

2020 FELLOWS MAKE IMPACT IN NEW YORK CITY AND AROUND THE WORLD



Sarah Axtell - Legal Aid Society (Health Law)

Jackie Bonilla - Make the Road NY

Jeremy Chan-Kraushar - Race, Law, and Public Education project

Nishat Choudhury - NYS Housing and Community Renewal (Fair and Equitable Housing)

Simone Harstead - Kids in Need of Defense (KIND)

Mohammed Hossain - District Council 37 Public Employee Union

Nora Howe - NAACP Legal Defense Fund

Ignacia Lolás Ojeda - Make the Road NY

Danielle McCoy - Racial Justice project

Nusrat Mowla - Crime Victims Treatment Center (Domestic Violence)

Pablo Rojo - Legal Aid Society (Criminal Defense)

Cesar Ruiz - LatinoJustice PRLDEF

Nowmee Shehab - Brooklyn Defenders Service (Youth and Communities)

“ Ever since the Trayvon Martin shooting in 2012, I have been an organizer. I’m the first person to get a degree in my working class Mexican-American family. At Legal Aid in the Bronx this summer, I am fighting the criminalization of poverty head on.

Pablo Rojo

I am interested in legal work that ends school segregation, ensures fair funding, and ends the school to prison pipeline. As a summer intern at NAACP LDF, funded by the JL Greene Foundation, I’m focused on education equity, and have also been able to work on LDF voting rights projects, building on my work as a Sorensen Center Voting Rights Initiative student leader.

Nora Howe



Support from the Jerome L. Greene Foundation enables a larger cohort of Fellows to address global issues affecting communities in NYC. Founded in 2014 and named after Ted Sorensen, the Sorensen Center nurtures and trains new generations of social justice lawyers.

Through a partnership with New York City Council and LaGuardia and Wagner Archives, Fellows address challenges facing LGBT+ communities in New York City.

Elisabeth Bernard - Common Justice
Madison Griffin - Sylvia Rivera Law Project
Rachel Guffey - Housing Works, HIV Law Project
Christian Seno - Queens Legal Services

Fellows address global challenges throughout the U.S. and around the world, made possible by: Jill and Jay Bernstein's Harold P. Bernstein Fellowship Fund, the Haywood Burns Global Fellowship Fund, Joel Z. Hyatt, and other generous donors.

Farzana Ali - Physicians for Human Rights
Danny Cirincione - Federal Defenders of the Eastern District of California
Shezza Dallal - Federal Defenders of New York
Maya Demianczuk - Corporate Accountability Lab
Leticia Escobar - Federal Defenders of San Diego
Hannah Kohn - OutRight Action International
Jeri Milan - Immigration and Surveillance project
Molly Pearlman - CONPAZ Colombia
Abigail Ramos - Justice in Motion
Amal Thabateh - Defense for Children International Palestine (DCIP)
Fatima Youssef - Federal Public Defender Northern District of Texas
Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

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From working in a health clinic in the U.S. to a rural health clinic in Cambodia as a Peace Corps volunteer, I have seen how health is a global challenge. My interest in the legality of health access led me to study law and advocate for access to healthcare for all.

Sarah Axtell

As a Black woman, it has become increasingly important for me to create brighter paths for young people by changing narratives around what lawyers look like. My grit, determination, and will to succeed are some qualities that make me a great leader. LGBTQ youth are some of the most forgotten populations. I will help foster a brighter future and more equity for LGBTQ young people and Black and Brown people.

Elisabeth Bernard

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SUMMER 2020 UPDATES:

- 2019 Fellow **Jennifer Acevedo** is the inaugural recipient of the Nixon Peabody Summer Civil Rights Fellowship at LatinoJustice. During her Sorensen Fellowship summer, she interned with Safe Passage, which laid the groundwork for her legal work with LatinoJustice.
- 2019 Fellow **Daniel Amar Peña** and 2020 Fellow **Mohammed Hossain** were awarded fellowships by the South Asian Bar Association of New York.
- 2019 Fellow **Matthew Glover** was named a 2020 Fulbright Scholar. He will continue the work he did during his Fellowship summer on race and education in Brazil.
- 2018 Fellow **Ariana Smith** will become the first female Executive Director of the Lawyers Committee for Nuclear Policy in September. Through the Center, she interned with LCNP.
- 2018 Fellow **Christina Das** was elected President of Brooklyn Young Democrats. She continues to engage with democracy-related work, including the Voting Rights Initiative, at the Center.

from local to global

The **Sorensen Center for International Peace and Justice** trains social justice lawyers to work from local to global, protecting the rights of those affected by instability, conflict, and repression. The Center fosters the legacy of Theodore C. Sorensen, long-time close advisor and speechwriter to President John F. Kennedy who went on to serve as a partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, by nurturing students committed to practicing public interest law. The Center hosts stellar mentors and speakers through the “Critical Voices: From Local to Global” series and Scholar-in-Residence Program, develops Comparative Law Programs, features innovative Justice Through Art initiatives, and offers Fellowships to deserving students.

As the first named center at the CUNY School of Law, the Sorensen Center builds on and enhances the Law School’s decades-long tradition of practicing law in the service of human needs.



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Wolfgang Kaleck, 2020 Scholar-in-Residence
Secretary General, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)

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