

### **Coro Fellows Class of 2009 Graduation Quotes:**

Coro created a microcosm of the way the world works. It threw me with eleven others, in an environment where the opportunity for self-governance gave us the capability to experiment, to take risks, and to understand the meaning of effective leadership, an experience that has given me the tools and the confidence to in turn lead by example.

- Fatima Mohsin

After a seemingly endless series of Caltrain, Muni, and BART rides, and tooling around in my Mini Cooper, I find my longest journey has been the intellectual and personal growth I have experienced in the hands of the other Fellows and Minden.

- Krishna Sampath

The Coro Fellows Program creates a micro society through interactions with the eleven other Fellows in seminar, at the same time that it immerses us into the different aspects of our greater society in placements. By exploring, interacting and experimenting with micro and macro societies, the fellows can draw meaningful lessons about public affairs; equipping them to tackle problems head on.

- Remigio Torres

Coro can be characterized by one word--discovery. Fellows discover new knowledge of the world around them, new ways of relating to others, and new qualities within themselves.

- Hunter Gordon

Our journey together is hard to describe in a few words. From placements to interviews to focus weeks, the formal components of the program have helped me grow immensely. As great as this growth was, nothing was greater than gaining the friendship of twelve people who I have come to know as family.

- Nicholas Martinez

Coro is another way of saying, you're getting dropped in the deep end and you better know how to swim or learn fast. It is all-consuming, beyond intense, and chock full of projects that stretch you, environments that surprise you, and opportunities that will blow you away.

- Eddie Kurtz

Just like the word Coro does not have a meaning, there is no one way to describe the Coro experience. That is because Coro gives you a methodology that forever changes the way you think, challenges the way you act, and encourages you to be bold, and no experience is like the other.

- Yolanda De La Paz

Coro is embracing differences and using strengths to thrive as a team.  
Coro is using a critical lens to see how it can be done differently.  
Coro is self awareness and 12 different perspectives.  
Coro is challenging myself and challenging others.  
Coro is preparation for the unexpected.  
Coro is the unexpected.

- Alyson Megur

Coro is like kindergarten for changemakers: it emphasizes the value of playing nice with others, cultivates our imagination and gives us the tools to color outside the lines. And has the most first days of school ever.

- Jocelyn Corbett

Coro is the hardest jigsaw puzzle I have ever opened. First, you put the similarly-colored pieces of your own leadership style together, then attach them to those of others around you, and fix these groupings onto the current borders of public affairs. Then the program shakes the table, and you start over again.

- Ted Sands

I initially wanted to participate in Coro for exposure to the different sectors but I've gained so much more personally. I've been humbled and empowered by my experiences and my colleagues. I hope to one day show my gratitude by applying what I've learned in a way that honors the investment this organization has made in me.

- Andrea Willis

The value of learning from eleven other unique perspectives and styles proved key in my understanding of how to become an effective and compassionate leader. I will take my interactions and experiences with my fellow Fellows and commit to listening, learning, pushing myself, embracing challenges, and speaking honestly and openly.

- Meredyth Skemp