as the youngest. She received her MBA from Southern Connecticut State University. Mayor Capone-Almon lives in East Haven with her husband Regan.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Renewable Energy; Labor Contracts



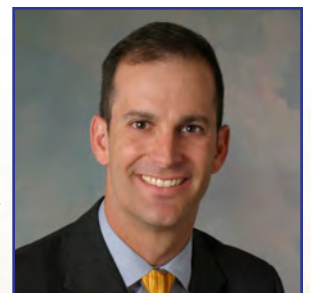
## **JON CARDIN**

**STATE DELEGATE**

**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND**

Delegate Jon S. Cardin is currently serving his second term in the Maryland House of Delegates. He has served as chairman of the Election Law Subcommittee of the Ways and Means Committee since 2007. Delegate Cardin practices law at Cardin & Gitomer, P.A. in Baltimore. He earned a juris doctor with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law in 2001, and upon graduation from law school, he worked as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable William D. Quarles in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City. Delegate Cardin sits in the seat formerly occupied by his uncle, great uncle, and grandfather, demonstrating a multigenerational commitment to public service. He is engaged to Ms. Megan Homer.

Top Issues for 2010: Infrastructure Improvements; Election Day Registration; Redistricting



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MICHAEL CAREY**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**LEWISTON, MAINE**

Michael Carey represents downtown Lewiston in the Maine State House of Representatives, and is currently running for House Majority Leader for the next legislative session. Carey is board president for Community Concepts, a \$30 million Community Action Agency serving Lewiston and three rural counties, and a board member of Avesta Housing, Maine's largest non-profit affordable housing developer. He is also a member of the Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce Business Advocacy Committee, the chairman of a City of Lewiston Mill Redevelopment Task Force, and the former vice president at Androscoggin Habitat for Humanity.

Top Issues for 2010: Healthcare Reform; Funding Statewide Transportation Infrastructure; Campaign Finance Reform; Privacy Issues



## **DAVID CARLUCCI**

**TOWN CLERK**

**CLARKSTOWN, NEW YORK**

Town Clerk David Carlucci was elected as Clarkstown town clerk in 2005, making him one of the youngest elected officials in New York. Carlucci has been working hard towards his mission of making the Clerk's Office as accessible and user-friendly as possible. To accomplish this, Carlucci has staggered the hours of the office to have weekend and evening hours. He has also worked to incorporate new technologies in the Clerk's Office, such as podcasts, blogs, widgets, Facebook, and Twitter. For his efforts, Carlucci was recently recognized by Innovation Generation as one of the nation's top 100 technology leaders.

Top Issues for 2010: Town Records Digitization



## **JOE CARN**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**COLLEGE PARK, GEORGIA**

City Councilman Joe Carn was elected to the College Park City Council in 2006, as the city's youngest elected official. He has been listed as one of the Georgia Informer's 40 under 40, serves on the board of directors for Concerned Black Clergy, and is the youngest board member of the National Organization to Insure a Sound Environment (NOISE). He also serves locally as chairman of the LSAC School Board and volunteers with non-profits Metamorphosis Inc. and Lift Community Development. Councilman Carn completed graduate studies at Harvard University's JFK School of Government, and as a devoted father and author, he is currently finishing his second book.

Top Issues for 2010: Community Health & Safety; Education



## **LIZANDRO CARRASCO**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**

Lizandro Carrasco is the youngest board member of the Luther Burbank School District, located in San Jose. A native of California, he was 22 when he was first appointed in 2005. He was elected in 2006 and currently serves as board president. He also is a district representative for California State Senator Elaine Alquist. Board President Carrasco is a graduate of Santa Clara University, where he served as a student senator.

Top Issues for 2010: Education; Immigration Reform; Voter Registration





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **CHRIS CARTER**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**ST. LOUIS CITY, MISSOURI**

State Representative Chris Carter is a member of the Missouri House of Representatives. In addition to his legislative duties, Carter works as the director of intake for West End Clinic in St. Louis. He has previously worked as the director of community affairs for the 61st District, district assistant to Senator Jeff Smith, and as a field organizer for U.S Senator Claire McCaskill. He serves as a mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Young Democrats, NAACP, NSBE, 100 Black Men, St. Louis C.A.N., NCCJ, and the Paula J. Carter Foundation. Rep. Carter attended Alabama A&M University, where he received a bachelor's degree in computer science.

Top Issues for 2010: Healthcare Reform; Immigration Reform



## **MELVIN CARTER**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA**

Councilman Melvin Carter was first elected to the St. Paul City Council in 2007. He has worked with various community organizations and political campaigns, including Got Voice Got Power, Wellstone Action, and Minnesota Victory 2004. Councilman Carter currently serves on the Saint Paul Regional Water Services Board of Directors, the Landmark Center Board of Directors, the Family Housing Fund Board, the Library Board, the Among 18 Council, and the Housing and Redevelopment Authority Board. He is also founder of Urban Embassy, a nonprofit organization.

He attended Florida A&M University and the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs. In his personal time, Carter directs a choir at St. James AME Church in St. Paul, and is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.



## **EDWARD CASSO**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO**

State Representative Edward Casso earned a bachelor's degree in political philosophy from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 1997. Before being elected to the Legislature, Casso worked as a teacher in an alternative high school during summers, and as a substitute teacher for Denver Public Schools. Casso resides in Commerce City, Colo. with his wife, Selena, and their two children, Cecelia and Aristotle.

Top Issues for 2010: Education



## **QUINTEALIA CATO**

**CITY COMMISSIONER**

**MIDWAY, FLORIDA**

City Commissioner Quintealia Cato was sworn into office in 2007, and currently serves as mayor pro tem on the Midway City Council. She is a member of the Women Elected to Municipal Government in Florida, CEO and founder of The Cato Institute for Family and Community Development, a member of the Gadsden County Farm Bureau, and a member of the Florida League of Cities Fiscal Stewardship Policy Council. In addition to her elected office, Commissioner Cato is a licensed mortgage broker and works as a staff development training consultant for the Department of Revenue Child Support Enforcement Program Office. She graduated from the University of Florida with a degree in public relations.

Top Issues for 2010: Education; Healthcare Reform





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JAY CHEN**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER**

**INDUSTRY, CALIFORNIA**

Jay Chen was elected to the Board of Education for Hacienda-La Puente Unified in 2007. He was elected to be the pledged delegate from his congressional district for President Barack Obama at the 2008 Democratic National Convention, and was also elected to the Democratic State Central Committee with the top vote in 2009. He is also employed as an education columnist for the local press. Before he was elected to the Board of Education, Board Member Chen was a management consultant with Bain & Company and Technoserve. He has also worked in Central and South America as a travel writer for Let's Go Publications. Fluent in Mandarin and Spanish, he was a recipient of the Lions Club International Leo of the Year award. He is a graduate of Harvard University.

Top Issues for 2010: Green Schools; Healthy Students; Multi-Lingual Education



## **LELAND CHEUNG**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS**

Leland Cheung is the first Asian American elected to Cambridge City Council in Cambridge, Mass. Elected on November 3, 2009, he was the only student to run for and win a city council seat. He is pursuing a dual degree MBA/MPA program at MIT Sloan School of Management and Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Councilman Cheung is actively engaged in a number of nonprofit organizations. He is a member of the National Association of Asian American Professionals and in 2007 was elected their national executive vice president.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Job Creation; Reducing the Achievement Gap



## **M. JANET CHIN**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**ROSEMEAD, CALIFORNIA**

M. Janet Chin was elected to the Garvey School District Board of Education in 2007 and is currently serving as vice president. She is the founder and president of the M. Janet Chin Youth Foundation, a non-profit organization that produces youth leaders through civic engagement, service learning, and leadership training. Board Member Chin has been awarded the Los Angeles Bilingual Directors Association Award and honored as a Woman of Distinction by former Congresswoman and current Labor Secretary Hilda Solis. She currently serves on the U.S. Army Los Angeles Recruiting Battalion Community Advisory Board, and has previously served as PTA president, chair of the English Learners Advisory Council, and chair of School Site Council.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Funding; Teacher Evaluation Reform with Teachers' Union; Revamp the Parent Academy



## **SHANE COHN**

**ALDERMAN**

**ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**

Alderman Shane Cohn represents the 25th Ward in the City of St. Louis and is the first openly gay elected official in city government. Prior to being elected, he worked as a human resources manager for Citigroup and the director of development & community affairs for a local non-profit. Alderman Cohn was recognized by the St. Louis Business Journal as one of the 2007 "30 under 30" Most Influential Young People in St. Louis Business, and has been awarded the Bronze Quill Award by the local chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; LGBT Equality



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **Y. LAKETA COLE**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**CINCINNATI, OHIO**

Council Member Y. Laketa Cole was appointed to Cincinnati City Council in April 2003, making her the first African American woman ever appointed. Despite being a new council member, she quickly won the respect of her peers by being selected the Council's president pro tem, a position she has held throughout her tenure on the Council. She is a graduate of Cincinnati Public Schools and was inducted into Aiken Hall of Fame in 2005. She received a B.A. in political science from Wittenberg University and her master's in public administration from Northern Kentucky University.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Economic Development; Youth Programs



## **RYAN COONERTY**

**VICE MAYOR**

**SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA**

Vice Mayor Ryan Coonerty is serving his second term on the Santa Cruz City Council. He is the co-founder and chief strategist of NextSpace – Coworking + Innovation and a lecturer on constitutional law and government at UC Santa Cruz. Previously, Coonerty served as legislative counsel to two national commissions, including President Carter and Ford's National Commission on Federal Election Reform and the Markle Task Force on National Security in the Information Age. He is a graduate of the Robert D. Clark Honor's College at the University of Oregon, and received a master's degree from the London School of Economics, and a law degree from the University Of Virginia School Of Law. In 2009, he was selected by the Aspen Institute to be a Rodel Fellow.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Town & Gown Issues; Carbon Neutrality



## **ALEX CORNELL DU HOUX**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**BRUNSWICK, MAINE**

Alex Cornell du Houx is serving his first term in Maine's House of Representatives. Prior to being elected, Representative Cornell du Houx joined the Marine Reserves, and was deployed to Iraq with the Marines' Alpha Company in 2006. After his return, he continued his political and community service work. He led a service trip to Guatemala with the program Safe Passage to help kids working in the city dump gain an education, and worked in Peru to help build a playground for children in Lima. At home, he volunteers and serves on the board of Maine's Habitat for Humanity. He coaches lacrosse at Brunswick's Junior High School and conducted a year of service with AmeriCorps. Cornell du Houx attended Bowdoin College as a Mitchell Scholar.

Top Issues for 2010: Renewable Energy & Green Jobs; Weatherization; Naval Air Station Redevelopment; Veterans Issues



## **ASHER CORSON**

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER**

**WASHINGTON, DC**

Asher Corson is a second term advisory neighborhood commissioner, and currently serves as the president of the Foggy Bottom Association. Corson recently graduated from George Washington University.

Top Issues for 2010: Increase Community Involvement in Development; Adult Education; Community Safety





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MARISOL CRUZ**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**LENNOX, CALIFORNIA**

School Board Member Marisol Cruz migrated with her family from San Ignacio Cerro Gordo, Jalisco, Mexico when she was an infant. She is the mother of two children who attend Moffett School, and as a member of the Lennox School District Board of Trustees, she is working with her fellow board members to ensure that the children in Lennox receive the best public education. Board Member Cruz received her undergraduate degree in psychology with a minor in women studies, and is currently a graduate student at California State University Long Beach working towards a master's degree in Chicano Latino studies and public policy administration.

Top Issues for 2010: Special Education; English Language Learners Program; Staff Development



## **XILONIN CRUZ-GONZALEZ**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER**

**AZUSA, CALIFORNIA**

Board Member Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez is a lifelong resident of Azusa, Calif., and has been a governing board member of the Azusa Unified School District since 2005. Board Member Cruz-Gonzalez received a B.S. in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Top Issues for 2010: Increase Secondary Education Attendance; Closing the Achievement Gap; Community Health & Safety



## **TONY CUNEO**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

Tony Cuneo was elected to the Duluth City Council in 2007. Along with his position on the Duluth City Council, he is the director of policy and planning at the AH Zeppa Family Foundation. During the 2008 presidential election, Councilman Cuneo organized and ran the Duluth Votes Coalition, targeting the 10 lowest income precincts in the interest of garnering higher voter participation from those communities. Additionally, he has worked with America Votes, the Young Voter Project, MPIRG, and Wellstone Action. Councilman Cuneo lives in Duluth with his wife Erin, their two children, and too many pets. He would like to remind everyone that Duluth is known as the San Francisco of the Midwest, but with views you can afford.

Top Issues for 2010: Sustainable Community & Economic Development



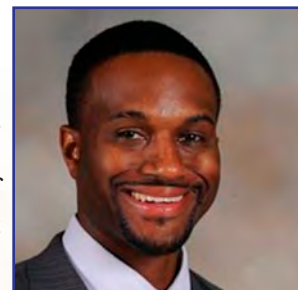
## **HENRY DAVIS, JR.**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**SOUTH BEND, INDIANA**

Henry Davis, Jr. has been serving South Bend as a city councilman since 2008, where he helped make history by being part of the largest number of minorities to serve on the council at the same time. Councilman Davis is chair of the Community Relations Committee and vice-chairman of the Community and Economic Development Council. He is also employed as a child support services caseworker with the county prosecutor's office.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Job Growth



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **KADY-ANN DAVY**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Councilwoman Kady-Ann Davy was elected as the District 2 representative to the Fayetteville City Council in November of 2009. Councilwoman Davy is a graduate of the University of Oregon, Eugene, where she received her bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in business. Her interest in politics was first sparked in college when she was elected senator of the student body. She is also a community educator with Community Home Care & Hospice.

Top Issues for 2010: Increase Young Voter Participation



## **DEE DAWKINS-HAIGLER**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**LITHONIA, GEORGIA**

Dee Dawkins-Haigler is a state representative from Lithonia, Ga. She is also the president and owner of DDH & Associates, a consulting firm that specializes in human resources, policy analysis, and campaign management. Dawkins-Haigler received a master's in public administration and personal management from Kentucky State University and a master's of divinity in theology and ethics from Turner Theological Seminary. She also holds a doctorate in ministry, and is currently an ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She resides in Lithonia with her husband and college sweetheart, Army Major David H. Haigler, Jr., and their four children.

Top Issues for 2010: Job Creation; Green Economy; Education



## **TADEO DE LA HOYA**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER**

**SAN LUIS, ARIZONA**

Governing Board Member Tadeo De La Hoya was elected when he defeated a 12-year incumbent on the governing board. He also works as an evidence technician for the San Luis Police Department. De La Hoya is also attending Rio Salado College, pursuing a degree in Business Administration.

Top Issues for 2010: Balance Budget



## **ALIX DESULME**

**CITY CLERK**

**NORTH MIAMI, FLORIDA**

Alix Desulme was elected as city clerk for the City of North Miami in 2009, and is the first African American to serve in this capacity. He also has the distinction of being the youngest and the first Haitian American elected city clerk in the United States. At age 22, City Clerk Desulme established Alix Desulme & Associates, Inc. (ADA), a public relations, marketing, and political consulting firm based in Miami, Fla. He earned a bachelor of arts in organizational leadership/marketing and master's of science in exceptional student education from St. Thomas University.

Top Issues for 2010: Youth Issues; Immigration Reform; Education





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MARINA DIMITRIJEVIC**

**DISTRICT SUPERVISOR**

**MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN**

Marina Dimitrijevic was elected 4th District supervisor in 2004, and was re-elected to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors in 2008 with over 70 percent of the vote. Supervisor Dimitrijevic has the distinction of being the youngest woman ever to be elected to the Milwaukee County Board. The daughter of Serbian immigrants, Dimitrijevic is a life long resident of Milwaukee's South Side. She is an honors graduate of Marquette University, where she earned a B.A. degree in political science and Spanish. She has been voted "Best County Supervisor" by the Shepherd Express Newspaper readers two years in a row for 2008 and 2009.

Top Issues for 2010: Stabilizing City Finances & Long-Term Strategic Planning; Environmental Sustainability; Modernize Mental Healthcare System; Funding for Transportation and Parks



## **TRINITY DONOVAN**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**CHANDLER, ARIZONA**

Trinity Donovan was elected to the Chandler City Council in 2006. She represents the City of Chandler on a regional level as chair of the Maricopa Association of Governments Human Services Coordinating Committee and as a board member for both the Arizona Municipal Water User's Association and the Valley Metro Regional Public Transportation Authority. Councilmember Donovan also represents the city on a national level through her involvement in the National League of Cities' Community and Economic Development Committee and the Council on Youth, Education, and Families. Additionally, she chairs the STAR Community Sustainability Index Technical Advisory Committee for Health and Safety. Councilmember Donovan holds a bachelor's degree in comparative studies in race and ethnicity, and a master's degree in sociology – both from Stanford University.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Job Growth



## **MARK DUVALL**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**MANTACHIE, MISSISSIPPI**

State Representative Mark DuVall was elected in 2008 to represent the 19th District of Mississippi. Representative DuVall is a member of the Mississippi Farm Bureau and Woodmen of the World. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University.

Top Issues for 2010: Anti-Bullying Legislation; Transportation



## **JAMIE ELDRIDGE**

**STATE SENATOR**

**MIDDLESEX, MASSACHUSETTS**

State Senator Jamie Eldridge was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate in 2009, after previously serving as a state representative. He is the only "Clean Elections" candidate to be elected to public office in Massachusetts's history. During his time in the Legislature, he has been one of the leaders of the movement to protect marriage equality in Massachusetts, proposed and passed the state's newest anti-poverty program, helped lead the successful effort to close corporate tax loopholes, and was part of an effort to overhaul the way education is financed in Massachusetts. Sen. Eldridge is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and Boston College Law School.

Top Issues for 2010: Fair Taxes; Transparency in Corporate Tax Breaks; Environmental Protection; Anti-Poverty Programs; Renewable Energy; Anti-Bullying Legislation; Land Use Reform; Transgender Anti-Discrimination Legislation; Criminal Offender Record Information Reform



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MATTHEW ELSAESSER**

**CITY COMMISSIONER**

**HELENA, MONTANA**

Commissioner Matthew Elsaesser was elected as Montana's youngest commissioner on record in 2007. Elsaesser is also the executive director of The S.A.V.E. Foundation (Savemobile.org), a nonprofit organization that he co-founded as an undergraduate at Carroll College. Currently, Commissioner Elsaesser is involved in developing a "Green Chapter" for Helena's growth plan and working to establish a non-motorized trail across the city.

Top Issues for 2010: Environmental Protection; Green Development; Pedestrian Safety & Transportation Issues



## **MEGAN ENGLAND**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**ROELAND PARK, KANSAS**

City Councilmember Megan England was born and raised in Wichita, Kan. She graduated with a degree in studio art from Baker University. In 2007, she was elected to the Roeland Park City Council, where she works hard to protect the environment, create a strong public art program, and build a stronger sense of community within her neighborhood.



## **ROCKY FERNANDEZ**

**TRANSIT BOARD DIRECTOR**

**OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**

Director Rocky Fernandez was elected in November 2006 to represent Ward 4 and currently serves as president of the Board of Directors. In addition to his transit duties, he works on young voter outreach and policy strategy, including implementation of California's Global Warming Act of 2006. Prior to this role, Director Fernandez was a field representative for Assemblymember Johan Klehs, and spent many years as a research analyst and campaign communications strategist. Director Fernandez earned his B.A. in political science and mass communications from the University of California, Berkeley.

Top Issues for 2010: Transportation; Renewable Energy; Health Care Reform; Pension Reform



## **MARK FERRANDINO**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**DENVER, COLORADO**

State Representative Mark Ferrandino was first elected to the Colorado House of Representatives to fill a vacancy in 2007. He was re-elected in 2008 with roughly 80 percent of the vote, in both the primary and general election. Ferrandino graduated with a master's in public policy analysis and a B.A. in political science and economics, both from the University of Rochester. Mark lives in the Baker neighborhood of Denver with his partner Greg and their dog Dagny.

Top Issues for 2010: Predatory Lending; Balance Budget; Economic Justice



## **SEAN FLAHERTY**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**SCARBOROUGH, MAINE**

State Representative Sean Flaherty was elected to the Maine House of Representatives in 2008. Flaherty attended George Washington University on a swimming scholarship, and graduated in May 2007. While at GW University, Flaherty majored in history and political science. Since graduation, Rep. Flaherty has worked for the American Association for Justice.

Top Issues for 2010: Green Economy & Renewable Energy; Consumer Protection; Job Creation; Broadband Expansion





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MAE FLEXER**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**DANIELSON, CONNECTICUT**

State Representative Mae Flexer, before being elected to the State Legislature, was the youngest person in Connecticut ever elected as Town Committee chairwoman. She has previously served as the field organizer for both the Courtney and Sullivan campaigns, as legislative aide for Senate President Don Williams, and worked six sessions at the capitol in various roles, including a stint with the Judiciary Committee and in the legislative commissioner's office. She recently returned to the University of Connecticut to pursue a master's degree.

Top Issues for 2010: Domestic Violence; Budget



## **CHRISTOPHER FLYNN**

**CITY SELECTMAN**

**BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS**

Selectman Christopher Flynn was elected in 2007, and is currently the youngest selectman elected in Bridgewater's history. Along with holding his current office, he serves as vice chairman of the Bridgewater Democratic Town Committee and is a member of several civic organizations, such as Lion's Club International.

Top Issues for 2010: Local Funding & Expense Reforms; Education Funding Reform



## **ANTONIO FRENCH**

**CITY ALDERMAN**

**ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**

Alderman Antonio D. French is serving his first term on the St. Louis Board of Aldermen. In 2008, Alderman French worked with St. Louis police to create a four-block "safe zone" for kids to trick-or-treat on Halloween night. Hundreds of kids took part in the festivities, which included an outdoor movie and free candy to all the participating houses. He graduated from Auburn University with a degree in political science.

Top Issues for 2010: Economy Development; Job Creation; Revamping Vacant Buildings; Parks Restoration



## **JASON FRERICHS**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**WILMOT, SOUTH DAKOTA**

State Representative Jason Frerichs is the fourth-generation of his family to serve in the South Dakota House of Representatives. He graduated cum laude from South Dakota State University in 2007, with a bachelor's degree in agriculture education and minors in animal science and speech communication. Rep. Frerichs farms with his brothers, Aaron and Ryan, as well as his father, Kent.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Enhance Education in Rural Areas; Redistricting



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MICHAEL FRERICHS**

**STATE SENATOR**

**CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS**

State Senator Michael W. Frerichs graduated from Yale University in 1995 with a B.A. in German studies. After graduating, he spent two years teaching English in Taiwan. He was elected to the Champaign County Board in 2000 and served as vice chair of the board from 2000 to 2002. In 2002, Frerichs was appointed Champaign County Auditor. He was elected to a full term in 2004. In 2006, Senator Frerichs was elected to the Illinois State Senate, defeating a popular former state senator. At age 34, Sen. Frerichs is the youngest member of the Illinois State Senate. Frerichs is a certified government finance officer and a former volunteer firefighter. He currently lives in Champaign, Ill. with his wife, Laura.

Top Issues for 2010: Balance Budget; Progressive Taxes; PACE Legislation



## **DOMINIC FRONGILLO**

**TOWN COUNCILMEMBER**

**CAROLINE, NEW YORK**

Councilman Dominic Frongillo made history when he was elected to Caroline's Town Council at age 22. Now 26, he serves as his county's youngest-ever deputy town supervisor. A graduate from Cornell University in 2005, he earned an independent degree with honors in sustainable community development. Councilman Frongillo participated in the UN Climate Negotiations in Copenhagen in 2009 and Bali in 2007, as a member of the US Youth Delegation.

Top Issues for 2010: Climate Change; Energy Efficiency



## **SEAN GARBALLEY**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**ARLINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

In 2003, State Representative Sean Garballey held his first elected office after running to be an Arlington Town Meeting member. In 2004, Representative Garballey was elected to become a member of the Arlington Democratic Town Committee and by 2005, he was elected to serve on the Arlington School Committee. He would go on to become vice chairman of the Arlington School Committee by 2007, and later that year he set off a successful bid for the office of state representative. Today, Rep. Garballey serves on the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture, the House Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change, the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, and was recently appointed to a special commission on civic engagement and learning.

Top Issues for 2010: Improve Transportation; Secondary Education; Government Transparency



## **CARMELO GARCIA**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY**

School Board Member Carmelo Garcia is a native of Hoboken, N.J., and a proud product of the Hoboken Public School System. He graduated from Seton Hall University with a B.A. in criminal justice and sociology, and received a dual master's degree in management and information systems from Stevens Institute of Technology. Board Member Garcia was the first minority to be appointed as the City of Hoboken's director of Health & Human Services. He holds several certifications in HR management and public housing management. He now works as the director of the Hoboken Housing Authority and is CEO of 21st Century Consulting Group. He is a founder of Hoboken's Save the Youth Academy for at-risk students.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Reform; Economic Development; Neighborhood Choice; Public Housing & Redevelopment; Youth Development





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **DELIA GARCIA**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**WICHITA, KANSAS**

In 2004, State Representative Delia Garcia became the first Latina ever elected to the Kansas Legislature, and was re-elected to her third term in 2008. In 2009, Wichita Magazine named Rep. Garcia as one of Wichita's Top 10 Most Influential Women. She was elected the national vice president of the Legislative Board of Hispanic Caucus Chairs, and also serves as the YEO Network state director for Kansas. Rep. Garcia received the Matt Garcia Public Service National Award by the Mexican American Legal Defense Education Fund.

Top Issues for 2010: Women's Issues; Healthcare, Immigration; Education



## **ANGELA GARRETSON**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**HILLSIDE, NEW JERSEY**

Councilwoman Angela R. Garretson is an at-large member of the Hillside City Council. Prior to her council election in 2009, Garretson was President of the School Board and served as a member for the last five years, where she worked with students, parents, community leaders, local and state government and non-profit organizations to preserve and strengthen quality education in her community. Previously, Garretson worked for Eagleton Institute of Politics, as well as several community organizations and political campaigns. She graduated from Syracuse University with Bachelor of Science in Business Communications, and Rutgers University with a Masters in Public Policy and Administration. Garretson is currently obtaining her PhD.

Top Issues for 2010: Education; Economic Development & Local Taxes; Union Contract Alternatives



## **DARRELL D. GASTON**

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER**

**WASHINGTON, DC**

Commissioner Darrell D. Gaston is serving his first term as member of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8B, and is currently the youngest elected official in Washington, DC. Elected by his peers, he currently serves as secretary of his commission and chairs his commission's Committee on Education, Schools, and Libraries. Commissioner Gaston is reshaping politics from the grassroots up and has been deemed to be one of the fresh faces and young political leaders to watch in this new era of politics.

Top Issues for 2010: Youth Empowerment; Education; Job Growth; Financial Empowerment



## **ELESHA GAYMAN**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**DAVENPORT, IOWA**

State Representative Elesha Gayman first won her seat in Iowa House District 84 in 2006. She is currently the youngest woman holding office in Iowa's General Assembly, and is the assistant majority leader. Gayman serves on the Agriculture, Appropriations, Environmental Protection, and Veteran's Affairs Committees, and is the vice chair of the Administration and Rules Committee. She attended the University of Iowa and graduated with a B.A. in political science with an emphasis in international relations, and completed her M.P.A. degree at Drake University. Currently, Rep. Gayman serves on the board for the Safer Foundation, the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service, American Association of University Women, American Coalition of Young Political Leaders, and Young Professionals in Foreign Policy.

Top Issues for 2010: Balance Budget; Job Growth; Veterans' Issues



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **REBEKAH GEWIRTZ**

**CITY ALDERWOMAN**

**SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**

In 2005, Alderwoman Rebekah Gewirtz was elected Ward 6 Alderwoman, and was re-elected to a second term in 2007. In addition to her position as alderwoman, she is director of government relations and political action at the National Association of Social Workers, MA Chapter. She is the former legislative director to State Representative (now State Senator) Patricia Jehlen of Somerville, and subsequently worked as lead organizer at the Commonwealth Coalition, an organization dedicated to electing progressive representatives and senators to the state legislature in Massachusetts. She holds a M.S. in public affairs from the McCormack Institute of Policy Studies at the University of Massachusetts, where she received the Class of 2005 "Outstanding Public Service Award."



## **PHILLIP GILFUS**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

County Commissioner Phillip Gilfus serves on the county commission for Cumberland County, N.C. He is employed as an attorney at The Mitchell Law Group in downtown Fayetteville. Commissioner Gilfus graduated from East Carolina University with a B.A. in communications (journalism) and a minor in public administration. After completing his education at East Carolina, he joined the US Army following the attacks of 9/11. He previously served in Operation Iraqi Freedom and is a former army captain.

Top Issues for 2010: Public Safety; Education; Economic Development



## **ANDREW GILLUM**

**CITY COMMISSIONER**

**TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**

Andrew Gillum became the youngest person ever elected to the Tallahassee City Commission in 2003. He has held prominent leadership roles such as mayor pro tem, chairman of the Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency, and lead commissioner for the Long Range Community Based Planning and the Financial Viability in Government Target Issue Committees. Commissioner Gillum previously served as deputy political director with the Florida Democratic Party. He was a field organizer and statewide director of the "Arrive With 5" program, and currently serves as the executive director of the Young Elected Officials Network, both with People For the American Way Foundation. Commissioner Gillum also serves on the Board of Directors for The Schott Foundation for Public Education. He is a graduate of Florida A & M University, where he served as president of the Student Government Association, and the first student member of the Board of Trustees.

Top Issues for 2010: Youth Criminal Justice Reform; Local Economic Development and Reinvestment; Digital Divide and Closing Educational Achievement Gap



## **ELAHU GOSNEY**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**ATHENS, OHIO**

City Councilman Elahu Gosney won an at-large council seat in 2007. Councilman Gosney has partnered with local unions to address labor issues at Ohio University, assisted in the production of alternative media, and helped organize empowering trips to Washington, D.C. to allow people's voices to be heard in our nation's capitol.

Top Issues for 2010: Green Jobs & Renewable Energy; Civil Liberties; Local Politics Reform





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JENNIFER GREGERSON**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**MUKILTEO, WASHINGTON**

Council Member Jennifer Gregerson has served on the Mukilteo City Council since 2004, including two years as mayor pro tem. Council Member Gregerson is a national leader on issues of municipal information technology and communications issues, through her service as a Steering Committee member for the National League of Cities. She earned a bachelor's degree in French from New York University. She expects to graduate from the University of Washington in December with a master's in urban planning. She is an independent sales representative for Herff Jones Yearbooks and owns two small businesses in Mukilteo related to that work.

Top Issues for 2010: Sustainability



## **ABEL GUILLÉN**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**PERALTA, CALIFORNIA**

Trustee Abel Guillén is vice president of Caldwell Flores Winters Inc., where he has advised on the issuance of \$2 billion in general obligation bonds for schools and colleges throughout California. He has also been a research associate for the United States Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, was in the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs, and a Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellow. The first in his family to attend college, he has a master's of public policy and management from the Goldman School of Public Policy at UC Berkeley and a B.A. in sociology, also from UC Berkeley.

Top Issues for 2010: Immigration Reform; Education Reform



## **DAYVIN MARTIN ANTHONY HALLMON**

**COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR**

**KENOSHA, WISCONSIN**

County Board Supervisor Dayvin Martin Anthony Hallmon was first elected to office at 28, in the city of Kenosha, Wis. Supervisor Hallmon is pursuing a B.A. in sociology and a B.A. in humanities at the University of Wisconsin, Parkside. He is also extraordinarily fortunate to have a loving partner, Jeremy, whom is as equally committed to serving humanity as he is.

Top Issues for 2010: Constituent Stability; Jobs/Education/Creativity; Strengthen Community Networks



## **TYRON HARRIS**

**EDUCATION BOARD MEMBER**

**EAST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

Board Member Tyron Harris was elected to the East Hartford, Conn. Board of Education in November of 2010. He is a graduate of Berkeley College with a bachelor of business administration with a concentration in human resources, and is currently employed by Target Corporation as an executive team leader in human resources. Board Member Harris is extremely proud of helping to lead a first of its kind initiative to bring a fine and performing arts and world languages theme focused school to East Hartford, Conn. in the fall of 2010.



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **DAN HARTMAN**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**DULUTH, MINNESOTA**

At-large Duluth City Councilor Dan Hartman also works as the program director for Veterans' Memorial Hall and is very active in local veterans' issues. Prior to being elected Councilmember, he served as board president for Duluth's Neighborhood Housing Services. Hartman has two degrees from UMD— a Bachelor's Degree in history and a Master's Degree in advocacy and political leadership. Hartman, who may be the first snowboarder on the council, lives with his wife, Elizabeth, in Duluth's East Hillside neighborhood.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development



## **STEPHANIE HAUSNER**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**CLARKSTOWN, NEW YORK**

Council Member Hausner is a newly elected Council Member in Clarkstown, N.Y. She is a member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Legacy Committee, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee Youth Leadership, and the National Jewish Democratic Council Young Leadership. Councilwoman Hausner is also a featured blogger on the NJDC blog. She graduated from Johns Hopkins University where she majored in international relations.



## **MATT HEINZ**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**TUCSON, ARIZONA**

State Representative Matt Heinz was elected to office in 2009. Representative Heinz graduated from Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit and moved to Tucson after accepting a position in the University of Arizona Internal Medicine Residency Program. He currently practices at Tucson Medical Center. He previously studied at Albion College, where he graduated summa cum laude with a B.A. in chemistry and with Spanish language proficiency. Representative Heinz is the former executive board member of Rebuilding Together Tucson, and is currently the executive committee member of Healthy Arizona Initiative.

Top Issues for 2010: Long-term Fiscal Stability and Discipline; Job Creation; Economic Growth; Revenue Structure Reform; Increase State Support for Public Education; Infrastructure



## **ALYSSA HERNANDEZ**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

At age 18, Board Member Alyssa Hernandez became the youngest member of a School Board in the Chicago area. She serves on a seven-person high school board in Olympia Fields, Ill. Board Member Hernandez was honored this past summer to have received an intern position at the state treasurer's office, where her project was to take the Cash Dash program to the community. Hernandez currently attends DePaul University where she is a dean's list recipient.

Top Issues for 2010: Helping People





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **RYAN HERSHA**

**CITY COMMISSIONER**

**BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN**

Ryan Hersha was first elected in 2003 to the Battle Creek City Commission. City Commissioner Hersha has fought for broadly shared economic opportunity, social and racial equity, environmental responsibility, and ethics reform. The Cincinnati Enquirer's Washington Bureau has mentioned Hersha as one of "Eight to Watch" among young elected leaders nationwide. The National Journal has described Commissioner Hersha as one of the "stars to watch in the future."

Top Issues for 2010: Job Growth; Economic Development; Public Safety; Government Transparency & Accountability



## **LAMAR HEYSTEK**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**DAVIS, CALIFORNIA**

City Councilman Lamar Heystek became the youngest member of the Davis City Council since the Vietnam War, when he was elected in 2006. Outside of his elected office, Councilman Heystek is currently the coordinator of youth programs at the Yolo Family Resource Center, a non-profit agency in Woodland dedicated to connecting Yolo County residents to a variety of social services. He also manages the Woodland Coalition for Youth, a \$600,000 youth development project of the Sierra Health Foundation's REACH initiative. He earned both his B.A. and M.A. degrees in political science and linguistics from University of California, Davis.

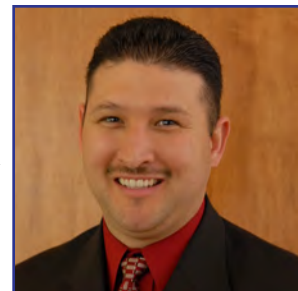


## **EDDIE HOLGUIN, JR.**

**CITY REPRESENTATIVE**

**EL PASO, TEXAS**

City Representative Eddie Holguin is very committed to his constituents as the city representative for Eastside/Mission Valley, and is currently serving his second term. After graduating from Ysleta High, Rep. Holguin attended El Paso Community College and opened two successful local businesses. He is married to Iliana Holguin, a local attorney. He is the proud father of two beautiful daughters, Abigail and Grace.



## **LINDSEY HOLMES**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA**

State Representative Lindsey Holmes has served in the Alaska House of Representatives since 2006. She holds a B.A. with honors from Middlebury College, an M.A. from Stanford, and a J.D. with honors from the University of Chicago Law School. In addition to her public service, she also works as an attorney in private practice, specializing in corporate, real estate, and energy law, and is a former law clerk to Alaska Supreme Court Justice Warren Matthews. Representative Holmes is a Henry Toll Fellow, an Aspen Institute Catto Fellow, and was a 2003 recipient of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce's "Alaska's Top Forty Under 40" award.

Top Issues for 2010: Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault; Access to Clean/Renewable Energy; Economic Development



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JERROD W. HOLTON**

**MAYOR**

**MIDWAY, FLORIDA**

Mayor Jerrod W. Holton, a lifelong resident of Gadsden County, is an emerging leader in both the community and government sectors. In 2007, Mayor Holton, at the age of 23, became the youngest person ever to be elected to the city council in Midway. After graduating from Tallahassee Community College in 2003, Holton earned a bachelor of science in information technology from Florida State University. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration. Holton became mayor of the City of Midway in May 2009. Holton is employed with FAMU Small Business Development Center as a business analyst.



## **HEATHER HUDSON**

**MAYOR**

**GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI**

Mayor Heather Hudson is the first African American mayor of Greenville, Miss. At 28 years-of-age, she is also the youngest person to ever serve in the position. She is one of the co-founders of Project Give Back, a nonprofit organization that helps seniors in the Greenville Public School System to complete college applications, financial aid forms, and scholarship forms. She is also the executive director of the McTeer Foundation, a nonprofit organization that serves over 25 Mississippi school districts and over 2,000 students. Mayor Hudson was named one of the 50 most influential African Americans in Mississippi.



## **SARA HUMM**

**CITY COMMISSIONER**

**OTTAWA, KANSAS**

Commissioner Sara Humm was elected to office in April 2007. In April 2009, she was appointed the position of mayor pro tem by her fellow commissioners, and still serves in that capacity. She is a lifelong resident of Ottawa, attending Ottawa schools from preschool to high school, and is now attending Ottawa University, majoring in communication with concentrations in journalism and public relations. Commissioner Humm was only 17 when she registered to run and barely 18 when she was elected, becoming the youngest in her state, possibly in the nation, to hold an elected office.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Infrastructure; Economic Development



## **SHANELLE JACKSON**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

State Representative Shanelle Jackson serves as the executive vice-chair of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus, vice-chair of the Detroit Caucus, and associate speaker pro tempore of the Michigan House of Representatives. She also serves on the House Appropriations Committee and several sub-committees. Jackson is the youngest woman of color ever elected to serve in either chamber of the Michigan legislature. Rep. Jackson has done work with Michigan Young Democrats, the NAACP, and Project Vote Smart. Rep. Jackson is a co-founder of the Empowerment Fund, an organization that works with young girls. Rep. Jackson earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan, and a master's degree in social justice from Marygrove College in Detroit.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Equity Funding





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JACK JACOBSON**

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER  
WASHINGTON, DC**

Commissioner Jack Jacobson serves as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner representing DuPont Circle in Washington, DC. He is currently serving his first full term, having been elected to serve the remainder of an unfinished term in a special election in 2008. Commissioner Jacobson is employed as a policy advisor focusing on energy and environmental issues at the law firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck. Commissioner Jacobson moved to Washington, DC, from Sioux Falls, S.D., where he grew up and then attended college, earning a bachelor's degree from Augustana College. Top Issues for 2010: Improving Municipal Services; Economic Development



## **MOHAMED S. JALLOH**

**FREEHOLDER  
ROSELLE, NEW JERSEY**

Freeholder Mohamed S. Jalloh is an attorney who lives in the Borough of Roselle. He earned a B.S. degree in rhetoric and communications with a minor in African American studies from Syracuse University. After Syracuse, he attended Rutgers University Law School in Newark and earned his J.D. degree. Jalloh continues his advocacy for education as an adjunct professor at Kean University, where he teaches negotiation, debate, citizenship, public speaking, and communications law.



## **CARA JENNINGS**

**CITY COMMISSIONER  
LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA**

Commissioner Cara Jennings is in her second term on the Lake Worth City Commission. Known in the local media as an "anarchist with a mandate," Commissioner Jennings is part of a radical grassroots effort that is successfully reclaiming local decision-making. Her focus while in office has been to create a sustainable city that prioritizes renewable energy, controlled growth, conservation, immigrant rights, employment assistance, youth recreation, campaign/ethics reform, increased resident involvement, and affordable housing.

Top Issues for 2010: Renewable Energy; Green Jobs; Foreclosure Reform; Low-Income Housing



## **LUCY JOHNSON**

**MAYOR  
KYLE, TEXAS**

Mayor Lucy Johnson began her service to Kyle, Texas as a city councilmember, and now leads the city as mayor. She holds a BFA from Parsons School of Design, and is currently working towards a master's degree in public administration.

Top Issues for 2010: Social Equity; Infrastructure; Tax Reform



## **CHRIS JONES**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
SAN MARCOS, TEXAS**

Councilman Chris Jones was elected to a second three-year term on the San Marcos City Council on 2008. In 2009, he was awarded the "Elected Public Official of the Year" by the Centex Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration. Councilman Jones has completed undergraduate studies in public administration at Texas State University and is working on his master's degree in public administration.

Top Issues for 2010: Expand Higher Education Opportunities; Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements; Transportation Development



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **CURTIS JONES, JR.**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA**

Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. has been a member of the Erie City Council since 2006, and served as council president in 2008. He is a 1998 graduate of Thiel College, where he received a B.A. degree in political science and a minor in theological studies. Councilman Jones is the proud husband of Mannon Phillips Jones, and they have 4 beautiful children.



## **TISHAURA O. JONES**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**

State Representative Tishaura O. Jones was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 2008. In addition to her legislative duties, Representative Jones is employed as director of public policy and senior human resources consultant at People's Health Centers. She has served as chair of the Public Policy Initiative of the Urban League Young Professionals of Metropolitan St. Louis, and as 8th Ward Democratic committeewoman. In 2004, she represented Missouri as an alternate delegate to the Democratic National Convention. Rep. Jones received a bachelor's degree in finance from Hampton University in 1994, and a master's degree in health administration from the St. Louis University School of Public Health in 2001.



## **ANDY KATZ**

**DISTRICT SUPERVISOR  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA**

Water District Supervisor Andy Katz was elected to the East Bay Municipal Utility District in 2006. His priorities at EBMUD include increasing water conservation and recycled water, protecting water quality, and increasing awareness and efforts to stop climate change. Supervisor Katz works as the government relations director for Breathe California, advocating for clean air and public health. He is active in environmental organizations, and is currently chair of Sierra Club California. Prior to his election, Supervisor Katz served for five years as a member of the city of Berkeley Zoning Adjustments Board. He has a B.A. degree and a master's in city planning from University of California, Berkeley, and a law degree from Santa Clara University.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget & Rates; Water Conservation; Green Jobs; Sustainability; Renewable Energy



## **SCOTT KAWASAKI**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA**

State Representative Scott Kawasaki is currently serving his second term in the Alaska State House. Elected first in 2006, Representative Kawasaki is the youngest member of the legislature. He currently serves as Interior Delegation chairman and is a member of the House Resources Committee, Fisheries Committee, and the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. He focuses on energy, environmental, and ethics policy for the House Democratic Caucus. Rep. Kawasaki works in hospital administration during the interim session. He received his B.S. in biomedicine from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Top Issues for 2010: Corporate Campaign Disclosures; Government Transparency; Results Based Budget; Constituent Services





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **TIM KELLER**

**STATE SENATOR**

**ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO**

Senator Tim Keller was elected to the New Mexico State Senate in 2008. He attended the University of Notre Dame, where he earned a bachelor's degree studying in public service, art history, and finance. He then went on to earn an MBA with honors from the Harvard Business School. Senator Keller has served on boards of a New Mexico Private Equity Fund, the Open Hands Foundation, the Asian American Association, and Albuquerque Southeast Team for Entrepreneur Development. Top Issues for 2010: Job Creation; Budget Reform; Good Government & Ethics Reform; Poverty Alleviation



## **KEVIN KILLER**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**PINE RIDGE, SOUTH DAKOTA**

State Representative Kevin Killer was elected in 2008. A stunning young leader born, raised, and educated in South Dakota, Representative Killer is also a graduate of YEO Network's Front Line Leaders Academy. He has also served as Student Senate president of Oglala Lakota College and Wakpamni District treasurer. Rep. Killer is a rising star in the national progressive movement. Top Issues for 2010: Job Creation; Clean Energy; Restorative Justice; Education Equity



## **JANE KIM**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

Jane Kim serves as the president of the Board of Education in the City and County of San Francisco, and is the first Korean American elected in San Francisco. Before being elected, she was the youth program director at the Chinatown Community Development Center, a fellow at Greenlining Institute, and co-director and co-founder of Locus Arts. Kim is the past president of the San Francisco People's Organization, and a past board member of the Asian American Theater Company and the Stanford Asian Pacific American Alumni Club. In addition, she has served on the Proposition H Community Advisory Committee, Women's Foundation Community Action Grant Committee, and the Full Circle Fund. She completed her B.A. at Stanford University in political science and Asian American studies and her J.D. at University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

Top Issues for 2010: School Assignment Redesign Budget Reduction; Policy Implementation; Institutionalize Ethnic Studies; Restorative Justice & Reforming Student Discipline



## **BRIAN KIMBIZ**

**VILLAGE TRUSTEE**

**NEW PALTZ, NEW YORK**

Trustee Brian Kimbiz moved to New Paltz, N.Y. in 2007 to attend the State University of New York at New Paltz. After a hard fought write-in campaign and a recount by the county board of elections, he was elected to the office of village trustee in 2009. In addition to his work for the Village, Trustee Kimbiz was most recently interning for a State Assemblyman in the 100<sup>th</sup> Assembly District of New York.

Top Issues for 2010: Property Taxes; Zoning Laws; Education Funding; Green Technology; Decriminalization of Marijuana; Infrastructure; Renewable Energy



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JESSICA KING**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN**

Council Member Jessica King was elected to the city council in April 2007. She is a native of Fond du Lac, Wis., and received her undergraduate degree from University of Wisconsin Oshkosh in 1998, with majors in international studies, history, and political science. She received her law degree in 2001, along with a certificate in global legal studies from Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Council Member King is the sole shareholder of Compass Law, S.C., specializing in consumer bankruptcy and debt settlements.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Storm Water Management



## **JERRY KONG**

**EDUCATION BOARD TRUSTEE**

**BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA**

Trustee Jerry Kong was elected to the Buena Park School District Board of Education, and is the youngest Korean American elected official in the nation. In addition, Trustee Kong serves on the Board of Directors of the Orange County School Boards Association, elected by his peers of school trustees countywide in May 2008. Kong is currently the principal in an independent public affairs consulting company. Graduating from the University of California, Davis in 2003, he earned a bachelor's degree in English.

Top Issues for 2010: Education; Sensible Long-term Redevelopment



## **PATRICK LANG**

**CITY LAW DIRECTOR**

**ATHENS, OHIO**

During his years at Ohio University, Director Pat Lang was elected to the Athens City Council, serving the city's Second Ward. He graduated from OU with a degree in political science in 1999 and attended law school at the University of Cincinnati. After law school, he came back to Athens, where he worked as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Athens County, prosecuting felony crimes and representing county government. He was elected Athens law director in 2007, winning all of the city's 23 precincts. Director Lang and his wife, Jenny, own a home on the city's South Side.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Alternative Energy



## **CHRISTOPHER LARSON**

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR**

**MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN**

Supervisor Chris Larson was elected 14th District county supervisor in 2008. A lifelong resident of Milwaukee County, Larson graduated from Thomas More High School in 1999, and went on to earn his bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, with a minor in political science. Supervisor Larson and his loving wife, Jessica, live near Humboldt Park.

Top Issues for 2010: Reducing Property Tax; Secure Tax Revenue for Parks & Transportation; Protecting Essential Services





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MATT LESSER**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT**

State Representative Matt Lesser is the youngest member of the Connecticut General Assembly. Prior to his service in the legislature, he served on the Middletown Planning and Zoning Commission, worked for the Democratic National Committee, and worked on state and national political campaigns. Representative Lesser has worked on behalf of Senators Chris Dodd and Barack Obama, and interned at the Brookings Institute Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy. In the Legislature, Rep. Lesser sits on the Public Health, Energy and Technology, and Education Committees. He has been a strong voice in support of Election Day voter registration, and is passionate about family farms, energy efficiency, and consumer credit reform.

Top Issues for 2010: Clean Energy Funding; Credit Checks for Employment; Utility Rate Reduction



## **MARKO LIAS**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON**

State Representative Marko Lias was appointed to a vacant seat in the Washington House of Representatives. Prior to his appointment, Rep. Lias served as a member of the Mukilteo City Council. He was born in Edmonds, Wash. and grew up in the Pacific Northwest, a proud graduate of Kamiak High School in Mukilteo and Georgetown University in Washington, DC. He previously worked as a small business owner and general contractor, and has also worked as a freelance reporter for the Mukilteo Beacon and as a researcher for KING-5 TV in Seattle.

Top Issues for 2010: Job Creation; Education; Transportation



## **KAREN LIOT HILL**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**LEBANON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

City Councilmember Karen Liot Hill was elected in 2005 as a city councilor in Lebanon, N.H. In addition to serving her community on the city council, she also sits on the boards of WISE, a non-profit serving victims of domestic and sexual violence, and Vital Communities, which seeks creative solutions to regional challenges. She is a member of the New Hampshire Democratic Party's State Committee and recently co-chaired the NHDP State Convention. Councilmember Liot Hill is the mother of two daughters, and she and her husband, Andy, are blessed to be raising their children in his childhood home in downtown Lebanon. She and her family are very active in their church, where Councilmember Liot Hill serves as the music leader.

Top Issues for 2010: Fiscal/Social/Government Sustainability; Improving Constituent Services



## **NEVADA LITTLEWOLF**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA**

Councilmember Nevada Littlewolf was elected to the Virginia City Council in 2008. A member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, she is the only Native American, the youngest person, and the only woman currently serving in her city. She is an artist, a children's advocate, and a political trainer who lives in Virginia, Minn. with her partner, Todd, and their two children, Mika and Kira.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic/Social/Environmental Sustainability



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **HENRY LO**

**EDUCATION BOARD MEMBER**

**ROSEMEAD, CALIFORNIA**

Board of Education Member Henry Lo is a member of the Garvey School District Board of Education. He is currently serving as the clerk of the board, and has previously held the leadership positions of president, vice president, and clerk. Board Member Lo has also served twice as the board's liaison to Garvey's Head Start Parent Policy Committee. He is a founding member of the Garvey Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization created to build community support for the school district's academic and extracurricular programs. He is a second-generation Californian and the son of immigrants. He obtained a B.A. degree in government and East Asian studies from Colby College.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Reform; Expanding Civil Liberties; Healthcare Reform; Sustainable Development; Strengthening the Middle-Class



## **RALPH LONG, III**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

State Representative Ralph Long, III has been serving in the Georgia State Assembly since 2009. He received his degree in interior design from the Art Institute of Atlanta. Ralph is a licensed real estate broker and the owner of Ralph Abbott Realty and Mindsweat Properties. Representative Long is married to Erica Morris Long.

Top Issues for 2010: Transportation; Pentachlorophenol; Car Tires; Public Safety



## **EVAN LOW**

**MAYOR**

**CAMPBELL, CALIFORNIA**

Mayor Evan Low currently serves as mayor for the City of Campbell, and is the first openly gay and first Asian American to hold the position. He also works as a senior district representative for Assemblymember Paul Fong. Low has served as president of the Silicon Valley LGBT Democratic Club and was appointed by Gov. Howard Dean to the DNC Convention Rules Committee in 2008. In recognition of his commitment and service to the community, San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom named June 5th, 2006 as Evan Low Day in the City and County of San Francisco. Vice-Mayor Low is a fifth-generation Californian and earned his B.A. in political science from San Jose State University.

Top Issues for 2010: Balanced Budget



## **BILL LUTON**

**EDUCATION BOARD MEMBER**

**ELIZABETH CITY, NORTH CAROLINA**

Board Member Bill Luton serves as the at-large member of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Board of Education. Elected in 2008 after a rigorous campaign against a long-time incumbent, he charted a course toward fulfilling the goals and values of his campaign. Board Member Luton graduated with a bachelor of science in business management and an MBA in management and strategy before returning to Elizabeth City with his wife, Britney, and his sons, Seth and Ben.

Top Issues for 2010: Electing Progressive Board Members; Getting a Non-Voting Coast Guard Representative on the Board; Healthy School Lunches; Transparency





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **CHRIS LYDDY**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
NEWTON, CONNECTICUT**

State Representative Chris Lyddy was first elected to the Connecticut General Assembly in 2008. In addition to his post in the Connecticut General Assembly, Representative Lyddy serves as the program director for the YES! (Youth Equipped for Success) program. In this capacity, Representative Lyddy is responsible for the supervision of all program staff, the implementation of evidence-based curricula, and serving as the program's point-person for the Court Support Services Division, juvenile and youth probation officers, and other community-based stakeholders. Representative Lyddy graduated with his bachelor's of science degree in social work from Salve Regina University, and went on to earn his master's degree in social work from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy and Practice.

Top Issues for 2010: Maximizing Federal Funding; Trauma Services for Children; Finding Ways to Keep Young People from Leaving Connecticut



## **TONY MADRIGAL**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA**

City Council Member Tony Madrigal is one of seven Santa Cruz City Council members, and the only person of color and renter on the council. Councilmember Madrigal led the creation of and chaired the city's Ad Hoc Revenue Task Force, spearheaded an effort to hold a community-wide Economic Prosperity Summit, and took the lead in holding a second summit focused on a Green/Clean Santa Cruz. Councilmember Madrigal is a former political director/field representative/organizer at SEIU Local 415 in Santa Cruz County. Currently employed as an organizer for the California United Homecare Workers Union, a joint SEIU/AFSCME union, where he organizes and represents over 3,800 in-homecare providers in Tulare, Kings, and San Benito Counties. He is a University of California, Santa Cruz graduate in economics.

Top Issues for 2010: Gang Prevention/Intervention; Economic Development; Healthcare



## **MICHAEL MAKARSKI**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEE  
SECAUCUS, NEW JERSEY**

Trustee Michael Makarski is the youngest elected Board of Education trustee in Secaucus, N.J. He was born and raised in Secaucus, and has been very active in his community from a young age. As a soccer coach in town, he uses this to help shape the lives of the youth of his community in a positive way. Trustee Makarski graduated from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with studies in political science and journalism.

Top Issues for 2010: Renewable & Sustainable Energy; Improved Fiscal Management



## **LEVON MANZIE**

**SCHOOL BOARD COMMISSIONER  
MOBILE, ALABAMA**

Levon Manzie was elected to the Mobile County School Board in 2008. A fourth generation minister, he is the assistant pastor of the Saint Joseph Missionary Baptist Church of Whistler, Ala. Commissioner Manzie attended the University of South Alabama where his educational concentrations were political science, history, and sociology. Commissioner Manzie has been recognized by the community for his efforts in the area of youth development with the "J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award."

Top Issues for 2010: Education Funding for Charter Schools



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

**MICHAEL MATURO**  
**TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**TAPPAN, NEW YORK**

After managing an honors program for computers and business at a Chinese university, Councilman Michael Maturo returned to pursue his passion for public service and successfully campaigned for the Town Council. Councilman Maturo became the youngest elected official in Orangetown's 300-year history. He is also the director of sales operations at the collaborative meetings company, UNISON LLC, serves on Microsoft's Board of the Future, and is a board member and the fundraising chair for the Epilepsy Society of Southern New York. He enjoys tennis, running, and live music.

Top Issues for 2010: Facilities Infrastructure; Environmental Awareness; Downtown Revitalization



**JOSH MAXWELL**  
**MAYOR**  
**DOWNINGTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

Mayor Josh Maxwell was elected as Downingtown's youngest-ever mayor at the age of 26. He is a graduate of West Chester University, with a B.A. in political science and a minor in international business. Mayor Maxwell got his start in Downingtown on the planning commission where he wrote the area's first Energy Efficient Resolution designed to encourage green building.

Top Issues for 2010: Commercial Development; New Library/Senior Center/Firehouse



**LEE MAY**  
**COUNTY COMMISSIONER**  
**DECATUR, GEORGIA**

County Commissioner Lee May was elected to serve on the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners in 2008. He currently serves as the deputy presiding officer, as well as the chairman of the Planning and Economic Development Committee, and a member on the Public Safety and General Safety Committee. May is the vice president of the National Association of Counties Community and Economic Development Steering Committee. He is a proud member and leader within the Association of County Commissioners, Georgia Democratic Party State Committee, Leadership Georgia, and Leadership DeKalb. He is also a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing from Clark Atlanta University, and a M.Div. from Emory University.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Job Creation



**AMANDA MCGILL**  
**STATE SENATOR**  
**LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

Senator Amanda McGill has served in the Nebraska Legislature for four years. She graduated from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln with degrees in broadcasting and political science. She was a television journalist in Sioux City, Iowa and Lincoln, Neb. before leaving news for politics. Senator McGill is currently the managing director of the YWCA of Lincoln.

Top Issues for 2010: Juvenile Justice; Job Creation; Education; Renewable Energy





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **ANNIE CARRIE MCWILLIAMS**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY**

Councilwoman At-Large Annie McWilliams has always been dedicated to public service and was first elected in 2008. Her goals include transparency, accountability, and fiscal responsibility. Councilwoman McWilliams earned a B.S. in economics from Wharton in 2006. She was recruited directly out of college and placed in Citi's business analyst training program, and credits her time at Citi with giving her a deeper understanding of business management. She completed the program in 2008, and is now a licensed real estate agent with Weichert Realtors in Warren, N.J. She hopes to one day own and manage a business. In her leisure time, she enjoys horseback riding and reading. Councilwoman McWilliams also loves to travel and hopes to one day explore every country in the world. Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Downtown Revitalization; Job Creation; Building a Commercial Tax Base



## **MARLON MCWILSON**

**EDUCATION BOARD MEMBER**

**OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**

Board Member Marlon McWilson is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, where he played football on an athletic scholarship. Currently, Board Member McWilson is a business owner in Oakland and the associate academic liaison for Cal Football. He is committed to community and education, which is why he is proud to serve the people of Alameda County. Top Issues for 2010: Addressing the Achievement & Opportunity Gap



## **HEATH MELLO**

**STATE SENATOR**

**LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

Senator Heath Mello was elected to the Nebraska Legislature on November 4, 2008. Prior to his election, Senator Mello served as a senior aide to US Senator Ben Nelson. As an aide to Senator Nelson, he worked to meet the needs of Nebraska's communities, businesses and nonprofit organizations. Senator Mello is a graduate from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln with a political science degree.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Job Creation; Government Efficiency & Transparency; Clean Energy; Climate Change



## **MONISHA MERCHANT**

**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO REGENT**

**LAKWOOD, COLORADO**

Monisha Merchant is a member of the Colorado University Board of Regents, and is also a director at the Broomfield, Colo. based Level 3 Communications. Previously, she worked as a consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington, DC, where she advised leaders at key federal grant-making institutions such as NASA, the Department of Homeland Security, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institute of Health. Her international experience includes work with a nongovernmental organization in Indonesia, where she managed post-tsunami reconstruction projects that delivered safe drinking water to schools and homes. She earned her MBA from Yale School of Management and her bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and political science at MIT.

Top Issues for 2010: State Budget Impact on Higher Education; Increasing Minority Representation in the Fields of Science and Engineering



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **ALISHA THOMAS MORGAN**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**AUSTELL, GEORGIA**

In 2002, State Representative Alisha Thomas Morgan became the first African American to serve Cobb County in the Georgia House of Representatives. Now serving in her third term, she serves on the Children and Youth, Education, and Governmental Affairs Committees. Morgan continues to make her mark by working to protect voting rights, as well as fighting policies passed in the House of Representatives that hurt minorities, young people, the poor, and the elderly. Rep. Morgan is working to make major changes to the way young people are treated in the Georgia penal system. She has also become a national leader in Education Reform. Representative Morgan has been with PFAWF since 2005, and continues to work in the progressive movement. She is a graduate of Spelman College with a B.A. in sociology and drama.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Reform; Protecting the Most Vulnerable from Budget Cuts; Job Growth



## **EMMA MULVANEY-STANAK**

**CITY COUNCILOR**

**BURLINGTON, VERMONT**

Councilor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak was born in Marshfield and grew up in Barre City, Vt. She graduated from Smith College in 2002 with a B.A. in political science. While in school, she returned to Vermont every summer to pursue internships with organizations including: Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG), US Senator Patrick Leahy's Office, and Vermont American Civil Liberties Union. Currently, she is a labor organizer for the teacher and support staff union, the Vermont affiliate of the National Education Association (Vermont-NEA). Councilor Mulvaney-Stanak works with public school workers around the state on union membership, leadership development, and assists locals with contract bargaining issues.

Top Issues for 2010: Responsible Contractor Provisions for Public Building Rehabilitation Project; Affordable Housing; Code Enforcement; Non-US Citizen Voting Rights in Local Elections



## **JIMMIE MUNOZ, JR.**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

Board Member Jimmie Munoz serves on the Roosevelt Elementary School Governing Board, having been elected to a four-year term in November 2006. Board Member Munoz graduated from Arizona State University with a B.A. in religious studies. Even while studying at ASU, Jimmie stayed involved with his neighborhood. He established a consistent record of service starting with the Martin Luther King Week of Service at low-income schools in his neighborhood, to helping organize student activities at ASU.

Top Issues for 2010: Green Job Creation; Improving Education



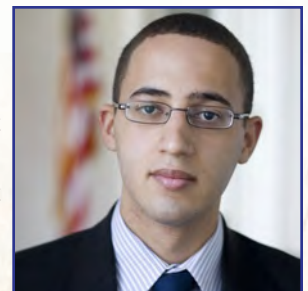
## **SVANTE MYRICK**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**ITHACA, NEW YORK**

Councilman Svante Myrick represents the Fourth Ward – the City of Ithaca's East Hill. The most diverse and densely populated ward in the city, it's residents reside in the Collegetown commercial district, Cornell's West Campus residences, and the beautiful and historic neighborhoods of East Hill. Councilman Myrick has a sincere passion for public service. He credits his upbringing in the church for teaching him to love his neighbor, his roots in a small upstate NY town for teaching him the importance of community, and his experience with poverty and homelessness as a child for teaching him the importance of compassion.

Top Issues for 2010: Consolidate Services





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **BEN NESSELHUF**

**STATE SENATOR**

**VERMILLION, SOUTH DAKOTA**

Senator Ben Nesselhuf is serving his third term in the South Dakota State Senate, representing Clay and Turner counties. He has been in the Legislature since 2000, serving two terms in the House of Representatives before moving to the Senate. Senator Nesselhuf serves in leadership as the Democrat Caucus chairman. He graduated from Vermillion High School and has a bachelor's of science from the University of South Dakota.



## **STEVE NGO**

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD MEMBER**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

Board Member Steve Ngo was elected citywide to the San Francisco Community College Board in November 2008. Ngo was born in Lexington, Ky. and received his B.A. from University of California, Los Angeles. Board Member Ngo later received his master of public policy from Georgetown University and a law degree from University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco.



## **JEREMY NORDQUIST**

**STATE SENATOR**

**OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

Senator Jeremy Nordquist was elected to represent District 7 in the Nebraska Legislature on November 4, 2008. He is the youngest senator of the 101st Unicameral Legislature. Prior to his election, he served as a legislative aide and research analyst for his predecessor, State Senator John Synowiecki. Senator Nordquist and his wife, Shannon, live in Omaha's Little Italy neighborhood. He serves on the Board of Directors for One World Community Health Center in South Omaha. Senator Nordquist graduated with honors from Creighton University and is completing a master's degree in public administration, with a concentration in health care, at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Top Issues for 2010: LB 1106 – School Based Health Centers



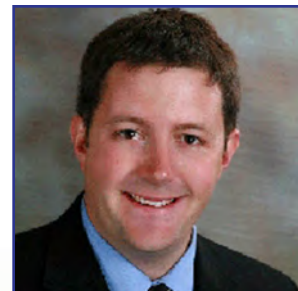
## **SAL PACE**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**PUEBLO, COLORADO**

State Representative Sal Pace was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 2008. He attended Fort Lewis College, majoring in political science. He then attended Louisiana State University, earning a master's degree in American political theory. Pace is married; he and his wife, Marlene Valdez Pace, live in Pueblo, Colo. with their sons, Wyatt and Carlo.

Top Issues for 2010: Job Growth; Healthcare; Education; Water Policy



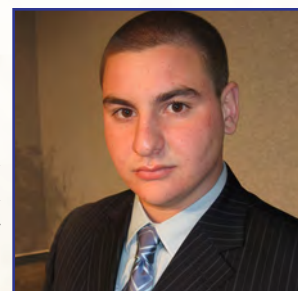
## **JOSEPH PACHECO**

**SELECTMAN OF RAYNHAM**

**RAYNHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

Selectman Joseph Pacheco's career in public service began at age 19 when he was appointed as commissioner of economic and business development. In 2007, he became the youngest selectman in Raynham history. He is currently working on obtaining his master's in public administration from Roger Williams University in Providence. Selectman Pacheco is a 2007 graduate of Bridgewater State College with a bachelor's of science (magna cum laude).

Top Issues for 2010: Public Safety; Education Funding; Taxes



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **ROY PAUL**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER  
MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK**

In 2006, at age 19, Board Member Roy Paul proved his naysayers wrong as he was elected to the school board in Middletown, N.Y., making him the youngest African American ever elected to a school board in the state. Since being elected to the school board, Paul has served on the board of directors for several organizations and is the founding member of the Middletown chapter of the NAACP. In doing so, Board Member Paul became the youngest person to resurrect a chapter of the national organization.

Top Issues for 2010: Education



## **TONY PAYTON, JR.**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

State Representative Tony Payton, Jr. was first sworn into office in 2007. Prior to his election to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Rep. Payton worked as a housing counselor at United Communities in South Philadelphia, where he educated low-income families on personal finance to help them achieve home ownership. Since his election, Rep. Payton has been at the forefront of intelligent reform in Pennsylvania.

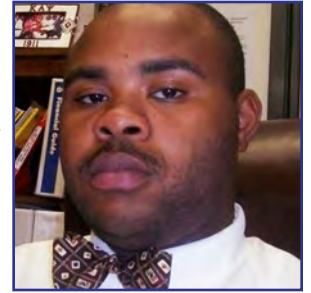
Top Issues for 2010: REACH Scholarship; Green Jobs; Ballot Access; STEM Teachers Bill



## **MICHAEL T. PEMBLETON JR.**

**MAYOR  
SUNFLOWER, MISSISSIPPI**

Mayor Michael T. Pembleton Jr., is a true son of the Mississippi Delta. Born and raised in Sunflower, Miss., he was elected mayor in June 2009. He serves as the first male African-American elected mayor in the Town of Sunflower, the youngest mayor to serve in this position, and the youngest elected in the state of Mississippi. Mayor Pembleton is an 2005 Honor Graduate from Ruleville Central High School, and he attended Mississippi State University where he studied political science, and Baylor College in Waco, Texas.



## **QUENTIN PHIPPS**

**PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSIONER  
MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT**

Commissioner Quentin "Què" Phipps serves Middletown as a commissioner and chair for the Board of Planning & Zoning. After graduating from the Middletown Public School system, he attended Bryant University of Smithfield, R.I. Shortly after his graduation from Bryant, Phipps continued working in the banking sector. In less than two years, he earned a banking center manager position, where he has worked in numerous cities and towns in the greater Hartford area. In 2007, he filled a vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Commission. In November 2009, he lost his first election for a full seat by a narrow margin. However, in January 2010, Commissioner Phipps was appointed for a full seat on the commission and was soon unanimously elected chair.

Top Issues for 2010: Urban Renewal; Open Space Conservation





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **SAMUEL M. PIERRE**

**COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER**

**BROOKLYN, NEW YORK**

Samuel Pierre is committeeman for Kings County, Brooklyn, N.Y. He also works as the Brooklyn South director for U.S. Representative Edolphus “ED” Towns. Pierre has served as chairman of the Research and Development Committee for Student Government at St. John’s University, and as the vice president of membership for the Thomas Jefferson Young Democratic Club. He is also a member of Community Board 18, chair of the Government Committee for the African American Real Estate Professionals of New York, and a key member for the Advisory Board to Brookdale Hospital. He is also a defensive lineman for the Brothers United Football Team, a brother to eight, a godfather to four, and a mentor to three.

Top Issues for 2010: Education; Housing; Healthcare



## **SAM PRADO**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**WILMINGTON, DELAWARE**

At the age of 32, Councilman Sam Prado holds the distinction of being the youngest member of city council and is the only Hispanic Democrat elected in the State of Delaware. Prior to his election as city councilman, he was appointed in 2001 by Mayor James M. Baker as a constituent services officer. Over the years, he has been responsive to the needs of citizens and has addressed hundreds of varied community concerns. Councilman Prado is a 1999 graduate of the University of Delaware and received a B.A. degree in political science.

Top Issues for 2010: Crime & Public Safety; Housing; Infrastructure



## **REV. DR. SIMEON L. QUEEN**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS**

Rev. Dr. Simeon L. Queen was elected in 2006 to the city council in Prairie View, Texas, and has also served as the past mayor pro tem. Dr. Queen is the author of the book, “Christians We Be Clubbin.” He received a bachelor’s of science in criminal justice, with a specialization in juvenile justice systems, a master’s of arts in counseling, and a master’s of community development with certifications in community planning and fundraising from Prairie View A&M University. In June of 2006, Rev. Queen received his doctorate of missionology from The Lord’s Outreach School of Theology in Lake Charles.

Top Issues for 2010: Poverty & Homelessness; Economic Development; Healthcare



## **RACHEL QUINTANA**

**CITY REPRESENTATIVE**

**EL PASO, TEXAS**

City Representative Rachel Quintana is currently halfway through her first term as councilwoman in the City of El Paso. She attended El Paso Community College, where she was recognized for her grades being placed on the dean’s List. She then transferred to the University of Texas at El Paso, graduating with a B.A. in public relations and organizational communication with a minor in criminal justice. Representative Quintana is a single mother of a 7-year-old daughter, who is attending the same elementary school her mother did.

Top Issues for 2010: Public Safety; Quality of Life



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **WOLE RALPH**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER**  
**JONESBORO, GEORGIA**

Commissioner Wole Ralph is a member of the Clayton County Board of Commissioners, and the youngest African American county commissioner in Georgia. Outside of his elected office, he serves as the Georgia director of ACCION-USA, a small business lender with a loan fund exceeding \$15 million. He is a graduate of Regional Leadership Institute, Leadership Atlanta, and Leadership Clayton. Commissioner Wole graduated summa cum laude from Morris Brown College, where he served as president of the Student Government Association and as a member of the Board of Trustees. He is also, the founder of Ralph Consulting Services, a Georgia based firm that provides fundraising, project management, and fiscal expertise.



## **KESHA RAM**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
**BURLINGTON, VERMONT**

State Representative Kesha Ram is in her first term in the Vermont Legislature. She is the clerk of the House General, Housing, and Military Affairs Committees. She graduated from the University of Vermont in 2008 with a B.S. in natural resource planning (cum laude) and a B.A. in political science (magna cum laude). She also completed a public law program at American University in 2006. Prior to entering the legislature, she served as the 2007-2008 University of Vermont Student Government Association president, led the Policy Team for the Burlington Climate Action Plan, and taught preschool at Burlington Children's Space. Representative Ram is a United States Department of Agriculture Multicultural Scholar, Morris K. Udall Scholar, Ronald E. McNair Scholar, and Harry S. Truman Scholar.

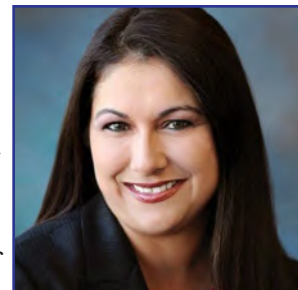


Top Issues for 2010: Green & High-Tech Jobs; Economic Development; Affordable Higher Education; Affordable Housing; State Recognition for Abenaki Tribe

## **KATHRYN RAMIREZ**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**  
**SALINAS, CALIFORNIA**

Board Member Kathryn Ramirez began her career in education as a teacher at a local college in Salinas, where she first realized the need to improve public schools for students. In November 2003, Board Member Ramirez began her public service career as a trustee for the Salinas Union High School District. She is also the regional media coordinator/retail program specialist for the Network for a Healthy California of the Central Coast, and is currently pursuing a master's of public administration at Golden Gate University.



Top Issues for 2010: Implement Joint Use Agreements; Budget; Public Health & Safety

## **ANDRÉS RAMOS**

**SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE**  
**LYNWOOD, CALIFORNIA**

Trustee Andrés Ramos recently graduated from the University of Southern California with a bachelor's of arts in communication. In November 2007, he was elected to the Compton Community College District Board of Trustees as District 3 board member, representing the city of Lynwood. On the board, Trustee Ramos advocates for more funding for courses that help students transfer to four-year universities. He plans on pursuing a master's in communication at California State University, Long Beach.



Top Issues for 2010: Sustain & Increase the Number of Full Time Equivalent Students; Improve the Image of Compton Community College District; Target Low Transfer Rates; Budget



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **CRAIG RICE**

**STATE DELEGATE**

**GERMANTOWN, MARYLAND**

Delegate Craig Rice was first elected to office in 2006. He defeated a 12-year incumbent to become the first African-American to represent his district. He received his B.S. from the University of Maryland.

Top Issues for 2010: Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Fund; Anti-Bullying Policy



## **PAUL ROALES**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

As an associate with Pearl Street Venture Funds, Councilman Paul Roales' work involves funding and developing the startup businesses often critical to new job creation. A graduate of Purdue University, he is currently a candidate for state representative in Indiana. While on the city council, Councilman Roales helped improve campus-community relations, while moving forward legislation on rental property regulation and campus area parking oversight.

Top Issues for 2010: Education; Job Growth



## **MICHAEL ROSS**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

Councilman Mike Ross is proud to represent District 8 on the Boston City Council since his election in 1999. He is a first-generation American. His father, Stephan Ross, survived 10 concentration camps during the Holocaust, and was rescued by American soldiers at Dachau. Councilman Ross holds a bachelor's degree from Clark University in Worcester, an MBA from Boston University, and a law degree from Suffolk University. Councilman Ross currently lives in Mission Hill.

Top Issues for 2010: Education Reform



## **JASON ROTHMAN**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER**

**POMONA, CALIFORNIA**

Board Member Jason Rothman has served on the Pomona Unified School District Board since 2009. Rothman previously served as a Pomona planning commissioner. He graduated from the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona with a B.S. in biotechnology.

Top Issues for 2010: Fairness in Citizen Participation in Government; Transparency



## **BRIAN ROWLAND**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS**

City Councilman Brian Rowland was elected to the office of city councilman for the City of Prairie View at the age of 30. He holds a B.S. in business administration with a specialization in marketing from Tarleton State University. He graduated with a master's of community and economic development (MCD) with certifications in community planning and fundraising from Prairie View A&M University. Presently, Councilman Rowland is a candidate for a master's of business administration (MBA). This summer he received a Young Champions of Justice Award from The Lawyers Committee on Civil Rights at the National Bar Association Conference held in Houston, Texas.

Top Issues for 2010: Census & Redistricting; Economic Development



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **KELDA HELEN ROYS**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**MADISON, WISCONSIN**

State Representative Kelda Helen Roys was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 2008, and is the youngest legislator in Wisconsin. Prior to becoming a legislator, Representative Roys served for four years as executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin, the political leader of the reproductive rights movement. An attorney, Rep. Roys received her J.D. magna cum laude from the University of Wisconsin Law School, focusing on civil rights and international law. Representative Roys received her B.A. magna cum laude from New York University in politics, drama, and cultural studies. She lives in Madison's north side, with her partner, Dan Reed.

Top Issues for 2010: Taxation; Healthcare



## **KEVIN SAWNICK**

**MAYOR**

**VERO BEACH, FLORIDA**

Mayor Kevin Sawnick is the youngest mayor in the history of Vero Beach. He graduated from Central Michigan University where he majored in sociology. He then went to graduate school at Ferris State University and received a master's in criminal justice administration. Mayor Sawnick has worked as a GED teacher for the Florida Department of Corrections.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Green Issues



## **DAVID SCHAPIRA**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

State Representative David Schapira is an Arizona native who serves Arizona's District 17, Tempe and South Scottsdale, in the Arizona Legislature. He is also a member of the political science faculty at Arizona State University. Representative Schapira attended Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University before receiving his bachelor's degree in political science from The George Washington University.



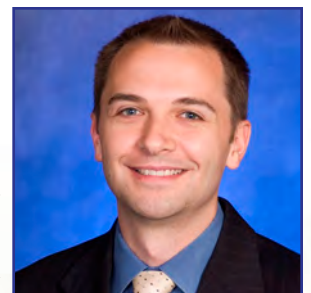
## **CARL SCIORTINO**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

State Representative Carl Sciortino is a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He is vice chairman of the Joint Committee on Transportation, and serves on the House Committee on Ways & Means and the Joint Committee on Health Care Finance. Sciortino is one of the few out GLBT members of the legislature, and took a leadership role in defeating the anti-marriage constitutional amendment, as well as filing transgender civil rights legislation for the first time in Massachusetts' history. Prior to the legislature, he worked in the public health field, working on HIV/AIDS clinical research. Rep. Sciortino graduated with a degree in biology from Tufts University and is vice chair of the Medford Democratic City Committee and a member of the Progressive Democrats of Somerville.

Top Issues for 2010: Transgender Civil Rights Bill





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **KHAATIM SHERRER EL**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

School Board Member Khaatim Sherrer El was first elected to the Atlanta Board of Education in 2003, becoming the youngest member to serve in the city's history. He is active in his Mozley Park neighborhood and is the Education Committee chair for NPU-K. He also stays involved in his former neighborhood, the Historic West End. Board Member Sherrer El currently serves on the Board of Directors for Helping Teens Succeed, Project GRAD Atlanta, and the Fulton County Board of Health. Board Member Sherrer El is a proud graduate of Morehouse College, where he earned a degree in urban studies and public policy.



## **NATHAN SHINAGAWA**

**COUNTY LEGISLATOR**

**ITHACA, NEW YORK**

County Legislator Nathan Ikkyu Hanil Shinigawa became the youngest county legislator in the history of Tompkins County, N.Y. when he was elected in 2005. He currently serves as the chair of the Public Safety Committee where he is a leader promoting the success of alternative to incarceration programs. Legislator Shinagawa is a graduate of Cornell University.

Top Issues for 2010: Healthcare Reform; Bolstering County Industrial Development Agency; Program Review & Evaluation Programs; Preservation & Accountability of Alternatives to Incarceration Programs



## **ERRICK SIMMONS**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI**

Councilman Errick D. Simmons is Greenville's youngest city councilman. He was elected on December 10, 2007 and began his public life on January 2, 2008. Councilman Simmons is the co-founder and partner of Simmons & Simmons, PLLC Attorneys-at-Law. Governor Haley Barbour recently appointed him to the Children's Justice Act (CJA) Task Force.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Education; Juvenile Justice Reform; Voter ID; Abortion; Healthcare Reform



## **KYRSTEN SINEMA**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

State Representative Kyrsten Sinema serves as the assistant leader to the Democratic Caucus in the Arizona House of Representatives. Now in her third term, she is the ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations and House Judiciary Committees. She holds both a law degree and a master's degree in social work from Arizona State University, and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. She is an adjunct professor in the School of Social Work at ASU, and practices law when not in session. In 2006, Rep. Sinema chaired Arizona Together, which successfully defended a same-sex marriage ballot initiative. In 2008, she chaired Protect Arizona's Freedom, which defeated an effort to eliminate equal opportunity programs. Rep. Sinema's first book, "Unite and Conquer: How to Build Coalitions that Win and Last," was released in July 2009.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Veterans Issues; Immigration Reform & Trafficking



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JOSE SOLACHE**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**LYNWOOD, CALIFORNIA**

School Board Member Jose Luis Solache made history as the youngest Latino school board member in the history of Lynwood. He serves as the current president for the School Board representing more than 18,000 students, 850 teachers, and many service employees. He worked diligently with his colleagues on the School Board, with the Lynwood Teachers Association, Service Employees International Union, and the California School Employees Association to raise salary levels and offer a fair benefit package for all district employees. He is currently completing his teaching credentials and serves as the HIV/AIDS program coordinator at the Oldtimers Foundation.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget



## **KAITLIN SOPOCI-BELKNAP**

**DISTRICT BOARD PRESIDENT**

**EUREKA, CALIFORNIA**

Water Board President Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap was elected to the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Board in 2004. She is the first woman and youngest person to serve on the District Board. She is the director of a local organization dedicated to growing democracy at the grassroots level and protecting local control over resources. She attended Hampshire College in rural Massachusetts for three years where she studied education and community. After moving to Eureka, she graduated from New College of California in Santa Rosa.

Top Issues for 2010: Corporate Power & Local Democracy



## **RICHARD ST. PAUL**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**ROCHELLE, NEW YORK**

Councilman Richard St. Paul was elected to the New Rochelle City Council in 2007, and currently serves as deputy mayor. He has worked in the White House under the Clinton Administration, on Capitol Hill in the Office of Congressman Chaka Fattah, and in the Office of Governor of Pennsylvania, Tom Ridge. Currently, he is a licensed attorney in the State of New York and the District of Columbia. Councilman St. Paul is also an adjunct professor at Monroe College in New Rochelle. In addition, he has served his country for several years as part of the United States Army Reserve, Judge Advocate General (JAG), and Legal Service Organization.

Top Issues for 2010: Industrial Development Agency Reform; Term Limits; Expanding Senior & Youth Programs



## **SAMANTHA STEELE-COLES**

**COUNTY ASSESSOR**

**WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

County Assessor Samantha Steele-Coles was elected to serve the people of Tippecanoe County as county assessor in 2006. In 2010, she became one of the first certified level III assessor/appraisers, the highest certification in the state. As county assessor, she has adopted assessment standards promoted by the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO), receiving advanced training in fundamentals of real property appraisals and mass appraisal, advanced income approach to valuation, assessment administration, tax policy, foreclosures and their impact on the reassessment process, commercial property in a declining market, and land valuation. County Assessor Steele-Coles is married to Zach Coles and is the proud mother of Aiden and Eleanor.

Top Issues for 2010: Government Transparency





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **SARA STEVENS**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**BANGOR, MAINE**

State Representative Sara Stevens has been serving in the Maine House of Representatives since 2008. She received a B.A. in communications from the University of Maine Orono, and then her M.S. in human development. Representative Stevens currently works as a district representative for Congressman Michael Michaud's office.



## **RASHAD TAYLOR**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

State Representative Rashad Taylor is currently the youngest serving member of the Georgia General Assembly. Rep. Taylor has had a successful career as a political consultant. Most recently, he served as deputy campaign manager for Kasim Reed's successful mayoral campaign and served on Mayor Reed's transition team. In May 2007, Campaigns and Elections Magazine named Rep. Taylor one of the ten "Rising Stars" in national politics. Rep. Taylor is originally from Washington, D.C. and attended Morehouse College. He lives in the Washington Park community in Atlanta and is a member of Destiny World Church in Austell, Ga.



Top Issues for 2010: Public Transportation Funding; Raising the Drop-Out Age

## **EZRA J. TEMKO**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**NEWARK, DELAWARE**

City Councilman Ezra J. Temko has served as city councilman since his election in 2008. He is the youngest elected official in the state of Delaware and the youngest to have served on Newark's city council. Councilman Temko went through the People For the American Way Foundation's Front Lines Leaders Academy, which helped him gain the basic tools and skills needed to run a campaign. He is excited to now be part of the Young Elected Officials Network that helped train him. He received his B.A. from Oberlin College and his M.P.A. from the University of Delaware.



Top Issues for 2010: Community Services and Vitality; Environmental Sustainability; Good Governance

## **JEFF THIGPEN**

**REGISTER OF DEEDS**

**GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

Register of Deeds Jeff Thigpen is serving in his second four-year term in Guilford County, NC. He was the youngest member ever elected to Guilford County Board of Commissioners at age 27, and served in that capacity for six years before his election as register in 2004. Register Thigpen has B.A. and B.S. degrees in political science and justice and policy studies from Guilford College along with a master's degree in public affairs from University of North Carolina, Greensboro. He also obtained local government certification from the UNC Institute of Government. Register Thigpen is currently interviewing elected officials 18-40 for his first book "Generation NOW-Young Elected Leaders in a New Era of American Politics."



Top Issues for 2010: Mortgage Fraud; Effective & Efficient Government; Writing his Book

# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **LAKEISHA G. THOMAS**

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONER  
WASHINGTON, DC**

Commissioner LaKeisha Thomas is serving in her first term as advisory neighborhood commissioner for the vicinity in which she was raised. A graduate of Trinity Washington University with a bachelor's of arts in psychology, and the University of Cincinnati with a master's of science in criminal justice, Commissioner Thomas has been involved in her community since early childhood.

Top Issues for 2010: Affordable Housing; Youth Opportunities



## **RASHIDA TLAIB**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

State Representative Rashida Tlaib is serving her first term as state representative. She was raised in Southwest Detroit, the eldest of 14 children, and a child of immigrants who taught her the importance of hard work, honesty, and commitment to community. She is the first in her family to earn a college degree. In 1998, she received her B.A. in political science from Wayne State University and her law degree from Thomas Cooley Law School in January of 2004. Representative Tlaib has received numerous awards and recognition for leadership and dedication to community service. Most recently, she was recognized as one of Crain's Detroit Business "Women to Watch."



## **ANNA MARIE TOVAR**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
TOLLESON, ARIZONA**

State Representative Anna Marie Tovar has been serving in the Arizona House of Representatives since February 2009. Previously, Representative Tovar served as councilmember to the City of Tolleson from 2001-2009, and was appointed vice mayor in 2007. She serves as a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Association of Latino Elected Officials. Rep. Tovar attended Arizona State University where she received a B.A. in elementary education with emphasis in ESL. In addition to her service as a state representative, she is also a teacher at Tolleson Elementary School. Rep. Tovar is married and the proud mother of two sons.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Education Funding; Job Growth; Home Foreclosures; Immigration Reform; Healthcare Reform



## **IGOR TREGUB**

**RENT BOARD COMMISSIONER  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA**

Elected in November 2008 as the second-highest vote-getter in a field of seven, Commissioner Igor Tregub is serving as a Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board Commissioner. He is finalizing plans to deploy a mentorship and civic engagement program for at risk-youth in middle school in the coming year. Professionally, Mr. Tregub works as an engineer with the Department of Energy and is completing the final month of the Future Leaders Program, a two-year professional development opportunity. Mr. Tregub graduated from UC Berkeley in 2008 with Bachelors' degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Political Science and is currently pursuing graduate coursework at Stanford University towards a Masters in Management Science and Engineering with an emphasis on International Security.

Top Issues for 2010: Revising Habitability Ordinance; Seismic Retrofitting; Sustainability Initiatives for Multi-Unit Apartment Buildings





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **KACIE STARR TRIPLETT**

**CITY ALDERWOMAN**

**ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**

Elected at age 26 to the St. Louis Board of Aldermen in 2007, Triplett's work and dedication has attracted national attention. She's been featured in ALIVE Magazine's as one of St. Louis' local residents with the most "buzz" and in Ebony Magazine as a Young Leader Under 30. Triplett has also represented the United States during a bi-partisan delegation to East Asia where she studied the government and history of Vietnam. In 2008, the Riverfront Times named Triplett the Best Local Politician in the region. Prior to her election, she served as the District Affairs Coordinator for Congressman Russ Carnahan and as the Community Outreach Coordinator for former Minority Leader, Dick Gephardt, in Washington, D.C. and in St. Louis. Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development, Affordable Housing, Crime and Public Safety



## **HUGO TZEC**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER**

**BALDWIN PARK, CALIFORNIA**

Hugo Tzec is a proud member of the Baldwin Park Board of Education. He graduated with a history major and English literature minor from Georgetown University. He then got his law degree from the University of San Francisco School of Law. Board Member Tzec also serves his community as a labor lawyer.

Top Issues for 2010: Increase High School Graduation Rates; Increase College Attendance



## **RAYLAND VAN BLAKE**

**COUNTY FREEHOLDER**

**PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY**

Freeholder Rayland Van Blake was elected to the city council in Plainfield in 2002, winning office by defeating a 16-year incumbent by more than a 2-1 margin. He is now serving as the city council president. He is a graduate of Lehigh University, where he earned a B.S. degree in finance. Freeholder Van Blake currently lives in Plainfield.



## **KENDALL VAN DYK**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**BILLINGS, MONTANA**

State Representative Kendall Van Dyk was chosen by his colleagues in the House of Representatives to chair the Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Committee—the youngest legislator ever to do so. In the last legislative session, he was the House floor sponsor of Brandon's Bill, a new law requiring insurance companies to cover proven treatments for childhood autism. Representative Van Dyk is leaving his House seat and is running for the State Senate.

Top Issues for 2010: Banking Reform; Repeal Oil & Gas Tax Holiday to Fund Education



## **JEREMY A. VANMETER**

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER**

**SUGAR GROVE, OHIO**

Jeremy A. VanMeter currently serves as governing board member of the Fairfield County Educational Service Center. He ran unopposed in 2009 for a four-year term on the governing board. Prior to his service at the county level, he ran successfully in 2007 for a seat on the Berne Union Local Board of Education. Board Member VanMeter will be completing a B.A. in political science from Muskingum University this fall.

Top Issues for 2010: Government Accountability; Improved Communication; Economic Innovation & Progress



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JENNA VENDIL**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEEWOMAN  
PORTLAND, MAINE**

Committeewoman Vendil of the Portland School Committee was raised primarily by a single mother and her great-aunt, and also found positive role models and mentors in her teachers who encouraged her to work hard and set high goals. Moved by their support at a young age, Vendil was able to overcome the challenges of poverty and periodic homelessness. She pursued college courses at Brown University while she was still in high school. In 2002, she received a scholarship that allowed her to come to Maine to study at Bates College. In 2008, she became the field director for the League of Young Voters. Top Issues for 2010: Education Equity; Literacy; Arts Funding; Expeditionary Learning



## **KEVIN WATERS**

**SOIL AND WATER COMMISSIONER  
PALM COAST, FLORIDA**

Kevin Waters is currently serving a two-year term as soil and water commissioner for Flagler County. Commissioner Waters is also the president of the Young Democrats of Flagler County. He began his political career as the NAACP political action chairmen for Flagler County, in which he continues to serve. Commissioner Waters is the founder and CEO of H2O Sports and Entertainment Inc., a special events company that focuses on fundraising activities for nonprofit groups. He is a graduate of Edward Waters College, a proud husband and father, and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.



## **VIRGIL WATKINS, JR.**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
MACON, GEORGIA**

Councilman Virgil Watkins Jr., 23, is a graduate of Georgia Southern University with a degree in political science. In November 2007, he was elected to represent the Fourth Ward on Macon City Council. Prior to being elected, Councilman Watkins worked for the SEIU as a political organizer, served as Democratic representative on the Bibb County Board of Elections, and mayoral appointee to Macon Transit Authority.

Top Issues for 2010: Community Revitalization; Economic Development; Job Growth



## **LEA WEBB**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER  
BINGHAMTON, NY**

City Council Representative Webb made history as the youngest and the first African-American woman to hold a political office in the City of Binghamton. She is a community organizer with Citizen Action of NY and, as an organizer, co-founded the Binghamton Neighborhood Assemblies Project with the Mayor of Binghamton. Its purpose is to civically engage residents by connecting them to local and external resources to address their concerns.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development, Green Jobs, and Youth Development



## **ADAM WELDAI**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER  
MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS**

Committee Member Adam Weldai has been serving on the Malden School Committee since January 2010. He attended Tufts University where he majored in American studies and education. Committee Member Weldai also works as a youth director at Temple Tifereth Israel. Top Issues for 2010: Education Reform; Merit Pay for Teachers; Anti-Bullying Policy





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **AIRICK LEONARD WEST**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER**

**KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**

Board Member Airick Leonard West currently serves as president of the School Board in Kansas City, Missouri. Additionally, he serves as the chair of the University of Missouri Extension, Jackson County, chair of the Blue Hills/Ivanhoe TIF Advisory Commission, vice chair of the Black Archives of Mid-America, vice chair of Simply Equine Assisted Therapy, and camp co-director for KC Harmony's weeklong "Anytown" Summer Program.

Top Issues for 2010: Transformation of Urban Education



## **JASON WIENER**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**MISSOULA, MONTANA**

Councilman Jason Wiener joined the city council of Missoula, Mont. in January 2008 for a four-year term. His previous work experience includes investment banking, teaching and journalism, as well as restaurant and customer service work. Councilman Wiener moved to Missoula in 2003 to study philosophy at the University of Montana, earning his M.A. in 2005. His undergraduate degree from Wabash College covered majors in both economics and philosophy.

Top Issues for 2010: Infrastructure Revenue; Transportation; Increase Diversity & Affordability of Home Ownership



## **ALAN B. WILLIAMS**

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

**TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**

State Representative Alan B. Williams was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2008. Williams serves on the Energy and Utilities Policy Committee, General Government Policy Council, Government Accountability Act Council, Government Appropriations Committee, the Joint Committee of Public Council Oversight, and the Joint Committee on Collective Bargaining. Prior to his election, he was an aide to Tallahassee Mayor John Marks, serving as a community liaison. He is an active and enthusiastic member of Leadership Tallahassee, Opportunity Tallahassee, Leadership Florida, area Chambers of Commerce, United Way of the Big Bend Board of Directors, and the United States Commission on Civil Rights Advisory Committee. He earned his B.S. and MBA degrees from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.



## **PATRICK WOJAHN**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND**

Council Member Patrick Wojahn, 32, is a lawyer and advocate for civil rights. He moved to the DC area to attend Georgetown University Law Center in 1999, and graduated cum laude in May 2002. Since then, Council Member Wojahn has worked with University Legal Services, a disability rights organization, investigating complaints of abuse and neglect against people with mental illness, and ensuring district officials provide appropriate services for some of the district's most disadvantaged residents.

Top Issues for 2010: Local Climate Change Policy; Community Oriented Policing; Sensible Development & Smart Growth



# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **MICHAEL WOJCIK**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA**

Council Member Michael Wojcik was elected to the Rochester City Council in 2008. He received a B.S. in electrical engineering, a master's in electrical engineering, and his MBA from the University of Minnesota. He works as an adjunct professor for St. Mary's University and as the president for Elite Consulting, Inc. Councilmember Wojcik is married and has one daughter.

Top Issues for 2010: Affordable Housing; Land Use; Long-Term Fiscal Management



## **LISA A. WONG**

**MAYOR**

**FITCHBURG, MASSACHUSETTS**

Mayor Lisa A. Wong grew up in North Andover and is the daughter of Chinese immigrants. She attended Boston University where she received a bachelor's degree in international relations, and a bachelor's and master's degree in economics. In November of 2007, at the age of 28, Mayor Wong was elected the mayor of Fitchburg with 75 percent of the vote. She is the first Asian American mayor in Fitchburg's history.

Top Issues for 2010: Healthcare Reform; Pension Reform; Youth Employment; Public Transportation; Code Enforcement



## **COREY WOODS**

**CITY COUNCIL MEMBER**

**TEMPE, ARIZONA**

Councilman Corey Woods was elected to the Tempe City Council in May 2008. He serves as the director of college and career articulation for the Phoenix Union High School District. He graduated in April 2000 with a B.A. in political science, and a minor in African American studies from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Councilman Woods is in the College of Education at Arizona State University, currently working on a master's of arts in social and philosophical foundations of education.

Top Issues for 2010: Affordable Housing; Economic Development



## **DAVID WOODWARD**

**COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

**ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN**

County Commissioner Dave Woodward was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives at the age of 22, making him one of the youngest ever elected. He served three terms, the most allowed under Michigan's term limits law. In 2004, Commissioner Woodward was elected Oakland county commissioner, and joined the Center for Progressive Leadership. Commissioner Woodward also serves as president of Oakland Health Plan, Inc. He is a graduate of Wayne State University with a B.S. in mathematics and a minor in economics, where he served as president of the Student Council.

Top Issues for 2010: Economic Development; Healthcare for Low Income Families; Localizing Food System; Mass Transit





# YOUNG ELECTED OFFICIALS

## **JUSTEN A. WRIGHT**

**CITY COUNCILMEMBER**

**WILMINGTON, DELAWARE**

Councilman Justen A. Wright was recently elected to the Wilmington City Council at the age of 25. He is Wilmington's youngest city councilman. He commuted daily to New York City for two years to obtain his associates degree from the American Academy McAllister Institute of Funeral Service. He then continued his education at Delaware Technical and Community College. After completing his education, he became a certified funeral service practitioner (CFSP). Councilman Wright currently serves as the vice president of The House of Wright Mortuary, Inc. Councilman Wright has received various awards, among them the Community Service Award from the Markevic A. Johnson Scholarship Foundation and the Newark Chapter NAACP.

Top Issues for 2010: Budget; Youth Initiatives; Senior Day Center



## **JOEL YOUNG**

**TRANSIT BOARD DIRECTOR**

**OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA**

Director Joel Young was appointed by the AC Transit Board of Directors in February 2009 to fill one of the District's two at-Large positions, and currently serves as vice president of the Board of Directors. Prior to this role, Director Young worked on two local campaigns and practiced securities law. Director Young earned his B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley and a J.D. from U.C. Berkeley School of Law.

Top Issues for 2010: Transportation Funding



## **JOSHUA YOUNG**

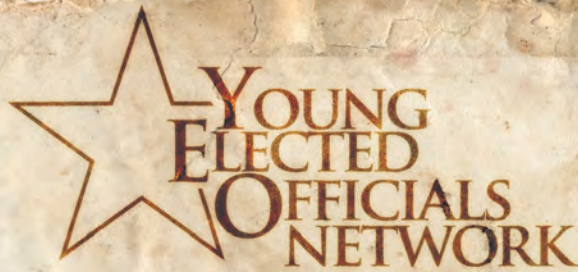
**TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONER**

**COATESVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA**

Commissioner Josh Young is a 2004 graduate of Slippery Rock University, with a B.A. in political science. In 2005, Commissioner Young was elected as Caln Township's youngest ever elected commissioner at 23. He was re-elected in 2009, and now serves as the most senior member of the Board of Commissioners. In 2007, Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell appointed Commissioner Young as trustee of Slippery Rock University, where he now serves as secretary of the board. Commissioner Young currently works for his family's small business, Young's Garage, Inc., where he serves as vice president.

Top Issues for 2010: Traffic; Community Improvements & Revitalization; Growth Management





A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

# MEET THE YEO TEAM



# YEO TEAM



**ANDREW D. GILLUM**  
**YEO NETWORK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Andrew Gillum, Executive Director of the YEO Network, is an alumnus of Florida A&M University (FAMU), former president of the Student Government Association, and FAMU's first student member of the Board of Trustees. He became the youngest person elected to the four-member Tallahassee City Commission in February 2003. Commissioner Gillum has held prominent leadership roles such as Mayor Pro Tem, Chairman—Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and lead commissioner for the Long Range Community Based Target Issue Committee. Gillum served as Field Organizer and statewide Director of the “Arrive With 5” program with PFAW Foundation, having organized the largest get-out-the-vote campaign in Florida's history. Currently, he is the National Director of PFAW Foundation's Youth Programs, including leading the YEO Network. Gillum completed Harvard Kennedy School's 2009-summer session of their Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program and serves on the Board of Directors for The Schott Foundation for Public Education in Cambridge, MA. Contact Andrew at [agillum@pfaw.org](mailto:agillum@pfaw.org).



**RYAN HURST**  
**MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR**

Ryan is a graduate of the Florida State University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree for a double major in Political Science and Interdisciplinary Social Science. Originally from Plantation, Florida, Ryan volunteers in local, state, and federal campaigns, and helped lead the Obama Campaign to a Florida victory as a Field Organizer overseeing three of North Florida's largest counties. Ryan's leadership with the YEO Network has been longstanding; before becoming the Network's membership services coordinator, he served as an intern to assist with both 2008 and 2009 National Convenings and as a progressive young leader in the Front Line Leaders Academy class of 2009. Contact Ryan at [rhurst@pfaw.org](mailto:rhurst@pfaw.org).



**ALISHA THOMAS MORGAN**  
**MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

A graduate of Spelman College with a Bachelor of Arts in both Sociology and Drama, Alisha Thomas Morgan has been with PFAW since 2005. In November 2002, she became the first African American to serve Cobb County in the Georgia House of Representatives. Now serving in her fourth term in the Georgia General Assembly, she serves on the the Children & Youth, Health and Human Services, Education and Governmental Affairs Committees. She has received numerous awards and honors including the Joe Mack Milson People's Champion Award, featured in Ebony, Essence and Marie Claire Magazines and has become a national leader in Education Reform. Alisha is married to David Morgan and is a proud mommy to their daughter, Lailah Camille. She is also releasing her first book this June entitled *No Apologies: Powerful Lessons in Life, Love & Politics*. Contact Alisha at [amorgan@pfaw.org](mailto:amorgan@pfaw.org).

# YEO TEAM



**LINDA MORRIS**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER**

Linda began with People For the American Way Foundation in 2000 as a volunteer, but quickly turned her passion for civil rights into a career. Born and raised in North Florida, Linda's background is in accounting. She worked as an accountant for Hopping, Boyd, Green and Sams Law Firm in Tallahassee, Florida and for the Florida Association of Counties. Since joining PFAW and PFAW Foundation, Linda has worked on several important campaigns, such as the Florida Class Size Reduction Amendment, the U.S. Supreme Court issues in 2005 and 2006, and the Foundation's Election Protection (EP) for two election cycles. She is finishing her accounting degree in Tallahassee, Florida, where she resides with her fiancé, Leron Inge. Linda also runs a community shared-cost food program in Gadsden County called "Neighborhood Improvement for a Better Living." In its fifth year, it is able to consistently help 125 families per month. Contact Linda at [lmorris@pfaw.org](mailto:lmorris@pfaw.org).



**ELISABETH POPE**  
**POLICY ASSOCIATE**

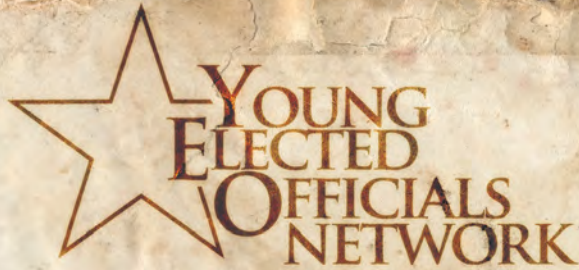
Elisabeth Pope is the program associate for policy and research at the YEO Network where she is able to educate young electeds on progressive issues and policies. Prior to joining the Network, Elisabeth's research interests focused primarily on employment and workforce issues, and she has a wide range of experience with non-profit and for-profit organizations in both the United States and the United Kingdom. She is a graduate of Florida State University and the University of Edinburgh (UK) where she received her bachelor's and master's degrees, respectively, in English literature combined with political theory and nationalism studies. Elisabeth currently lives in Atlanta, GA with her fiancé, Peter, and their temperamental cat, Lucy. Contact Elisabeth at [epope@pfaw.org](mailto:epope@pfaw.org).



**RAQUEL E. SIMON-PETLEY**  
**PROGRAMS MANAGER**

Raquel began her work at PFAW Foundation in 2005 as the Program Coordinator for the Tallahassee Office, managing the Supreme Court campaign in Florida and for PFAW running statewide events for several 2006 Florida legislative issues. Her work in politics began as communications staff at the Florida Democratic Party and continued as a public relations representative in Tallahassee, working with legislators in session, statewide media campaigns and national coalitions. Raquel's current work with the Young Elected Officials Network has allowed her to combine several of her passions, including event planning, graphic design, web management and progressive politics, into the programmatic work of the Network. Raquel received her Bachelor of Arts from Florida State University, having studied Public Relations, Theatre and Spanish. She is a proud Floridian, where she resides with her husband, Chris Petley. Contact Raquel at [rsimon@pfaw.org](mailto:rsimon@pfaw.org).





A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

# YEO STRATEGIC PARTNERS

# YEO STRATEGIC PARTNERS

## **AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS**

The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is a bipartisan, non-profit educational exchange organization dedicated to fostering relations between the next generation of political leaders in the United States and their counterparts around the world. Its practical education programs include international exchanges, foreign policy and democracy conferences and election study programs.

## **BALLOT INITIATIVE STRATEGY CENTER**

The Ballot Initiative Strategy Center (BISC) works to reinvigorate the initiative process among state and national progressive organizations by providing education, training, and research in order for progressive groups to use the process more effectively to fight for social, environmental, and economic justice. BISC Foundation, the organization's 501c3 educational arm, tracks ballot measure developments, contributions to ballot measure campaigns and trains people to work on ballot initiatives.

## **CENTER FOR PROGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP**

The Center for Progressive Leadership (CPL) is a national political training institute that develops diverse leaders who are able to effectively advance progressive political and policy change. CPL has trained over 4,000 progressive leaders through intensive, nonpartisan leadership programs.

## **CITY FUTURES/CENTER FOR AN URBAN FUTURE**

City Futures, Inc. is a nonprofit organization devoted to rethinking, reframing, and improving the debate around cities. The organization comprises Center for an Urban Future, a public policy organization dedicated to improving the overall health of New York City and serving its long-term interests by targeting problems facing low-income and working-class neighborhoods in all five boroughs.

## **DRUM MAJOR INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY**

The Drum Major Institute for Public Policy is a non-partisan, non-profit think tank generating the ideas that fuel the progressive movement. From releasing nationally recognized studies of our increasingly fragile middle class to showcasing progressive policies that have worked to advance social and economic justice, DMI has been on the leading edge of the public policy debate.

## **GILL FOUNDATION**

The Gill Foundation works to secure equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans and strives to involve more people in this effort. It works to enlist and educate donors to provide the effective, large-scale financial support necessary to achieve equality, and joins with like-minded organizations and individuals to put forward a shared vision for doing so. It strives to increase support for equality by improving communications with the American people, and by raising awareness of the contributions made by gay men and lesbians to society.



# YEO STRATEGIC PARTNERS

## **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES**

The National Conference of State Legislatures is a bipartisan organization that serves the legislators and staffs of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories. NCSL provides research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on the most pressing state issues. NCSL is an effective and respected advocate for the interests of state governments before Congress and federal agencies.

## **NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

The National Education Association (NEA) is a volunteer-based organization supported by a network of staff at the local, state, and national levels. The NEA is a United States labor union committed to advancing the cause of public education, and represents teachers, secretaries, and educational support personnel who work at every level of education.

## **NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES**

Founded in 1971 as the Women's Legal Defense Fund, the National Partnership for Women & Families is a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)3 organization located in Washington, DC. They promote fairness in the workplace, reproductive health and rights, access to quality affordable health care, and policies that help women and men meet the dual demands of work and family.

## **PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY**

People For the American Way is an energetic advocate for the values and institutions that sustain a diverse democratic society. Many of these are now threatened by the influence of the radical right and its allies who have risen to positions of political power. People for the American Way has been fighting the Religious Right for over twenty-five years, protecting against the Right's backward vision of bending America's politics to reflect their narrow political vision.

## **PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY FOUNDATION**

People For the American Way Foundation, a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)3 organization, is a premier source of vital information for policymakers, scholars, and activists nationwide on the Religious Right movement and its political allies. PFAWF also engages in legal action as needed to protect or restore the rights and liberties of Americans. Since its establishment, People For the American Way Foundation has been committed to countering the forces of social discord and fragmentation with an affirmation of "the American Way:" respect for diversity; freedom of thought, expression, and religion; equal justice; and a sense of community.

## **PLANNED PARENTHOOD**

Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA®) is the nation's leading sexual and reproductive health care advocate and provider. PPFA also works with partner organizations worldwide to improve the sexual health and well being of individuals and families everywhere. Planned Parenthood has 103 independent local affiliates that operate more than 860 health centers throughout the United States, providing high-quality services to women, men, and teens. Planned Parenthood often is the only source of family planning for a large proportion of the women we serve.

# YEO STRATEGIC PARTNERS

## **PROGRESSIVE MAJORITY**

Progressive Majority's mission is to elect progressive champions. They accomplish this by identifying and recruiting the best progressive leaders to run for office; coaching and supporting their candidacies by providing strategic message, campaign, and technical support; prioritizing the recruitment and election of candidates of color; and bringing new people into the political process at all levels.

## **PROGRESSIVE STATES NETWORK**

The Progressive States Network (PSN) aims to transform the political landscape by sparking progressive actions at the state level. The group provides coordinated research and strategic advocacy tools to state legislators and their staffs, empowering these decision-makers with everything they need to engineer forward-thinking change. PSN also works with non-profits and a variety of constituent groups to build a swath of support for coordinated progressive policy.

## **SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER**

The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) was founded in 1971 as a small civil rights law firm. Today, SPLC is internationally known for its tolerance education programs, its legal victories against white supremacists, and its tracking of hate groups. Throughout its history, SPLC has worked to make the nation's Constitutional ideals a reality. The SPLC legal department fights all forms of discrimination and works to protect society's most vulnerable members, handling innovative cases that few lawyers are willing to take.

## **WELLSTONE ACTION**

Wellstone Action is a national center for training and leadership development for the progressive movement. Founded in January 2003, Wellstone Action's mission is to honor the legacy of Paul and Sheila Wellstone by continuing their work through training, educating, mobilizing, and organizing a vast network of progressive individuals and organizations.



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## When it comes to sex ed, honesty is the best policy.

Over 100 leading scientific and medical groups in the United States recommend that young people receive accurate and honest sex education that includes information about both abstinence and contraception. That's because doctors understand that knowledge is power in the fight against teen pregnancy, STDs and HIV. Yet, the United States has spent more than \$1.5 billion on abstinence-only-until-marriage programs whose "efficacy may approach zero" according to a study by the Society for Adolescent Medicine. A 2004 Congressional report found that 80% of these programs contain medically false or misleading information.

Research shows that teenagers who receive information about both abstinence and contraception are more likely to delay sexual activity, have fewer partners and use condoms and contraception when they do become sexually active. That's why 88% of parents support sex education that includes information about both abstinence and contraception.

As a young elected official, you have the chance to ensure that America's youth receive the honest, evidence-based sex education they deserve. Let's give teens *all* the facts.

**Support evidence-based, comprehensive sex education. It works.**



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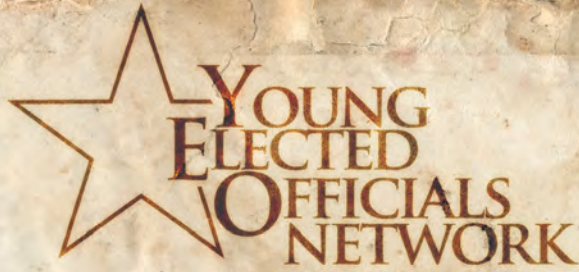
For 10 years, Congress has ignored the signs.

Over the last 10 years, the U.S. has spent more than \$1.5 billion on abstinence-only-until-marriage programs. **In that time, America's youth acquired nearly 9.1 million STD's each year.**

**Research has shown — over and over again — that abstinence-only programs simply don't work.**

- |             |   |             |  |
|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| <b>1999</b> | The American Medical Association issues a statement opposing abstinence-only education.   | <b>2007</b> | A long-term, congressionally mandated scientific evaluation finds that abstinence-only programs have no impact on sexual behavior.   |
| <b>2000</b> | The Institute of Medicine calls for the elimination of abstinence-only programs.  | <b>2008</b> | The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform holds a hearing in which scientific evidence and expert testimony demonstrate — again — that abstinence-only programs simply do not work. |
| <b>2004</b> | Rep. Henry Waxman releases a report showing that 80% of federally funded abstinence-only programs contain “false and misleading” information.         | <b>2009</b> | President Obama ends federal abstinence-only funding.  |
| <b>2006</b> | The Society for Adolescent Medicine issues a statement calling abstinence-only scientifically and ethically flawed and cites efficacy at “near zero”. | <b>2010</b> | The final health care reform bill restores \$250 million in funding for Title V abstinence-only programs.  |

**Oppose *failed* abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in your community.**  
**Support evidence-based, comprehensive sex education. It works.**



A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS ON THE FRONT LINES OF CHANGE

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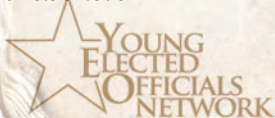
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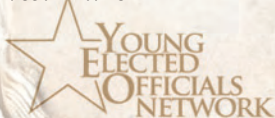
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# NOTES



## GOING GREEN

The Young Elected Officials Network is doing more than trying to change the country. We're also trying to save the planet.

This year, the YEO Network is doing our part by focusing on a greener National Convening:

- We're only using paper products that are printed on recycled paper;
- We're cutting down on transportation emissions by relying much more on public transportation; and
- We're hosting all of the training sessions here at the Sheraton Crystal City.

We've also chosen a venue that was the March 2010 recipient of the Company Energy Star Award. Below are some of the Sheraton Crystal City's green efforts:

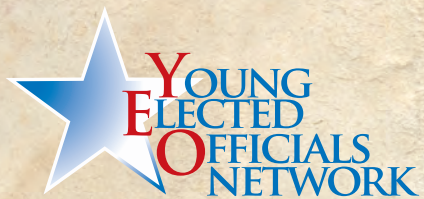
- The chef utilizes several local food distributors who purchase from local farms and dairy companies
- Cooking oil and grease recycling
- Green Choice Program - \$5 credit to any guest refusing housekeeping service
- Newspapers only upon request
- Paper recycling program for all internal offices
- Indigenous Landscaping Design (low water usage)
- All glass, cardboard, and plastics are recycled through the Arlington County recycling program

We would also like to thank our YEOs across the nation for their efforts to provide a more sustainable future for their communities. Your dedication to the planet, future generations, and a healthier and more progressive country is truly inspiring and greatly appreciated.



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