



**Adeline Lee**

*Bachelor of Arts in Sociology  
Wellesley College, 2016*

Adeline brings to Coro a deep interest in human rights and women's education and leadership. Prior to joining the fellowship, she worked at PEN America on issues of campus speech, exploring ways to promote conscientiousness in matters of identity alongside robust protections for free expression. At Wellesley, Adeline served as student body president, chairing weekly 60-person Senates and coordinating equity, mental health, and community engagement initiatives. She was the sole student speaker in Wellesley's \$500 million fundraising campaign launch and spoke before 600 trustees, alums, faculty, students, and administrators on the significance of women's spaces in an age of evolving gender identity. She often tells people she chose Wellesley not for its absence of men but rather for its sheer presence of women. Adeline is excited to develop lasting bonds with her cohort and to witness Coro's multiplier effect in real-time.



**Akina Younge**

*Bachelor of Arts in Sociology  
Yale University, 2011*

Akina (Aki) comes to Coro with experience as a Paralegal and Legislative Advocacy Specialist at the Urban Justice Center. Aki's work at UJC included coordinating logistics and strategy for legislative advocacy campaigns. The campaigns she was involved in reflect a range of social justice issues, but maintain a theme of fighting against poverty and oppression – these campaigns include Responsible Licenses for Responsible Contractors, using wage theft judgments as grounds to revoke, suspend, or deny a construction contractor's license; Stand for Tenant Safety, improving the Department of Buildings to better protect tenants experiencing the use of residential construction as a harassment tool; and the Rent Justice Coalition, working to lobby the Rent Guidelines Board to use facts not politics to vote for more pro-tenant rent adjustments. Prior to her current position, Aki worked at Buena Nota, a consulting firm for a social entrepreneurship in Medellin, Colombia; Public Policy Productions, a documentary film company based in Palisades, New York; and her alma mater Yale University, as a college Admissions Officer. She is excited to work in new sectors in the public affairs world to learn more about how to make an impact.



**Amiel Fields-Meyer**

*Bachelor of Arts in U.S. History  
Emory University, 2016*

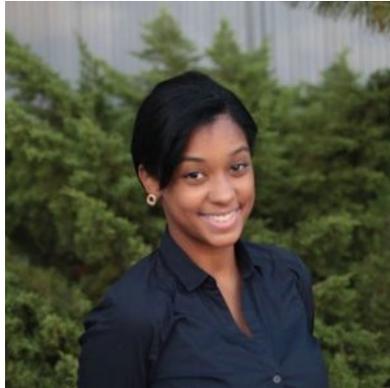
Amiel (Ami) is a native of Los Angeles, and is a co-founder of TableTalk, an organization that facilitates engagement between groups and people who would not otherwise interact. TableTalk, which began at Emory, has expanded to Penn, Brandeis, Indiana, and Wesleyan. Ami has served as a legislative intern in the Washington, D.C. office of U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, researched American Mid-East foreign policy at the Emory Institute for the Study of Modern Israel, and volunteered as a debate coach at a high school in South Africa. He has written on issues of race, politics, and higher education for the Huffington Post, Talking Points Memo, and other publications. After the Fellowship year, Ami hopes to be able to speak about public policy with greater specificity and better understand the city's mechanisms of alleviating racial and economic inequity.



**Bonnie Maldonado**

*Bachelor of Arts in American Studies  
Colby College, 2016*

Bonnie is originally from the Bronx, New York, and found her way to Waterville, Maine by way of the Posse Foundation, as she was selected to be a Posse Scholar for Colby College in 2012. For two summers, she taught Writing and Literature to rising seventh graders as a teaching fellow for Breakthrough New York. She has also worked as an intern for the Dean of Students Office at Colby. She is most proud of the areas she chose to study in at Colby, which has given her the tools to view the world with a critical lens of what was, what is and what could be. As a Coro Fellow, Bonnie hopes to continue to learn how to think critically as well as foster meaningful relationships with her cohort and Coro Alumni during her fellowship year.



**Chrisel Martinez**

*Bachelor of Science in Economics  
University of Albany, 2016*

Chrisel spent her time at the University of Albany involved in countless organizations that have given her boundless opportunities to prosper, making her an asset to the campus community. One of Chrisel's greatest accomplishments is having had the opportunity to chair the Committee of Equity and Inclusion within the State University of New York Student Assembly. With this position Chrisel was able to advocate for the equal representation and inclusion of students from diverse ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds.

Prior to Coro, Chrisel worked as an Intern within Statewide Public Affairs, a well-known lobbying firm within the Albany Capital Region. In this position Chrisel had the opportunity to receive a better understanding of the public affairs field, and has built transferable skills to assist her as she embarks on her career. As a Coro Fellow, Chrisel looks forward to gaining experience to assist her in the construction of her own education foundation, and hold a position within the Legislative branch.



**Elliana Bisgaard-Church**

*Bachelor of Arts in Political Science  
Swarthmore College, 2013*

Elliana (Elle) was selected to be a Philly Fellow upon graduation from college, and worked as the director of an adult literacy program in Philadelphia. She redesigned and rejuvenated the program serving some of Philadelphia's most marginalized individuals. Desiring to better understand the mechanics of the criminal justice system and the communities most affected, Elle then worked with a reentry program for in- and out-of-custody women, and later as a Fellow Investigator at the Public Defender Service for D.C. These experiences, combined with an internship at the ACLU's National Prison Project, have crystallized Elle's interest in the law and affirmed her commitment to prison reform. Most recently--and aligning with her previous work both in- and out- of college as a radio reporter--she's worked as an intern for the podcast *Slate* Political Gabfest and as a personal research assistant/editor for John Dickerson. As a Coro Fellow, she is excited to build a community of passionate and thoughtful peers.



**Jonathan Huang**

*Bachelor of Arts in Applied Linguistics  
Moody Bible Institute, 2015*

Jonathan served as a legislative intern for Alderman George Cardenas, a member of the Chicago City Council. He has conducted research for the Committee on Health and Environmental Protection and the Latino Caucus, and helped introduce legislation to curtail human trafficking in Chicago.

Prior to his work with the City Council, Jonathan researched transnational human insecurity in the Horn of Africa as a U.S. State Department eIntern and facilitated an undergraduate linguistics course. Jonathan enjoys writing about global inclusion and interfaith tolerance; his senior thesis, *A Brief History Behind the Terror*, compares the self-proclaimed Islamic State and the Ku Klux Klan and was awarded most peer-reviewed research paper in his graduating program.

Born into the home of Taiwanese immigrants to the US, Jonathan pursued diverse undergraduate studies in the Middle East, Europe and East Asia. He is trilingual and tri-literate in English, Mandarin and Arabic. Jonathan intends to use his fellowship year to learn from peer Coro Fellows and deepen his understanding of the role of cities in global governance.



**José Javier Castro**

*Bachelor of Arts in International Criminal Justice  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice, 2015*

José (Javi) is an energizing and ambitious young man from the Bronx. During his time at John Jay, he became an active member of the National Political Science Honor Society, Student Government and Community Outreach office. His ambition for learning and passion for service led him to pursue and complete internships in all three branches of NYC Government; the NYPD, Bronx DA's office and NYC Council. He has fully experienced the process of how an idea becomes a law, and then how it is enforced and litigated to his community. Towards the end of his degree, he decided to put the books down for a bit and pick up his passport. Travelling to 9 different countries and even working for the American Embassy in Poland for a semester, he learned a lot about cultural empathy and how other people run their governments. He believes, however, that NYC is unique because 40% of the population is made up of people born outside of the U.S., like himself. He believes that this complexity creates unique challenges but also unique solutions. Javi is looking forward to learning how to galvanize his generation in order to make New York a better city than when he found it.



**Lindsey Mayer**

*Bachelor of Arts in Political Science  
University of Portland, 2013*

Lindsey fled her hometown of Ogden, Utah to attend school in Portland where she believed all her dreams would come true. After graduating and realizing she wasn't a hippy after all, she made way for Washington, D.C., where she believed that a degree in Political Science and an internship with Senator Ron Wyden were all she needed to move up quickly through the ranks of the U.S. Senate. When it finally dawned on her that her favorite part of the internship was not researching policy but rather giving tours of the Capitol building, she thought she might want to take a different path in her professional career. She then worked as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer for a non-profit in Salt Lake City committed to providing resources to low-wage workers and their families. It was through the experience of grant writing, that she realized the power of cross-sector stakeholders and collaboration. Before joining the Coro community in New York City, Lindsey worked for the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office and City Council Office where her idealism in local government took hold. Lindsey continues to have an optimistic outlook on community change-making by integrating her long-term love affair with Jane Jacobs and her unbridled passion for public service.



**Martin Schmid**

*Bachelor of Science in Political Affairs  
Baruch College, 2016*

Martin attended college in New York City, and spent his time as an undergraduate involved first in student government, and then as a Resident Assistant (RA), where he was able to help lead and oversee a large resident community. Outside of school, Martin explored his interest in public service through internships at the city and state levels with a New York City Councilman, NYS Assemblyman, NYS Senator, a state senate campaign, and at a local business improvement district. Each of these experiences has been invaluable in helping to determine career interests, but the intense experience of working on relief efforts from Hurricane Sandy with the Assemblyman, like spending the night in an emergency shelter and delivering provisions to constituents, has left an indelible mark on Martin. He is beyond excited for the challenge of the Coro Fellowship and is ready to take the position head on. Martin is especially looking forward to meeting and getting to know his fellow cohort members and engaging in his placement opportunities.



**Samantha Hom**

*Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
Colgate University, 2016*

Samantha is passionate about holding institutions accountable to the intersectional needs of the communities they serve. She strives to amplify the voices of those in marginalized and silenced groups to create collaborative and meaningful change. During her senior year at Colgate University, she led an initiative to make the traditional Torchlight procession more unifying, celebratory, and inclusive for students of color. She is the Sexual and Gender Based Violence Intern at the Center for Women’s Studies on campus, and is involved in creating survivor-centric programming for the Colgate community. Looking to combine her psychology background with her interests in mental health stigma and the nonprofit sector, Samantha worked on the Helpline at the National Eating Disorders Association providing resources and support to callers. Additionally, she has worked as an intern for the past two summers at Step Up, a nonprofit organization that connects professional women with young women from underserved areas in New York City. The mentorship program holds workshops in public speaking and networking to encourage young women to pursue a college education and their career goals. During her time at Coro, Samantha hopes to learn how to influence policy change in an effective and innovative way.



**Tania Marinos**

*Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies  
Dickinson College, 2014*

Tania is a native New Yorker dedicated to the celebration and protection of her city’s residents. At Dickinson, Tania channeled her passion for critical discourse through her work leading Sustained Dialogue, an organization with a transformative approach to root-conflict mediation. She carried her commitment towards effective facilitation into her role as NYCHA Committee facilitator with the Participatory Budgeting Project, working with residents to secure funds for capital projects in her district.

In her position as Proposal Coordinator for Cosentini Associates, Tania engaged a network of architects, developers, and project managers to secure her firm’s work on some of the city’s most iconic structures. She took pride in coordinating multi-stakeholder proposals and gained great insight into the trends and processes that impact the future of this city’s built environment.

With the support of the Coro community, Tania looks forward to the challenge of navigating the professional realm in a leadership capacity. She is excited to learn from Coro’s network of change-makers to develop her cross-sector business acumen throughout her Fellowship year.