First-Generation Low-Income at Yale

September 5, 2018 Vol. 1, Issue 2

Happy Wednesday friends! We are now officially a week into classes, shopping period is soon coming to a close (a friendly reminder to submit forms timely!), and student orgs are beginning to meet in the next couple of weeks. If it sounds like a lot, it's kind of because it is, so make sure you **take a moment today to give yourself credit** for being able to just manage all of the business - seriously!

The FGLI Community Team has been busy as well, but we're excited for some pretty significant changes really soon. So far much of the FGLI Community engagement has been online and by reference, which we recognize can easily get lost among the commotion of these first weeks. However, this Monday we begin the real exciting work, because it involves **you**, with all your thoughts and all that you bring from the communities that have shaped you. As ready as we are to introduce ourselves to you, we are ready to learn about who you are and what your story is.

Get a head start by meeting **the new FGLI Student Ambassadors** of this year who will be working closely with José Yobani to plan and coordinate our weekly Community Times. And speaking of - **don't forget to RSVP for our kickoff dinner!**

See you all soon enough!

make some mistakes,

RSVP to our FGLI Kickoff Dinner!

We're kicking off our programming for this academic year on **Monday, September 10th at 6:30 PM** with a home-inspired dinner (featuring food from Sandra's, pozole, flan, and more) followed by an introduction from the FGLI Community team to what the rest of the semester will look like. Please RSVP to our form by Thursday September 6th at 5 PM to make sure we have enough food for everyone.

We are happy to share that **Dean Marvin Chun** will join us to start off our opening remarks at 7:30 PM - so make sure to stay for Community Time after dinner!

Introducing the FGLI Student Ambassador Team

Maddy O'Neal
from Phoenix, Arizona - ES '19

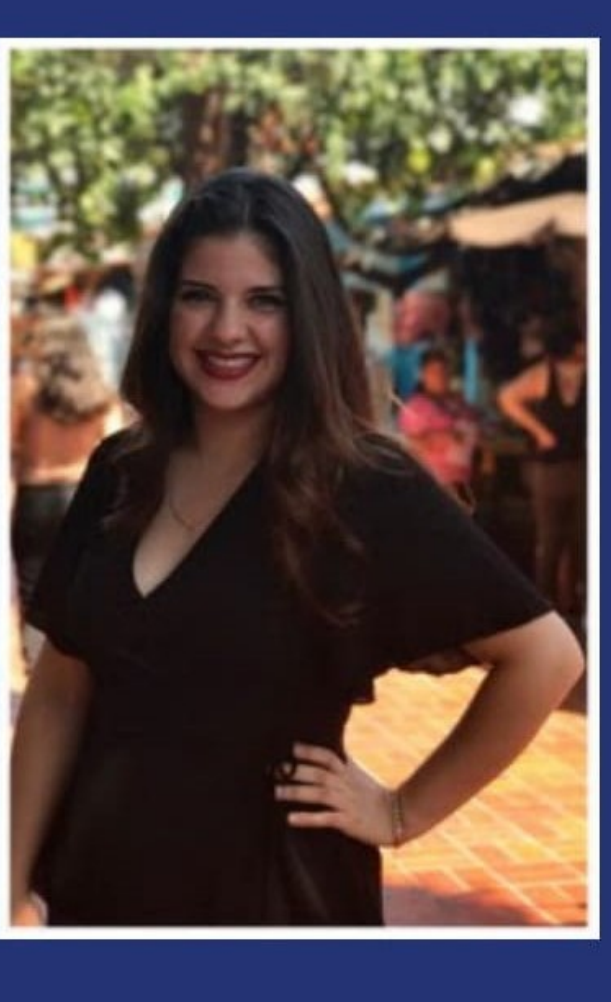
Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

Coming to Yale, I knew no one at Yale, nor did I know anyone who studied at a school like Yale from my high school. I was lucky enough to befriend some FGLI Upperclassmen and participate in FSY, which helped me get my bearings a bit, but I quickly learned that there was little institutional support for FGLI Students and sought to do what I could to help change that by getting involved in QuestBridge and 1vyG. I want to make this Yale OUR Yale.

Diana López
from Milwaukee, WI - ES '19

Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

A first generation, low income student myself, going off to college was not the rite of passage into adulthood that the movies made it out to be - it was jumping into a world completely unlike my own. For that reason, I hope to work with the FGLI team in creating a community that empowers students and recognizes their greatness while also developing sustainable initiatives that will benefit the FGLI community for generations to come.



Markus Reneau
from New Orleans, LA - SM '19

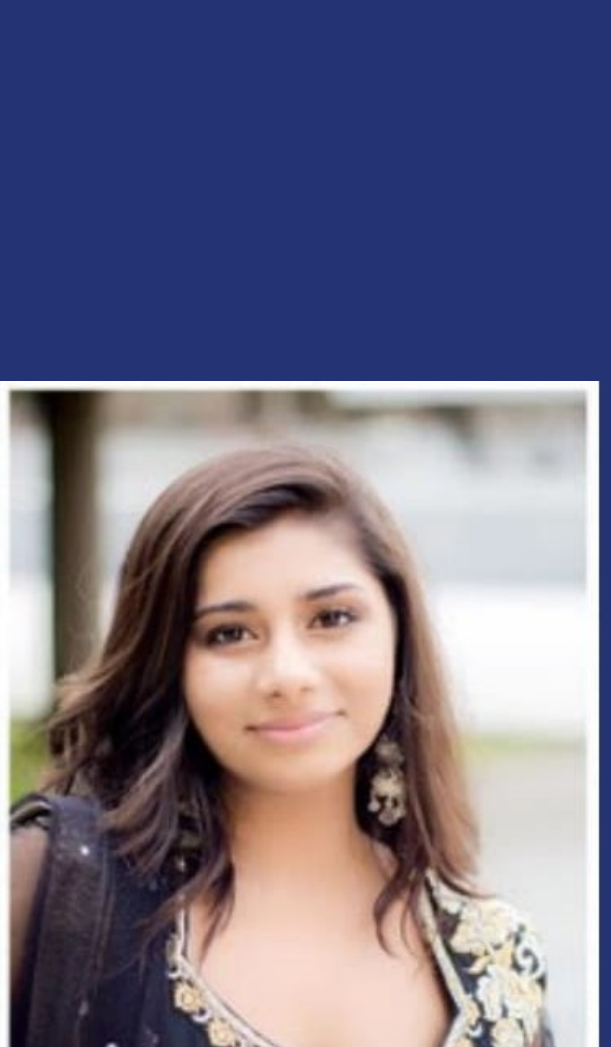
Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

I want to be involved with the FGLI community because our journeys to college may be different but everyone in the community is united by the reality that we serve as visions of possibilities within reach for those back home. It is Yale's duty to adequately serve our population because our thoughts and contributions are valid and our success here benefits more than just ourselves.

Fatima Chughtai
from Baltimore, MD - DC '19

Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

As an FGLI immigrant student, I want to work to continue creating a space for students like me on this campus from when students first arrive until the day they leave. I believe we can all learn so much from each other, and I would like to help foster these relationships. As a QuestBridge scholar, I have been tangentially involved with the community in the past, but I have been given so many opportunities through the FGLI community, and I'm excited to give back to the community this year.



Jaster Francis
from Marietta, GA - BC '19

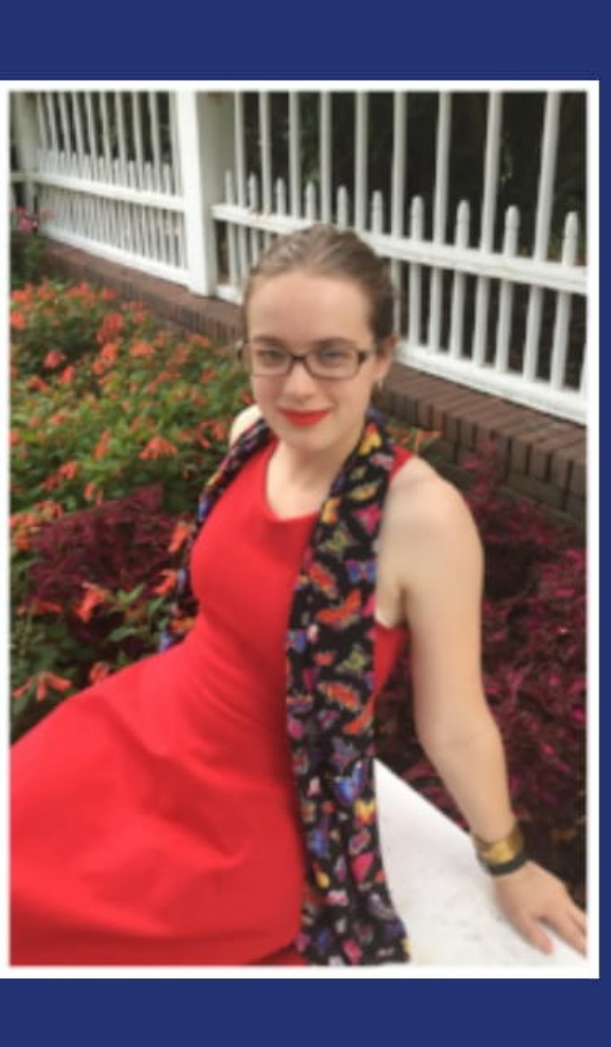
Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

Beginning my college career as a low-income student at Yale University, I had a hard time adjusting to life at Yale. I work with the Yale College Dean's Office to provide resources for FGLI students and help to make their transitions to Yale easier.

Samantha Wood
from Wolfeboro, NH - SY '20

Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

I'm an FGLI Ambassador because I think that we are all brilliant, talented people and with a supportive community we can accomplish even more!



Henry Rosas
from Phoeniz, AZ - TD '21

Why are you involved in the FGLI Community?

As FGLI students, we know that building community is essential for getting through the hardships and challenges that come with attending an institution like Yale. This year, I want to work on leveling the playing field for FGLI students so that we too can get the opportunities and experiences so many of us left our hometowns for. I hope to be more involved with our incredibly diverse community in order to build our presence on campus and make this space ours this year and in the years to follow.

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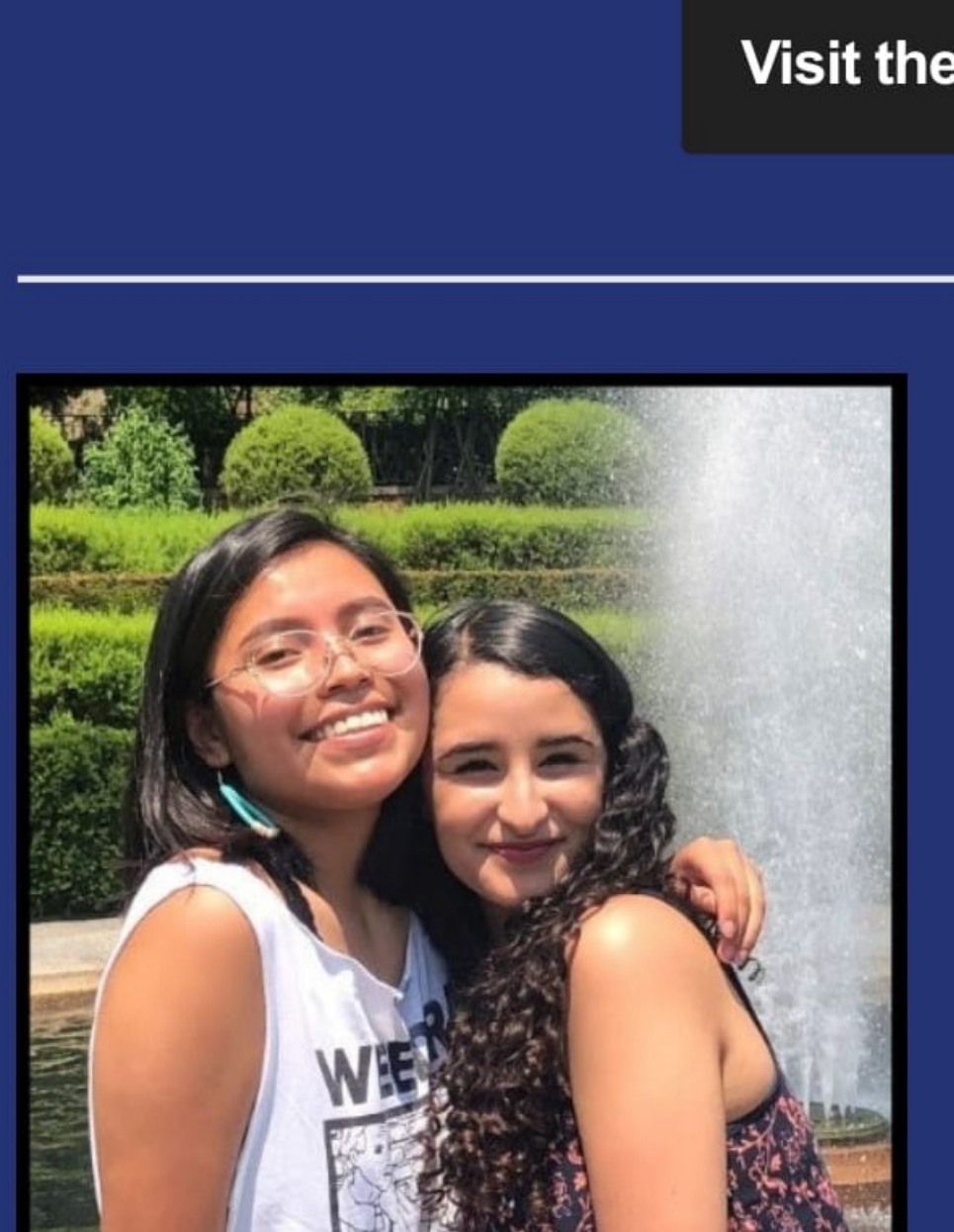
the First-Generation Low-Income at Yale website

We are happy to announce the launch of the FGLI Yale College website! Go to fgli.yalecollege.yale.edu to access key resources for FGLI students of all ages.

Some of the resources include:

- A **financial guide** with advice on understanding your aid, approaching student jobs, and saving money
- **Services** planned for the future (e.g. Community Dinners during break, Career Closet, etc.)
- **Centralized career & academic-related resources** - including diversity-seeking opportunities made with FGLI students in mind
- Information on **planned programming** (discussion and workshop series) and **student groups** for students seeking to get involved

Visit the Website



Upcoming Events

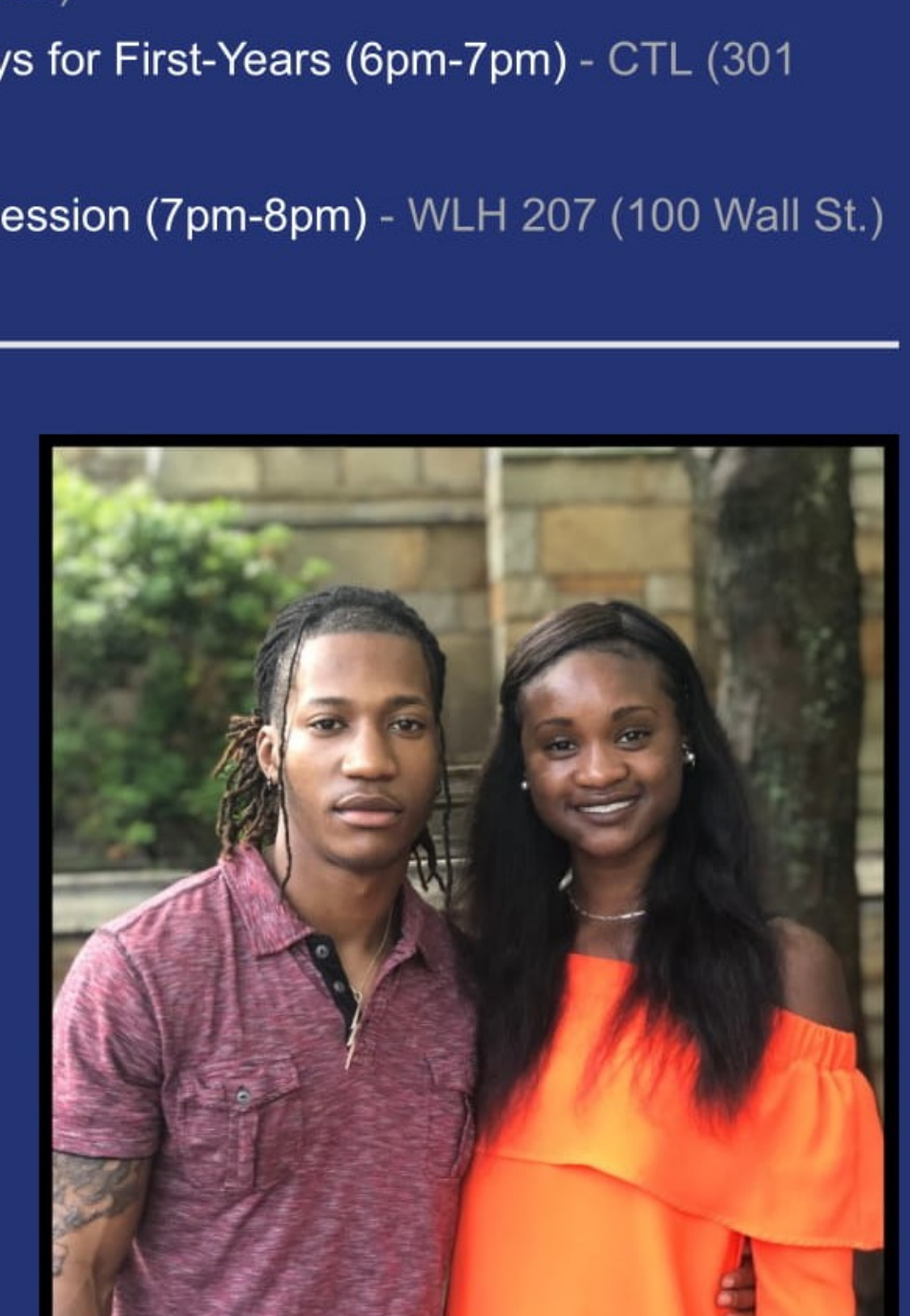
Wednesday, Sept. 5: Yale Town Hall with Lecrae (7pm-9pm) - Sudler Hall in WLH (100 Wall St.)
Wednesday, Sept. 5: FSY Reunion (7:30pm-8pm) - Rosenfeld Hall (109 Grove St.)
Thursday, Sept. 6: A Leg Even Introduction (8pm-9pm) - AfAm House (211 Park St.)
Monday, Sept. 10: FGLI Community Time: (Re)Defining FGLI and Establishing Community (7:30pm-8:30pm) - CTL (301 York St.)
Thursday, Sept. 13: FGLI Workshop: Pathways for First-Years (6pm-7pm) - CTL (301 York St.)
Thursday, Sept. 13: Matriculate Information Session (7pm-8pm) - WLH 207 (100 Wall St.)

Help Us Build the Career Closet!

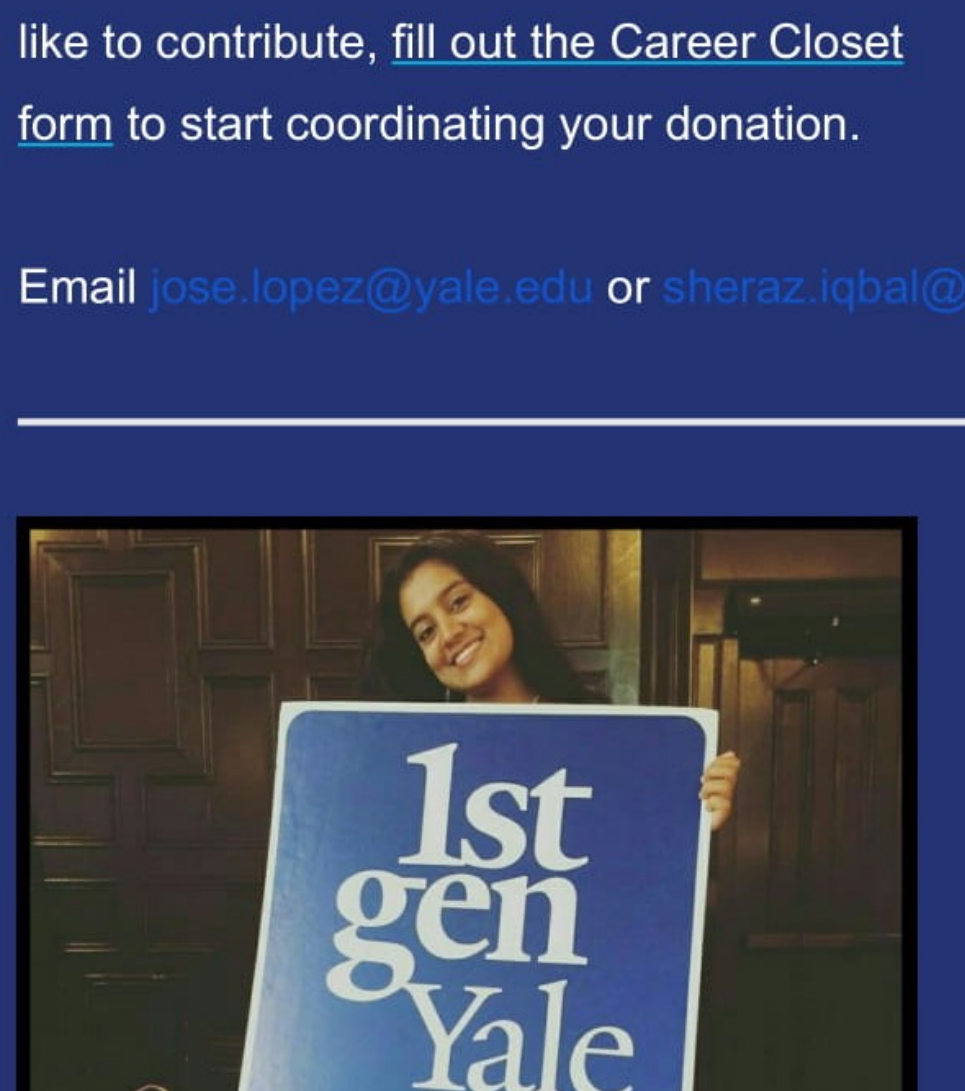
One of the services we will be providing as part of our initiative is a Career Closet that students can use to borrow formal clothes. But first, **we need your help!**

Fill out our survey to share what clothes you'd be interested in borrowing.

If you already know have clothes you'd like to contribute, fill out the Career Closet form to start coordinating your donation.



Email jose.lopez@yale.edu or sheraz.iqbal@yale.edu with further questions.



Opportunities

Interested in helping low-income, high-achieving high school students get into the nation's best colleges? Interested in educational justice and college access? If so, **apply to be an Advising Fellow with Matriculate!** Fill out an interest form to receive further details about how to apply. Reach out to emily.richards@yale.edu with questions, or come to the information session next week. Learn more about Matriculate here.

Are you a first-year FGLI student interested in STEM? **Apply to the STARS I Academic Year Program!** The program, designed for students historically underrepresented in the sciences, is comprised of a series of group workshops for first years studying Biology, Chemistry, MB&B, Chem. Engineering, BME, Math, Physics, and Computer Science. The STARS I application deadline is Monday, Sept. 10 at 11:30 PM. Learn more and apply here. Contact donalee.slater@yale.edu for more details.

For junior students in STEM: **the STARS II Program**, which supports research junior and senior year, will be accepting applications until Wednesday, September 26 at 11:30pm. Learn more and apply here.

> "Dominator culture has tried to keep us all afraid, to make us choose safety instead of risk, sameness instead of diversity. Moving through that fear, finding out what connect us, reveling in our differences; this is the process that brings us closer, that gives us a world of shared values, of meaningful community."
>
> - bell hooks

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