



North Macedonia to US December 4-13, 2019

Exchange Guide

This project was funded in part through a U.S. Embassy grant from the U.S. Embassy – Skopje. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed herein are those of the implementers/authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Government.

ACYPL Contacts: Kaylee Boalt kboalt@acypl.org and Jacqueline Harris jharris@acypl.org

US Department of State Contact: Nadica Zakula ZakulaN@state.gov

Table of Contents

Schedule 3

Schedule Notes 15

Delegate Biographies 27

Program Contact Information 30

Flight Confirmations and Itineraries 31

Schedule

Wednesday, December 4

Washington, DC

4:25am United Airlines Flight #9834 Departs Skopje, North Macedonia (SKP)

6:05am Arrive at Vienna, Austria (VIE)

10:35am United Airlines Flight #9821 Departs Vienna, Austria

2:55pm Arrive at Washington Dulles International (IAD)

Please proceed through customs and immigration. Program Director Kaylee Boalt (+1 864-350-5584) will meet you in international arrivals

3:30pm Depart for hotel

4:30pm Arrive at and check in to hotel:

Residence Inn by Marriot Dupont Circle

2120 P Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: 202.466.6800

Free time

6:00pm Meet in hotel lobby and walk to dinner

6:15pm Welcome dinner with **Ms. Kaylee Boalt**
Program Director, ACYPL

Location: Urbana Dining & Drinks

7:30pm Return to hotel

Thursday, December 5

Washington, DC

Attire: **Business**

Breakfast: **At the hotel**

Additional: **Please bring your passport for today's meetings**

8:15am Meet in hotel lobby and depart for first activity

8:45am Meeting with **Ms. Libby Rosenbaum**
CEO, ACYPL
[ACYPL Alumna to Argentina 2019]

Also in attendance:

Ms. Jacqueline Harris

Director of Outreach and Engagement, ACYPL
[South Africa & Botswana 2017]

And **Ms. Anna Waisgerber**

Communications Manager, ACYPL

Topic: Welcome to ACYPL

Location: 1030 15th Street, NW, Suite 580W

9:30am Break

9:45am Meeting with **Ms. Shannon Billings**
CFO and Chief of Staff
[China 2019]

Topic: US government & politics

11:00am Depart for lunch

11:30am Group lunch hosted by **Mr. Matt Robbins**
Founder, Pushback Pack
[ACYPL Trustee and North Macedonia 2019]

Topic: Republican strategy for the 2020 US elections

Location: Joselito Casa de Comidas
660 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE

1:00pm Depart for next activity

1:30pm Meeting with **The Honorable Adrian Smith**
Member, U.S. House of Representatives (R-NE)
[Tanzania 2004]

Also in attendance:

Mr. Josh Jackson

Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director, Office of Representative Adrian Smith

Topic: Tax policy in the US

Location: 502 Cannon House Office Building

2:30pm Depart for next activity

2:45pm Photos at the **US Capitol** and **US Supreme Court**

3:15pm Depart for next meeting

4:00pm Meeting with **Mr. Paul McCarthy**
Regional Director, Europe, International Republican Institute

Topic: IRI's work in North Macedonia
Location: 1225 Eye St NW, Suite 800
Contact: Paul – (202) 408-9450

5:00pm Return to hotel

Free evening; please use your per diem for dinner

Friday, December 6
Washington, DC

Attire: **Business**
Breakfast: **At the hotel**
Additional: **Please bring your passport for today's meetings**

8:35am Meet in hotel lobby

8:45am Depart for first meeting

9:30am Meeting with representative(s) of the **U.S. Department of State**

In attendance:

Ms. Jill Dietrich

Desk Officer for North Macedonia, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Mr. Matt Malone

Desk Officer for the Balkans, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Topic: US-North Macedonia relations
Location: 2201 C St NW
Contact: Eythan Schiller – (202) 632-6424

10:30am Depart for lunch meeting

11:30am Lunch meeting hosted by **Mr. Brian Diffell**
President, WTG Global
[ACYPL Trustee and North Macedonia 2018]

Topic: Tax and trade issues
Location: Lebanese Taverna
1101 S Joyce St, Arlington, VA
Contact: Brian – (202)557-5983

1:00pm Depart for next activity

1:30pm Arrive at **Pentagon Visitor Center**

Please note that absolutely no photography is permitted on Pentagon property and visitors must go through airport-style security screening. Large electronics and liquids are not permitted inside.

2:00pm Tour of the **Pentagon**

Topic: Structure of the US Department of Defense
Contact: Kennan Hedrick – (703) 695-3109 (office) or
(919) 414-9030 (cell)

3:00pm Depart for next meeting

4:00pm Meeting with **Mr. Isaiah Castilla**
Senior Counsel, Democracy Fund and Democracy Fund Voice
[North Macedonia 2018]

Topic: Bipartisanship in democracy
Location: 1200 17th St NW Suite 300
Contact: Isaiah – (202) 590-7596

5:00pm Depart for hotel

Please deposit your belongings in your room and return to the bus.

6:00pm Depart for dinner

7:00pm Dinner hosted by **Ms. Katja Bullock**
Special Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel, The White House

Also in attendance:

The Honorable Gilbert B. Kaplan

Acting Undersecretary of Commerce for International Trade, US Department of
Commerce

Location: 3333 University Blvd West
Kensington, MD
Contact: Katja – (301)996-2203 or (301)933-2203

9:00pm Return to hotel

Saturday, December 7

Washington, DC

Attire: **Casual**

Breakfast: **At the hotel**

Additional: **Please wear comfortable shoes for today's activities**

10:00am Meet in hotel lobby and depart for first activity

10:30am Visit to the **US Holocaust Museum**

Location: 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW

Please use your per diem for lunch

1:30pm Depart for next activity

2:00pm Tour of Washington, DC Monuments and Memorials

*Highlights include the **Jefferson Memorial, Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, and the Lincoln Memorial***

4:00pm Return to hotel

Free evening; please use your per diem for dinner.

Sunday, December 8

Washington, DC/San Francisco, CA/Oakland, CA

Attire: Casual

Breakfast: Please use your per diem

Additional: Please pay for any incidentals and check out of hotel. Please have your passport readily accessible

5:30am Meet in hotel lobby and load luggage onto bus

5:45am Depart for airport

6:30am Arrive at Washington Dulles International (IAD)

Check into flight and proceed through security

Please use your per diem for breakfast

8:15am United Airlines Flight #424 departs Washington, DC

11:19am Arrive at San Francisco International Airport (SFO)

12:00pm Collect luggage and depart for first meeting

12:30pm Meeting with **The Honorable Fiona Ma**
Treasurer, State of California

Also in attendance:

Mr. Ken Maxey

State Host and Director of External Affairs, Comcast NBC Universal
[North Macedonia 2019]

Representative(s) from the **Port Commission of San Francisco**

Topic: Role of a US State Treasurer

1:30pm Depart for hotel

2:00pm Arrive at and check into hotel:

Homewood Suites by Hilton Oakland-Waterfront
1103 Embarcadero
Oakland, CA 94606
Tel: (510) 663-2700

Free afternoon; please use your per diem for lunch.

5:00pm Meet in hotel lobby and depart for dinner

5:30pm Welcome dinner hosted by **Mr. Ken Maxey**

Also in attendance:

The Honorable Rob Bonta

Member, California State Assembly

The Honorable Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft

Mayor, City of Alameda

Topic: Overview of California State Assembly and Oakland politics
Location: Trabocco Kitchen and Cocktails
2213 S Shore Center, Alameda, CA 94501

7:30pm Return to hotel

Monday, December 9
Oakland, CA/Sacramento, CA

Attire: **Business**

Breakfast: **At the hotel**

Additional: **Please check out of the hotel and pay for any incidentals**

6:30am Meet in hotel lobby, check out of hotel and load luggage onto bus

6:45am Depart for first activity

7:00am Walking tour of **Lake Merritt**

8:00am Depart for next activity

8:30am Meeting with representative(s) of the **Oakland City Council** and the **Alameda County Board of Supervisors**

Also in attendance:

The Honorable Libby Schaaf

Mayor, City of Oakland

The Honorable Rebecca Kaplan

President, Oakland City Council

Topic: Local governance in Oakland
Location: Oakland City Hall
1 Frank H Ogawa Plaza, Oakland, CA 94612

11:15am Meeting and tour of **NUG, inc.** with **Mr. John Oram**
President and CEO of NUG, inc.

Topic: Cannabis regulation and distribution
Location: 2601 Blanding Avenue, Alameda, CA 94601

12:30pm Depart for lunch

Location: In-N-Out Burger

1:45pm Arrive in **Sacramento, CA**

2:00pm Meeting with **The Honorable Jim Cooper**
Member, California State Assembly

Topic: California state politics
Location: 1315 10th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

*May also include a meeting with **Mr. Sam Chung, Chief of Staff to Assemblyman Vince Fong** (Argentina 2019).*

3:00pm Tour of the **California State Capitol**

3:30pm Depart for next activity

4:00pm Meeting with **Ms. Carolyn Coleman**
Executive Director, League of California Cities

Topic: California municipal and local politics
Location: 1400 K St, Sacramento, CA 95814

5:00pm Depart for hotel

5:30pm Arrive at and check into hotel:

The Citizen Hotel
926 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: 916-447-2700

6:00pm Dinner with **Ms. Alex Gallardo-Rooker**
Vice Chair of the California Democratic Party

Topic: Democratic priorities and politics in California
Location: TBD

Tuesday, December 10

Sacramento, CA/Walnut Creek, CA/Livermore, CA/Fremont, CA

Attire: Casual

Breakfast: Please use your per diem

Additional: Please check out of the hotel and pay for any incidentals. Please wear comfortable shoes to today's activities

Please use your per diem for breakfast; there is a Starbucks near the hotel at 980 9th Street.

8:00am Meet in hotel lobby, check out of hotel, and load luggage onto bus

9:00am Depart for first activity

10:00am Walking tour of **Walnut Creek, CA**

11:00am Meet with representative(s) of Walnut Creek Autonomous Community

Topic: Governance in an autonomous community

Location: TBD

12:30pm Depart for lunch

1:00pm Group lunch and wine tasting at **Darcie Kent Vineyards**

Location: 7000 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA 94550

2:30pm Depart for next meeting

*Additional meetings are pending but may include a meeting with **Ms. Jody Buckley** (China 2019)*

5:00pm Meeting with representative(s) from **Kids Teach Tech**

Also in attendance:

The Honorable John Marchland

Mayor, City of Livermore

Topic: Teaching technology skills to youth

Location: **Wente Vineyards**
5565 Tesla Road, Livermore, CA 94550

6:00pm Depart for next activity

6:20pm Shopping at the **San Francisco Premium Outlets**

7:30pm Depart for Dinner hosted by **Mr. Johnny Giles**
Owner, Johnny Giles Consulting

Topic: Venture Capital Investing

Location: TBD

9:00pm Arrive and check in to hotel:

Holiday Inn Express Suites Fremont
42200 Albrae Street
Fremont, CA 94538
Tel: 510-651-7373

Wednesday, December 11
Fremont/San Francisco, CA

Attire: *Business casual*
Breakfast: *At hotel*
Additional: *Please bring your passport with you to today's meetings*

8:30am Meet in hotel lobby and depart for first meeting

9:00am Meeting with **The Honorable Lily Mei**
Mayor, City of Fremont

Also in attendance:
The Honorable Raj Salwan
Vice Mayor, City of Livermore

Topic: Local governance
Location: 3300 Capitol Avenue, Fremont, CA 94538

10:00am Depart for next meeting

10:30am Tour of **Tesla plant** and meeting with representative(s) from **Tesla**

Topic: Electric car manufacturing
Location: Tesla Factory Showroom
45500 Fremont Boulevard, Fremont, CA 94538

11:30am Depart for next meeting

12:00pm Meeting with **The Honorable Sam Liccardo**
Mayor, City of San Jose

Topic: Local issues in San Jose
Location: TBD

12:45 pm Depart for next meeting

1:00pm Meeting with **The Honorable Ash Kalra**
Member, California General Assembly

Topic: Current California state legislative issues
Location: TBD

Afternoon activities are pending; please use your per diem for lunch

4:00pm Meeting with representative(s) from **Google**

Topic: Technology and public policy
Location: 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway Mountain View, CA 94043

5:30pm Depart for next activity

*Evening activities are pending but may include a **Golden State Warriors NBA basketball game** or a showing of **Hamilton the musical**. Please use your per diem for dinner.*

Thursday, December 12
San Francisco/Oakland

Attire: **Business**
Breakfast: **At the hotel**
Additional: **Please check out of the hotel and pay for any incidentals**

9:00am Meet in hotel lobby and depart for first meeting

9:30am Meeting and tour of **Salesforce** with **Ms. Serena Ingre**
Salesforce International Communications Director

Topic: Salesforce' work and impact
Location: 415 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

10:30am Depart for next meeting

11:00am Meeting with **The Honorable Shamann Walton**
Member, San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Also in attendance:
The Honorable Matt Haney
Member, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
[Indonesia & Malaysia 2015]

Topic: San Francisco legislative issues
Location: City Hall, 1. Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, California 94102

12:30pm Arrive at and check into hotel:

Homewood Suites by Hilton Oakland-Waterfront
1103 Embarcadero
Oakland, CA 94606
Tel: (510) 663-2700

1:30pm Cultural tour of **San Francisco, CA**

Please use your per diem for lunch

Afternoon meetings are pending but may include a meeting with **Ms. Ellie Casson, Head of Local Policy, Waymo (Timor Leste 2017)**.

4:00pm Depart for next meeting

5:00pm Meeting with representative(s) from the **Boys and Girls Club of Oakland**

Topic: Youth development and leadership
Location: TBD

5:30pm Depart for dinner

6:00pm Dinner hosted by **Ms. Tanya Holland**,
Executive Chef, **Brown Sugar Kitchen**

Also in attendance:
Representative(s) from the **Kapor Center – Leveling the Playing Field in Tech**

Topic: Tech accessibility and promotion
Location: Brown Sugar Kitchen, Oakland

Free evening

Friday, December 13

Oakland, CA/San Francisco/Chicago, IL

Attire: *Casual*

Breakfast: *Please use your per diem*

Additional: *Please pay for any incidentals and check out of hotel. Please have your passport readily accessible*

5:00am Meet in hotel lobby and load luggage onto bus

5:15am Depart for airport

6:00am Arrive at San Francisco International Airport (SFO)

Check into flight and proceed through security

Please use your per diem for breakfast

8:30am United Airlines Flight #639 departs San Francisco, CA

2:40pm Arrive at Chicago O'Hare (ORD)

4:30PM United Airlines Flight #9850 departs Chicago, IL

Saturday, December 14

Vienna, Austria/Skopje, North Macedonia

8:20am Arrive at Vienna, Austria (VIE)

10:10am United Airlines Flight #9835 departs Vienna, Austria

11:40am Arrive at Skopje, North Macedonia

****End of Program****

Schedule Notes

Wednesday, December 4

Kaylee Boalt joined ACYPL in July 2016, serving the organization as a Program Officer, the Professional Fellows Program Manager, and now Program Director as of January 2019. In her role, Kaylee liaises with ACYPL's international and domestic partners and oversees the program team in the implementation of global exchange programs. Prior to joining ACYPL, Kaylee was the Director of Student Programs at the National Council on US-Arab Relations where she administered leadership development programs and facilitated short-term exchanges for American professors and students studying the Arab World. Kaylee graduated from Converse College in 2014 with a bachelor's degree in politics and music. During her time at Converse, she performed in opera productions in the US and Italy and realized her passion for educational exchanges during a study visit to Saudi Arabia in 2012.

Thursday, December 5

Libby Rosenbaum serves as the Chief Executive Officer overseeing ACYPL's fundraising, communications, grants management, new business development, and strategic planning. Libby previously served as the Vice President of Programs and Communications. Prior to this, Libby served as the Education Partnerships Manager at the British Council where she promoted and established US-UK university research collaborations and planned international summits devoted to higher education best practice. She also served as the Major Gifts Officer at the Center for American Progress, a progressive think tank, and as a fundraiser on the US Senate campaigns of Ken Salazar and Joe Hoeffel. Libby graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in political science and received an MSc in politics and government of the European Union from the London School of Economics. She previously traveled on an ACYPL exchange to Timor Leste in 2017 and to Argentina in 2019.

Jacqueline Harris is the Director of Outreach and Engagement and joined ACYPL in 2016. She manages the delegate nomination and selection process, maintains ongoing alumni relations, and works closely with our partners and board members. She completed her undergraduate degree at Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, with a double major in political science and international relations, concentrating on international security, diplomacy, and Middle Eastern studies. Before joining ACYPL, Jacqueline spent four years in the Obama Administration working in the White House office of Legislative Affairs, the office of Presidential Correspondence, and as an intern in the office of the First Lady. Jacqueline also worked at ONE, an international campaigning and advocacy organization dedicated to ending extreme poverty and preventable disease. She previously traveled on an ACYPL exchange to South Africa and Botswana in 2017.

Anna Waisgerber joined ACYPL in September 2019 as the Communications Manager. Prior to joining the ACYPL team, Anna served as an Undergraduate Research Fellow for the Project on National Movements, Congressional District Intern in Massachusetts, Marketing Assistant and Electrician for the Boston College Theatre Department, and Public Policy Intern for the Massachusetts Alliance of YMCAs. Anna graduated from Boston College in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in international studies and a minor in ethics and social justice, concentrating on Central and Eastern Europe. She also studied and interned abroad in Krakow, Poland in 2017.

Shannon Billings is ACYPL's Chief Financial Officer and Chief of Staff and handles a wide range of matters of organizational importance, including financial and strategic planning, human resources, and office operations. Prior to joining ACYPL, Shannon served as Director of Advocacy Programs at Alliance for Justice, Senior Regulatory Compliance Officer at the Sierra Club, Director of Public Affairs for the Investment Company Institute, Controller for EMILY's List,

and in the controller's office at the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. Shannon has a bachelor's degree in political science with minors in Russian and French from Bates College. She has previously traveled with ACYPL as the delegation escort to Russia in 2014, India in 2015, and China in 2019.

Matt Robbins is the Founder of Pushback PAC, a political action committee focusing on strengthening the Republican Party platform in advance of the 2020 US elections. Matt was formerly the Director of Government Relations for The AutoCare Association where he specialized in strategic planning and execution, complex issue-campaign management, and state coalition building. Matt also has a varied background in political consultancy, grassroots activism, and nonprofit advocacy. Previously, he was a Senior Consultant at RCI and prior to this was the President and National Executive Director of American Majority, where he led dramatic growth for seven years and delivered nearly 1,000 training events to almost 40,000 candidates and activists in 26 states. Matt received his bachelor's degree in English from Pepperdine University in California. He serves on the ACYPL Board of Trustees and traveled with ACYPL to Argentina and Uruguay in 2007 and to North Macedonia in 2019.

Congressman Adrian Smith is a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives for Nebraska's 3rd congressional district and serves on the House Ways and Means Committee. He was elected to Congress in 2006, after serving two terms in the Nebraska state legislature. Congressman Smith has also worked in the private sector as a realtor and marketing specialist for the housing industry. He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. Congressman Smith traveled as a delegate on an ACYPL exchange to India in 2000 and escorted an ACYPL delegate to Tanzania in 2004. He is also a former member of the ACYPL Board.

Josh Jackson is the Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director, Office of Representative Adrian Smith.

The House Committee on Ways and Means is the chief tax-writing committee of the United States House of Representatives. Members of the Ways and Means Committee are not allowed to serve on any other House Committee unless they are granted a waiver from their party's congressional leadership. The Committee has jurisdiction over all taxation, tariffs, and other revenue-raising measures, as well as a number of other programs including Social Security, unemployment benefits, Medicare, the enforcement of child support laws, and foster care and adoption programs.

US Capitol, often called the Capitol Building, is the home of the United States Congress and the seat of the legislative branch of the U.S. federal government. It is located on Capitol Hill at the eastern end of the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Though no longer at the geographic center of the Federal District, the Capitol forms the origin point for the District's street-numbering system and the District's four quadrants. The original building was completed in 1800 and was subsequently expanded, particularly with the addition of the massive dome, and expanded chambers for the bicameral legislature, the House of Representatives in the south wing and the Senate in the north wing. Like the principal buildings of the executive and judicial branches, the Capitol is built in a distinctive neoclassical style and has a white exterior

The Supreme Court of the United States is the highest court in the federal judiciary of the United States. It has ultimate appellate jurisdiction over all federal and state court cases that involve a point of federal law, and original jurisdiction over a narrow range of cases, specifically "all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be Party". The Court holds the power of judicial review, the ability to invalidate a statute for violating

a provision of the U.S. Constitution. It is also able to strike down presidential directives for violating either the Constitution or statutory law. However, it may act only within the context of a case in an area of law over which it has jurisdiction.

International Republican Institute (IRI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to advancing freedom and democracy worldwide by helping political parties to become more issue-based and responsive, assisting citizens to participate in government planning, and working to increase the role of marginalized groups in the political process – including women and youth. Founded in 1983, and initially known as the National Republican Institute for International Affairs, the IRI's stated mission is to "advance democracy and freedom. We link people with their governments, guide politicians to be responsive to citizens, and motivate people to engage in the political process." IRI's activities include assisting political parties and candidates develop their values and institutional structures, good governance practices, civil society development, civic education, women's and youth leadership development, electoral reform and election monitoring, and political expression in closed societies.

Paul McCarthy began his career at IRI in October 2004 in the Middle East and North Africa division. After a number of postings in the Middle East and at IRI's office in Washington, DC, Paul was named Director of the Europe Division in October 2018, where he is responsible for overseeing a diverse portfolio of regional and country specific programs. Paul has worked in the field of democracy promotion for more than two decades and began his career focusing on the former communist states of Europe. Prior to joining IRI, he worked in the National Endowment for Democracy's (NED) Europe and Eurasia division where he oversaw NED's extensive program in the Balkans which provided assistance to independent media, civic organizations, think tanks, business associations and political parties during a critical period in that region's turbulent history. Paul studied European and Russian history at the University of Pennsylvania and earned a master's degree in Russian studies from the London School of Economics.

Friday, December 6

The U.S. Department of State is the federal executive department responsible for the international relations of the United States, equivalent to the foreign ministries of other countries. The Department was created in 1789 and was the first executive department established. The Department operates the diplomatic missions of the United States abroad and is responsible for implementing the foreign policy and diplomacy efforts of the United States. The Department is led by Secretary Mike Pompeo who was nominated by President Trump and confirmed by the US Senate in April 2018.

Jill Dietrich is the Desk Officer for North Macedonia in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs at the US Department of State.

Matt Malone is the Desk Officer for the Balkans in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs at the US Department of State.

Brian Diffell is the President at the WTG Global, where he assists clients with legislative projects using his government and private sector experience. Prior to this, Brian had a 12-year long congressional career where he served in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. While serving as a Legislative Policy Advisor in Congress, he focused on many issues including international trade and foreign policy. Brian is a former ACYPL Program Officer and has traveled on ACYPL exchanges to China in 2001 and North Macedonia in 2018. He also serves as the Treasurer of ACYPL's Board of Trustees.

The Pentagon is the headquarters building of the United States Department of Defense. As a symbol of the U.S. military, the phrase “The Pentagon” is also often used as a synonym for the Department of Defense and its leadership. Located in Arlington County, Virginia, across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., the building was designed by American architect George Bergstrom. The Pentagon is the world's largest office building, with about 600,000 m² of space, of which 340,000 m² are used as offices. Some 23,000 military and civilian employees, and another 3,000 non-defense support personnel, work in the Pentagon. It has five sides, five floors above ground, two basement levels, and five ring corridors per floor with a total of 28.2 km of corridors.

Isaiah Castilla is Senior Counsel for the Democracy Fund, a bipartisan foundation working to ensure that the US political system is able to withstand new challenges and deliver on its promise to the American people. Isaiah oversees the Fund's legal affairs and provides expertise and guidance for its strategy development, grant making, contracting, and other areas. Previously, Isaiah served as Bolder Advocacy Counsel at Alliance for Justice (AFJ). Prior to joining AFJ, Isaiah was founding partner of The Castilla Law Group. In private practice, Isaiah managed a caseload of civil and criminal matters and provided legal guidance to nonprofits and political organizations. Before practicing law, he served as a Finance Director for many senatorial and gubernatorial campaigns across the. During his tenure as a finance staffer, Isaiah built and executed robust fundraising plans and gained a wealth of knowledge in state and federal campaign finance law. Isaiah earned a law degree from Mississippi College School of Law and graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in music from Tougaloo College. He previously traveled on an ACYPL exchange to North Macedonia in 2018.

Katja Bullock was born and raised in Germany. She emigrated to the United States in 1965, having seen the conclusion of World War II and the beginning of the Cold War that divided Germany. Upon arriving in the states, Katja became interested in American politics. She became a citizen and registered to vote so that she could participate in the American democracy. Since 1976, Katja, has been a part of every presidential campaign as a volunteer or a paid staffer. With more than 30 years of experience in politics, today Katja works in The White House, serving as a Special Assistant to the President for Presidential Personnel – the same position and duties she fulfilled under Presidents Reagan and George H.W. Bush. Katja is responsible for all non-career appointments at the Office of Personnel Management, the General Services Administration, Federal Labor Relations Authority, Merit System Protection Board, and the Government Printing Office. Katja oversees the Correspondence Unit, the Resume Management Group, as well as the clearance and nominating process of all presidential appointments in the federal government.

Gilbert B. Kaplan was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 13, 2018 and assumed his position as Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade in the United States Department of Commerce on March 20, 2018. In his role, he leads a workforce of 2,100 personnel within the International Trade Administration. Prior to assuming his current position, Gilbert was a partner at King & Spalding and part of the International Trade Practice Group. He is the Founder of The Conference on the Renaissance of American Manufacturing. He is also the Co-Founder of the Manufacturing Policy Initiative at Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs, the first and only university program in the country focusing on what public policy steps should be taken to revitalize U.S. manufacturing. Gilbert has served in several other senior positions in the U.S. government, including Acting Assistant Secretary and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Import Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce. Gilbert graduated from Harvard Law School, cum laude and Harvard College, magna cum laude.

Saturday, December 7

US Holocaust Museum is the United States' official memorial to the Holocaust. Adjacent to the National Mall in Washington, D.C., the museum provides for the documentation, study, and interpretation of Holocaust history. It is dedicated to helping leaders and citizens of the world confront hatred, prevent genocide, promote human dignity, and strengthen democracy.

The Jefferson Memorial is a presidential memorial dedicated to Thomas Jefferson, a Founding Father and the third President of the United States (1801-1809). One of the most prolific Founding Fathers, Jefferson is best known as the principal author of the Declaration of Independence. The Memorial not only memorializes the man himself, but also pays homage to his contributions to the Declaration of Independence and Constitution. Inside the memorial are five Jefferson quotes that best represent these principles and a 19 ft. tall bronze statue of Jefferson looking out toward the White House. The memorial was dedicated in 1943.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial is a presidential memorial in Washington D.C., dedicated to the memory of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the 32nd President of the United States, and to the era he represents. The memorial is the second of two that have been constructed in Washington to commemorate that president. Dedicated on May 2, 1997 by President Bill Clinton, the monument, spread over 7.5 acres adjacent to the southwest side of the Tidal Basin along the Cherry Tree Walk in West Potomac Park, traces 12 years of the history of the United States through a sequence of four outdoor rooms, one for each of FDR's terms of office. Sculptures inspired by photographs depict the 32nd president alongside his dog Fala.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial was dedicated in 2011 in honor of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. who is considered one of the great leaders of the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He preached the use of non-violent protests to propel the Civil Rights Movement forward, and thousands of African-Americans and whites participated in sit-ins, boycotts and marches throughout the 1950s-1960s. He was also a renowned writer and orator who delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington in 1963 and was the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. He was assassinated on a hotel balcony in Memphis, Tennessee in 1968 at the age of 39.

The Lincoln Memorial is a national monument built to honor Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States (1860-1865). In 1861, the US was sharply divided on the issue of slavery and the rights of individual states to enforce that practice. The Northern and Southern states worked to formulate a compromise and when none could be reached, the South seceded and plunged the US into the Civil War. President Lincoln not only saved the Union, preserving the government and the national boundaries, but also emancipated all Southern slaves in 1863. In both his life and death, Lincoln has been an inspiration for many and is considered one of the greatest Presidents in American history. He was assassinated in 1865, a month before the Civil War ended.

Sunday, December 8

San Francisco, CA is the 13th-most populated city in the United States and the fourth-most populous city in California. The city is the cultural and economic center of Northern California, and, historically, it has also served as a major port. The city is among the wealthiest in the United States, with San Francisco County having the seventh-largest per capita income of any county in the country. San Francisco serves as a major tourist attraction, and it is also considered among the most politically liberal cities in the country, having been a center of anti-war and LGBT rights activism from the latter half of the 20th century onward.

Ken Maxey is the Director of External Affairs for Comcast Corporation where he forges partnerships with technology, governmental, business, education, and non-profit sectors in California. Previously, Ken was the California State Director for the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. Ken also has extensive experience within the Democratic Party including serving most recently as the Get Out the Vote Director in Des Moines, Iowa for President Barack Obama, Deputy Director for the DNC Convention in 2008, and the Southern California Political Director for the DNC and the California Democratic Party. Ken received his bachelor's degree in political science and history from Notre Dame de Namur University in California and immediately went on to get a certificate in Arabic language from the American University in Beirut, Lebanon. He also has a master's degree in public administration from Howard University, a master's degree in international peace and conflict resolution from the American University, and a certificate in executive leadership from the University of Virginia. He traveled to North Macedonia with ACYPL in 2019.

Fiona Ma is the 34th Treasurer of California. In this position, she is responsible for overseeing the state government's investment and finance. She is also responsible for issuing bonds and notes for the state. Fiona was first elected Treasurer in 2018 and began her term in January 2019. Prior to this, from 2015-2019, she served on the California Board of Equalization, the chief tax administration agency for California's government. She was also a Member of the California State Assembly from 2006-2012. Fiona has a bachelor's degree in accounting from the Rochester Institute of Technology, a master's degree in taxation from Golden Gate University, and a master's degree in business administration from Pepperdine University.

Port Commission of San Francisco is a five-member body that administers port facilities within San Francisco. The members of the commission are nominated by San Francisco's mayor and approved by the Board of Supervisors. The commission oversees over 12.07 km of the San Francisco waterfront that the overall Port Authority develops and maintains. Each commissioner serves for a four-year term.

Oakland, CA is a city on the east side of San Francisco Bay, in California. With a population of 428,827 as of 2018, it serves as a trade center for the San Francisco Bay Area; its Port of Oakland is the busiest port in the San Francisco Bay, and the fifth busiest in the United States of America. One of the most ethnically diverse cities in the United States, Oakland is a center of the African-American community in California.

Rob Bonta is a Member of the California State Assembly, representing the 18th District. He is the first Filipino-American elected to the California Legislature. Within the Assembly, he serves as an Assistant Majority Leader for the Democratic caucus. Before his election, Rob worked as a Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco. His first elected positions were as Director of the Alameda Health Care District and Vice Mayor of the City of Alameda. Rob earned his bachelor's degree and a law degree from Yale University.

Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft is the current Mayor of the City of Alameda. She was elected in 2018, after having served on the Alameda City Council since 2012. Prior to her election to the City Council, Marilyn spent 16 years serving the community as a Planning Board Member and President, an Economic Development Commissioner, and Alameda Hospital Director. Additionally, Marilyn is Alameda's representative in the League of California Cities. Marilyn earned her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Davis, and her law degree from Santa Clara University's School of Law.

Monday, December 9

Lake Merritt is a large tidal lagoon located in central Oakland. It was the first official wildlife refuge designated by the United States government, which granted this status in 1870. The lake is well known for its grassy shores and artificial islands. The surrounding park contains an interpretive center called the Rotary Nature Center; a boating center with rentable sailboats, canoes, and rowboats; and Children's Fairyland, an amusement park that would inspire Walt Disney as he planned Disneyland.

The **Oakland City Council** is an elected governing body representing the City of Oakland, California. Since 1998, Oakland has had a mayor-council government. The mayor is elected for a four-year term and the Oakland City Council has eight council members representing seven districts in Oakland with one member elected at-large who serve staggered four-year terms. Oakland's Mayor is subject to a tenure limited to two terms. There are no term limits for the City Council.

Libby Schaaf is the 50th Mayor of Oakland, California. She was first elected in 2014 and was re-elected in 2018. Before her election as mayor, she was a Member of the Oakland City Council, representing District 4. Prior to her involvement in elected politics, she was Director of Public Affairs for the Port of Oakland and an economic policy advisor for the Oakland City Council. Libby has a bachelor's degree in political science from Rollins College and a law degree from Loyola Law School.

Rebecca Kaplan is a Member of the Oakland City Council. She was first elected in 2008 and is the first openly lesbian person to be a Member of the Council. Before her election, Rebecca served as an At-Large Director on the Alameda County Transit Board of Directors. Rebecca has a bachelor's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a master's degree in urban and environmental policy from Tufts University, and a law degree from Stanford Law School.

NUG, Inc. is a licensed cannabis dispensary located in Alameda, California. Though the non-medical consumption of cannabis remains illegal at the federal level in the United States, the State of California decriminalized the practice in a referendum in 2016. NUG, Inc. was first incorporated in 2014, and seeks to create a standardized process for cannabis cultivation and marketing.

John Oram is the President & Chief Executive Officer of NUG, Inc. He has worked in this position since the company's founding in 2014. In addition to his role as CEO, he is also a research scientist for CW Analytical Laboratories, a cannabis research and development institution. From 2004 to 2010, John worked as a scientist in the San Francisco Estuary Institute, an environmental organization. John has bachelor's degrees in chemistry and biochemistry from the University of Colorado Boulder, along with a master's degree and PhD in engineering from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Sacramento, CA is the capital city of California. Located at the confluence of the Sacramento River and the American River in Northern California's Sacramento Valley, Sacramento's estimated 2018 population of 501,334 makes it the sixth-largest city in. Sacramento is the seat of the California Legislature and the Governor of California, making it the state's political center and a hub for lobbying and think tanks.

Jim Cooper is a Member of the California State Assembly, representing the Sacramento-based 9th District. Before his election, Jim served for 30 years in the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department. He was also the first Mayor of the City of Elk Grove, serving in that position from 2000-2015. Jim is a graduate of the West Point Leadership Academy and the FBI National

Academy. In 1991, he earned a Bronze Star for Bravery during the “Good Guys” hostage crisis, the largest such crisis in American history.

The **California State Capitol** is home to the government of the state of California. The building houses the bicameral state legislature and the office of the governor. Located in Sacramento, California, the neoclassical structure was completed between 1861 and 1874. The building serves as both a museum and the state's working seat of government. The Capitol Museum hosts a collection of flags—including those carried by California soldiers during the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and World War I, as well as artwork by former legislators and government staffers.

The **League of California Cities** is an association of municipal governments within California. The organization is designed to promote cooperation and information sharing between California's cities, and to advocate for municipal interests in the California Legislature. The vast majority of California's 482 incorporated cities are represented in the League.

Carolyn Coleman is Executive Director of the League of California Cities. Carolyn joined the League of California Cities in December 2016 after a decade as senior executive and director of federal advocacy at the National League of Cities (NLC) in Washington, DC. During her tenure at NLC, she oversaw the organization's advocacy efforts and worked closely with city leaders and the 49 state municipal leagues throughout the country to advance NLC's priorities in matters before Congress, the federal administration, and the courts. Carolyn holds a law degree from Indiana University and an undergraduate degree in business from the University of Kansas.

Alex Gallardo-Rooker is the Vice Chair of the California Democratic Party, making her second in the state party's executive leadership. From November 2018 to June 2019, she was the Party's Acting Chair following the resignation of the previous Chairman. She has been active in the state's Democratic leadership since 1997, when she was elected to the state party's leadership ranks. Alex has also been active in work for the Communications Workers of America, primarily with the union's Local #9400 affiliate in Los Angeles. She is a graduate of Cypress College.

Sam Chung is the Chief of Staff for California State Assemblyman Vince Fong. He oversees the political, communications, and policy strategies of Assemblyman Fong and is also involved in statewide fundraising and candidate recruitment efforts. Previously, Sam was Manager of Strategic Public Relations for the Western States Petroleum Association, the oldest petroleum trade association in the U.S. and the largest trade association on the West Coast. Sam formerly led communication strategy and media relations in the Pacific Northwest and in major operating regions within California. Sam held a number of roles for various state legislators, including Chief of Staff and Policy Director within the California State Legislature. Sam was named 40 under 40 Asian American Politicos in the US as featured in CNBC. He is also the former President of the Asian Pacific Islander Capitol Association and Co-Founder of the National Association of Asian Pacifics in Politics and Public Affairs. Sam studied journalism at the University of California, Berkeley and received a bachelor's degree in English from the University of California, Davis, and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California. He previously traveled on an ACYPL exchange to Argentina in 2019.

Tuesday, December 10

Walnut Creek is a city located in Contra Cost County, California. It serves as a major transportation hub for the Bay Area, as it is located at the intersections of Interstate-680 and California State Route 24. The city has a population of almost 70,000 as of 2018. Walnut Creek's downtown is host to a number of high-end retail establishments.

Livermore is a city in Alameda County, California, with a population of more than 89,000. It is the most populous city in the "Tri-Valley" region, east of Oakland, that also contains the cities of Dublin, Pleasanton, and San Ramon. Livermore is the home of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, from which the chemical element livermorium received its name. The city is also home to the California site of Sandia National Laboratories, a nuclear science and safety institution.

Kent Vineyards established in 1996, is a family-owned and operated winery located east of San Francisco. The winery cultivates vineyards located near Monterey and Livermore, California. In early 2013, Darcie Kent, the owner of the brand, purchased the Estate Winery and Vineyard formerly operated by Cedar Mountain Winery. This estate now serves as the winery's main location.

Kids Teach Tech is a nonprofit organization that teaches free classes to youth in schools which lack access to technology classes. These classes are taught by current students who have demonstrated substantial skill with technology. The organization also hosts Family Coding Days at companies and other professional organizations where adults and children learn to code together. Kids Teach Tech has so far taught more than 500 students throughout the Bay Area.

John Marchand has been the Mayor of Livermore since 2011. He previously served as a Member of the Livermore City Council from 2005-2010, including serving four terms as the city's Vice Mayor. Before his time in elected office, John worked for over 30 years in the water industry, most recently as a Senior Water Quality Chemist for the Alameda County Water District. John has a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from California State University Hayward.

Wente Vineyards is a winery operated in Livermore, California. Founded in 1883, it is the oldest continuously-operating family-owned winery in the United States. The company owns vineyards throughout the Livermore Valley and further south in Monterey County. In 2011, Wente Vineyards was designated "Winery of the Year" by *Wine Enthusiast*. In recent years, the brand has also distinguished itself with its efforts to transition to environmentally-friendly production methods.

San Francisco Premium Outlets is an outlet mall in Livermore, California. It is the largest such mall in Northern California and is host to over 180 brand-name stores and restaurants.

Fremont is a city in Alameda County located south of Oakland. The city was incorporated in 1956 and is the closest city in the East Bay region to Silicon Valley. Fremont has seen rapid population growth in recent years largely due to an influx of tech workers. In fact, the city's largest employer is Tesla, Inc. with over 10,000 Fremont residents working for the company's Tesla Factory in the city. Along with neighboring Newark and Union City, Fremont forms what is known as the "Tri-Cities" region.

Jody Buckley is a Venture Philanthropist who specializes in fundraising and board development as a part of Partners in Progress, a non-profit consulting organization, and directs the charitable giving of the Bridgewater Fund, focused on education and women in poverty in California and worldwide. She takes on a variety of other fundraising roles in her local school district.

A past national President of Young Democrats of America and a presidential elector for the state of Washington in 1996, Jody is politically active in Washington State, California, and the federal arena. She has also served on several boards and board committees including: Washington State University Foundation, Silicon Valley Community Foundation's first Donor Advisory Council, Oak Knoll and Hillview Schools' PTOs, Samaritan House, Death Penalty Focus, the Women's Recovery Association, and the ACYPL Board of Trustees. Jody received her bachelor's degree with honors from Washington State University, did post-graduate work in

England, and subsequently earned a master's degree of education in counseling and guidance from Tennessee's Lincoln Memorial University. She previously traveled on ACYPL exchange to China & Hong Kong in 1994 and again to China in 2009 and 2019.

Wednesday, December 11

Lily Mei has been the Mayor of Fremont, California, since December 2016. She is both the first woman and person of color to hold the mayor's office. In addition to her duties as Mayor, Lily serves on the National League of Cities policy committees on Transportation & Infrastructure Services. Before her election as Mayor, Lily served on the Fremont City Council from 2014-2016. Lily has a degree in business from Drexel University.

Raj Salwan is the current Vice Mayor of Fremont, California. Raj was unanimously chosen by the Fremont City Council for this position in 2018. Previously he had twice served as a Member of the City Council from 2013-2014 and from 2016 until his election as Vice Mayor. Outside of politics, Raj previously had a career in veterinary medicine. Raj studied biological science at the University of California, Irvine, and obtained a doctorate in veterinary medicine from Tuskegee University.

Tesla, Inc. is an American automotive and energy company. Led by CEO Elon Musk, Tesla focuses on electric car and solar panel manufacturing. The company's main vehicle manufacturing facility, the Tesla Factory, is located in Fremont, California. Tesla has seen remarkable growth as a company since its founding in 2003. From 2017-2018 alone, sales of Tesla vehicles increased by 280%. The company is headquartered in Palo Alto, south of San Francisco and Oakland.

Sam Liccardo has been the Mayor of San Jose, California since 2015. Sam had previously been a Member of San Jose's City Council since 2006, representing District 3. Prior to this, Sam was a criminal prosecutor in the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office. As Mayor, Sam has advocated for making San Jose "the most innovative city in America" by 2020, and as such has overseen the creation of many innovation offices in San Jose's government. Sam holds a bachelor's degree in government from Georgetown University and a law degree and master's in public policy from Harvard University.

Ash Kalra is a Member of the California State Assembly, representing the San Jose-based 27th district. He has been a member of the Assembly since December 2016. He is the first Indian-American to serve in the California Legislature. Previously, Ash was a member of the San Jose City Council, representing District 2. Outside of politics, Ash worked as a Santa Clara County Public Defender for 11 years. Ash earned a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a law degree from Georgetown University.

Google LLC is an American multinational technology company that provides internet-related services and products. Founded in 1998 by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, Google's main service was the search engine Google.com, but over the years it has diversified its services to include email, navigation, translation, and other products. In 2015, the company reorganized its holdings and is now a subsidiary of Alphabet Inc. Google also owns the websites YouTube and Blogger. Google.com remains the most visited website in the world, and in 2017 Google was listed as the world's most valuable brand. Recently, the company has faced criticism on its privacy practices, tax avoidance, and compliance with censorship laws.

The **Golden State Warriors** are an American basketball team based in San Francisco. Originally from Philadelphia, the team relocated to California in 1962 and adopted its current name in 1971. The Warriors hold several records within the National Basketball Association (NBA), have

the third-most NBA championships, and are currently the seventh-highest valued sports franchise in the United States.

Hamilton is a musical about the life of American Founding Father Alexander Hamilton. Inspired by the 2004 biography of Hamilton by Ron Chernow, *Hamilton* debuted in 2015, being written and composed by Lin-Manuel Miranda. The musical has received critical acclaim and commercial success and is currently in its third U.S. tour.

Thursday, December 12

Salesforce.com, Inc. is an American software company headquartered in San Francisco. The Salesforce platform is a customer-relationship management service that provides companies with an interface to manage, record, and update information regarding clients and events. Salesforce also offers a number of other cloud-based services for companies to use for customer relations. As of 2019, Salesforce employees a total of around 35,000 people. Its chairman and CEO is Marc Benioff.

Serena Ingre is the International Communications Director for Salesforce. She has worked in this position since 2018, and helps to develop the company's brand strategy, marketing, and crisis communications. Serena has more than two decades' worth of experience in the field of communications. Her most recent previous titles have included being a Senior Communications and Media Manager for the National Resources Defense Council from 2007-2014 and working in International Communications for Clif Bar and Company. Serena has degrees in international studies and Spanish literature from George Mason University and a master's degree in international development from American University.

Shamann Walton is a Member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, representing District 10. He was elected in 2018 and began his term in January 2019. Before this, Shamann was the President of the San Francisco Board of Education. He is the former director of the Potrero Hill Family Resource Center and executive director of Young Community Developers, a nonprofit in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhoods. Shamann has a degree in political science from Morris Brown College.

Natalie Gee is the Chief of Staff for San Francisco Supervisor Shamann Walton. Before this, she was Walton's campaign manager during the 2018 election. Natalie had previously worked as Communications Director for the San Francisco Democratic Party and as an Account Manager for Civic Edge Consulting. She graduated from San Francisco State University in 2009, having double-majored in Asian American Studies and Health Education.

Matt Haney is a Member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, elected in 2018 to represent District 6. Before this, he was the Vice President of the Board of Education in the San Francisco Unified School District. In addition, Matt was also the Director of Policy for Rebuild the Dream, and an adjunct faculty member at JFK Law School at Palo Alto University. Prior to this, he was an Education Fellow and Lecturer at the Hasso Plattner Institute of Design at Stanford and was an education policy legislative aide to California State Senator Simitian. Matt received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley in political science and went on to get his master's degree in education and a law degree from Stanford University. Matt is an ACYPL alumnus who participated in the 2015 U.S. to Indonesia and Malaysia exchange.

The **Boys & Girls Club of Oakland** is an autonomous member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Chartered in 1941, the organization provides after-school programs for young people ages 6-17 as a way of providing supplemental education to regular schooling. Additionally, the organization helps build productive relationships between students and adult professionals,

along with offering life-enhancing programs and character development exercises. The organization is currently in the process of expanding its services, with a goal of serving 5,000 young people or 10% of the Oakland Public School District's Enrollment.

Tanya Holland is an American professional chef, cookbook author, and restaurateur. Known for her inventive take on modern soul food, as well as comfort classics, Chef Tanya Holland is the Executive Chef and Owner of Brown Sugar Kitchen in Oakland, CA. She is also the author of the Brown Sugar Kitchen Cookbook and *New Soul Cooking*; and served as the host and soul food expert on television series *Melting Pot*. Tanya holds a bachelor's degree in Russian language and literature from the University of Virginia, as well as a Grande Diplôme from La Varenne Ecole de Cuisine in Burgundy, France.

Brown Sugar Kitchen is a southern, soul style food restaurant in the Bay Area, with locations in San Francisco and Oakland. Brown Sugar Kitchen is the creation of Executive Chef Tanya Holland, who brings her exceptional culinary skills, creativity and love of hosting and feeding people to the restaurant.

The **Kapor Center** is an organization that advocates for greater diversity and inclusivity within the technology industry. The Center specifically works to publicize the beneficial impacts technology has had on historically underserved communities, particularly African American and Hispanic communities. The organization works with an array of partners to advance its mission, its closest partners being SMASH and Kapor Capital. The Kapor Center is headquartered in Oakland.

Ellie Casson is currently Head of Local Policy at Waymo, Google's self-driving car project. Ellie works in this position to help Waymo navigate local laws and conditions regarding the testing of self-driving cars. She serves on the city of Oakland's Landmark Preservation Advisory Board and is an active member of Open Oakland, a local group that works to foster civic innovation, participation, and transparency, primarily through the use of technology. She also volunteers regularly with TechEquity Collaborative, which advocates for a tech-driven economy in the San Francisco area. Before joining Waymo, Ellie worked in the Government Affairs and Strategic Partnerships office of Airbnb. Prior to her work with Airbnb, Ellie worked as a community organizer for Greenbelt Alliance in the Silicon Valley. She served as Campaign Manager for Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's successful election bid in 2012. Following her work with Congresswoman Eshoo, she consulted on several ballot measure campaigns and volunteered for the current Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf. Ellie earned a bachelor's degree in sustainable community planning from Hampshire College. She previously traveled on an ACYPL exchange to Timor Leste in 2017.

Delegate Biographies

Ms. Suarta Ameti

President

Women's Union of the Democratic Union for Integration

Democratic Union for Integration

Suarta is the President of the Women's Union for the Democratic Union for Integration party (DUI). She has served in this position since 2014. In addition to her work for the DUI, since 2015, Suarta has worked as a Planning Assistant for the Department of Strategy and Planning in the City of Ohrid.

Suarta has held several roles, both for the Democratic Union for Integration party and the City of Ohrid. She has been a Member of the DUI since 2002 and served as President of its Youth Forum for 6 years. For the City of Ohrid, she previously served as a Member of the steering board of the Vellazerim Bashkim primary school, President of the Wonderland LS7 Children's Education Center, and a Member of the steering committee for the auditing of Glaiçica National Park.

Suarta has a degree in ecology and technology from the University of Tetovo.

Mr. Fljakron Bedjeti

Spokesman

Alliance for Albanians Party

Alliance for Albanians

Fljakron is a Spokesman for the Alliance for Albanians Party. As Spokesman, he works to communicate the party's message and opinions to the voters of North Macedonia. In addition to his party responsibilities, Fljakron is a lawyer for the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund.

Prior to his work as a Spokesman, Fljakron held a variety of positions within the Alliance of Albanians Party. From 2016 to 2018, he was the Head of the Party's Department of Information. Fljakron has also worked within the Party's Central Leadership and Department of European Integration and has also represented the Party at various international conferences. Fljakron has a degree in legal studies and a master's degree in comparative public administration of the European Union from South East European University Tetovo. He is currently working towards a PhD in social science from the same institution.

Mr. Maksim Dimitrievski

Mayor

City of Kumanovo

Social Democratic Union

Maksim has been the Mayor of the City of Kumanovo since October 2017. He is a Member of the Social Democratic Union party where he serves on its Executive Committee.

Maksim has held elected office in Kumanovo since 2008. That year, he was elected as a Member of the Kumanovo Municipal Council. In 2012, he became the President of the Council and served in that capacity until 2016. From 2016 until his election as Mayor in 2017, he was a Member of the Assembly of North Macedonia. Maksim also has a background in business.

Maksim has a degree from the Faculty of Law in Skopje.

Ms. Nola Ismajloska Starova

Member
Assembly of North Macedonia
VMRO-DPMNE

Nola has been a Member of the Assembly of North Macedonia since 2014. She is a Member of the VMRO-DPMNE party and sits on three committees: European Affairs, Culture, and Local Self Governance.

Before her election to the Assembly, Nola worked as a Trainer for the Youth in Action and Council of Europe programs. In this position, she led workshops on various topics focusing on youth involvement and work in public affairs.

Nola has a bachelor's degree in information science and technology, with a concentration on e-government, e-business, and e-culture.

Mr. Jovan Jauleski

President
Youth Forces Union, VMRO-DPMNE
VMRO-DPMNE

Jovan is the President of the Youth Forces Union of the VMRO-DPMNE, a position he has held since February 2019.

Jovan has experience in multiple positions within the VMRO-DPMNE. He has worked with the party's Youth Forces Union since 2014, when he began serving as a member of the organization's executive board. Beginning in 2017, Jovan served as the organization's Vice President, subsequently moving up to General Secretary in 2018. Jovan served as General Secretary until his selection as President of the Youth Forces Union.

Jovan earned a degree in civil law and a master's degree in legal science from St. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje.

Mr. Darko Kaeovski

Director
Agency for Youth and Sports
Social Democratic Union

Darko is the Director of the Agency for Youth and Sports of North Macedonia. In this position, he oversees the Agency's mission and works to further its goals. The Agency for Youth and Sports prioritizes both the facilitation and protection of young people in North Macedonia and works to publicize important sports events within the country. In addition to his role as Director, Darko is the President of the youth wing of the Social Democratic Union.

Before his work within the Agency for Youth and Sports, Darko was involved in youth activism. Darko is passionate about bringing youth voices into conversations on government policy, a perspective he has brought to several global think tanks. Darko specifically focuses on bringing forward updates on youth policy to these institutions.

Darko earned degrees in law and economics from St. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje.

Mr. Drilon Kjatipi

Youth Leader
Democratic Union for Integration
Democratic Union for Integration

Drilon is a Youth Leader for the Democratic Union for Integration party. He also works as the Director of the pharmaceutical company Pharmacon and as a Marketer for the company Lyonet.

Drilon's previous work has been mainly in the pharmaceutical industry: in 2012, he opened and operated his own pharmacy. In 2014, he began work for an American business located in Ohrid in a customer service and management position, which he remained in until 2016.

Drilon attended the University of Tetovo and earned a certification for technical pharmacy in 2010.

Ms. Sanja Lukarevska

Director
Public Revenue Office
Social Democratic Union

Sanja is the Director of the Public Revenue Office (PRO) of North Macedonia. She has served in this position since 2018. As Director, it is her responsibility to oversee the office's duties, provide guidelines for the enforcement of regulations, and adopt operational instructions for North Macedonia's varied areas of taxation.

Sanja has more than a decade of experience, both within the PRO and in finance-related sectors of the government of North Macedonia. She previously worked within the PRO's Sector for Legal Affairs for eight years. She became Acting Director of the PRO in 2017 before being formally appointed to her current position.

Sanja has a bachelor's degree in law from St. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje and is pursuing a master's degree in administrative law.

Escort**Ms. Nadica Zakula**

Public Engagement Specialist
Office of Public Affairs, US Embassy – Skopje

Nadica is a Public Engagement Specialist within the Office of Public Affairs at the US Embassy – Skopje. She has been with the Embassy for 15 years.

Previously, Nadica served in the cabinet of The Honorable Vlado Bučkovski, former Minister of Defense of Macedonia, and during that time, she was a Liaison Officer at the Consulate General of Macedonia in Tampa, Florida.

Nadica has a master's degree in global security from the Royal College of Science. She also has a degree in defense resource management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Program Contact Information

Washington, DC – December 4-8 **American Council of Young Political Leaders**

1030 15th Street NW
Suite 580 West
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: 202-857-0999

Kaylee Boalt, Program Director
Cell: 864-350-5584
Email: kboalt@acypl.org

Jacqueline Harris, Director of Outreach & Engagement
Cell: 202-288-6469
Email: jharris@acypl.org

Ms. Libby Rosenbaum, CEO
Cell: 202-306-0712
Email: rosenbaum@acypl.org

Hotel in Washington, DC
Residence Inn by Marriott Dupont Circle
2120 P Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: 202-466-6800

Embassy of Macedonia
Address: 2129 Wyoming Ave NW,
Washington, DC 20008
Tel: 202-667-0501
Web: <http://www.mfa.gov.mk/washington>

US Embassy – Skopje
Ms. Nadica Zakula
Senior Program Specialist
Office of Public Affairs
Cell: +389 70 365 040
Email: ZakulaN@state.gov

California – December 8-13
State Host – Mr. Ken Maxey
Director of External Affairs, Comcast NBC
Universal
Cell: 202-230-3744
Email: kenmaxey@hotmail.com

Hotel in Oakland – December 8 & 12
Homewood Suites by Hilton Oakland-Waterfront
1103 Embarcadero
Oakland, CA 94606
Tel: 510-663-2700

Hotel in Sacramento – December 9
The Citizen Hotel
926 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: 916-447-2700

Hotel in San Jose – December 10-11
Holiday Inn Express Suites Fremont
42200 Albrae Street
Fremont, CA 94538
Tel: 510-651-7373

Flight Confirmations and Itineraries

Last Name	Confirmation Number – International Flights	Confirmation Number – Domestic Flight
Ameti	JBW7L7 (UA0	JD4 ENX (UA)
Bedjeti	JBYZ9 K (UA)	JECSRE (UA)
Dimitrievski	JB0 PXX (UA)	JEGDZM (UA)
Jauseski	JB5RPB (UA)	JENK3X (UA)
Kaevski	JCBM19 (UA)	JEQZNV (UA)
Kjatipi	JCEE3N (UA)	JE9 L0 N (UA)
Lukarevska	JCGQSL (UA)	JEYQDX (UA)
Starova	E4 3C16 (UA)	JEJT22 (UA)

Flight #1 Flight #UA 9834

SKP Skopje, North Macedonia
VIE Vienna, Austria

Depart: 4:25am
Arrive: 6:05am

Flight #UA 9821

VIE Vienna, Austria
IAD Washington, DC

Depart: 10:35am
Arrive: 2:55pm

Flight #2 Flight #UA 424

IAD Washington, DC
SFO San Francisco, CA

Depart: 8:15am
Arrive: 11:19am

Flight #3 Flight #UA 639

SFO San Francisco, CA
ORD Chicago, IL

Depart: 8:30am
Arrive: 2:40am

Flight #4 Flight #US 9850

ORD Chicago, IL
VIE Vienna, Austria

Depart: 4:20pm
Arrive: 8:20am
Arrive on **Saturday, December 14**

Flight #UA 9821

VIE Vienna, Austria
SKP Skopje, North Macedonia

Depart: 10:05am
Arrive: 11:40am