

LEGAL OUTREACH

SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

Newsletter

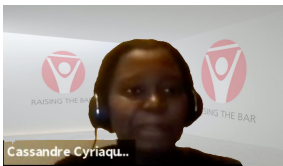
Legal Outreach Students Address City Commissioners to Jumpstart the Second Year of Social Justice Program

Last year, following the murder of George Floyd, Legal Outreach launched the **Civic Engagement and Social Justice Program** in response to the students' desire to address injustices in their communities. During its inaugural year, the program's student-led Council chose two issues to focus on: (1) addressing student turnstile hopping by increasing student metrocard swipes and (2) increasing youth civic engagement by promoting voter pre-registration. Building on the momentum from the first year, the Council is now adding a third initiative geared at introducing a LO police use of force lesson plan into middle and high schools across New York City.



On September 10, 2021, members of the Civic Engagement and Social Justice Council were invited to go before the NYC Racial Justice Commission and present on the issues that they will be tackling this year. The Commission, established by Mayor Bill De Blasio in March 2021, is tasked with researching and suggesting changes to the NYC Charter that will work to dismantle systemic racism in the city. The Commission hosted the Youth for Racial Justice Panel and Input Session to gain insight into what young New Yorkers feel are the most critical issues that need to be addressed. Culturally relevant curricula and increased funding for after-school programs were among the most commonly raised concerns by all those who spoke. Three representatives of the LO Council, Cassandre Cyriaque '22, Marcus Nelson '23, and Maryjade Glyza Damian '22, added to these discussions by bringing their issues, noted above, to the attention of the Commission. Click on the images of the Council members below to hear their three minute testimonies to the Commission. To read their testimonies, click [here](#).

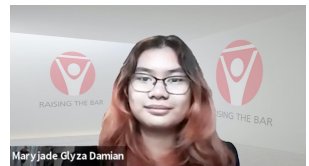
While we await the publication of the Commission report, the LO Council continues to run campaigns to increase awareness of our initiatives and encourage others to join in our activism. To learn more about the Council's projects, and keep up to date with their work, follow their instagram @civics_socialj or click [here](#).



Cassandre Cyriaque...
Cassandre Cyriaque: Police Use of Force Lesson



Marcus Nelson
Marcus Nelson: Student Metrocards



Maryjade Glyza Damian
Maryjade Glyza Damian: Voter Pre-Registration

Thank you to all of the foundations, corporations, and individuals supporting our social justice efforts.