

# SocSource

BLOCK 7 | MARCH-APRIL 2016

## Special Edition: 2015 Alum Stories

### Lauren Athans

Lauren is currently working as an Academic and Behavioral mentor and as the Social/Emotional Learning Coordinator at a K-7 public school as part of City Year in Boston. Lauren helps students with their coursework, logistically getting to school every day, and supports students who need help processing their emotions and behaviors. Lauren said that “being able to ‘think sociologically’ is an invaluable tool when it comes to working towards ending systemic injustice.” Down the road Lauren plans to pursue a degree in Law, with a focus on public interest and whole client care.



### Rebecca Celli

Rebecca moved back to New York City after graduation and is working in documentary film distribution, as the Film Festival Coordinator and Acquisitions Associate at Cargo Film and Releasing. She works as an intermediary between film festivals, broadcasters, and filmmakers and helps great documentaries get seen by as many people as possible. She is also producing a short film in Haiti through BYkids (which was started by CC graduate Holly Carter) and with PBS. She hopes to continue working in both the production and distribution of documentary films that represent diverse voices.

### Maggie Dillon

Maggie is living and working in Denver as a Support Consultant for Brimstone Consulting Group, a company that specializes in large-scale change management, action learning and leadership development. Maggie plans meetings, makes PowerPoints, helps to run workshops at client companies, and researches social media, marketing and sales to learn how the firm can improve in these areas. Eventually, Maggie hopes to return to her interest in maternal and early childhood health as a neonatal nurse practitioner.



## Mary Edman

After graduation, Mary had an externship with the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) in Colorado Springs working in their Diversity & Inclusion department. She was doing data analysis on a daily basis and her thesis work fell right in line with the USOC's work. In February, she began working for the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) as the Membership Coordinator and will be moving to Phoenix, Arizona in May. Mary plans on pursuing a Masters in Business with an emphasis in sports business. She hopes to one day work in a college athletic department hopefully as an athletic director.



## Tyler Green

Tyler is our second 2015 alum who is also working as a corps member at City Year Boston. He serves 25 students in a third grade classroom to help them improve their attendance, behavior, and coursework. Race, gender and class issues are ever-present at the school Tyler teaches at, and having a sociological approach has helped guide social justice discussions on his school team and with other corps members. Looking ahead, Tyler is considering graduate school in the realm of educational policy, administration, and/or teaching and working within Residential Life.

## Mindy Huang

This year Mindy is a Rainier Valley Corps (RVC) Fellow with the Southeast Seattle Education Coalition (SESEC). She is an Infrastructure and Coalition Building Fellow. SESEC is an education advocacy organization whose mission is to rally communities of color and allies to improve Southeast Seattle schools. The team is always looking at policies and running meetings, events, and dialogues using a racial equity lens. Mindy hopes to become a Program Director at a nonprofit or NGO one day, after getting a Master of Public Administration (ideally through the Peace Corps Master's International program).



## Savannah Johnson



At the moment, Savannah is living in Amman, Jordan, working as a Middle School English Language & Literature Teacher at the Modern American School. She is also working remotely as an Admissions Consultant for the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa. Savannah is taking Arabic classes in the evenings. This summer, she will be working for Walking Tree Travel, and will be leading groups of high school students around the Spanish-speaking world. She intends to pursue both college counseling at the high school level and documentary filmmaking.

## Anna Kay

Anna is the Assistant to Family Programs at The Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. She organizes artist workshops, educational programs, and events for families and kids at the museum. Sociology has been the most important driving factor and passion-point in Anna's post-graduate life thus far. Her work in the arts is especially colored by her focus on the sociology of arts and culture, cultural capital, and increasing access to arts education.



## Rachel Maremont



After graduation, Rachel moved to Brooklyn, New York with two other recent CC grads. She is working at a public defender organization called The Bronx Defenders, which provides holistic criminal and civil legal services as well as social service support to residents of the South Bronx. She is the Assistant to the Director of the organization, and helps the Director with a whole host of tasks including researching, writing, and editing law review articles, book chapters, op-eds, and grants. Law school is on the horizon for Rachel, with an interest in public interest law work.

## Taylor Moore

Taylor is the Food Rescue Manager at Food Rescue of Northwest Michigan in Traverse City, MI. Says Taylor, "Two of the best parts of the job are 1) that I get to interact with a diverse group of people whether in the back of a store, the volunteers and people at the pantries/meal-sites, farmers, and the volunteers on the truck, and 2) I am working with a wonderful team and for a boss who has advanced a progressive mission and is pursuing work through food security and social justice lenses." Taylor is also working on founding a non-profit in the social capital realm.



## Merisa Muharemovic

After graduating with a degree in sociology, Merisa has continued on in a two-year Master's program at the SIT Graduate Institute in International Education in Vermont. She is hoping to do the practicum phase of her Master's in Europe working on educational programming, curriculum development, and education for peace among other things. Her aspirations for the future are to be able to help develop or transform educational systems to better reflect the local needs and dreams of students. Most of all, she "hopes not to mess things up even more in the world. Sociology has shaped how I perceive and un-



## Maeve O'Connor-Bethune

These days Maeve is living in Dublin, Ireland and working at a call center in the city doing customer service. She is a PCI Compliance Associate, but in her own words, “This year isn't really about the job I have though, I'm loving being in Europe and having the ability to travel so affordably.” In addition to exploring Ireland and the UK, Maeve has or will be traveling to Copenhagen, Israel/Palestine, Jordan, Turkey and Amsterdam this year. Ideally, Maeve would love to work with queer youth with a nonprofit. All in all she is having a great year, and is excited to return to Colorado in the fall!



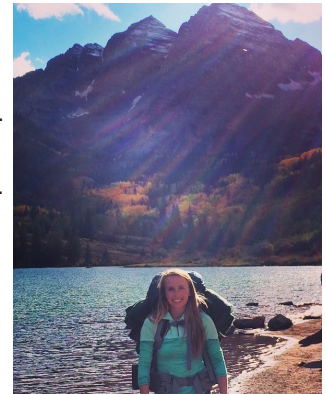
## Tonya Pavlenko



Tonya is living in Brooklyn and working at Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC) and volunteering as an abortion/procedure doula at the Institute for Family Health. As a Research Associate at the CPRC she works on two projects—The New York Longitudinal Survey of Wellbeing and the Fragile Families study. Though Tonya has a huge interest in macro systems, her greatest fulfillment comes from working directly with patients. She plans on pursuing a more clinical route and is also hoping to squeeze in some traveling adventures and time with all of her dear CC friends!

## Jordan Savold

Jordan now lives in Capitol Hill, Denver and is a PIFP fellow at the Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition as the Research and Communications Fellow. Her job entails performing research assignments related to marketing and communications campaigns, immunization programs, policy, and data collection and utilization; managing digital communications, including strategy, social media, website, and monitoring traditional media, and writing and researching for the CCIC “Team Vaccine” blog, grant proposals, and press releases. Jordan would love to pursue social epidemiology and behavioral health.



## Molly Snell

Molly is a clinical research coordinator in the neuroendocrine unit at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Molly works on two studies; recruiting participants, coordinating visits, helping with MRIs, drawing blood, administering questionnaires, entering subject data and the like. Looking ahead, Molly would like to become a nurse practitioner and her ultimate dream is to train health care providers in East Africa on HIV stigma reduction, specifically in HIV positive kids. She says her background in sociology and interest in global health and grassroots movements has helped keep her grounded in a “micro-focused field.”

## Veronica Spann

Veronica is living on an island off the coast of South Korea called Jeju. She works full-time as an English teacher and also works part time as a photographer and writer for a local newspaper called *The Jeju Weekly*. She also volunteer with a local group on the island that helps keep the island's beaches clean. Her ultimate dream for the future is to live in a home she builds herself while raising a flock of sheep, running a small fiber/weaving studio, and supporting herself with a job in the realm of education, outdoor recreation, photography, marketing, or some combination of those options.

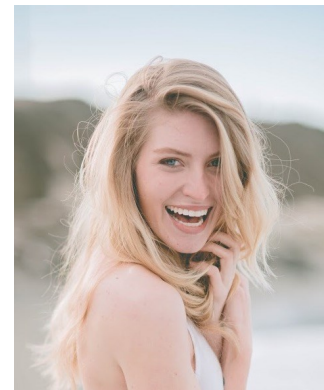


## Brooke Stemple

This summer Brooke worked as a tree trimmer in Pueblo, CO. Now, Brooke works as a line therapist with Alpine Autism Center here in Colorado Springs. The Center serves people ages 4-21 for one-on-one therapy. On any given day, Brooke will see 4 different children. Each child has a set behavior plan and learning programs. Brooke redirects negative behaviors they have and teaches them how to be social and how to communicate. Soon Brooke will also be trained to do in-home therapy where she will see clients in their homes.

## Annie Stimson

After moving to San Francisco in September, Annie has accrued many different jobs. She is a part-time assistant to a local architect, Wendy Kohn; teaches horseback riding to ten students weekly; assists at California Cloth Foundry, a local clothing company; and has begun modeling while getting an inside look at the inner workings of the San Francisco fashion industry. "Whether it is a male photographer dismissing a female model, the sexualization of young models, or the shift from hyper-femininity towards androgyny in women's couture, the fashion industry is laden with gender imbalances and complexities," reflects Annie.

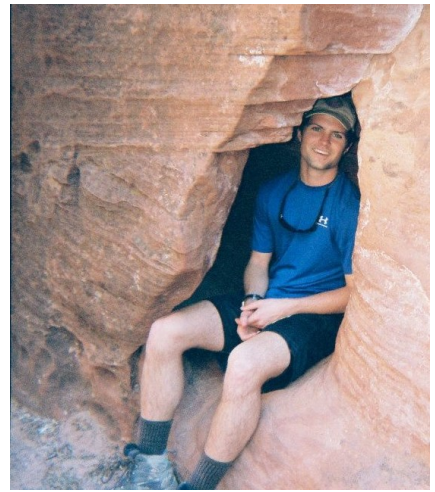


## Beza Taddess

As a PIFP fellow, Beza lives and works in Denver for the Colorado Children's Campaign, a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization that works for Colorado's children in order to guarantee every chance for every child. As the Policy and Communication Coordinator, Beza manages the website, co-chairs the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion efforts of the Campaign, and sits on the Evolution team and the policy team. Beza plans on going to graduate school in the fall of 2017 in Public Affairs and Public Health. She says, "The big dream is to one day run a nonprofit."

## **James Terhune**

James is living in Denver and completing a PIFP with the Denver Scholarship Foundation. He works as a college advisor to high school seniors in Denver Public Schools. This entails counseling and helping students with college choice, financial aid considerations, scholarship applications, FAFSA submissions, and every other aspect of the college and financial aid processes. Eventually, James plans to pursue graduate school in the mental health care field, where he hopes to work to reform and reimagine systems of mental healthcare delivery and to further integrate mental health counseling into primary care settings.



## **Rebecca Willey**

Rebecca now lives and works in Taipei, Taiwan, teaching English with Hess International Education Group. She teaches children ages 3-15, grouped by age and English speaking ability. Reflecting on the year, Rebecca says, “Sociology is not directly a part of my life at the moment, but I continue to think about everything sociologically. Once you study sociology you start seeing everything through that lens.” Rebecca would like to pursue a career in sociological research a few years down the road.