**Our Voices**

**Starting a Business While in College.** Maya Simeon, LEAP Peer Advisor  

Have you ever considered creating your own business? Here are some things that I have learned having my own small business for almost a year: **(1) Research as much as possible.** Companies may require product development, website research, sole proprietorship, a limited liability company, and a tax ID number. Don’t worry, this takes time! Determine the best path to start your business. Check out [CUNY Startups](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/leap) for help. **(2) Utilize your college education to expand your business knowledge.** John Jay has a [social entrepreneurship minor](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/leap) where you can learn about ethics, finance, and marketing, get hands-on experience, and so much more. **(3) Determine how much time you will dedicate to your business.**

Prioritize all of your responsibilities. Remember to use your business as an experiential learning opportunity (ELO)! Reach out to [LEAP](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/leap) for support signing up for classes, applying to ELOs, or creating a plan to find your balance.

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**Industry & Skills**

**Networking Outside the Classroom.** Colin Wiggins, LEAP Senior Academic Advisor  

LEAP student Sereeana Morrison (’23, Sociology, left) found the inspiration to build relationships outside of the classroom from a fantastic source, former First Lady Michelle Obama. Based on Morrison’s past participation in LEAP events, she was among a select number of John Jay students invited to attend “A Moderated Conversation with Former First Lady Michelle Obama.” The First Lady shared some tips from her own experience and one big takeaway for Morisson: “Surround yourself with people who will uplift you, connect you to opportunities, and grow along with you.” Morrison noted LEAP has done the same for her, and has plugged her into opportunities outside of the classroom: “The outreach, meetings, emails, and my advisor Ahmadou [Mboup] helped me understand that I can accomplish great things when I have people who support me.” Contact your LEAP advisor to learn about ways you can expand your network!

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**Experiential Learning Opportunities & Resources**

**Vera Institute of Justice, Summer 2021 Internship: Research, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning** – Vera is committed to securing equal justice, ending mass incarceration, and strengthening families and communities. Click [here](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/leap) for more information and to apply for the internship.

**Bridging the Gap Between the United Nations (UN) & CUNY, UN Civic Meetup, Thurs., April 15, 1:00-2:30 PM**  
Learn about UN/non-governmental organization internships and how to build skills to work at the UN. Click [here](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/leap) for more information and to RSVP for the meetup.

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**Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)/CUNY Ambassador Program** – During the month of June, participants will learn about modern and contemporary art, gain unique perspectives from art museum professionals, explore networking opportunities, and participate in a public program; ambassadors receive a stipend of $900. Click [here](http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/leap) for more information. **Application deadline:** Thurs., April 15.

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Visit our webpage for more opportunities!