



THE GREENLINING INSTITUTE-ACADEMY FELLOWS

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF
DIVERSE LEADERS AND ADVOCATES

CLASS OF 2015 ACADEMY FELLOWS



From left to right: Anthony Galace, Zainab Badi, Joel Espino, and Tariq Meyers





Zainab Badi – Claiming Our Democracy Fellow

Zainab is from San Diego and recently graduated from UC San Diego with a B.A. in International Studies with a focus in Political Science and History. Her first exposure to public policy was through her internship with Students for Economic Justice at the Center on Policy Initiatives (CPI) in San Diego. This experience sparked her interest in further pursuing public policy. Zainab is passionate about finding innovative solutions to the challenges of governance on local, state, and national levels. As the Claiming our Democracy fellow, Zainab looks forward to working on projects that will make the legislative process more accessible and inclusive during her time at The Greenlining Institute. If Zainab were a superhero her name would be z-badz and her superpower would be mind control.



Joel Espino – Environmental Equity Fellow

Joel was born in Gallup, New Mexico and grew up in Phoenix, Arizona where his family currently resides. He graduated *magna cum laude* from Arizona State University with a B.A. in Philosophy, a minor in Justice Studies, and a certificate in Ethics. Joel recently graduated from UC Hastings College of the Law where he served as the Academic Chair of the La Raza Law Students Association and Acquisitions Editor of the Hastings Race and Poverty Law Journal. Joel's experiences growing up in a low-income, immigrant household compelled his interest in and passion for policy issues affecting underrepresented communities. In law school, Joel received the San Francisco La Raza Lawyers Association Public Interest Law Fellowship and worked at the California Appellate Project, the Office of Staff Attorneys at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Federal Trade Commission. In his fellowship, he hopes to obtain the skills and experience necessary to effectively advance the interests of underprivileged communities. If Joel was a superhero, his name would be The Green Alchemist and he would have the power to feed the hungry by turning waste and pollution into healthy and nutritious pizza, burgers, ice cream, and chocolate chip cookies for the world to enjoy.





Anthony Galace – Bridges to Health Fellow

Anthony Galace is from Chula Vista, California, and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in Integrative Biology, with a focus in Human Biology and Health Sciences. As the child of Filipino immigrants, Anthony's desire to advocate for underserved communities was shaped by his exposure to the struggles his family members and other immigrants faced while coming to the United States. During his time at UCB, Anthony further developed his passion for advocacy through active involvement with multicultural coalitions to increase student-of-color resources. Upon graduating, he interned at Asian Health Services, a community health center in Oakland Chinatown, where he helped publish a comprehensive report detailing the primary health concerns of the Filipino population in Union City, California. As an aspiring healthcare professional, Anthony is excited to join the Bridges to Health team, where he hopes to contribute to increasing access for communities of color to quality, affordable, culturally-competent healthcare. If he were a superhero, his superpower would be to manipulate the velocity of time, and the world would know him as Omega Warp.



Tariq Meyers – Economic Equity Fellow

Tariq is from Boston, Massachusetts and a recent graduate from Ithaca College with a B.A. in Politics and a Minor in Black Studies. Amidst a number of campus and citywide involvements, Tariq's leadership experience capstoned with his tenure on the Ithaca College Board of Trustees as the sole student member. There he was able to advocate for underrepresented populations as well as lobby for much needed policy changes that would benefit all students, not just some. Tariq believes that systematic racism prevents our society from actualizing into one that is just and equitable. As such he is most excited about his work as a fellow in exploring tangible ways to empower the voiceless while simultaneously beginning to reverse 400 years of discrimination and disenfranchisement. He is looking forward to good food and the new experiences California brings. If he were a superhero he'd be "Heart Throb"--a superhero that helps people fall in love with just one wink.

