



an
omni-american
future

***The 2024-25 Omni-American
Ambassadors***

Reuben Berman attended List College, the Joint Program between Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. He majored in Ancient History and Talmud & Rabbinics, respectively. He completed a History Department thesis entitled *Warring with Patience: Persian Strategy in the Aegean and Asia Minor, 400-386 BC*. While at Columbia, he also served as the theater critic for the *Columbia Daily Spectator*. He graduated Cum Laude from both institutions.



After graduation, Reuben worked as a Research Fellow at the Reut Institute in Tel Aviv. During his time there, he focused his research on the ongoing delegitimization of Israel. He also conducted extensive research into understanding the nature of Jewish peoplehood and overcoming the divisions between the American and Israeli Jewish Communities.

Following his time in Israel, he returned to New York and worked for the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations from 2018-2023. He first served as the Executive Assistant to Malcolm Hoenlein and later as the Program Manager for the COP's Antisemitism Task Force.

Currently, Reuben is the Director of Campus Support and Action Implementation in Hillel International's Campus Climate Initiative. In this role, he supports universities and their

administrators as they strive to make their campuses more inclusive, welcoming, and supportive of Jewish students.

A New Yorker by birth and temperament, Reuben is passionate about classic cinema, fine wines, and great books. In his free time, he hosts delicious Shabbat dinners, explores the New York cocktail scene, and travels to Europe as often as possible. He lives in Washington Heights, Manhattan.

Domo Branch is a musical prodigy from Portland, Oregon. An African American producer, drummer, composer and artist, and graduate of the Manhattan School of Music where he studied multiple genres, Domo Branch has toured from Europe to Central America and worked with artists such as Sean Jones, Wynton Marsalis, Stefon Harris, Dianne Reeves, and many more.



Angel Eduardo is a writer, musician, photographer, and designer based in New York City, best-known for coining and promoting the rhetorical concept of star-manning. He works as Senior Writer & Editor for the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE), and serves as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Foundation Against Intolerance & Racism (FAIR).



Angel holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from CUNY Hunter College, and has had writing featured in *The Free Press*, *Quillette*, *Newsweek*, *Areo Magazine*, and *Mr. Beller's Neighborhood*, among other print and online publications.

His photographs have been featured in various exhibitions and used as cover art for books—most notably in *Personal Effects: Essays on Memoir, Teaching and Culture in the Work of Louise DeSalvo* for Fordham University Press, which makes use of his photograph, “Early Bird.”

Angel has been writing, performing, and recording music since the age of 15, and has been intimately involved in every creative facet of his projects, from songwriting, producing, mixing, and mastering, to designing and overseeing the creation of album artwork, concert posters, and merchandise.

Be it with music, writing, photography, or design, Angel is an artist inspired to inspire. His hope is to pay it forward—providing others with the same solace, inspiration, perspective, and opportunity for personal and intellectual growth that the work of others has done for him.

In the social realm, Angel advocates for a compassionate, honest, and civil approach to discourse, even when we're incentivized to bare our teeth and dig in our heels. Through

his work he hopes to foster more productive conversations on the topics of the day, all bolstered by his own six words of advice: Be kind; we're all first drafts.

Sheena Michele Mason is an assistant professor of English at SUNY Oneonta. She holds a PhD with distinction in English from Howard University in Washington, DC, USA, and specializes in Africana and American literature studies and philosophy of race. She is published with Oxford University Press, Palgrave MacMillan, Cambridge University Press, and the University of Warsaw among other presses. She is the innovator of the togetherness wayfinder (formerly and alternatively called the theory of racelessness) and founder of Theory of Racelessness, an educational firm. Her book [*The Raceless Antiracist: Why Ending Race Is the Future of Antiracism*](#) shows how ending our belief in “race” and practice of racialization is required toward the goal of ending the causes and effects of racialized dehumanization.



David ben Moshe is a coach and storyteller whose life is a testament to the power of positive change. At age 23, while serving a prison sentence for selling drugs and guns, he decided to turn his life around. He was released early for good behavior to Baltimore, MD, where he became a successful personal trainer. Within a few years, David operated his own fitness studio, earned a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science (Magna Cum Laude from Towson University), and became a fitness consultant for the Baltimore Police Department (SWAT division).



Torah study was a significant part of David's transformation in prison. In Baltimore, he also completed an Orthodox Jewish conversion at B'nai Israel Synagogue, one of the oldest synagogues in the United States. After being [prevented from attending Graduate School](#), due to his criminal record, David decided to move to Israel. He spent a year [studying at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies](#) in Jerusalem as a social justice fellow and then applied for Israeli citizenship — an automatic right for all Jews, including converts. The Israeli government illegally ignored David's request and then fabricated additional barriers to stop him from receiving citizenship. Undeterred, David spent five years fighting for his rights, culminating in [an eight-day hunger strike](#). Following this extreme act of protest, [he received Israeli citizenship](#).

After becoming a dual US-Israeli citizen, David earned a master's degree in journalism from New York University with a perfect 4.00 GPA. His writing has been featured in many publications, including Newsweek, The Jerusalem Post, and Business Insider. David has traveled internationally, telling his incredible story of positive transformation at universities, synagogues, and community centers across North America, Europe, and Israel.

David lives in Be'er Sheva, Israel, with his wife and three children. He is currently working on a podcast that will tell the story of his journey from Federal prison in the United States to his new life in Israel and operates an online coaching business that helps Jewish parents become strong, flexible, and lean so they can live to be 120. David also aspires to become a competent harmonica player.

John Wood Jr. is a leading figure in the American depolarization movement. He is national ambassador for Braver Angels, the United States largest grassroots, bipartisan organization dedicated to political depolarization. A nationally recognized public speaker on the subjects of political and racial reconciliation, Wood has spoken across America to a wide range of the nation's most respected think tanks, universities, corporations, philanthropic organizations and political associations including the Aspen Institute, the Manhattan Institute, CPAC 2019, Global Philanthropy Forum, the Philanthropy Roundtable, Upswell, Target, General Mills, LucasFilm, Oregon League of Cities, Institute for Local Government, and campus audiences including Pepperdine, Duke University, USC, Purdue, UC Berkeley and many others. Mr. Wood's written work has appeared in a wide range of publications, including *The Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *The Washington Examiner*, *Quillette Magazine*, *Areo Magazine*, *Reflections (A Journal of the Yale School of Divinity)*, *Real Clear Politics*, *Persuasion Magazine*, *The American Interest* and many others. Wood is a co-host of the *Braver Angels Podcast* and host of *The John Wood Jr. Show*.



Prior to his work with Braver Angels, Wood was the state of California's youngest active nominee for congress in the 2014 election cycle, challenging Maxine Waters in California's 43rd district. His unifying campaign was covered by outlets including *The National Review* and *The Larry Elder Show*. After the election Wood was elected as 2nd Vice-Chairman of the Republican Party of Los Angeles, the largest Republican county party in America.

In addition to his work with Braver Angels, Wood serves as an advisor to The American Project (an initiative of the Pepperdine School of Public Policy dedicated to restoring the communitarian roots of conservatism), the Foundation Against Intolerance and Racism, the 1776 Unites Project, is a member of the Progress Network (an initiative of the New

America Foundation) and is a field-builder with the New Pluralists Collaborative (a group committed to depolarization and social justice). Wood has worked in support of educational opportunities for at risk youth in inner-city Los Angeles in the areas of tutoring and private education. He sits on the board of directors for Strive Arts and Academics, a celebrated private educational facility in South Los Angeles.

Wood was raised in a musical family. His father is noted Jazz Pianist John Wood, his mother a popular Los Angeles based R&B singer Deonda Theus. Wood's grandfather was record industry pioneer Randy Wood, of Dot Records and Randy's Record Shop fame. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and three children.