

YDMA Early Statements of Candidacy

Jack Perenick - Candidate for President

My fellow Young Democrats—

It is hard to overstate the crisis the American political system is undergoing at this moment. Attacks on our civil rights and our very democracy are clear, present, and intensifying. Young people have always had a heightened threat perception of political problems because we have the most to lose from the damage ongoing political failures now will have on the future. While we can often see where the system is broken or ineffectual, the sheer magnitude and scale of the problems we face can make fighting to fix them feel impossible.

This is why organizations like the Young Democrats exist: we exist to give a voice to young people who want to see change. We exist to train, mobilize, and elevate people who want to help make solutions a reality. But this only happens when we work together. It only happens when we as an organization have a plan to organize events, projects, and partnerships to move us forwards.

At our last convention, YDMA members entrusted me to serve as the Vice President for Political Affairs and Chair of our Political Committee. I am proud of the work we have done this last year to dramatically expand the work we did and make YDMA more of a presence in Massachusetts Politics. We wrote the most detailed and specialized endorsement questionnaire in YDMA history, endorsed in municipal, county, and state offices, and interviewed nearly every statewide candidate for office.

As a Standing Committee chair, I have seen the difference we can make when we take concerted steps to further this organization and diligently work towards a future where Young Democrats are an organization that commands respect in our politics. As a member of the Board of Directors for the Greater Boston Young Democrats, I have seen the rewards that building out our organizational infrastructure and relationships with elected officials has had for our membership. We have come a long way in some areas. But YDMA's potential is so much greater.

I am running for the Presidency of YDMA because I know we need to build an organization that will better serve our membership and that will grow because of the positive impact we have on people's lives and in advancing their collective power in

Massachusetts politics. The institutional development and growth I want to do is harder than we have done before, but it leads us to a better place, where YDMA as an organization can deliver for the people who need us most. So I ask those of you who believe in the future of YDMA and are willing to work to lift us up to that vision to join me in taking action.

No one can achieve this vision alone; building a movement requires a team and a plan, and I hope you will take a moment to learn more about the people that share that vision. I ask for your support for all these wonderful people who are ready to take action for our organization and for young people in Massachusetts. Please check out massactionydma.org to see more about them, their vision, and their smiling faces.

I invite you, if you feel the same way about this organization as I do, if you believe in the future of YDMA, if you want an organization that will push to break barriers and expand, let's talk some more, jack@massactionydma.org.

Let's do this.
Jack Perenick

Daniel Ernst - Candidate for Vice President for Political Affairs

My Fellow Young Democrats —

I joined YDMA in pursuit of a community as passionate about democracy and politics as I was so that I could learn how to be a better citizen and I am so happy that I did so. I believe, however, that we can do more to strengthen our community and our commonwealth. I am resolved to contribute to this effort, and so I submit myself as a candidate for Vice President of Political Affairs.

I graduated from Georgetown University in 2018 where I studied Classics and Government. Being in and around DC during the Trump years impressed upon me how important it is to ensure that people are empowered to take part in their government at all levels. It has been a passion of mine to spend each Election Day serving as a poll worker since before I could vote, because democracy requires not only active participation but a dedication to facilitate engagement.

Since September 2021, I have used my position as Chair of the Greater Boston Young Dems to bolster our membership and to increase our programming—from our State Auditor forum to board game and trivia nights—in order to provide a plethora of ways

for members to get to know one another and get more involved in our organization. Throughout my service in GBYD, I have sought to build a community first and foremost—both among our members and with political leaders. My reasoning for this is that I believe a strong community is essential to fulfilling a mission like ours, to empower the leaders of tomorrow today, and because such a community is itself an inherently good thing.

I seek the office of Vice President of Political Affairs with three main goals: 1) to implement an outreach strategy to build a relationship with every elected state and municipal official, 2) expand resources for Young Democrats seeking office or political jobs to network and learn from one another, and 3) facilitate civic education events that improve our understanding of political affairs and government. I believe that this office has a broad mandate to connect, educate, and support Young Dems in a way that strengthens both our community and our commonwealth. It is my passion to fulfill this mandate that I humbly offer myself as a candidate for Vice President of Political Affairs and ask for your support. I am at your service, alongside a number of peers whom you can find more about at massactionydma.org. I encourage you, if you have any questions for me, to reach via daniel@massactionydma.org. I hope we will connect soon!

Democratically yours,

Daniel D. Ernst

Will Lombard - Candidate for Labor Caucus Chair

My Fellow Young Democrats —

Having recently formally joined YDMA, I have been floored with the level of passion and commitment my fellow members have for politics and democracy. This was an environment I had long been looking for to put my time, energy, and passion into helping make the Commonwealth and this country a better place. Because of this, I have been further motivated to submit myself as a candidate for Chair of the YDMA Labor Caucus.

I have long been interested in politics and government, serving as a four-term class officer in high school. While my collegiate studies drew me more toward performing arts, I looked to satisfy as many credits as I could with classes based around Government and Democracy. I am a proud member of the Harvard Union of Clerical

and Technical Workers (HUCTW/AFSCME Local 3650), which is the largest Employee's Union at Harvard University. We, as a Union, are currently in negotiations with the University for a second straight year, fighting and advocating for stronger benefits and more fair wages, during this Pandemic and the harsh economic times that have followed.

I seek the office of Chair of the Labor Caucus because I see an opportunity within YDMA to help influence change across the Commonwealth. Coming out of the pandemic working conditions, more and more workers nationwide are looking to Unionize and collectively bargain for better working conditions. The Commonwealth has seen this in the private sector with many Starbucks and Trader Joe's voting to unionize, as well as the push for a State House Employee Union on Beacon Hill. As Chair, I plan to build relationships with these unions, and others like them, in both social and political settings, to help further our mutual cause in advancing labor and workers rights in Massachusetts.

As a Union Member and an outspoken advocate for issues I am passionate about, I believe there is much work and influence this group can bring to help support the Labor movement in the Commonwealth. I humbly offer myself as a candidate for Chair of the Labor Caucus and ask for your support. I am happy to answer any questions you may have at will@massactionydma.org. Thank you for your consideration.

In Solidarity,

Will Lombard

Elizabeth Gardiner - Incumbent candidate for Vice President for Communications

My Fellow Young Democrats —

When I was appointed Vice President for Communications in the fall of 2021, I knew my work to better our Democratic mission statewide and federally was only just beginning. Over the past 8 months, I have successfully begun to redefine our Communications strategy and garner results few youth-led Democratic organizations have seen in recent years. My work is only beginning, and we still have a lot to accomplish; therefore, I ask for your vote at the YDMA CON 2022 as the candidate for re-election for Vice President for Communications.

Communications has and will always be one of the most crucial points in politics, wherewith the ever-growing rate of social media and online presence will continue to dominate and define voter outreach and general news stories. We are the Young Democrats, and as the digital generation, we must look towards new strategies to engage our base through social media and digital presence. In the 8 months since I was brought into my position, I have grown our digital presence in the following ways:

- By redesigning our website, our search results and engagement levels have increased by 140%.
- Grown YDMA social media accounts by roughly 200 followers by utilizing graphic design and messaging strategy.
- Restarted monthly newsletters and more frequent communication to our mailing list, in turn, increasing our open and click rates by 30% each.
- Successfully sought funding for Canva Premium and other communications tools.

I am proud of my achievements so far, but there is so much more left to do. Re-elected, I will build a Communications department from the ground up, offering opportunities to YDMA members to work on Communications strategy. With this department, we will attain an established relationship with members of the press, elected officials, and candidates across the Commonwealth. I am dedicated to being a Young Democrat of Massachusetts and through the Communications department, bringing others into the YDMA community, and sharing our ever-important mission to further Democratic values in a time when Republicans shake our democracy and human rights. I am excited to offer myself for re-election for Vice President for Communications, and humbly ask for your vote at convention.

If you have any questions or would like to chat, please reach me at elizabeth@massactionydma.org.

Forward,

Elizabeth 'Ela' Gardiner

Ben Cohen - Candidate for Treasurer

My fellow financial family,

I joined the Young Democrats in an effort to get more involved with 2 communities that

I felt I lacked - the youth community and the Democratic community. In college in Bristol County, I had a strong youth community around me, but lacked the Democratic community to go with it. Now, having moved back to my suburban hometown in Norfolk County, I have a strong Democratic community, but lack the youth community to go with it. YDMA is my way to rectify this issue, and I'm glad to have the opportunity to have participated in this organization for a whole year!

During my time in this organization, I have had the pleasure of being elected to the spot of Political Director for my Chapter, and have used my time serving on the Political Committee to create and Chair a Finance Subcommittee that sought to better inform our members about the financial status of candidates who expressed interest in getting our endorsement. Notably, I did this with a tracker that I built myself which can input OCPF data for any filer that gives information on average donation sizes, which municipalities the \$ is coming from, and total \$ raised, in addition to other miscellaneous info. It is often said that Democrats are "weak on financial issues" by our opponents, which I find absurd: It is because of smart investments in education, infrastructure, and other humanistic venues that our Legislature with a Democratic supermajority has created a budget surplus of over \$5 billion dollars in the last fiscal year.

I see the role of Treasurer as a facilitator on the Board, ensuring that any proposals that come forward fit into our budget, and I think that I work very well with others because of my ability to facilitate effectively. Finally, I have read Chapter 55 of the Mass General Laws from cover to cover, so you can be sure that if I'm elected to the position of Treasurer, our organization will not ever be audited by the OCPF.

I welcome the opportunity to speak with you regarding financial concerns or ideas on how to allocate our budget for this fiscal year, as well as any other questions you have, at ben@massactionydma.org.

Flanked by my fiduciary responsibilities to the OCPF,

Ben Cohen

Anna Duffy - Candidate for Public Policy Director

My Fellow Young Democrats —

I joined the Young Democrats of Massachusetts in 2021 and immediately became as involved as possible. I am honored to currently serve as the Political Director for my local chapter, South Shore.

If I had to single out a main factor that pushed me to join YDMA, I would point to the covid-19 pandemic. I am a Communications Director in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, which is the best job I have ever had. It is also the hardest job I have ever had. As a Communications Director, I am also the sole staffer responsible for constituent services in our office. I have handled hundreds upon hundreds of devastating constituent cases throughout the pandemic.

To be transparent, constituent work can be emotionally draining and disheartening. I quickly saw the impacts of poor policies, systemic racism, and gender inequalities embedded in our laws and everyday life. We live in the best state in the country. Yet there is so much work we must do to make this the best place for every resident. That is why I am submitting myself as a candidate for Public Policy Director.

YDMA has an amazing opportunity to amplify its platform and make a broader impact across the Commonwealth. I am running on three main goals: 1) educate members on various pieces legislation, covering all policy areas, filed during the legislative session 2) create YDMA's first annual public policy report, highlighting our organization's legislative priorities 3) work with members from all chapters/caucuses to ensure all interests are equally represented.

I graduated from Bryant University in 2017, with a degree in Business Management. I worked in the private sector- insurance and oil- and was not fulfilled. I have always been passionate and engaged in politics, and knew deep down that I wanted a career that allowed me to make a difference. I took a leap of faith and went to Suffolk University to pursue my master's. I graduated in January 2020 with a master's in applied politics, with summa cum laude honors. I was fortunate to intern in the office of former Speaker Robert DeLeo during graduate school. I joined the office of Leader Jim O'Day in December 2019 and have been his Communications Director since. Along with YDMA, I am a board member of the Plymouth County Democratic League and Publicity Officer for the Quincy Democratic City Committee.

We all envision a bright, bold, and transformative future for YDMA. I humbly ask for your support. You can reach me at anna@massactionydma.org

In solidarity,

Anna Duffy

Rachel Toepfer - Candidate for LGBTQ+ Caucus Chair

My Fellow Young and Queer Democrats—

My name is Rachel Toepfer, and I am a non-binary sophomore studying Political science at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Despite my studies taking me across state lines, my loyalty lies in Massachusetts where I have grown up in the woods of western, Massachusetts within a red town that sought to push conservative rhetoric among a sea of blue. Because of this, I was influenced to find a way to put myself in a much more welcoming community, one where I would feel more listened to, respected, and embraced. Which is why I have joined YDMA. As a young LGBTQ+ advocate, I have found that it is my duty to progress the pursuit for equity, and represent Massachusetts' renowned reputation of being a leader for LGBTQ+ rights and protections.

From organizing my high schools first ever Pride Prom, to presenting at the HRC's Annual Time to Thrive convention in 2020, and to being the student lead for Rutgers Honors College's LGBTQ+ affinity group, my efforts in advocacy have continued with me as I've grown and I hope to continue such energy with my dedication to the LGBTQ+ caucus of YDMA.

By going to school in New Jersey, I wish to educate myself on a community that is much different than the one I grew up in. Though stifled by the small red town I unfortunately call home, having one foot in the commonwealth of Massachusetts and one foot in a short distance neighbor, I find that I am enabling myself to be well rounded and educated on issues that I never would have experienced had I stayed in Massachusetts. I am not afraid to leave my comfort zone, and I am certainly not afraid to find myself in new and thrilling adventures. As much as I wish I could be a true masshole through and through, having a network stretched across state lines has allowed me to gain valuable allies that can offer our commonwealth insight, encouragement, and solidarity, and I hope to bring this tenfold to YDMA as we restore our LGBTQ+ caucus to focus on the issues that continue to affect our community.

I am running for the LGBTQ+ caucus chair position not only because we are in need of a chair, but also because I feel my experience in advocacy awards me proper qualification. I am not only experienced in pushback, but I am experienced in success. From personal adversity, to general adversity that our community has felt for decades upon decades, I am familiar with the battle and I am more than energized to keep fighting. I seek this chair position in order to continue the energy I have to make this world a better place, and I find that YDMA is the perfect opportunity for me to connect with young queer

dems, to enhance their experience growing up in Massachusetts.

If I am to be elected, my prospects look as such:

- To get the Massachusetts Legislature to pass Bill S956, an act protecting LGBTQ+ victims from Gay Panic Laws
- To call for better LGBTQ+ Health and Sex education in public schools -To fight any anti-LGBTQ+ legislation proposed in municipalities, counties, cities, and towns of the commonwealth.
- To educate democrats to be better allies

Together, we can continue taking the lead in LGBTQ+ rights and establish a precedent for the rest of our country to follow.

Yours truly,

Rachel Toepfer

rachel@massactionydma.org

Olivia Gilligan Corsetti - Candidate for YDA Female Rep and Women's Caucus Chair

My Fellow Young Democrats —

I joined YDMA this spring to become more involved and I've been overjoyed with the passion of the young Dems that I've met. Attending the MA Democratic Convention as a first time delegate inspired me to run for a position on the YDMA Executive Board in an effort to help inspire more young people to engage in the democratic process. I'd like to help build a community that listens to every voice, debates topics respectfully, and takes action.

I was raised in Somerville and I'm lucky to still live here, surrounded by a diverse community and a plethora of passionate constituents. My interest in government led me to the State House in 2015 where I interned for Rep. Denise Provost, corresponded with constituents and learned the legislative process. In 2020 I graduated from UMass Amherst with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and an understanding of how products are made, the processes used to transport goods and people, and the FDA regulation process, to name a few. I believe in data driven problem solving and to me transparency means sharing information. Young people are gaining the tools to change

our world and we need to organize to ensure our future.

I'm running to be the YDA female representative with three main goals: 1) meet and hear the voices of as many young people in MA as possible, 2) organize YDMA concerns into a clear message that I can share with representatives from other states at the YDA convention, and 3) promote civic education events that will improve our understanding of government.

I humbly ask for your support and you can reach me at olivia@massactionydma.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Olivia Gilligan Corsetti

Charlie Hyman - Candidate for Secretary

My Fellow Young Democrats,

I am relatively new to YDMA. I've worked full-time in politics for almost four years now, but if it weren't for a chance meeting with Jack Perenick through a mutual friend I would not know that YDMA was more than a paper organization. I am running for Secretary because I think that experience is indicative of a wider problem. Other candidates are pledging to work to grow YDMA, for which I am grateful. Equally important, however, is to sustain that growth. That is where I wish to focus. I want to use the office of Secretary to keep our members informed, engaged, and involved in this endeavor.

I grew up in Newton, where I was lucky enough to be raised in a culture of political involvement. Politics was not something that I considered as anything more than a hobby until Trump's victory in 2016, and Charlottesville the following year. In 2018 I took a year off college, working in Boston on fundraising for federal elections. After graduation, I returned to work in federal and local politics. I ran a city council race in Newton and worked on Biden's general election campaign, before a frantic two months in the Georgia runoffs. In 2021, among other roles, I ran a mayoral campaign in Somerville. This year I launched a State Senate race in Western Mass, fundraised for out-of-state candidates in the midterms, and next week I will be joining Maura Healey's policy team.

If elected, I pledge to be proactive and responsive. Proactive in giving you a transparent view of YDMA activities, without spamming your email. Responsive to your concerns and suggestions, on the big things and the small. I want to join the Executive Board of YDMA because I believe that this organization has immense potential. I want to work to fulfill it.

You can always reach me at charlie@massactionydma.org for any reason.

With gratitude for your consideration,
Charlie Hyman

Sabrina Zafar - Candidate for Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

My Fellow Young Democrats –

My name is Sabrina Zafar and I am running to become YDMA's next Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Although I just recently joined YDMA, it does not take long to recognize the tremendous potential of this organization for youth across Massachusetts – potential for organizing, building movements, bringing individuals and communities together, and shaping the leaders and change-makers of the future, all while learning and growing from one another in an inclusive and fostering environment. I am beyond thrilled to be a part of this organization and am deeply honored to run for this position.

Just as I have been warmly welcomed to and am humbled and privileged to be a part of this organization, I want *all* youth across Massachusetts to feel welcome and invited into the political process and to YDMA - to organize, to volunteer, to lead, to run for office, and to feel invited to become *empowered*. As a daughter of working class Pakistani-Muslim immigrants, I know what it feels like to often not feel included, to feel like an outsider, whether in your own community, school, workplace, political group, or any space where you rightfully *do* belong. I know that feeling and it is precisely that feeling of not belonging and not being fully included that I will seek to eliminate for *all* youth, members and non-members alike, as YDMA's next Vice President for DEI.

Growing up in New Jersey, I moved to Massachusetts to attend Boston College, where I graduated from in 2018 with a degree in Applied Psychology and History. Having a passion for public service and politics, I interned for Maura Healey's campaign for Attorney General and later went on to work as a paralegal and consumer advocate within the MA Attorney General's Civil Rights and Consumer Advocacy divisions. With a

solidified passion for civil rights work, I moved on to become an Investigator for the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, where I currently work to help eradicate discrimination and foster a more diverse and inclusive environment across the Commonwealth for *all* Bay Staters. In my spare time, I help to elect diverse and progressive local and state leaders. Most recently, I was deeply invested in helping to elect Boston's Mayor Michelle Wu, the first woman and Asian mayor elected to that office.

As Vice President for DEI, I will aim to foster growth, leadership, belonging, and empowerment in the political process for *all* young Democrats through three primary objectives: (1) working with our executive committee and board members to increase YDMA membership of youth from historically underrepresented communities, (2) creating increased opportunities for members of YDMA to connect, learn from, and build relationships with diverse political leaders of communities across Massachusetts, and (3) increase YDMA's awareness and education of the often marginalized political, social, and economic issues impacting residents of underrepresented communities across Massachusetts.

I humbly ask for your support in helping to empower *all* young Democrats of Massachusetts. I look forward to working with you and encourage your thoughts, questions, and concerns. Please feel free to reach me at: sabrina@massactionydma.org.

Truly yours,

Sabrina Zafar

Eli Sennesh - Candidate for Jewish Caucus Chair

My Fellow Young Democrats,

I joined YDMA and got involved before the pandemic, because (as anyone who's met me can see) I have a driving passion for political involvement and progressive policy. I have attended the Democratic State Convention as a delegate twice: in person in 2018 and virtually in 2022. I have also been the Political Director for the YDMA Jewish Caucus for a number of years, and the GBYD Political Director this year.

The seeds of my political views as a supporter of economic democracy were planted by my parents, who left books like *Against Capitalism* and *Race, Class and Gender* around a bookish child. Really though, I came to political consciousness during the Presidency of George W. Bush with the Iraq War and the 2008 Global Financial Crisis. The issues

that rose to the top of the public mind in those years - LGBT marriage, fossil-fuel rentiers strangling working families with energy prices, unlivably low wages for most normal jobs, crumbling infrastructure, and a speculative housing market that builds too many McMansions but not enough apartments - have never really left my mind, and continue to drive my politics. I lived in Delmar, NY growing up, a fairly small town outside the small city of Albany, NY; I saw what post-industrial life was like in Middle America and remember that regional inequality is the hidden motor of this country's polarization. I attended UMass Amherst for my undergrad from 2007-2011, and as a Massachusetts resident I proudly supported Bernie Sanders in 2016 and, admittedly with greater pessimism of the intellect, supported him again in 2020.

I am running for the position of Chair of the YDMA Jewish Caucus. My vision for serving in this role consists chiefly of trying to push public policy towards keeping Democrats the party of governance in both urban and rural Massachusetts, keeping Massachusetts a Democratic state, and making Massachusetts a more livable state for young people, Jews, Democrats, and workers than it has been this past decade. I specifically hope to push forward on the following issues:

- **Enforcement of the bipartisan Housing Choice Initiative passed in 2021.** Densification and multi-family zoning provide key measures we can take to reduce our cost of living, achieve a carbon-neutral and prosperous economy, and retain young Jewish Democrats in Massachusetts after they graduate rather than losing them. Living close to our communities, in places like Brookline and Newton, should not be a privilege for the affluent!
- **Strengthening workers' rights, labor law, and the labor movement in Massachusetts.** [The costliest crime in the United States today, in total dollar value, is wage theft.](#) I support [H 4681 at the State House](#), aimed at combating this robbery even more damaging, and far more normalized, than violent burglary. Gig workers are workers: I support [Attorney General Healey's ongoing suit against Uber and Lyft](#) to win employee status and rights for rideshare drivers, and support the [recent court decision](#) to uphold those rights rather than subject them to potential repeal. I think with a strongly pro-labor YDMA we can begin to win back this Party and this Commonwealth for working families.
- **Ensuring Jewish representation in state government and in ethnic studies and social studies curricula.** [Massachusetts has recently passed measures to enhance its social studies curricula](#), and I want the Jewish Caucus and the Jewish community in Massachusetts to be leading the charge on adoption of inclusive materials such as the [JIMENA model curriculum](#). Jews are a minority group indigenous to the Land of Israel in the Middle East, and we have a proud history outside the sad movies people make about our oppression or colonization.

I ask my fellow Young Jewish Democrats and fellow workers for their support, and look forward to working together with everyone towards our shared political goals. *Kadima!*

Ba'solidariut,

Eli Sennesh

eli@massactionydma.org

Alex Wagner - Candidate for AAPI Caucus Chair

My Fellow Young Democrats —

My name is Alex Wagner and I am running to become Chair of the YDMA AAPI Caucus. I was born in the city of Manila, Philippines, to a young mom who barely had any money and support to take care of me. We bounced around, living in many places including a Catholic Church until I was put into the foster care system and fortunate enough to be adopted by a couple living in the United States. Throughout my life, I have always felt out of place. Due to my very “white” sounding name, when people meet me for the first time, some do not believe I am who I say I am because I don't look like what they imagined. My name, mixed with how I look, placed me in a very lonely position that many AAPI people are put in, where we are trying their best to feel where we belong in American society that doesn't fully accept us. We end up feeling like our identities and troubles are being left behind and forgotten about. I am running for Chair of the YDMA AAPI Caucus to change that.

A couple years ago during my sophomore year of college, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I was lost. Then, with anti-Asian hate rising with the COVID pandemic and bringing with it a sudden spike in hate crimes against the AAPI community, I realized that I wanted to be part of this fight against hate, bigotry, and racism. Seeing my fellow AAPI family push for love over hate inspired me to take up the effort and put my all into the struggle for equality. Standing up for the people who feel left behind, beat down, and bet against is the reason I decided to enter politics and it is my core belief as I continue this work. Since then, I have tirelessly volunteered for candidates and causes

that I feel passionate about, interned and followed on various races across the Commonwealth to bring a better MA for everyone, and am now a Community Organizer on a statewide campaign. I am only getting started.

As Chair of the AAPI Caucus, I will bring in activist leadership with a community driven approach and a goal of significant progress, to make sure the caucus represents and stands for ALL members of the AAPI Community in MA from across the state. I have already planned and am meeting with numerous AAPI activists and leaders to make sure that the caucus can be at its best to fight for all those left behind and forgotten about. More specifically, I have a three point plan to make sure our AAPI community can thrive:

1. Bring in ALL AAPI people, from ALL across the state.

- a. On day one, the caucus will reach out to AAPI people from every corner of the Commonwealth to bring them into the conversation for the first time. Those relationships that will be formed will make sure it represents all AAPI people.

2. Activate our AAPI communities.

- a. After bringing together and building our strong AAPI base, it will be time to activate it. Working in tandem with YDMA, we will train our AAPI people to become activists, organizers, and leaders within their communities to stand up for a more equal Commonwealth.

3. Push for Progress

- a. With every AAPI member equipped with the skills and knowledge to lead for change, we can start working on building a better Commonwealth. We will organize for AAPI candidates from the town level to statewide, we will relentlessly protest hate-crimes against members of our AAPI community, but most importantly, we will celebrate what it means to be AAPI.

Thank you for your consideration and taking time to read about me and my platform. I now humbly ask for your support, so together we can build a better Commonwealth for ALL members of the AAPI community from across the state.

Yours truly,
Alex Wagner

alex@massactionydma.org

Maimouna Bah - Candidate for Parent's Caucus Chair

My name is Maimouna Bah, and I graduated from UMASS Boston in 2020 with an M.A in International Relation and B.A in Political Science. I study IR and Political Science not because I like politics, I pursue it because I love doing public services. Although I just joined the GBYD, I was able to meet other members which gave me the courage to get more involved. I am running to become the Chair of the Parent's Caucus. As a parent myself this will be an honor to serve as a Chair of the parent's Caucus. Few of my goals are to keep the group active, host events that would help to connect with other YDMA parents.