



TITLE

TFA'S ROLE IN THE PRIVATIZATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION AND WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

DATE

APRIL 26, 2015

PRESENTED BY

CHAD SOMMER

Let's Be Clear...

There IS a coordinated effort to privatize public education.



The Motive

1. *Philosophical*

- *“Free Market” Orthodoxy*
- *Plutocratic / Technocratic (“test scores!”)*
- *Undemocratic*

2. *Financial*

- *Boondoggle for the Wealthy & Well Connected*

A Boondoggle for the Wealthy and Well-Connected

“When it comes to K through 12 education, we see a \$500 billion sector in the U.S. alone...”



- Rupert Murdoch, CEO and Chairman,
News Corp

A Boondoggle for the Wealthy and Well-Connected

WED MAR 18, 2015 AT 09:58 AM PDT

Walmart heirs' foundation advises hedge funds on how to profit from charter schools

by [Laura Clawson](#) for [Daily Kos Labor](#)

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Walmart heir Rob Walton

BONDS & BLACKBOARDS: INVESTING IN CHARTER SCHOOLS

HOSTED BY: LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC)
SPONSORED BY: BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION (BMGF) AND
WALTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

March 10, 2015
Harvard Club, 27 West 44th St., New York, N.Y. 10036
Mistress of Ceremonies: Jacqueline Adams

What's TFA's Connection?

TFA and TFA's political arm LEE (Leadership for Educational Equity) are heavily funded by many of the same privatization players

Growth Investors (\$250,000- \$999,999)

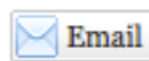
INDIVIDUALS

Bruce and Diana Rauner

BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*

\$20-million Walton donation will boost Teach for America in L.A.

July 31, 2013 | By Howard Blume

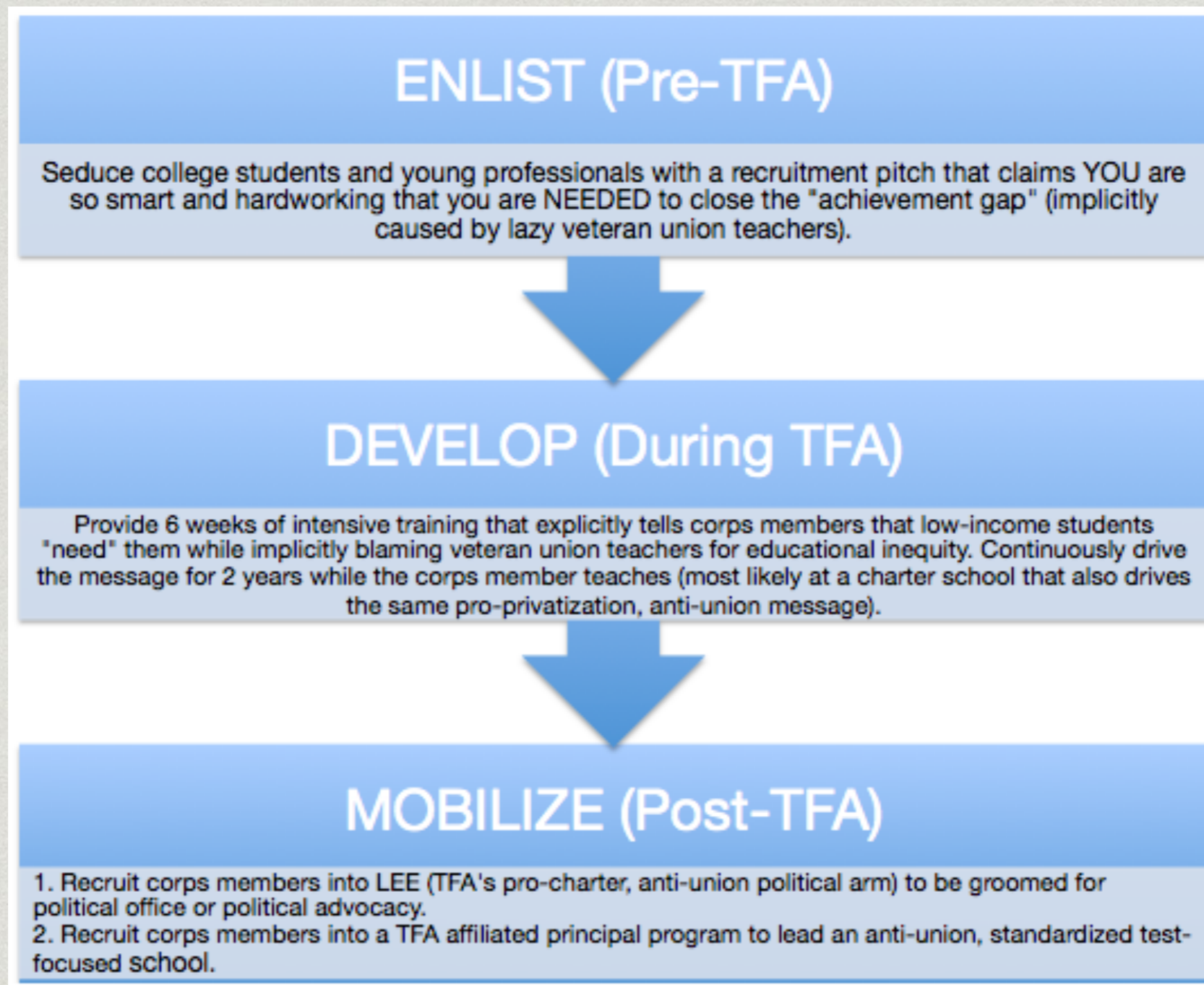


Teach For America is NOT a Teacher Prep Program

“Our Mission is to enlist, develop and mobilize our nation’s most promising future leaders to grow and strengthen the movement for educational equity.”

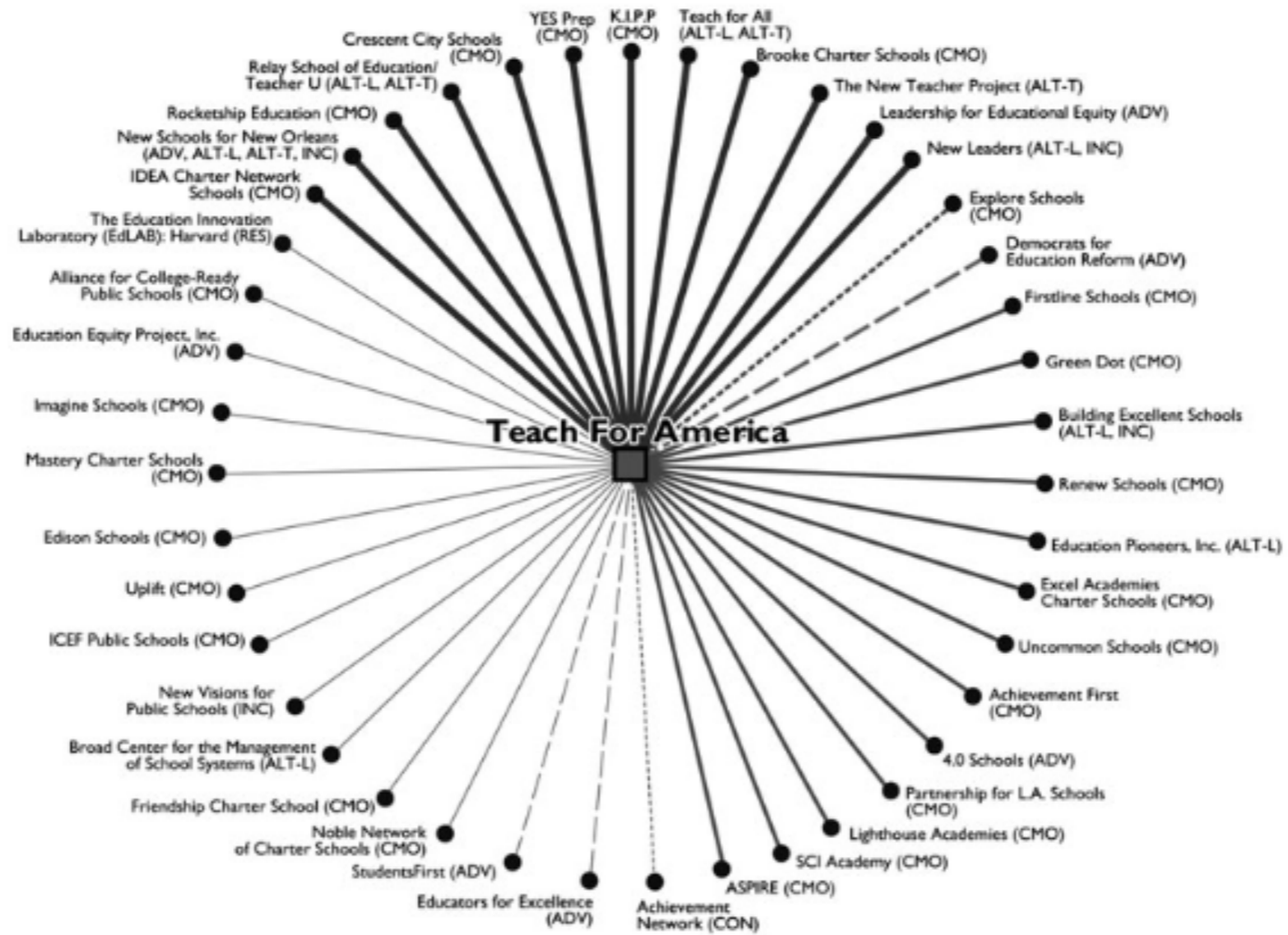
- Teach For America’s Official Website

TFA's Path to Leadership



\$100,000,000
in 2012
on recruitment,
advertising &
promotions

What TFA Alum Lead...



Connection Type	Organization Type
————	Partnership
-----	Founded
.....	Senior Staff
————	Partnership, Senior Staff
-----	Partnership, Founded
.....	Senior Staff, Founded
————	Partnership, Senior Staff, Founded
	ADV: Political Advocacy Organization
	ALT-L: Alternative Training Program for Leadership
	ALT-T: Alternative Training Program for Teachers
	CMO: Charter Management Organization
	CON: Data-Driven Consultant Organization
	INC: School Incubation Organization
	RES: Research Firm

TFA is...

An incubator for transforming social justice minded young people into advocates for Koch Bros.-style education policies



The image shows a screenshot of the Teach For America website. At the top left is the logo "TEACHFORAMERICA". To the right are two buttons: "APPLY" in a red box and "DONATE" in an orange box. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: "TEACH WITH TFA", "GET INVOLVED", "TOP STORIES", "ABOUT US", "WHERE WE WORK", and "ALUMNI". The main content area features a video player with a play button icon. Below the video player is the headline "Every Kid Deserves to Learn" in white text. Underneath the headline is a blue banner with white text: "Of the 16 million kids growing up in poverty in the U.S., only one in three will graduate from high school. Together, we can improve the odds." In the bottom right corner of the banner is an orange button with the text "LEARN MORE".

What You Can Do About It

Know the Facts

cloakinginequity.com

Cloaking Inequity

"Say it like it really is"

[Last 30](#) [Timeline](#) [CV](#) [TV & Radio](#) [Publications](#)

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NETWORK FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

2015 Chicago Conference
April 25th, 2015

The big day is here.

You are here: [Home](#) » [A Primer for Engaging Teach For America Supporters](#)

March 16, 2014 | [chadsommer](#) | [14 Comments](#)

A Primer for Engaging Teach For America Supporters



Have you ever found yourself trapped in the insufferable position of having to tolerate a Teach For America true believer relentlessly bombarding you with justifications for Teach For America's placement atop the corporate org chart of educational excellence?

Support Student Organizations

Organization



STUDENTS UNITED
FOR **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

supe.k12newsnetwork.com



usas.org

Campaign



**STUDENTS
RESISTING
TEACHFORAMERICA**
STUDENT LED CAMPAIGN BY Students United for Public Education



**TEACHFOR
AMERICA
TRUTH TOUR**

Support Local Districts in Pushing Back

Cloaking Inequity

"Say it like it really is"

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NETWORK FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION


2015 Chicago Conference
April 25th, 2015

The big day is here.

You are here: [Home](#) » [Will San Francisco cancel TFA?: Alum letter to Board details threats, depression, and debt](#)

April 22, 2015 | [Julian Vasquez Heilig](#) | [10 Comments](#)

Will San Francisco cancel TFA?: Alum letter to Board details threats, depression, and debt



Know Programs That Work

Contact Us Home

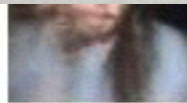


THE FEDERATION FOR
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



www.ilcommunityschools.org

What Success Looks Like



37 minutes ago 

I stopped mid application process for TFA about the same time I started working with **Stephanie Rivera** in the Rutgers Future Scholars program. I still toy with the idea of working in a classroom, but this isn't how I wanted to get there.



**Student sparks campaign
against Teach for America**

dailytargum.com

What Success Looks Like

Sections The Washington Post Search Sign In

Teach For America could miss recruitment mark by more than 25 percent

16

By **Valerie Strauss** December 15, 2014 [Follow @valeriestrauss](#)



TFA founder Wendy Kopp (The Washington Post)

Advertisement



What Success Looks Like



The screenshot shows the homepage of The Crimson White, the student newspaper of the University of Alabama. The masthead features the newspaper's name in a red box. A navigation bar includes links for News, Culture, Sports, Opinion, Multimedia, Topics, About Us, Advertising, and FYI. A sidebar on the right contains a promotional offer for Michelin tires. The main article is titled "Teach for America contract at Central to end" by Mackenzie Ross, published on 04/06/15. Below the article title is a photograph of a sign for Central High School that reads "VOTE YES FOR SCHOOLS MARCH 3".

The Crimson White
Serving The University of Alabama since 1894

News Culture Sports Opinion Multimedia Topics About Us Advertising FYI

Teach for America contract at Central to end

BY MACKENZIE ROSS | Published 04/06/15 7:29am | Updated 04/06/15 7:30am



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
HOME OF THE FALCONS
AN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

VOTE YES FOR SCHOOLS
MARCH 3

Although Central High School has worked with seven Teach for America corps members since 2012, Tuscaloosa City Schools will no longer receive new corps members. CW | Amy Sullivan



The screenshot shows the homepage of IN THESE TIMES, a publication with the tagline "WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL...". The navigation bar includes links for HOME, POLITICS, THE MOVEMENT, LABOR, and CULTURE. The main image is a photograph of a woman speaking into a megaphone at a protest. A banner in the background reads "Reclaim the Promise of Public Education OUR SCHOOLS". Below the image is a caption identifying the woman as Jessie Ramey speaking at a National Day of Action event. The article title is "Yinzers Toss Teach for America" by Theo Anderson, dated January 22, 2014. The article's sub-headline is "An embattled public school system fights back against privatization." Social media sharing options for Facebook, Twitter, and Email are visible at the bottom.

IN THESE TIMES

WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL...

HOME POLITICS THE MOVEMENT LABOR CULTURE



Reclaim the Promise of Public Education
OUR SCHOOLS

Jessie Ramey speaks to a crowd on the National Day of Action to Reclaim the Promise of Public Education on Dec. 9, 2013.

ACT LOCALLY - JANUARY 22, 2014

Yinzers Toss Teach for America

An embattled public school system fights back against privatization.

BY THEO ANDERSON

Like 0 submit 185 Tweet 146 Email Print

Thank you.

chadsommer@yahoo.com

@chadsommer