

PROGRAM REPORT NOVEMBER 2019

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## Brandeis THE HELLER SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT Center for Youth and Communities

## 2018-2019 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS,** the Segal Program has grown to include 120 lifelong Segal Fellows: 63% are women, 54% identify as people of color, 52% are in their 20s, and 51% are national service alumni. Our goal is to provide a meaningful experience for new and veteran Fellows alike, and to strengthen our Network of Founders and partners across the country who support them.

- Vibrant 10th Anniversary Celebration:

  More than 150 Segal Network members gathered in DC at our June 2018 festivities, which included a powerful panel on "The Impact of Together," featuring Jack Lew (Former US Secretary of the Treasury and White House Chief of Staff), Evan Osnos (The New Yorker), Nicky Goren (The Meyer Foundation), and Candice Jones (The Public Welfare Foundation), and generous donations from our host committee and other supporters.
- Strong Fellow leadership in the Program: Over one third of Fellows (36%) took a leadership role as a Segal Buddy, Retreat or Fellow Selection Committee Member, Virtual Convening or Book Group Facilitator, Regional Ambassador, or in other ways.
- High level of national interest in the Program and recognition of its value: Applications doubled for our national

service Segal Fellowships, including those with The Corporation for National and Community Service and Service Year Alliance. This summer, over 100 inspiring applicants applied from across the country for 2 AmeriCorps Alums Segal Fellow positions.

- Creation of Chalk Research Associate:
  With a gift from Heller Alumna Mady
  Chalk (PhD '90), we've expanded our
  focus on civic and political engagement.
  Inaugural Chalk Research Associate
  Maxwell Hunsinger, a Brandeis Senior,
  conducted research this summer on
  "Promising Practices in Youth Civic
  and Political Engagement." The paper
  was shared with Fellows and is available
  online. Our next Chalk Research
  Associate, Heller Student Victoria FilsAime, will help us pilot a community of
  practice for politically engaged Fellows.
- On-the-ground impact through 13 Segal Fellows' mission-driven summer internships in 2018 and 2019: 100% of host site partners reported that their Fellows utilized their Segal Citizen Leadership Core Competencies at a high level and that their Fellows allowed them to deepen or increase their impact.

Most importantly, the lifelong Program continues to help Segal Fellows grow as emerging leaders working to solve society's most intractable problems through their efforts and through connections with Segal Network members across generations, issue areas, and sectors. Support from 600+ Segal Program Founders and partners across the country, along with our vibrant Fellow community, lie at the heart of what we do.

In our 10th Anniversary Survey 75% of Segal Fellows reported that the Program had been very or extremely effective in expanding their network of others committed to social justice, and more than two thirds of Fellows (68%) said that the Program was very or extremely effective in supporting their professional and/or personal growth.

**Top:** Segal Fellows with Phyllis Segal at our 10th Anniversary in DC. *Photo by Rachel Lincoln* 



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

AS I START MY THIRD YEAR with the Segal Program, I'm even more inspired by our Fellows, the commitment of our partners and supporters, and the power of what we can accomplish together. Each person carries a spark for making a difference and for supporting and engaging others in doing the same, whether they're someone who's been directly inspired by Eli or Phyllis Segal over their lifetime or someone who has learned about their legacy through the Program. I've had the privilege to help select and facilitate our citizen leadership curriculum for 30 of our incoming Fellows and to learn from and get to know our 90 long-term Fellows through monthly convenings, two retreats, virtual and in-person conversations, and the leadership roles they take on.

As the number of Fellows expands each year, so does our need to offer meaningful programming and engage with our growing Segal Network. To help with this, we expanded our capacity by bringing on a full-time Program Coordinator, and we were thrilled to welcome Returned Peace Corps Volunteer and environmental activist Kyle Richard to that role last fall. The support from the Center for Youth and Communities and The Heller School at Brandeis allows us to leverage the resources of a world class institution for all of our Fellows.

The idea that people are stronger together lies at the heart of this Program. When a Segal Fellow tells me about the impact of their Coach's mentorship, a veteran Segal Fellow shares about the inspiration they draw from the passion of a new Fellow, or a new Fellow marvels in the rich community they have just entered into, I feel the power of this Program. We are thankful to all those who engage with us to support our work to foster the next generation of citizen leaders. Please contact me to learn more about the impact of our Fellows and partners or the many opportunities to join with us. We look forward to further growth and development of the Segal Program and our Fellows in 2020 and to active participation as citizen leaders during a critical time for our country.

Susanna Flug-Silva Director, Eli J. & Phyllis N. Segal Citizen Leadership Program

#### THE POWER OF THE SEGAL NETWORK: SEGAL COACHES



"WHEN I HEARD that my Segal Coach was going to be Brandeis Professor Sangeeta Tyagi, I was very excited to get to know her. Given her extensive work with YouthBuild and other youth-serving organizations, she has been incredible to talk to. In the past months, she has connected me with professionals in the Department of Labor's YouthBuild program and Aspen Institute, and she continues to support my professional development. As I begin my job search, I know I can count on my Segal Coach and Segal Network."

—Kareen Sanchez (2017 Service Year Alliance Segal Fellow)



#### 2019 SEGAL FELLOW RETREAT: IN-PERSON INSPIRATION

IN EARLY NOVEMBER, more than 60 Segal Fellows, Founders, and partners gathered for the 2019 Segal Fellow Retreat. Designed by Program staff and a committee of 10 Fellows, the Retreat enabled Fellows to: deepen connections; gain inspiration; learn, share, and build skills; and challenge themselves to grow around the importance of equity, belonging, and inclusion.

The weekend included workshops on a variety of topics, team building sessions, and break out groups for Fellows interested in education, entrepreneurship, and political engagement. Dr. Maria Madison, Heller's Associate Dean for Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity, led Saturday's plenary on "Bringing Your Full Self to Your Citizen Leadership."

The Program presented its inaugural Segal Fellow in Action Award to 2013 City Year Segal Fellow **Stephen Larbi** (above, center, with Segal Fellows, family and staff). Stephen was honored for the many ways he exemplifies what it means to be a citizen leader across his life: his service with City Year; his career in education, including his current role as a School Culture Coordinator in Providence; his 2018 election to the Pawtucket School Committee; his engagement in the Segal Program as a Buddy and Advisory Board member; and his other community leadership.

The Retreat concluded with a recommitment from attendees to support and engage in this vibrant Segal community. Photo by Renée Gaillard

## SEGAL FELLOW GABBY FISH: AMPLIFYING AND EMPOWERING YOUTH VOICES

FELLOWS FIND ENERGY AND INSPIRATION FROM THE SEGAL NETWORK AS THEY PURSUE THEIR SOCIAL JUSTICE JOURNEYS

By Gabby Fish (2012 City Year Segal Fellow)

MY GOAL is to amplify and empower the voices of youth in underserved and undervalued communities. The prevailing approaches to educating historically marginalized communities are insufficient, ineffective, and ignorant of the needs, beliefs, and values of the communities they operate in. In the current education ecosystem, students do not have a genuine seat at the table when it comes to designing better educational options. I am in the process of creating a curriculum (with input from students at every iteration) that will affirm young people as leaders young people as leaders, able to safely explore their identity, curiosities, and life vision alongside a supportive creative community.

In June of 2019, I completed my ninth year with the DC Public Schools and left the classroom to pursue my Master's Degree through the University of Pennsylva-

"Because of the Segal Program, I am energized to keep moving forward in my journey as an entrepreneur for social change. I know I am not alone in this journey, but I have a family of like-minded and like-hearted individuals that are guided by our shared principles of equity, justice, and empathy."

Gabby Fish



**Above:** Gabby engaging with her students in The Bridge Design Thinking Fellowship, a pilot version of the curriculum she is developing that seeks to empower students as change-agents.

nia's Education Entrepreneurship program. Last school year, I co-piloted a Design Thinking Fellowship called The Bridge, where students across the public school continuum united to design change in their community. Our design project centered on the gun violence that has been enveloping neighborhoods in Southeast, D.C.

Through purposeful interviewing, students created an empathy map to organize their insights and define what an overarching need is for the community. While addressing the defined need, students then ideated solutions and prototyped their models (a variety of experiences, products, or services). Our young designers brought their original models to life at an event they called "The Community Reunion," including a signature peace t-shirt, a healing circle, and even a space where respected older members of the Ward 8 neighborhood could converse with youth to discuss the issues of gun violence.

One of the Segal Program's core competencies is having visionary goals for social change. I take this strength with me as I develop relationships, build trust, and collaborate with multiple diverse communities. This month, while studying, I have been holding focus groups and gathering insights from community members, families, and youth about what it is they need and want from a curriculum that aims to empower them. I expect my venture will pivot and

take shape in renewed forms throughout this season of inquiry, but I am excited to follow our students and families as they co-create this with me.

The Segal Network has been a constant source of inspiration since my induction in 2012. With our Fellows, whether I am following along with Stephen Larbi's (2013 Fellow) journey into becoming an elected official on his social media, or keeping [the late] Rhonda Shackleford-Ulmer's (2008 Fellow) words of encouragement from years back still close to my heart, or being excited to reconnect and share dreams with Manu Fairley (2014 Fellow), Lila Givens (2009 Fellow), and others at this year's retreat... the Segal Network to me represents a unified coalition of change-makers that fuels me with both joy and hope.

One third of Segal Fellows are making a difference in education and youth development.



Jaila Allen



Imani Islam



**Angie Hwang** 







Sohaima Khilji



Leah Shafer



Boston Economic Mobility Lab

City of Boston Economic Mobility Lab

**Ashley White** 

government." ASHLEY WHITE (Heller MPP/MBA): Also interned with Boston's Economic Mobility Lab. She analyzed an inaugural childcare

"Because of the Segal Program, I had the

 $local\ government-and\ six\ teenagers$ 

had a meaningful summer with local

opportunity to combine my past experiences to create a strong social impact within

"Because of the Segal Program, I've seen

the challenges and the weaknesses of the

resettlement process in the United States, and I know now that I want to pursue a career in immigration law to address them."

LEAH SHAFER (Heller MPP/MBA): Interned with the City of Boston's Economic

Mobility Lab. She helped ensure that their pilot summer jobs program offered quality programming with a focus on 21st century skills and collected data and testimonies from all people involved in order to make

recommendations for its future.

survey, helping give the City more leverage to institute programs and policy solutions around the childcare industry. "Because of the Segal Program, I've

discovered my passion for data and how it can be used to solve social problems, and I have a part-time job continuing my work within the Mayor's Office."

"Ashley created a crucial process, conducted original analysis, and established the foundation of a project that will continue for years... in the City of Boston. She has played a major role in elevating the issue of child care to the top of the City's agenda."

Jason Ewas (Director, Boston's Economic Mobility Lab)

## **2019 SEGAL FELLOW SUMMER INTERNSHIPS**

THIS SUMMER, our 2019 Brandeis Segal Fellows interned with 6 mission-driven organizations across the country, 100% of Fellows said the Segal internship and the spring cohort-based curriculum helped them better understand what missiondriven work looks like in the real world.

JAILA ALLEN (Brandeis Junior): Interned with The Door, Inc. in New York City. She increased LGBTQ youth's interaction with and feedback through The Door's online portal to support their mission to empower young people to reach their potential by providing comprehensive youth development services in a diverse and caring environment.

"Because of my experience as a Segal Fellow, I am now able to truly say that I know my purpose in life. I may not fully understand the path to get there, but Segal has given me the confidence to know that not knowing is okay."

ANGIE HWANG (Brandeis Senior): Interned with The Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders in Santa Ana, CA. She revamped their educational psychology services and supported clinical research, behavior intervention, and patient appointments and intake.

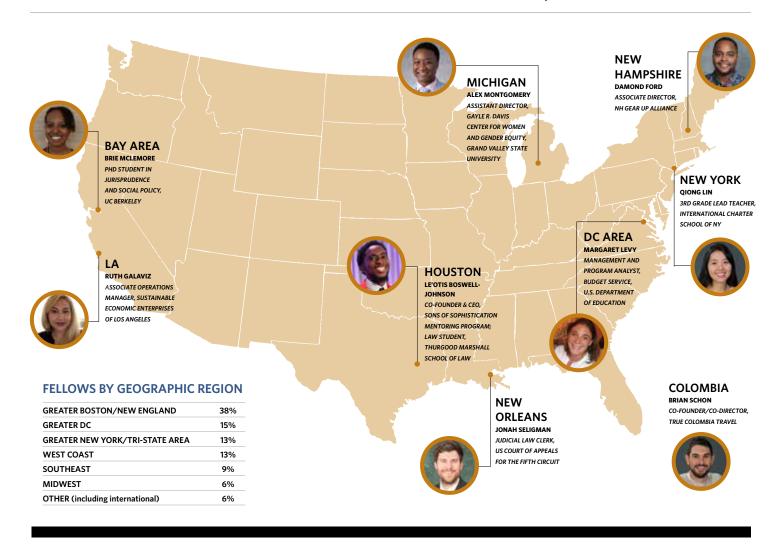
"Because of the Segal Program, I now believe that I am a citizen leader capable of great, positive change, and because of my summer internship, I know that I do belong here working with students with disabilities, and I will never again question that."

IMANI ISLAM (Brandeis Senior): Interned with The Art Connection in Boston. MA. She researched funding prospects, maintained their social media presence, created and published content, and supported their partnerships to "enrich and empower underserved communities by providing access to original works of visual art."

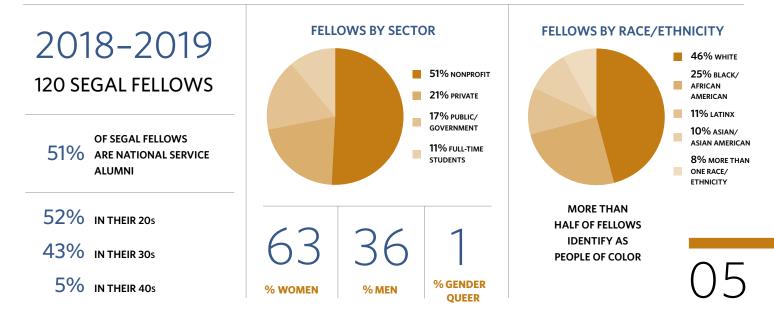
"Because of the Segal Program, I've gained an understanding of how a non-profit can successfully run, and I've impacted others' lives through art, bringing artwork to different nonprofits that focus on immigration, mental health, elderly adults, and more."

SOHAIMA KHILJI (Brandeis Senior): Interned with the International Rescue Committee in Silver Spring, MD, and their free Summer Academy for local refugee and asylee youth. She developed and facilitated cultural sensitivity trainings for volunteers, ESOL classes for students, field trips, and home visits.

## SEGAL FELLOW CITIZEN LEADERS ACROSS THE US Examples include:



### **ANNUAL SNAPSHOT OF SEGAL FELLOWS**



#### 2018/2019 DONORS

(7/1/17-6/30/19)

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\*10th Anniversary Host Committee

THANK YOU OUR SINCERE THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE HELPED US IN 2018 AND 2019 TO DEEPEN AND EXPAND WHAT WE DO. IT IS THROUGH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM OUR FELLOWS, ADVISORY BOARD, FOUNDERS, PARTNERS, DONORS, AND FRIENDS THAT WE ARE ABLE TO HAVE AN IMPACT TOGETHER. (Listings through October 2019)

#### **SEGAL PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD:**

Larry Bailis, Deborah Berger Fox, Emily Bishop\*, Toni Burke\*, AnnMaura Connolly, Lisa Dawe, Tom Freedman, Laura Gassner Otting (Speaker & Author), Jason Gray\*, Stephen Larbi\*, Arnie Miller, Peter Murray, Jon Segal, Mora Segal, Phyllis Segal. (\*Segal Fellow)

#### **SEGAL COACHES (PARTNERS & FOUNDERS):**

Stephanie Amponsah (Urban Alliance), Carole Biewener (Simmons University), Nathaniel Cole (America's Promise Alliance), Jim Kaufman (Tryline Advisors), Colonel Robert L. Gordon III (Connected Living), Sangeeta Tyagi (Brandeis/Heller).

#### **SEGAL BUDDIES (FELLOWS):**

Pem Brown, Aaron Chalek, Beneva Davies, Iris Dooling, Jade Eckels, Damond Ford, Analissa Iversen, Amber Kornreich, Leah Igdalsky, Stephen Larbi, Julie Livingstone, Marisa Lovaincy, Tanika Lynch, Heleena Mathew, Alex Montgomery, Cali Moore, Molly O'Donnell, Leah Sakala, Jessie Zimmerer.

## SEGAL FELLOW AWARD PARTNERS & FOUNDERS:

AmeriCorps Alums @ Service Year Alliance, City Year, The Corporation for National & Community Service, The Masters in Public Policy Program at The Heller School.

#### **INTERNSHIP HOSTS:**

The Art Connection; Asian American Resource Workshop; The Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders; The City of Boston (Economic Mobility Lab); The Community Art Center, Inc.; The Door, Inc.; Economic Policy Institute, The Fight for \$15; Housing Long Beach; International Rescue Committee; Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development.

#### SPEAKERS/PRESENTERS:

Partners & Founders: Tai Adams (Service Year Alliance), Csilla Aglaure-Szekelyhidi (Service Year Alliance), Michael Brown (City Year), Robert Brown III (Service Year Alliance), Cathy Burack (The Heller School), Peter Edelman (Georgetown University Law/Author), Russ Finkelstein (Clearly Next), Laura Gassner Otting (Speaker & Author), Nicky Goren (The Meyer Foundation), Erica Hodes (The Heller School), Amanda Hooper (Voices for National Service), Lanni Isenberg (The Heller School), Candice Jones (The Public Welfare Foundation), Jay Kaufman (Beacon Leadership Collaborative), Gene Kimmelman (Public Knowledge), Max Klau (New Politics), Jack Lew (Former US Treasury Secretary), Judy Lichtman (National Partnership for Women & Families), Maria Madison (The Heller School), Evan Osnos (The New Yorker), Peter Osnos (Journalist & Editor), Phyllis Segal (Encore.org), Nate Treffeisen (Voices for National Service), Cathy Wasserman (Self-Leadership Strategies), Marlene Zakai (CNCS)

Fellows: Iris Dooling, David Duhalde, Jade Eckels, John Enterline, Damond Ford, Monica Keenan, Stephen Larbi, Margaret Levy, Ameline Limorin, Tanika Lynch, Cali Moore, Bria Price (2017-2018 Segal Program Management Associate), Kareen Sanchez, Brian Schon, Marianne Sierocinski, Jessie Zimmerman.

#### **EVENT HOSTS:**

Achievement Network, Mora Segal, Phyllis Segal, Service Year Alliance.

#### SEGAL PROGRAM/CENTER FOR YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES TEAM:

Susan P. Curnan, Susie Flug-Silva, Kyle Richard, Cathy Burack, Lanni Isenberg, Zora Haque, Alan Melchior, Bria Price\* (2017-18 Management Associate), Orláith Duggan (10th Anniversary Program Manager).

The Eli J. & Phyllis N. Segal Citizen Leadership Program
The Center for Youth and Communities
The Heller School for Social Policy and Management
Brandeis University | 415 South Street, MSO35 | Waltham, MA 02453
segalnetwork@brandeis.edu | 781-736-3933