

**Ariel Johnson**

Social Justice and Educational Equity Advocate, Political and Legislative Strategist.

Greater Chicago Area · 500+ connections

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DC Charter School Action

Loyola University Chicago School of Law

**Experience**



**Executive Director**

DC Charter School Action

Dec 2021 - Present · 7 months

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

DC Charter School Action (DCCSA) is a 501(c)(4) social welfare organization focused on engaging the charter school community in the legislative and political process, growing the coalition of charter school supporters and activists, and educating DC public officials on the impact of charter public schools in advancing educational equity.



**Chief Of Staff**

DC Charter School Alliance

Dec 2021 - Present · 7 months



**Founder**

Manor Strategies

Jul 2020 - Present · 2 years



**INCS Action**

4 years 6 months

**Chief Of Staff**

Jul 2020 - Dec 2021 · 1 year 6 months

Chicago

INCS Action is a 501(c)(4) organization. We are affiliated with the INCS Action PAC, an Illinois-registered political action committee that supports and opposes candidates for elected office, and we work closely with our partner, the Illinois Network of Charter Schools, a 501(c)(3) organization that brings together students, parents, educators and administrators who all share a common goal: to improve the quality of public education by promoting and strengthening charter schools throughout the...

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**Director Of Government Affairs**

Jul 2017 - Jul 2020 · 3 years 1 month

**Illinois Network of Charter Schools**

7 years 5 months

**Chief Of Staff**

Jul 2020 - Dec 2021 · 1 year 6 months

Chicago, Illinois, United States

**Director Of Government Affairs**

Aug 2017 - Jul 2020 · 3 years

Greater Chicago Area

**Legislative**

- Drafting legislation
- Determining policy positions for the organization
- Lobbying of education and charter related policies at the state Capitol
- Drafting summary documents for bills
- Creating and implementing strategy for legislation
- Legal technical assistance
- Legal advocacy
- Agency rule-making
- Grassroots advocacy with member schools
- Coalition meetings with stakeholders
- Manager of legislative school tours
- Bill implementation...

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**Senior Manager, Legislative Affairs**

Jan 2016 - Aug 2017 · 1 year 8 months

Greater Chicago Area

**Legislative Affairs Manager**

Nov 2014 - Dec 2015 · 1 year 2 months

- Drafting legislation
- Reviewing charter bills filed and making position recommendations to Director of Government Affairs.
- Lobbying of education and charter related policies at the state Capitol
- Drafting summary documents for bills
- Creating and implementing strategy for legislation
- Legal technical assistance
- Legal advocacy
- Agency rule-making
- Grassroots advocacy with member schools
- Advocacy coalition meetings
- Manage legislative school...

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**Manager of Civic Affairs**

Aug 2014 - Nov 2014 · 4 months

Chicago, IL

- Collaborative member of the Government Affairs team
- Liaison to Chicago Public Schools leadership
- Representative to member schools with focus on Special Education and English Language Learners
- Work with local and state elected officials on legislative and electoral initiatives with a focus on education reform.

**Chicago Public Schools**

1 year 7 months

**Prosecutor**

Jan 2013 - Jul 2014 · 1 year 7 months

Greater Chicago Area

- Investigation of school discipline matters
- Conducted expulsion/discipline hearings on behalf of the Chicago Board of Education.
- Counseled CPS district schools on policies around school discipline
- Researched best practices from similarly situated districts

**Law Clerk-Labor Relations Unit**

Jan 2013 - Jun 2013 · 6 months

- Responsible for pre-hearing interviews
- Gathering appropriate evidentiary support
- Administrative law hearings
- Research
- Writing briefs

**711 Law Clerk**

Chicago Volunteer Legal Services

Sep 2013 - May 2014 · 9 months

Greater Chicago Area

- Research in domestic relations
- Adoption, minor guardianship and GAL work
- Responsible for trial prep work including: client intake, hearings, filing, drafting/presenting motions
- Prove-ups
- Discovery

**Law Clerk**

LAF

May 2013 - Aug 2013 · 4 months

- Responsible for researching
- Client intake,
- Drafted due process hearing letters/demand letters to comply with 504 and IDEA
- Participated in IEP/MDR/Domain meetings
- Prepared expulsion hearings
- Drafted motions and state complaints

**Intern**

Equip for Equality

Aug 2012 - May 2013 · 10 months

Chicago

- Special education advocacy
- Participated Individualized Education Plan meetings
- Participated in Manifestation Determination Reviews
- Advocated for better expulsion policies regarding children with special education concerns.
- Provided direct and indirect assistance to students state wide.

**Extern for the Honorable Arlander Keys**

Judicial Extern

Aug 2012 - Jan 2013 · 6 months

Chicago

- Participated in preliminary hearings
- Settlement conferences
- Detainment hearings
- Initial appearances
- Status hearings
- Completed judicial opinion

**Adult Guardianship Pro Se Help Desk**

Center for Disability and Elder Law

May 2012 - Aug 2012 · 4 months

Chicago

- Worked with pro se litigants applying for guardianship of adults adjudicated unable to care for themselves. .

**Summer Teaching Staff**

St. Ignatius College Prep

Jun 2011 - Aug 2012 · 1 year 3 months

- Grammar/Writing Curriculum planning
- Lesson Implementation
- Essay Workshops
- Daily Interactive Programming

**Training and Development Intern**

Sherwin Williams

Nov 2009 - May 2010 · 7 months

- Worked with the human resources department to create best practices in work place discrimination prevention to be used in training for Sherwin Williams stores.

**Education**

**Loyola University Chicago School of Law**

Doctor of Law (J.D.) - School Law/Child and Family Law

Activities and Societies: Education Policy Institute, Research Assistant, Practicum Student, Client Counseling Team, Negotiations Team, Black Law Student Association.

**John Carroll University**

Bachelors of Arts - English, Philosophy

Activities and Societies: Student Alumni Association, Honors Program, Alpha Sigma Nu- Jesuit Honor Society, Order of Omega-Greek Honor Society, Student Democrats, Kappa Delta Sorority, Tour Guide

**St. Ignatius College Prep**

High School Diploma

**Groups**

John Carroll University Alumni Network

Kappa Delta HQ

Jesuit Friends and Alumni Network - Chicago

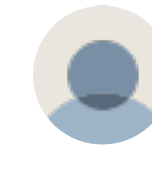
Loyola University Chicago School of Law Alumni

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**Paloma Mitchell**

DePaul University Graduate - B.A. in Economics  
United States



**John Cairns**

Lawyer to Charter Schools in Minnesota and other states.  
Minneapolis, MN



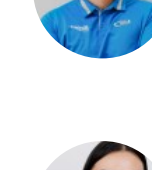
**Andrew Thode, PMP**

Senior Manager of Political Affairs at Illinois Network of Charter Schools  
Greater Chicago Area



**Mitch Price**

Senior Policy Advisor at Washington State Charter Schools Association  
Seattle, WA



**Alex Burrell**

Girls Director at Florida Rush  
Greater Orlando



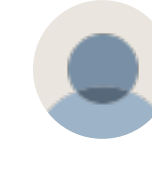
**Nadia Berriel Miranda**

Bilingual Community Organizer at Noble Schools  
Greater Chicago Area



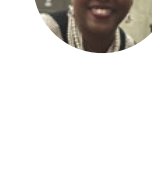
**Shalema Francois-Blue**

Executive Director of Special Education at Oak Park & River Forest High School  
Greater Chicago Area



**Lawrence Drakeford**

Clerk at Agape Christian Ministries  
Paterson, NJ



**Thomas Bushnauskas**

Electrician at Ibew Local 164  
Haledon, NJ



**Kymberley Ruffin, M.Ed.**

Mother, Educator, Mentor, Restorative Justice Practitioner, Youth Advocate  
New York City Metropolitan Area

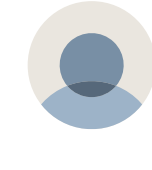
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**Ariel Johnson**

-- Graphic Designer and Singer-Songwriter  
Columbus, GA



**Ariel Johnson**

Compass Group SSC JCSU  
Charlotte, NC



**Ariel Johnson**

Owner and Principal at Ariel Fox Design Inc.  
Los Angeles, CA

**Ariel Johnson**

Director Of Clinical Services at Gilead Sciences  
Costa Mesa, CA

**Ariel Johnson**

Waitr, Inc.  
Eunice, LA

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