

THE PAUL & DAISY SOROS FELLOWSHIPS FOR NEW AMERICANS



Announcing the Class of 2014

The Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships honor the contributions of immigrants to the United States. Since 1998, they have invested in the education of New Americans—immigrants and children of immigrants—who show great potential to make distinctive contributions to the America of the future. Thirty fellows are selected each year. Fellows receive up to \$90,000 in tuition and stipend support for graduate school over two years.

The 2014 Fellows were selected from more than 1200 applicants. They reflect the diversity of recent immigrants with parents

from 21 countries. The fellows earned their bachelor's degrees at 23 different institutions. They join a remarkable community of 475 fellows from 16 previous classes.

Paul & Daisy Soros Fellows are already making significant contributions to American life. They include our Ambassador to Uruguay; the nominee for US Surgeon General; leading scientists, lawyers, social scientists, inventors, entrepreneurs, writers, journalists, and artists—each reflecting the substantial role immigrants have played in shaping American society.



MIKE ALVAREZ
PhD in communications
at UMass Amherst

Born in the Philippines, moved to New Jersey at 10; BA from Rutgers University; MA and MFA from Goddard College; studies the effects of emerging technologies on suicide.



ROXANA DANESHJOU
MD and PhD in genetics
at Stanford

Born in Texas; parents left Iran to escape the revolution; BS from Rice; lead researcher on the Iranian Genome Project; member of Education Under Fire, protesting Iran's policy of expelling Baha'is from university.



DAVID HANIFI
PhD in chemistry
at Stanford

Born in Maine; parents fled Afghanistan during the Russian invasion; BS from UC Berkeley; created a student-run course called Chemistry of Cooking; aims to use chemistry to address climate change.



YURI BUGUINIA
PhD in music
composition at Princeton

Born in Russia, immigrated to Colorado to escape anti-Semitic persecution; BA from Juilliard; works commissioned by the Moscow and Kronos String Quartets and performed at the Aspen Music Festival and Tanglewood.



CARLOS EDUARDO ESTRADA ALAMO
MD and MBA at Harvard

Born in Mexico and came to US at 5; BS from University of Washington; helped develop a novel HIV diagnostic system for the developing world; interested in health care delivery system reform.



LAURA HUOBER
Master's in environmental
management at Yale

Born in Germany; moved to Austin, Texas at 8; coursework at Santa Monica College and BA from Amherst College; researched waste management in Ghana; dedicated to working on the management of e-waste.



ARNAV CHHABRA
PhD in medical engineering and medical physics
at Harvard and MIT

Born in India; moved to US at 15; published first paper on chemotherapy in high school; BS from UT-Austin; creating an *on chip* model of the liver for noninvasive study of liver function.



DAN FENG
MD at Stanford

Born in China; BS from Tsinghua University; came to US at 22; PhD in biology at UPenn; published in several science journals; volunteering at a low-cost clinic cemented her desire to become a physician-scientist.



JESSICA HWANG
PhD in statistics
at Stanford

Born in Washington, DC to Taiwanese parents; BA and MA from Harvard; co-authored a statistics textbook with her professor; aims to explore how statistics can be used to address social problems.



ALEXANDER L. CHEN
JD at Harvard

Born in Colorado to Chinese parents; BA from Oxford, MA from Columbia; aims to combine litigation, policy work, and research to advance civil rights for transgendered people.



ROBERT FERNANDEZ
PhD in biophysics and
biochemistry at Yale

Born in Peru; came to the US at 5; BS from York College, CUNY; received the Alliance/Merck Ciencia National Scholarship and the Distinguished Graduate Award; part of Yale's selective Medical Research Scholars Program.



SUNDEEP IYER
JD at Yale

Born in New Jersey to Indian parents; BA from Harvard; directed statistical research at Brennan Center for Justice; founded Statistical Reform in Redistricting Project; research used in several federal voter rights cases.



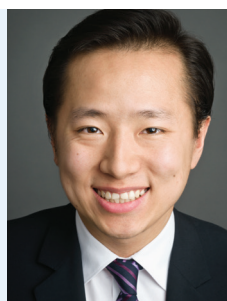
NATALIE JESIONKA
PhD in sociology at
The New School

Born in New Jersey to Polish parents; BA and MS from Rutgers; Fulbright Scholar to Thailand; research led to a partnership with Oscar Award-winning Shine Global on the upcoming documentary *Selling Our Daughters*.



GEORGE POCHETSPOV
MBA

Born in Philadelphia to Ukrainian parents; BS from Harvard; art prodigy who set up a charitable foundation which has raised over eight million dollars for good causes from the sale of his art.



RICHARD TAO
JD at Yale

Born in China; immigrated to Detroit; BA from Yale; student body president at Yale; worked at Goldman Sachs, the FTC and McKinsey; hopes to contribute to Detroit's revival with background in policy and business.



GEORGE KARANDINOS
MD and PhD in medical
anthropology at Harvard

Born in Alabama to Greek parents; BA from UPenn; co-authoring a book on his experience living in the heart of Philadelphia's heroin street-market examining the narcotics economy and its effect on public health.



JASSMIN POYAOAN
JD and MBA at UCLA

Born in California to Filipino parents; raised her sister and cared for her grandmother following her mother's death; BA from UC Berkeley; will address systemic poverty through economic development and worker empowerment.



KHALIL TAWIL
JD at Yale and MBA
at Harvard

Born in Arizona to Lebanese parents; BA from United States Military Academy at West Point; MA from American University in Cairo as a Fulbright Scholar; served three tours in Afghanistan as an infantry officer.



DANIEL KIM
MD and PhD in cancer
biology at Yale

Born in California to Korean parents; BA from Harvard; served as co-president of Harvard Red Cross and conducted research on skin cancer; looking forward to a career involved in the fight against cancer.



AZUCENA RAMOS
MD at Harvard and
PhD in biology at MIT

Born in California to Mexican parents; BA from Smith College; hematopoiesis and cancer research at Harvard Stem Cell Institute; seeking scientific change while empowering underprivileged communities.



JONATHAN TSAI
MD and PhD in
developmental biology
at Stanford

Born in California; parents from China; BS from Caltech; Fulbright Scholar to Israel; developing new tools to study blood and solid organ development and regeneration.



MONA LOTFIPOUR
MD at Penn State

Born in Iran; immigrated to Pennsylvania at 7; BA from Franklin and Marshall; MS from University College Dublin as a Mitchell Scholar; founded ONE Goal, a public health education program in South Africa.



SANA RAOOF
MD and PhD in molecular
oncology at Harvard

Born in Long Island to Indian parents; BA from Harvard; Intel International Science Fair winner; youngest keynote speaker for American Mathematical Society; studying resistance mechanisms to targeted therapies for non-small cell lung cancer.



BIANCA TYLEK
JD at Harvard

Born in New Jersey; parents from Poland and Ecuador; BA from Columbia; worked in investment banking and at Teach for America; aims to use results-based management in the prison system to reduce recidivism.



PATRICIA NGUYEN
PhD in performance
studies at Northwestern

Born in Chicago; parents escaped the war in Vietnam as boat refugees; BA from Pomona College; Fulbright to Vietnam, where she founded an arts education program for survivors of sex trafficking.



SALMAH RIZVI
JD at NYU

Born in Indonesia; raised Guyanese-Pakistani-Shia; BA from Johns Hopkins; MS from Georgetown; founded humanitarian organization VisionXChange; worked throughout US government; positioned Muslims as assets to national security; aspires to become political leader.



SARAHI URIBE
JD at NYU

Born in Los Angeles to Mexican parents; BA from Yale; work with National Day Laborer Organizing Network helped established it as a leader in immigration reform; plans to be a progressive Latina voice in local politics.



RAMYA PARAMESWARAN
MD and PhD in
biophysical sciences at
University of Chicago

Born in California to Indian parents; BS and MS from Stanford; gifted violinist and South Indian classical dancer; researches nanoscale bio materials; volunteers at shelter for women and children.



KEVIN SHENDEROV
MD at Johns Hopkins

Born in Ukraine; family fled the region after the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster; BA from NYU and a PhD in immunology from Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar; board member for free clinic in Baltimore.



WINSTON YAN
MD and PhD in
biophysics at Harvard

Born in Boston, raised in China and the US; BA from Harvard; developing molecular tools to probe circuits of the brain; hopes to treat psychiatric and neurodegenerative diseases as a physician-scientist.