



# ALUMNI OUTCOMES

*The First Decade (2010-2020)*

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**LAUNCHING A NEW  
GENERATION OF LEADERS**



Global Citizen Year uses the power of a deep, global immersion to unlock curiosity, conviction, and courage in our next generation leaders.

## ABOUT GLOBAL CITIZEN YEAR

Each year, we recruit and select a cohort of exceptional high school graduates to join us as Fellows. We invest in promising young people who reflect our society's diversity, and use the formative transition before college to ignite a lifetime of purposeful leadership.

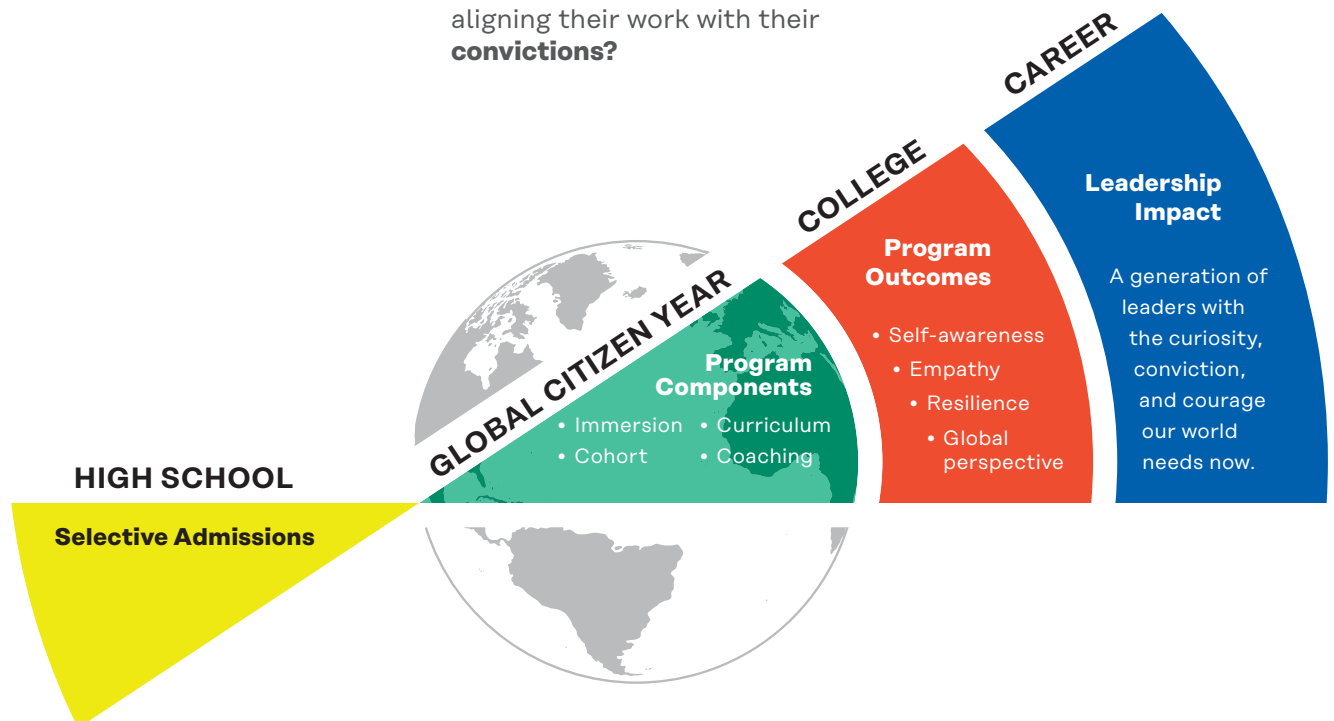
For the equivalent of an academic year, Global Citizen Year Fellows live with a family in a community in **Africa, Latin America, or Asia** and apprentice to local efforts advancing education, health, and sustainability. Our learning model wraps coaching and curriculum around real-world experience – preparing young people in ways that classroom learning alone cannot. By staying longer and going deeper, our Fellows develop insights and skills that shape their character, guide their higher education, and equip them to find shared solutions that advance the greater good.

Ultimately, by working with colleges, companies, and community partners, **we're forging a new educational pathway to launch the leaders our world needs now.**

## ALUMNI OUTCOMES

To understand how our alumni are progressing as they move through higher education and into careers, we track the following outcomes:

- » **MAXIMIZING COLLEGE:** Do alumni have the **agency** to make the most of college?
- » **APPLYING CROSS-CULTURAL SKILLS:** Are alumni using **curiosity** and **empathy** to bridge differences?
- » **BECOMING ENGAGED CITIZENS:** Do alumni demonstrate **courage** in standing up for their beliefs?
- » **LEADING WITH PURPOSE:** Are alumni aligning their work with their **convictions**?





This report summarizes the findings from our 2019 Alumni Survey.<sup>1</sup>

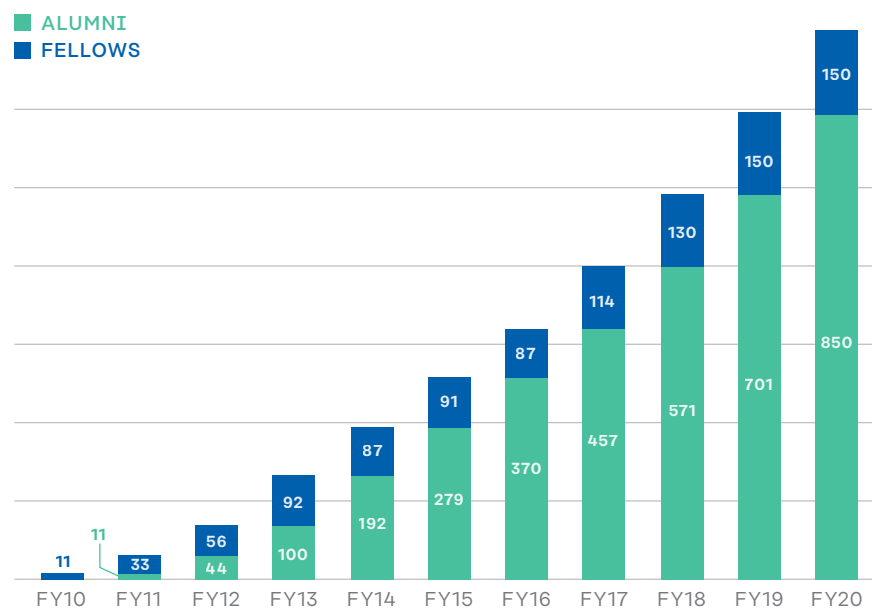
## A DIVERSE AND GROWING ALUMNI NETWORK

In 2010 we launched with a class of 11 pioneering Fellows. Today we have grown tenfold with **150 Fellows** in the Class of 2020 and nearly **1,000 alumni** thriving in college and early careers.

To date:

- » **51%** of Global Citizen Year alumni are from **low income** backgrounds<sup>2</sup> compared to ~9% of gap year participants nationally.<sup>3</sup>
- » **46%** are **students of color** compared to ~16% of gap year participants nationally.<sup>4</sup>

### Global Citizen Year's Growth



### Alumni Testimonials

- » **96%** report that – years later – they continue to use something that they learned from their Global Citizen Year at least once a month (and 42% do so daily)!
- » **94%** have recommended Global Citizen Year to a friend.

IN OUR FIRST DECADE, WE HAVE TRANSFORMED THE LIVES OF

1000

EMERGING LEADERS FROM



46 States



66 Countries



Andres Medina, India 2017



“My Global Citizen Year not only prepared me for college, but **instilled in me the curiosity and perspective that I know will prepare me for the rest of my life.**”

### Amari Leigh

Brazil 2017  
Hamilton College 2021

## MAXIMIZING COLLEGE

Alumni have the insights and agency to make the most of college.

### Self-confidence and Agency...

Percent of our alumni who *agree* or *strongly agree* that their Global Citizen Year...

- » Increased their self-confidence: **90%**
- » Made them more comfortable with ambiguity or uncertainty: **85%**
- » Helped them develop the agency to make the most of college: **78%** (83% of alumni from low income backgrounds endorsed this statement.<sup>6</sup>)

**91%** | report that their Global Citizen Year has been instrumental in shaping their college experience.

### Help Alumni Thrive in College.

#### College Enrollment



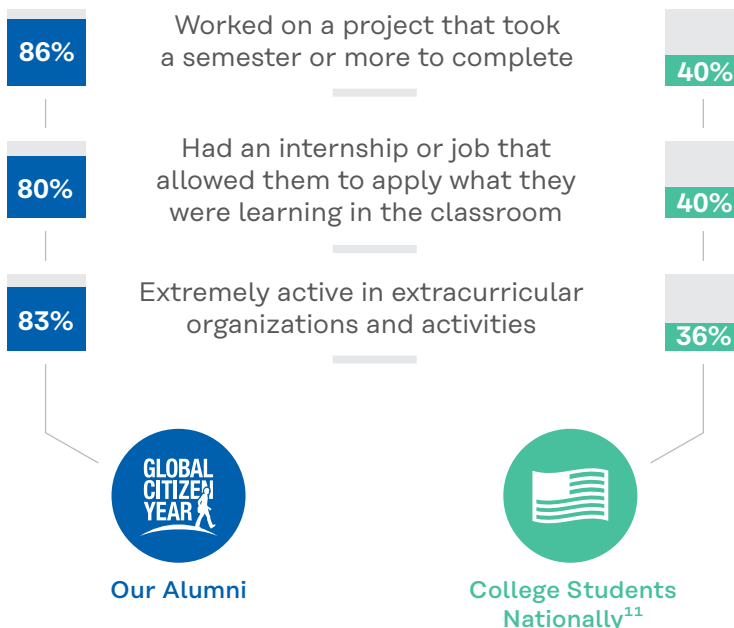
- » **92%** of alumni are currently enrolled in or have completed undergraduate studies.
- » Nearly half (47%) either placed out of a college course or received college credit for their Global Citizen Year.

#### Time to Graduation<sup>7</sup>



- » **88%** graduated in 4 years or less, compared to 41% nationally.<sup>8</sup>
- » **99%** graduated in 5 years or less, compared to 56% nationally.<sup>9</sup>

How you go to college ultimately matters more than where you go. Research has shown that the following experiences in college are strong predictors of future success:<sup>10</sup>



### Top College Destinations of Alumni



STANFORD



WELLESLEY COLLEGE



## APPLYING CROSS-CULTURAL SKILLS

Alumni use curiosity and empathy to work effectively across lines of difference.

### Lived Global Experience...

- » **91%** of Fellows placed in Brazil, Ecuador or Senegal return proficient in a second language.



**Nearly 2/3** of all alumni still keep in touch with their Global Citizen Year host families (even years later)!

### Strengthens Empathy and Understanding.

Percent of alumni who see the following as a personal strength:

- » Ability to see the world from someone else's perspective: **97%**
- » Ability to work cooperatively with diverse people: **97%**
- » Tolerance for others with different beliefs: **97%**



"My time in Ecuador gave me a glimpse of how, as humans, our fates are entangled. This is the frame through which I now see our world – and **my role in finding solutions to our shared global challenges.**"

#### Georgia Reid

Ecuador 2015  
Lewis and Clark College 2020

Research Fellow,  
Oregon Heritage Exchange



Ian Frank, Ecuador 2015



"Today, I have the confidence that I need to learn and grow in any situation. **Because of Global Citizen Year, I'm more open to taking risks, embracing failures, and chasing uncertainty.**"

### Mouna Algahaithi

Senegal 2014  
University of Wisconsin Madison  
2019

*Education Specialist, PBS*

## BECOMING ENGAGED CITIZENS

Alumni demonstrate the courage to stand up for their beliefs.

### A Commitment to Equity...

- » **91%** of alumni believe it is 'very important' or 'essential' to challenge inequity in all its forms.
- » **97%** of alumni have challenged others on issues of discrimination during the past year; 67% report having done so frequently, compared to 36% of college students nationally.
- » **99%** of alumni recognize the biases that affect their own thinking.

### Inspires Civic Action.

- » **94%** of alumni believe it is 'very important' or 'essential' to have the courage to do the hard things.



Erica Lin, Ecuador 2015



## LEADING FOR SOCIAL IMPACT

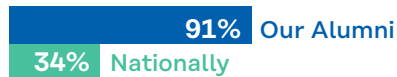
Alumni are aligning their work with their convictions.

### A Clear Sense of Purpose...

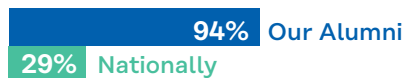
- » **84%** of alumni report their Global Citizen Year made them more **aware of their strengths and weaknesses** as a leader.
- » **77%** of alumni say their Global Citizen Year helped them develop a clearer **sense of purpose**.
- » **72%** of alumni in the workforce say their Global Citizen Year **influenced the career path** they chose to pursue.

### Helps Alumni Find Meaningful Careers.

"I believe I will be able to get the job I want."<sup>17</sup>



"I am engaged and stimulated at work."<sup>18</sup>



Nationally, just **27%** of college graduates report finding "high levels of purpose" in their work.<sup>19</sup> Among Global Citizen Year alumni in the workforce:

- » **93%** believe their job makes a difference in the lives of others.
- » **90%** believe their work makes good use of their skills and abilities.

Alumni are pursuing careers across every sector:



**51%**  
PRIVATE  
SECTOR



**33%**  
NON-PROFIT



**11%**  
GOVERNMENT



**5%**  
SELF-  
EMPLOYED



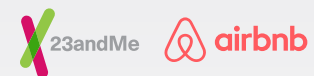
"In Ecuador I discovered an interest at the intersection of energy and sustainability, and this has informed everything I've done since. **My Global Citizen Year gave me the space to discern what I'm passionate about, and the courage to pursue it.**"

#### Jordan Lee

Ecuador 2013  
Yale University 2017

Research Analyst,  
McKinsey & Company, Qatar

#### Alumni Employers Include



The New York Times



TEACHFORAMERICA



# LEADERSHIP IS...



**"...Doing the right thing, even when it's the hard thing."**

**Maya Foster**

Ecuador 2019  
Amherst College 2023



**"...A lifelong process, not an arrival point like a title or position."**

**Barker Carlock**

Senegal 2013  
Lafayette College 2017  
*Senior Technical Program Manager, Tesla*



**"...A commitment to curiosity – the vulnerability and strength of being a lifelong learner."**

**Charlotte Kauffman**

Ecuador 2014  
Wellesley College 2018  
*Research Fellow,  
American Voices Project*



**"...Knowing your convictions and moving through the world with empathy and compassion."**

**Isaac King**

Brazil 2015  
Lynn University 2020



**"...Having the courage to create the world we want to live in."**

**Ananda Day**

Senegal 2010  
University of North Carolina 2014  
*Technical Project Manager, Syng*

1. We administered this survey to 750 alumni in November 2019 and had a 63% response rate. Data in this report summarizes those responses.
2. We define low-income status as meeting at least one of the following three conditions: eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, Pell Grant eligible, or family adjusted gross income < \$50,000.
3. [www.gapyearassociation.org/assets/2015%20NAS%20Report.pdf](http://www.gapyearassociation.org/assets/2015%20NAS%20Report.pdf).
4. Ibid.
5. [www.nafsa.org/policy-and-advocacy/policy-resources/trends-us-study-abroad](http://www.nafsa.org/policy-and-advocacy/policy-resources/trends-us-study-abroad).
6. This finding is notable because research suggests that for low-income students, having the agency to ask for and obtain what they need to succeed in college can be a major challenge.
7. This is self-reported data based on alumni survey respondents who have completed a Bachelor's degree.
8. [nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019038.pdf](http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2019/2019038.pdf).
9. Ibid.
10. [news.gallup.com/poll/246170/six-college-experiences-linked-student-confidence-jobs.aspx](http://news.gallup.com/poll/246170/six-college-experiences-linked-student-confidence-jobs.aspx).
11. Ibid.
12. [public.tableau.com/views/U\\_S\\_StudyAbroadDurationofStudyAbroad/FinalDashboard?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes&:showVizHome=no#!/vizhome/U\\_S\\_StudyAbroadDurationofStudyAbroad/FinalDashboard](http://public.tableau.com/views/U_S_StudyAbroadDurationofStudyAbroad/FinalDashboard?:embed=y&:display_count=yes&:showVizHome=no#!/vizhome/U_S_StudyAbroadDurationofStudyAbroad/FinalDashboard).
13. [www.heri.ucla.edu](http://www.heri.ucla.edu).
14. [doi.org/10.13016/xdik-n8ww](https://doi.org/10.13016/xdik-n8ww).
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17. [www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/01/17/study-college-students-dont-have-confidence-theyll-land-job](http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2018/01/17/study-college-students-dont-have-confidence-theyll-land-job).
18. [www.gallup.com/workplace/267743/why-millennials-job-hopping.aspx](http://www.gallup.com/workplace/267743/why-millennials-job-hopping.aspx).
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20. [www.pewsocialtrends.org/2014/02/11/the-rising-cost-of-not-going-to-college](http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2014/02/11/the-rising-cost-of-not-going-to-college).