



French-American  
Foundation

## Chicago visit highlights U.S.-French differences on public-private sector roles

### French-American Foundation's Young Leaders briefed on City's strategies, meet with Mayor

**Paris/New York, October 29, 2009** – A closely intertwined, “almost symbiotic relationship” in the U.S. between the private and public sectors and an impressive meeting with a big city mayor “more powerful than many governors,” were among the experiences for French-American Foundation Young Leaders during a whirlwind series of briefings in Chicago. The Young Leaders program is part of the Foundation’s efforts to improve working relationships between French and American leaders through annual exchanges of both countries’ rising young professionals.

The 40-member French-American delegation met with business leaders, academics, community organizers and local officials, including Chicago mayor Richard Daley, “widely viewed as the nation’s top urban executive,” according to a 2005 TIME magazine article. Presentations during the visit addressed Chicago’s cutting edge green initiatives, the broad scale of community development activities and the city’s approach to education, public safety and neighborhood development. In a visit to the University of Chicago, the group met with its President and was briefed on the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Young Leaders said that they were particularly struck by the integral, direct role played by the private sector in advancing community-wide initiatives and promoting its development with both time and money. “I found it extraordinary that public action relies so much on private initiative, even when it comes to implementing social programs,” commented one of the French Young Leaders. “France is much more state-led,” said another, “and things don’t seem to happen as quickly as they do in Chicago.”

Another highlight of the visit was a one-hour, wide-ranging meeting with Mayor Daley who Young Leaders variously described as “direct,” “tough,” “charismatic,” “passionate” and “larger than life.” The city leader’s relative power, his openness and the scope of his activities, extending even to forging international partnerships, were remarked upon by participants. “It was surprising that a 20-year incumbent could be so creative and forward-thinking on behalf of his city,” commented an American Young Leader.

The 2009 class of Young Leaders will join the 2010 class in Marseilles next year for a program focusing on health care and social policy.

*The French-American Foundation, with offices in Paris and New York, was established in 1976 with the mission to enrich and improve relations between France and the United States and to encourage an active dialogue between the two nations.*

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## 2009 French-American Foundation Young Leaders

### American Young Leaders:

Greg Behrman - Member, Policy Planning Staff, U.S. Department of State  
Jonah Bokaer - Founding Director, Chez Bushwick  
Reuben Brigety - Director, Sustainable Security Program at the Center for American Progress  
Paula Broadwell - Research Associate, Center for Public Leadership, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University  
Sewell Chan - Reporter/Bureau Chief, The New York Times  
Dalton Conley - Dean for the Social Sciences & University Professor, New York University  
Xenia Dormandy - Executive Director, PeaceNexus  
John Gallagher - Major, U.S. Army  
Auren Hoffman, CEO, Rapleaf  
Roy Katzovicz - Chief Legal Officer, Pershing Square Capital Management, L.P.  
Thomas Lee - Founder & CEO, 1Life Healthcare  
Jennifer Newstead - Partner, Davis Polk & Wardwell  
Adeel Qalbani - Senior Managing Director, Reservoir Capital Group  
Douglas Raymond - Head of Monetization, Google China  
Jamal Simmons - Principal, The Raben Group  
Cynthia Smith - Executive Director, Public Policy, Payer Strategy & Operations, Affymax, Inc.  
Matthew Turner - General Manager, Americas Renewables Projects, GE Energy  
Marco Vicenzino - Founder and Director, Global Strategy Project

### French Young Leaders:

Julie Battilana - Assistant Professor, Harvard Business School  
Antoine Bello - Writer/Entrepreneur  
Katrin Bennhold - Correspondent, International Herald Tribune  
Emmanuel de Boisset - Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, Prestigium Online Media Group  
Julien Cantegreil - Directeur de la programmation, En temps réel  
Magda Danysz - President, Galerie Magda Danysz  
Rémi El-Ouazzane - Vice-President, Texas Instruments Incorporated  
Thierry Gausseron - Deputy Director, Musée d'Orsay  
Claude Grunitzky - Founder and Chairman – TRUE Agency; Founder, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief – TRACE Magazine  
Pierre Kosciusko-Morizet - Co-founder and CEO, PriceMinister Group  
Fatine Layt - President, Oddo Corporate Finance  
Jérôme Leprince-Ringuet - Head of Strategic Planning and Market Intelligence, Total Refining and Marketing  
Vincent Mahé - Director, Corporate Finance Department, BNP Paribas  
Amélie Oudéa-Castéra - Executive Assistant to the Group CFO, AXA Group  
François-Xavier Rouxel - Executive Vice-President, Enrichment Business Unit, AREVA  
David Spector - Associate Professor, Paris School of Economics; Economist, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique  
Catherine Sueur - Deputy Executive Director, Musée du Louvre  
Sébastien Veil - Investment Director, PAI Partners  
Boris Zaïtra - Corporate Vice-President, Head of Mergers & Acquisitions, EADS

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