

# Ellie Lerner

(415) 722-7436 · [ellie.l.lerner@gmail.com](mailto:ellie.l.lerner@gmail.com) · [LinkedIn](#)

## EDUCATION

- Columbia University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences** 2025 - current  
*Master's in Political Science*
- Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA** 2022 - 2025  
*Bachelor of Arts in Government, GPA: 3.95, Magna Cum Laude, awarded best senior thesis in the government major*
- Tufts University, Medford, MA** 2021 - 2022  
*Bachelor of Arts, Dean's List 2021 & 2022*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- Open Academy, Student Fellow** August 2024 - May 2025
- Organized campus events that brought together speakers with opposing viewpoints to foster open dialogue; moderated a debate on psychedelic legalization featuring leading medical experts.
- U.S. Congressman Steny Hoyer, Capitol Hill Legislative Intern** July 2024 - August 2024
- Worked with the press team, compiled daily press briefings, wrote statement on the August Jobs Report ([Link](#)), and crafted social media posts to highlight the work of the Regional Leadership Council.
  - Answered constituent phone calls, documented concerns, and assigned caseworkers for constituents requiring assistance.
- California Common Cause, Policy Research Intern** May 2023 - Sep 2023
- Wrote script and conducted research for the "Democracy Is!" podcast on felony disenfranchisement.
  - Assisted research efforts for SB 328, analyzing campaign spending data from previous election cycles.
  - Drafted policy memo comparing political finance laws in advanced democracies and presented findings at staff meeting.
- Free Food for Thought, Podcast Host & Social Media Director** Jan 2023 - May 2025
- Conducts interviews and manages social media accounts for a student-run podcast that connects college students with thought leaders on campus.
- Gould Center War in Ukraine, Research Assistant** Oct 2022 - May 2023
- Assisted Dr. Espinosa's research on Ukraine, partnering with Ukrainian students from the National University of Kyiv.
  - Organized a Social Engagement Fair on Russia's war on Ukraine and Ukrainian resistance. Oct 7-8, 2022
    - 1,085 online and in-person attendees, 25 speakers, artists, and performers
- San Francisco Supervisor Raphael Mandelman, Campaign Intern** May 2022 - August 2022
- Assisted staff with policy research, addressed consistent complaints, and aided reelection campaign efforts.
- Tufts Political Science Department, Research Assistant** Jan 2022 - May 2022
- Conducted research on the changing demographics of Congress and the political implications of newly proposed congressional maps for Dr. Schildkraut's book, "The Challenge Of Democracy."
- Oversight & Advisory Committee for SF Dept. of Children, Youth, and Their Families, Youth Representative** 2020 - 2021
- Appointed by San Francisco Mayor Breed to oversee a \$168 million operating budget for the city's youth.
- Assemblymember David Chiu, District Office Intern** May 2019 - Sep 2019
- Accompanied the Assemblymember and staffers to events, responded to constituent calls, drafted policy memos, and made certificates to recognize the efforts of community members and organizations in San Francisco.

## LEADERSHIP

- Philosophy Talk - Stanford University Podcast, Interviewee** Nov 26, 2021
- Interviewed on the [Philosophy Talk podcast](#) about organizing work in support of Prop G to lower the voting age in SF
  - Aired on KALW 91.7 FM, San Francisco, and was rebroadcast on other stations nationwide.
- Generation Upwards (GenUp), Director of Organizing** 2019 - 2021
- Managed volunteers for education policy campaigns, including the Schools and Communities First ballot proposition.
  - Organized public forum with members of the San Francisco School Board to increase transparency around pandemic planning and response.