By Alexander McCobin

Dear SFL,

From February 26–28, SFL hosted the 9th Annual International Students For Liberty Conference (ISFLC16). With over 1,500 attendees, an all-star line-up of speakers, and incredible conversations about the future of liberty, I feel comfortable saying that this was the most exciting ISFLC since the first in 2008.

ISFLC16 featured political commentator George Will; Nadezhda Tolokonnikova from Pussy Riot; political satirist P.J. O’Rourke; the man, the legend, the ‘stache, John Stossel; president of the American Civil Liberties Union, Susan Herman; Grover Norquist from Americans for Tax Reform; Jeffrey Tucker from the Foundation for Economic Education; Tom Palmer from the Atlas Network; and many more leaders for the cause of liberty.

One thing you might notice: Students For Liberty is not a traditional, partisan organization. We are not an insular organization that preaches to the choir. We exist to build the liberty coalition, bringing the left and the right together on the moderate and reasonable principles of liberty that we can all agree upon. We may and will disagree on some issues, and that is okay, because we can work together on those issues where we align. As a libertarian organization, we bring together diverse groups to advance the cause of human freedom in our lifetimes. This is why ISFLC16 also featured debates such as: “The Great Libertarian vs. Conservative Debate,” “Should College Campuses Be Gun-Free Zones?” “Voting vs. Reading: How Do We Win?”

Yet, it wasn’t easy for everyone to attend ISFLC16. One of SFL’s staffers in Nigeria, Emeka Ezeugo, received a visa to visit the United States for the conference. He boarded his flight in Lagos, landed in Frankfurt, but was then denied entry and turned around in the airport. His visa was revoked without explanation even though he has visited the United
States before and has strong family ties in Nigeria. Unfortunately, his experience was not unique. At least two other individuals experienced similar challenges with visas that were initially approved before being declined when they tried to attend the conference. This has not deterred their enthusiasm, though. It has reignited their dedication to the cause of liberty, and SFL’s dedication to supporting them.

But we are not just reflecting on the past. We are undergoing strategic planning for SFL’s future based on our strategy for social change. We are now developing a more precise plan for how to fulfill that mission. Which programs deserve greater investment? Which programs shouldn’t continue to receive investments? What are new ideas for how to continue growing SFL?

There are many challenges facing the cause of liberty today, ranging from the anti-free speech movement sweeping campuses to the rise of governmental and non-governmental violence around the world. SFL has little time left before the end of the school year, when student activism will subside. However, as the success of the ISFLC illustrates: we have the people, enthusiasm, and vision to make a difference right now and in the future.

Sincerely & For Liberty,

Alexander McCobin
Co-Founder & President
9th Annual International Students for Liberty Conference

At a Glance

- **Attendees**: 1542
- **Speakers**: 160
- **Countries**: 49
- **Breakout Sessions**: 70
- **Sponsors**: 71
- **SFL Leaders**: 116
- **Schools**: 247

Field of Study:
- Economics: 19.5%
- Political Science: 18.5%
- Business: 14%
- Other: 30.5%
- Engineering: 5%
- Health Profession: 4.5%
- Computer Science: 4%
- History: 4%
EXPLORING

By Casey Given

ISFLC is almost indescribable. Yes, it’s a student conference, but it’s so much more than that. With 55% of 2016 attendees being non-students, ISFLC has quickly become one of the liberty movement’s premier events—a place for libertarian amateurs and experts to meet and explore the ideas together.

This exploration does not necessarily come in a traditional lecture format either. While SFL prides itself on the quantity of breakouts at each ISFLC (70 this year!), we also make a point to host a wide variety of sessions. To this end, ISFLC16 featured three debates, a Liberty Fund seminar, a shark-tank-style student activism competition hosted by the Atlas Network, an art exhibit, and a film exhibition hosted by Reason. While these sessions explored liberty through unique mediums, many of them hit on the same question: what will the future look like for freedom?

The Millennial generation is a politically independent one. According to Harvard University’s fall 2015 youth survey, 40% of 18 to 29-year-olds identify as Independents, as opposed to Republicans (21%) or Democrats (36%). Students For Liberty’s generation is not easily labeled according to the traditional political categories. We do not rally around a single political party or philosophical stereotype.

We are an unpegged generation that will soon decide the intellectual, entrepreneurial, and political destiny of the world. For this reason, SFL chose the theme for ISFLC16 to be “The Liberty Vote.”

Of course, this title was particularly provocative given that the presidential primary season in the United States coincided with ISFLC16. With that background in mind, our annual ISFLC Straw Poll was particularly relevant this year—with Republican Senator Ted Cruz generating a surprise win with 29.9% of the vote. But the theme was not so much about electoral politics as it was various strategies to promote social change.

Is politics a necessary evil? Or a distraction from the educational aim of promoting the ideas of liberty? Or is it entrepreneurial innovations like those in the sharing economy that will ultimately free us?

The liberty movement is currently debating these questions with great vigor, and each side was given equal consideration at ISFLC16. With everyone from politicians like Rep. Justin Amash to professors like Dr. David Friedman present, ISFLC16 was a special moment for those in the liberty movement to network, debate, and display our best ideas to the world.

As SFL’s keynote event, there’s so much to cover with ISFLC. It can’t possibly be done in one article. To that end, the following six pages highlight a few particularly special moments. From a full-length feature on our Saturday night Awards Dinner, to a snippet about one group of student activists traveling thousands of miles to attend, we hope you will enjoy reading about the life-changing conference that was ISFLC16.

Casey Given is SFL’s Director of Communications.
By Casey Given

Since the second ISFLC in 2009, SFL has made a point to honor the best in student organizing. At each ISFLC, we hand out a Student, Event, Student Group, and Alumnus of the Year Award to remarkable individuals who have promoted liberty on campus and beyond.

ISFLC16 continued this tradition with a new twist. Instead of hosting our ceremony on Friday night as we’ve done in the past, we expanded the program this year to include a full Awards Dinner on Saturday. This shift allowed us not only more time to honor our winners but also the opportunity for nominees to mingle with SFL’s top supporters and partner organizations.

The result was a smashing success. 368 guests enjoyed Alexander McCobin’s remarks on the future generation of libertarians, P. J. O’Rourke’s humorous take on the 2016 presidential election, and—of course—the ceremony itself, hosted by SFL co-founder Sloane Frost.

As in previous years, it was difficult for SFL’s staff to narrow down the nominee list. There were so many qualified candidates this year, we felt obliged to release a runners-up list for the Student of the Year Award! This is a good problem to have. The fact that the ISFLC Awards are becoming more competitive shows the growing strength of the liberty movement at large.

The Student of the Year Award in particular had some stellar nominees. Among them was Anna Shnaidman, the co-founder of both Students For Liberty-Israel and one of her country’s first libertarian political parties. Anna’s club at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem has hosted many popular events, including a debate on the decriminalization of prostitution that was also nominated for Event of the Year.

Another international student nominated for his founding efforts was Louis Lo, the student behind the start of Students For Liberty-Hong Kong. While Hong Kong is often cited by libertarians as an example of free market capitalism, the Chinese special economic zone did not have an active libertarian student organization until Louis came along. Under his leadership, SFL-Hong Kong has raised over $10,000 and hosted numerous seminars on the ideas of liberty—one of which was also nominated for Event of the Year.

However, student leaders don’t necessarily need to be the first in their region to be nominated for Student of the Year. One such strong leader in an already established area is Cory Massimino of Seminole State College in Florida. Over the past three years, Cory has quickly become one of SFL’s strongest student leaders in the United States, launching SFL’s first podcast and rejuvenating our Virtual Speakers Bureau allowing student groups to arrange live lectures over the Internet from the movement’s top thought leaders.

Fernando Moreno of Universidad Santa María in Ecuador is another stellar SFL leader who has risen up the ranks. As a Local Coordinator, he helped organize various events, including EPL-Ecuador’s
first-ever Regional Conference in May for 200+ students.

Undoubtedly, the most famous of the nominees was Yeonmi Park, a North Korean refugee and human rights activist who escaped to China in 2007. Park rose to global prominence after she delivered a speech at the One Young World 2014 Summit in Dublin, Ireland—an annual summit that gathers young people from around the world to develop solutions to global problems. Her speech, about her experience escaping from North Korea, received more than 2 million views on YouTube. Her memoir, *In Order to Live: A North Korean Girl’s Journey to Freedom*, was published in September 2015.

Even with all of these very qualified nominees, the evening’s ultimate winner for Student of the Year was Julio Lins. Julio is the 19-year-old co-founder of the Ajuricaba Club, the largest libertarian student group of the northern region of Brazil that also won Student Group of the Year. Julio is a Senior Local Coordinator with Estudantes Pela Liberdade (EPL), SFL’s Brazil network, and a leader of the “Vem Pra Rua” movement. “Vem Pra Rua,” or “Come to the Streets” in English, is one of the largest pro-liberty, anti-government movements of Brazil, and Julio became its spokesperson. Julio participated in all of the protests against the Labour Party government last spring and helped bring millions into the streets of Brazil, with a libertarian message.

After taking the stage and giving his thanks, Julio ended his acceptance speech with a truly inspirational line: “Liberty moves my heart, and for liberty I will dedicate absolutely my whole life.”

And the nominees were . . .

**STUDENT OF THE YEAR**
- Anna Shnaidman—Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel)
- Cory Massimino—Seminole State College (USA)
- Fernando Moreno—Universidad Santa María (Ecuador)
- **Julio Lins—Universidade do Estado do Amazonas (Brazil)**
- Louis Lo—Hong Kong Shue Yan University (Hong Kong)
- Yeonmi Park—Columbia University (USA/North Korea)

Honorable mentions: Anna Klvanova (CEVRO Prague, Czech Republic), Angel Lauver (University of Florida, USA), Brandon Clements (University of Oregon, USA), Kevin Suarez (De Anza College, USA), Sam Dunkovich (University of Wisconsin—Green Bay, USA)

**EVENT OF THE YEAR**
- El Toborochi y la Libertad—Universidad Santa Cruz (Bolivia)
- Debate to Decriminalize Prostitution—Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel)
- **Gustavo Franco lecture—DCE Ibmec (Brazil)**
- Liberal Youth Seminar (Hong Kong)
- Liberty Classes—Kyiv National Economic University (Ukraine)

**STUDENT GROUP OF THE YEAR**
- **Ajuricaba – Manaus, Amazon (Brazil)**
- Eagles for Liberty—Florida Gulf Coast University (USA)
- EsLibertad Venezuela—Universidad Central de Venezuela (Venezuela)
- Maastricht Students For Liberty—Maastricht University (Netherlands)
- Students for Individual Liberty—University of Virginia (USA)
On top of honoring the best in student activism, SFL has recognized inspiring professionals with our Alumnus of the Year Award since 2012. Past recipients have included Whole Foods CEO John Mackey and venture capitalist Peter Thiel. This year, we decided to put a new twist on our alumnus award. Instead of recognizing famous libertarians who are friends of SFL, we changed the award’s criteria to honor libertarian professionals who have had previous involvement with SFL.

The winner of SFL’s 2016 Alumnus of the Year Award was Robby Soave, a staff editor at Reason who regularly covers illiberal trends on college campuses. We asked Robby a few questions about his big win.

SFL: First, let’s talk raw emotions. What was going through your head as you heard your name called and took the stage to accept the Alumnus of the Year Award?

RS: Some of my friends had said they expected me to win, but I couldn’t actually believe them—I was up against such stiff competition! I think I muttered “no way” when I heard my name called. But I was so happy to win. It was a great honor to receive such tremendous validation from a community I deeply respect. It was also humbling just to be nominated alongside people with real courage, like Ross Ulbricht and Marcel van Hattem.

SFL: How did SFL aid in your intellectual and professional development towards liberty?

RS: SFL has aided me from the very beginning, and I’m proud to have been involved for so long. I attended the second-ever ISFLC as a junior in college, and I’ve attended most of them since.

At first, it was nice just to know that my few libertarian friends and I weren’t alone. But meeting so many people of all ages who had made careers promoting the ideas of liberty inspired me to try and accomplish the same. It’ll be honest, it’s been hard work building up the platform I have now. But it would have been impossible without the assistance of SFL and the broader libertarian professional network.

SFL: Your work focuses on illiberal trends at college campuses. What words of advice do you have for SFL’s student leaders who are fighting for liberty in often hostile conditions?

RS: I like to remind students that campuses are artificial communities unlike any other place on Earth: stultifying and rigidly leftist. It’s no exaggeration to say administrators and illiberal “liberal” students increasingly treat dissent as some kind of crime. But the good news, freethinkers, is this: they only get to rule over you for a few years. Fight them in any peaceful manner you can, and take satisfaction that the real world is waiting for you. In the meantime, send me an email (robby.soave@reason.com) whenever the campus censors try to override you. It’s my job to write about these stories, and I relish it. ✤

ACTIVISM AFTER GRADUATION: Alumnus of the Year Winner Robby Soave

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Ross Ulbricht—Silk Road
Marcel van Hattem—State Representative, Rio Grande do Sul (RS)
Robby Soave—Reason Magazine
Liya Palagashvili—SUNY-Purchase, New York University School of Law
Marco Zappacosta—Thumbtack
By Sloane Frost

The Atlas Network’s Student Impact Contest at ISFLC16, a liberty lover’s version of the U.S. show “Shark Tank,” featured pitches by enthusiastic and entrepreneurial students from all over the world. Judges representing prominent liberty groups were on hand to hear students’ pitches and award prizes to the top pitch in two categories: U.S. and International.

During the event, each student was invited to stand on the ISFLC stage and deliver a short PowerPoint presentation to the judges about their project. Students’ ideas ranged from events challenging the Marxist holiday in Bulgaria to bringing a speaker to the SFL Focus Series on Free Market Environmentalism at Florida Gulf Coast University. Each student included information on how their ideas would change the conversation regarding the role of liberty in students’ lives, and an interesting common thread was the lack of understanding of liberty by many college students today. These messages reflect the unremitting need for vigilant defense of liberty by young people all over the world.

Each student responded to questions and critiques of their business plan by a panel of judges: Sloane Frost (SFL), Richard Lorenc (FEE), Giannina Raffo (CEDICE Libertad, Venezuela), and Matt Warner (Atlas Network). The winners were:

“The Realities of Socialism” (Kayla Garthus, United States)
“Why Liberty?” (Julio Ernesto Guevara Mejia, Honduras)

The other students that earned high accolades for their careful business plans as well as ability to respond thoughtfully to judges’ questions: Stoyan Panchev, Bulgaria; Ilia Meshvidisvili, Georgia; Louis Lo, Hong Kong; and Emily Reynolds, United States. Winners received $1,500 each from the Atlas Network in order to put their ideas into action. We are all very excited to see not only how the winners use their prizes but also how all the students continue valuable liberty advocacy all over the world.

John Stossel Live from ISFLC16

Students For Liberty attendees were treated to a “behind the scenes” look at how television journalism is filmed as John Stossel brought his primetime FOX Business News program, “Stossel,” to the International Students For Liberty Conference.

The episode, dubbed “The Liberty Vote,” was shot before a live audience made up mostly of college students.

The audience was treated to a spirited debate between Patrice Lee of Generation Opportunity and Alexis Goldstein of Occupy Wall Street on the minimum wage, the gender pay gap, taxes, and regulation. Cato Institute’s Director of Polling Emily Ekins discussed why socialism wouldn’t work in the United States and why a majority of college students support Bernie Sanders. Ekins’ statement regarding students supporting Sanders was met with an audible, “No!” from the 200 or so students in attendance.

Stossel, the host, urged the audience in a playful way, to “be respectful.” Stossel was feeding off of the energy in the room for the nearly three-hour taping.

Niskanen Center president and libertarian activist Jerry Taylor also entered the fray regarding the 2016 election, saying he would “rather chew glass than support Ted Cruz.”

Alexander McCobin, President of Students For Liberty, said, “We are grateful to FOX Business News and John Stossel for making our International Conference a priority. His voice and his opinions offer substance and an alternative to the status quo.”

Watch the ISFLC ‘Stossel’ episode at tinyurl.com/stoss-isflc16.
The Third Annual Ama–gi Art Exhibit

Another successful and diverse art show was held at ISFLC16, featuring work from libertarian artists from around the globe. The exhibit included a photo series taken by Judd Weiss at ISFLC15, a colorful portrait of Ayn Rand, and a collection of photos featuring liberty-themed tattoos. Perhaps most notable was the eight-feet-tall free expression wall on which conference goers were encouraged to paint. The wall was a colorful and vibrant centerpiece for the art show. By the end of the conference, it was full of messages and pictures.

In addition to the exhibit, the art room housed Reason’s Film Extravaganza, a day-long festival featuring libertarian films and panel discussions. The room was also home to Taliesan Nexus’s pitch fest for libertarian film makers and Vermin Supreme’s documentary screening.

Campus Coordinators Bela Cunningham and Kaitlin Fosse along with AFL member Marie Najjar were responsible for putting on the art show at which hundreds of people were exposed to the vibrant and diverse art of the liberty movement, and where some of the art was even sold to attendees. This was the most successful and interesting show yet, and we are excited to see what next year’s student-run Ama–gi Art Exhibit will have in store!

By Sam Teixeira

SFL–Haiti was surprisingly one of the best represented groups at ISFLC16. While SFL has only been operating in Haiti for a few months, our students there are highly motivated and excited about both SFL and libertarianism. SFL’s Charter Teams member James Michel attended ISFLC16 with two other Charter Teams trainees, Woodly Transtamar and Jodney Paul Alcime. Jodney is also a member of the Haitian youth organization Action Solidarite Jeunesse (ASJ) and was able to bring an additional 11 members of ASJ to the ISFLC.

ISFLC16 was the first opportunity for all of these individuals to meet and plan their activities for the coming year. In their strategic planning meeting, ASJ and SFL agreed to form an alliance to promote liberty in Haiti and are hoping to host their first-ever conference later this spring.

Overall, SFL’s Haitian leaders left ISFLC16 more excited than ever to promote libertarianism in their home country. After returning to Haiti with SFL t-shirts, books, and other resources, Charter Teams member James Michel said that he “has much more motivation to build SFL and promote libertarianism after attending the ISFLC.” Similarly, Charter Teams Trainee Jodney Paul Alcime said, “I had a great experience at the conference and would highly recommend ISFLC to anyone who wants to fight for liberty. It is dynamic and extremely valuable for networking.”

James made especially good use of his time here in Washington. After ISFLC, he stopped by the Voice of America radio station to give an interview for their VOA–Haiti station. James’s interview has almost 6,000 views on Facebook and was broadcast over the radio for countless others to hear. Interest in SFL–Haiti has noticeably increased since.

James, Jodney, and Woodly have now returned to Haiti and begun working on their plans for the year. These students left ISFLC16 more excited and motivated than ever, and they’re eagerly working to establish an executive board for SFL–Haiti, plan their first-ever local conference, and work to include dozens of other students in SFL. Stay tuned to see what they’re able to accomplish over the coming months at studentsforliberty.org/charter-teams.
Faculty For Liberty Launches at ISFLC

By Kyle Walker

This year at ISFLC, we ran our first ever Faculty For Liberty Luncheon! The goal of this event was twofold. First, to show our appreciation for college and university faculty who donate their time to educate SFL students about the principles of liberty. Second, to discuss student group advising and new opportunities to educate even more SFL students around the world with SFL Academy.

Faculty For Liberty is a network that we are interested in growing to keep professors updated on and engaged with SFL activities. A number of new ideas came out of this event, including strategies for growing the Virtual Reading Groups and the Virtual Speakers Bureau programs, event cross-promotion so that SFL students and faculty are aware of all the activities faculty are working on in their region, and connections with students who are interested in starting new groups to promote liberty on their campuses.

If you are a faculty member or know of any who would be interested in Faculty For Liberty, please reach out to me at kwalker@studentsforliberty.org.

Monica Lucas is SFL’s North American Programs Director.
#ISFLC16 MAKES A SPLASH ON SOCIAL MEDIA

By Alex McHugh

As a Millennial organization, Students For Liberty strives to stay up to date in the world of social media. ISFLC gives us a prime opportunity every spring to make a splash on social channels worldwide. We’ve tried many different things over the years, and while it’s sometimes hard to hit exactly the right mix, our energetic network of students and supporters makes it easy to bring SFL’s message to every corner of the web.

We’re proud to report that this year’s conference hashtag, #ISFLC16, made quite an impact across several social media networks. Not only was the hashtag trending in the Washington, DC area starting on Friday afternoon, but all the conference-related tweets were overwhelmingly positive. A brief analysis of all tweets using that hashtag revealed more than twice as many positive words as negative ones (as determined by Twitter).

We also gave attendees and those watching from home two new ways to keep up with the buzz. We’ve been experimenting with a software called Tagboard, which aggregates all tweets, Instagram photos, and Facebook posts containing a certain hashtag in one place online. After using it for a few projects earlier in the year, we were excited to see the “board” that would be created during ISFLC! You can see the final result at: tagboard.com/ISFLC16/269228. Our second experiment this year was to livestream much of the conference on Twitter’s streaming service Periscope.

Periscope gives followers the ability to tune in from any device as well as interact with the broadcaster through tweets and “hearts.” While some sessions were better attended than others, SFL’s Periscope account garnered hundreds of views and over 3,000 hearts in this first weekend alone. The Saturday evening debate, “Voting vs. Reading: How Do We Win?” with Jeffrey Tucker and Jack Hunter, was especially popular, generating its fair share of hearts as viewers “voted” their
agreement with the two debaters. To follow SFL and get notifications when we go live in the future, just download the Periscope app and search for username sfliberty.

One aspect of the conference that was especially fun to watch on social media was the proliferation of “selfies for liberty,” as attendees captured shots with their favorite celebrity libertarians. Our surprise guest, Vermin Supreme, was especially well-represented. John Stossel, Gary Johnson, Susan Herman, His Serene Highness Prince Hans-Adam II, and many other speakers and guests got in on the fun as well. We even had some speakers taking enthusiastic selfies with each other!

As a final note on social media, we decided to relaunch SFL’s Snapchat account on Friday morning and were pleased to see many people engaging with our Snapchat stories throughout the weekend. Moving forward, you can find SFL on Snapchat by searching for username sfliberty. We’ve given access to the account to students in each SFL region and are looking forward to providing our Snapchat friends with an international highlights reel of our work around the globe.

In traditional media, too, this was an ISFLC to remember. For the first time ever, we had a radio show broadcasting live from the conference, the Jason Stapleton Program. And in the weeks after, we’ve received 20+ media hits, including multiple hits from Reason, the Daily Beast, and even BBC China.

Of course, all of this attention was on top of our annual taping of the “Stossel!” show at ISFLC. This year’s episode—focused on our conference theme “The Liberty Vote”—aired on Fox Business on Friday, March 4 and is now available online.

Alex McHugh is SFL’s Communications Associate.
There are multiple ways you can support the work and mission of Students For Liberty. We offer supporters three exclusive levels of membership: President’s Club, Salomon-Morris Society, and the Liberty 1200 Monthly Donors Program.

**President’s Club**

President’s Club donors contribute $10,000 or more over an 18-month period. President’s Club donors represent the foundation of Students For Liberty and our network of students serving on university campuses. The symbol of the President’s Club is a torch held by an individual committed to the cause of liberty.

**PRESIDENT’S CLUB DONORS RECEIVE:**

* Exclusive Invitation to join Students For Liberty Board of Advisors
* Admission to Board of Advisors is confirmed at annual International Students For Liberty Conference with presentation of SFL’s elite Champions of Liberty Cup. Each Champions of Liberty Cup is numbered and personally inscribed with the recipient’s name.
* Two SFL Champions of Liberty embroidered polo shirts.
* Two tickets to International Students For Liberty Conference (ISFLC) in Washington, DC, including seats at the Annual Awards Banquet.
* Premium seating at all ISFLC events, including Awards Banquet, and exclusive access to Liberty Lounge.
* Annual “Liberty Book of the Year” delivered in January.

**Salomon-Morris Society**

The Salomon-Morris Society consists of SFL donors who are committed to donating $5,000 or more in a single year.

The name of this society is derived from Hyam Salomon and Robert Morris, two of the principal financiers of the American Revolution. Without their support, the United States would never have been able to become a free and independent country. Their influence on the war is commemorated with a statue in Chicago, depicting the two side by side with George Washington. Today, that statue represents the symbol of the Salomon-Morris Society.

**SALOMON-MORRIS SOCIETY DONORS RECEIVE:**

* The exclusive Salomon-Morris Silver Challenge Coin bearing the Salomon-Morris emblem and Students For Liberty logo. This exclusive memento can be displayed in the office or home, or even carried daily by the organization’s members as a reminder of your participation in the fight for liberty.
* Two tickets to International Students For Liberty Conference (ISFLC) in Washington, DC, including seats at Annual Awards Banquet.
* Premium seating at all ISFLC events, including Awards Banquet, and exclusive access to Liberty Lounge.
* Annual “Liberty Book of the Year” delivered in January.

**Liberty 1200 Monthly Donors**

Liberty 1200 represents 1,200 individuals committed to supporting the cause of liberty on a monthly basis. Understanding Students For Liberty is a rapidly growing network of pro-liberty students from all over the world. Liberty 1200 donors’ steady contributions underwrite the SFL mission to educate, develop, and empower the next generation of leaders of liberty.

**LIBERTY 1200 DONORS RECEIVE:**

* Annual “Liberty Book of the Year” delivered in January.
* Liberty 1200 Coffee Mug.
* One ticket to ISFLC.

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIBERTY

Support SFL today!
By Yaël Ossowski

Even though it was frigid in most corners of Europe, our students and activists turned out in great numbers this past fall to SFL’s leadership forums to get more acquainted with their fellow freedom fighters and craft new strategies at leadership forums. These one-day events allow students interested in spreading the ideas of liberty through Students For Liberty’s model of activism to get a hands-on training featuring our best leaders and practices.

Leadership forums are planned and organized by local student leadership, and gives dozens more curious students an opportunity to learn more about our methods for social change.

Our leaders organized two different Leadership Forums in the month of January: one in Budva, Montenegro, and another in Tel Aviv, Israel. The first concentrated on a regional strategy for liberty, encompassing most of the Balkan states, and the latter was an intense communication workshop held at Tel Aviv University.

Local Coordinator Slobodan Franeta was the main organizer of the leadership forum in Montenegro, which spanned two days and offered different levels of training and collaboration. Held at Akademija znanja, the first day featured 20 leaders specifically invited to carry forth the banner of liberty activism in the Balkans. On the second day, more than 60 other local students joined from Podgorica.

Overall, it united many different students to talk about challenges and opportunities they will face in the next few months.

In Israel, students organized their second-ever Leadership Forum. The first took place a few months ago. This time, the goal was to essentially unite the main group leaders in Israel, of which there are over thirteen.

The first half of the day was chaired by Dudi Perahia, a local attorney who specializes in negotiation. He gave very practical advice for communicating to get what you want and negotiating with other parties. Local Coordinator Bill Wirtz, a Luxembourg student studying in eastern France, gave a very captivating speech on “Communication In and Out of the Liberty Movement.” Wirtz was able to use practical examples and pull from his experiences dealing with liberal political parties in order to give sound advice.

Local Coordinator Anna Shnaidman, who organized the leadership forum, gave a very stellar short speech on body language as an important communicative tool, and national coordinator Rotem gave a talk on general communication standards to the group.

The total number of participants ended up being about 15 from either Haifa, Jerusalem, or Tel Aviv. Each had previously been involved in the more headline-grabbing type of activism we’ve seen from Israel lately (the pro-gun protests, the natural gas rallies, etc.).

The students were more than engaged, and they were able to have many practical conversations about how activism works differently across the entire international spectrum of SFL, including what Israeli students in particular can learn from them. They loved hearing the practical stories of SFL activists’ struggles and successes in Serbia, France, Kenya, and Guatemala. There will be so much more to come on this front! 

Yaël Ossowski is SFL’s European Programs Director.
Spring Focus Series across the United States

The SFL Focus Series is Students For Liberty’s first-ever foray into single-issue conferences. They’re still run by students and for students and are the best way to connect with other liberty-loving young people this semester. This spring, we’re hosting four conferences across the United States, focusing on a variety of issues. These conferences aren’t traditional Regional Conferences, but will instead give attendees a libertarian perspective on issues like tech policy, the environment, and free speech on college campuses. It’s our hope that students will leave these conferences with not only an understanding of the issues but also connections with other pro-liberty students in their area who might want to organize locally around the topics discussed. More information can be found at www.sffocus.org ✪

By Riya Basnet

2016 has been an exciting year so far for Women For Liberty. Our initiative has continued to raise awareness of libertarian feminism, recognizing choice as key and empowering women leaders to become effective advocates for themselves. We’ve done this through workshops on public speaking, entrepreneurship, leadership, and education.

Women For Liberty leaders across the globe have been active in spreading the message of liberty and were highlighted in a panel at ISFLC. This panel brought together activists from around the world, featuring human rights activist Rebiya Kadeer and students from South Asia, Africa, and Europe. Mrs. Kadeer shared her horrific yet inspiring journey of freedom during the Chinese Cultural Revolution. Despite being accused of secretly engaging in commerce, she opened a small shop, eventually converting it to a department store. After the fall of the Soviet Union, she started trading and turned her business into a thriving operation, allowing her to start a philanthropic foundation. Despite being imprisoned for two years, continuous threats, and her family’s passports being confiscated, she continues to speak out for the rights of women in China.

With this panel, Women For Liberty encouraged women to take full responsibility for their own lives. We oppose any government interference with individual choices. If you would like to join the fight, please visit us at WomenForLiberty.org. ✪

Riya Basnet is an Academic Programs Associate for SFL.
A wide range of topics were discussed, such as objectivism, liberty activism through public interest litigation, police brutality, LGBT rights, free speech, and constitutional & economic reforms. Speakers included Objectivist novelist Sriram Karri, Professor Subodh Shenoy, founder of the India Institute Baladevan Rangaraj, and winner of the “Bastiat Prize for Journalism,” Amit Varma. Copies of SFL’s publications Why Liberty; Peace Love & Liberty; and After the Welfare State were distributed to students at the event. Students left with a newfound appreciation for classical liberal ideas and the need to engage in the battle of ideas for freedom.

Abhinav Singh is South Asia Programs Manager for SFL.
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