Makonnen is an aspiring entrepreneur in New York. He is a junior studying economics at George Washington University. Born and raised in Harlem, his love for his community has informed his worldview and desire to help others. Makonnen was a Clinton Global Initiative University fellow in 2012, where he and a partner were recognized for their program to deliver excess food to the homeless in the Foggy Bottom, DC community. He previously worked in educational advocacy. His vision is to use technology to create a public works app that compiles information about everyday civic activities that makes it easier for people in the community to access and consume. He aims to continue combining his interest and knowledge in economics with his passion for home, and ultimately provide opportunity to ameliorate difficulties everyday people of color may face.