



**John Choe**  
**Chief of Staff**  
**Office of Council Member Liu**

John X. Choe currently serves in the New York City Council as Chief of Staff to Council Member John C. Liu. Prior to the Council, Mr. Choe's public service career included positions with the NYC Department of Finance, Corporation for Supportive Housing, NYC Rent Guidelines Board, and the Rainbow Center, a shelter and community center for Korean women in Queens.

Born in Korea and raised in Australia, Mr. Choe migrated with his family to the United States in the 1980s. Mr. Choe graduated from Susan E. Wagner High School on Staten Island and attended the State University of New York at Binghamton, where he was a New York State Regents Scholar and earned a BA in History. Mr. Choe entered the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago, where he was a Woodrow Wilson National Fellow in Public Affairs & International Relations and earned a Master's in Public Policy (MPP).

Mr. Choe has volunteered with the Committee Against Anti-Asian Violence (CAA AV), the Korea Exposure & Education Program (KEEP), the Coalition of Minority Policy Professionals (CoMPP), WBAI 99.5 FM Pacifica Radio, the Venceremos Brigade, and the Korean American League for Civic Action (KALCA). In 1999, Mr. Choe co-founded Nodutdol for Korean Community Development, a nonprofit corporation that seeks to empower and unite the Korean people through grassroots organizing and community development programs. As a Nodutdol member, Mr. Choe coordinated the Stepping Stone Community School Project, which encouraged immigrant families to participate in educational reform policy. Mr. Choe now serves as an advisor and planning team member for the newly-established East-West School for International Studies, a public school that will open its doors this September. Mr. Choe has been recognized for his leadership and service as a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs, Open Society Institute NYC Community Fellow, and a Revson Fellow at Columbia University.

**Grace Clements**  
**Manager of Advisement for Special Programs**  
**NYU Tisch**

Grace Clements is the Manager of Advisement for Special Programs in the Department of Drama at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

Grace received her BFA in Drama with Directing emphasis from Carnegie Mellon University, and is a Graduate of L'Ecole Jacques Lecoq and the Laboratoire d'Etude du Mouvement in Paris, focusing on devised theater and experimental scenography. Grace also studied mask making with Donato Sartori in Italy, and Clowning with Ctibor Turba in Prague.

Grace has produced segments for The Daily Show with Jon Stewart and the Film Unit at Saturday Night Live, taught Commedia dell'Arte at Marymount Manhattan College and was the Stage Manager for the first U.S. Tour of the Chinese National Acrobatic Circus. Grace designed puppets and performing objects for the Drama productions of Jude and Picnic at Hanging Rock, and her masks have been commissioned for the professional theatre internationally and by the Drama Departments at NYU/TSOA, Harvard, Carnegie Mellon, Brandeis, Simon's Rock and Muhlenburg College.

Grace currently advises students on double majors and minors and studying abroad, as well as auditioning and interviewing prospective students for admittance into the Department of Drama. Grace is a member of the department's Diversity Committee, and is on the Task Force for the creation of a Young TheatreMaker's Workshop, reaching out to high school juniors from underrepresented groups in New York City, in order to help them prepare for college and a life in the theater.

**Kim Davis**  
**Managing Director**  
**Taproot Foundation NY**

Kim Davis has dedicated her career to applying the strategies and practices of corporations to help build the infrastructure of nonprofit organizations. As the Managing Director – New York, she leads the Taproot Foundation's East Coast office in leveraging volunteers from the business community to deliver high quality capacity building services to local nonprofits.

For the past seven years, Kim has served as an organizational development, branding and fundraising consultant to leading nonprofit organizations including the Columbia University Medical Center, Shore Memorial Hospital, Twenty-First Century Foundation, Open Society Institute, African American Women's Fund, Brandeis University, Fordham University and the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy. Prior to consulting, she worked with the Twenty-First Century Foundation, Rock the Vote and the Children's Defense Fund. She holds Bachelor's degree from Vassar College and an MBA from Columbia University. While at Columbia, she served as a marketing intern at Johnson & Johnson and subsequently partnered with Landor Associates to develop brand strategies and identity systems for nonprofit organizations.

**Angela Dillard**  
**Associate Professor, History and Politics**  
**NYU Gallatin**

Angela D. Dillard is an associate professor of history and politics at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University and serves as the Director of Africana Studies in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis in the College of Arts and Sciences. She specializes in American and African-American intellectual history, religious studies, critical race theory and the history of political ideologies and social movements in the United States.

She received her BA in Justice, Morality and Constitutional Democracy from James Madison College at Michigan State University and a MA in political theory from the New School for Social Research (now the New School University) in New York City. She also holds a second MA as well as a PhD in American Studies from the University of Michigan.

Her first book, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Now?: Multicultural Conservatism in America* was published in 2001 and was the first comprehensive study of the rise of conservative political thought among African-Americans, Latinos, women and homosexuals. Professor Dillard writes frequently on issues related to race, conservatism and the New Right and has been featured on various radio and news programs. Subsequently, Professor Dillard returned to her dissertation topic and is completing a manuscript on religion and political radicalism in Detroit from the 1930s to the 1960s. The book is to be published by the University of Michigan Press later this year under the title, *Faith in the City: Preaching Radical Social Change in Detroit*.

Most recently, she has signed a contract with the University of California Press for a political biography of James H. Meredith, the ex-civil rights icon turned conservative Republican – a project that unites her interest in both the Left and the Right side of the political spectrum.

**Abigail Diner**  
**Special Projects Associate**  
**Edna McConnell Clark Foundation**

Abigail Diner is an associate at the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation. She supports the president on special projects that range from internal operations to preparation for quarterly board meetings. She also works with members of the Foundation's senior team on day-to-day grantmaking activities and internal and external communications.

Prior to joining the Foundation in 2002, Abigail worked at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum as an associate in the Education Department. She administered the Learning Through Art Program and coordinated the annual newsletter and exhibition.

Abigail has a B.A. from Tulane University and is an MPA candidate at the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

**Angela Hendrix Terry**  
**Consultant**  
**ahtConsulting**

Angela Hendrix Terry is an independent consultant to nonprofit and government organizations. Her practice is primarily focused on issues of change and leadership. Ms. Terry assists leaders in clarifying mission, task and role; building collaborative work groups to facilitate change; and developing systems which align with change efforts. She brings her knowledge of group process and action learning to this work to optimize the effectiveness of change initiatives and collaborative efforts.

Prior to her consulting work, Ms. Terry spent over 20 years in leadership positions that exposed her to innovative leaders as well as challenging projects. She served as Chief of Staff at the New York City Economic Development Corporation during the consolidation of several economic development agencies in the early '90s and as Special Assistant to the Dean of NYU's Wagner Graduate School of Public Service during key leadership changes at the university and at the school. Ms. Terry also managed the NYC Department of Juvenile Justice's planning process for two new state-of-the-art juvenile facilities and served as part of the implementation team for a national demonstration project, NYC City Volunteer Corp, for urban youth.

Ms. Terry holds a Masters of Art in Political Science from Northwestern University. She also received a post-graduate certificate in Organizational Consultation and Development from the William Alanson White Institute where she also serves as a faculty member of the Organizational Program. She also serves as adjunct faculty at NYU Wagner where she co-teaches Reflective Management.

**Lizzette Hernandez**  
**Director of Strategic Initiatives**  
**Stern Career Center**

Lizzette Hernandez joined the NYU Stern School of Business in April 2003 as the founding director of the highly successful Career Center for Working Professionals (CCWP). In November of 2005, Lizzette was appointed Director of the Stern School's Strategic Initiatives Office. In this newly created position, Hernandez leads a team responsible for directing all of Stern's New York-focused programs such as the Metropolitan Opera case and other "live" cases, the student mentoring program (IDP), and the Stern Consulting Corps (SCC). In addition, Lizzette manages the Stern School's brand- and relationship-building efforts with the School's key corporate partners, working to deepen existing relations, develop new ones and build broad awareness of the School's portfolio across all programs.

Prior to joining Stern, Hernandez spent three years as a Vice President at JPMorgan Chase where she served as National Recruitment Manager and Senior HR Generalist in the firm's Investment Banking division. Before JPMorgan Chase, Hernandez consulted at Goldman Sachs and Merrill Lynch in various recruitment and HR roles. Before starting a career in human resources, Hernandez worked as a civil litigator at the firm of Mortenson & Pomeroy in Springfield, New Jersey. Hernandez holds a J.D. from Fordham University and a B.S. in Communication from the University of Delaware.

**Caroline Kim Oh**  
**Executive Director**  
**iMentor**

Caroline joined the iMentor team in 2000 as its first Director of Programs, and was named Executive Director in April 2002. Under Caroline's leadership, iMentor grew to serve 400 new mentor-mentee pairs annually and launched a national technical assistance program. Prior to iMentor, Caroline was with the Small Business Congress of New York City, a federation of over 60 small business associations advocating the rights of small enterprises. Caroline also managed student-computing facilities for New York University and was a consultant to the Documentary Heritage Program for the NYS Department of Education and Korean American Small Business Center.

Caroline currently serves on the Board of Directors for Row New York (an after-school rowing, academic, and self-esteem building program) and Youth Improving Nonprofits for Children (Youth I.N.C.). Caroline also serves on the New York City Advisory Board of Taproot Foundation. Caroline received her M.P.A. from the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University and her B.A. from Cornell University.

**Susannah Lupert**  
**Manager**  
**Wagner Works Café**

Susannah Lupert is currently attending New York University's Wagner School of Public Service where she is pursuing her master's degree in nonprofit management and policy. While attending Wagner, she worked with Dean Schall and the nonprofit Housing Works to develop Wagner Works Cafe, a nonprofit cafe located at the Puck Building in SoHo. The profits from Wagner Works go to Housing Works' mission of providing direct services for homeless people with AIDS and HIV.

Before starting Wagner Works, Susannah was a manager at Housing Works Bookstore where she oversaw a volunteer staff of over 200 people. Previously to Housing Works, she worked in the communications department of Lambda Legal, a national gay rights organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender people.

**Graham Macmillan**  
**Director**  
**Scojo Foundation, Inc.**

Graham Macmillan is responsible for the day-to-day management of Scojo Foundation. Mr. Macmillan has had previous experience managing international development programs most recently with Helen Keller International as Director of Business Development for the ChildSight program. He also is a partner at Lane's End Stables, LLC, an equestrian enterprise in New Jersey.

Mr. Macmillan received his Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and History from Colby College and his Master of Science in Management of International Public Service Organizations from New York University's Robert F. Wagner School for Public Service.

**Andrea Schorr**  
**Director of Operations**  
**Blue Ridge Foundation**

Andrea Schorr is currently the Operations Director for Blue Ridge Foundation New York, a high engagement philanthropy fund that incubates start up nonprofit organizations in New York City. She is responsible for the administrative, fiscal, and management support systems that provide services to Blue Ridge's portfolio of grantee organizations.

Prior to working with Blue Ridge Andrea was as a program officer with the Morino Institute, a foundation that makes philanthropic investments in education, health and family services in the Washington, D.C. region. Over the past 13 years Andrea has been a founding manager of two nonprofit social ventures. Most recently she was a co-founder of Groundwork, Inc., which provides college preparation services, internships, and summer education services to youth in eastern Brooklyn.

Andrea's social entrepreneurship career began shortly after college when she was awarded an Echoing Green Fellowship to create a literacy center for LEAP, Inc. (Leadership, Education and Athletics in Partnership), a youth development organization headquartered in New Haven, Connecticut. Andrea will begin studying for an MBA at George Washington University this fall. She has a BA in political science from Yale University.

**Marsha Scipio**  
**Director**  
**Legal Outreach Brooklyn**

Marsha Scipio has worked with children and families for over ten years. She was the Program Director of Reach for the Stars, a college and career preparatory program for adolescents at the Supportive Children's Advocacy Network. Ms. Scipio has designed curriculum and instructed high school students in Street Law in Washington, DC. Her legal experience focused on civil rights.

Born in Trinidad and raised in Brooklyn, Ms. Scipio attended Yale University, B.A. Psychology & African-American Studies; New York University, M.A. Psychology; and Georgetown University Law Center, J.D.

**Victoria Shire**  
**Program Officer**  
**Enterprise Foundation**

Victoria Shire oversees a \$2.2 million capacity building initiative for Enterprise Community Partners, Inc, working with neighborhood-based organizations that develop affordable housing. She manages grants, conducts organization and community assessments, provides training and technical assistance, consults on program development, and leads the documentation and outcome-measurement project. Victoria also coordinates Enterprise New York efforts to develop the next generation of community development professionals through internships, training, leadership development and networking.

Victoria's commitment to social enterprise began during an internship with the Business Development Team for the Greyston Bakery in Yonkers, New York, where she conducted new business research and piloted an outcomes evaluation methodology and tracking tool. Victoria served as a founding Associate with Social Venture Consulting, LLC where she was responsible for social mission, training program design, and strategic planning. Her market research at national, regional, and local levels contributed to the successful development of more than \$1 million in social venture investment and a grand-prize at the prestigious Yale National Business Plan Competition for Nonprofit Organizations in 2003. She continues to consult on SVC's newest enterprise, GoodsThatGive.com, an innovative online store that showcases high quality products with outstanding social missions.

From 2000 to 2003, Victoria led the development of a New York City foot messenger company staffed exclusively by formerly homeless, mentally ill adults. Utilizing the skills she gained at Wagner, Ms. Shire increased annual revenues and customer base 20% by developing personalized relationships to meet unique aspects of customer needs, restructuring operations, improving social outcomes, and lowering costs. Simultaneously, she established a supportive employment environment that provided individualized hard- and soft-skills training and leadership opportunities for all workers. She was promoted to Business Analyst for Lenox Hill

## **Victoria Shire (continued)**

Neighborhood House, a \$29 million social services agency, where she was responsible for analysis of revenue-generating and social enterprise opportunities, including an existing fitness and recreation center.

Prior to her work in New York City, Victoria managed \$10M in child care contracts and developed an outcome evaluation system for a California community-based organization providing child care services to over 1,000 families. She holds an MPA in Nonprofit Management and Finance from the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University and a BA cum laude in philosophy from Wittenberg University. She has served Wagner as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2003, including a current two-year term as President.

## **Martin Smith President and CEO StartingBloc Institute for Social Innovation**

Martin Smith co-founded StartingBloc NFP while studying economics at the University of Chicago. He serves the organization in the capacity of President and CEO and is responsible for establishing the strategy and vision for the organization. He now focuses his efforts with StartingBloc on strategic partnerships and new venture creation.

In 2005, Ashoka: Innovators for the Public created a special relationship with StartingBloc and invested in Smith and the organization. Since then, Smith founded 1Bloc, a new social networking service for social innovators of today and tomorrow.

Prior to StartingBloc, Martin worked in the neurophysiology department of the University of Chicago Hospitals. Smith worked with Chicago neurosurgeons to help delineate areas of epileptic tissue prior to temporal lobe surgery.

Smith has spoken on social enterprise and corporate social innovation in a wide variety of forums, including the United Nations, MIT Sloan, Wharton, Columbia Business School, and the Boston University School of Management.

Smith was a founding executive board member of the Chicago Entrepreneurial Group and a member of the first graduating class of the Youth Leadership Academy. Through the Academy, Smith engaged in leadership development and conflict resolution training in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Outside of StartingBloc and 1Bloc, Smith spends most of his time consulting to new entrepreneurial ventures.

**Shaunna Thomas**  
**Deputy Director of Alumni & Expansion Programs**  
**Young People For the American Way Foundation**

Originally from Los Angeles, Shaunna Thomas is a graduate of the University of Colorado. Currently, Shaunna is the deputy director of Young People For, a fellowship program and project of People For the American Way Foundation. Shaunna was recruited by YP4 to develop and implement innovative and entrepreneurial strategies in order to identify, engage and sustain the next generation of progressive leaders after serving as the Executive Director of Bike & Build, a nonprofit organization dedicated to eradicating poverty housing in New York. Shaunna led this small team to plan and execute multiple cross country cycling trips that raised money and awareness for poverty housing issues across the U.S. and is President of the Board of that organization today.

Prior to her work at YP4, Shaunna was the Lead Organizer for MoveOn PAC's voter mobilization campaign in Cincinnati and Director of the DNC's fundraising canvass in Washington State.

**Sara Wheeler-Smith**  
**Associate Research Scientist**  
**NYU Wagner**

Sara L. Wheeler-Smith is an Associate Research Scientist with NYU's Organizational Performance Initiative, Adjunct Faculty at NYU, and an independent management consultant. She is skilled in organizational development, group facilitation, as well as qualitative and quantitative research in organizational theory. Currently, Sara is responsible for managing the operations of the Organizational Performance Initiative, and in conducting research in two discrete areas: social entrepreneurship and emergency preparedness. Both projects seek to identify the organizational attributes that make organizations either highly socially entrepreneurial or prepared. She has presented the social entrepreneurship research at the annual meeting for the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA), as well as to her students in the Managing Public Service Organizations course.

Before joining the Organizational Performance Initiative, Sara served as a Research Associate and later as Interim Director for the NYU Research Center for Leadership in Action's Next Generation Leadership Program. She also spent five years providing management consulting services to the public sector, most recently at PA Consulting Group. In her role as a consultant, Sara has helped the New Jersey Department of Labor to clarify the strategy and streamline the business processes of the unemployment insurance program, and developed a strategy and process for enhancing cooperation and communication between New York State agencies and county IT departments. She has also consulted for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Transit Administration, several national nonprofit organizations, the United Nations Secretariat, among others.

Sara has a B.A. from Brown University and a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from NYU's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

**Risë Wilson**  
**Executive Director**  
**The Laundromat Project**

Risë Wilson is the Founder of The Laundromat Project, Inc., a new social venture that will use the democratic space of neighborhood coin-ops to increase access to art as a tool of personal and social transformation, particularly in communities of color who have been underserved by mainstream art institutions.

After conceiving the idea for The Laundromat Project in 1999, Risë focused both her academic and professional careers on bringing the project to fruition. Since then she has held positions at prestigious cultural institutions in Philadelphia and NYC, including the Painted Bride Art Center, the Museum of Modern Art, and the International Center of Photography. As an artist, Risë works in the genre of printmaking. As an administrator her work has spanned art education, community outreach, marketing, fundraising and strategic planning. Before entering the field of non-profit arts, Risë worked for Procter and Gamble in Customer Business Development, gaining valuable experience not only in Sales and Marketing, but also in Human Resource Development.

Recognized as one of the “World’s Best Emerging Social Entrepreneurs” by the Echoing Green Foundation, Risë is a current Echoing Green fellow and prior recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment of the Humanities/College Arts Association, as well as New York University. Risë holds a BA in African-American Studies from Columbia, and an MA in Africana Studies from NYU. She is a current resident of Bed-Stuy.

“I developed The Laundromat Project because I wanted to create a space that would change the way art was experienced in communities of color. I wanted my neighbors to be able to touch it, talk back to it, critique it, own it. At the same time, I did not want to found yet another struggling non-profit barely able to keep its doors open despite doing phenomenal work.”

**Janice Yang**  
**Executive Director**  
**Summer Search NY**

Janice Yang is the Executive Director of Summer Search New York City, a program that inspires resilient, low-income high school students to become altruistic leaders by providing mentoring, access to summer programs, college advising, and a lasting support network. Janice joined the Summer Search staff just as the New York office was opening in 2003, and she recently was named Executive Director in 2006.

Prior to Summer Search, Janice worked at the Arts Education Initiative of the East Bay Community Foundation in Oakland, CA, where she administered grants and provided technical assistance to arts education programs. She also worked in the curatorial department of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum for three years, assisting with the organization of three large-scale international exhibitions.

Janice received her B.A. in Art History from Cornell University and her M.A. in Arts and Humanities Education from The Steinhardt School of Education at New York University.



