

Chicago Council Selects 22 Emerging Leaders who will Strengthen Chicago's Status as a Global City

July 8, 2014 CHICAGO - The Chicago Council on Global Affairs has identified [22 emerging leaders](#) who will help Chicago compete and thrive in the global era. The seventh class of The Chicago Council's Emerging Leaders Program includes leaders from, among others, Aon, Chicago Public Schools, Exelon, Mayer Brown, Mondelēz International, the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago, Heartland Alliance International and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

"Chicago is one of the top global cities because its corporate, civic, cultural and education leaders have worked together to transform it from an industrial powerhouse to a great city with global reach," said Ambassador Ivo H. Daalder, president of The Chicago Council on Global Affairs. "The future success of Chicago as a global city depends on the next generation of leaders. The individuals selected to participate in our Emerging Leaders Program are among the best and the brightest new leaders in the city."

The Emerging Leaders Class of 2016 will spend the first year of the two-year program examining key global issues that affect the world and Chicago's global future. They will hear from experts on issues such as the global economy, foreign policy, energy and the environment. Throughout the second year of the program, they work in small groups with Chicago Council staff to define, develop and produce policy papers on pressing global challenges confronting today's leaders.

In addition to the most recent Emerging Leaders report, which outlines [big data strategies for global cities](#), previous reports cover topics including [urban food security](#), a [venture philanthropy fund](#) to increase the global competitiveness of Chicago's students, [immigration and Chicago's experience](#) and the [privatization of infrastructure](#).

Each year, an independent selection committee identifies a new class of leaders from a competitive pool of nominated candidates to participate in the [Emerging Leaders Program](#). Co-chaired by Chicago Council Vice Chairs John F. Manley and Shirley Welsh Ryan, the program was established in 2008. Support for the program is generously provided by John and Mary Manley, the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Foundation and the Robert R. McCormick Foundation.

Chicago Council Emerging Leaders Class of 2016

Steven Babitch, Associate Director, Research and Strategy, IA Collaborative

Emma Belcher, Director of International Peace and Security Program, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Christian W. Fabian, Partner, Mayer Brown LLP

Alicia Farag, Senior Program Manager, Gas Technology Institute

Ravin Gandhi, Founder and Managing Principal, GMM Nonstick Coatings

Francisco Gonzalez-Pulido, President, JAHN

Adam Hitchcock, Managing Director, Guggenheim Partners

Harley Jones, Regional Chief Operating Officer, The American Red Cross of Greater Chicago

Abigayil L. Joseph, Chief of Staff, Board of Education of the City of Chicago

Natasha Krol, Engagement Manager, McKinsey & Company

Bela Moté, Senior Vice President, Learning and Evaluation, YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago

Elizabeth Powley, Executive Director, Heartland Alliance International

Kathryn Reilly, Director, Public Affairs, Aon

Nicole Robinson, Senior Director, Community Involvement, Mondelēz International; President, Mondelēz Foundation

Aaron Rudberg, Partner, Baird Capital

Mark Schneider, Assistant United States Attorney, Northern District of Illinois

Aisha Sethi, Assistant Professor Dermatology, Infectious Diseases and Global Health, University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine

Sean Shelby, Vice President, Isobar

Jordan Stark, Vice President, Resolute Consulting

Amy Stoken, Regional Director, American Jewish Committee

Robert Taylor, Principal Transmission Strategy Specialist, Exelon Corporation

John Trainor, Publisher and General Manager, *Hoy*

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About The Chicago Council on Global Affairs

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, founded in 1922, is an independent, non-partisan organization committed to educating the public—and influencing the public discourse—on global issues of the day. The Council provides a forum in Chicago for world leaders, policymakers and other experts to speak to its members and the public on these issues. Long known for its public opinion surveys of American views on foreign policy, The Chicago Council also brings together stakeholders to examine issues and offer policy insight into areas such as global agriculture, the global economy, global energy, global cities, global security and global immigration. Learn more at thechicagocouncil.org and follow [@ChicagoCouncil](https://twitter.com/ChicagoCouncil) for updates.

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