



*Bryce Harlow Foundation*  
**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**



# By the Numbers

**1985**

*Year of the first Fellowship*

**4**

*Fellows in 1985*

**28**

*Fellows in 2022*

**412**

*Total Individual Fellows*

**\$522,000**

*Net Amount Raised Through  
2023 Awards Celebration*



Dear Friends and Partners,

It is my honor to present this report on the Bryce Harlow Foundation 2023 activities. The Foundation continued its forty-two-year history of promoting ethics and integrity in government advocacy, thanks to your generous and steadfast support. With your help, our Fellowship program once again supported the education of rising stars in government advocacy.

Other highlights include:

- Provided fellowships to 28 talented graduate students working in the field of lobbying, communications and other forms of government advocacy;
- Delivered excellent speakers to seminars and workshops in the Washington, D.C. area both in-person and virtual. Through these presentations, the Foundation educated a wide range of audiences about the value and impact of effective government advocacy;
- Held a successful, in-person dinner, a record-breaking night honoring Congresswoman Debbie Dingell and Jay Timmons, congratulating the 2022-23 class of Fellows and thanking our many supporters; and
- Continued to execute on important initiatives to keep the Foundation board, sponsors, and fellowship alumni engaged and connected. Led by our President, Barbara Faculjak, these initiatives include issuing a quarterly newsletter, hosting educational and networking events for Fellows and alumni, and guiding the Fellowship alumni advisory board in its outreach and engagement activities.

Over the years, the Bryce Harlow Foundation has supported the education and professional growth of more than 400 young professionals with financial assistance for graduate school tuition, valuable mentorships with board members, and seminars on issues impacting policy. Bryce Harlow Fellows have gone on to distinguish themselves as respected government advocates, trade association leaders, corporate executives, Congressional staff, and executive branch officials.

All of this is possible because of your generous support and engagement. Through your contributions, we proudly continue to fulfill the goal and legacy of Bryce Harlow: creating sound public policy through the ethical practice of lobbying.

Thank you for your partnership. We hope to see you again in the coming year!

Sincerely

Elizabeth Reicherts  
Chair

P.S. Please follow us on Twitter @BryceHarlow or subscribe to our blog: <https://bryceharlow.org/news/>

# Bryce Harlow Fellowship

## 2023-2024

The Bryce Harlow Foundation announced its 2023-24 class of Bryce Harlow Fellows in August. The prestigious fellowship is the heart and soul of the foundation. It is awarded to exceptional graduate students with career goals in government relations and lobbying and who demonstrate high academic achievement and leadership skills.

Board member Stephanie Tomasso led the selection of 28 fellows from an extraordinary group of applicants, and the current class represents:

**SEVEN UNIVERSITIES** - George Mason University, the George Washington University, Georgetown University, Johns Hopkins University, Loyola University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Southern California.

**FIVE DIFFERENT DEGREE TYPES** - Including 2 MBA students, 3 studying law,

13 pursuing Master's degrees in public policy or public administration, and 10 studying communications, government, or other specialties.

**A DIVERSE GROUP** - Including 12 men and 16 women; with 1 working on the Hill or in the Administration, 7 in corporate offices, 8 at a trade association, 6 in a non-profit, and 6 in a law or lobbying firm.

The Foundation considers its Bryce Harlow Fellows to be the future of professional advocacy - those who are committed to practicing the art of lobbying with the highest level of integrity. In addition to the \$9,000 award, fellows participate in a mentorship program where each fellow is matched with a senior lobbyist from the ranks of past or current members of the Bryce Harlow Board of Governors.





# Bayce Harbor Fellows 2023-2024

## **MIKA ALVAREZ**

*Legislative Correspondent,  
Senator Jacky Rosen (D-NV)*

## **DAVID ARTUSHIN**

*Advocacy Campaign Manager,  
Charleston Hope*

## **MARK BORGES**

*Senior Account Executive,  
Lucas Public Affairs*

## **NICK BRESLIN**

*Manager, Regulatory Affairs,  
National Association of  
Chemical Distributors (NACD)*

## **EMMA CRAIG**

*Legislative Analyst,  
National Apartment Association*

## **FERDOUS DEHQAN**

*Legislative Director,  
The Afghanistan-U.S.  
Democratic Peace and  
Prosperity Council (DPPC)*

## **ENGOMA FATAKI**

*Legal Coordinator,  
Erikson Immigration Group (EIG)*

## **NORMA FUENTES**

*Senior Associate, Stricklin  
and Associates*

## **SEAN GORDON**

*Associate Policy Advisor,  
BlueGreen Alliance*

## **WARDAH KASHAR**

*Executive & Legislative Assistant,  
Williams & Jenson LLP*

## **ELBORZ MAZANDERAN**

*Government Affairs Analyst,  
HPM CONUS Specialist, Epirus*

## **ALEXANDRA MELILLO**

*Senior Associate,  
The Asia Group*

## **OMAIR MIRZA**

*Vice President,  
Federal Government Relations,  
JP Morgan Chase*

## **KATHERINE PALM**

*Senior Program Analyst, Injury  
& Violence Prevention, National  
Association of County and City  
Health Officials (NACCHO)*

## **BRENT PALMER**

*Director, Public Policy,  
National Association of Chain  
Drug Stores*

## **NAMRATA PUJARA**

*Legislative Assistant,  
American Academy of  
Pediatrics*

## **SARAH SAPIRSTEIN**

*Executive Vice President,  
Ens Resources Inc*

## **NOMI SMALL**

*Network & Events Coordinator,  
Food Research & Action Center*

## **KATHERINE SPEECE**

*Public Affairs Advisor,  
Holland & Knight LLP*

## **RACHEL SPIVEY**

*Senior Legislative Assistant,  
Michael Best Strategies*

## **MORGAN STAHR**

*Co-founder and Co-Executive  
Director, Blue Future, YPAC  
(Youth Progressive Action  
Catalyst)*

## **RACHEL STEVENSON**

*National Advocacy  
Communications Manager,  
American Heart Association*

## **IVAN THIRION**

*Program Specialist, U.S. Foreign  
Policy, Open Society Foundations*

## **COLLEEN VIVALDI**

*Manager, Federal Affairs,  
Johnson & Johnson*

## **ALEXANDER WALKER-GRIFFIN**

*Senior Policy Specialist,  
Arnold & Porter LLP and  
Mayor, City of Hercules, CA*

## **ANNE WEBB**

*Associate Vice President  
of Government Relations,  
Nationwide Mutual Insurance  
Company*

## **MADELINE WEIL**

*Government Affairs Analyst,  
MGMA*

## **PATRICK WOHL**

*Senior Political Representative,  
National Association of Realtors  
(NAR)*

# The Bryce Harlow Mentorship

Each year the Bryce Harlow Fellows are paired with mentors to help them throughout their fellowship. "The mentorship is one of the most meaningful parts of the fellowship program," Fellowship Selection Committee chair Stephanie Tomasso said. "Fellows select their own mentors, usually from among our past and present board members. They benefit from the personal guidance, practical advice, and networking to help them manage their careers." The experience is powerful and impactful for Fellows and mentors alike.

Fellows benefit from the personal guidance, practical advice, and networking to help them manage their careers.



# Bryce Harlow Board of Governors

## 2023

The Bryce Harlow Foundation Board of Governors is comprised of the nation's top experts in government relations and advocacy. Board members represent the leading corporations, law firms, associations, and advocacy groups in the Washington, DC area.

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# 2023 Annual Awards Dinner

The Bryce Harlow Foundation held its 42nd annual awards dinner, bringing together the nation's top advocacy professionals to honor Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (D-MI) and Jay Timmons, National Association of Manufacturers, congratulate the 2022-23 class of Fellows and thank our dedicated and

generous supporters. Congresswoman Debbie Dingell was honored for her distinguished career and significant contributions to the advancement of business-government relations. In her acceptance speech, Dingell had advice for everyone in government: continue to work together. "I always want to be prepared, and lobbyists give me the critical information



*"I always want to be prepared, and lobbyists give me the critical information I need."* DEBBIE DINGELL

I need. We need the facts you provide, and everyone in this room should be proud of their work," Dingell said. The Congresswoman was introduced by her friend and colleague, Ziad Ojakli of Boeing, who talked about Dingell's ability to bring people together. "Debbie is a convener— she brings people together, and is a mentor to many," Ojakli said. "She also never puts party over progress. As former President Reagan said about the late Bryce Harlow, Debbie, too, channels the force of public policy toward the public good. I cannot think of anyone more deserving to receive this award."



*"Bring your authentic self to the table. Have confidence in your own inner voice, judgement and vision."* JAY TIMMONS

Jay Timmons, President and CEO of the National Association of Manufacturers, was honored for his significant contributions to government advocacy. In his remarks, Timmons thanked the Foundation: "The Bryce Harlow Foundation is critical to developing the next generation of ethical public advocates who are



# Fellowship Alumni Advisory Group

As part of implementing the strategic plan for the foundation, Barbara Faculjak continued to lead the fellowship alumni advisory board, consisting of 15-18 alumni of the Bryce Harlow Foundation fellowship. The objectives of the advisory board are to better engage and connect the more than 400 fellows who have received the Bryce Harlow Foundation fellowship since its inception. The advisory board's main accomplishments to date include hosting bi-annual peer networking events, strengthening university outreach to increase fellowship

applications, and starting a "mid-career" mentorship program to support current fellows. Advisory board members include:

- SCOTT ASTRADA – Affirm, Inc
- JESSE BARBA – Chegg
- WILL BROWN – U.S. Travel Association
- ANDREW EMERSON – Holland & Knight LLP
- BRANDON FARRIS – National Association of Manufacturers
- CHRISTIAN FICARA – Cresco Labs
- DARIEN FLOWERS – Squire Patton Boggs
- JOE FRANCO – The Washington Campus
- ELLIOT FRIEDMAN – American Federation of Government Employees
- ALEXANDRIA ICENHOWER – Vizient
- MARY KATHRYN MANLY KACHEL – Blank Rome Government Relations LLP
- ELYSSA HESKY MALIN – U.S. Federal Government (Serving in a personal capacity)
- SARAH SOBECKI MCDONALD – The Home Depot
- ERIC MORRISSETTE – U.S. Department of Commerce
- MARISSA SERAFINO – Holland & Knight LLP
- CHRIS TREANOR – Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
- MEREDITH WHITE – Zillow



dedicated to improving the lives of all Americans," Timmons said. He also directed his comments toward the Fellows. "Bring your authentic self to the table. Have confidence in your own inner voice, judgement and vision," Timmons said. "Think about why you've chosen this career path. Our job as advocacy leaders is to bolster our institutions during this time of uncertainty. True Democracy is always superior, both practically and morally. We have a special obligation to defend it!" Mr. Timmons was introduced by his friend, colleague and National Association of Manufacturers board chair Jim Fitterling, CEO of Dow.

We were pleased to honor both Congresswoman Dingell and Jay Timmons for their proven dedication to advocacy and business-government relations.



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