

# HUMAN IMPACTS INSTITUTE



## ANNUAL REPORT





Youth Advisors Ajani and Rohan joined Executive Director Tara DePorte to host HII's exhibit at the United Nations Climate Week and SDGs Summit.

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OUR MISSION IS TO **INSPIRE**  
**YOU** TO TRANSFORM  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES  
INTO SOCIAL ACTION FOR A  
JUST AND LIVABLE WORLD.

# OUR STORY

The Human Impacts Institute (HII) is a think-and-do-tank based in Brooklyn, New York. HII was founded by Tara DePorte in 2010, with the goal of using creativity and the arts to tackle climate change, and build impactful global coalitions.

Our mission is to inspire people to take action on environmental and social issues, and to make an impact in their own personal way. Our programs get youth involved in climate action, allow artists and scientists to work together on climate change solutions, and get policymakers' hands dirty caring for local greenspace.

We believe that by helping people to find a personal way to connect with, and take action upon important environmental issues, we are helping to fill a crucial gap in the larger environmental movement.

We have provided consultation on environmental education, and creative communication, in conjunction with various groups such as the Climate Reality Project, Patagonia, 826 NYC, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, NYC Audobon, One Earth Conservation, and the United Nations, along with many other community-based organizations and individuals around the world.

In the past nine years, HII has reached over 77,118 program participants through nearly 8,410 hours of educational programming, more than eight public art exhibitions, and with the help of over 17,726 volunteer hours. 2019 has the largest number of participants in any of our educational programs at 20,109 individuals.

# OUR APPROACH



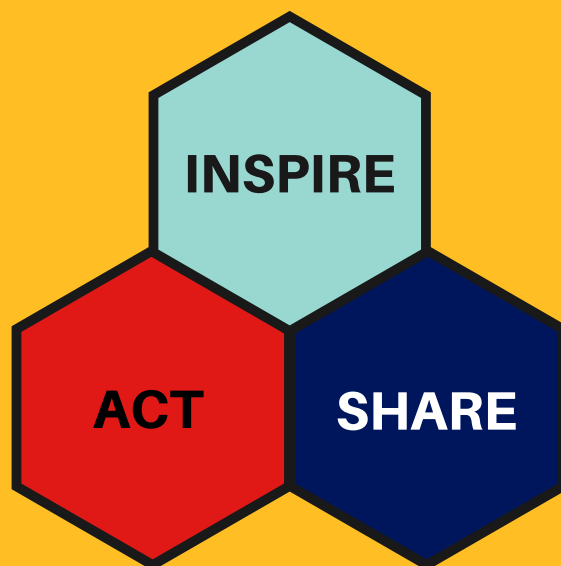
**Inspire** new audiences to engage with social and environmental issues through our Creative Communication programs



**Act** to help you take action, while broadening your knowledge through our Learning-by-Doing programs

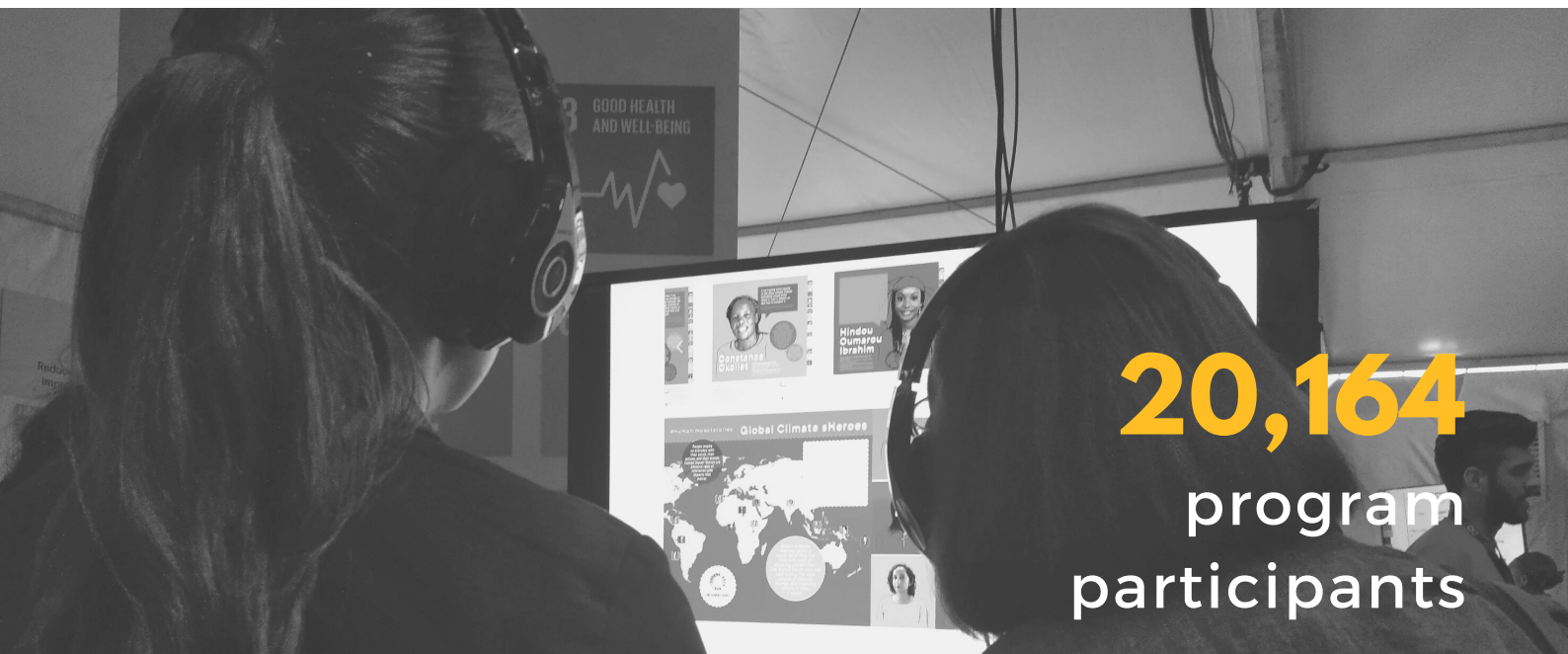


**Share** innovative ways to stay involved and build a community of change-makers through our Curated Actions programs





# 2019 AT A GLANCE



**20,164**

program  
participants



**1,186**  
donated  
volunteer hours

**120**  
trees stewarded



**118**

educational  
events





2019 First Place Winner: Russ Ritell, "Earthless," "Monkey Mind," and "Cosmic Messenger"

The Creative Climate Awards (CCA) is an initiative designed to celebrate artists and culture creators who engage, educate, and incite action with their creativity. The program, in its 9th year, brings together creative minds – artists, writers, actors, filmmakers, musicians, and performers – to install climate inspired public works. These works broaden the climate conversation to encourage us to think more critically about how our actions impact our climate and to inspire action. The arts provide an avenue to explore and discuss environmental topics at an emotional level that allows people to connect with the subject matter in a deeper, more meaningful way that leads to behavior change.

## 2019 AT A GLANCE

61 artists applied

25 artists accepted

28 day exhibit

November 6 - December 4

Location: TECO, 1 East 42nd Street, New York, NY

Partner: Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York

## JUDGES

**Liba Beyer**, Director of Global Campaigns, Human Rights Watch; **Rosa Mendez**, Director, Office of Environmental Justice, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; **Noreen Springstead**, Executive Director, Why Hunger; **Thimali Kodikara**, Series Producer, Mothers of Invention, Doc Society; and **Marianna Schaffer**, Creative Capitol Director of Artist Initiatives.

## SINCE 2011

234 artists accepted

44 different countries of origin

(Ex: Bangladesh, Brazil, Eritrea, France, Germany, Iran, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Scotland, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, United States)

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



In 2019, the Human Impacts Institute partnered with the Climate Reality Project (CRP) to create an environment and arts hub for small organizations, artists, researchers and activists to cocreate, educate, and explore. This "House of Solutions" was based on Governor's Island and allowed workshops and events to be held for the general public. Some of the workshops included green tech solar kit kids crafts and mindfulness sessions. Additionally, every weekend during the month of September the public was challenged to complete an escape room focused on climate change. Through HII's partnership with Overview Collective and Clue Chase NYC this escape room challenged visitors to unravel clues and puzzles based on sustainable initiatives currently being implemented across the city. Climate's A Drag performers were also showcased, with all performances having an environmental focus. Performers were drag queens with a cause: combating climate change, promoting progressive policy, and serving reduce, reuse, recycle realness.

## 2019 AT A GLANCE

**1000 attendees and 30 organizations**  
working on climate solutions and  
engagement

**81 participants on the House of Solutions**  
Opening Day

**150 participants at Climate's a Drag Party**

**Location: Governor's Island**

**Partners: Climate Reality Project NYC,**  
**Overview Collective, Clue Chase NYC,**  
**Climate's a Drag**



At left: Climate SHeroes profiles adorn the field in front of the Nolan Park houses, including the House of Solutions, during the Our Future Festival on Governor's Island, At right: Two guests test their skills in the Climate Escape Room, an immersive art installation by name and name on the second floor of the House of Solutions.



# 2019 Global Climate sHeroes



## IMPACT STORIES & THE UN

The Global Climate sHeroes series of Human Impact Stories provided a glimpse into the lives and work of 12 amazing women from the Global South who are leading the way in their community to combat global climate change. From artists to students to scientists, these women are addressing the root causes of climate change and inspiring others to take a stand along the way. It is these women who give us a reason to hope and who inspire more women to join them. The profiles of these inspiring women were portrayed on street signs on Governors Island and the United Nations in New York City as well as at the COP25 in Madrid, Spain. The one-day event in New York City during Climate Week took place on Governors Island and including the exhibit, podcasts, and in-person listening stations. It was presented as a digital exhibit with listening stations at the United Nations for one-day as part of the SDG Action Zone/UNGA.

### 2019 AT A GLANCE

Worked with women from Nigeria, Costa Rica (Limpia), Costa Rica, Morocco, Lebanon, and more.

Material presented in English, French, Arabic, Indonesian, Spanish, Amazigh, Fijian, Hindi, Yoruba, Dhopadhola, Tok Pisin

Location: Governor's Island, United Nations HQ, & COP25 in Madrid, Spain

Partners: UN Climate Change Conference (COP25 Chile Madrid 2019); Momentum for Change; Global Goals Week



At left: HII display during Climate Week at the SDGs Action Zone at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.



At right: Executive Director Tara DePorte and Climate sHero Oladosu Adenike pose in the HII exhibit booth at COP25 in Madrid, Spain.



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



## TAKING ACTION

Throughout the course of 2019, the Human Impacts Institute was involved in various city-wide initiatives and hands-on workshops in an effort to engage the community in all aspects of environmental action. For example, HII staff and volunteers joined the largest climate strike on September 20th, 2019 in an effort to not only advocate for environmental justice, but to provide community-wide resources on how to effectively engage with climate-related topics. Likewise, various workshops were held in the 826 NYC space that focused on topics such as green jobs and green space. Other interesting workshops to note included Music Videos that Count which explored the intersection between music, storytelling, and waste/consumption along with our Climate Protest Poster Making workshop which encouraged climate activism and education

### 2019 AT A GLANCE

20,109 participants

2,638 education hours

118 public workshops

120 trees stewarded

#### Key Programs:

Dear Ocean Reading Series  
Brooklyn Gardening Days  
Environmental Empathies  
Show



HII staff and volunteers flocked to the Climate Strike on September 20, the largest climate strikes in world history with over 7 million participants.

### SINCE 2010

77,118 participants

8,410 education hours

570 public workshops

1214 trees stewarded



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



## RESIDENCIES & HAPPY HOURS

The Human Impacts Institute (HII) Hub was a coworking and co-creation space hosted in the Williamsburg Public Library from 2018-2019. At the Hub, twelve “Impact Artist Residents” were supported. This coworking, studio, rehearsal space and gallery transformed the Williamsburg Public Library into a temporary space for community, collaboration, conversation and connections. This space allowed us to create a unique collaborative environment to help us further our mission to strengthen the local arts, social justice, and environmental culture in North Brooklyn and NYC as a whole. In addition to our twelve Artist Residents, the Hub existed in collaboration with 826NYC and Spaceworks. 826NYC is an NYC nonprofit that encourages the exploration of endless possibility through the power of writing. Spaceworks is a nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding the supply of long-term, subsidized rehearsal and studio space for all New Yorkers. Other social events were also focused on in 2019 including the Earth Day Drink and Draw and Climates a Drag Trivia Night.



Climate's a Drag Trivia Night, hosted by Climate Queen Analee Fisher at FourFiveSix, put our environmental know-how to the test.

### 2019 IMPACT ARTISTS

**Heather Falconer** - artist amplification, multidisciplinary, PR

**Kwame Opoku-Duku** - poet

**Sound Mind Collective** - music collective

**Justin D. Johnson** - painting, photography, collage

**Jill Kubit** - youth, parents and climate activism

**Jess Serrante** - training for environmental activists

**Aurash Khawarзад** - design, urban planning

**Kelly Todd** - film, performance art, immersive theatre

**Tarik Mohamed and Kristin Gutekunst** - VR installations, apps, film

**Niki Singleton** - sculpture, performance art

**Nate and Hila** - hip hop duo

**Sara Boccaccini-Meadows** - painting, illustration

**Kate Vason** - improv dance

**Annalee Fisher (Chris Goodrich)** - drag

**Madame Vivien V (Scott Dennis)** - drag

**Sophie-O-Path (Nathaniel Harrington)** - drag

**SustainUS (SustainUS NYC Delegation to the UNSC Climate Summit)** - youth activism

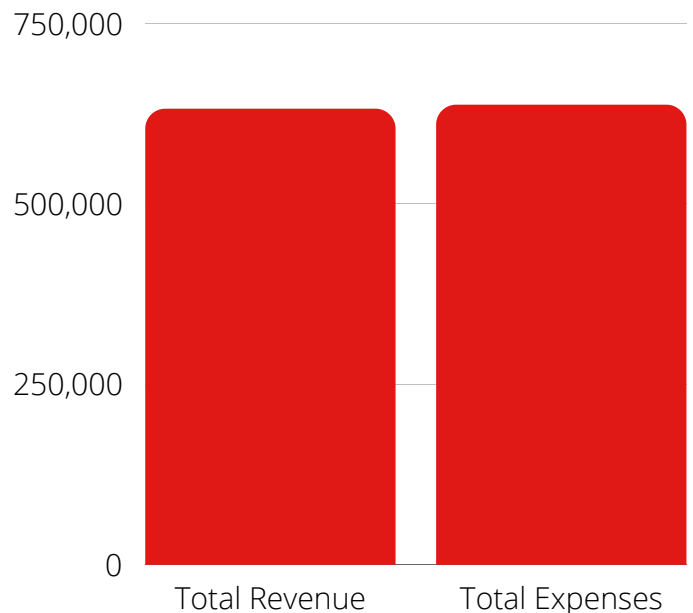
**Marissa Gutierrez-Vicario** - murals

**Lemon Guo** - music, visual art, costume, immersive theater

# 2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## TOTAL INCOME

In 2019, HII has continued its growth with increased donations from in-kind support that totaled \$631,421.73. The remaining revenue and subsequent expenses for our programming and supplies led to HII's net income of -\$5,561.66 for the year.



Total Revenue \$631,421.73 > Total Expenses \$636,983.39 > Net Income -\$5,561.66

In Kind (R) - Donated Internal Professional Services  
13.8%

In Kind (R) - Donated External Professional Services  
30.4%

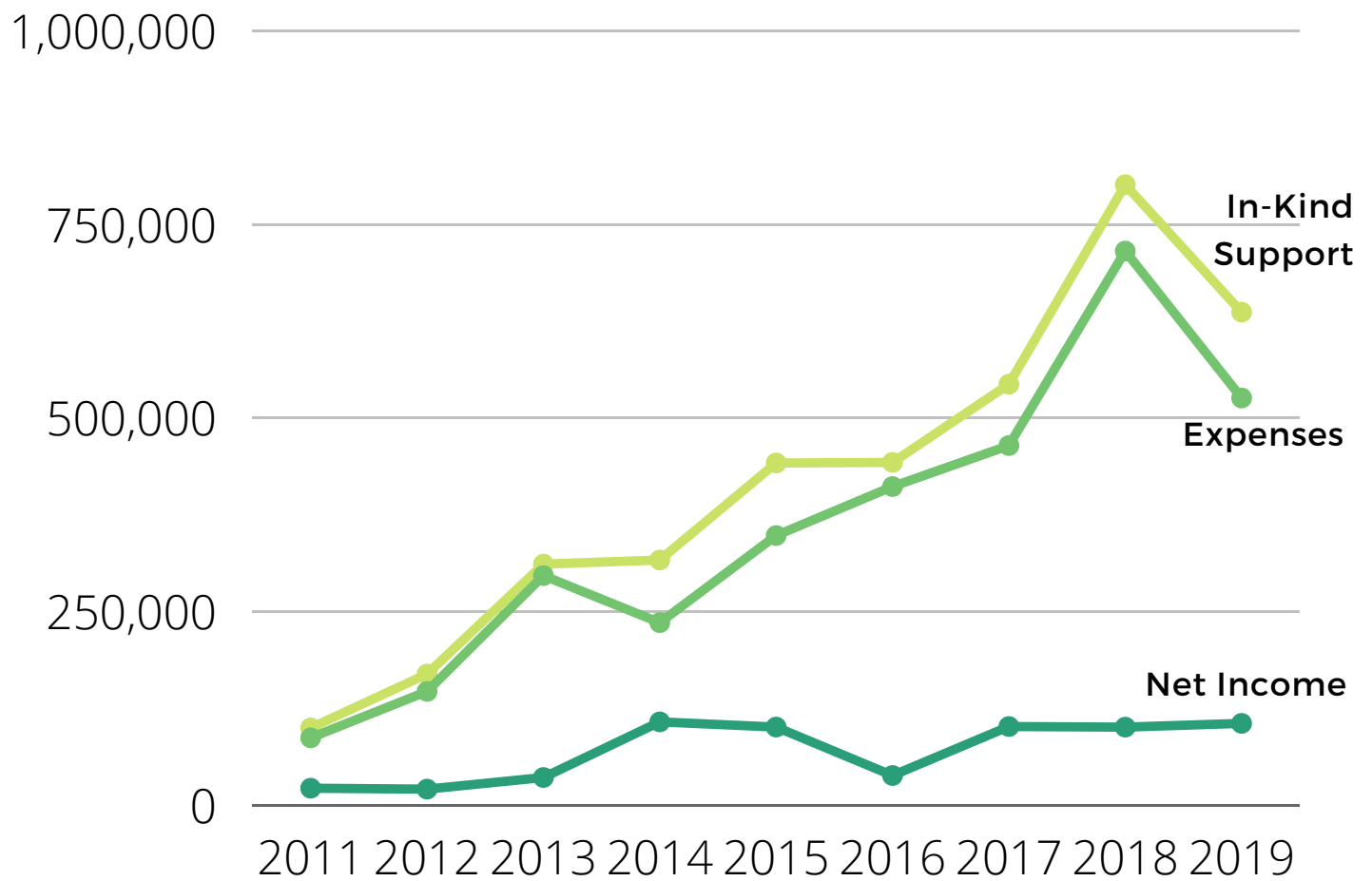
In Kind (R) - Donated Facilities Use  
55.4%

55.4%

In-Kind Donated Facilities Use



# 2019 HII GROWTH





# INCOME STATEMENT

Income Statement  
Human Impacts Institute  
All Program Categories  
1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

## Income

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## Total

Contracted Services - City	\$ 3,000.00
Contracted Services - Other	\$ 40,500.00
Contribution - Individuals	\$ 4,539.80
Corporate & Business Grant	\$ 12,052.42
Corporate and Business Contribution	\$ 15.00
Dues: Board and Advisory	\$ 37,250.00
Foundation or Trust Grant	\$ 5,500.00
Fundraising Revenue	\$ 294.00
In Kind (R) - Donated External Professional Services	\$ 159,925.00
In Kind (R) - Donated Facilities Use	\$ 291,800.00
In Kind (R) - Donated Internal Professional Services	\$ 72,884.00
In Kind (R) - Donated Utilities - Program	\$ 1,440.00
In-Kind-Fundraising	\$ 420.00
Nonprofit Organization Grant	\$ 705.18
Product Sales (T Shirts)	\$ 629.00
Revenue - Ticketed Event	\$ 396.88
Workshop Fees/Tuition	\$ 200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 631,551.28</b>

## Cost of Goods Sold

Refunds	\$ 129.55
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 129.55

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## Gross Profit

**\$ 631,421.7**





# INCOME STATEMENT

Income Statement  
Human Impacts Institute  
All Program Categories  
1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

## Operating Expenses

## Total

Accounting Fees - Admin	\$ 2,000.00
Advertising Expense - Program	\$ 10,000.00
Bad Debt Expense	\$ 3,750.00
Bank Charges & Credit Card Discounts - Program	\$ 300.90
Contractors - Internal - Program	\$ 300.00
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 1,096.69
Employee Benefits, Non-Pension - Program	\$ 160.38
Filing Fee	\$ 75.00
Fundraising Expense	\$ 163.00
In Kind (E) - Donated External Professional Services - Program	\$ 159,925.00
In Kind (E) - Donated Facilities Use - Program	\$ 291,800.00
In Kind (E) - Donated Internal Professional Services - Program	\$ 72,884.00
In Kind (E) - Donated Utilities - Program	\$ 1,440.00
In Kind (E) - Donations - Fundraising	\$ 420.00
Insurance, Non-Employee - Program	\$ 3,183.61
Miscellaneous Expense - Program	\$ 100.00
Payroll Tax FICA - Program	\$ 2,754.00
Postage, Shipping, Delivery - Program	\$ 1,460.68
Printing & Copying - Program	\$ 1,438.52
Professional Fees, Other - Program	\$ 29,352.93



# INCOME STATEMENT

Income Statement  
Human Impacts Institute  
All Program Categories  
1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

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## Other Income and Expense

## Total

Recruitment Fees	\$ 5,000.00
Refreshments - Program	\$ 1,037.61
Salary & Related Expense - Program	\$ 36,000.00
Supplies - Program	\$ 2,860.16
Telephone & Telecommunications - Admin	\$ 614.17
Telephone & Telecommunications - Program	\$ 436.49
Travel and Meeting Meals - Program	\$ 1,945.50
Travel and Meeting Transportation - Program	\$ 4,969.46
Travel and Meetings Hotel - Program	\$ 1,515.29

## Total Operating Expenses

**\$ 636,983.39**

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Operating Income  
Net Income

- \$ 5,561.66  
- \$ 5,561.66



# SELECT PRESS COVERAGE, PARTNERS & DONORS



## Governors Island will offer expanded hours, new ferry, and 70 free events this year

POSTED ON WED, APRIL 3, 2019 BY ALEXANDRA ALEXA



## 2019 SELECT PARTNERS

350NYC

826NYC

## Climate Reality Project

## Climate Reality Project NYC Metro Chapter

# DearTomorrow

## Drawdown

## Ella Baker Elementary School

**FLOX**

## Green Map NYC

**New York Lawyers for the Public Interest**

NYC Audobon

## One Earth Conservation

## Pachamama Alliance

## Patagonia

## SustainUs

## Temple of Understanding

## The Climate Ribbon

## The Overview Collective

## Undb Collective

## UNFCCC COP26 Negotiations

United Nations

University of Lancaster

## 2019 DONORS

Federal Republic of Germany

**Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs**

## Patagonia

**Ella Baker School**

## Invoking the Pause

NY Lawyers for the Public Interest

## Climate Reality Project

## Climate Education Fund

## Outward Bound NYC

**Susan DePorte**

**Ajani Stella**

Karen Rice

# INTERNS & YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



## HII INTERNSHIPS

Our internships provide unique, behind-the-scenes learning experiences where you join us to develop, implement, and monitor HII's diverse programs. Our past interns have been international lawyers, media professionals, and teachers, as well as graduate and undergraduate students from over 30 universities and colleges based on five continents. They are now working in diverse institutions, including: the United Nations Environment Program, the Earth Institute (IRI), Bloomberg, the Climate Group, GrowNYC, and more.

## 2019 INTERNS:

Ashley Berton, McGill University  
Sam Fiske, Claremont McKenna College  
Kavie Yu, Carleton College



## YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a youth-led initiative that helps dedicated young climate activists engage in climate awareness and innovative ideas. Our mission as HII is to establish an inclusive, international youth network that will foster creative climate solutions. In the YAC, youth have the ability to master important skills that can be used outside of environmental justice: managing tasks, public speaking, and leadership.

## YAC MEMBERS:

Ajani Stella  
Emma Laning  
Rohan Gelber-Higgins  
Anika Hatzius



# THE HII CREW



## STAFF MEMBERS

Tara DePorte, Executive Director

Mikelle Benfield, Program Manager

## 2019 BOARD MEMBERS

Sarangi Iyengar - President and Senior Manager of Compliance at Oscar Health Insurance

Doug Semmes - Vice President and Green Mountain Energy

Lisa Jaycox - Secretary and Director of content strategy for Trinity Wall Street

George Wukoson - Treasurer, and Senior Corporate Counsel at Ziff Davis, LLC

Lauren Beebe - Board Member and Founder & CEO of Like A Local Tours

Lindsay Sword - Board Member and Vice President of Merchandising at PVH Corp

Melissa Villain - Board Member

David Flores Wilson - Board Member

Mehrdad Moghaddam - Board Member

Hara Wang - Board Member

Alison Ng Board - Member

## ADVISORY BOARD

Jinny Kim

Christine Arroyo

David Lee Ruben

Josh Fouts

Luisa Gui

Melanie Griffin

Peter Oesterle

Mechthild Schmidt

Emma Zinsmeister

Brian Tate



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info@humanimpactsinstitute.org

Student, Long Island City High School, and Youth Leader, Global Kids.

# Annie Willis

Annie engages youth in political action and awareness.



DEVELOPING LEADERS

“My house was destroyed by Hurricane Sandy in Far Rockaway. I didn't want to be known as the girl that didn't have a home. I wanted to be known as, “Yeah, she lost her house, but she's doing positive things with her story. She's trying to change the world.”

Did you know?

The planet has 1.9 hectares of biologically productive land per person to supply resources and absorb waste—yet the average person on Earth already uses 2.3 hectares worth, with the average American using 9.7 hectares worth.

Take Action!

## Compete

with your friends to see who can go the most days without buying something new.

Source: World Watch Institute

**Human Impact Stories**  
Sharing your personal tales of innovation and impacts that matter.

How are you making positive impacts on your community and environment? Act. Inspire. Share your #HumanImpactStories with us!

[HumanImpactStories.org](http://HumanImpactStories.org)



Artist and Founder  
City of Long Island City

# Mary Miss

Mary develops innovative experiences to inspire to engage with their environment.



If I could get artists' projects to inspire communities to sprout green from the tip of Manhattan to the top of the Bronx, I would be so happy. Maybe it's not achievable, but we're planting seeds.

97% of climate scientists agree that today's climate change is mostly due to human activities, but only 50% of Americans agree.

**Plant a seed.**  
By installing a timeline in your life to take action on climate with a generous conversation today. Record this conversation with the StoryCrops App and tag it #HumanImpactStories

**Human Impact Stories**  
Sharing your personal tales of innovation and impacts that matter.

How are you making positive impacts on your community and environment? Act. Inspire. Share your #HumanImpactStories with us!

[HumanImpactStories.org](http://HumanImpactStories.org)

