



The Young Professionals Committee January 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.

II. **Events**

Thank you to everyone who came to the holiday party in December. We had so much fun and raised over \$6,600 for the Adopt a Family initiative!

We're planning a Comedy Show Fundraiser in the next couple of months. Have any contacts or ideas for this event? Reach out to Sarah (halesarah@gmail.com) or Erica (esperling04@gmail.com)!

III. **Big/Little Match Support**

We hosted our first SMART outing for our community-based matches, a pickleball event at James Walker Park, in October. It was an awesome event with overwhelming interest from matches and 13 matches participating day-of. Feedback was very positive from matches that attended.

We have three exciting events that we are close to finalizing - An ice cream store tour, a chess tournament for matches, and a headshot event as part of a LinkedIn workshop we are hosting for community based little's! We need volunteers for the LinkedIn workshop event—please indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet or contact Chris: 516-662-4628 & crontanini@gmail.com.

If you have any connections that offer a unique experience or a space to host a SMART outing event, please contact Chris.

IV. **Big Apple Gala**

The Big Apple Gala is our premier annual fundraiser. Last year we raised over \$82,000 for BBBS of NYC. We are targeting to have this year's Gala in May, and although it is four months away, we have already begun planning and can use everyone's help. The main ways to help are:

- **Day-of logistics** (think planning a big party or wedding)
- **Food and alcohol donations** (last year we had Parm as a sponsor and all alcohol and beverages were donated)
- **Entertainment** (e.g., DJ, photo booths, Tarot card readers, magician, etc.)
- **Raffle and silent auction donations** (e.g., tickets, workout classes, bar and restaurant gift cards, spa treatments, etc.)
- **Gift bag donations** (e.g., food/snacks, drinks, personal items, makeup, etc.)

Tako will be hosting a Big Apple Gala planning kickoff meeting later this month. If you are interested in helping out with any of the above, please indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet or reach out to Tako at tako1544@gmail.com.

V. Partnerships

Bridget will create a WhatsApp group specifically for food & beverage plus entertainment / activations for the Big Apple Gala, so please indicate your interest on the sign-in sheet if you would like to help with this outreach.

We are in the early stages of securing partners for this awesome event so this is a great time to get involved. Our list of entertainment activations from last year can be found [here](#).

Please reach out to Bridget (bridget.alkin@gmail.com or 732-995-5526) if you have any questions.

VI. Silent Auction / Raffle/ Gift Bags

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

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

VII. Sponsorship

To better understand how to secure corporate sponsorships, in the coming months, 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 Chase (chahelchase@gmail.com or 917 443 9402).

If you are interested in becoming a Young Professional sponsor, which comes with great perks, you can learn more and make your pledge/donation using [this Sponsorship Page](#). Please contact Chase with any questions.

VIII. Recruitment - Bigs

January Mentoring Event

- 168 total youths on the waitlist (147 Littles are boys waiting to be matched with male Bigs; 20 girls; 1 non-binary)
- Recognizing that BBBS NYC is in need of more male mentors, January mentoring event will be focused on recruiting male Bigs
- Plan is to hold a 30-40 people recruiting event at a sports bar (or a bar if sports bar is not feasible); currently in contact with venues such as Rocco's Sports & Recreation, Bleeker Street Bar, Slainte Bar and Lounge, and the Vig Bar; additional venue ideas are welcome
- Targeting to hold the event some time in January
- Need everyone's help in bringing together male mentor candidates!

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 the summer! Please reach out if you are anyone you know is interested in mentoring college students.

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!

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 January's book club we are reading "The Wedding People" by Alison Espach. We'll be meeting on January 22nd at Crown Alley at 6pm!

Sports League – We kicked off a fantasy football league where we will be donating a portion of the proceeds to BBBS. Congrats to Daniel & Kaan who took the lead with Tako in a close second! Look out on the Sports League WhatsApp or for upcoming events.

New Member Meetup - We are planning another new member meet up to start off 2025! *Quick poll: new members, would you prefer the end of Jan or February?* This is a great opportunity for any new members to connect with other new members and learn about YPC in a smaller group. Reach out to Jeffrey with any questions or if you'd like to join the next one!

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
- Trivia/Hike Captain: Red Young, redrodney1397@gmail.com
- Run Club Captain: Mike Tarzian, (917) 916-4181
- New Member Liaison: Jeffrey Li (610) 390-9952

YPC Calendar – Download the YPC calendar [here](#) to stay up to date on events.

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

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

Next YPC meeting: Tuesday, February 4

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, 4 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