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# SNLP NEWS & UPDATES

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## \*NASH NEWSFLASH\*

### SAVE THE DATE!

June 1<sup>st</sup> is a **GARDEN PARTY** for SNLP featuring the amazing Tony Award winning playwright and performer, **Sarah Jones!** Event will be held on a gorgeous roof top...**garden!** Call 718-422-8664 for information.

### Quality, not Quantity, but Since

**You Ask:** This year's Summer Institute staff recruitment yielded amazing applicants from Oregon to Iowa to NYC! We received 125 Dean applications from college juniors and seniors; and, an unprecedented 158 applications for Faculty -- yikes!

### Fresh Face

The newest addition to the SNLP office is intern Lucia Mattox from Barnard College. Lucia has been working on Newark recruitment, Leader research, and a "resource page" for our website.

### Nouveau Money

Many thanks to **three new funders** to SNLP: Riverside Church Sharing Fund, Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation and Geraldine Dodge Foundation. In these times, new donors are hard to come by – so extra thanks!

### Double Time!

In March, Ishita Chaudhry and Ishita Sharma, who run **YP Foundation in New Delhi, India** came to visit SNLP to learn more about our leadership work with young women and then hosted a Leadership Seminar with Nashers. They work with over 350 youth annually who run the YP and work on 15 different social justice projects around the city. Many thanks to International Women's Health Coalition (**IWHC**) for setting this up!

### Retreat! Re-think! Relax!

From May 27 - May 29, SNLP staff will visit the **Omega Institute** in Rhinebeck NY for a "Service Week" retreat which we were awarded this winter. Staff will use this time to analyze and discuss new program initiatives for SNLP – with a little tai chi and hot stone massage thrown in for good measure... Thank you Omega!

## PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

### Community Action Placement (CAP)

The Community Action Placement (CAP) internship is a service-learning program which provides critical hands-on work experience and skill building. SNLP pays each young woman for her hours worked and also provides intensive support in monthly meetings geared towards career development. This year we have 18 Nashers participating in CAP at 17 different sites. CAP meetings this year have focused on a range of topics including a college panel and stress reduction. Each meeting also includes an educational workshop related to the internship work of Nashers. We have covered resume writing, interview skills, and effective communication. We have also incorporated outside presenters to provide Nashers with information on how to make change in their daily lives. In January we brought in Kristen Domingue, to lead a workshop on healthy eating, energy, and nutrition and how that effects studying. This meeting was one week before the Regents exams and provided Nashers with concrete information on how to take care of themselves before and after the test. In February the Nashers attended a yoga class where the instructor focused on movements for beginners and stretches that could be done at home. This new direction for CAP meetings pushes us to think about work skills in new ways and how we take care of ourselves outside of work. Here's what one young woman says of her CAP:

*Working with adults that are passionate about their jobs and helping make a difference strengthens your leadership and gives you a sense of purpose because you are helping real people.*

### VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO THE ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE THAT HAVE INCORPORATED SNLP WOMEN INTO THEIR AMAZING WORK:

Brooklyn Young Mother's Collective \* Casa Atabex Ache \* Cobble Hill Nursing Facility \* Community Health Action of Staten Island \* Day One \* Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM) \* Dwa Fanm \* Equality Now \* Make the Road New York \* PeaceKeeper Cause-metics \* Pentacle\* Stephanie Diamond \* The Sikh Coalition \* The White House Project \* Young People For \* Young Women of Color HIV/AIDS Coalition \* Youth at Risk\*



Nashers with Ishita and Ishita after hearing about their leadership at the YP Foundation.

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: WE NEED DONATED SUMMER HOUSING!**

There's a new and deeply needed way you can support SNLP: We are currently looking for donated HOUSING for our Summer Institute Deans - extraordinary college age women from around the country who help run the summer program. Please contact us if you or someone you know might be able to donate housing (a bedroom in an apartment, a house sitting position, an empty garden apartment etc.) for the summer. Thank you!

## Staff Changes

The Board and staff of Sadie Nash would like to thank **Aisha Domingue**, Co-Director of Programs, for her amazing work and dedication over the past 4 ½ years. Aisha is leaving SNLP to pursue other interests and to spend time with her son Lamine, born in January. Aisha will be missed, but we know that no one truly leaves the SNLP community!

We would also like to announce the promotions and title changes of **Shreya Janssens-Sannon** who will now serve at Program Director, heading up overall direction for SNLP programs. **LeeAnn Fletcher** has been promoted to Senior Program Manager and will oversee the Summer Institute and CAP internship program. We are also delighted to welcome **Promiti Islam**, a Dean from 2008, as Program Assistant.

## All Aboard!

We would like to welcome new Board Members to the SNLP Board of Directors: Suzanne Miles, Pooja Joshi, and Abby Young Moses. Leanne Sajor a former “student” member (who rotate off more frequently but are still full voting members) was appointed as permanent Board member for a regular 3-year term. And two new student Board members joined this winter: Cassie Moy, a junior at Stuyvesant High school and Judith Rosena, a junior at Hunter College.

## Update on the “ELLAs!”

The seven **2008-2009 ELLA Fellows** have been hard at work, conducting research and doing outreach in their respective communities to complete their projects. We anticipate over 80 individuals being impacted by the Fellows’ work by project completion in May. Projects covered by the ELLA Fellowships are highly diverse and include topics such as the roots of the Sino-Tibetan conflict, gun violence, reproductive rights, and Asian American activism.

In March, another Fellow, Tanza Jones hosted over 50 attendees at the Schomburg Center for Black Culture in a symposium and dinner entitled, “African Women Speak,” in which women from Africa and the African Diaspora shared stories of change, often silenced, yet here offered communally among their peers, and framed against history.



ELLA Fellow Tanza Jones, (left) with guests at “African Women Speak”

## WHAT WE’VE BEEN UP TO

### Sadie Nash Walk-a-thon!

Each year, the **Citi Global Wealth Management (GWM) Women’s Council** chooses one organization dedicated to the education and development of women leaders which they then sponsor and promote. This year, they selected Sadie Nash! The group creates opportunities for women to develop the skills and relationships necessary to reach the next level of their careers and lives.

To help raise funds for SNLP, the GWM Women’s Council sponsored **an afternoon Walk-a-Thon on May 7<sup>th</sup>** – 3 miles down West Side Highway! Braving a heavy downpour of rain, an impressive amount of participants walked, raising over \$20,000! We would like to thank all the women who tirelessly contributed their efforts to make the Walk-a-thon successful.

### Financial Literacy and Mentoring Programs

The Citigroup Women’s Council also partnered with SNLP to offer two exciting classes through Nash U. The **Mentoring Program** for 21 alumnae and Nashers in the CAP program, paired our participants with women from Citigroup to meet weekly to receive professional, academic, or personal guidance. This is the first time we have tried a formal mentor program and so far it’s been a big success and one we may emulate down the road. It’s also been the first time we have been able to offer programming to alumnae no longer living or working in New York City.

The other program was an eight week series on **Financial Literacy and Professional Skills**. This course, attended by 14 participants, covered topics which included budgeting, presenting yourself professionally, translating your passion into a career, and interviewing skills. The course concluded at a career and professional development fair held by the Women’s Council on April 28.

### What’s New with NASH U?

Nash U Spring ‘09 is focused heavily on partnerships with schools and community based agencies. We are currently offering 10 classes including 3 in school based settings: *Global Herstory* at Satellite Academy, *Quilombo de Mujeres* (A Spanish Language Leadership Class) at Pan American International High School, and *Visual Agitation* (a printmaking and social justice course) and *How to Deal* (a support group to develop coping skills), both at the Renaissance Charter School.

We are also offering *Say it Loud*, a creative writing course at Graham-Windham, a foster care agency in downtown Brooklyn; *Mothers Make Media*, a filmmaking class with pregnant or parenting young women at Inwood House; and an *SAT Prep* course for youth from the Urban Assembly School for Law and Social Justice, in Brooklyn.

Lastly, this is the first semester we are offering a Nash U class in Newark. Taught by a 2008 Newark Dean, this class focuses on personal goal setting and academic and professional development.