

Agenda - YPC Site:



The Young Professionals Committee March 2025 Meeting Agenda

I. BBBS of NYC Update

Shannon Pantuliano, the YPC Liaison for BBBS of NYC, will provide an update on what's happening around BBBS of NYC.

Also, the 2025 BBBS Volunteer Recognition Awards will be held next Tuesday, March 11th at Nebula in Midtown (next to Bryant Park). YPC's very own Chris Rontanini has been selected for the Big Champion award! Come join the team for a night of fun celebrating all that YPC and other BBBS volunteers do. This event is open to YPC members and Bigs. Please [register here](#) if you plan to attend.

II. Events

🎤 Our comedy fundraiser is SOLD OUT, and we can't wait to see everyone there!

📅 When: Thursday, March 6th
🕒 Doors open: 8:15 PM
🎵 Show starts: 8:45 PM
📍 Where: Wilson SoHo, 594 Broadway

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets – your support will benefit BBBS! Enjoy 20% off at Wilson SoHo for the night, plus unlimited drinks.

We look forward to focusing Events efforts on the Big Apple Gala for the next few months and appreciate your support!

III. Big/Little Match Support

We hosted our LinkedIn workshop and headshot event this past Saturday at the BBBS office. It was an overwhelming success with 41 Little's taking headshots, 25 Littles learning the importance of a LinkedIn brand, and 6 YPC members volunteering at the event! We are gathering feedback and will share specific quotes soon!

Next Up: a tour of Caffè Panna's Greenpoint location on Saturday March 22nd at 1:30pm. Due to limited capacity, we already have the volunteers set for the event. If you have any connections like this that would be good for a future outing, contact Chris: 516-662-4628 & crontanini@gmail.com.

IV. Big Apple Gala

Venue is confirmed! HighLine Room at the Standard for Thursday, May 29 for the 2025 YPC Big Apple Gala - this is our signature fundraiser of the year!

We have 3 months to put together this amazing event! 🧑🧑🧑🧑🧑🧑 Considering limited space, we'll focus on outreach! This is a collaborative effort and we'd love everyone's support across various initiatives. Below are 3 focus areas for now:

- Sponsorships
- Silent auction & raffle
- Gift bags



V. Sponsorships

Last year, we raised more than \$50,000 for BBBS from corporate and individual sponsorships!

To better understand how to secure corporate sponsorships, we will hear from YPC members who have recently secured corporate sponsorships. It's a great time to start thinking about who you could speak to about a corporate sponsorship as many corporate budgets reset in January.

If you are working on securing a corporate sponsorship, please reach out to Chase (chahelchase@gmail.com or 917 443 9402). Indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet to help secure corporate sponsors for the Big Apple Gala.

If you are interested in becoming a Young Professional sponsor, which comes with great perks (like free or reduced price tickets to the Big Apple Gala!), you can learn more and make your pledge/donation using [this Sponsorship Page](#). Please contact Chase with any questions.

VI. Silent Auction / Raffle / Gift Bags

Last year, we raised more than \$5,000 for BBBS from silent auction and raffle!

Carolyn has a WhatsApp group specifically for securing donated items for silent auction, raffle and gift bags for the 2025 Big Apple Gala. Please indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet if you would like to help with this outreach. Every item secured results in additional funds raised for BBBS!

Please reach out to Carolyn (carolyn.martin5326@gmail.com) with any questions!

Raffle/Silent Auction Ideas

- **Après-Ski Essentials** – Cozy ski lodge vibes with a plush blanket, slippers, gourmet hot cocoa mix, a beanie, insulated tumbler, hand warmers, and a gift card to a ski resort or mountain bar.
- **Beach Bum Bliss** – Everything for the ultimate beach day: Fun beach towels, trendy sunscreen brand donations, flip flops, baseball hat/straw hats, waterproof speaker, bestselling beach read, insulated cooler bag, fun floaties, bikinis/board shorts, sunglasses, cover ups, a gift card for a beach restaurant.
- **Foodie Frenzie**: Cooking classes in the city, or restaurant gift card donations
- **Adventure Awaits** – Outdoor and adventure gear like a hammock, hiking backpack, Yeti water bottle, a gift card for an outdoor retailer.
- **Self-Care Sanctuary** – Spa & relaxation package with luxury candles, essential oils, plush robe, massage/spa gift card, high-end skincare
- **Game Night Galore** – Classic & trendy board games, a deck of cards, popcorn & snacks, a bottle of wine, a gift card for pizza delivery, cozy throw blanket
- **So Much Room For Activities (or The Great Indoors)**: Hobbies basket, wobbles, clay /pottery classes, pool hall donations, paint and pour, bowling alleys
- **Work It Out**: athletic classes package, Barrys, core power, hot yoga, spin classes, Pilates
- **Sports & Saturdays/Sundays**: Koozies, tickets to a sporting event, merch for teams, sports bar tab

Gift Bag Ideas

- Beauty & Self-Care (Glossier, Sephora, Malin+Goetz, Brooklyn Botany, Drunk Elephant, Essie/Nails)

- Food & Treats (Levain Bakery, Magnolia Bakery, Jacques Torres Chocolate, Milk Bar, Joe Coffee, NYC Honey)
- Stationery & Writing (McNally Jackson Books, Muji, Kate Spade, Paper Source)
- NYC-Branded Items (Museum Gift Shops, Strand Bookstore, New York Times Store)
- Luxury & Fragrance (Byredo, Aesop, C.O. Bigelow, Jo Malone)

VII. Entertainment Partners

Bridget is partnering with Tako to lead the group helping plan the Big Apple Gala, which will be the focus from now to May. We are working on securing entertainment partners for the gala so this is a great time to get involved. Our list of entertainment activations from last year can be found [here](#). Please indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet if you would like to help with this outreach.

We will be working off the project plan outlined by Tako so you can sign up for entertainment or other outreach on that sheet. Please reach out to Bridget (bridget.alkin@gmail.com or 732-995-5526) if you have any questions.

VIII. Recruitment - Bigs

January Male Bigs Recruiting Event - Follow Ups

- Continue to follow up with your friends / colleagues who attended the January male mentor recruiting event. Let's keep pushing for new applications!
- As a reminder - there are 168 youths on the waitlist (147 Littles are boys waiting to be matched with male Bigs; 20 girls; 1 non-binary).

Community-Based Program

- Apply to become a Big here: <https://www.bigsnyc.org/volunteer-sign>
- Refer your family, friends and coworkers to mentor NYC youth. All Bigs are welcome! Applications for Bigs who identify as male and/or live in the Bronx will be expedited.

College and Career Success (CCS) Program

- CCS Program will start recruiting again in March, and mentoring will begin in August! Please reach out if you are interested to mentor college students or know good mentor candidates.

Workplace Program (Corporate Mentorship Program)

- If your employer or organization would be interested in partnering with BBBS of NYC on mentoring NYC youth, please reach out. This is an opportunity to become an ambassador and difference maker for your organization! More information about Corporate Partnerships and Workplace Mentoring can be found on the [YPC website](#).

Please reach out to kelly.j.byun@gmail.com with inquiries or interest in any of the above!

IX. Social Events

WhatsApp Groups – Join WhatsApp Groups for social happenings by finding links to each in the BBBS YPC Announcements WhatsApp group description (link located on the YPC website under Social), or indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet to be added.

Book Club – for this month's book club we are reading "Such a Fun Age" by Kiley Reid. We'll be meeting on March 20th at Houston Hall.

Sports League – We are gathering interest for a spring sports league. In the past we have done kickball, pickleball, and dodgeball. Please fill out [this form](#) to vote which sports and days of the week you'd be interested in. Reach out to Daniel & Kaan with any questions.

New Member Meetup - We had a super successful new member meet up last week! Thank you to all that joined. We'll look to organize another one in April. Reach out to Jeffrey with any questions or if you'd like to join the next one!

Game Club: We are expanding Trivia club to game club for some other fun outings! This month Red is organizing a chess game at the Whole Foods in Tribeca - stay tuned in the Game club chat for the date. For any questions or interest in joining, reach out to Red.

YPC Networking: Want to connect professionally with other members of the YPC? Take our [short survey](#) so we can compile a list of everyone's backgrounds and start connecting YPC members.

- **Social Contacts**
- Social Chair: Caroline Gosnear, cgosnear@gmail.com or 610-657-7311
- Book Club Captain: Cassie Ringshand, 608-212-8237
- Sports Captain: Daniel Koppel, danielkoppel77@gmail.com, 954-309-8950
- Game Club Captain: Red Young, redrodney1397@gmail.com
- New Member Liaison: Jeffrey Li (610) 390-9952

Follow the YPC on Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn: [@bbbsnycypc](#)

YPC Calendar of events can be found [HERE](#)

Next YPC meeting: Tuesday, April 1

Information on the BBBS mentorship programs:

- **Community-Based Program:** Bigs support Littles (ages 7-17) in setting and achieving goals that help ignite their full potential. Accepting candidates year-round.
Required Commitment: 2 outings per month, 2 hours per outing, 1-year minimum commitment to the match
- **College & Career Success (CCS) Program:** Bigs support Scholars (ages 17-21) in academic excellence, college persistence, and career readiness. Accepting candidates for the next cohort (August 2025 school year) starting from March 2025.
Required Commitment: Meet with your Scholar once a month (zoom or in person) for 1.5 hour, check in with your Program Manager, and 2-year minimum commitment to the match

Apply here (for both programs): <https://www.bigsnyc.org/volunteer-sign>

Please note that you cannot be a Big in multiple programs simultaneously, so you have to choose between the Community-based program, Workplace program or the CCS program