

# DREAM SUMMIT 2018

*A special thank you to ALL our volunteers, board members, and partners who contributed to the planning and execution of this event. We would also like to thank George Mason University for the space provided for this year's Dream Project Summit 2018! None of our work would be possible without the generosity of all these individuals.*

*Thank you for coming, we hope you enjoyed the summit!*



**JULY 21, 2018 | 8:45 AM**  
**George Mason University, Arlington, VA**



[www.dreamproject-va.org](http://www.dreamproject-va.org)

703.672.6741

## Dream Summit 2018 Speakers & Volunteers

**Yessenia Arias**- Yessenia.arias7@gmail.com 571-245-0188  
Mental Health Counselor

**Francesco Yopez**- fyepezco@masonlive.gmu.edu  
703-731-9915 Dream Project alum, board member, and budding  
therapist

**Lizzett Uria**- lduria@gmail.com 703-973-8216  
Board member, Family Support Specialist, Special Education

**Henry Mejia**- hkmv001@bucknell.edu 703-509-7535  
Dream Project alum and design engineer in construction industry

## Dream Project's Alas Group

### *Alas- a support group for Dreamers*

Come meet other Dreamers, hear their stories, and share your own.

Meetings are every **Thursday** from **5:30 pm to 6:30 pm**

At Washington & Lee High School

**1301 N Stafford Street Arlington, VA 22201**

Call Francesco at 703-731-9915 with any questions or for future details



## Dream Summit 2018 Speakers & Volunteers

**Jacky Cortes-** j.cortesnava@gmail.com 571-269-0548  
Dream Project alum, current intern, and cake decorator

**Nataly Montano-** nataly.montano@gmail.com 703-395-1448  
Dream Project alum and neurology clinical researcher

**Dawn Cutler-** dawncutler@gmail.com 703-939-4046  
Horatio Alger foundation Program Specialist, and Dream Project board member

**Lizzette Arias-** executivedirector@dreamproject-va.org 571-268-1083  
Executive Director and founding member of the Dream Project.

**Ian Redman-** iredman@care4yourfuture.org 703-894-5982  
Program manager at the Credit Abuse Resistance Education center

**Bob Remes-** rar@carliner-remes.com 202-406-6066  
Immigration lawyer and Dream Project board member

**David Rothwell-** david@dcimmigrationattorney.com 202-293-3123  
Immigration lawyer and Dream Project board member

**Xihan Yang-** yang33x@mtholyoke.edu  
Dream project intern and psych student at Mount Holyoke college

**Dayana Hudson-** dayana@dreamproject-va.org 703-475-8145  
Dream Project alum and alum of George Mason University

**Kiley Kio-** kkkio@email.wm.edu  
Dream Project intern and government student at William and Mary

**Jessica Moreno-** morenocaychoja@gmail.com (571)2438665  
Undocumented activist pursuing a Master's in Costume Design



## Welcome

To our distinguished Scholars,

Welcome to the 5th Annual Dream Project Summit, a conference where Dreamers gather to build community and obtain the tools they will need to succeed in college. Our Summit has been designed to provide you with ongoing academic and professional support from a variety of sources. We have Dream Project staff, experts from various fields, and Dream Project alumni who have all come to lead the sessions listed below. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn from them and from each other.

After today's activities, we hope you will feel more prepared to start your new semester in the Fall- armed with the resources and strategies you need to improve your college experience. Your fellow Dream Scholars, session leaders, and event organizers are all here as part of your unyielding support system. Remember to ask help of any of us at any time, we are here for you.

Today is your time to explore freely, ask openly, and of course, eat some delicious free food. Enjoy!



## PROGRAM

### 8:45 - 9:30 AM Registration & Breakfast

*(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*

### 9:30 - 9:45 AM Opening Ceremony

**Lizzette Arias & Francesco Yopez** *(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*

### 9:45 - 10:30 AM Story of Self

Learn strategies on how to best tell your individual story so that it becomes a source of strength, rather than a hindrance. We'll discuss how to talk about your status with dignity and respect to school administrators, professors, employers, and the like.

**Nataly Montano & Jacky Cortes-Nava**  
*(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*

### 10:35 - 11:20 AM Advocacy & Activism

Learn how to use your personal narrative to create change within your community and advocate for Dreamers nationwide. Hear from other Dream Project members who have been change makers in our community.

**Lizzette Arias**  
*(Founders Hall 307)*

### 10:35 - 11:20 AM Career Advising

Learn how best to dress, speak, and present yourself at job interviews from a professional career counselor and one of our newest Board members. Practice your skills with your peers and prepare for your next interview.

**Dawn Cutler & Saskia-Clay Roots**  
*(Founders Hall 308)*

\*\*\*BREAK \*\*\*

### 11:35 AM- 12:20 PM Financial Aid

Learn about financial planning and helpful financial advice from a personal finance specialist. Learn about what the different options are for Dreamers to finance their college education, build their wealth, and how to manage your money.

**Ian Redman**  
*(Founders Hall 307)*

## PROGRAM

### 11:35 AM - 12:20 PM Transferring Colleges

In this panel discussion, hear from Dream Project alumni about what their experience was like transferring from a community college to a four-year university in Virginia. Hear what each transition was like to the different colleges, and ask questions about your potential transfer in the future.

**Ruth Johnson & Jessica Moreno  
Isaac Vargas & Jacky Cortes**  
*(Founders Hall 308)*

### 12:25 - 1:00 PM Lunch

*(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*

### 1:05 - 1:50 PM Legal Information

In this Q & A session, two immigration lawyers who work closely with Dream Project students will give updates about DACA and TPS, as well as go over what different options may be available to students who wish to adjust their status. They will then answer any questions you may have about these different options

**Robert Remes & David Rothwell**  
*(Founders Hall 307)*

### 1:55 - 2:55 PM Table Talks

A series of peer-mentoring round table discussions on what the different services are available to students in college campuses, how to access them, and what their benefits are. Hear from Dream Project alumni who took advantage of these services about how they helped them and why it's important to be active on campus.

**Kiley Kio & Henry Mejia  
Rebecca Orellana & Dayana Hudson**  
*(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*

\*\*\*BREAK \*\*\*

### 3:10 - 3:55 PM Mindfulness

Learn about the importance of self-care and different tips for managing the stress of our everyday lives. Participate in guided meditation exercises led by a licensed counselor and debrief with other mental health professionals afterwards.

**Paulina Graves & Yessenia Arias**  
*(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*

### 3:55 - 4:00 PM Closing Remarks

**Emma Violand—Sanchez & Francesco Yopez**  
*(Founders Hall 126-MPR)*