Helping Pittsburgh see the big picture since 1931.



worldpittsburgh.org/about

The World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting a deeper understanding of key international issues that affect our community and world.

Established in 1931, our programming is designed to foster global mindedness and global connectivity in Pittsburgh. Our approach is centered around creating inclusive and accessible experiences that generate transformed leadership for youth, business and community leaders, and educators – and a greater sense of belonging for all.

For this vision of the future to become a reality, the Council works to create and execute diverse, bold, and engaging programming throughout the Western Pennsylvania region. We work hard to ensure that meaningful, action-oriented global learning opportunities are at the heart of our work and that our programs reflect the great diversity of our world across generations.

Our Vision

We are guided by our vision of a globally minded and globally connected world that is equitable and just for all.

Our Mission

Our mission is to convene and connect people around global issues to build a competitive, thriving, and inclusive Pittsburgh.



Theory of Change

If We Work In Partnership With Young People, Educators, Business Leaders, And The Community At-Large To

Explore & Educate

On critical global and local issues

Convene

People of diverse lived experiences

Inspire & Support

Leadership and advocacy

Then Pittsburghers Will Have

Informed Dialogue

and deepened understanding of global & local issues

Greater Empathy

for those different from them

Relevant Skills

& meaningful Relationships

And Therefore Pittsburghers Will

Act for positive economic, environmental, and social outcomes in their communities.

Which Will Result in

Transformed Leadership

Inclusive Policies & Practices

Greater Acceptance & Sense of Belonging

Shared Learning & Innovative Problem-Solving

A thriving, competitive, and inclusive Pittsburgh
A locally relevant and globally recognized model for other communities to adopt

And Ultimately Realize Our Vision Of

A globally minded & globally connected world that is equitable & just for all.

Meet Our Team



President & CEO

Betty Cruz

Betty Cruz assumed the role of President and CEO of the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh in January 2020.

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Senior Director of Growth Strategies

Brian Magee

Brian is the current Senior Director of Growth Strategies for the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh, which he joined in the fall of 2024.

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Director of Youth Programming

Kathleen Newell

Kathleen Newell joined the council team in April 2017 as an Education Program Manager.

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Youth Programming Manager

Alicia Cagle

Alicia Cagle joined the Council in June 2023 as the Youth Programming Manager.

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Youth Programming Coordinator

Kelcey Flowers

Kelcey Flowers joined the council team in December 2025 as the Youth Programming Coordinator.

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Youth Fellow — Programming Fellow

Humna A.

Humna A. is our Programming Youth Fellow for 2026-2025.

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Youth Fellow — Youth Voice Fellow

Mylo M.

Mylo M. is our Youth Voice Fellow for 2026-2027.

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Youth Fellow — Global Minds Fellow

Annjila P.

Annjila P. is our Global Minds Youth Fellow for 2026-2027.

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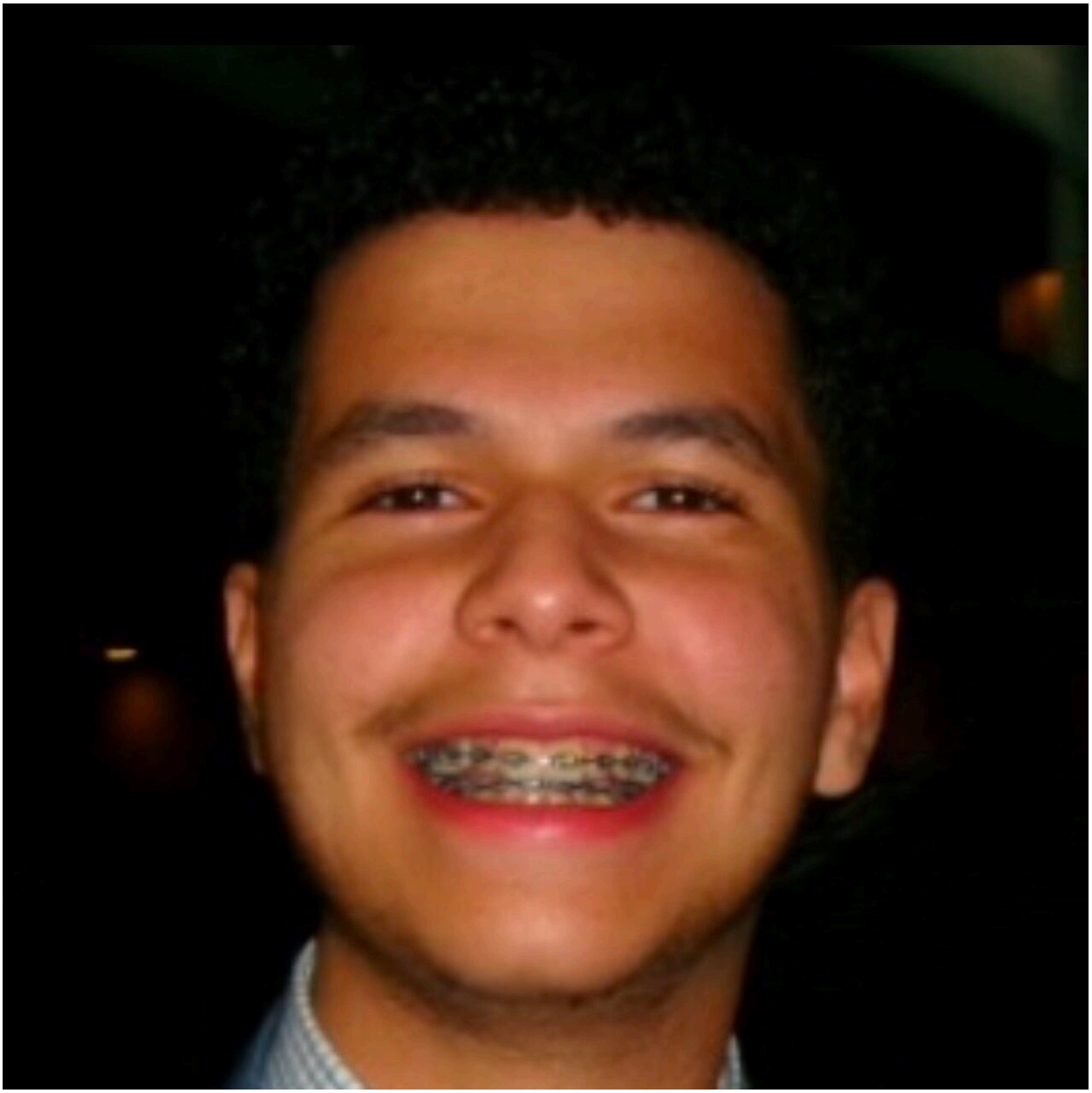
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Niiara D.



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Ella S.



Elena X.



World Affairs Councils of America

The Council is a member of the World Affairs Councils of America, an association of more than 90 councils in 40 states. Nearly 200,000 people are members at Councils nationwide, and the network reaches tens of thousands more individuals through a variety of outreach activities in schools and communities. The World Affairs Councils of America network is the largest non-profit international affairs organization in the world.