



# REIMAGINING THE GOLDEN STATE

## Creating Economic Opportunity for the Next Generation

*Additional speakers to be announced.*

## AGENDA

9:30 am

Registration (*Lobby*)

9:30 am - 10:00 am

Continental Breakfast (*Tamalpais Room*)

10:00 am

Welcome

*Sarah Swanbeck, Director, Berkeley Institute for the Future of Young Americans*

10:15 am - 11:45 pm

Morning Panel Session 1

### ***Housing Affordability and the Future of Homeownership in California***

California has long been held up as a place of opportunity. But lately that reputation has been tarnished by the high cost of living. For young people in particular, housing costs present a formidable barrier as they try to navigate school and get a foothold in their first careers. This panel will delve deeper into the factors that have driven up housing costs in the state, and will lay out policy solutions for how we can go about tackling the problem.

#### **Moderator**

Seva Rodnyansky, Postdoctoral Scholar, Berkeley Institute for the Future of Young Americans

#### **Panelists**

Ophelia Basgal, Visiting Scholar, Turner Center for Housing Innovation, UC Berkeley  
Douglas Stimpson, Executive Director Capital Asset Strategies, UC Office of the President  
Elizabeth Kneebone, Research Director, Turner Center for Housing Innovation, UC Berkeley

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Lunch Break (*Terrace*)

1:15 pm - 2:45 pm

Afternoon Panel Session 1

### ***Portable Benefits for Young Independent Workers***

The emergence of the gig economy has amplified a trend in the labor market - a shift away from the stability of traditional employment and toward more precarious work. For young workers and low-wage workers in particular, they are entering the labor market for the first time at a moment when the traditional employer-employee relationship is changing. This shifting labor landscape raises important questions about the cost and risk that young people must take on themselves when they work without the benefits and protections of a traditional employer-employee relationship. What options do gig workers have for retirement savings and workers comp? In this uncertain environment for the Affordable Care Act, what options do non-traditional workers have for health insurance? What new worker protections are needed to ensure that young workers can lead successful lives with remunerative and sustainable careers?

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**Moderator**

Jesus Guzman, Master of Public Policy, Goldman School of Public Policy

**Panelists**

Lenny Mendonca, Senior Partner Emeritus, McKinsey and Company

Carmen Rojas, CEO, The Worker's Lab

Katie Selenski, Executive Director, CalSavers

**2:45 pm - 4:15 pm**

**Afternoon Panel Session 2**

***Reevaluating Our Social Safety Net with an Eye toward Young Americans***

One of the central economic challenges for young Americans today is stagnating incomes and wages. A simple estimate of wages adjusted for inflation for the last fifty years makes clear that for many sub-groups, including younger Americans, incomes have not risen, and have actually likely declined. Alarming, the American economic machine seems to have broken down in a fundamental way. This panel will look at policy solutions currently on the table to address this income stagnation among young people, specifically programs like a Federal Jobs Guarantee, expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, or implementing a Universal Basic Income.

**Moderator**

James Hawkins, Research Fellow, Berkeley Institute for the Future of Young Americans

**Panelists**

Natalie Foster, Co-Chair, Economic Security Project

Darrick Hamilton, Professor of Economics and Urban Policy, The New School

Sara Kimberlin, Senior Policy Analyst, California Budget and Policy Center

Tracey Ross, Associate Director, All-In Cities Initiative, PolicyLink

**4:15 pm - 4:30 pm**

**Closing Remarks**

*Henry Brady, Dean and Class of 1941 Monroe Deutsch Professor of Political Science and Public Policy, Goldman School of Public Policy*

**4:30 pm - 6:00 pm**

**Networking Reception (*Terrace*)**

*Drinks and light refreshment provided*