

# STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY QUARTERLY

FALL 2015

## LIBERTARIAN STUDENTS LEAD **MILLIONS** IN BRAZIL

**BRAZIL SPOTLIGHT:**  
*Libertarian students  
might impeach the  
president* PG. 6

**POLICY CHANGE ON  
CAMPUS:** *Students  
fight back for their  
rights* PG. 9

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**  
*Marcel Van Hattem on  
how SFL changed his  
life* PG. 10



# Letter FROM THE PRESIDENT

STUDENTS FOR  
LIBERTY

*By Alexander McCobin*

Imagine millions of people protesting in the streets of a major city, criticizing their government for economic stagnation and corruption. Imagine that a 19-year-old idealist is on stage at the front of the crowd, shouting into a microphone, drawing cheers and applause with every phrase he utters. Imagine that he asks the people if the government-owned national oil company has ever helped out anyone in the crowd, to which they answer, “No!” Now imagine, when he asks the crowd what they should do with the national oil company, they shout in unison, “PRIVATIZE IT!”

This is not fiction. It is a description of what is happening in Brazil right now. There is footage on YouTube of that very scene. It is an example of the growing impact of the student movement for liberty around the world.

Students For Liberty’s national and international vision is coming into focus.

The powerful and simple idea of liberty is changing the world. SFL’s strategy to educate, develop, and empower the next generation of leaders of liberty is unfolding. We know the principles of liberty are the right ideas, and SFL is committed to identifying and cultivating the right people to articulate and implement them.

This year, I’m pleased to report that Students For Liberty has undergone tremendous growth, in the short-term regarding our current operations as well as in investments to reach our long-term potential.

Consider that in the first half of the 2015–2016 school year, SFL has:

- Trained 1,427 student leaders around the world;
- Grown to 2,847 student groups; and
- Organized 59 conferences for 6,088 attendees.

SFL students are organizing events to counter the statist indoctrination most college freshman

**“I’M NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT MOST PEOPLE RECOGNIZING LIBERTY’S BENEFITS. OLD POLITICIANS – AND OLD VOTERS COLLECTING SOCIAL SECURITY – MAY NEVER CHANGE THEIR MINDS. BUT LIBERTARIANISM IS GROWING FASTEST AMONG THE YOUNG, AND GROUPS LIKE STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY GIVE ME HOPE. THESE YOUNG PEOPLE CERTAINLY KNOW MORE ABOUT LIBERTY THAN I DID AT THEIR AGE.”**

*-John Stossel*

receive during new student orientation. SFL students are educating their peers about the importance of the US Constitution by organizing events on Constitution Day. SFL students are supporting the individual right to bear arms in the face of media opposition to this fundamental civil liberty. We have seen tremendous results by reaffirming our commitment to empowering students by supporting their efforts to advance the cause of liberty on campuses around the world.

We are also investing in the long-term potential of SFL. We have recently hired two additions to the executive team. Laura Cheplak has joined SFL as our first official Chief Operating Officer to continue growing SFL’s programs at a rapid pace. Matt Waters has joined SFL as Director of Development to make sure we are raising the funds necessary to support our continued growth. We announced a new partnership with Young Americans for Liberty to turn Alumni For Liberty ([www.alumniforliberty.org](http://www.alumniforliberty.org)) into a joint project in which both organizations send alumni to build up the largest network of pro-liberty individuals possible.

In addition to all this, an exciting development is taking place in Brazil. Throughout this document, you will read about SFL students in Brazil who

are organizing conferences for thousands of individuals. You’ll learn about an SFL alum who has been elected as a State Representative and is becoming a leading opponent of government intervention in people’s lives. And you’ll discover the details of a movement that includes millions of people across the country calling for the impeachment of the president, Dilma Rousseff, and widespread reforms toward (classical) liberalization, being led by current students and SFL alumni. The cover of our quarterly report features the dramatic display of what happens when millions of people are ignited by the flames of freedom.

Thanks to you and your support, Students For Liberty is growing, our alumni network is expanding, students are engaged, and liberty is blossoming.

Sincerely & For Liberty,



Alexander McCobin  
Co-Founder & President



## NEW STRIKE TEAMS FOCUS ON ENCOURAGING STUDENT ACTIVISM

*By Monica Lucas*

This year, SFL experimented for the first time with “Strike Teams,” an internal task team of sorts designed to facilitate interdepartmental collaboration on timely issues that affect our students. Strike teams were focused on advancing a single issue at a time to our network, and included Campus Disorientation, Constitution Day, and “Not Just a Gun” gun-rights activism.

Campus Disorientation was created to help pro-liberty student groups reach new students on campus before statist professors and administrators did. SFL offered \$100 activism grants for students wishing to participate, funding dozens of events at new student involvement fairs and other campus activities. Students hosted a plethora of events, including an *Atlas Shrugged* movie night, socials for new members, political quiz tabling activities, and much more. In total, hundreds of students were reached via activities put on by students through this program, allowing our campus activists around the world to help students disengage from the statism that is often present in the academy.

The Strike Team next focused on Constitution Day, encouraging students in the United States to stand up for their individual rights. Most participants in this event used the \$100 grant to hand out copies of the Constitution and purchase a “Free Speech Ball,” which they rolled around their campuses, encouraging fellow students to write on it. The idea of a Free Speech Ball was first created at the University of North Texas, when a group of students wanted to get around the “standing structure” limitation put on Free Speech Walls on campus. The idea caught on and has quickly become the single most popular form

of on-campus activism in our network. This year, dozens of schools used the Constitution Day grant to create free speech balls and walls on campus, engaging thousands of students and promoting the First Amendment and the Constitution.

After Constitution Day, SFL turned its focus to gun rights, an issue that had been gaining national attention since the recent shooting at an Oregon college. The “Not Just a Gun” campaign was created to show a side of the gun rights argument that is often overlooked—how gun control has been used historically to oppress minority communities, and how policies like stop-and-frisk disproportionately target people of color. We encouraged our students to take up social media with the #NotJustaGun hashtag and saw a number of people create white signs to post in photos on social media about how gun rights are just as much about protection as the Second Amendment. The SFL Blog Team and Young Voices Advocates contributed to the issues of gun control and minority rights by hosting two podcasts on the topics and publishing numerous blogs and op-eds about them.

All in all, SFL’s new Strike Teams have brought attention to a number of relevant issues, drawing hundreds of students into the discussion while advocating for a free academy on campus. We are excited to continue with this program in the future, working with students throughout our global network to generate discourse about libertarian issues on campus. ♦

*Monica Lucas is SFL’s  
North American Programs Director.*



# SFL LEADERS ARE ORGANIZING CONFERENCES ALL OVER THE WORLD

By Matthew Needham

Students For Liberty leaders have been working tirelessly to put together 39 Regional Conferences (RCs) all over the globe. These conferences are typically one-day gatherings for students to learn about the ideas of liberty and best practices for pro-liberty student organizing. We recently organized conferences in California, New York, Brazil, France, Serbia, Venezuela, Kenya, and Australia among many others!

Our RCs are organized by our student leaders. We accept proposals from students who wish to take on the task of organizing a conference. Our programs staff works with them to refine these proposals in order to ensure all SFL conferences are effective and efficient. Most of the student organizers for SFL RCs are involved in one of our Local Coordinator programs or serve on an SFL Executive Board.

Mackenzie Morris, a sophomore at Loyola University in Chicago, got her introduction to SFL at the Chicago RC.

*“After a day of pro-liberty speakers, breakout sessions, and meeting libertarian students from all over the Midwest, I left inspired and felt a new sense of community in the liberty movement. Being a libertarian in a liberal environment can be intimidating, but SFL regional conferences provided me with a community of like-minded peers that I didn’t know existed.”*

Mackenzie is now an SFL Campus Coordinator, working to mobilize other students on her campus to get involved with the fight for liberty.

Twenty-three of these conferences took place in the United States and Canada. Some of these, such as our Chicago RC, have been running annually for seven years now. Our conferences in Alabama, New

Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Montreal, and Virginia are among the newest additions to our conference lineup.

The European SFL team has put on 19 conferences across the continent, from Iceland to Serbia. These conferences follow the same basic format and curriculum as all SFL RCs. In addition to some of SFL’s favorite speakers, such as Dr. James W. Lark III, local pro-liberty speakers from across Europe, like Cato Institute Fellow Johan Norburg, participate in these conferences.

In October, our team in Brazil Estudantes Pela Liberdade held their 4<sup>th</sup> annual national conference in Sao Paulo. This event featured a wide range of speakers, including Dr. David Friedman, Dr. Jose Luis Cordeiro of Singularity University, and Marcel Van Hattem. Van Hattem, a SFL alum, is now a state representative in Brazil.

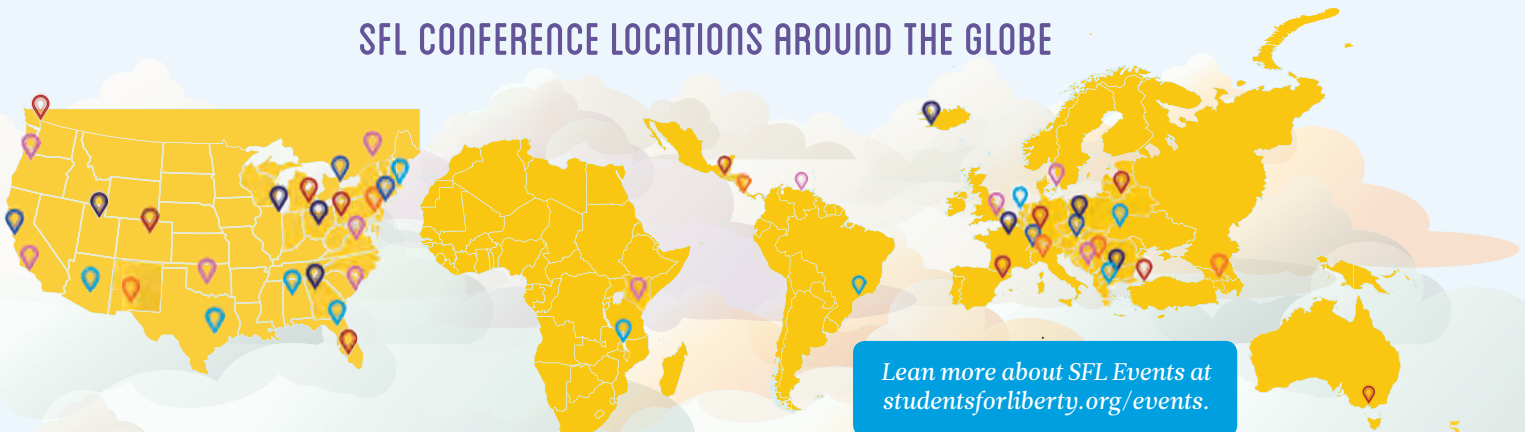
Our African Students For Liberty held their second annual conference at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa in Nairobi, Kenya. They also expanded to Southern Africa with SFL’s first event in Malawi. Down under, the second annual Australia and New Zealand SFL RC was held at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. Looking to the future, plans for an SFL conference in New Zealand are underway.

While these conferences are aimed at students, they are open to all friends of SFL. Please keep an eye out for an SFL conference near you. We will be running more conferences all over the world in 2016, and we would love for you to join us. In the meantime, please see page 15 for more information about our biggest event of the year—our annual International Students For Liberty Conference.◆

Matthew Needham is SFL’s Director of Student Programs.



## SFL CONFERENCE LOCATIONS AROUND THE GLOBE



# LIBERTARIAN STUDENTS LEAD MILLIONS IN BRAZIL

The stakes are high for liberty in Brazil today. The country faces both a major economic and political crisis. Brazil is in a recession thanks to the failed policies of the Labour Party. A presidential impeachment process has begun amidst a corruption scandal. As bad as things are, though, Estudantes Pela Liberdade (EPL) refuses to give up. Instead, EPL is using the current state of affairs as an opportunity to spread the word of liberty because people are now tired of the current statist model. The student movement for liberty is changing Brazil.

Over the past few months, EPL has attracted more than 3,000 attendees to its events; trained 600 coordinators; grown to almost 100 groups linked to the organization; and has promoted its ideals in the traditional media.

One measure of its success is the large number of libertarian events hosted in Brazil. The events

were the Liberdade na Estrada (Liberty on The Road Caravan), the EPL Conference, and the Global Entrepreneurship Week. The Liberty on The Road project is a caravan of student-organized EPL sponsored events. We set a theme, "Truths Your Professors Didn't Teach You," and the organizers picked local speakers that could debunk the participants' views about statist myths. The caravan traveled to 21 cities in 2015, sharing libertarian ideas to over 2,100 attendees, with all the events happening in September. The EPL National Conference on October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in São Paulo had 550 participants and featured achievement awards and speakers like Danilo Gentili (one of the most famous TV hosts in Brazil, and libertarian) and professor David Friedman. And EPL's Global Entrepreneurship Week is being hosted at 16 universities, where two libertarian entrepreneurs can showcase the stories, their careers and how the libertarian ideas helped them build their companies.





Another measure of success is EPL's Local Coordinator (LC) Program. After growing at a staggering rate of 100% per semester, Brazil now is home to half of all SFL's volunteers. The program trained more than 600 LCs in the past semester. However, what makes us proudest are individual stories of LCs having a real impact on changing Brazilian society for the better. This is the embodiment of our mission, and the reason we do what we do.



One example is Darwin Schmidt, a high school student and EPL Local Coordinator who made his mark during a public hearing about a bill to prohibit Uber in São Paulo. This event took place in the Legislative Assembly of the municipality of São Paulo, where Darwin made the case for transportation freedom but was interrupted by an assemblyman who accused him of being in bed with Uber. Later, Darwin was given a chance to speak and said: "You have claimed that someone paid me to be here. I'd also like to know if Sinditaxi



[taxi union] paid you to secure a front against Uber,” and by the end of his sentence, Darwin was verbally attacked by the assemblyman. If he wasn’t stopped by people around him, he likely would have physically assaulted Darwin as well, who was quickly escorted out of the building for his own safety. Darwin’s actions inspired many other EPL leaders to attend public hearings about Uber in Rio de Janeiro, Vitória and Belo Horizonte. In Belo Horizonte, the debate took place at the state’s House of Representatives. Eleven EPL leaders made their voices heard against thousands of taxi drivers and union representatives fighting against transportation freedom and Uber. The action gathered lots of media attention. As a result, EPL’s leaders needed to be guarded at all times by the legislative police and were escorted out of the building as well for their own safety. An EPL board member and a staffer were later harassed by taxi drivers for their participation, but EPL reaffirmed that it will not back down from this fight.

Another and more widely known EPL alum is Kim Kataguiri, a 19-year-old libertarian who is one of the leaders of the Free Brazil Movement calling for the impeachment of the president. After the ruling Labour Party and President Dilma Roussef became

embroiled in multiple corruption scandals, Kim took to the streets in protest. Over the past year, the Free Brazil Movement has grown dramatically to include protests by millions of individuals, massive mainstream media attention, and strong political support for the impeachment of the president. For all his work this past year, Kim was recently named one of *Time Magazine’s* 30 Most Influential Teens of 2015. While EPL is not involved in any political activity, we are proud to see an EPL alum become active on the national political stage and show what a difference young people can make if they work for it.

This was an incredible semester for EPL. We hosted dozens of events and trained hundreds of leaders, but individual stories of empowerment are what we’re most proud of. EPL leaders are having an impact, and our training is being recognized because so many of our students are being accepted into libertarian seminars across the Americas, another great achievement. The challenges of the liberty movement in Brazil are enormous, but with these results, EPL is having an impact on the Brazilian political landscape.◆

*Keep up with the latest EPL news at [epl.org.br](http://epl.org.br).*







## SFL LEADERS ARE CHANGING CAMPUS POLICIES

By *Monica Lucas*

SFL leaders have been busy on campus trying to change policies to build a more free academy. Notably, students at Salem College, Blinn College, and Dixie State University have been fighting to enact free speech and medical amnesty policy changes at their schools. Medical Amnesty is a program that protects people from liability when they seek medical attention for an illegal act, such as underage drinking or drug use.

Shortly after creating a Students For Sensible Drug Policy chapter at Salem College, SFL leaders Megan Cooke and Tatiana Foote helped implement medical amnesty at their school. Megan Cook had recently been elected as Student Body President on a platform of enacting medical amnesty at Salem, which is a private college that did not previously reflect the state-level medical amnesty policy for public schools in North Carolina. With Megan and Tatiana's hard work, however Salem College is now a safer and freer environment for students!

SFL Campus Coordinator Nicole Sanders is currently suing her school after a campus administrator told her she needed special permission to collect signatures for her student group and display a gun rights sign on campus. She is working with the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) to file the federal suit, which challenges the restrictions placed on speech at Blinn College.

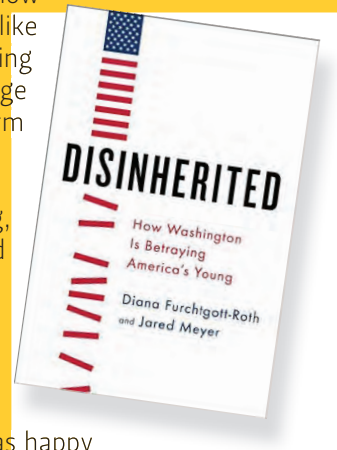
SFL alumnus William Jergins of Dixie State University recently won a lawsuit against his school that he filed when his school refused to approve fliers for his YAL chapter that mocked public figures George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Che Guevera. The case, *Jergins v. Williams*, was settled in favor of free speech, and speech codes at Dixie State have subsequently been changed to reflect a "Green Light" rating by FIRE. ♦

*Monica Lucas is SFL's North American Programs Director.*



## Alumni For Liberty Member Publishes Book on Millennial Politics

Since its founding in 2013, SFL's Young Voices program for policy writers has allowed the organization to engage with the liberty movement's rising stars. One such person is Jared Meyer, a Manhattan Institute fellow who recently co-authored a book on Millennial politics with Diana Furchtgott-Roth. Entitled *Disinherited: How Washington Is Betraying America's Young*, Meyer traces how government policies like occupational licensing and the minimum wage disproportionately harm Millennials.



Since its publishing, Meyer has appeared on ReasonTV and Al Jazeera America to promote the book and even published an op-ed in the *Wall Street Journal*. SFL was happy to join their efforts by co-hosting a book forum with Meyer and Furchtgott-Roth in July at Manhattan's DC office, moderated by SFL Director of Communications Casey Given. You can purchase Jared's book at [tinyurl.com/sfl-meyer-book](http://tinyurl.com/sfl-meyer-book). ♦



## Alumni For Liberty Member Runs for Office in Canada

SFL alumnus David Clement recently ran a campaign as the Libertarian Party candidate for a Parliament seat representing Oakville North-Burlington, Ontario. David first got involved with SFL as a Campus Coordinator in 2012. From there, he went on to join the North American Executive Board as the Canada Regional Director and then joined the International Executive Board in 2014.

David's campaign garnered 1.1% of the overall vote and 6.9% of the student vote. Notably, he got 39.7% of the student vote at Fern Hill School, where each candidate spoke to the students. We are thrilled at David's success and wish him the best in his future endeavors! ♦

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**AFL** ALUMNI  
FOR LIBERTY

[www.alumniforliberty.org](http://www.alumniforliberty.org)

## SFL CHANGED MY LIFE

### *How I Returned to Politics & Won an Election Thanks to SFL & Young Libertarian Volunteers*

By Marcel Van Hattem

In 2013, I was living in the Netherlands studying for my second Masters degree in Journalism, with no plans to go back to Brazil. In 2014, I ran for state representative in Rio Grande do Sul (RS), Brazil's southernmost state, and won the election with 35,345 votes. What happened in such a short period of time? Students For Liberty has a lot to do with my life-changing decision to go back to my country and to politics.

I had been a city counselor, elected at age 18, in my hometown of Dois Irmãos, RS. After having run twice for a seat in Parliament (in 2006 and 2010), I decided to give up on politics. Specifically, I made that decision after reading Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*, in the wake of the 2010 election. I thought that I was not born for politics, bureaucracy, or public service (or at least it made me think so). After all, I was born and raised in a family of entrepreneurs and taught that there is one thing very important in life: merit. So, how could I ever have thought of engaging in politics, where merit is usually despised and replaced by tit-for-tat and pat-on-the-back negotiations?



I left my political past behind, in Brazil, and decided to go abroad to live, earn a Masters degree in Political Science, and start my own business. While there, I participated in the first European Students For Liberty Conference and engaged with libertarian ideas and people. By the end of 2013, I was still in Europe, while Brazil was going to enter its 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of a far-left government whose disastrous consequences are still being felt. Brazil was experiencing an economic slowdown while crime and the cost of living were

exploding. There was not much hope in the air. In fact, people were so desperate that they started to go out to the streets that year. This changed everything.

The ideas of freedom, in spite of the terrible political environment—or perhaps BECAUSE of it—were boiling up in Brazil. And fast! Many friends started to convince me that it was time to return to Brazil and engage politically with the ideas that were spreading in schools and universities thanks to Estudantes Pela Liberdade (EPL) and inspiring demonstrations against the government. They eventually convinced me that I should return to Brazil, help spread libertarian ideas, and eventually run again for office. There would finally be a real chance for a libertarian to make it to the State Assembly in the following year, 2014, when general elections were scheduled.

My campaign was not your typical one of stump speeches and rallies. It was a campaign of lectures. I was invited by EPL clubs across the state to speak in their meetings at universities. Besides getting the chance to talk about my ideas on those occasions, I had the chance to hear students who will lead the next generation in Brazil. Most importantly, I was being assured that there was, indeed, hope in the future. Dozens of volunteers, many of them EPL members, supported and even helped in my campaign, distributing pamphlets on the streets, sharing my posts on the social media, and talking about my candidacy to their friends, acquaintances, and relatives.

Thank you, Students For Liberty. Without you, I would not have believed. And without you, I would not be back in Brazil, trying to put my state and my country back on the track toward freedom! Thank you, SFL, for reassuring me that I do not want to live in another country. I want to live in another Brazil—a prosperous, democratic, and FREE Brazil!◆

# LIBERTY 101

*By Kyle Walker*

What exactly does “liberty” mean? It’s a question Students For Liberty gets asked a lot from curious onlookers at our outreach efforts. After all, “liberty” is a word used and abused by politicians, so it can seem like a hollow concept.

To libertarians, on the other hand, liberty is more than a buzzword. It is a necessary condition for human flourishing.

That’s why SFL teamed up with Learn Liberty to produce Liberty 101—an online course aimed at explaining key concepts of libertarianism to beginners. Users will explore the 10 fundamental principles of a free and prosperous society as they relate to philosophy, economics, and law. Each section is narrated by a knowledgeable expert and includes an engaging quiz question and supplementary materials.

Liberty 101 is broken into the following three sections:

- **Philosophy & Liberty**—Prof. Peter Jaworski from Georgetown University covers the concepts of liberty, individualism, toleration, and peace.
- **Economics & Liberty**—Prof. Diana Thomas from Creighton University covers the market process, skepticism of power, and civil society.
- **Law & Liberty**—Prof. Christopher Koopman from George Mason University covers spontaneous order, rule of law, and limited government.

Best of all, Liberty 101 is completely free and open to everyone. We have already have over 800 signups since the course launched on October 8<sup>th</sup>! Check out [studentsforliberty.org/liberty101](https://studentsforliberty.org/liberty101) to join these liberty lovers and begin the course now.◆



*Kyle Walker is SFL's  
Director of Academic  
Programs.*



## Liberty on the Rise in Hong Kong

In July, SFL received its first request for support from a student in Hong Kong. This student, Louis Lo, is now a member of SFL's Charter Teams program and has worked to steadily build SFL in Hong Kong. After just a few months, there are already three students from Hong Kong participating in Charter Teams, and several more have expressed interest. SFL-HK has also put together an impressive lineup of events and activities for such a new group. Already, SFL-HK has participated in a networking night with students from 11 universities where Louis shared the stage with representatives from Goldman Sachs, Google, Microsoft, and several other organizations. SFL-HK has also partnered with Uber to produce and sell (as a fundraiser) T-Shirts. With the funds raised from their T-Shirt sale, Louis and his team have been able to organize SFL's first conference in Southeast Asia, which is scheduled for mid-December. SFL-HK is certainly off to a great start, and I encourage you to follow their social media pages and [sfl.org/charther-teams](http://sfl.org/charther-teams) for more exciting updates as they continue to grow. ♦



By Aleksandar Kokotović

The most widely read Croatian and Serbian news portals recently featured a story about Matija Franklin, the founder of Cambridge Students For Liberty and a former European Students For Liberty Local Coordinator. In the midst of the refugee crisis, the topic that all of Europe is concerned about, Matija worked as a silent hero for more than 10 days in Serbia, one of the main transit routes for refugees crossing the border to Hungary. Now news agencies have picked up his story.

It all started when Matija, who is studying cognitive psychology at Cambridge and spending his summer vacation in Belgrade, where he went to high school, decided to spend personal money he received from his grandmother to buy 100 meals for refugees, who are spending days and nights in the open, near the Belgrade bus station, while waiting to continue their journeys toward Germany and Western Europe.

When his friends and family heard about what he did, they decided to help him in his mission and contribute money for him to keep buying meals for the refugees. He kept doing so for more than 10 days. After one of the bakery owners refused to sell him the meals for the refugees, he bought cakes and cookies from another bakery and gave them away in the park. Needless to say, refugees, many of them children, who traveled for months and faced many troubles on their journey, were especially delighted by this random act of kindness.

In his interview for the news agencies, he mentioned that he founded the Cambridge Students For Liberty last year and that we should be aware of the dangers of building new walls in Europe and keep reminding ourselves about the importance of open borders and freedom of movement for prosperity in Europe. ♦

Aleksandar Kokotović is a  
European Programs Manager for SFL.





# YOUNG VOICES

by *Patrick Hannaford*

As the new Editor of Young Voices, I am proud to report that Students For Liberty’s project to jumpstart the careers of young libertarian pundits is strengthening every day.

This year already, our Young Voices Advocates have been published in outlets as wide ranging as the *New York Daily News*, the *Guardian* (US), *Newsweek*, *The Australian*, *Reason Magazine*, *The Denver Post*, and many other outlets.

Young Voices has begun building particularly strong relationships with some great online publications, such as *CapX*—a UK-based free-market publication, which recently launched an American subsidiary, *CapX America*—as well as *Spiked Online*.

*Spiked* is particularly interested in collaborating with Young Voices, and Students For Liberty more broadly, to cover the growing culture of censorship on American college campuses.

In addition to the many articles our Advocates have had published, Young Voices has launched a regular Podcast—hosted by our UK-based intern, Daniel Pryor.

The Young Voices Podcast provides the opportunity for Advocates to gain valuable media experience, whilst promoting their articles and the work of Young Voices more broadly.

In other exciting news, the Young Voices book project started by our Young Voices Director, Casey Given, is nearing completion. The book will include a collection of essays from some of our best Advocates, covering a range of policy proposals from a Millennial libertarian perspective. It will be launched as an e-book early next year. ♦

*Patrick Hannaford is  
the Editor of Young Voices.  
[www.youngvoicesadvocates.com](http://www.youngvoicesadvocates.com)*



## *Recent Young Voices articles:*

### **Bernie Sanders is wrong on open borders: they’d help boost the economy**

*By Cory Massimino*

*Published in the Guardian (August 3, 2015) and shared on social media more than 2,770 times.*

Bernie Sanders has come out against open borders, claiming they are a “right-wing proposal” that “would make everyone in America poorer.” He argues that, while we have a “moral responsibility” to “work with the rest of the industrialized world to address the problems of international poverty... you don’t do that by making people in this country even poorer.”

But there is a vast amount of literature showing that open borders could be the single best policy to alleviate global poverty. . .  
The full article can be read on the *Guardian’s* website.  
<http://tinyurl.com/Cory-Guardian>

### **How Uber is serving low-income New Yorkers: The mayor and City Council should study that, not only Manhattan congestion**

*By Jared Meyer*

*Published in the New York Daily News (September 3, 2015).*

While a temporary truce has been reached in the spat between Uber and New York City Mayor de Blasio, the debate over the city’s transportation future is far from over. As the city considers limiting the growth of for-hire vehicle fleets, it is focusing only on studying Uber’s effects on Manhattan traffic congestion—and ignoring the significant benefits the service provide outer-borough residents, who are chronically underserved by the existing taxi system. . .

The full article is available on the *New York Daily News’* website.  
<http://tinyurl.com/Jared-NYDailyNews>



## SFL Events

### **Supporters' Trip to Brazil**

Estudantes Pela Liberdade (EPL) has become one of the strongest shining beacons of hope: EPL is the leading force in a youth movement that wants to unchain itself from decades of cronyism and statism in Brazil. Hundreds of EPL leaders run protests, events, and marches with tens of thousands of activists demanding deregulation and liberty. The 2015 National Conference of Estudantes Pela Liberdade drew more than 600 attendees and served as a great occasion for some SFL supporters from the United States and Europe to get a first-hand look at the libertarian student revolution going on in Brazil.

The participants in this four-day trip had the chance to meet leading students, journalists, politicians, and intellectuals of the Brazilian liberty movement. They also had the opportunity to tour Sao Paulo, attend the conference, and experience Brazilian hospitality. EPL's volunteers and staffers made sure that SFL's supporters received a very warm welcome, got a crash course in Brazilian politics, and had a great long weekend in the Southern Hemisphere. SFL's work in Brazil shows how successful our strategy of social change can become, as EPL has already incubated leading journalists, politicians, entrepreneurs, academics, and civil society leaders. Even though Brazil is suffering economically at the moment, the current generation of SFL leaders has great momentum behind their movement for change.

The supporters' trip was a full success, and we are already planning the next one: ***Join us at the European Students For Liberty Conference 2016 in Prague, Czech Republic, from March 11-13.*** For more information, email Fred Roeder at [froeder@studentsforliberty.org](mailto:froeder@studentsforliberty.org).

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### **San Francisco Poker Tournament**

Due to the resounding success of our New York City Charity Poker Tournament, SFL decided to spread the fun to the West Coast this year. Our first San Francisco Charity Poker Tournament (pictured above) is now sure to be an annual event. This year, we were honored to have David Friedman address the audience before tournament play at The City Club of San Francisco. The competition was fierce, but in the end, Chad Goote came out on top. Congratulations again!



## *New York City Poker Tournament*

This September, we hosted our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Students For Liberty Charity Poker Tournament at the St. Regis in New York City. This was our most successful poker tournament to date; we raised over \$300,000, a 50% increase over last year's donations, and had over 100 supporters join us at the event. Congratulations again to this year's Tournament champion, Eric Durback!



## *Visit Prague with Students For Liberty*

Join SFL in Prague from March 11-13, 2016, for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual European Students For Liberty Conference. Six hundred plus students from all over Europe will convene at historic Charles University, Carl Menger's alma mater, for a weekend of networking, learning, and celebrating liberty. We are organizing a special trip just for SFL supporters to experience this amazing event, meet the conference speakers, and see what the international student movement for liberty looks like firsthand.

Visit [www.studentsforliberty.org/PragueTrip](http://www.studentsforliberty.org/PragueTrip) for more details.

## *Join Other Supporters at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Students For Liberty Conference*

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual International Students For Liberty Conference is taking place in Washington, DC, from February 26-28, 2016. The largest gathering of pro-liberty students in the world, this year's ISFLC will feature an incredible line-up, including Pussy Riot (Russian freedom activists & band), Susan Herman (president of the ACLU), and P.J. O'Rourke (noted political commentator and humorist)! This event is not just for students, though. We have special programs for alumni and supporters, including our very first ISFLC Awards Dinner, a special Supporters' Briefing with P.J. O'Rourke, and more. We invite you to join us at the event that led Nick Gillespie to tweet, "Huge energy at ISFLC taping of the Stossel Show, you could light up the country with it. Future's so bright, I gotta wear shades." Please visit [www.isflc.org](http://www.isflc.org) or email Mary Crane at [mcrane@studentsforliberty.org](mailto:mcrane@studentsforliberty.org) for more details.



**REGISTER TODAY AT ISFLC.ORG**





Students For Liberty

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