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Jason Wright, Chairman Emeritus, Partner, Apax Partners

Save the Date!

Please join us at our 2019 Night of Opportunity Gala, Monday, April 8th
Cipriani Wall Street, New York City
To reserve a table/tickets or make a donation, please visit www.opportunitynetwork.org/gala
The Opportunity Network (OppNet) works with students from historically and systematically underrepresented communities in developing their skills, knowledge, and passions to achieve their college and career goals. We honor the identities and embrace the power of each member of our community.

While nationally less than 10% of students from low-income and underrepresented communities will graduate college, and even fewer will be prepared for careers, 92% of students in our six-year OppNet Fellows program graduate college within six years, and 90% secure meaningful employment or graduate school admission within six months of college graduation. Our results are anchored in our best-in-class Career Fluency® curriculum, designed to maximize college and career success for students through an emphasis on personal and professional networks, and the importance of social capital in navigating the college landscape and professional world.

### About The Opportunity Network

**Career Awareness and Exposure:**
Students set college-to-career goals, learn how companies work, and gain knowledge of an array of professional paths and the academic/professional training required for those careers.

**Professional and Workplace Skills:**
Students learn and apply fundamental skills and concepts to navigate professional settings successfully, including interviewing best practices, active listening, and diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

**Networks and Social Capital:**
Students engage in intensive, cutting-edge training to hone the skills and knowledge needed to leverage, activate, and build strong networks and social capital to achieve their college and career goals.

**College Access, Transition, and Success:**
Students participate in a robust set of activities and experiential workshops to ensure they are prepared to matriculate at a “best-fit” college, thrive once on campus, and graduate ready to launch their professional next step.

Since 2003, the OppNet Fellows program has been committed to equipping high school and college students with the skills and experiences to achieve their college and career goals. The Fellows program began serving only 10 students recruited from one public high school in NYC, to now supporting 870 in our 2018-19 program year; recruited from over 200 schools and organizations across the city’s five boroughs.

**Fellows Program Applications**
Demand for OppNet’s Fellows program continues to soar with over 500 applications for only 160 spots in our newest class of 11th graders. We remain committed to growing our Fellows program year after year to meet this demand.

**Fellows Program Growth**
- 2003: 10 students served
- 2013: 300 students served
- 2019: 870 students served

**Results**
- **92%** will be the first in their families to graduate from college
- **99%** are accepted at “best-fit,” four-year colleges, and more than half ultimately attend schools they discovered through OppNet
- **90%** secure meaningful employment or graduate school admission within six months of college graduation

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Fellows learning about careers in tech, marketing, and business development, and getting advice on their most business plans during a visit to Salesforce’s NYC office.

OppNet Fellows facing their interview skills during a Mock Interview Workshop hosted by Capital One.

OppNet President and COO AiLun Ku moderating a discussion with film and television producer Tonya Lewis Lee, who shared her background and effective business and leadership skills with OppNet Fellows at a C-suite Speaker Series event.

OppNet’s Class of 2022, who just began their freshman year of college, join OppNet Fellows at 120+ campuses across the country, including: Brandeis University Carnegie Mellon University Columbia University Cornell University CUNY (multiple campuses) Dartmouth College Franklin & Marshall College George Washington University Howard University Lafayette College Lehigh University Middlebury College New York University Princeton University Skidmore College Swarthmore College Syracuse University SUNY (multiple campuses) University of Rochester University of Wisconsin-Madison Vassar College Williams College Yale University

Over $4.9M has been awarded to the Class of 2022 in scholarships and grants and 94% of the Class’s demonstrated financial need has been met.

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Key to our unparalleled results in our Fellows program is five summers of paid internships or enrichment programs for each student. Through these experiences, students are able to hone in-demand skills, build competitive resumes in line with their professional passions and goals, and develop an early network of professionals across a wide range of industries and fields. OppNet develops and maintains dynamic partnerships with 200 companies and organizations, working closely with each to ensure our Fellows are able to engage in a rewarding and meaningful experience each summer. We:

- Connect students to and prepare them for opportunities that align with their goals;
- Conduct in-depth research, cover letter, and interview preparation sessions with students;
- Coach students on how to best navigate various professional settings and professional expectations;
- Train and support internship employers and enrichment organizations on practices and approaches to support student success and growth; and
- Continuously evaluate and reflect on ways to deepen the value of summer experiences for both Fellows and summer host sites.

### 2018 Summer Internship and Enrichment Partners

The Opportunity Network is grateful to our 2018 internship and enrichment partners, listed below:

- 97% of internship supervisors would re-hire their OppNet intern

- **Interning at Deloitte gave me many unique experiences: traveling to Deloitte University in Texas, presenting to all my colleagues, and the opportunity to meet new professionals every day. Heading into my sophomore year at Skidmore, I am excited to apply this knowledge and skills I learned while at Deloitte to the classroom and clubs on campus.**

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**Michael, OppNet Class of 2021, at his internship with Deloitte this summer as it concludes next week.**
To date, we have worked with over 50 partners—schools and youth-serving organizations—across the country. In response to a groundswell of inquiries and requests from youth-serving organizations and public schools on how to drive college and career outcomes for their students, OppNet launched Career Fluency® Partnerships.

We train Partners’ teachers, counselors, and staff on how to best integrate our Career Fluency® curriculum and maximize their institutional capacity to support their students in charting paths toward college and career success. In 2017-18 alone, we provided over 440 hours of programming and support to Partner schools and organizations.

Career Fluency® Partnerships Reach

In 2017-18, OppNet worked with 15 Partners in 14 cities across the country, including:

- East Palo Alto, CA
- Los Angeles, CA
- Oakland, CA
- San Francisco, CA
- Sacramento, CA
- Boulder, CO
- Denver, CO
- New Orleans, LA
- Providence, RI
- Boston, MA
- Stafford, TX
- New York, NY
- Milwaukee, WI
- Newark, NJ
- Stafford, TX

This year was full of ardent work anchored in our evidence-based Career Fluency® curriculum and tailored to the goals and needs of each Career Fluency® Partner, who include:

- Boston Prep Charter School
- College Crusade
- College Track
- LatinoU College Access
- Henry Street Settlement
- "I Have a Dream" Foundation
- Minds Matter
- NYC Department of Education
- And more!

"Career Fluency® has helped our organization think strategically about the mindsets and skills that our students need to succeed in college and beyond, how we measure our impact, and hold ourselves accountable to outcomes." — Justine Rosenthal, National "I Have A Dream" Foundation

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More than 900 guests attended this year’s Night of Opportunity Gala at Cipriani Wall Street on April 9, 2018, to celebrate OppNet’s history of continued student impact over the last 15 years. The evening celebrated the outstanding contributions of OppNet students and the distinguished leadership of each 2018 Night of Opportunity honoree and co-chair:

Co-chairs
- Alba and Thomas Tall
- Rachel Weiss and Daniel Craig

Honorees
- Michelle Ebanks, President of Essence Communications Inc.
- Van Jones, Host of “The Van Jones Show,” CNN
- Gabrielle Union, Actress and Author

Alba and Thomas Tull
- Rachel Weiss and Daniel Craig

The event raised over $2.2 million to further OppNet’s work in driving access and opportunity for students. OppNet is deeply honored by the level of support and generosity shown by our partners to make the evening such a groundbreaking success, and the steadfast leadership and efforts of our Board of Directors, Associate Board of Directors (see Page 1), and the 2018 Night of Opportunity Committee:

- Brandon Levin, Head of Trading & Syndicate, JANA Partners LLC
- Michael Psaros, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, KPS Capital Partners, LP
- Rowan G.P. Taylor, Partner, Liberty Hall Capital Partners
- Oliver Wiener, Managing Director, BTIG LLC

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The Opportunity Network extends its deepest gratitude to our partners, without whom our work to ensure that all young people can access opportunity would not be possible. We are proud to recognize the following individuals,

- Board of Directors member
- Associate Board of Directors member
- 2018 Night of Opportunity Committee member

**The Arani Family**
**A+E Networks**
**Robert F. Smith/Vista Equity Partners**
**Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP**
**RBC Capital Markets**
**Anna Kovner and Seth Meisel**
**Kirkland & Ellis LLP**
**The Keith Haring Foundation**
**George Hall**
**EON Productions, Ltd**
**Capital One Foundation**
**$50,000-$99,999**
**Amanda and Jason Wright**
**The Jeffrey H. and Shari L. Arison Family Foundation**
**Capital One Foundation**
**EON Productions, Ltd**
**George Hall**
*Network of Partners*
How To Get Involved

Host An Intern

Every summer for five years, OppNet Fellows participate in summer internships or enrichment programs across the city, country, and the globe. From Fortune 500 companies to startups and coding boot camps to arts organizations, Fellows spend their summers building the skills, awareness of and exposure to varied careers, and networks to set them up for success after college.

Does your employer offer internship positions to high school or college students?
Please contact Keith Byam, Program Manager, at keith@oppnet.org

Support OppNet

Each year, OppNet receives 500+ applications for just 160 spots in our incoming class of 11th graders. We have grown our Fellows program year after year to meet this need, and yet we know there are thousands more students who are hungry for the effective college and career supports OppNet provides.

There are a variety of ways partners can invest in OppNet’s work—holding a workplace giving campaign, providing a scholarship to a student participating in an unpaid summer internship, or supporting OppNet’s Annual Night of Opportunity Gala, to name a few.

Are you interested in exploring opportunities to impact OppNet’s work and students?
Please contact Kierstyn Thayer, Chief Development Officer, at kierstyn@oppnet.org

Volunteer

The engagement of professionals from all industries and backgrounds is critical to OppNet’s efforts to expose our Fellows to new career paths, connect them with mentors and opportunities, and help them build their professional networks. Over the course of six years in our program, Fellows will meet 500+ professionals through volunteer events and summer internships.

OppNet hosts volunteer events throughout the year for individual volunteers as well as employers seeking opportunities for their teams.

Volunteers and 11th grade OppNet Fellows at Speed Networking, one of OppNet’s signature volunteer events.

Each spring, OppNet brings in professionals from a range of industries for our Career Exposure Roundtables series. Here, a professional who works in public service shares his background and career path with Fellows.

Would you like to learn more or participate in an upcoming volunteer event?
Please contact volunteers@oppnet.org

Contact Us

The Opportunity Network
85 Broad Street, 6th Floor | New York, NY 10004
www.opportunitynetwork.org | 646-237-4090 | info@oppnet.org

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