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HERE THEY COME!

Well, a lot of them have already been around for a while, sharpening their teeth in the political arena in their teens and now hitting their stride at last in their 30s.

Others are just getting started.

But whether Republicans or Democrats, what they all have in common is their membership in the under-35 club of the New Jersey political class.

They're all millennials.

As a rule they love social media, but a few them are significantly old school. Senator Vin Gopal built himself up town by town as a party chairman, and continues to knock on doors to get eyeball to eyeball with voters in an off election year. Wally Miqbel? You don't get more old school than Stack World.

InsiderNJ fashioned this list with an eye to the future, but when you look at the work of the people here, you realize we have met the future, and it is now.

Don't forget to get to the beach this summer!

Max Pizarro

Assemblyman Jamel Holley Congratulates the Millennials and Policy Leaders Who Are Moving New Jersey Forward!

“ *There has never been a more important time for young people to step up and take a personal stake in the future of our communities, our state and our country. I am proud to congratulate all of the young leaders and policy experts who are doing the work every day to build the future of New Jersey. Let's Go!*

-Jamel Holley

”



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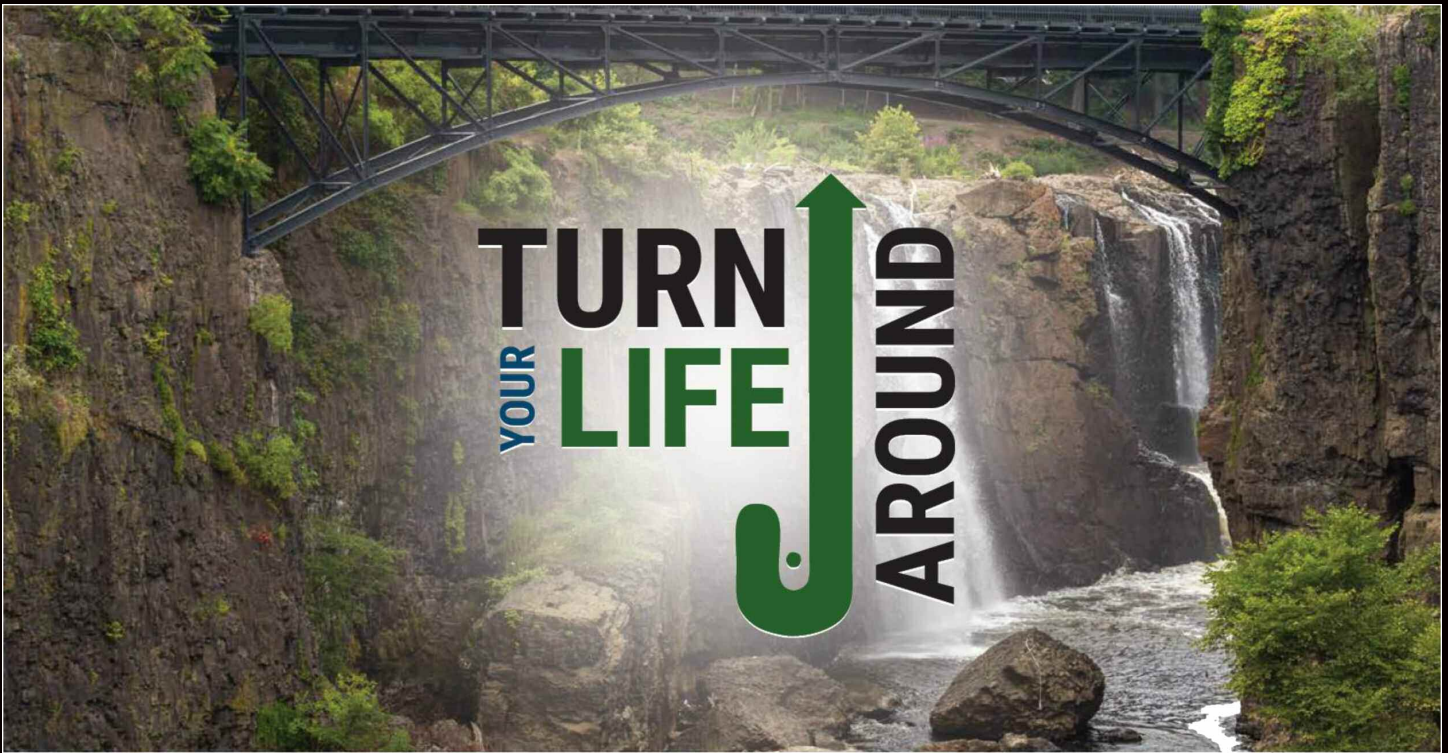


1. VIN GOPAL



The Democratic star made history last year, not just as the first South Asian State Senator from New Jersey but also as the first elected millennial senator here, through a broad combination of political instruments. The 33-year old makes use of all the social media tools that most uniquely characterize how his generation interacts. But he's also an old school politician who insists on going door to door and winning elections house to house and town by town. He got to the Senate the old fashioned way, mostly on the strength of his work as a party and relationships builder who had to lose a lot of elections (and stand by friends who lost) in the deflating period of Chris Christie's ascendancy in order to start winning. Driven into the political

world by his opposition to the 2002 Iraq War vote, the Neptune-born senator from Long Branch immersed himself early in a real-politick education that included work on local campaigns in Perth Amboy and Newark. An avid traveler statewide, Gopal personally knew – or volunteered or worked for – a lot of the main players around New Jersey before he lost his first stab at a legislative seat in 2011. He won a competitive east versus west countywide fight in 2012 to land the chairmanship of the Monmouth County Democratic Committee, and set about building on the foundations of mentor Vic Scudieri. Gopal bulked up the county organization with local wins, helped catapult Joann Downey and Eric Houghtaling to victory in 2015, then headed the LD11 ticket in 2017 to knock off a strong Republican incumbent. He has a scintillating style that makes it seem as though he just got here. But the truth is the enduring, bulldogging Gopal got a very early jump on the game, and did the unglamorous work of politics for years to finally hit his stride as a first-term Senator. And after all these years, he's still the young comer.



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2 AMY DEGISE



The Jersey City school teacher shocked the state in June when she defeated state Senator Brian P. Stack, the Godzilla of Hudson County politics, to become the first woman elected Hudson County Democratic Organization chair in history. And she's only 33.

3 RAJ MUKHERJI



At this point, he's a veteran of the Statehouse – now as a legislator, and before that as a lobbyist and Deputy Mayor of Jersey City. And he's only 33. Maybe a future mayor of Jersey City – or congressman.



4 JUSTIN BRAZ




A field hand for Senator Joe Cryan in LD20 and later chief of staff to Assemblyman Gary Schaer (D-36) Braz learned from the best on his way to the inner sanctum of Murphy World. Helped bring the New Leaders Council to the state.

5 CHRISTIAN FUSCARINO



The well-respected head of Garden State Equality has spearheaded the group's post-marriage equality future and is uniquely positioned as a leading voice on issues affecting LGBTQ youth, such as homelessness, bullying, and transgender rights.



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6

ZACHARY DOUGHERTY



The Toms River North Junior High student took the lead on the March For Our Lives, TV appearances, etc. He was a prime mover for the passage of gun violence prevention legislation standing with Governor Murphy when he signed the bills. Leading millennial voice for high school students.

7

MARSHALL SPEVAK



A veteran operative already, the Vice-Chairman of the Cherry Hill Democrats and former chief of staff to Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo is now at the CRDA a Deputy Director. Under his leadership, he re-established the NJ Young Democrats, helped re-establish the NJ Young Democrats as a force to reckoned with.



8

AL ABDELAZIZ



A cemented Democratic party fixture already, the rising star is the center of the Arab community's raw political power in Passaic County and the state. He helped propel Andre Sayegh into the mayor's seat, and was just selected to succeed him in the 6th Ward – becoming the youngest Councilman in Paterson's history. Close to Chairman Currie, he's the youngest influence on the party leader.

9

JERELL BLAKELEY



A comer in Trenton, he ran for an at-large council seat in municipal elections this year. He's a critical and close ally of new Mayor Reed Gusciora.



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10 STEPHANIE LAGOS



The chief of staff, lead advisor, and confidante of already powerful First Lady Tammy Murphy, she brings both policy expertise and a millennial viewpoint into the male-dominated world of the Statehouse.

11 TONY PERRY



The former state Senator Joe Kyrillos chief of staff is a rising star in Monmouth GOP politics as a Middletown Township Committeeman.



12 SHARIQ AHMED



As the head of the Edison Democratic Organization – one of the biggest municipal organizations in the state – Ahmed knows not just how to build, but where to build – he’s honed his reputation among millennials to buttress his hometown standing.

13 CHRISTINA ZUK



Already a veteran of gubernatorial and Statehouse politics, having served as chief of staff to former Senate Majority Leader Barbara Buono and as political director for JNESO, she’s the next generation of powerhouse firm Princeton Public Affairs.

14 PHIL SWIBINSKI



Arguably the most concrete blend of old-school – and battle-tested – political consulting and millennial thinking, as he brings his old-school clients into the digital age. The next generation of Vision Media, and political consulting.

15 MICKEY QUINN



The deputy director of the Assembly Majority Office is still only 33. The ultimate cagey, government-grounded insider.



16 MIKE DEFUSCO



He came up short in the mayoral race in Hoboken, but he's established himself as a political force to be reckoned with, and has taken a millennial's stance on economic and business growth in the Mile Square City, where he's shown he won't be pushed around by the powers that be.

17 JULIA FAHL



She beat a veteran incumbent in Lambertville earlier this year, representing a changing of the guard in the small Delaware Hip River town.

18 SHEREEF ELNAHAL



As Commissioner of NJ's Department of Health, Dr. Elnahal is both the first Muslim-American in that position, and the youngest, at age 32.

19 JOHN BINGHAM



Former two-term President of the College Democrats of New Jersey, National Political Director of the College Democrats of America, and an Advisory Council Member on Voter's Rights and Protection for the Democratic National Committee. Well-respected, he helped build the College Democrats into a real force.



20 ALYSSA KAYE DAWSON



The former Guadagno aide became the youngest female elected official in the state earlier this year, and could be in line for advancement as part of the next generation of women-powered politics around the state

21 MARIA RODRIGUEZ-GREGG



Though she left office last year, she was one of those rarest of GOP lawmakers: female, Hispanic, and moderate. She's taken an active role in shaping Republican views within the millennial generation, and is a prominent voice in the sexual harassment discussion.

22 MEGAN COYNE



The new president of the NJ College Democrats has beefed up the communications outreach of the group and has been vocal in calling attention to candidates who the NJCD feels lack millennial focus.

23 SARAH R. NEIBERT



The Republican Committeewoman from Mendham Township ran Scott Garrett's 2016 campaign, and earlier this year became the youngest female elected official in the state when she was selected to serve on the township committee.



24 MICHAEL DELAMATER



The respected operative is everywhere and well-connected as the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs in the Murphy Administration. Led field operations for the Murphy Campaign in Monmouth County.

25 BRANDON MCKOY



Already having culled a reputation as a top policy brain in the state, McKoy is uniquely positioned as millennial policy expert: he knows how the state's challenges affect the youngest residents.

"You've got to be willing to work long hours, and to do work that isn't always the most exciting or glamorous, especially early on. But I've found that being willing to step up and deliver opens a lot of doors at the end of the day. That, and maintaining a strong network. NJ politics is a small world, and I've found that building strong relationships really makes a difference."

- Cristina Zuk, Princeton Public Affairs

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26 MUSSAB ALI



He ran for a Jersey City BOE seat in 2017 while still a Rutgers student, and his millennial-powered campaign proved successful, elevating him as the youngest member of the board.

27 MICHAEL SULEIMAN



Atlantic County Democratic Chair and veteran operative in LD2, he's the youngest chair and symbolic of the future of Democratic party structure under a new generation.



28 SAM JOSHI



Still not even 30, the Edison Councilman snagged his seat in last year's municipal elections.

29 KENNETH GONZALEZ



President of the Hudson County Young Republicans and High School Republicans. Hudson County Republican Chairman Jose Arango sees him as the future of the Hudson GOP.

"I would offer the two pieces of advice I received early on from two of the people who I owe the most to. My Dad, Paul Swibinski, told me simply to work hard and not screw people, and the rest will work out. Mayor Nick Sacco told me to always keep your word and never go back on a promise. I've taken both of these pieces of advice to heart and tried my best to live up to them. They have always served me well."

- Phil Swibinski, Vision Media Vice President

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30 CHRISTOPHER TULLY



The former Bergenfield Council President is now in the Assembly – and doubles as Rep. Gottheimer’s district director, giving a millennial’s viewpoint on the local, state, and federal levels.

31 JOHN FRANCIS ROMAN



He won off the line in Linden and established himself as the millennial counterpoint in an aged industrial town. A gutsy guy with a promising political future.



32 CRISTINA PINZON



Head of her own consulting group, State-side Affairs, she’s the future of Latina operatives in the state.

33 MATT PLATKIN



The Governor’s scary smart legal counsel, he’s made an early impact as the legal arm of Murphy’s policy and executive order shop.

"Experiment with internships and campaign jobs to find your niche where you know you're going to give 110% day in and out. While doing that, find a good mentor who's been around the block and is willing to go to bat for a young person to have a seat at the table. Lastly, don't be afraid to get out of your comfort zone while putting in long hours. Hard work, dedication, and loyalty will go along way."

- Marshall Spevak, CRDA Deputy Executive Director And NJ Young Democrats President

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34 MIKE MAKARSKI



The veteran political consultant is now with ELEC825. He's a little like the George Lazenby of New Jersey politics: a leading man who can pack a punch.

35 BRITNEE TIMBERLAKE



Essex's youngest state legislator, she assumed the assembly seat left behind fellow East Orange resident Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver.

36 ALEX CUCCINIELLO



A leading millennial voice on conservative politics, he's the executive director of the Super PAC Organization For Economic Growth.

37 LOUIS DIPAOLO



Former Legislative Director for Working Families NJ, now Communications Director for NJ Policy Perspective, he's also a veteran of the Legislature having worked for Senator Gordon, and the youngest elected Council member in Dumont.

"Get involved as much as possible, never be afraid of making mistakes, and maintain relationships with everyone you meet. Politics is a world of connections and you never know who might be able to help you down the line in your career or your cause."

- Garret Racz, NJ College Democrats State Council Chair

38 CHRIS JAMES



A brand-name already, the East Orange Council President has connections everywhere due to his service as LG Oliver's COS, NJSDC Executive Director, and Young Dems President, having worked to build the group into a formidable force.

39 JESSE O. KURTZ



A Republican in a city where the GOP is outnumbered 10 to 1 and the media age of a resident is 35, the 32-year old Councilman is the face of Atlantic City millennial politics as the ocean-front gaming mecca looks towards its renaissance.



40 SUSAN RAGHEB



The new executive director of the HCDO under Amy DeGise, Ragheb takes the helm of the day-in-and-day out of that most entrenched and aged of political organizations.

41 GIANCARLO GHIONE



The Chairman of the New Jersey Young Republican Federation is an active and leading millennial voice around the state and his home county of Bergen, and is close with Hudson GOP Chair Arango

"Take time to reflect on what brought you into public service – remember who and what you're fighting for. Don't be afraid to let your values drive your work."

- Louis DiPaolo, NJ Policy Perspective Communications Director



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★ TOP MILLENNIALS
LIST HONOREES 2018 ★

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  LUPEPAC

LUPEPAC is a non-partisan political action committee whose mission is to increase the number of Latinas in elected and appointed office in the State of New Jersey.

We promote and support progressive Latinas running for local, state and federal office.

42 ASHLEY
BENNETT



The Atlantic County Freeholder won a convincing victory last year, becoming the youngest countywide elected official.

43 MATT
ROONEY



A Republican attorney and leading conservative voice via SaveJersey, the blog he founded.

"I believe the most effective elected officials are the ones who understand how to build relationships. Take an interest in who you are talking to, where they are from and what they are all about instead of taking a superficial interest in order to check a box every time you see them at an event. Also, be nice to everyone. Just because you are on opposite sides of a political race, it does not make you enemies. You don't even know each other. Never let your ego get ahead of you because you never know when someone will be your boss based on a relationship he or she built that you had no idea. Never let it be personal unless they personally came after you, your family or your job."

- Senator Vin Gopal

44 ADAM
STEINBERGER



The veteran Kivvit operative brings a lethal combination of numbers-crunching and organizing savvy.

45 MEAGAN
WARNER



President of the Mercer Community College Democrats chapter, she's also a Legislative Intern at the New Jersey Legislature, worked on the Reed Gusciora Mayoral Campaign, and is Statewide Communications Director for the New Jersey College Democrats. Last year, she was elected to the South Hunterdon Regional School Board.

46 ARCHANGE ANTOINE



One of the state's most important on-the-ground social justice activists on every thing from law enforcement reform to immigration.

47 THEO SIGGELAKIS



Coming out of Benson-world in Mercer County, the respected millennial opened up Broad Street Strategies, and is an up-and-coming fundraising consultant, with clients lined up across the state.

"The only way out is through. Stay engaged, stay informed, and stay focused – no matter whether you win or lose."

– Megan Coyne, NJ College Democrats President

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48 INTASHAN CHOUDHURY



In line to become one of the youngest BAs in the state, and a potential candidate for office, Choudhury is emblematic of the rise of Bengali power and influence within government, as the right hand of Prospect Park Mayor Khairullah.

49 BRIAN PLATT



Chair of the Hudson County Young Dems and director of the city's Office of Innovation, he's currently the Business Administrator in Jersey City, bringing a millennial's viewpoint to the inner sanctum of the government of the state's second largest city.



50 MATT KRAYTON AND HENRY DEKONINCK



The heads of Publicity, they both bring millennial tech savviness and data knowledge to the political and policy worlds.

51 JAMES SOLOMON



The Jersey City Councilman is now one of chief millennial voices in city government, and is the founder of JC Future.



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Steve Swetsky
Assistant Executive Director

52 ROBERT
FIELD



The affable aide to Governor Murphy and former Fulop speechwriter was a leading Jersey advocate for DNC chair candidate Pete Buttigieg, who himself is a millennial voice for the future of the Democratic Party.

53 MICHAEL
ZHADANOVSKY



A critical player and mover within the College Democrats of New Jersey.



54 BILL
MOEN



The Camden County Freeholder and Booker District Director brings a millennial perspective to one of the state's southernmost counties.

55 REGINALD
BLEDSOE



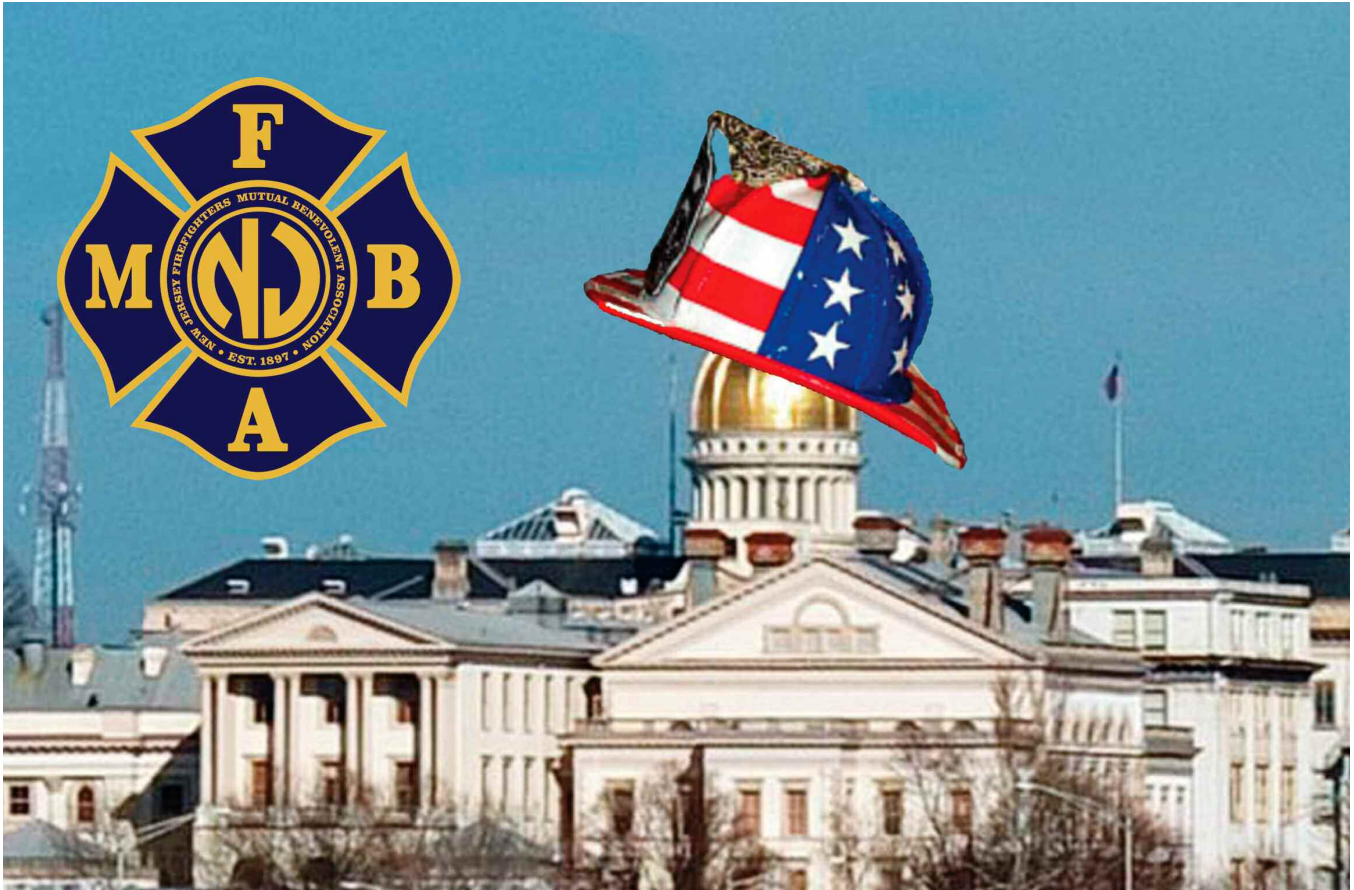
Sitting on the Newark BOE, he brings a millennial perspective to the state's largest city and school district.

When making the decision to enter the political arena, make sure you're doing it because you want to do the job for the right reasons. Too many people, young and old, get wrapped up in the game of politics and ultimately, lose focus of the real meaning of government: public service. I've made a promise to myself to stay true to my values, to help people navigate bureaucracy, and to stay focused on the job I've been appointed to do: serving my community. I think young people often get caught up in trying to reach for the stars, which is good to an extent, but I think it's much more effective to focus on the present and do whatever you can to make a difference. It's my belief that if you do those things and do them well, the sky is the limit without having to aim for it. It's no secret that us millennials are the future but rather than just talk the talk, let's walk the walk and forge a path that will last for those that follow. You down the line in your career or your cause."

- Alyssa Kaye-Dawson, Westwood Councilwoman

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***Ed Donnelly, President
Wayne Wolk, Vice President***

56 JASON LAM



The National Chair of the High School Democrats Of America and Somerset County Young Democrats chair is a rising star.

57 PETER JACOB



A social worker by trade, the progressive Jacob ran in the CD7 primary, and forged forward despite the political establishment trying to keep him down. He lost, but he made his point, and showed he wouldn't be bullied.



58 AXEL OWEN



At the forefront of millennial Gopal's victory clinch in LD11, he's now political director for the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.

59 COLSTON REID



A Virginia transplant with national campaign experience, the campaign manager for Democrat Tom Malinowski in CD7 is going head-to-head with millennial Jim Hillk, campaign manager for US Rep. Lance.

Entering the field of public service in any capacity is certainly not easy and the opportunities to prove yourself do not happen over night. Finding a steady mentor is essential to help guide you through difficult situations, make sure your goals are progressing forward, and that you are always learning. Relationship building is paramount. The common perception for millennials is that we move before we think, or in other words lack patience. Patience in politics is very important, it can become a thankless job so do not expect anything ever in return. If you do not understand something, ask as many questions as you can. Best of luck to all my fellow millennials and aspiring public servants!"

- Intashan Choudhury, Prospect Park Assistant Business Administrator

60 JIM HILK



The Somerville-based Campaign Manager for incumbent Republican US Rep. Leonard Lance in CD7 is going head-to-head with millennial Colston Reid, campaign manager for Democrat Tom Malinowski.

61 ASHLEY ROSONE



A two-term Chair of the New Jersey College Republicans, she worked as Legislative Aide to Assemblywoman DeCroce for 3+ years, and was hired as a statewide organizer for Gov. Charlie Baker's re-election campaign in Massachusetts.



62 PETER SHENOUDA



The Chair of the College of New Jersey College Republicans is currently working for the Congressional Leadership Fund.

63 AJIYA DOKA



Currently Vice President of the College Democrats of New Jersey and President of the Seton Hall College Democrats, she's the first woman of color to become Vice President in CDNJ's history. A statewide college coordinator for the Murphy campaign, she organized college students in voter registration and GOTV efforts.

64 MARIA
DEL CID



The director of legislative services for the New Jersey Department of Health cut her teeth in the office of the late Assemblyman Jerry Green of Union County.

65 AYLON
BERGER



The co-founder and former chair of the NJ High School Democrats who's received national recognition, Berger is currently working on Mikie Sherrill's battleground CD11 campaign.

"If you find yourself interested in volunteering for a political campaign, try to find an email or phone number on the campaign's website. If you don't get a response, continue to contact the campaign, or even consider going to the campaign's office. Nearly all campaigns are enthusiastic about young volunteers, so don't give up until you receive a response!"

– Jason Lam, Vice President of High School Democrats of American

66 BOB
ANDRZECZAK



The Iraqi war veteran is also a legislative veteran at this point, and is Chair...South Jersey. He could make a play...Congress.

67 RASHAWN
DAVIS



The youngest to ever run for Newark Council, the Georgetown alum advocated for millennial issues during his candidacy, and was named to Mayor Baraka's civilian police review board.

"Perseverance and grit is a damn good substitute for experience. What you do every day matters more than what you do once in a while. Love the process and the process will love you back, especially when we've got a long run ahead of us."

– Michael Whelan, Red Bank Councilman

68 SCOTT SALMON



He impressed with his CD7 campaign and created some brilliant ads, showed political cunning in endorsing Malinowski, and now started the Facebook video series 'Politically Driven'.

69 NEDIA MORSEY



The program director for 'Make The Road NJ', she's a leading millennial advocate for immigrant and first-generation students, particularly in her home base of Union County.

"Growing up around and inside of the political arena taught me that your skin should be thick but your heart and mind should always be open. Being a good leader isn't about amplifying your voice but engaging others to join the conversation on good government. I've learned that people will remember how you treat them more than what you could do for them, so I work harder on creating relationships than adversaries. Not everyone will always agree with you, but they will know that every decision you make is an educated one and respect your fair-mindedness."

- Amy DeGise, HCDO Chair

70 JONATHAN CASTENEDA



The former COS to West New York Mayor Roque is also the Democratic Chair there, and he executed a flawless county committee strategy during the HCDO fight for winning team DeGise.

71 AMBER GESSLEIN



The face of the Monmouth Democrats this year as a freeholder candidate, the NJ Laborers administrator is focusing her campaign on millennial issues.

72 CLINTON CALABRESE



The next generation of the Calabrese political powerhouse family, he's the youngest legislator now in Trenton and the youngest in Bergen County, making him the standard-bearer of millennial issues in the state's largest county.

73 SHEENA COLLUM



The first female to serve as South Orange village president – and the second youngest after her predecessor, Alex Torpey, Collum is a rising star in Essex County Democratic Party politics.

You will almost always be the youngest at the table. Know your subject matter and be prepared. When you're not, people will point to your age and inexperience. We have to work twice as hard to maintain our position as equals to everyone else around the table. & Do not get told to "sit back and learn". Many times it's an attempt to moderate a young person's desire for change and improvement. The time for sitting back and learning is when you're a candidate. Advocate for what you believe in, knowing that your generation's voting power is growing by the daymake is an educated one and respect your fair-mindedness."

- Daniel Golabek, Elmwood Park Council President

74 STATHIS THEODOROPOULOS



The founder and host of Jersey XYZ, a politics and policy podcast, he focuses on millennial issues and regularly has millennial guests on the show.

75 BRIANNA EARLE



Working in Governor Murphy's IGA Office, she learned campaigns from her mother: Democratic State Party Vice Chair Lizette Delgado Polanco.

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&
SAM WEINSTEIN

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76 MICHAEL SPADORO



A millennial LGBT activist, Spadoro came up in the NJSDC and now is in charge of Rep. Watson Coleman's political campaign.

77 THEO GRAYER



A co-founder of the High School Democrats, Grayer now serves as Chief of Staff to the group.

"Every morning ask yourself what you will do today to make the world less difficult for others. If by the end of the day you have nothing to show, you're doing a disservice to yourself and those around you."

- Christian Fuscarino, Garden State Equality Executive Director

78 MICHAEL WHELAN



He was spotlighted as a losing Assembly candidate in LD11, and went down with Beck's ship, but he provided the GOP's millennial counterpoint to Democrat Gopal, and is popular in Monmouth GOP circles and considered a rising star.

79 WALEED MIQBEL



A trusted aide to state Senator Brian P. Stack (D-33), Miquel blends the old-school Hudson street-conquest with a millennial bent.

"I think it's important to understand that change doesn't happen overnight. When you step up to become a leader, you've assumed a great deal of responsibility in conditions of uncertainty. It is imperative to maintain the commitment to your cause in the face of hardship and intense criticism."

- Zachary Dougherty, March For Our Lives NJ

80 KARI
OSMOND



The Lambertville resident serves as district director for U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-12).

81 SAM
WEINSTEIN



The Republican operative from Somerset County is a rising star at Princeton Public Affairs, and got his start as the driver for former Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli (R-16).



82 MATT
CONLON



CD5 primary, but the passionate Conlon isn't afraid of a battle, and is a veteran of county politics. Close with GOP power center Chair Peter Murphy, the former muni chair is now a YR State Committeeman and PCRRO Secretary

83 KATIE
CERICOLA



The Bergen County native is the host of 'Millennial Minute With Katie' podcast, and is a growing influence among young politicians.

You'll encounter folks in politics who want to cut you down to size just because of your age. As the youngest county chairperson in history, I got that a lot. The only way to fight that is to work your ass off and show everyone that age is just a number. Get back to people on time, always follow-up, and do a good job"

- Michael Suleiman, Atlantic County Democrats Chairman

84 RYAN DORAN



A Camden County Planning Board member, he's an up-and-coming union force, as the co-chair of the NJ Young Democrats Labor Caucus.

85 ALYANA ALFARO-POST



With a millennial understanding of new media honed during her days as a statewide beat reporter, she now has the task of helping the Front Office navigate the state's media sources.

If you want to run for office as a millennial, many will always tell you it's not your time. Disregard the naysayers but have humility and learn from everyone and everything. When you feel you're ready, that you're doing it for the right reasons, run on your vision, own your views and beliefs - be authentic. The establishment will very likely lash back to preserve their position, at times hard, but don't sway or lose track. If you win, avoid becoming part of that status quo, if you lose, keep challenging it.

- Mike DeFusco, Hoboken Councilman

86 DANIEL AND JAKUB GOLABEK



Both in Elmwood Park, Daniel is the youngest councilman in Bergen County – Council President, now – and Jakub is the youngest board of education member. Literal brothers in political arms.

87 BRIAN FITZHERBERT



He didn't win in CD2, but he made a stand, and was chosen by Atlantic County Republican Chairman Davis to head up the Young Republicans – and early on has shown a willingness to use that role to fight for young Republicans.

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88 DAVID
SPECTOR



The former Bellmawr Councilman was the youngest elected in the South Jersey town, and currently is the VP for Trades and Unions Magazine.

89 HANK
LYON



When he was first elected in his early 20s as a Morris Freeholder, he became the millennial face of the next generation conservative movement in Morris – and statewide – and still commands respect.

“Don’t sit around waiting for the phone to ring. Follow up and be persistent even if it means being a nudge sometimes. Be the person who stands out instead of being forgotten. I believe your colleagues and peers will appreciate your willingness to be relentless in a professional manner and take it as a positive trait, not a negative one.”

– Dave Spector, former Bellmawr Councilman

90 ZACH
MYSHKOFF



Young GOP consultant who’s taken on several local campaigns, and is a rising star in the Middlesex GOP.

91 NICK
BRAGO



A student at Rowan University, Brago is a publisher of two books, worked for Victory 2017, and is the Southern Regional Chair for the College Democrats of New Jersey.

92 BRIAN MULLIGAN



He has a trifecta millennial GOP role as chair of the Seton Hall College Republicans, Vice Chair of the NJ College Republicans, and Vice Chair of the Morris County Young Republicans.

93 ANTHONY RIOS



The President of the Stevens College Democrats and statewide Political Director of the New Jersey College Democrats, he organized college students for Hoboken Mayor Ravi Bhalla's winning mayoral campaign.

Congratulations to the NJ Chamber Women Leaders In Innovation Award Recipients for 2018



*Assemblywoman Shavonda Sumter (D-35)
(Majority Conference Leader)*



*Assemblywoman Nancy Muñoz (R-21)
(Republican Whip)*



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94 DAVIEL
RODRIGUEZ



The Speaker of the Senate at Rutgers University-Newark, he's a trained DNC young gun who's interned for both Senator Booker and Governor Murphy.

95 MARK
GYORFY



The former Sires staffer is making a play for a council seat in Morris Township, and is the personification of the new-look Democratic Party in the county, which has been making in-roads in the GOP stronghold.

"Hard work and a successful mentor are priceless."

- Jesse Kurtz, Atlantic City Councilman



Congratulations
to all the Young Democrats
being honored in



Millennial 100!

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96 RYAN JONES



The South River Councilman and Hoagland Longo lawyer has worked on developing urban planning concepts and 21st century design into suburban areas – an approach that appeals to millennials, who are migrating out of state.

97 MARELYN RIVERA



Coming up in the male-dominated Hudson County as aide to Freeholder Stick Romano, Rivera thrived as a respected and classy operative and advanced to the Governor's Office.



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Amy DeGise

Chair, Hudson County Democratic Organization



Jimmy Davis

Mayor, City of Bayonne



Michael Wildes

Democratic Nominee for Mayor, City of Englewood



Michael Melham

Mayor-elect, Township of Belleville

Jongchul Lee & Chong Paul Kim

Democratic Nominees for Council, Borough of Palisades Park

Sharon Ashe-Nadrowski, Juan Perez, Tom Cotter, Sal Gullace and Gary La Pelusa, Sr.

Council, City of Bayonne

Naomy De Pena and Tom Graziano

Council-Elect, Township of Belleville

Ruth Shaw, Sam Jaafar and Claudia Rodriguez

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98 DEMETRIUS TERRY



A former College Democrats Vice President, Terry has experience working on the ground in Hudson County and has made millennial issues the foundation of his political presence and advocacy.

99 MOLLIE BINNOTTO



At ground zero of national politics as the helmswoman of Democrat Mikie Sherrill's CD11 campaign.

Senator Booker congratulates all those recognized in the 2018 InsiderNJ 100 Millennials List

"For Democracy is never a thing done. Democracy is always something that a nation must be doing."

- Archibald MacLeish

CORYBOOKER
U.S. SENATE

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100 KASON LITTLE



Student activist in Elizabeth, he co-founded the Students For Elizabeth Advisory Committee, and is rising voice for students' issues.

Listen passionately, think deeply, react when necessary and fail early and often. Never compromise your ideals but be flexible in your methods. Show respect for different view points and travel, travel, travel. Also, never allow a young kid to run around sans diaper.

**- Andrew Regenstreich,
NLC Fellow**

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MILLENNIALS ON THE RISE

- **Abraham Lopez:** Westampton Councilman and former Deputy Chief to LG Guadagno
- **Ali Rhode:** Press Secretary to Rep. Gottheimer
- **Andrea Katz:** COS at the Department of Human Services
- **Andrew Regenstreich:** The NLC fellow has been active in campaigns around the state, and is a rising force in the development world
- **Andrew Trenk:** a classic, West Orange-schooled Democratic Party operative with ties every where, including up north and at the shore
- **Bharati Ganesh:** An up-and-coming influencer among her politically active South Asian peers
- **Bianca Jerez:** DACC political director
- **Billy Leonard:** The GOP Councilman in Glen Rock took on the LD38 Assembly contest in 2017
- **Brandon Givens:** rising behind-the-scenes player in Union County
- **Brendan Neal:** Trenton Mayor Reed Gusciora's right hand come clutch time.
- **Brendan Quinones:** Long active in Bergen GOP circles, the former NJ Young Republicans president helped engineer DiGaetano's 2017 chair victory
- **Brittany Wheeler:** The former Ciattarelli campaign staffer is now Assemblyman DePhillips' COS
- **Bryce Robins:** Elected in 2016 to the Leonia BOE at age 17
- **Carl Benedetti Jr.:** The Ewing BOE member is making a play for the LD15 Assembly seat
- **Chance Lykins:** Already a veteran at MBI Gluck-Shaw, his profile is poised to rise under the leadership of new head Rudy Garcia
- **Charlie Kratovil:** The newsman-turned-candidate is gearing up for a New Brunswick mayoral run
- **Chris DiPiazza:** The Paramus councilman could be a future Assembly candidate from a battleground town, in a battle ground district
- **Cody McLaughlin:** building up the NJ Outdoorsman Alliance
- **Cullen McAuliffe:** Impact NJ, Running for Freeholder in Burlington County
- **Davon McCurry:** A rising star in the lobbying world, having cut his teeth at the venerated Princeton Public Affairs
- **Derel Stroud:** Pursued an independent LG candidacy in 2017
- **Diana Candelejo:** The right hand of RWJ-Barnabas' Michellene Davis
- **Elton Armady:** Plainfield Councilman
- **Fahim Abedrabbo:** First Muslim Arab-American elected school board member in Clifton
- **Garret Racz:** Head of the NJ Young Democrats State Council
- **Gary La Spisa:** Public policy rising star with the NJ Apartment Association
- **Gregory Good:** Economic Development Manager for East Orange
- **James Belford Damiano:** Youngest elected Mayor of Little Falls
- **James Eaddy:** Young marijuana legalization activist
- **James Kern III:** The Pohatcong Mayor is the youngest in the state, and seeking a freeholder spot
- **Jason Cilento:** Dunellen Councilman
- **Javahn Walker:** Ran in the Democratic primary in CD6 earlier this year
- **John McCarthy:** Elected the youngest municipal chairman in Keansburg at age 18
- **Jude Ezeh:** The National Political Director for the College Democrats of American
- **Junior Romero:** Environmental advocate with Food and Water Watch
- **Justin Shoham:** The founder of Enigma Consulting, he served as Assemblyman Mukherji's COS

MILLENNIALS ON THE RISE

- **Kavita Mehra:** Executive Director of Sahki for South Asian Women
- **Kavita Mehra:** Executive Director of Sahki for South Asian Women
- **Kate Gibbs:** The youngest when first elected, she's now the Director of the Burlington County Freeholders
- **Kyle Darby:** The South Jersey resident is a rising black millennial in the lobbying world
- **Lauren Zisa:** A rising operative who handled John McCann's CD5 communications
- **Liz Gilbert:** NJSDC Executive Director
- **Mariel DiDato:** Ran for LD31 Assembly last year
- **Matt Jordon:** Passaic County Deputy Administrator
- **Max Blum:** Executive Director of the Somerset County Democrats
- **Megan Cryan:** Kivvit's newest star addition, she focuses on energy and infrastructure
- **Matthew Gilson:** Active Bergen GOP young gun
- **Matthew Moensch:** The Bridgewater Council VP is on the rise
- **Megan Cryan:** Kivvit's newest star addition, she focuses on energy and infrastructure.
- **Mohamed Asker:** The Rutgers student has been the NJ College Dems treasurer and an aide to the Middlesex Freeholder Board.
- **Nadia Hussain:** Co-founder of the Bangladeshi American Women's Development Initiative
- **Ned Miller:** Van Drew for Congress campaign manager
- **Nick Mamanno:** longtime COS to Senator Lagana
- **Ryan Peene:** Having cut his teeth at MBI Gluck Shaw, he's plugged in everywhere
- **Ryan Peters:** LD8 Assemblyman who succeeded Maria Rodriguez-Gregg
- **Sabeen Masih:** Director of Public Affairs for Capital Impact Group, she's the co-founder of South Asian Women Of Trenton Networking Group
- **Sam Fogelgaren:** Smart as a whip young Democrat
- **Sandra Meola:** Rising environmental expert
- **Scartlett Rajski:** Director of Appointments for Governor Murphy
- **Sergio Granado:** Union County Freeholder President
- **Seth Levin:** Chief of Staff to Assemblyman Roy Freiman (D-16)
- **Sikaander Khan:** The Passaic County freeholder aid is active in the Arab community
- **Simon Pereira:** A Booker world operative now at Mercury Public Affairs
- **Stephen Steglik:** The chair of the Burling County Young Democrats is seeking a council seat in Mount Laurel
- **Sydney Ugalde:** Chair of the Morris County Young Republicans
- **Theresa Furmato Velardi:** Former Monmouth GOP ED
- **Tia Fritze:** State Committeewoman from Morris County
- **TJ Best:** The youngest Paterson BOE member became the youngest Passaic County freeholder
- **Tyler Burrell:** Delran councilman
- **Victoria Napolitano:** Moorestown Mayor, youngest female elected in the state



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