2019 Diversity in Arts Leadership Program Mentors

Anthony Cinelli is a Corporate Affairs Manager for the Strategic Partnerships team at Con Edison and is mentoring Nathan Farrell this summer. He is an event manager with over twenty years of experience across industries and an expertise in original program development, promotion, brand building, engagement, fundraising and public affairs.

Before joining Con Edison, he worked for The New York Stock Exchange, where he honed those skills in the Global Corporate Client Group, serving a family of NYSE-listed companies; Government Relations, interfacing with regulatory and government officials with oversight for the organization; and Event Marketing, developing strategies to win new business and support the roster of NYSE corporate brands. Prior to his seventeen-year tenure at the Exchange, he served as personal assistant to celebrity designer Thomas Jayne and Executive Assistant to the President of Boosey & Hawkes, Inc., publisher of 20th Century Giants including John Adams, Leonard Bernstein, and others. He has provided consulting services for the development offices of the American Red Cross of Greater New York and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

In addition, Anthony has served as President of the Board of Directors of The Cornerstone Chorale, a chamber ensemble in Washington Heights, NY and is a classically trained actor and singer. Anthony has held numerous section principal positions throughout the New York metropolitan area and is currently section leader and soloist with the First Presbyterian Church of Hackensack, NJ and The Bronx Concert Singers in Parkchester, NY, and he is the annual featured tenor soloist for the Messiah at The United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. He is a cum laude graduate of Rhode Island College with a Bachelor of Arts in performance, where he shared the repertory main stage with Emmy, Oscar and Tony-award winning actress Viola Davis – his claim to fame. His credo is “It’s not the job, it’s the journey”.

Alicia Le’Von Boone is the Head of Programming for Today at Apple – New York City, and is mentoring Habiba Hopson this summer. Through her work, she develops programs that are intended to uplift and inspire everyday people to take their passions and creativity further. As the former Associate Curator of Public Programs at the Brooklyn Museum, Alicia developed and sustained vibrant, fresh, thoughtful, and inclusive spaces where museum guests were invited and encouraged to engage with art, ideas, and each other. Her most notable programs include Target First Saturdays and Art Off the Wall with Faile and Swizz Beats.

In addition to her work in the arts, Alicia is a regular contributor to The Unfolding, a rich participatory conversation in modern spirituality and celebration of gratitude and affirmation. Committed to providing spaces for positive human connection and thinking to build new futures, her pursuits reflect a deep respect for communities of color, and more specifically black women. Alicia has guest-lectured at Pratt Institute, Harvard, Columbia, New York Media Center, and NYU. She holds an MPS in Arts and Cultural Management from Pratt Institute, a BA in Business Management and Marketing from Edinboro University.
**Njeri** (pronounced ‘Jerry’) Mathu, DIAL ’05, is the Director of Business & Marketing Strategy at Loantime who is mentoring **Allison Bennett this summer**. Njeri is a multifaceted Business & Brand Strategist and Marketing leader with 11+ years successfully crafting and implementing brand, product marketing and cross-channel marketing strategies for early and growth stage startups B2B, B2C & SaaS companies in fintech, healthcare, hospitality, e-commerce and digital Media.

Njeri is also the Founder of AnaCheza, an early-stage clean tech business manufacturing adaptable and aesthetically unique raw materials and products from wastepaper & cardboard. She’s passionate about transforming the perception, value and utility of waste materials, and integrating design thinking and creativity to transform complex challenges into innovative and sustainable solutions.

Njeri is a graduate of Duke University, with a B.A. in Public Policy, and earned an M.A. in Music Business from New York University.

**Betsy Santoyo, DIAL ’13, is an Associate Manager in Marketing at the New York Times (NYT) who is mentoring Hannah Miao this summer.** Originally from Los Angeles, she moved to New York City for the opportunity to work on the media strategy team and develop a mobile marketing program which is very new for this industry. Being able to work for NYT was a defining factor in her decision to leave the Golden State. Despite the cold, she loves NYC’s heartbeat and enjoys the ‘go go go’ nature of the city.

Betsy graduated from Duke University in 2014 with a major in Public Policy and Psychology. She is a fitness enthusiast that enjoys weightlifting and any type of physical activity. She also thoroughly enjoys roaming through the city by foot and seeing what she stumbles upon: farmer’s markets, small concerts/shows, stand up art exhibits, etc. She had an amazing experience as a DIAL intern and can’t wait to meet her new mentee.
Charity M. Boutué is Director, Head of Multicultural Marketing Strategy at Aetna, a CVS Health Company, and will be mentoring Adriana Moran Garcia this summer. Her team creates and champions multicultural insights, programs, and strategies that help people on their path to better health.

Charity has over 15 years’ experience across multiple industries. Prior to her current role, she led product strategy and management of Aetna’s core cost transparency and plan selection tools and was part of the leadership team that redesigned Aetna’s secure member website, actively used by over 15 million members. She also led product strategy for new performance network products and was a Program Officer at the Aetna Foundation. Charity joined Aetna in 2010 as a graduate summer associate. Her background includes management consulting and business development at a start-up division of Nonprofit Finance Fund in Boston and equity trading at Credit Suisse in New York City. Charity served as a board member of the Arts & Business Council of New York in 2018, board member of the YWCA Hartford Region from 2014 to 2016, and chaired the CT chapter of Aetna’s African-American Employee Resource Group in 2014 and 2015.

Charity holds an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin and a B.S. in Business Administration from Florida A&M University (FAMU). She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Charity resides in New York City and enjoys running, painting, yoga, nights out with friends, and traveling to visit family in Texas, Louisiana and the Tri-state area.

Emelyn Arias is the Office and Grants Manager at the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund and is mentoring Andrea Lewis this summer. Her functions include the administration and processing of proposals and grants, management of LMTIF office operations, coordination of events, budget support and overall administrative support. The Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund is a New York City-based foundation that strives to improve access and opportunity for all New Yorkers.

Previously, Emelyn worked at Legal Services NYC, where she was a Legal Assistant in the Bankruptcy Assistance Project and coordinated client services with pro bono attorneys. She also worked in development for the US Sciences Po Foundation and on monitoring and evaluation projects for organizations in Argentina and Colombia. Emelyn received a B.B.A. in Marketing from Baruch College and a Master’s in International Affairs from The New School.
Gina Callender currently works as the General Manager in Substation Operations Planning Department and is mentoring Rei Ukonthish summer. Gina joined Con Edison in 2000 as part of the Management Intern Program and now her responsibilities include managing a staff of over 45 people with a budget of over $320M for all Capital Projects in Programs in the five boroughs of NYC and Westchester County.

Previously, she worked in many areas of increasing responsibility: Section Manager of Gas Engineering Oil to Gas Conservation Group, Section Manager in Bronx Gas Construction, Area Manager in Manhattan Electric Construction, Project Specialist working on the Public Service Commission (PSC) Management Audit Team, Field Operations Planner in Queens Gas Distribution Services, Engineering Supervisor in Manhattan Energy Services, Energy Analyst in Energy Management, and Chief Construction Inspector in Manhattan Construction Management.

Kimberly Denise Williams currently works in Corporate Affairs at Con Edison and will be mentoring Kemba Cooper this summer. In her role, she serves as a representative of the company for elected officials and community-based organizations in Manhattan’s Chelsea, Hell’s Kitchen, Upper West Side, Washington Heights, and Inwood neighborhoods. She is a self-described chatterbox, huge dark chocolate fan and a Brooklyn native.

Outside of work, Kimberly spends a great deal of time pursuing her passions which include theater and writing. Over the last ten years, Kimberly has produced, directed and written a number of dramatic productions within her community. These works have included standards like August Wilson’s Fences and created pieces like “I Dream in Black Gold,” a retrospective on popular black music and artists. She has also written for digital publications covering arts, culture, and popular events. This led to repeat appearances on Huffington Post Live as a featured panelist.

Kimberly completed a Bachelors of Arts in History and African and African American Studies from Harvard College, and a Masters of Science in Media and Communications from the London School of Economics. She’s always down to chat about the American Civil War and memory making or teen soap operas. In her free time you can find her running through Prospect Park while blasting a mix of old Hip Hop, some Brit-pop, and tons of Soca.
Leah Krauss is currently the senior program officer for Dance and Special Projects at the Mertz Gilmore Foundation and is mentoring Jolie Saltiel this summer. Leah joined the Foundation in 2009 and oversees the Dance Program which provides operating support for contemporary dance presenters located throughout the five boroughs and makes discrete investments to advance the dance field by improving conditions for individual artists.

Prior to Mertz Gilmore, Leah was senior program officer at the New York Community Trust, where for 12 years her areas of responsibility included arts and culture, arts-in-education, and historic preservation. Additional experience in the arts includes five years at the Arts & Business Council where she recruited, trained and placed business executives as pro-bono management consultants with nonprofit arts organizations. In addition, she practiced bankruptcy law and served with Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts in Philadelphia.

Leah graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. in art history from the University of Pennsylvania and a J.D. from University of Pennsylvania Law School. Leah served for two years as co-chair of NY Grantmakers in the Arts and is currently an advisory board for Dance/NYC.

Marcella Tillett is the Vice President of Project Street Beat at Planned Parenthood New York City and will be mentoring Kadiatou Balde this summer. She is a social worker, an advocate, and a champion of social justice issues, as well as a cyclist, runner, knitter, sister, auntie and proud Brooklynite. Marcella has provided senior leadership for Project Street Beat of Planned Parenthood of New York City (PPNYC) since 2010, an HIV prevention, risk reduction and access-to-care program that has served women, men, and teens who live, congregate and work on New York City’s streets, since 1988. Ms. Tillett has spent over a decade, actively engaged in HIV prevention and access to care, as well as reproductive justice issues through community planning work in NYC and nationally, aimed at asserting community needs and priorities during the development of policies, services and funding plans, which has included representing NYC communities on executive/steering committees for the NYC HIV Planning Group, Urban Coalition of HIV/AIDS Prevention Services (UCHAPS), New York City Sexual and Reproductive Justice Community Engagement Group and most recently, as co-chair of the New York State Ending The Epidemic Women’s Advisory Committee.

Marcella holds a Bachelor’s of Social Work from Clark Atlanta University and a Master's of Science in Social Work from Columbia University. She is also a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having worked on Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission program development in Botswana in the mid-2000s.
Nelson Yip is the Deputy Corporate Ombudsman at Con Edison and is mentoring Lynn Huynh this summer. Throughout his career at Con Edison, Nelson has held positions in emergency management, operations, engineering, energy policy, and business groups. Nelson has been a key contributor in storm restoration for Hurricane Irene, Superstorm Sandy, and major snowstorms. He was a member of the team that developed a strategic twenty-year electric plan for Con Edison. He has also developed advocacy positions for climate change, cyber security and renewable energy.

In 2012, Nelson was named as one of the 50 Outstanding Asian Americans in Business by the Asian American Business Development Center. Nelson is also a member of the Young Lions of the New York Public Library and a Board member of the West Side YMCA. Nelson has an MBA from NYU’s Stern School of Business, a Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering degree from Cornell University in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Roman V. Jackson is a Program Officer with the JPMorgan Chase & Co. Private Foundation Services and this summer he is mentoring Carlos Nuñez this summer. In his role he engages with over 65 foundations and charitable trust clients of J.P. Morgan's Private Bank, working closely with Advisors, Trust Officers, Trustees, clients and Grants Managers to coordinate day-to-day management of grantmaking for foundations and trusts.

Roman has more than 13 years of experience in philanthropy, grantmaking and nonprofit service. His nonprofit career started at the Harlem Children’s Zone, where he served in various roles including Multimedia Arts Instructor and Research Assistant in their Education Department. Prior to joining JPMorgan Chase & Co., he worked six years at the Annenberg Foundation. There he managed various aspects of the Annenberg Alchemy Leadership Trainings for nonprofit executive directors and board members. Roman also made grants via the Annenberg Foundation’s Community Grantmaking Program, performing due diligence on over 100 nonprofit organizations and funding over $1 million dollars in foundation giving in the span of two years.

Roman received a B.A. in Government and Legal Studies from Bowdoin College and after graduating served on the advisory board of the Bowdoin Admissions Student Interview Committee. He currently sits on the executive committee of the New York City Workforce Funders Group and The Fund for New Citizens Grants Committee and serves on the Board of Broadway Housing Communities where he also serves as chair of the Development and Communications Committee.

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