



Shawna Brown

Shawna Brown is a recent college graduate from the Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Maryland with a Bachelor's of Science in Counseling Psychology. She graduated from the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School. Shawna is a Project Coordinator for the Institute's 12th Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development.

Shawna was one of the founders of the Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative (MVYLI). In 2011 she first served as a youth delegate to the MVYLI's Youth Summit for Sustainable Development. Shawna was an active member in MVYLI's year-round program – attending College Preparatory Workshops and College Field Trips -- visiting seven colleges. She participated in MVYLI's Job Shadow Day at the Martha's Vineyard Hospital's operating room and radiology departments with Nurse Manager Barbara Morgan. Shawna's community service projects included a beach clean up with AmeriCorps members at the Cape Pogue Wildlife Reservation on Chappaquiddick on Martha's Vineyard. She represented MVYLI at the Bioneers by the Bay Conference in New Bedford with 1,000 youth from New England and the Cape & Islands Youth Congress in Barnstable. In 2012 Shawna served as a MVYLI Visioneer helping to organize the Summit and helping train younger students to reach for their dreams.

Shawna is proud of her Jamaican roots and shares them with other island youth at the Summit. Marie Allen sponsored Shawna to attend the Dr. King Dinner and receive a NAACP Junior Membership. For her MVYLI Sustainability-In-Action Project, she helped create the Cultural Health Project that involved a site visit to The Food Project in Boston and an intensive workshop with Marsha Reeves-Jews. In conjunction with First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move program, Shawna inspired seniors at the Tisbury Senior Center with the Cultural Health Project.

While at Washington Adventist University, Shawna Brown participated in "Service Day," a community outreach program in which she provided assistance to the less fortunate members of the community in the Maryland/Washington, DC area.

Shawna interned at Washington Adventist Hospital in the rehabilitation department where she provided counseling to patients facing major challenges due to abuse, addiction, and more. After gaining her Master's in Clinical Psychology, Shawna plans to work at a rehab hospital and eventually create her own practice.



George DeLana
Summit Project Coordinator 2016

George DeLana is from Rowaytan, Connecticut, and lived there for 18 years until he left for Bates College this year. He can be described as intuitive, considerate, and smart. He's been a leader for his community from a young age. At age 13, George started a 2-week long Sports Camp for kids ranging from 4-9 years old. The camp successfully hosted 15 kids. In the 7th grade, he won the award for best debater in the grade-wide environmental science debates, in which he debated in support of the efficacy of certain alternative energy sources. In high school, he went on to be selected as one of two head ambassadors to represent his school, a responsibility which he held for the remainder of his high school years. Furthermore, his senior speech was voted as best (and funniest) speech out of the entire senior class. During his time in high school, George worked as a teacher's assistant for the summer programs at The Children's School (a Montessori school in Stamford, CT). He also volunteered regularly at the William Pitt School for underprivileged youth in Stamford. George has worked in a number of positions on Martha's Vineyard, from Camp Counselor at The Boathouse Club to Umbrella "Engineer" at the Chappaquiddick Beach Club in Edgartown, MA.

George is a student at Bates College, working toward a double major in math and Spanish. In the future, he hopes to pursue a career doing business abroad in either Spain or Argentina, two of his favorite countries. He is passionate about the Spanish language and South American culture, and is determined to become fluent in Spanish so that he can one day live in Patagonia. In his free time, George enjoys spending time outside. He regularly skis and fly-fishes when the weather is nice (which it rarely is in Maine), and he also loves to skateboard and surf.



Nicole Garrity

Nicole is a Prevention Specialist at the Manet Community Health Center. She works within the community providing health education and testing and she absolutely loves it!

In 2013, Nicole graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a Bachelor's in Public Health. She decided to spend the next year and a half working on the Island for multiple businesses and organizations, including the Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative. She believes she learned just as much from the young people at the 2014 Youth Leadership Summit as they learned from her. It was there at the Summit where Nicole made her 5-year goals for her life.

She is the only girl of 6 children, originally from New Hampshire, currently living on the South Shore. Since Nicole can remember, she and her family annually frequented Martha's Vineyard, and she fell in love with it with each visit.

Nicole is working towards her Master's of Public Health from George Washington University Online. She is passionate about the health of individuals, as well as the health of our population as a whole and she says it all begins with maintaining a sustainable lifestyle! This fall Nicole is traveling to Fiji for 3 weeks to work on the prevention and reduction of heart disease and diabetes, which cause 80% of deaths in Fiji. She will be able to help people from rural communities who do not have easy access to healthcare and health education. Her goal is to learn from this experience and use the gained skills to address these exact public health concerns here in the United States; for all of us know at least one person affected by heart disease or diabetes.



Sophia Green
Summit Project Coordinator

Sophia is a recent graduate from Carnegie Mellon University, with a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology and a minor in Anthropology. She is passionate about dedicating time toward helping communities in need and traveling.

In the spring of 2015, she studied abroad in Nepal and lived with a Tibetan refugee family while participating in a program that facilitated the study of Tibetan language and culture. While in Nepal, she conducted various ethnographic research projects. Two of her minor research projects focused on Eastern versus Western conceptions of happiness and the effects of religious conflict.

For her major independent research project, Sophia chose to conduct ethnographic research with the local Nepali LGBTQ community in order to raise awareness and give a voice to those facing immense discrimination. Unfortunately, her research was cut short by the devastating earthquake that occurred on April 25, 2015. Sophia survived the earthquake uninjured, but was forced to evacuate the country. Her dream is to return to Nepal to help with post-crisis rehabilitation as well as resume her research project, since the natural disaster left marginalized communities in Nepal even more marginalized than before due to lack of resources and preferential distribution of supplies post-earthquake. The entire experience was incredibly eye opening, and Sophia hopes to continue working with the LGBTQ community and other underserved minorities (such as refugee communities) in order to promote equality and tolerance.

Sophia plans to go to graduate school in the future and wants to pursue a career involving Psychology and Anthropology. Her dream job would be one that involved traveling, writing, and working with communities in need.

Sophia will be a new member of the Summit Team this year. She is very excited to be a part of the organization since she feels that youth development and leadership training are important for creating a better future. She will be contributing to the Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative by utilizing her writing skills to help develop the faculty bios as well as the curriculum, interview participants, and record and document the Summit's journey.

She is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana, and her family spends two weeks of every summer on Martha's Vineyard with her Grandma, who lives on the island year round. She will be living on the island all summer with her twin sister, and she is looking forward to getting to know Martha's Vineyard in a more local way. In her free time, Sophia enjoys running, cooking, camping, and yoga, although her greatest joy is learning about new cultures and meeting people from around the world.



Elijah Anakalea-Buckley Future Engineer

“He aliʻi ka ʻāina, he Kauhā ke kanaka”, this translates into “The land is the chief, man is its servants”. This way of thinking has escaped the minds of youth today. Elijah Anakalea-Buckley strives toward this ideal, putting the land before all because of the life that it gave and continues to give. An up and a junior student at Big Island Hawaii Preparatory Academy, Elijah previously attended Waimea Middle School and before that he went to Kanu O Ka Aina Public Charter School. For SHYLI’s Mentor & Job Shadow Day Program, Elijah shadowed Paul Ponthieux, Blue Planet Research and Christine Young, Puʻu Waʻawaʻa Ranch Zero Waste.

Elijah was nominated to serve as youth delegate to the Institute’s 11th Annual Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development on Martha’s Vineyard. An active member of the Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative, he participated in the **Puʻu Waʻawaʻa Ranch Energy Lab Tour**. For his SHYLI Sustainability Project Elijah created a beautiful presentation **Zero-Waste and Sustainable Education** which he is sharing with local students to inspire them to join with him to preserve our islands and our planet.

For SHYLI’s Job Shadow Day 2016 Elijah was with U.S. Senator Brian Schatz at **HCATT’s BESI Waste to Energy Project Dedication**. He was mentored by Paul Ponthieux and Christine Young, at **Puʻu Waʻawaʻa Ranch**; Dennis Furukawa, **Real Green Power** and Ravi Pare, **Oceanit/Design Thinking Hawaii**

Elijah is very involved in the community, often participating and helping in local Makahiki and Makalii (voyaging canoe) activities. Elijah is involved in many sports and pursues them with passion while balancing his academic and social lives. He is a part of the Kulia I Ka Pono program in Kawaihae teaching and spreading the voyaging side of the Hawaiian culture to the youth every summer. While venturing and exploring the beauties of the island he keeps his values of respect and humility everywhere he goes. One of his focuses for sustainability is keeping Hawaii beautiful while staying resourceful in the process with Zero-Waste programs. He also has the dream of bringing college sustainability programs to the Big Island and his community because of the ideal location and the awareness, initiative and support it would bring to the island.

For the 2016 Youth Leadership Summit, Elijah is the lead youth delegate from Hawaii, assisting with Hawaiian protocol and official welcoming ceremonies for the arrival of the **Hokule'a Worldwide Voyage**.



Josué Cruz Morales J.D.
Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative

In May 2016, Josué realized his childhood dream of becoming a lawyer. In 2015 he graduated from the University of Puerto Rico Carolina, Forensic Investigation, Law & Society Interactions in the top 5. He is officially admitted into practicing law in Puerto Rico and this fall is taking the Federal Bar Exam for the First Circuit (Boston).

This 27-year old aspires to change the social, economic and educational destinies of his Island of Vieques, seeking to offer his Pro Bono services to communities in need. Josue worked as co-director of a pipeline program called Enlace to expose high school students from marginalized areas to real law school classes every Saturday. Over 250 students participated in this program during his time there. Josué's main role was to train students in legislative affairs and community involvement. His final project was to create a database program capable of tracking students through their college careers after they finished law school classes in the Enlace Project. This program is the first software of its kind in the legal field, and will help identify the needs of students and provide them help to ensure they will be able to reach their goal of being accepted into law school. During Law School, Josue worked closely with the very first Legal Profession Self Study in Puerto Rico. This was a combined effort between the University of Puerto Rico and the Chief Justice of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court.

Josué's dream of enriching his community began early - when he was a shy and very quiet 14-year-old, he discovered at the Institute's first Youth Leadership Summit, his dream was to become the Mayor of Vieques and inspire other youth to become leaders of their island. Josué took that goal seriously and created a strategic plan for the short, medium and long term to accomplish his dreams.

In 2004, Josue co-founded the Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative to train young people to build a new Vieques. Josué wrote *The Challenges Facing Vieques Youth* that became the foundation for the Institute's four-year bi-lingual demonstration project. Josue and VYLI college youth produced a 2020 Report on Sustainable Development for Vieques that was presented at the APEC Youth Summit in Peru in 2008. In 2009 Josue co-founded Comunidad Verde Vieques (Green Vieques) where the Mayor dedicated 500 acres to 300 landless families, the second-generation victims of the US Navy land expropriation in the 1940's. Josué's deep commitment to designing the best practices for his island inspired him to help implement the first "Green Initiative" in Puerto Rico's public schools in which more than 5,000 students and 150 teachers created more than 100 school gardens. At his Law School graduation, Josué received the prestigious Award for founding VYLI and his dedication to his Vieques community.

Josue serves as Co-Director of the Institute's Youth Leadership Summit and works with the Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative and Sustainable Hawaii Youth Leadership Initiative. In 2010, Josue received the Institute's first Walter Cronkite Award.



Angel L. Miranda Pagán
Summit Technology Coordinator

Angel is the IT Assistant at the School of Law of the University of Puerto Rico. In this position he provides IT support to students, employees and faculty, receives calls for desktop troubleshooting. He also develops the Law School's main web page and specializes in web programming, from user interface to other processes.

Angel works pro-bono for PRIOR (Puerto Rico Institute of Robotics) at the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico to help young people put their creativity to work. He also works with organizations that offer free tutoring to young people in elementary and middle school. He describes this as an eye-opening experience, since teaching and supervising children has been a learning process for him and for the students. The moment when a student looks his tutor in the eyes and thanks him for everything is what makes Angel thankful for the opportunity to contribute his life toward creating a better future.

Angel is continuing his education as a student at the University of Puerto Rico, studying Information Systems for his Bachelor in Business Administration. His dream job is to provide solutions for those in need by developing new technologies to assist with day-to-day tasks. He feels that the most important part of a good work environment is people treating each other as Ohana (family). Angel's role models are people who help others in all ways, without hesitation, from providing material necessities to teaching others how to have vision and pursue goals. Angel spends his free time doing what he loves the most: reading and writing. He enjoys composing poems, songs, and stories, and reading about Greek mythology.

Angel expects to gain a lot from his first experience at the Stone Soup Leadership Institute's Summit. He believes this opportunity will be valuable both for providing him professional experience in a work environment as well as for his own personal growth. He'd like to be known as the person who inspires others to help them pursue and accomplish their dreams.



Jason Dela Cruz Gavina
Philippines

Jason Gavina leverages his background in economics and community work in developing innovative and impactful Corporate Social Responsibility programs. As a millennial, he aims to revolutionize the way companies do CSR in the Philippines and ASEAN.

Jason currently manages the CSR programs of an energy company in Zambales where he was instrumental in the establishment of seven Centers of Excellence in early childhood education. Previously, he led a team of 18 in running the Values Formation and Education program for another company. As a Filipino and the son of a former Overseas Filipino Worker, his dream for the country is to make the Filipino Dream no longer about leaving home. He sees the burgeoning of the Philippine economy as an opportune time to engage more companies in the business of social development.

Jason leads a team of changemakers at Mindmap, a start-up social enterprise driven to promote inclusive growth by accelerating the growth of local enterprises and engaging young people in agriculture. He is currently developing a project that aims to involve youth in sustainable development goals. In order to do this, he'd like to create a vibrant community of local leaders with diverse backgrounds who come together to develop impactful projects in their community. These young leaders would address at least one of the Global Goals or the UN Sustainable Development Goals by implementing a community action project. Jason would like to utilize the Touch Stone Platform and Curriculum to train these young leaders in leadership skills which will allow them to implement their community action projects. Beyond the project, the young leaders will create a community of changemakers within their area and aim to encourage more young people to be a part of the next cohort.

His background in development work started in his position as volunteer for Students for the Advancement of Global Enterprise (SAGE) Global, where he helped organize business competitions for teenagers. As a student-leader, he founded the Philippine Junior Jaycees in Los Banos, and spearheaded the first ever National Youth Leadership Camp of the University of the Philippines Junior Executive Society. At age 19, Jason was recognized by the British Council as a Global Changemaker. In this capacity, he represented the Philippines in various forums including Global Youth Summit in London, the World Economic Forum and the APEC Summit in Hawaii. In 2009, he was chosen as one of the 100 Young Leaders for Knowledge and Development by the Ateneo School of Government and the World Bank. Jason has facilitated trainings on project management, communication, and leadership to various organizations. He has written for the Manila Bulletin Youth Section, the Philippine Daily Inquirer's Youngblood, and the book *Kaya Natin* (Vol.2) published by Ateneo Press.

Jason graduated from the University of the Philippines – Los Baños with a degree in Economics and was a Manila Economic and Cultural Office (MECO)-Kainan University scholar in Taiwan.



TANIA CRUZ MORALES
PoshPacker COO & Co-Founder

Tania Cruz has a diverse history of community leadership and management. She is the Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer of PoshPacker, a booking site for finding design-led places to stay that are affordable. With presence in over 460 cities and 60 countries, Tania is in charge of leading their worldwide operations, product management and design strategies. As a startup founder, Tania and her team has been selected to receive funds and to participate of prestigious international accelerators such as Lisbon Challenge, Startup Chile and Techstars Metro in Berlin. Tania is a mentor for Parallel18, the first accelerator program in Puerto Rico; and she helps current teams at Lisbon Challenge and Startup Chile with early stage startup challenges. Previous to PoshPacker, Tania consulted startups and enterprises such as Kimpton Hotels in the Bay Area, using design thinking and agile innovation approaches to solve marketing and operational challenges. Tania holds an MBA in Design Strategy from California College of the Arts (CCA) in San Francisco, and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Puerto Rico. Tania has a deep commitment working with organizations and the government to create a better future for Vieques, Puerto Rico. She served as a co-founder and youth representative for the Comunidad Verde Vieques Initiative, re-gaining 200 acres of land for 500 Viequense families. She also worked as a social worker for the Family Department. And Tania is a spokesperson for Vieques including the Environmental Law Conference at the University of Oregon School of Law. While in college, Tania worked as a Project Coordinator for the Vieques Youth Leadership Initiative, a program of the Stone Soup Leadership Institute. VYLI's mission is to train young and emerging leaders to build a new Vieques. Tania helped develop VYLI's Eco-Tourism Initiative and Entrepreneurship Initiatives. Under Tania's guidance, VYLI's college youth developed a VYLI 2020 report to address the island's socio-economic crisis and develop a vision for 2020 with innovative solutions. At VYLI, Tania also helped design a comprehensive plan for rebuilding the island, involving preserving cultural arts, promoting sustainability, marketing as an eco-tourism destination, and more. By marketing Vieques as an eco-tourism destination, VYLI hopes to educate and engage tourists to preserve the islands, protect national landmarks, initiate reforestation, and protect indigenous species of wildlife. Tania is also the founder of Ecotour, the first eco-tourism organization in the University of Puerto Rico. Created to encourage college students to protect and enjoy the natural resources in Puerto Rico and participate in beach cleaning, cultural activities, museums and tree planting activities with the believe of "one person teach another".



Marianne Larned

Marianne is a renaissance woman with a rich purposeful life. She is the Founding Director of the Stone Soup Leadership Institute and the author of educational series, *Stone Soup for the World: Life-Changing Stories of Everyday Heroes* whose curriculum has been used in 120 communities around the world. The Institute's unique model is impacting lives of young people in island, rural and urban communities to change their lives & their world. -- 8 youth-community leadership initiatives on 7 islands in 3 countries and inner cities of Oakland, Baltimore and Cincinnati. www.soup4worldinstitute.com

Marianne is curious and a student of Design Thinking. She is now discovering how to bring the Institute's 20 years experience to create a Global Leadership Platform. Grounded in the Institute's Education Curriculum, empowered by its innovative training, technologically connected, this Global Leadership Community catalyzes projects and start-up social entrepreneurs with major impact. www.touchstoneleaders.com

Marianne is a life-long learner whose innovative education allowed her the freedom to design her own undergraduate degree with Rudolf Steiner International Training Center in Aberdeen, Scotland. She returned to her New England roots to receive her MBA in Organizational Development at Boston University. During her corporate consulting career she lived in the Bay Area while developing national corporate social responsibility initiatives and public-private partnerships education and economic development. Marianne is a world traveler, visiting 40 islands. She now lives on islands: Martha's Vineyard, Hawaii and the Philippines.