

BLACK PROFESSIONAL AND ALLYSHIP FORUM 2021

Hosted by The Waldorf School of Garden City
Black Student Union

FEBRUARY 25TH, 2021
12:20-1:50 PM



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BLACK PROFESSIONAL AND ALLYSHIP FORUM 2021

The Black Professional and Allyship Forum will offer a view of the Black professional experience while providing perspective on the importance of allyship.

What is allyship? Why is it important and how can we all become better allies at School, at work, and in our daily lives?

The career paths and experiences of the panelists are diverse and will provide high school students with a broad picture of their journeys as well as their individual thoughts and reflections.

Schedule

Thursday, February 25th, 12:20 pm - 1:50 pm

12:20 pm - Introduction by BSU Chairs

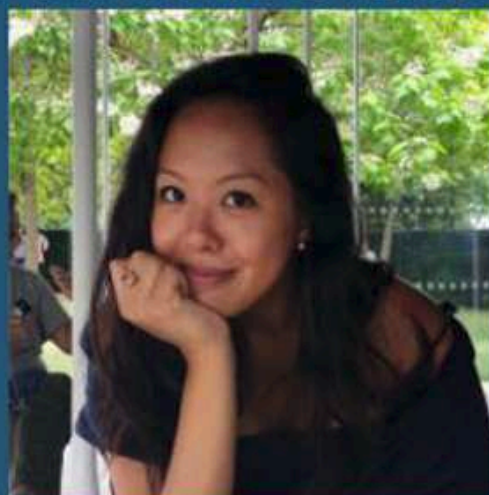
12:25 pm - Panelist Introductions

12:30 pm - Panel Discussion

1:15 pm - Q & A

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Forum Panelists



Irene Wu: Founder of the YX Foundation

Irene Wu is an undergrad at Harvard University pursuing a joint concentration in CS + African American Studies. After several years of conducting research at the intersection of race, machine learning, and law enforcement technology, she founded The YX Foundation, a (student-led!) hybrid coalition-design lab dedicated to prototyping at the intersection of deep technology and critical race theory. She previously led Business Development and Operations at Rowing Blazers, a direct-to-consumer menswear startup based in NYC, and has held design roles at IDEO and FutureBrand. Ask her about surfing, the Hawaiian Renaissance, or anything tech for liberation.



JEFFERY BECKHAM JR : CEO OF THE BLACK BOX CREATIVE AND INTERIM CEO OF CHICAGO SCHOLARS

Jeffery Beckham serves as the interim CEO at Chicago Scholars. He is a community leader and tech-entrepreneur known for advancing the fight for equity and exposure for youth in Chicago. Over the course of his career, he's worked in both the for and non-profit sector developing skills in technology, youth leadership development, and strategy.

Jeffery also has experience in sales, marketing, and technology entrepreneurship for Quest Diagnostics, Atlas Medical Corporation, The New Teacher Center, and his own startup Black Box Creative.



Michael Bruner: CEO of The Third Option City

Michael Bruner is a renowned leader in business, nonprofit, and youth development environments who holds more than 40 years of experience in empowering people and teams to exceed all expectations, including their own. No matter the management and strategic issue, Michael can devise a proven strategy that will give organizations a key, sustainable advantage toward making a significant impact to their target market and each other. Inspirational Keynote Speaker. Team Builder. Coach. Mr. San Diego 2019.

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Forum Panelists

Kevin Beckford: Co-founder of The Hustlers Guild and Atlantic Fellow for Racial Equity



Kevin Beckford is the co-founder of The Hustlers Guild, a nonprofit that uses hip hop to expand access and opportunity to Black and Latinx youth in the innovation space. He is an Atlantic Fellow for Racial Equity. He also serves as the advancement manager for Urban Assembly where he supports policy and external outreach for the public school network. From 2014-2016, Kevin worked as the domestic policy portfolio lead in the White House Presidential Correspondence Office and as a special advisor to Secretary Julian Castro at the U. S. Department of Housing and Development. While working for the White House, Kevin successfully advocated for more inclusive and responsive communication practices concerning race relations and police brutality. Prior to serving as a political appointee under the Obama administration, Kevin taught African American history to high school students in Philadelphia. Kevin earned his B.A. in African American Studies and Political Science from Yale University, his MPhil. in African Studies from the University of Cambridge, and his MSc. in Education from the University of Pennsylvania.

Chelsea Williams-Diggs: Program Specialist with Vera Institute of Justice



As an experienced advocate and movement builder, Chelsea has dedicated her career to the advancement of racial justice and gender equity. She currently serves as the Program Specialist for Innovation and New Initiatives at the Vera Institute of Justice where she supports the development of new ideas with the potential to transform the US criminal legal and immigration systems. Before Vera, Chelsea trained and mobilized thousands of youth activists from Brooklyn to Beirut to take action for a more gender-equal world through positions at Women Deliver, a leading global advocacy organization, and Girl Up, an initiative of the United Nations Foundation. She also worked for the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) and served as a three-time AmeriCorps Member for Jumpstart for Young Children. Chelsea holds a BA in Government and Women's and Gender Studies from Georgetown University and MA in Public Policy from The George Washington University. She volunteers with various grassroots organizations and serves on the board of the New York Abortion Access Fund.

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