

## STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY A FREERFUTURE

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2017** 

BOF MARKETSSIN

















### LIBERTYCON

765 1.451 LIBERTYCON EU LIBERTYCON USA **ATTENDEES ATTENDEES** 

> **EVENTS** 211

459 GLOBALLY IN NORTH AMERICA

### **EVENT ATTENDEES**







29.300 FOLLOWERS @SFLIBERTY



330,769 LIKES ON STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY PAGE

1.406 **MEDIA HITS** 

TOTAL REACH PARTICIPATIONS ACROSS ALL PROGRAMS





You are probably looking at this report because you are concerned about today's campuses, right? The thwarting of free speech and the promotion of socialist ideas are all the rage. Many parents I talk to are afraid to send their children to college -- even Ivy League schools -- because of the progressive echo-chamber at so many universities. What do we do about that?

There are certainly voices that push back against the anti-free speech crowd. However, their tactics are often the same as the ones as the people they oppose. They ridicule, they yell, they provoke. Is this how you change anyone's mind? I don't think so! And luckily there is another way: Students For Liberty represents an alternative approach with a track record of success over the past ten years!

We value free speech, and the Second Amendment. We believe in freemarket economics and capitalism. Liberty is our guiding principle – both here in the USA, and around the globe. That in itself does not make us unique. What makes us unique is our focus on communication skills, on academic knowledge, on thorough training, and on student-led activism. You can think of SFL as an incubator for kind, knowledgeable, and dedicated pro-liberty students. The best Boy or Girl Scout groups are led by the boys and girls themselves. The same is true for the best student pro-liberty activism. One cannot spread the beautiful ideas of liberty by yelling. We need to inspire, encourage, and listen. Our students do this every day. They build bridges and they are at the very heart of all of our programs. Almost all of our events, trainings, and activities are executed by our student leaders: From protests against government debt, to art exhibits, to free speech summits.

This focus on excellence, on empowering students, and on communicating the ideas of liberty effectively makes SFL unlike any other organization on earth. I certainly hope that you find interest in what we do. SFL reaches tens of thousands of students with the message of liberty by developing leaders through training and praxis. We would love to have you support our efforts and meet our leaders!

Sincerely & For Liberty,

Dr. Wolf von Laer, CEO wolf@studentsforliberty.org P.O. Box 97246 Washington, DC 20090-7246

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## **PROMOTING THE IDEAS OF LIBERTY** IN NEW WAYS TO NEW PEOPLE IN NEW PLACES

### **CAMPUS COORDINATORS**

SFL's Campus Coordinator Program is the premier program for actively advancing the ideas of free markets and individual liberty on college campuses. SFL Campus Coordinators (CCs) are on-the-ground activists: empowering students in their regions to defend and articulate the ideas of liberty. This highly competitive program seeks out strong student leaders to spread the ideas of a free society from the grassroots level by starting new pro-liberty student groups, organizing events to promote the ideas of liberty, providing resources to student groups, and identifying and mentoring other pro-liberty students.

### HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Liberty is not constrained by race, nationality, religion, borders, or gender. Students For Liberty is committed to diversity, and to growing the liberty movement, which is why SFL initiated our effort to reach the nation's historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). The absence of African-Americans at pro-liberty events is noticeable. We clearly are not reaching a large demographic of society. Students For Liberty's new HBCU Campus Coordinator Program will change that.

### TOP 50 COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITIES

Currently, free-market thinking is not adequately represented at these prestigious institutions. If free-marketeers want to affect politics and society writ large, we need to do a better job of exposing the future elites to the ideas of liberty.

Students For Liberty has experience in bringing classical liberal ideas to the forefront of debates on college campuses and wider society.

Only educated, engaging, and winsome individuals, like Natalie Bao Tram Le, will be able to reach out to students at places like Harvard. Natalie, who serves as our SFL leader at Harvard, recently published an op-ed in the *Harvard Crimson* called, "Harvard is No Friend of Free Speech" defending free expression and open debate.

Our goal is to have trained SFL Campus Coordinators working at each one of the Top 50 universities in America.

**ANNA RICHTER** is a Students For Liberty (SFL) Campus Coordinator at the University of Missouri. Her goal is to make students feel welcome in sharing their thoughts and views and in expressing themselves freely on campus. Along with being a Campus Coordinator, **Anna** is a Speak Freely Advocate, focusing on freedom of speech and free expression.

Free speech came under fire at Mizzou in late 2015, and Anna fills a critical role in keeping liberty alive there as an SFL Campus Coordinator.

"To help push back against censorship... we hope to have a student-led debate, capitalizing on the interest surrounding an anti-Semitic harassment case on campus. The debate will be focused on drawing lines between speech and harassment, and how the word 'aggression' plays into both of those."

As a Speak Freely Advocate, Anna participated in SFL's Speak Freely Summit on April 29<sup>th</sup> at the University of Maryland. The conference focused on freedom of speech and expression, and featured renowned speakers such as Dave Rubin (the Rubin Report), Faisal Al Mutar (Global Secular Humanist Movement) and Sara Taksler (producer with the Daily Show).

"This is one of the reasons that Students For Liberty is so vital in creating a more peaceful and prosperous world - we work to identify real issues that real people face, and work hand in hand to develop solutions that acknowledge people as fellow humans." **ETHAN PRITCHARD**, Students For Liberty Campus Coordinator at the University of Maryland, says his goal is to promote and protect academic freedom.

Ethan's SFL group hosts high-profile speakers on campus in order to foster constructive conversations - often stretching students' imaginations and the boundaries of academic thought. Students are encouraged to disagree with one another.

In fact, Pritchard says, "At a few meetings this year, our regular members were outnumbered by students that aren't libertarian or classical liberal."

"One thing we try to avoid is having all like-minded attendees at our events. This year, we are hosting an event with 20 different political, religious, and racial clubs."

This is a key difference with Students For Liberty. SFL has the ability to bring real diversity of opinion to the speaker's podium, and in the audience too.

This is how we achieve a freer future.



## MEET THREE SFL GRADUATES THAT APPEARED ON THE FORBES MAGAZINE 30-UNDER-30 LIST

There is a reason why three of SFL's leaders appeared on the Forbes magazine "30 under 30" list last year: their individual accomplishments--in journalism, academia and public policy. Liya, Jared and Robby are making a dramatic difference in their respective fields, and they got their start at SFL.

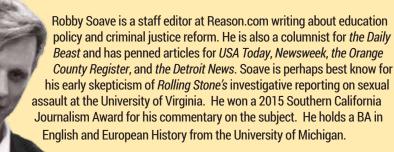


Liya Palagashvili, 27

Assistant Professor, State University of New York, Purchase

Liya Palagashvili is an economist and theorist who writes about the effects of regulation on entrepreneurial capitalism and markets, in academic journals as well as publications like the *Wall Street Journal*. She's interviewing tech entrepreneurs about the regulatory framework facing start-ups and finishing a book analyzing the regulatory response to the 2008 financial crisis.

Robby Soave, 27 Staff Editor, *Reason* 



### Jared Meyer, 25

Fellow, Manhattan Institute

Jared Meyer is a fellow at the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, where he researches microeconomic theory and the economic impact of government regulation. *In Disinherited: How Washington is Betraying America's Young*, he, with his co-author Diana Furchtgott-Roth, explains how the federal debt, and other government policies, are enriching older Americans at the expense of millennials. His research has been published in the *Wall Street Journal, Yahoo! Finance, RealClearPolitics, National Review,* and the *New York Post,* and has appeared on numerous radio and television outlets including the *BBC World Services, Fox News, ABC,* and *NPR.* He holds a BS from St. John's University.

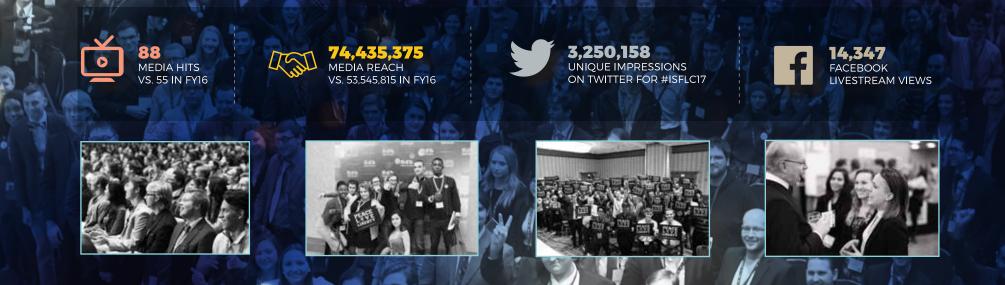




## LIBERTY CON

The annual LibertyCon Conference & Awards Dinner is Student For Liberty's flagship event for donors, students, and partner organizations. Past speakers include Steve Forbes, Sen. Rand Paul, Rep. Ron Paul, Judge Napolitano, P.J. O'Rourke, & George Will. Held in Washington, DC, LibertyCon typically draws over 1,400 attendees, over 40 participating partner organizations including Alliance Defending Freedom, Mises Institute, Institute for Humane Studies, Cato, American Conservative Union, Atlas Network, over 80 top media hits in outlets such as *Daily Caller, Washington Times, Conservative Review, The Blaze, Rare*, Reason.com and more.

#### For more information please visit www.LibertyCon.com.



**JESSICA MURPHY**, a Campus Coordinator in Wisconsin, recently had a blog post published by the MacIver Institute, a free market think tank based in Wisconsin. In her blog, Jessica highlighted the 'Top Five Wasteful Classes' provided by the University of Wisconsin system, which is a system of public universities funded by the Wisconsin taxpayer.

One of the classes the blog targeted was Teaching for Social Justice, a course whose syllabus specifically aims to instill a sensitivity to address injustices viewed through a lens of identity politics giving sex/race/class/sexuality a prominent place in the course's analysis. The professor in charge of the course posted Jessica's article on social media, and a slew of vile comments came forth. One comment pointed out Jessica's birthplace of South Africa and insinuated that she was continuing the troubled history of race relations in South Africa. Rather than address the actual content of Jessica's post, people were more keen to provide personal attacks based on who she is and what her background is.

Jessica aims to create a freer society and making the citizens of Wisconsin aware of what their tax dollars are being spent on is an essential part of that.

Jessica is undeterred by these threats and **will continue her fight for a freer future**.

## **SFL IN NORTH AMERICA**







10,844 EVENT ATTENDEES AT NORTH AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

## NORTH AMERICAN CAMPUSES WITH SFL STUDENT LEADERS

Azusa Pacific University Brigham Young University - Idaho **Brigham Young University Utah** Broward College Capital University Carleton College Carthage College Central Methodist University Central Michigan University **College of Charleston** College of Southern Nevada Columbia University Concordia College Concordia University Cornell University Cuyahoga Community College Eastern Michigan University Eastern Washington University **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Emory University** Florida Gulf Coast University Florida SouthWestern State College Florida State University Fordham University George Mason University George Washington University Georgia Institute of Technology Harding University

Harvard Universtity Humboldt State University Indiana University - Bloomington Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis Iowa State University of Science and Technology LDS Business College Marguette University McMaster University Mississippi State University Missouri State University Montana State University New Mexico State University New York University Northern Michigan University Northern Virginia Community College Ohio University Pasadena City College Pearl River Community College Purchase College, State University of New York Ramapo College of New Jersey Rocky Mountain College Rutgers The State University of New Jersey Salem College Santa Fe College Santa Monica College Seminole State College Shawnee State University

Simon Fraser University South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Southeastern Oklahoma State University St. Olaf College Svracuse University **Temple University** Texas Tech University The College of William & Mary The Ohio State University The University of Alabama The University of Oklahoma **Tiffin University** Troy University Université Laval University at Albany, State University of New York University of Alberta University of California Los Angeles University of Central Florida University of Central Missouri University of Florida University of North Georgia University of Maryland University of Massachusetts - Amherst University of Michigan University of Minnesota University of Missouri University of Nevada Las Vegas

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

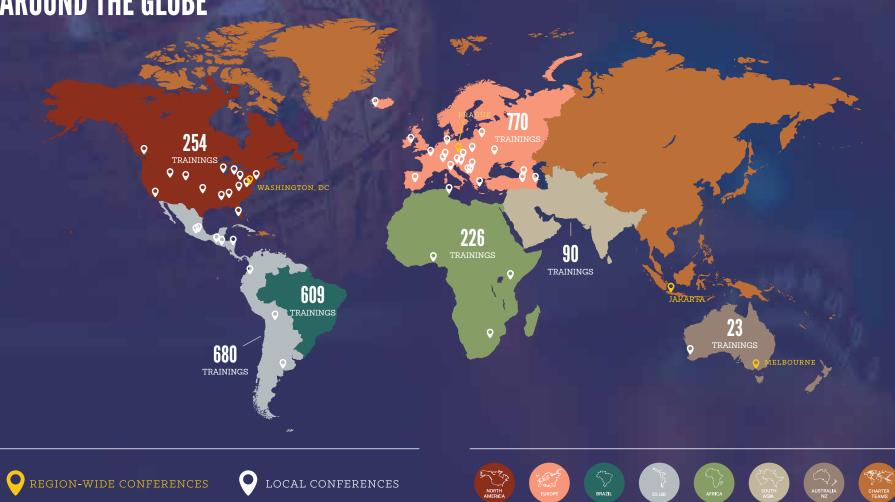
University of North Carolina at Charlotte University of Oregon University of Ottawa University of Pittsburgh University of Prince Edward Island University of Rochester University of Utah University of Virginia University of Waterloo University of Western Ontario University of Wisconsin - Green Bay University of Wisconsin - Madison Utah State University **Utah Valley University** Victoria College Virginia Military Institute Virginia Tech Weber State University West Virginia University Whitworth University William Jewell College

We are adding more colleges every week. If you don't see yours on the list, ask and we will let you know if your alma mater has been added to the list!

# STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY AROUND THE GLOBE

**REGION-WIDE CONFERENCES** 





LOCAL CONFERENCES

### 5 ways Students For Liberty is different from other student organizations...

### APOLITICAL

Students on campus today are skeptical of politics and politicians, and we don't represent any of the major political parties. Thus, SFL encourages students to take the ideas of liberty into every area of life: the arts, literature, journalism, academia, economics, history, business, marketing, etc. However, if someone wants to take the ideas of liberty into the political marketplace, we don't discourage it. We just don't make politics the be all and end all. Thus SFL does not have a 501 (c)4 "action arm" or a Political Action Committee.

### BUILD BRIDGES

The present political climate is divided and charged. This is the case on campus and in society at large. Our students overcome this by reaching out to people who do not believe in liberty. We do not yell at "the other side" or beat them over the head with Hayek's *Road to Serfdom*. We approach them and invite them to have a civil discourse on campus. This is very different, and we are reaching tens of thousands of students who are sick of the yelling and screaming on campus with our events.

### INTERNATIONAL 3

SFL has an international arm. We defend liberty from Argentina, to Israel, to Zimbabwe (Seriously. We have leaders in all of these places. We even have over 50 leaders in Venezuela!) Individual liberty is at the very heart of what drives each person, proving that liberty knows no borders, nationalities, race, religion, or gender. While we are international, we are spending 2/3 of our funds on North America.

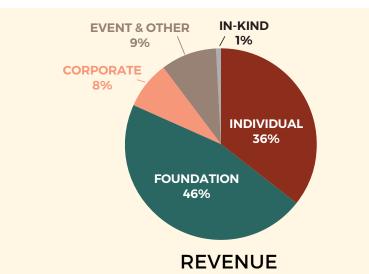
### INNOVATION

SFL has produced Young Voices Media, the Christian Libertarian Institute, and we've just launched the Consumer Choice Center (CCC). CCC is aimed at supporting the individual's right to buy products as well as goods and services without the State interfering or restricting the individuals right to do so.

### QUALITY OVER QUANTITY 5

There is a reason why three of SFL's leaders appeared on the Forbes magazine "30 under 30" list last year: our application process is highly selective. We turn down over 30% of our applicants.

## FY17 FINANCIAL INFORMATION



DONATIONS: Individual: \$1,420,506 | Foundation: \$1,846,080 Corporate: \$319,977 | Event & Other Income: \$377,185 (contributions/ sponsorship fees & registrations) | In-kind: \$52,675 TOTAL REVENUE: \$3,963,748





STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY IS RANKED AS A TOP-RATED NONPROFIT BY GREATNONPROFITS.ORG

## THE MISSION OF STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY

Our mission is to EDUCATE, DEVELOP, and EMPOWER the next generation of leaders of liberty. SFL does not dictate the foundations upon which individuals justify their belief in liberty. Rather, we endorse broad principles that define liberty:

ECONOMIC FREEDOM; INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM TO CHOOSE HOW TO LIVE ONE'S LIFE; AND INTELLECTUAL AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM.

Students For Liberty is an international organization with student leaders on all six inhabited continents. While our headquarters are based in Washington, D.C., you can get involved no matter where you're located.

Students For Liberty is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and all contributions are tax-deductible. As such, we do not endorse any political party, political candidates, or legislation.

### THE PROGRAM GOALS & BUDGET OF STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY

SFL's fiscal year runs from May 1 to April 30 to accord with the typical academic calendar. As such, our budget for the 2017-18 year is as follows:

Leadership Training: \$764,962 Events: \$1,370,275 Public Education/Development: \$586,327 Academic Programs: \$205,679 IT: \$120,364 Marketing: \$357,374 Consumer Choice Center: \$210,296 Administrative: \$472,196

*TOTAL:* \$4,087,473

## SEE MORE AT SFLDONATE.ORG



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Students For Liberty P.O. Box 97246 Washington, DC 20090-7246 www.SFLDonate.org

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