

# **Coro Southern California** 2001-02 Class of Coro Fellows

Characterized by a shared commitment to public service, these Fellows have distinct ethnic and socio-economic perspectives, and unique interests. They have lived across the country and around the world, committed themselves to different causes and worked towards the resolution of issues facing our society today. The following is a summary of the experience they bring to Coro.

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**Maria Luisa Camacho**  
**Hometown: Los Angeles, CA**  
**B.A., Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity**  
**Stanford University**

*As an undergraduate student at Stanford University, Ms. Camacho earned a Bachelor's degree in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity with a minor in Urban Studies. She produced a senior paper focused on the violence found on the US-Mexico border. Her interest in immigration and other Latino issues was based on her experience in the Stanford in Washington program, where she interned with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. Ms. Camacho plans to attend law school and pursue a possible career in politics.*

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**Noel Hacegaba**  
**Hometown: Hacienda Heights, CA**  
**M.A., Economics / M.P.I., Planning B.A., Economics / B.S.,**  
**Business Administration**  
**University of Southern California**

*A Phi Beta Kappa graduate from the University of Southern California (USC), Mr. Hacegaba earned Bachelors degrees in Economics and Business (1999) and Masters degrees in Economics and Planning (2001). For his Masters thesis, he researched day laborers across Southern California. At USC Mr. Hacegaba co-authored reports on immigration, education, and race. Mr. Hacegaba has interned at the Los Angeles Educational Alliance for Restructuring Now and Mike Roos & Company, Inc. He serves as associate pastor of his church and is involved in several clubs/organizations across LA County. His goals include entrepreneurship and public service. Noel Hacegaba is also an accomplished musician.*

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**Michael T. Levin**  
**Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc. Coro Fellow**  
**Hometown: Los Angeles, CA**  
**B.A., Political Science**  
**Stanford University**

*Mr. Levin graduated with a degree in Political Science from Stanford University. As a junior, he served as Stanford's student body president, advocating for student interests to the University administration and helping direct student service projects, commissions, and businesses. In his senior year he helped found and organize The Face of America, a student-initiated conference series on diversity between Stanford students, Harvard students, and national leaders. Mr. Levin was actively involved in the 2000 election and was proud to attend the Democratic Convention in his home city of Los Angeles. Mike Levin plans to continue his education and pursue a law degree.*

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**Nnenna Ozobia**  
**Hometown: Las Vegas, NV**  
**B.A., International Relations**  
**Stanford University**

*Nnenna Ozobia graduated from Stanford with Honors in International Relations and a Spanish Minor. She served as both a Program and Media Coordinator for the Black Community Services Center and was a Resident Assistant. As an undergraduate, Ms. Ozobia studied abroad at UDLA in Puebla, Mexico and received a grant to conduct fieldwork on people of African descent in Veracruz. She has interned at the United Nations in Switzerland, the OBD-International Affairs Division of the Las Vegas*



*Government and, more recently, El Mundo Newspaper-LV. Ms. Ozobia plans to pursue a Masters Degree in Public/International Affairs and enter a career within the domestic or international arena.*

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**Salvador Sanchez**  
**Hometown: Los Angeles, CA**  
**M.A., Political Science/Public Policy B.S., Business Administration/Accounting**  
**California State University, Northridge**

*Mr. Sanchez holds a Master's Degree in Political Science and a Bachelor's Degree in Business from California State University, Northridge (CSUN). As an undergraduate, he served on the Student Senate, Model United Nations and was Vice President of the CSUN Accounting Association. He was Secretary of Treasury for the Latino Business Association at Los Angeles City College and continues to serve both the Silverlake Chamber of Commerce and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program of the Internal Revenue Service. Upon completion of the Fellows Program, Salvador Sanchez plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Public Policy. His hobbies include running and reading.*

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**Judy Schwartz**  
**Hometown: Los Angeles, CA**  
**M.A., Education**  
**University of California, Los Angeles**  
**B.A., College of Social Studies**  
**Wesleyan University**

*Judy Schwartz discovered her interest in working with young adults as a tutor at Wesleyan University. After college, she taught ESL, American history, and AP Government at Fairfax High School in Los Angeles. Last fall, Ms. Schwartz and her students fund-raised the majority of their expenses for a week in Washington D.C. on the Close Up program. Her work with students led her to a volunteer position at the Alliance for Children's Rights, where she was inspired to go into juvenile law. Ms. Schwartz is addicted to running and hopes her knees will cooperate with her when she attempts a half-marathon in June.*

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**Dileepan Sivapathasundaram**  
**Pacific Bell Coro Fellow**  
**Hometown: Pasadena, CA**  
**B.A. Development Studies**  
**University of California, Berkeley**

*As an undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley, Dileepan Sivapathasundaram majored in Development Studies with a Public Health focus. Mr. Sivapathasundaram was involved in activities internationally, including linking communities with community-based programs abroad with U.S. partners and spent a year in rural India utilizing healthcare to achieve social justice. More recently he worked as a consultant to public schools and social service agencies providing strategic planning and program evaluation services. Dileepan Sivapathasundaram plans to pursue a dual Master's degree in Public Policy and Social Work in to formalize the skills needed to foster community awareness and participation to promote social change.*

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**Alejandra Refugio Sotelo**  
**Hometown: National City, CA**  
**B.A., Political Science**  
**University of California, San Diego**



*Chicana: a person proud of her heritage, works humbly for the betterment of others, strives to succeed in life and represent the beauty of her culture. Alejandra Refugio Sotelo has worked to blend this definition into who she is. A daughter of Mexican American parents and the oldest of five athletic and goal oriented children, she has worked hard to graduate from UCSD with a degree in Political Science. At home in National City Ms. Sotelo has represented her city as Miss National City, coach's softball, and sits as a current Commissioner. Softball is one of her past times since the age of six and continues to be part of her life.*

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**Maurice R. Turner**  
**Boeing Company Coro Fellow**  
**Hometown: Mission Viejo, CA**  
**B.A., Political Science**  
**California State University, Fullerton**

*While studying at Cal State Fullerton, Maurice Turner served as president of the Political Science and College Republicans student associations. He also competed in forensics and was both the systems and network administrator for a medical product development firm. His summers were spent as an intern for the US Department of Transportation in Washington, DC and the Southern California Regional Rail Authority in Los Angeles, CA, where he gained first-hand experience as a policy analyst. Mr. Turner plans to continue his education in public policy and emerging technologies, eventually leading to life as a politician.*

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**Jih-Fang "Jenny" Yang**  
**Hometown: Torrance, CA**  
**B.A., Political Science**  
**Swarthmore College**

*Jih-Fang "Jenny" Yang moved from Taiwan to Los Angeles, California at the age of five. She has since committed herself to civil rights advocacy and education, and nurturing young leaders. After graduating in Political Science from Swarthmore College, Ms. Yang helped to create and execute an Asian American political leadership-training program for New York City Chinese American high school youth. She then worked for Asian Americans for Equality, and Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP). A 1999 Public Policy and International Affairs Fellow, she believes in the power of good ethnic soul food and loves to write poetry, play volleyball, and sing karaoke.*