

A DECADE OF IMPACT

Story of Brenden

In December, Will Landers, Oliver Daley and I met with the Bloomberg team in New York, and they asked about the alumni of those first YIS students in 2014 and where they ended up.

I was reminded of Brenden Schwartz. He was one of the first kids ever to hear a YIS lesson and started a YIS club in Agoura Hills, California. He was only a sophomore at the time when he joined YIS, he later went on to be a Co-President of the Youth Advisory Board, and was the MC at the first Stock Pitch Competition held in NYC. I

remember in the early days of YIS, he said "Mr. Fletcher, I love Finance, but I also love movies." And we spoke about Film Financing and some career options combining his love for movies as well as business.

He went on to study business at Florida State University, and now he is living his dream, as a Film Licensing Analyst at Toei Animation, a film studio based in Los Angeles.

He surprised me flying out to attend to GYIS and Gala in NYC this May! It was so special to see how much he had grown, and that he was achieving a career

UPCOMING EVENTS

- YIS Knowledge Bowl Competition (Jan. 2025)
- YIS Fireside Chats Ongoing
- Global Youth Investment Summit (May 28th and 29th in NYC) at Cornell Tech Campus.
- The NYC Gala is planned to be held the evening of May 28th 2026 at the University Club.



YIS Alumni in May 2025, Brenden Schwartz is 2nd from the left

that he had set out for so many years ago. He said "there is no way I could have achieved my dream without YIS".

When I told this story to the Bloomberg team, they said "Oh, you need to tell more stories like Brenden's! That's amazing!" That's the rippling impact YIS can have a decade later.

WeBull Partnership



We are happy to officially launch the partnership with WeBull Financial. [Press Release](#) WeBull is the 2nd largest Online Brokerage App in the US, with 23 million registered users, and operates in 14 countries. They launched Custodial Accounts for teens this quarter, and become the Official Online Brokerage for YIS, and we can run the Dollar-a-Day payments and competitions through WeBull's platform. We have many exciting plans to grow this partnership through

their platform and our content.

School Growth

This quarter, we added 193 new schools, 1,421 new registered students to reach **3,371 schools** and 2,104 lessons completed this quarter (an all time high), and **5,175 active students** of which 3,300 were from past years. It is good to see the active students continue to grow for the year, and for increased monitoring of engagement and lesson completions. There were also 311 students that participated in the Dollar-a-Day challenge this quarter.

Fireside Chats

We are excited to continue with the popular Fireside Chat series, and this quarter we had a great one in November with **Deepa Pakianathan** Ph.D.-Biotech Investor at Delphi Ventures and **Pablo Mitchell**, Head of Quantitative Development at Ash Capital Management. And then in early January, we had another

Capital Management and **Bobby Edemeka**, Portfolio Manager at Jennison Associates. It always amazes me the caliber of people that volunteer their time to help kids learn about investing and manage their careers. The Q&A time is always a hit!

YIS Investment Fund

Another positive update this quarter, was the launch of the YIS Student Investment Fund, where we selected the first 6 YIS Analysts, who will be researching companies for Claudio Brocado's SIF Fund. Rowe Michels will also act as the Investment Committee Chair, and has put some great training programs and templates into place.

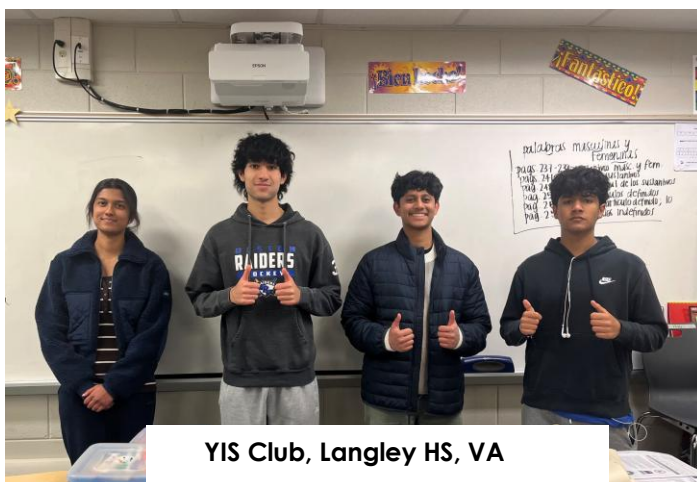
Over time, I believe this real life analyst experience will be a huge draw for the GYIS winners as well as the CYIA Certification earners to be eligible for this incredible work experience opportunity.

New Enrichment Videos

We are happy to release new Stock Pitch Enrichment Videos, which walk students step by step through the complete stock pitch process, from idea generation to valuation and presentation. Some topics taught are:

- How to identify high-quality stock ideas using professional screeners

fantastic Fireside chat with **Jerilyn Castillo-McAniff**, Managing Director and Head of Diversity & Inclusion at Oaktree



YIS Club, Langley HS, VA

- How to analyze industries and understand market trends
- How to build a clear and compelling investment thesis
- How to value a company using a Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) model
- How to structure and deliver a winning stock pitch

The best part is they are taught by a peer, videos are courtesy of Global Stock Pitch Winner & SAB Member, **Elijah L.** The entire enrichment series can be found on our YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@yisorg>

New Board Members

We are pleased to welcome back to the board of YIS, **Claudio Brocado!** In many ways, it feels like he never left because he has always been involved and

supportive, but he is now contributing so much to the student investment team and our long-term vision.

We also would like to wish **Lee Mackay** best of luck in his church service assignment for the next three years in Argentina! He'll be busy managing hundreds of missionaries, so he'll step down from the YIS board for those years, and be emeritus status.

Conclusion

What a great year continues to roll forward! I hope to see many of you at the GYIS in May this year in New York City. It'll be the biggest and most impactful yet, I have no doubt.

I'm so grateful to each of you!

James

YOUNG INVESTOR SNAPSHOT

Eshan D. Cox Hill HS, North Carolina

"Hi, I'm Eshan, a senior at Cox Mill High School in North Carolina. Joining Young Investors Society has easily been one of my best high school decisions, and not just because of the numerous opportunities I'm exposed to, but also because it gave me a sense of clarity on what finance is all about. It even got me to pursue finance as a part of my career. I learned how to manage my personal finances, how the stock market works, and how to invest and build a good portfolio from a young age!"



OUR VISION: INVESTORS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

WE BELIEVE THAT WHEN YOUTH ARE EMPOWERED BY FINANCIAL LITERACY, THEY CAN BECOME OUTSTANDING INVESTORS IN COMPANIES, SOCIETIES AND THEMSELVES, THUS ACHIEVING FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE AND BREAKING THE CYCLE OF GENERATIONAL POVERTY.