

Liberty TelegrAFF

The Newsletter of America's Future Foundation



Finalists & Judges at Let's Talk Competition



Austin Chapter leader, Arif Panju, introduces co-hosted event with TPPF



Daniel Erspamer, SPN, speaks at Cultivation Crew



Young professionals at this summer's Welcome to Washington

Look Inside to Read These AFF Highlights:

- Expansion on the West Coast: Page 3
- You Give "Creative Freedom" To Advance Liberty: Page 4
- Communicating with Family & Friends: Page 5
- An Interview with Board Member Chaz Cirame: Page 7



Page 4



Page 5



America's Future Foundation
1513 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
202-331-2261
americasfuture.org
Twitter: @AFF

Roger Custer
Executive Director

Board of Directors
Jeff Berkowitz, Chairman
Kathleen O'Hearn, Vice Chair
Kristine Esposito, Treasurer
Cheryl Miller, Secretary
Chaz Cirame
Carl Helstrom
Daniel Rothschild
David Riggs
Peter Suderman
John Tillman

Advisory Board
Arthur Brooks
Edwin Feulner
Michael Gleba
Robert Levy
Edwin Meese
Gene Meyer
Grover Norquist
Roger Ream
Chad Thevenot

*Liberty TelegrAFF is the
regular newsletter of
America's Future Foundation.
To receive more frequent
updates via email, please sign
up at americasfuture.org.*

Growing Even More...

With your help, America's Future Foundation continues to grow its staff capabilities so young professionals can have even more opportunities to change the way young Americans view the role of government.



Matt Hartill is the Digital Associate at America's Future Foundation. In his role, Matt manages AFF's email marketing campaigns, online presence, and social media engagement as a part of the 2015 Koch Associate Program. Matt has previously conducted criminal justice research as a Reason Foundation intern and recently graduated from Virginia's College of William & Mary with a Bachelor's in Government. When he's not contributing to the liberty movement, Matt can be found reading, rock climbing, or searching for cheap international cuisine in DC.



Jaci (pronounced "Jackie") Woltornist is the Director of Programs at America's Future Foundation. She graduated cum laude from Franciscan University of Steubenville with a major in Humanities focusing on education philosophy and Western civilization. Formerly the Director of Religious Education at Holy Spirit Church in Annandale, Virginia, she revitalized the program making it one of the largest in the region. As a proud Oregonian (in all ways except politics), she enjoys hiking, a good IPA, and rainy days. Jaci and her husband reside in Falls Church, Virginia.



Stephanie Slade joined AFF this summer as the Writing Program Manager. She works to plan and implement the Writing Fellows Program. Full time, Stephanie is the deputy managing editor of Reason magazine. Prior to that, she worked as a speechwriter, a pollster, and a regular contributor to U.S. News and World Report. She's a proud graduate of the University of Florida, where she studied economics.

To learn more about the whole AFF Team, please visit americasfuture.org/aff-team

Expansion on the West Coast



AFF-Sacramento launched on Thursday, June 25th in the 3rd Floor Bar of the California Family Fitness in downtown Sacramento. The event brought attendees from law firms, think tanks, and the government. Guest speaker **Joshua Thompson** spoke to the crowd about his efforts advocating for liberty from coast to coast. That was followed by an impromptu roundtable discussion, in which the attendees discussed future plans for promoting liberty in California's capital.

Thompson, a principal attorney in Pacific Legal Foundation's Individual Rights group, delivered a motivating speech promoting liberty. He stressed the importance of staying connected with others in the liberty movement, and challenged attendees to share their ideas with others in their network. The remarks were followed by conversations over drinks and pizza, and all were excited about what lies ahead for America's Future Foundation in Sacramento.

You're Creating Communities of Young People Devoted to Free Markets

Your support has impacted thousands of young professionals across the US in AFF Chapter cities. Chapters meet at least once a quarter to talk about issues impacting their local communities and how free market solutions can make people's lives better. Without supporters like you, AFF would never have grown from 3 chapter cities in 2011 to 17 chapters today.



You Give “Creative Freedom” To Advance Liberty



“When I first came to the Washington, D.C. area I had a lot of passion- and little else. Organizations like AFF exposed me to the many different professional tracks and possibilities available to young liberty-minded people. When I discovered the AFF Ambassador Program, I jumped on the opportunity to explore a wide variety of projects, grow my skills, and build new ones. As an AFF Ambassador I’ve been published on AFF’s blog, practiced public speaking, planned events, and exercised my project management skills.

What is the AFF Ambassador Program? It’s a program that provides young conservative and libertarian professionals the opportunity to grow their skills while contributing to AFF’s mission. In return for committing to volunteer to

assist AFF run programs like the Writing Fellows Program and the “So You Want to Be...” lunch series, Ambassadors gain hands-on experience in areas of their choosing. The Ambassadors meet once per month at DC headquarters to review completed and ongoing projects, and initiate new projects.

Just as America’s Future Foundation serves a distinct, vital role to our network, the Ambassador Program is special in form and function. The program derives strength from the commitment of its volunteers, as well as the resources and support provided by AFF. Rather than following a strict curriculum, each member of the program is free to pursue his or her own interests, taking on roles and projects as they desire and even suggesting new ones. **I can think of no other program for young professionals in the Washington, D.C. area that provides as much opportunity for self-direction.**

As the weather cools, the Ambassadors will soon return from “summer break” to evaluate the months ahead and set goals for the future of the program. We’ll discuss AFF’s priorities, and determine how the Ambassadors can help the organization meet its goals. The Ambassadors will determine gaps in the freedom movement, and suggest solutions.

Personally, I want to foster a strong sense of community among AFF Ambassadors and members. **One of my favorite aspects of being an AFF Ambassador is the creative freedom we’re given, and with it an inherent sense of trust and responsibility.** I’m looking forward to getting back to work with this group of passionate, motivated individuals- and possibly some new faces, too!”



Communicating with Family & Friends



Jared Meyer speaks about minimum wage

How many times have you tried explaining the benefits of a free market system to family and stumbled over your words or spouted facts and statistics to friends that made their eyes glaze over?

The DC AFF Chapter set out to change the way young professionals conversationally communicate issues.

Each month, young professionals came together to listen to topic experts, hear from communication gurus, and practice speaking conversationally about health care, income inequality, school choice, and the environment. At the end of the four part program, 6 finalists gave 2 minute pitches to judges to win \$500 for best communicating a free market issue.

“There’s one proposal that’s commonly used to fix income inequality that would actually increase income inequality and make the American dream harder to reach; I’m going to talk about minimum wage,” Jared Meyer, winner of the inaugural “Let’s Talk” Competition, remarked in his opening statement. McKenzie Snow placed 2nd discussing school choice, and Akil Alleyne received 3rd with his remarks on the wage gap.



Let's Talk practice group

AFF Friends & Supporters meet Alum



Author of “The Selfie Vote”

In July, AFF invited freedom lovers like you who were in the Washington, D.C. area to meet AFF alumna Kristen Soltis Anderson in person at “The Selfie Vote” event held at The Heritage Foundation. Kristen is the Co-Founder of Echelon Insights and author of the new book, *The Selfie Vote*. Kristen told supporters,

*“In my case, my first media, writing, and panel experiences all came through AFF. **I owe an enormous debt of gratitude to America’s Future Foundation for helping me start my career and my life as a young professional woman.** I’m much better at advocating liberty because of AFF. And, as a supporter of AFF, I owe a debt of gratitude to you.”*

Her work in polling and opinion studies earned her rankings as one of TIME Magazine’s “30 under 30 Changing the World,” one of Campaigns & Elections’ “The Influencers 50” and as one of National Journal Magazine’s “25 Most Influential Women Under 35 in Washington.”

Supporters and young professionals learned about her book and the dynamic changes and shifting demographics in our electorate.



Kristen Soltis Anderson with husband at AFF Gala

Supporters Bring Liberty Leaders to Young Professionals

Because of generous supporters and sponsors, America's Future Foundation's young professionals have been fortunate to hear from an incredible line-up of speakers over the past few years. Below are just a few you may recognize.



From Attendee to Board Member: Chaz Cirame Advances Liberty



Current Position:

Founder and Principal, Cc:
External Affairs, Inc.

How long have you been an AFF member?

10 years, since just a few
weeks after I moved to DC.

What attracted you to politics?

The opportunity to make the world a better place. If you are in it for another reason, please get out now.

How did you form your political beliefs?

Growing up much of my life the son of single mother, I learned from her journey of rugged individualism and doing whatever it takes to make it. In the early days, she bartended at a hotel bar at night and then went back to work there as a chamber maid the next morning. Her example taught me to value hard work. Ensuring the opportunity (freedom) for people to advance themselves through hard work and determination is the principal driver for my political beliefs.

Why do you think America's Future Foundation is important?

AFF is the community of the free market movement. While other groups do great work advancing the cause of freedom, only the America's Future Foundation brings those folks together as a community. In an increasingly divisive and digital world, an organization that physically brings folks together and binds them together is vitally important.

What opportunities do you see for the future of the freedom movement in America?

I think the biggest opportunity, and at the same time the biggest challenge, is looking outside of our typical bubble/universe and working with others outside that bubble. Move your impact beyond its current sphere into actual policy change, as well as creating societal and cultural change.

This could include partnering across party lines on issues where we have much to agree on (like criminal justice reform and education reform) or just altering your view to see organizations in the same sphere as partners rather than competitors. We can all accomplish more when we work together.

How can young professionals succeed in the liberty movement?

Work hard, be an agent of change, and be happy. If you are in a position where you can't use all three—find a new job.



Chaz & Holly Cirame at AFF Gala

This is an AFF Member profile featuring board member, Chaz Cirame, written by Liz Thatcher. This piece was edited and formatted for the TelegrAFF.



America's Future Foundation
1513 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
americasfuture.org
202-331-2261

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 4205
SOUTHERN, MD

Thank you for all you do to support young professionals and America's Future Foundation chapters across the US. If you know of a young professional in your life who would benefit from AFF's mission, please let us know. You can call AFF's office with comments, questions, or suggestions at (202) 331-2261, email info@americasfuture.org, or mail at 1513 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036.



Connor Cosenza, AFF Ambassador, introduces the Let's Talk event



Welcome to Washington hosted at AEI this summer



Cultivation Crew



McKenzie Snow presenting at Let's Talk

America's Future Foundation's mission is to identify and develop young professional leaders for liberty by offering unique professional development, education, and networking opportunities.

All gifts are tax-deductible because AFF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization.