

MEET THE 2016/2017 UofMOSAIC FELLOWS @ YORK UNIVERSITY



Ben Shachar

science | communication | altruism

Ben Shachar is a 4th year student majoring in Biology at **York University**. He is the co-founder of the Random Acts of Kindness Project, a movement of students doing acts of kindness that has expanded to more than 15 campuses worldwide. A social justice issue of significant importance to Ben is disability advocacy; he has volunteered for non-governmental organizations that serve individuals with developmental disabilities. Additionally, he is a student researcher in the Perceptual Neuroscience Laboratory at York University and a long-time peer tutor. Ben is a recipient of the 2013 Schulich Leader Scholarship, an international scholarship recognizing academic excellence and community leadership. Ben is a strong believer in civil discourse and the potential for youth-driven social change. He is involved in several initiatives intended to promote inclusive and meaningful dialogue on campus. Ben hopes that the UofMosaic Fellowship Program will further his efforts to build bridges between diverse communities.



Arfi Yusuf

activism | journalism | social justice

Arfi is a 4th year Political Science student at **York University** specializing in Refugee and Migration studies. She has a passion for fighting for rights and equality for disadvantaged groups in particular migrants and refugees. When she isn't volunteering in her community she works at the Excalibur the York University paper as an editor, using journalism as a tool of activism by featuring different voices, narratives and stories. She hopes to build better involvement and engagement at York through cohesion and communication. Focusing on accessibility and safety, she hopes to build bridges for more critical dialogue at York. She hopes to gain skills, knowledge, and experience from the training that UofMosaic Fellowship Program offers.



Kanchi Uttamchandani

social determinants of health | health equity

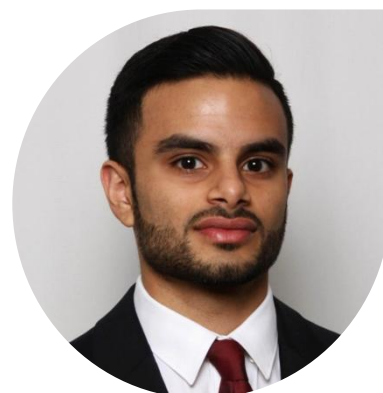
I am an international student entering into my 2nd year at **York University** and am majoring in health management. Academically and professionally, my interests lie in the field of global health, disaster relief, social policy and human rights. Driven by the need to make a positive impact and learn the craft of social change, I became involved in multiple leadership capacities on campus such as the Board of Director for Ontario Public Interest Research Group, Events and Campaign Director for Amnesty at York club, Assistant News Editor for York University's official newspaper among many other involvements. I intend to use this Fellowship as a platform to help build open spaces for challenging conversations, design stimulating social initiatives and work on a joint legacy project while gradually emerging as a global proactive citizen.



Reem Alhaj

philosophy | growth | balance

Hello. I enjoy learning and communicating with people. I'm always interested in understanding myself and the world/people around me, which is why I'm focusing on studying social psychology and global politics. Being in my 3rd year at **York University**, I think this Fellowship will add a lot to my learning journey, I am looking forward to gaining more knowledge about the dynamics of interactions, and the tactics of developing social awareness projects.



Nabil Bhatia

security | diplomacy | defense

Nabil is in his final year of study at **York University**, where he is double majoring in Political Science and Criminology. His academic interests lie in the fields of security, diplomacy, and critical interdisciplinary studies. Nabil is co-authoring an academic book chapter on interdisciplinary criminology and transnational crime to be published in 2017. He is a member of the Dean's Circle and the recipient of the Dr. George Tatham Trophy (2014-2015), the McLaughlin College Council 50th Anniversary Award (2015-2016), and the Certificate of Achievement for Academic Excellence in the Department of Political Science (2014-2015/2015-2016).