



Doors Opened

*Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship
2013 Annual Review*

The Watson Fellowship is a three year program that expands students' life choices and capacity for leadership by providing transformational professional, educational and cultural programming, including paid summer internships in New York City and abroad, to promising undergraduates each year.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

Dear Friends,

Thank you for another terrific year, opening the world to Watson Fellows. The Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship challenges Fellows to expand and personalize their definition of self and success.

That process requires many relationships, and thanks to you, those relationships grew greatly in depth and number.

In 2013, we added 15 new internship sites — from Harlem to Ho Chi Minh — and our fellows engaged eight new seminars with speakers from the Metropolitan Museum of Art, KQED/NPR San Francisco, the NYC Mayor's Office, and the founders of pioneering organizations who are redefining affordable housing, community development and elections.

In addition to new relationships, we crafted a summer component called New Ventures. In the New Ventures program, second year Fellows conceive original non- and for-profit organizations in response to real-world challenges. This year the challenge was Hurricane Sandy. Traveling to the communities most affected by the storm, Fellows channeled their learning into solutions, including a web-connected network of emergency contractors, and a regional marketing plan for the Rockaways to spur economic development. Presenting to New York business and academic leaders, Fellows learned how to unpack a problem (any problem), engage people at the center of the "storm" and form well-argued solutions.

Whether you are a longstanding partner, or joining us for the first time, thank you for engaging (and expanding) the life changing work that is the Watson. We hope you enjoy this update, reading the career arcs of our fellows and learning about the dedicated partners and individuals who make it possible.

With our deepest thanks,



CHRIS KASABACH
Foundation Director



JENNIFER BETANCOURT
JK Watson Associate Director



ZACH BUBOLO
Program Coordinator

More than 180 internship organizations have engaged Watson Fellows since 2000.

We are excited to welcome 15 new internship sites for this coming summer:

Broadway Housing Communities,

Sugar Hill, NYC

Central Park Zoo, Wildlife

Conservation Society, NYC

City Harvest, NYC

Electrolux, Italy

Hoops for Hope, Zimbabwe

Hunts Point Alliance, NYC

International Business Times, NYC

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC

Museum of Natural History, NYC

NESsT, Peru

NYC Office of Management and Budget, NYC

Studio 360, NYC

Terracycle, Canada and Germany

VinaCapital, Vietnam

Yugantar, India

KEY PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

We encourage Fellows to engage openly and think creatively about the endless possibilities in the world of work. To do this, the Fellowship employs an experiential learning model that includes cross sector internships, critical dialogue during interactive seminars, cultural programming and written assignments that encourage deep thinking about personal growth and professional trends in the workplace.

The Fellowship's wide and deep multi-year exposure and reflection process creates a hive of more confident and supportive peers that drive each other to renegotiate their sense of self and purpose as they engage their unique life's work.

- **Summer internships** at leading New York City and international non-profit, for-profit and government organizations
- **Seminars and workshops** with national thought-leaders during summer and term-time
- **Community among Fellows**, cultivated during a diverse summer program
- **Personalized mentorship and advisement**, including writing, resume, mock-interviews and career development coaching
- **New ventures and team projects** for second year fellows
- **Ongoing professional development**, including alumni and recommendation support, application and essay development, a searchable alumni database and an engaged alumni network

A REMARKABLE GROUP

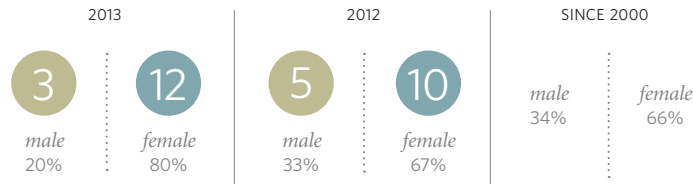
2014-15 Jeannette K. Watson Fellows



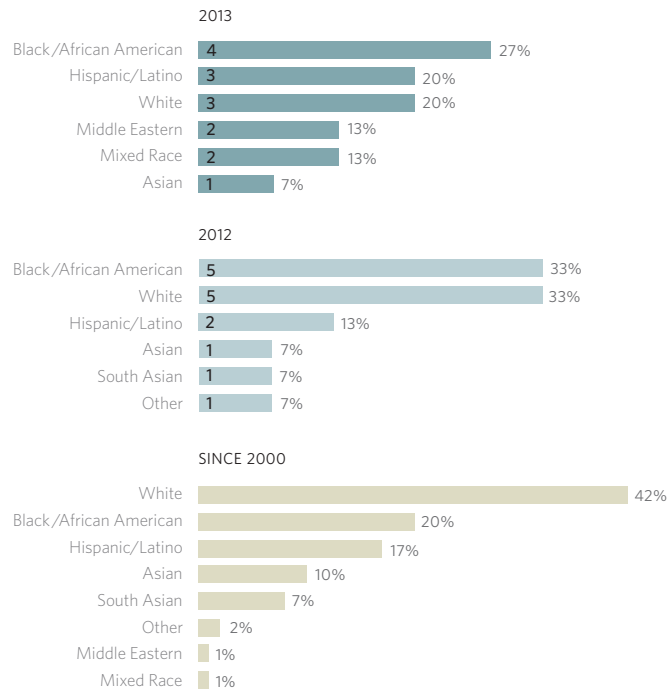
JEANNETTE K. WATSON WINNERS

210 Winners from 2000 to 2013

GENDER



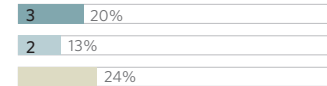
ETHNICITY



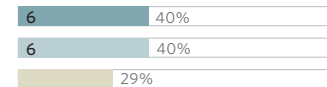
FAMILY

2013 2012 Since 2000

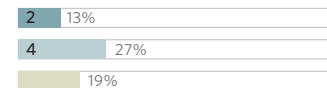
IMMIGRANT



FIRST GENERATION



FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND COLLEGE



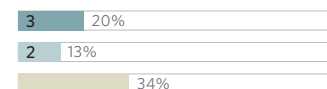
RESIDENCE

2013 2012 Since 2000

IN NEW YORK CITY



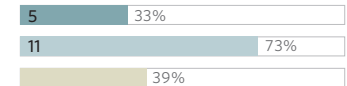
OUTSIDE NEW YORK CITY



COLLEGE SEMESTERS COMPLETED UPON APPLYING TO FELLOWSHIP

2013 2012 Since 2000

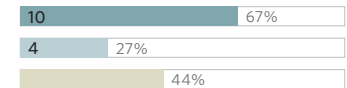
1 SEMESTER COMPLETED



2 SEMESTERS COMPLETED



3 SEMESTERS COMPLETED

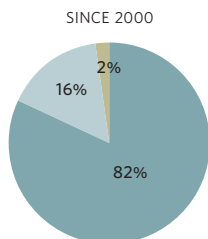
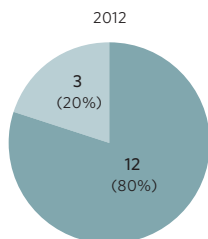
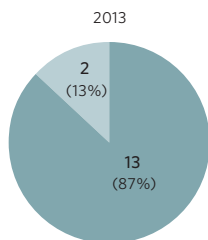


4 SEMESTERS COMPLETED



GPA AT APPLICATION

Over 3.5 3.0 to 3.5 Under 3.0



“As a long standing campus representative, I have seen many students gain confidence, focus and maturity through their experiences in Watson. In some cases I’ve seen students gain a new found open-mindedness which allowed them to explore passions and create more satisfying careers and futures for themselves. Watson gives students an extremely supportive environment in which they can take giant steps toward independence and maturity. The internships are rigorous and rewarding, the staff goes to great lengths to be supportive in all areas of a students’ life, and the peer group is encouraging and offers life-long friendships. Watson offers a unique experience to students and it is a much-valued partner.”

Susanna Yurick,
The City College of New York

Celebrating the achievements of four talented Jeannette K. Watson Alumni

The fellowship often speaks in terms of “opening doors” — intellectual, educational, cultural, and professional.

We asked four alums, “What doors did the Watson help open for you?” →



Brittany Gleixner-Hayat

Class of 2006

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL

Hunter College

GRADUATE SCHOOL

The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy

FELLOWSHIP

Robertson Foundation for
Government Fellow in 2011

CURRENT JOB

USAID Office of Transition Initiatives

BIOGRAPHY

Brittany currently works at USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) where she manages a program on Yemen, which is aimed at providing fast, flexible and targeted assistance to key political transition and stabilization needs in Yemen. She aspires to enrich the U.S. government's approach to political transition assistance by ground-truthing policy responses. In the near future, she aims to conduct research critically assessing donor approaches to countering violent extremism.

OPENING DOORS

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

"My internship at the MV Foundation in India was one of the most meaningful experiences of my life. Some of my most basic assumptions about development and progress were challenged by the people I had the privilege to work alongside every day for six months. The support and mentorship the Watson staff provided helped me ask the right questions and meaningfully reflect on what contribution I could make through my career. I will be forever grateful to the Watson Fellowship for helping me open doors I did not even know existed."

Brittany Gleixner-Hayat



Brian Bonci

Class of 2009

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE

Pace University

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Director of Finance and Operations
at Asia Catalyst

BIOGRAPHY

Brian Bonci is the Director of Finance and Operations at Asia Catalyst, and has been with the organization since 2011. He received his BA in Political Science and Women's and Gender Studies from Pace University. Brian previously worked on political campaigns and volunteered with LGBT and HIV/AIDS advocacy organizations in New York City and Cape Town, South Africa. He has also advised international exchange students in Tunisia and taught English in Central America. Brian is fluent in English and Spanish. Going forward, Brian is interested in a career in not-for-profit management or foundation based philanthropy.

OPENING DOORS

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

"The Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship introduced me to professionalism. By opening up a world I had never known, and putting me in a room with some of the most smart, dedicated, and diverse people I have met, the fellowship has opened up opportunities that I might never have known. I learned about global citizenship and how to focus my aspirations. I learned to be a better writer outside of the classroom. I learned to network. I learned to ask good questions. I learned to take risks. Most of all, I learned to be thankful. My current position owes a great deal to the fellowship, it was the Watson network that presented the opportunity and the sterling character of fellows before me that brought me to the interview table. I am thankful that Watson opened a door, and gave me the skills I needed to walk through it, and make change."

Brian Bonci



Joel Mentor

Class of 2004

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE

Long Island University, BA in Political Science

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Georgetown University, MA in
International Affairs

CURRENT JOB

British Aerospace Engineering (BAE) Systems,
Project Manager / Lead Research Analyst

BIOGRAPHY

Joel moved to Washington, D.C., in 2007 to attend Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and to pursue his interest in international affairs. He has spent the last several years working in the aerospace and defense industry as a Research Analyst and Project Manager. In his role, he conducted research on a variety of foreign policy and national security issues for a government client in the Washington, D.C., metro area. The job was rewarding, challenging and dynamic.

He is moving back to New York in 2014 to work at Barclays, a multinational bank and financial services institution, as a Political Risk Intelligence Analyst. Joel will be responsible for conducting research and analysis on the various countries in which Barclays conducts business.

OPENING DOORS

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

"The Watson Fellowship was instrumental in my success. Alice Ilchman was a great mentor and an inspiration. She believed in the Watson Fellows and made sure that we had the opportunity to be in an intellectually stimulating and demanding environment that would prepare us for the rigors of competing in the global marketplace. Dr. Ilchman personally mentored me and helped instill me with a sense of vision and confidence. The Watson Fellowship allowed me to work in three great internships that gave me my first experiences in the international affairs arena and it exposed me to a talented group of peers. My selection as the Watson Fellow representative from Long Island University (LIU) played an important role in getting me selected as the first Presidential Fellow representative from LIU a year after my Watson nomination. I will always be grateful that I had the opportunity to be a Watson Fellow."

Joel Mentor



Alexa M. Mieses

Class of 2010

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE

City University of New York-City College

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Published Author; Writer for Medscape

BIOGRAPHY

Alexa is a second-year medical student at Mount Sinai pursuing both a medical doctorate and master of public health degree. She is the first in her family to become a physician, and is passionate about helping other first-generation aspiring physicians. At Mount Sinai, Alexa mentors medical students as well as premedical and high school students. She also works with Mentoring in Medicine, Inc., and recently published a book called, *The Heartbeat of Success*, a guide to medical school admissions. Alexa writes for *Medscape/WebMD* and is the Editor-in-Chief of *The Rossi*, Mount Sinai's medical education quarterly publication. Alexa aspires to become a primary care physician. She currently manages both the medical and mental health student-run clinics at Mount Sinai. As a native New Yorker, she aspires to work in an underserved area of New York City.

OPENING DOORS

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

"The Watson Fellowship was an integral part of my success. The fellowship filled a gap in my undergraduate education by helping me define my professional identity and linking me to a network of successful and ambitious young professionals. The Fellowship also allowed me to gain invaluable experience in the non-profit sector as well as spend three months abroad — things I would have been otherwise unable to do as a full-time college student with full-time employment. These experiences helped make me a more competitive medical school applicant and have allowed me to achieve my life-long goal to become a physician."

Alexa M. Mieses

“The Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship was exactly what I was looking for as a curious and ambitious sociology student at Lehman College. The internship experience, the evening seminars and cultural outings, varied and vast, strengthened my work ethic and inevitably helped me to learn more about myself as person. My accomplishments to this day are no doubt, due in large part to the Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship experience.”

Carla Whyte, Class of 2010

ALUMNI SUCCESSES

Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship

Jeannette K. Watson Alumni are passionate, community minded individuals who continue to develop as leaders. We advise and support them as they pursue graduate studies, compete for prestigious Fellowships and engage their careers.

Alumni have attended or are attending competitive graduate school programs, including:

Cambridge University, UK
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Harvard University
John Hopkins University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
New School University
New York University
Oxford University, UK
Tel Aviv University, Israel
Tufts University
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Chicago

Watson alumni have won 60 nationally competitive Fellowships and Awards, including:

Beinecke Scholarship
Boren Scholarship
Coro Fellowship
Critical Language Scholarship
Fulbright
Gates-Millennium Scholarship, NYC Urban Fellowship
Humanity in Action Fellowship
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine Humanities & Medicine Program
NYC Urban Fellowship
Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans
Peace Corps
Teach for America
Harry S. Truman Fellowship

Alumni are working full time in the non-profit, corporate and public sectors, including:

Asia Catalyst
Center for Family Representation
College of Staten Island
Hagerty Consulting
Hughes, Hubbard and Reed Law Firm
Institute of International Education
J. P. Morgan Chase
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Metropolitan Museum of Art
NBC
NYC Economic Development Corp
New York Foundling
Office of the Mayor, NYC
Pace University
PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Rubin Museum of Art
Teach for America
UNICEF
USAID

Thank you.

We couldn't do it without you!



JEANNETTE K. WATSON FELLOWSHIP

2013 Partners

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

Baruch College

Gary Hentzi, Valeria Hymas,
and Jody Vaisman

Brooklyn College

Evelyn Guzman, Stephen Gracia,
and Jennifer Gitto

College of Staten Island

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Cris Gleicher

Marymount Manhattan

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Pace University

Bill Offutt

Queens College

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St. John's University

Adam Smith, Lawrence Pitilli
and Gina Florio

The City College of New York

Robin Villa and Susanna Yurick

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Ole Spies and Sofia Krause

MV Foundation, India

Arvind Kumar

NESsT, Chile

Ignacio Blanco and Felipe Cordero

Parliamentary Office of

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Dominic Hannigan and
Anthony Muldoon

Project Hope, Dominican Republic

Teresa Navarez

TerraCycle, Argentina

Ann Glotzbach and Mechi Davico

Whizz Kids, South Africa

Gugu Mofokeng and Markus Bensch

SUMMER INTERNSHIP SUPERVISORS

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Cathy Lazarus

Bronx Defenders

Dominique Fenton

Crain's New York Business

Erik Ipsen

Democracy.com

Heidi Sieck and Marissa Mlotek

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Nancy Degnan

Earth Institute Center for Environmental Sustainability, Columbia University
Brian Kateman and
Desmond Beirne

Echoing Green
Decker Ngongang

Gay Men's Health Crisis
Jason Cianciotto and Robert Valdez

Global Kids
Sara Vogel and Jack Martin

Institute of International Education
Andrea Pacheco

Legal Momentum
Eliana Theodoru

ListenFirst Media
Jon Farb and Miranda McWeeney

Lumiere Productions
Cal Skaggs and Ilya Ryvin
[Watson Alumnus '11]

McGraw-Hill Education
Tom Stanton and Jo Ann Craig

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
Kathleen Hughes and David Andersson

New York Needs You
Sheila Ramachandra
and Jack Corcoran

New-York Historical Society
Chelsea Frosini

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Samuel Pierre, and Jahmani Hylton

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The Gotham Gazette
Cristian Salazar

The Martina Arroyo Foundation
Earl Tucker and Mark Rucker

The Studio Museum in Harlem
Shanta Scott and Erin Hylton

Yale University
Ifat Levy

**ORIENTATION, SUMMER SEMINAR,
AND TERM-TIME SPEAKERS**

Desalina Allen
Senior Assistant Director,
NYU Wasserman Center for
Career Development

Ellen Baxter
Executive Director, Broadway
Housing Communities

Jim Bildner
Managing Director,
Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation

Debra Bressaw
Principal, Global Edge Strategies LLC

Joanne Burke
Banker, Goldman Sachs

Imran Chowdhury *[Watson Alumnus '02]*
Assistant Professor of
Management, Pace University

Tony Claudino
Director, Fulbright Student
Program Outreach, Institute of
International Education

Erika Cooley
Clinical Social Worker,
Village Psychotherapy

Talmage Cooley
Founder and CEO, Democracy.com

Flore Dorcelly-Mohr
Assistant Director, Academic Internship
and Federal Community Service Program,
Drew University

Scott Elmegreen
Broadway composer, playwright
and novelist

Cris Gleicher
Co-Director Honors, LIU Brooklyn

Sarah Ilchman
Director, Foreign Fulbright Program,
Institute of International Education

Warren Ilchman
Director Emeritus,
Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship

Shanna Keown
Development Associate, Wildlife
Conservation Society

Maria Komartsova *[Watson Alumna '08]*
MPA Candidate,
The City College of New York

Allison Lehr Samuels
Lecturer, Baruch College

William Leverett *[Watson Alumnus '11]*
NYC Service Fellow, Office of the Mayor

Liam McCarthy
Senior Development Officer,
Wildlife Conservation Society

Debra McDowell
Vice President, Human Resources,
Metropolitan Museum of Art

John McKinley
Global Fellows Manager, Acumen

Alexa Mieses *[Watson Alumna '10]*
MD/ MPH Candidate,
Mt. Sinai School of Medicine

Chris Perré *[Watson Alumnus '06]*
Associate, Hughes, Hubbard & Reed LLP

Aarti Shahani
Reporter, KQED/NPR

Robin Steinberg
Executive Director,
The Bronx Defenders

Reggie Thomas *[Watson Alumnus '07]*
Deputy Director and Senior Policy
Advisor, Office of NYC Mayor
Michael Bloomberg

Michael Young *[Watson Alumnus '10]*
Artist

**2013 GUEST SELECTION PANELISTS,
NEW VENTURE JUDGES AND
MOCK INTERVIEWERS**

Lincoln Ajoku [*Watson Alumnus '03*]
Director, Alumni Affairs,
Teach for America

Michele Amar
Technology and Programs Manager,
Thomas J. Watson Foundation

Elisa Balabram
Founder and Editor,
Womenandbiz.com

Talmage Cooley
Founder and CEO, Democracy.com

Marilyn Katz
Novelist, Former Dean of Studies,
Sarah Lawrence College

Seann Riley
Deputy Director, The Bronx Defenders

Taruna Sadhoo [*Watson Alumna '02*]
Officer, Volunteer and
Community Partnerships, UNICEF

Shanta Scott
Manager of School, Youth
and Family Programs,
The Studio Museum in Harlem

Vivek Tata, JD
Candidate, Columbia Law School

Julianne Willis [*Watson Alumna '11*]
Advisor, College Transition Initiative,
Kingsborough Community College

SPECIAL THANKS

Institute of International Education
Host to summer interns and
the annual final evaluation seminar
for Second Year Watson Fellows

John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Host to the Fellowship's final
summer dinner

Marilyn Katz
Novelist, Former Dean of Studies,
Sarah Lawrence College
Long-standing Program advisor,
Fellow mentor and summer journal reader

**Wildlife Conservation Society/
Bronx Zoo**
Host to summer interns and
the annual final evaluation seminar
for First Year Watson Fellows

**JEANNETTE K. WATSON
FELLOWSHIP**

*A Program of the
Thomas J. Watson Foundation*

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Technology and Program Manager

Sneha Subramanian
TJ Watson Program Manager

Zachary Bubolo
Program Coordinator

Info

11 Park Place, Suite 1503
New York, NY 10007
212-655-0201
jkwatson.org