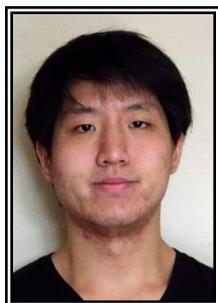


## 2020 NEW YORK STATE SENATE INTERNS

### Denis Cha



I was born and raised in Flushing and have attended public school since pre-k. As a Public Affairs Major my primary interests are social, economic, and environmental sustainability. As a Senate intern I hope that I can contribute to our state and become more involved with issues that can help people. I am curious about the different perspectives that are in government and I am excited about this opportunity.

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### Cindy Coral



I was born in Bogotá, Colombia and immigrated to the New York with my family at the age of nine. I have always attended public school. My desire to enter the field of public service comes from experiencing first-hand how adequate, efficient and ethical government management can support the quality of life and allow citizens to flourish. My interests include community development, environmental justice, immigration and transit infrastructure. My New York City Council internship has allowed me to work with different city agencies, observe the unique ways they serve constituents, learned how the city functions, work on the enactment of legislation, and seek sponsorship from council members prior to a vote. The Senate Internship Program will provide me with the opportunity to participate in the resolution of public policy issues, further expand my knowledge of state government, strengthen my understanding of the legislative process and gain firsthand knowledge of policy research and document preparation.

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### Francely Flores



I was born in Houston, Texas and moved to New York when I was seven years old. I've always attended public school and graduated from the Young Women's Leadership High School in East Harlem. As a Public Affairs major, my primary interests are immigration and education, as I am the daughter of immigrants and a first-generation college student. During this time of uncertainty for immigrant communities, I feel it is especially important to participate in opportunities that grant me the ability to work with policy makers. As a Senate intern I will be able to learn firsthand how policies are created to meet the needs of constituents and view the effects of these policies in New York State. Gaining experience from individuals who have different perspectives will also lead to professional growth by challenging my beliefs and providing diverse insight on issues. My interest in state government lies in my desire to pay homage to all those that came before me and create an organization that advocates and gives a voice to people who don't have the right tools to address the challenges they face daily.

## 2020 NEW YORK STATE SENATE INTERNS

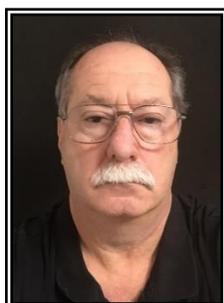
### KeiAra Salomon



I was born and raised on Long Island and I have always attended public school. Originally, I came to Baruch as a Political Science major because I want to help people. I believe that the best way to help large numbers of people is on the municipal level. Once something is written in law, everyone is affected. I changed my major to Public Affairs when I discovered the numerous opportunities Marxe has to offer its students. As a Public Affairs major, I am interested in the fields of international affairs, emergency management, and local and state government. As a Senate intern, I hope to gain first-hand experience on how the legislative process functions. After graduation, I hope to pursue a career with the United Nations.

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### Mark Tria



development, housing or preservation upon graduation.

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I was born in Glendale, Queens and have lived in New York my entire life. I grew up in East Northport on Long Island and went to public schools there culminating with Commack High School North. My first foray at college was SUNY Farmingdale where I received an Associate in Automotive Engineering degree in 1980. I have spent most of my life in some sort of public service whether it was as a Boy scout leader, a Civic president or 28 years with the FDNY. My parents were first- and second-generation immigrants and stressed service and education. I have developed an interest in affordable housing and how government functions from the inside. I hope that this internship in Albany will build upon what I learned interning with the NYC Council and my studies at Baruch. I hope to work in policy

### Melissa Velazquez



I was born in Quezaltepeque, El Salvador and came to the United States with my parents when I was just six years old because they sought to provide me with political freedom and a good education. I grew up in Lakeview, Long Island where I attended public schools. As a Public Affairs major, my primary interest is in education reform. As a Senate Session Assistant, I hope to learn the process of policy making and all of the issues that must be weighed when making such decisions. I also hope to learn how small actions taken by everyday citizens can have a meaningful impact on the decision-making process. Following graduation, I hope to join the foreign service.

## 2020 NEW YORK STATE SENATE INTERNS

### Nicholas Venezia



I was born in Nassau County, Long Island and always attended public schools, graduating from East Meadow High School. I initially enrolled at the University at Buffalo to study English but a visit to the Love Canal Superfund site sparked my interest in public policy, and I decided to pursue a career in public service, transferring to the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs. I am interested in environmental affairs and community development. I want to help address problems caused by climate change in a way that better the lives of all citizens and contribute to causes that push sustainable practices in all parts of life. As a Senate intern, I plan to learn the whole law making process and how to incorporate science and new technologies into legislation to solve the issues we face today. After graduation, I plan to continue my education and pursue a career in public service.

## 2020 NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY INTERNS

### Vladimira Asinor



I was born in Ghana but lived a majority of my life in Georgia, where I attended public school. I moved to New York after graduating high school and entered Baruch as an Economics major. I changed my major to Public Affairs because it aligned with my primary areas of interest, such as poverty and inequality. I hope to gain knowledge from the NYS Assembly that will help me understand the legislative process and learn what it actually takes to implement change. After graduating, I would like to work in government or nonprofit with the goal of helping underserved populations, be it locally or globally.

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### Tyler Gooding



I was born in New York City and raised in South Jamaica, Queens. I attended public schools, graduating from Forest Hills High School and LaGuardia Community College. As a Public Affairs major, my primary interests are education, housing, criminal justice, mental health, and community development with a focus on the impact these issues have on the working class and communities of color consideration. As an Assembly intern, I hope to learn how state lawmakers turn the concerns and problems their constituents face into policies that become enacted legislation. I also hope to learn if my skills and experiences could best be utilized working in the state legislature to make meaningful change for people historically denied equity. When I graduate, I plan on pursuing my lifelong goal of attaining a law degree so I can better serve my family and community.

## 2020 NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY INTERNS

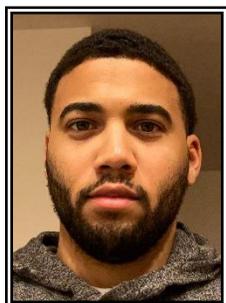
### Soleil Griffin



I was born in Queens Village. As a public affairs major, I am interested in bringing entrepreneurial and financial education into the K-12 school system. I am also interested in providing more social programs for children and teens with autism to improve their communication and advocacy skills. Through the Assembly Internship program, I hope to learn about the different services and policies affecting the population I seek to serve. I also hope to further my understanding of how policies are introduced and to critically analyze current policies. After graduation, I plan to continue providing yoga classes for the community. I am also looking forward to partnering with more schools to provide emotional literacy and financial workshops for junior high schools.

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### Wilson Tejada



I was born and raised in Hudson and Bergen Counties, New Jersey and was lucky enough to have had New York City as my backyard. I attended public school and graduated from Cliffside Park High School in 2008. I joined the military shortly thereafter and served for over 7 years. I earned my associate degree while serving and transferred to Baruch as a Real Estate major. I switched to Public Affairs because I believe it will give me the proper tools to pursue my original goal of working in international relations. During my Assembly internship, I hope to gain a better understanding of the legislative process. I also love the idea of taking on the challenge of working alongside decision makers to formulate and implement policies to better the lives of constituents and adapting to the fast-paced environment of lawmaking. When I graduate, I am going to join the foreign service to continue serving my country in a different capacity.