

The Alumni Conference | April 14 2018



Blazing the Trail
BEING THE FIRST

Yale OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PO Box 208229
New Haven CT 06520-8229
T 203 432-2550

Dear 1stGenYale Team,



Congratulations on your inaugural conference, “Blazing the Trail: Being the First”! I am grateful for your continued efforts to engage alumni and strengthen our community. 1stGenYale plays a critical role in building a more unified Yale through facilitating alumni-to-alumni and alumni-to-student interactions.

As you know from your personal history and professional vantage point, access to education is key to social mobility. There are important benefits to educating students who are the first in their families to attend college. This is true not just for the students, but for universities—and for society.

I am proud that our community has long been committed to making a Yale education accessible and affordable to all qualified students. It is heartening that nearly 17 percent of the Class of 2021 are first-generation students. Yale has increased first-year enrollment among first-generation students and students receiving Pell-grants by more than 60 percent over the past five years. Our country and our world stand to benefit greatly from cultivating and supporting talented young people from every zip code, nation, and income level.

Thank you for your partnership in helping members of our community experience Yale as a place where they belong and ensuring that they will thrive during their time here and after graduation. When you share your stories, you are imparting invaluable wisdom and solidifying the bond that we share as Yalies. I look forward to 1stGenYale’s continued success for many more years to come.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Peter Salovey". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Peter Salovey
President
Chris Argyris Professor of Psychology

Welcome

Dear Participants,

On behalf of the 1stGenYale, an AYA Shared Interest Group, we welcome you to our inaugural conference *Blazing the Trail: Being the First*. We are very excited to have you join us and meet fellow trailblazers, share our personal stories, and plan our future together.

As trailblazers, our alumni represent a broad array of backgrounds, but come together sharing our experiences being among the first in our families and/or from underserved backgrounds to attend college or graduate school. At our conference, you will have the opportunity to interact with fellow alumni in different forums, leading keynotes, alumni in diverse career fields, faculty, and current students.

Since July 2016, our programs have connected over 500 students with 700 alumni who are a supportive resource to ease their transition, help them navigate and take advantage of Yale's resources. Net proceeds from the conference will support the new Yale College Dean's Student Assistance Fund for immediate and urgent needs to help students purchase a winter coat or interview suit, meals when the dining halls are closed, or transportation home for an emergency.

Thank you to all alumni members of our working group, alumni keynotes and panelists, the AYA SIG staff and others who supported this inaugural conference, Being the First!

We hope that you will be motivated and inspired by the resilience of Yale alumni and their continuing impact on our communities.

Lise Chapman '81 MBA, Co-Chair

Magda Vergara '82, Co-Chair

1stGenYale Alumni Volunteer Leadership Team

CONTENTS

Letter from the President	inside cover
Welcome	1
Program	2
Keynotes	4
Alumni Panelists	6
Giving	10
Reaching Out	10
Thanks	11
Sponsors	12

The Program Schedule

LOCATION

All events will be held at the:
Yale School of Management
165 Whitney Avenue
New Haven
except where indicated.

SATURDAY APRIL 14

8:00AM-9:00AM

Registration

9:15AM-10:00AM | ZHANG AUDITORIUM
WELCOME KEYNOTE

Marta Moret '84 MPH | *Reflections on Being First*

President of Urban Strategies

10:00AM-11:30AM | ZHANG AUDITORIUM

Dr. Luis Miguel Anez PsyD | *Imposter Syndrome*

Associate Professor of Psychiatry; Director, Hispanic Services Connecticut Mental Health Center (40 min)

Camille Lizarribar | *Navigating Two Worlds*

Dean of Student Affairs and Senior Associate Dean of Yale College (40 min)

11:45AM-1:00PM | MAIN FLOOR
LUNCHEON KEYNOTE

Peggy Kuo '85 | *Being the First, But Not the Last*

Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of New York

1:00PM-2:00PM | CHARLEY'S PLACE

Power Networking

Connect with fellow Yalies and Corporate/Non-Profit Sponsors

2:00PM-3:15PM

Alumni Panels | *Challenges & Opportunities in Selected Careers*

— Select One —

LOCATION

Arts

J.C. Calderon '92 MArch
Linda Chin '81
Dr. Cristina Gonzalez '94
Peter Gordon '80
Stuart Cohen '70 | Moderator

LOCATION

Entrepreneurship

Porter Braswell '11
John Rice '88
Caroline Tanbee Smith '11
Danielle Kristine Toussaint '06
| Moderator

LOCATION

Non-Profit/Public Service

Esther Addo '07
Regina Bain '98 '01 MFA
Lynn Hepburn '95
Aaron Shipp '96
Paul Whyte '93
Janna Wagner '95
Jack Callahan, Jr. '80
| Moderator

LOCATION

STEM

Joseph Cerro '89
Karin Kricorian '94
Maria Lopez-Bresnahan '78
Mark Richards '81 MusM
Esther Zirbel '93 PhD
| Moderator

SOCIAL MEDIA

#BlazingTheTrail
 #1stGenYale
 #YaleAlumni

DEDICATION

This conference is dedicated to all Yale alumni who blazed the trail before us and to all of us who work toward making Yale a better place for all who come in the future.

SATURDAY APRIL 14

3:30PM-4:30PM | ZHANG AUDITORIUM

Yale College and G&P Students | *Campus Life Today Being First*

Participate in this “flip classroom” discussion as students share their perspectives.

Rayan Alsemeiry '19 Global Affairs & Human Rights

Chelsea Mayle '20 Ecology, Evolutionary Biology / Political Science

Heaven Berhane '18 MDIV Yale Divinity School

Samuel Maritim '18 PhD Biomedical Engineering

Connie Li '19 MPH Epidemiology of Microbial Disease

4:30PM-5:30PM | LOCATION

Students, Alumni & Sponsors' Reception

Continue the conversation and interact with students & alumni over light refreshments!

SATURDAY EVENING

6:30PM-7:15PM | LOCATION

Alumni Reception

7:15PM-9:00PM | LOCATION

DINNER KEYNOTE

David A. Thomas '78, '86 PhD | *Lessons from an Improbable Journey*

President, Morehouse College

10:00PM-MIDNIGHT | GRYPHON'S PUB AT GPSCY (CASH BAR), 204 YORK STREET

Continue the Celebration

Cash bar

SUNDAY APRIL 15

9:00AM-11:00AM | ROSE ALUMNI HOUSE | 232 YORK ST.

Discussion on Next Steps

Keynote Biographies

Marta Moret '84 MPH
Reflections on Being First

WELCOME

Marta Elisa Moret is president of Urban Policy Strategies, a New Haven-based consulting firm that conducts research and assessment in public health. UPS evaluates the impact of community-based interventions in areas such as HIV/AIDS, childhood obesity, substance abuse, and cardiovascular diseases. UPS uses evidence-based approaches to enhance the capacity of African-American, Latino, and Native American community organizations to implement successful disease prevention programs. This work has served as a model for community-academic partnerships in addressing public health issues facing underserved families and children.

Previously, Ms. Moret was the deputy commissioner for the Connecticut Department of Social Services, vice president for program at the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, and program director at Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation. Ms. Moret is on the board of Women's Health Research at Yale; is a member of Hispanics in Philanthropy and the Eastern Evaluation Association; has served Yale as a member of the Yale Alumni Association's Board of Governors; and was assistant director and a fellow of the Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy (now the Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy). She earned her master of public health degree from the Yale School of Public Health in 1984.

Peggy Kuo '85
Being First, But Not the Last

LUNCH

Peggy Kuo was sworn in as United States Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of New York in 2015. Her multi-faceted legal career includes positions as Deputy Commissioner and General Counsel of the New York City Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (the largest municipal tribunal in the country); Chief Hearing Officer for the New York Stock Exchange; counsel with the law firm of WilmerHale, and law clerk to the Honorable Judith W. Rogers on the D.C. Court of Appeals. She also served for twelve years as a prosecutor, first as an Assistant United States Attorney in Washington, DC., then with the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division Criminal Section, and finally at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, where she prosecuted the first international war crimes trial focused on mass rape and slavery as crimes against humanity. The trial was featured in the documentary series "Women, War and Peace": <http://www.pbs.org/video/women-war-and-peace-episode-1-i-came-to-testify/>

Judge Kuo came to the U.S. from Taiwan when she was three years old and grew up in New York City and New Jersey. She graduated from Harvard Law School in 1988, studied in Germany as an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Federal Chancellor Fellow, and is the first lawyer in her family. <https://www.nyed.uscourts.gov/content/magistrate-judge-peggy-kuo>

David Thomas '78, '86 PhD *Lessons from an Improbable Journey*

DINNER

David Thomas is the 12th President of Morehouse College. Prior, he was H. Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. His research addresses issues related to executive development, cultural diversity in organizations, leadership and organizational change. He recently served as a professor of management at Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business, where he served as dean from 2011 to 2016.

During his tenure as dean, he created a culture committed to creating transformational educational experiences that prepare students to become principled and globally minded leaders poised to serve both business and society.

He joined Georgetown McDonough in 2011 following a two-decade career at Harvard Business School. While there Thomas enhanced academic and professional opportunities for the school's undergraduate and graduate students, including a curriculum redesign and expansion of career management activities for MBA students and the addition of the Global Business Experience and an Office of Professional Development for undergraduates. He also increased the diversity of faculty and staff, launched new research initiatives and increased research funding, grew Executive Education program revenues by 400 percent, and grew the school's endowment and increased philanthropic giving, ending the school's capital campaign \$30 million above its \$100 million fundraising goal.

Partnering with the Washington, D.C., community while at Georgetown McDonough, Thomas was a member of the Federal City Council, and in 2014, the Washington Business Journal recognized him as a top Minority Business Leader.

Thomas received a bachelor's degree, as well as masters and doctoral degrees in Organizational Behavior, from Yale University. He also holds a master's in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University. He currently is a member of the Board of Governors for the American Red Cross, the Board of Directors of DTE Energy, and the Estoril Conferences Advisory Board. He also is an industry advisor for Brightwood Capital Advisors.

Alumni Panel Biographies

Esther Addo '07

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Esther Addo is the Director of Regional Operations at KIPP Massachusetts where she oversees operations across KIPP's public charter schools in Lynn and Boston. She is working towards a Master's in Educational Leadership, earned an MBA from Columbia Business School, and a BA in Psychology from Yale University '07.

Regina Bain '98 '01 MFA

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Regina is the Associate Vice President of The Posse Foundation. She is a non-profit leader, organizational strategist, artist, writer and facilitator. She earned her B.A. in Theater and African-American Studies from Yale University and her MFA from the Yale School of Drama.

Porter Braswell '11

Entrepreneurship Panel

Porter Braswell is the CEO and co-founder of Jopwell, a technology platform that helps Black, Latinx, and Native American students and professionals unlock opportunities for career advancement. Under Porter's leadership, Jopwell has formed more than 100 partnerships with America's leading companies and facilitated tens of thousands of connections between its community and customers.

J.C. Calderón '92 MArch

Arts Panel

J.C. Calderón is a registered architect who has practiced over 20 years and graduated with a MArch from Yale in 1992. He has been a delegate to the AYA Assembly for the past three years and is working with the School of Architecture to develop their Alumni Association. He is the founder of Calderon Architecture & Design Studio P.C., which operates out of Beacon, NY.

Jack F. Callahan, Jr. '80

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Jack F. Callahan Jr., was appointed Yale's inaugural Senior Vice President for Operations in June 2016. Mr. Callahan, who earned a B.A. in Administrative Sciences from Yale (Davenport College) in 1980 and an M.B.A. from the Amos Tuck School at Dartmouth in 1986, has held leadership positions at a number of major global organizations.

Joseph Cerro '89

STEM Panel

Joseph Cerro led the bioinformatics and DNA sequencing groups at Bayer, created some of the health-care industry's first mobile apps and social media initiatives, won an Albert Einstein Award, led a team of quantitative biologists into the world of professional sports and entertainment data analytics, designed technology strategies for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Joe promises to reveal the secret Yale STEM skills that tie all these things together.

Linda Chin '81

Arts Panel

Linda Chin is the Producing Artistic Director at Wheelock Family Theatre, a professional Equity theatre in Boston, MA that is one of the nation's trailblazers of multicultural, intergenerational and inclusive casting. Linda graduated from Yale '81 as an MB&B major and the Harvard School of Public Health. Linda is thrilled to be educating and nurturing future generations of theatregoers and theater artists and transforming lives through the arts.

Stuart Cohen '70

Arts Panel

Stuart Cohen graduated Yale with a BA in psychology. For 25 years he worked as a professional photographer for commercial and editorial clients and has written books on photography and psychology. With Yale, he has participated in several YaleGALE expeditions, the Yale Alumni Service Corps, and is currently working on a words and photographs recollection project for the Class of '70's upcoming reunion.

Cristina González '94

Arts Panel

Cristina Cruz González has a B.A. from Yale, an M.A. in Art History from UT Austin, an M.Phil in Classics from Cambridge, and a PhD in Art History from the University of Chicago. She is an expert on early modern Spanish art and religion and is currently associate professor of art history at Oklahoma State University.

Peter M. Gordon '80

Arts Panel

Peter M. Gordon has over 35 years creating and curating content for platforms ranging from live theatre to digital video. Peter currently teaches Business of Film in Full Sail University's Film Production MFA program. He earned a BA from Yale in 1980 and an MFA from Carnegie-Mellon in 1982. Peter served Yale as a Club President, Alumni Schools Committee Chairman, AYA Board of Governors member, and is Florida Regional Director for Yale Day of Service.

Lynn Hepburn '95

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Cristina Cruz González has a B.A. from Yale, an M.A. in Art History from UT Austin, an M.Phil in Classics from Cambridge, and a PhD in Art History from the University of Chicago. She is an expert on early modern Spanish art and religion and is currently associate professor of art history at Oklahoma State University.

Karin Kricorian '94

Stem Panel

Karin is the Director, Management Science and Integration at the Walt Disney Company. She leads a team that provides analytics consultant services to business units across Disney. She specializes in marketing and content analytics, focusing on Disney's film and television businesses. Karin received a bachelor's degree from Yale and masters and doctoral degrees from Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Alumni Panel Biographies

Maria V. Lopez-Bresnahan '85

Stem Panel

Dr. Maria Lopez-Bresnahan is a senior biopharmaceutical executive with more than 15 years of industry experience developing new drugs from early phases through post-approval lifecycle management. She is currently VP of Clinical Research, Neuroscience at Alkermes, Inc. Dr. Lopez-Bresnahan received a BA from Yale University, MS from Georgetown University, an MD from New York University School of Medicine, and an MBA from Northeastern University. A board certified neurologist, she completed her neurology residency and a fellowship in neuroimmunology at the Massachusetts General Hospital and the Harvard Medical School, where she served as Assistant Clinical Professor of Neurology. She maintains an affiliation as neuroscientist with the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Mark Richards '81 MusM

Stem Panel

The founder and CEO of eRichards Consulting, Mark has worked in the computer consulting business for more than twenty five (25) years. His expertise is focused on open systems, and includes extensive knowledge of the web channel and the business growth triggers that drive revenue through this channel. Mark holds degrees in Music from S.U.N.Y at Purchase and Yale University.

John Rice '88

Entrepreneurship Panel

John Rice is the Founder and CEO of Management Leadership for Tomorrow (MLT), a national non-profit organization that equips underrepresented minorities with the playbook, coaching, and relationships required to become high-impact leaders in corporations, non-profits and entrepreneurial ventures. John serves on the Board of Trustees of Yale University, and he is a Director and Governance Committee Chair of Walker & Dunlop, a NYSE-traded real estate finance company. John received his MBA from Harvard Business School and his BA with honors from Yale, where he was a three-year starter on the basketball team.

Aaron Shipp '96

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Aaron A. Shipp, PCC, is the Founder & CEO of Y-Apply, Inc., a national nonprofit dedicated to helping bright and talented public school students and their families with the application process to top-tier colleges and universities. He is also the Founder & CEO of The Ivy Edge, a college admissions consulting firm serving students and families across the globe as a trusted adviser to the college admissions process. Aaron has also been involved in several alumni initiatives over the years and is overjoyed to meet other first-gen Yalies this weekend who are blazing the trail!

Caroline Smith '14

Entrepreneurship Panel

Caroline Smith is the Co-founder and co-director of Collab New Haven, a small business, non-profit, and for-profit support program serving Connecticut entrepreneurs. She was elected Chair of the Downtown-Wooster Square Community Management Team. She's received the City of New Haven Individual Innovator Award, Yale Presidential Public Service Fellowship, and Yale Seton Elm-Ivy Award for her work.

Danielle Kristine Toussaint '06

Entrepreneurship Panel

Danielle Kristine Toussaint is a storyteller, strategist and social impact leader. She is founder and CEO of She Thinks Purple, a strategic communications firm that helps mission-driven leaders and organizations leverage storytelling to create radical change in the world. In addition, she is a founding cohort member and facilitator for Tide Risers – a global yearlong cohort experience for women leaders. Danielle holds a B.A. in Political Science and African-American Studies from Yale University and a M.S. Ed from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education.

Janna Wagner '95

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Janna Wagner is co-founder and chief learning officer of All Our Kin, a nonprofit organization that trains, supports, and sustains early childhood educators in Connecticut and New York. Janna holds a B.A. in psychology from Yale (JE 1995) and an Ed.M. from Harvard Graduate School of Education. Janna co-teaches a seminar on “Child Care, Society, and Public Policy” at Yale. She received the Yale Jefferson Award, was a Zero to Three Leadership Fellow, and is currently a Pahara Aspen Education Fellow and a Public Voices Fellow at Yale.

Paul Whyte '93

Non-Profit/Public Service Panel

Paul A. Whyte is the Instructional Leadership Director for High Schools and Turnaround Schools in Waterbury Public Schools in Connecticut. He supervises principals to assure proper management of schools. Mr. Whyte holds a BA in Psychology from Yale and a Masters of Education in Administration, Planning, and Social Policy (APSP) from Harvard Graduate School of Education and an Intermediate Administration and Supervision Certificate from Sacred Heart University. He is currently pursuing his doctorate at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Esther Zirbel '93 PhD

STEM Panel

Esther is a first generation high school graduate, born to German parents who migrated to Turkey after World-War-II-. She fought to attend high school, secretly applied to college, and left when she turned eighteen. Her eventual success led her to earn an award-winning PhD in astrophysics from Yale. She currently coaches professors in teaching and learning.

Reaching Out

Support Unexpected Needs for Yale Students

Would you like to support 1st generation / under-served Yale College students today?

Consider making a gift to the newly established Yale College Dean's Student Assistance Fund: giving.yale.edu/supportStudentAssistance).

For more information on giving, visit: giving.yale.edu/ways-to-give/how-to-gift.









Your gift will provide financial support for urgent or emergency needs. It will help students with food expenses when dining halls are closed, emergency travel, and more. To support students in a graduate or professional school, select the designated school. All sponsorship gifts can be matched by company employers. (is this the correct wording?)

Net proceeds from the conference will support the Yale College Dean's Student Assistance Fund.

Thank you for making a difference to help these students make the most of their Yale experience.

DONATE AT ANY TIME
giving.yale.edu/supportStudentAssistance.

Giving

-  1stgenyale@gmail.com
-  1stgenyale.org
-  [1stGenYale page & group](#)
-  [@1stgenyale](#)
-  [1stgenyale](#)
-  [#BlazingTheTrail](#)
-  [#1stGenYale](#)
-  [#YaleAlumni](#)

A Thank You from the Co-Chairs

Our trailblazing alumni executive committee is broad and diverse from across the country: Ben Bartolome '16, John Boak '70, Billy Cheung '99, Stuart Cohen '70, Karin Kricorian PhD, '94, Kristy Lamb '12 PhD, Aneesa Noorani '16, Danielle Kristine Toussaint '06, Janna Wagner '95, Esther Zirbel '93 PhD.

Additional strong support from alumni across the globe: Gail Bent '87, Marv Berenblum '56, Timeica Bethel '11, Renata Cesar '79, Nick Chen '79, Elvira Duran '04, Annie Lin '09, Maria Lopez-Bresnahan '78, Paul Lorem Aminathia '15, Patricia Melton '83, Michael Protacio '13, Christopher Quander '86, Andrew Richter '74MA '79PhD, Lydia Serrano '99, Kristina Tremonti '11, Caroline Hsiao Van '79.

We are grateful for the continued support from Nicholas Lewis '93, AYA Senior Director, Shared Interest Groups, Alamir Khalid Okko, Senior Administrative Assistant, AYA Shared Interest Groups, and Executive Director, Weili Cheng '77.

Thank you, too, for university senior administration for their support: President Peter Salovey '86 PhD, Secretary and Vice President for Campus Life Kimberly Goff-Crews YC '83 '86 JD, Yale College Dean Marvin Chun, Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Dean Lynn Cooley, Burgwell Howard, Associate Vice President for Student Life, Dean of Student Engagement; Michael Fitzpatrick, Associate Director, Academic Affairs.

John Boak '70, our friend and graphic designer, we thanks for his brilliance about how to share our story.

We cannot end until we thank our own mentors, Yale College students, Rayan Alsemeiry YC '19 and Laura Plata YC '19, who guided us following their leadership chairing the 2017 IvyG Conference.

We thank you for all your support to help us create this conference for our alumni and students. We hope that it has been as transformative of an experience for you and it has been for us.

Lise Chapman '81 MBA, Co-Chair

Magda Vergara PhD, '82, Co-Chair

Sponsors

CORPORATE SPONSORS



MACQUARIE



Honest



NON-PROFIT SPONSORS



LEDA LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE
for a DIVERSE AMERICA



GROUNDBREAKERS
\$1,000 - \$500

- John Boak '70
- Lise Chapman '81 MBA
- Andrew Chapman '81 MBA
- Pam Farr '78 MBA
- Katherine Gross '83 MPPM
- Karin Kricorian '94
- Thomas Opladen '66
- Peter Thorne '77

PATHFINDERS
\$499 - \$10

- Gail Bent '87
- James Doss-Goiin '15
- Elvira Duran '04
- Xiaoyan Huang '91
- Dana D Lasko '81
- Maria Kontardis '02 PhD
- Katherine Murphy '71

UNIVERSITY SPONSORS

Yale ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

TSAI CENTER
FOR INNOVATIVE
THINKING AT Yale

Yale COLLEGE DEAN'S OFFICE

Yale GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEAN'S OFFICE

Yale CAREERS, LIFE, AND YALE

Yale OFFICE OF CAREER STRATEGY

Yale GRADUATE SCHOOL
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Yale ASSOCIATION OF ALUMNI
IN MEDICINE

Yale SCHOOL OF NURSING
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Yale GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL
STUDENT SENATE

Yale COLLEGE COUNCIL

SHARED INTEREST GROUP SPONSORS



Notes

A series of horizontal dotted lines for writing notes.

1st
gen
Yale



Connect | Share | Support

By telling our stories as former students and now professionals in diverse careers, we help students to know that they are not alone. We believe in them. We want them to know that they belong. We all belong to the Yale family.