

[Press Releases: 2017 Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative Professional Fellows Program Closing Forum](#)

Media Note
Office of the Spokesperson

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This week, 247 business and social entrepreneurs from Latin America and the Caribbean arrived in Washington, D.C. for the closing forum of the [Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative \(YLAI\) Professional Fellows Program](#). For the past five weeks, the YLAI fellows have been collaborating with their counterparts in businesses and civil society organizations in 24 U.S. cities, strengthening two-way business ties between the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean.

The closing forum will focus on leadership and skills development training. Follow-on grants will allow mentors from select 2017 U.S. host organizations to travel to the YLAI fellows' home countries to build on the partnerships that began as a result of this exchange program.

For press inquiries, please contact ECA-Press@state.gov. Join the conversations on Twitter at #YLAI2017 and visit ylai.state.gov for more information.

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