

2021 EDE Summer Institute Participants



Faith Achugamonu

Washington University in St. Louis, Class of 2024 · St. Louis, MO

Faith is a first-generation Nigerian-American who grew up in the Washington, DC, metro area. At Washington University in St. Louis, Faith is a math and economics major, with a desire to gain a PhD in Economics after her undergraduate studies. Her trip to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors during her sophomore year of high school ignited the initial spark she had for economics, and she plans on finding her way back to the Fed as an economist. She is one of the two students featured in the documentary “A Year Interrupted: 2020 High School Seniors Face COVID-19 and an Uncertain Future,” produced by Education Week. Faith recently completed a research paper on Diversity and Inclusion in the Federal Reserve System and presented her findings at the 2021 Sadie Collective Conference for Economics and Related Fields.



Jasmine Amaniampong

North Carolina A&T State University, Class of 2024 · Greensboro, NC

Jasmine, originally from Concord, North Carolina, is an honors economics student and Cheatham-White Scholar at North Carolina A&T State University. She is part of various organizations, including the Aggie Economics Association, Beta Gamma Sigma Honors Society, and Young Black Leadership Alliance. She not only hopes to impact her community but also strives to promote attendance to Historically Black Colleges and Universities. From May 2021 until July 2021, Jasmine will serve as a Servant Leader Intern (SLI) with Freedom School Partners in Charlotte, North Carolina. As an SLI, she will be a classroom teacher instilling the importance of reading literacy while promoting confidence within a group of culturally diverse middle school students. In the future, she plans on utilizing her economics degree and experience in the field to better allocate resources within the black community.



John Amhanesi

Philander Smith College, Class of 2023 · Little Rock, AR

John is a psychology and business management double major at Philander Smith College. An international student from Nigeria, he is passionate about intersecting economic analysis, business research, and technology management in promoting efficient diversity and value in product quality, market strategy, and organizational operations.



Sullivan Anderson

North Carolina A&T State University, Class of 2024 · Greensboro, NC

Sullivan is a student at North Carolina A&T State University hailing from Chicago, IL. As an honors student, Sullivan is also a Dowdy Scholar and serves as Miss Honors for the Honors Program.

Prior to beginning her collegiate career, Sullivan was active in journalism and promoting positive images of African American students. She gained valuable journalism skills as a columnist for the Chicago Defender and as a Freelance Journalist for True Star Media, while also serving as an Ambassador for Chicago Scholars, Director of Event Planning for the Black is Gold Organization, and President of the JCP Natural Hair Club. Sullivan continues her active engagement in student life at NCA&T, where she holds leadership roles in various student organizations including the Aggie Economics Association, the NAACP, and the Honors Student Advisory Board.

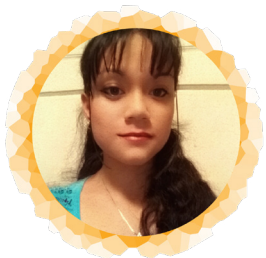


Ridwanulahi Animasahun

University of Lagos, Class of 2022 · Akoka-Yaba, Lagos, Nigeria

Ridwan is a student of economics at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. He decided to study economics because of its quantitative nature and its wide application base. Previously, he has had opportunities to intern at Deloitte Nigeria and Brand Custodians. Ridwan is passionate about using the study of economics to solve everyday problems. Particularly, he is interested in bridging the large gap that exists between businesses and their knowledge of using data-driven insights to make informed and optimized business decisions to further ensure their profitability and long-run sustainability.

He was one of the delegates at the 46th Business Today International Conference, where he engaged both business leaders and like-minded peers on the pressing issue of Corporate Social Responsibility in relation to the changing business environment. Outside the classroom, Ridwan enjoys volunteering for mutual value-aligning organizations such as Google Developers Student Club and the Hult Prize Foundation.



Gabrianna Barcelo

University of California, Davis, Class of 2024 · Davis, CA

Gabrianna is a student at University of California, Davis. She is an economics major, and she is excited to expand her knowledge of economics through her active participation in the EDE program. She is looking forward to approaching the teamwork and networking aspects of the program with the same spirit of collaboration she brings to her economics courses and group research projects.

During her younger teen years, she was a nationally ranked tennis player. She parlayed her passion for tennis and enthusiasm for the success of others into her role as a professional tennis coach for groups, children, and adults at a local athletic club for two years.



Grace Bassekle

Carleton College, Class of 2024 · Northfield, MN

Grace is a student at Carleton College. She is very passionate about community organizing and social justice. As an individual who is very concerned about wealth inequality and climate change, Grace plans to double major in economics and environmental science and to focus her work in development economics.



Pierre Belcher

MassBay Community College, Class of 2022 · Wellesley, MA

Pierre came from Haiti three years ago and is an Honors Program student at MassBay Community College, where he is also on the Dean's list. He is trilingual in French, Hatian Creole and English. In his short time here, he has thrived inside and outside of the classroom, completing an advanced college prep curriculum with a focus on science, math, and literature at Newton North High School. While a student at North Newton, Pierre earned the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy in French, ranked in the 85th percentile for the National French Contest, and served as a Peer French tutor. He was also a three sport athlete (football, basketball, track) and was a cast member of the high school theater group.

Pierre is hungry for knowledge and looks forward to learning about economics and how it interacts with international business, which he intends to study upon his transfer to a four-year university in the fall of 2022. He loves interacting with people, traveling and forming new friendships. He can't wait to see what the world has to offer.



Emma Berman

University of California, Berkeley, Class of 2024 · Berkeley, CA

Emma is from Los Angeles, California, and she is a student at UC Berkeley intending to study economics and applied math. Emma is involved with the Undergraduate Women in Economics at Berkeley and the UC Jazz ensembles. Outside of school, she loves to listen to music, play the piano, cook and bake, and dance. She also dabbles in chess from time to time.



Cassandra Calixte

Agnes Scott College, Class of 2024 · Decatur, Georgia

Cassandra is a student at Agnes Scott College. Throughout her undergraduate education, she intends to continue to explore the world of economics and the role it plays as an applicable tool. Specifically, Cassandra is interested in how economic principles can provide solutions to issues across multiple fields. She believes that her liberal arts education will provide the necessary knowledge to draw the connections between this subject and other fields. In Cassandra’s future endeavors, she would like to have the opportunity to research during her sophomore or junior year. She also plans to explore the possibility of attending graduate school.



Christin Clyburn

University of Pennsylvania, Class of 2024 · Philadelphia, PA

Christin is originally from Washington, D.C. This past year, she developed a strong curiosity for economics, but her overall interests extend into a variety of fields. Christin loves writing and has become particularly invested in poetry. Public speaking is a favorite of hers, and she often pairs it with various forms of social justice advocacy. Christin has a deep appreciation for community service, and much of her volunteer work has centered around providing resources and meals to low-income families. She also traveled to Jamaica to promote literacy by working with schools and libraries, which stimulated her passion for mentoring underprivileged students. Christin loves singing and has travelled with various choruses to some pretty exciting venues. Some of her other interests include running, exploring nature, and spontaneous adventures with friends.



Emmanuel Fiagbe

Soka University of America, Class of 2024 · Aliso Viejo, CA

Emmanuel is an international student from Ghana studying economics and math at Soka University of America. Growing up, he had a first-row seat to the harsh reality of high income inequality and a growing wealth gap. He sees studying economics as a means to hone the skills needed to contribute immensely to closing such social gaps. Emmanuel is also an incoming Investment Banking Rotational Summer 2022 Analyst at Jefferies Financial Group.



Saul Galvez

Northwestern University, Class of 2023 · Evanston, IL

Saul was born in Mexico, but has called Chicago home for some time now. He attends Northwestern University, where he is majoring in psychology and likely economics, as well. At Northwestern, he is part of the Latino Organization on campus and tutors math and science at local elementary schools. Saul is still unsure about his career path, but he is excited about this program. He can’t wait to meet new people and learn more about economics.



Angela Garcia

Yale University, Class of 2024 · New Haven, CT

Angela’s pronouns are she/her/hers. She is currently a student at Yale University and is from Detroit, Michigan. Prior to taking her first economics course on social issues in America, Angela had hoped to become a pediatrician and provide health-services to underserved families in her hometown. After learning about the influence of economics on policy and issues surrounding inequality and economic mobility, she now plans to obtain a PhD in economics in order to contribute to the diversity of perspectives, research and impact of the field.



Karen Gracia

Texas A&M University, Class of 2023 · College Station, TX

Karen is a sophomore at Texas A&M University. She is a business assistant for the Materials Science and Engineering Department and is involved in organizations such as Unicef and Women in Economics. She is from Brownsville, Texas and is a proud first generation Mexican-American. Karen hopes to continue studying economics and develop an interest in one of the many fields within this subject.



Eve Grobman

Yale University, Class of 2024 · New Haven, CT

Eve is a student at Yale University originally hailing from Chicago. She is prospectively double majoring in economics and mathematics and East Asian language & literatures. On campus, she helps organize Yale’s Model United Nations conference, works shifts at Yale’s newspaper, tutors, and plays basketball. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, biking, and doing other things in nature as well as doing puzzles and learning Japanese.



Brooke Hansbrough

Berry College, Class of 2022 · Mount Berry, GA

Though Brooke was born in California, she has grown up near Atlanta, Georgia. She currently attends Berry College in Rome, Georgia, and is a double major in economics and Spanish with minors in physics and math. She plans on going into development economics in the future and hopefully using economic tools to make the world a better place. Outside of classes, Brooke is an economics research assistant working on several projects, the primary one being analyzing the effects of decriminalizing indoor sex work. She is a big fan of the outdoors, so she goes hiking every weekend with an outdoors club on campus, and she also works for Berry’s on-campus ropes course. When Brooke manages to find free time, she enjoys reading, playing Dungeons and Dragons, and petting every dog or cat she comes across.



Chloe Holloway

University of Pittsburgh, Class of 2023 · Pittsburgh, PA

Chloe is a student at the University of Pittsburgh. She is the founder of Minorities in Climate Action, an international environmental organization for marginalized students. Over the course of her research at the intersection of sustainability and the drivers of consumer decision-making, she developed a fascination with behavioral economics. She is determined to use the inherent influence of economics for the greater good and is most interested in how it can help solve climate change. Chloe hopes one day to use the unique passion sparked in her by economics to contribute to the economic health of her grandmother's native Puerto Rico and across the Caribbean.



Christine Hutchinson

Washington University in St. Louis, Class of 2023 · St. Louis, MO

Christine is from Orefield, Pennsylvania, studying environmental analysis and economics at Washington University in St. Louis. She is the director of the Orchestrating Diversity Program within El Sistema St. Louis, and is an active member of Cultivating Connections with the International Institute of St. Louis, and of WashU's Global Studies Honorary Society. Last summer, Christine completed an internship with the Baltimore region International Rescue Committee. She is currently engaged in an internship with the Environmental Protection Agency and a research assistantship in environmental policy at her university. Beyond her academics and extracurriculars, she loves adventuring outdoors, playing cello, and trying out new recipes. Christine is deeply interested in understanding how we may best utilize economic frameworks to address various modern-day environmental challenges, and hopes to one day be engaged in developing and implementing solutions to these problems.



Sam Jacob

University of Pennsylvania, Class of 2024 · Philadelphia, PA

Sam is a student at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. Growing up in a diverse and entrepreneurial Midwestern family, he developed a passion for business at an early age. At Penn, he is involved with the Quaker Finance Group, Penn Undergraduate Capital Partners, Big Brothers Big Sisters Association, and Penn Barbell Club. In his free time, Sam enjoys training for triathlons, cooking with his mother, and traveling with friends.



Sintia Marquez Jimenez

University of Redlands, Class of 2022 · Redlands, CA

Sintia is from San Jose, California. She is a first-generation college student currently attending the University of Redlands. She is pursuing a degree in economics and public policy with a minor in math. Her interest in economics stems from her sincere desire to gain the knowledge and toolkit to comprehensively and efficiently help others who are systematically disenfranchised. Sintia's personal experiences and education contribute to her drive to think analytically about the world and how she can contribute to addressing economic inequality through the power of economics.



Sedona Jolly

Case Western Reserve University, Class of 2024 · Cleveland, OH

Sedona is planning to major in economics and psychology and minoring in acting. She enjoys singing, drawing, longboarding, volleyball, and re-watching ATLA and Dark on Netflix. She became interested in economics after taking a class spring semester and is excited to learn more about the field.



Nada Kessou

Oberlin College, Class of 2023 · Oberlin, OH

Nada is a student at Oberlin College in Oberlin, OH, double majoring in Mathematical Economics and Computer Science. She is the recipient of the 2021 CMD-IT/ACM Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Conference Scholarship, John F. Oberlin Scholarship, and the Jerome Davis Research Award. The latter allowed her to engage in rigorous coursework, research, and outstanding leadership opportunities across three continents. Before that, Nada graduated with an International Baccalaureate Diploma at United World Colleges in China. That marks an incredible checkpoint for her, as she now speaks over eight languages fluently, namely Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, and French. During the past two years on campus, Nada participated and worked with several technology, business, and investment banking companies, including Morgan Stanley, JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs, CitiBank, and Bain & Company. At a leadership level, she is the Co-Investment Officer of her College's Student Finance & Investment Club, the Co-Founder of Imazighen For Progress, a non-profit in Morocco that works hard to service the Indigenous Amazigh population and make financial and technical literacy accessible. Growing up, Nada was familiar with the consequences of income inequality on her surroundings. She tries to serve her community by acknowledging her privilege at one of the finest Liberal Arts Colleges and helping them educate themselves. Upon graduation, Nada is looking to pursue a career in consulting or advisory in finance, leveraging her quantitative skills in coding, business strategy, investment valuation, and deal sourcing. In her free time, Nada enjoys hiking, playing sudoku, and taekwondo.



Nidhi Krishnan

Washington University in St. Louis, Class of 2024 · St. Louis, MO

Nidhi is a student at Washington University in St. Louis, where she is a John B. Ervin Scholar and Newman Civic Fellow. She is originally from Bloomington, Indiana, and she plans to major in sociology and math/economics. At WashU, she competes on the mock trial team, is a research assistant on a project that studies low-income housing tax credits, and is a consultant for student-run company, Bear Studios. Outside of WashU, Nidhi is involved in the St. Louis political community. She previously has interned with WEPOWER, a racial justice-focused startup, and most recently interned with the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri. Outside of school and her political involvements, Nidhi enjoys skateboarding, tennis, going on walks, playing her guitar, and drinking boba tea.



Maria Lechuga

University of California, Merced, Class of 2022 · Merced, CA

Maria is a student at the University of California, Merced. She is majoring in management and business economics with a minor in political science. Her goals for this summer are to expand her knowledge in the economics field, as it is one of her passions, and to build a greater network of contacts.



Alison Lee

Princeton University, Class of 2024 · Princeton, NJ

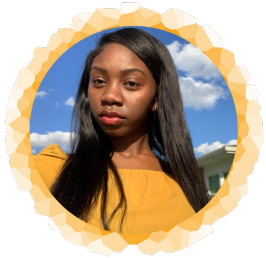
Alison is a student at Princeton University majoring in economics with minors in entrepreneurship and computer science. She is involved in Business Today, HackPrinceton, and Tigers for Nassau (a consulting group). She is also a fencer for Princeton. Alison’s favorite subfield in economics is behavioral economics. She loves positive psychology and has taken a course on the Science of Well-Being.



Ginny Lee

Northwestern University, Class of 2023 · Evanston, IL

Ginny is a student at Northwestern University majoring in environmental sciences and RTVF (radio/TV/film). She is interested in understanding how environmental economics impacts important policy decisions regarding climate change. She is also interested in exploring how current environmental issues can be communicated through audiovisual media and storytelling to overcome ecological apathy.



Lauren Leggett

University of Chicago, Class of 2023 · Chicago, IL

As a scholar wanting to better understand how our world functions, Lauren looks to learn more about the economic reasoning behind our decisions. She is a devout writer and poet, but she also enjoys learning more about the statistical perspectives of how we can change our societies to prevent adverse circumstances. With this passion, she hopes to inspire others to look at our world from a wider perspective.



Yilin Li

Texas A&M University, Class of 2024 · College Station, TX

Yilin is a student at Texas A&M University. She is interested in doing research on issues of equality. Her interest in studying economics and conducting research stems from her desire to answer questions around group composition, inclusion, access, and root causes of exclusion. Yilin plans to use economic tools to study and solve societal issues through her pursuit of a career in law. When she isn’t collaborating in teams, compiling original datasets for term projects, or learning statistical analysis with SPSS software, you can find her reading, eating savory food, doing the NYT mini, or completing puzzles.



Divine Linus

Morehouse College, Class of 2023 · Atlanta, GA

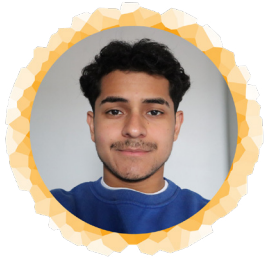
Divine is a student at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA where he is majoring in Mathematics. He is the recipient of the inaugural Oprah Winfrey Scholarship Program, which has allowed him to engage in rigorous coursework, research and leadership opportunities on and outside campus. During his past two years on campus, Divine has not only participated and interned at different technology and finance companies including Facebook, Goldman Sachs, CitiBank and Verizon Media but has held meaningful leadership roles as a DEI Secretary in SGA, Resident Assistant and a founder of a social enterprise that provides resources and empowerment for young African leaders to thrive in the tech and finance space in West Africa. His interest in economic diversity began during the spring semester of 2021 when he had the opportunity to take an economics course. He learned about the inequalities affecting indigenous communities, unemployment as well as other macroeconomic indicators. Upon graduation, Divine aspires to pursue a career in business finance as an investment banker or consultant and leverage his quantitative foundation in business strategy, financial projections, corporate deals, and product inclusion. When he is not busy reading about the markets, he enjoys cooking, working out and trying out new adventures.



Kathy Luan

University of Michigan, Class of 2024 · Ann Arbor, MI

Kathy is from Chicago, IL, and she is a student at the University of Michigan. She is very interested in economics and political science, specifically exploring the economic and political reasons (and solutions) around inequality. She is an accomplished figure skater with a love of volunteering, having coached figure skaters of all ages and instructed children with disabilities. She is an incoming student leader in the Michigan Community Scholars Program and member of Gamma Phi Beta Sorority. Outside of school, she enjoys spending time outdoors, photography and videography.



Candido Martinez

Colgate University, Class of 2023 · Hamilton, NY

Candido is an economics major and computer science minor at Colgate University. He grew up in El Salvador, but then moved to the United States at the age of seven, and has lived on Long Island, New York since then. Growing up, he has been inspired by his mother who did everything she could to provide him with a better life and future despite all the adversity Latinos and people of color face in this country. Candido aspires to help bring about change to the society we live in that will help combat the inequality that non-white people face. He plans to do this through his study of the field of economics, specifically through economic policy and education. In his free time, he enjoys watching and playing football (soccer).



Jorge Mendez

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), Class of 2023 · Chicago, IL

Jorge is pursuing a BS in Biological Sciences in the Molecular, Cellular and Organismal Concentration at UIC, where he is also in the Honors College, a UIC Presidential Award Program recipient, and Volunteering Committee Chair for the Society of Future Physicians at UIC. He is also a member of the Peer Health Exchange and Medicina Scholars, where he engages with students through workshops and initiatives centered around healthy life choices and pursuing medical careers, respectively. Jorge is interested in the mosaic of economics in the U.S., particularly where education, workforce development, housing, and access to medical care combine for those historically marginalized and underserved to foster a strong and resilient economy for all.



Paige McKindra

University of Chicago, Class of 2024 · Chicago, IL

Paige is a student at the University of Chicago majoring in public policy and business economics. She is very passionate about the intersection between economics, history, and politics. She is excited to take what she learns from the Expanding Diversity in Economics program and apply it to her career in economics.



Omaer Naeem

Washington University in St. Louis, Class of 2024 · St. Louis, MO

Omaer is from rural Western Maryland and a student at Washington University in St. Louis studying Global Studies, Economics, and South Asian Language & Cultures. He is an advocate for public education and has previously served as the Allegany County Student Member of the Board of Education, Western Divisional Liaison for the Maryland Association of Student Councils, and as a lobbyist for the National Association of Secondary School Principals. On campus, he is an active member of his business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi, as the Vice-President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, the John B. Ervin Scholars Program, Colour Magazine, and the Muslim Students Association. When he isn't in class or participating in extracurricular activities, Omaer enjoys reading and writing poetry, watching Bollywood films, and exploring new urban spaces. While his interests are always changing, Omaer currently has professional interests in policy, consulting, and nonprofit work.



Avni Parthan

University of Virginia, Class of 2023 · Charlottesville, VA

Avni is from Bangalore, India. She first explored the field of economics by observing how the people around her interacted with neighboring communities; from developing health sanitation to establishing financial resources for those in need. As a student at the University of Virginia, she has loved learning about the theory behind those actions. She is fortunate to be a student and researcher at a time where economics is expanding into diverse perspectives and approaches to new problems challenging our societies. One of Avni's favourite parts about being a researcher has been working with her team – from presenting research topics, to the many dead ends they face before reaching a novel solution. Avni looks forward to expanding her knowledge and understanding of economics from an academic and applied sense through not only the faculty and leaders of the EDE Summer Institute, but through her cohort. She is excited to work alongside her peers in developing interesting questions and navigating them together. Fun fact about Avni: her family's tradition of trying to recreate authentic dishes from different countries — what they called a weekly 'cuisine night' — was what actually first got her interested in learning about the cultures and communities around her.



Rushil Patel

London School of Economics, Class of 2023 · London, England

Rushil is a student at the London School of Economics and is particularly interested in the role of economics in tackling some of the most pertinent and urgent issues globally. Outside of economics, he enjoys playing water polo and has been playing for several years. He has lived in London his whole life, and he supports Arsenal in the Premier League. While Rushil hasn't had the chance to play much recently, he likes to play Warzone on PlayStation, and some of his favourite TV shows are Suits, Prison Break and Silicon Valley.



Morgan Robertson

Duke University, Class of 2023 · Durham, NC

Morgan is a student at Duke University studying public policy and economics. She has a particular interest in education policy and addressing educational inequity and the racial achievement gap. Morgan is heavily involved in volunteering with other young women, mentoring young girls through the Future is Now program, serving as a math tutor for low-income students with StudentU, and helping high school girls explore connections between the beauty industry and STEAM through the Beat Lab Online Program as a Program Assistant. In her free time, she enjoys tutoring, reading, and baking.



Aleisha Sawyer

Spelman College, Class of 2024 · Atlanta, GA

Aleisha is an honors student from Atlanta, GA who attends Spelman College as an economics major and math minor. She graduated in the Top 25 of her high school class with over one thousand hours of community service throughout her high school career. In 2020, she also served as a Girl Scout Ambassador, the highest rank for a Girl Scout, and completed the Girl Scout Gold Award Project. The project, entitled Beyond the Classroom, helps low-income and underrepresented students find opportunities to improve their academic performance in school and exposure to different careers. In 2019, Aleisha became the only African American in Fulton County, Georgia to serve as a Bank of America Student Leader. Aleisha has also completed several internships and summer programs at colleges and universities, such as Georgetown University, Howard University Georgia Institute of Technology, Bethune-Cookman University, Tennessee State University, and George Washington University. Her hobbies include dancing, volunteering at local elementary schools, reading, traveling, and spending time with her friends and family. After undergraduate school, Aleisha plans to further her education with a PhD in Economics and a Law Degree while continuing to build her Beyond the Classroom project as a non-profit program.



Shoshana Singer

University of Maryland, Class of 2024 · College Park, MD

Shoshana, of Dallas, Texas, is a student at the University of Maryland, College Park, where she is double-majoring in economics and political science. At UMD, she is a member of both the Economics Association of Maryland and Women in Economics.

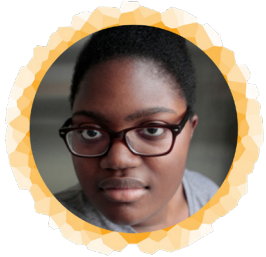
Shoshana was drawn to economics by its analytical approach to understanding the world – why people make decisions, and the effects those decisions have – and by how it can be used to enhance people’s lives through policy. In her free time, she enjoys reading, hiking, and playing with her dogs. She is looking forward to building her economic toolkit this summer through the Summer Institute, and is excited to learn about different careers in economics.



Alexis Skiles

Centre College, Class of 2023 · Danville, KY

Alexis is from Louisville, Kentucky. She is a Grissom Scholar at Centre College where she is pursuing a degree in economics and finance (BS) with a minor in French. Alexis is currently a resource mapping intern for an entrepreneurial organization in Danville, Kentucky, where she will become familiar with local resources to support entrepreneurs, startups, and social enterprises. In the future, Alexis hopes to pursue her love of economics through research and service.



Tyra Smith

Northwestern University, Class of 2023 · Evanston, IL

Tyra is a student at Northwestern University double majoring in theatre and economics. She is fascinated by human behavior and views economics as a mathematical and psychological approach for studying what people do and why they do it. Her concurrent study of economics and theatre provides her with both a logical and emotional lens through which to understand human behavior.

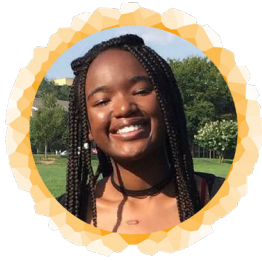
Over this past year, she was a featured playwright in Northwestern’s Black Lives, Black Words Festival and was a finalist for The Next Wave Initiative’s Lorraine Hansberry Writing Award. During high school, Tyra became drawn to writing after being exposed to Chicago’s theatre scene through youth programming at some of the nation’s most renowned theatre companies such as Steppenwolf Theatre. As a high school senior, she combined her passion of writing with science to design a community campaign for Baxter International as part of the ISTE STEM Challenge. She explored her interest in history by becoming a teen docent at the DuSable Museum of African American History in 2017. She is a 2019 Gates Scholarship recipient and Ryan Scholar.



Eric Snyder

University of Chicago, Class of 2024 · Chicago, IL

Eric grew up in the Northwest Suburbs of Chicago and joined the Army in January of 2013. He spent seven years in the Army as a medic and spent time in the Middle East and Central America on diplomatic missions. He separated in March of 2020 in order to attend the University of Chicago and complete his bachelor’s degree in economics and religious studies.



Sariya Stowers

Macalester College, Class of 2023 · Saint Paul, MN

Sariya is a student at Macalester College in Minnesota, originally hailing from the small town of Ponder, Texas. She has most recently combined her interest in economics and helping others as an intern at the Center for Victims of Torture - New Tactic. There, she was instrumental in creating monitoring and evaluation systems using a relational database, as well as an aggregate country ranking system that will be widely used throughout the organization.

Sariya has also served as a Teacher's Assistant for elementary students and volunteered at a local healthcare center to support the mental and physical health of patients. She is super excited to be a part of this program and looks forward to learning a lot.



Lillian Simone Tapp

North Carolina A&T State University, Class of 2024 · Greensboro, NC

Simone is from Stafford, Virginia, and is a student at North Carolina A&T State University. She is a Distinguished Craig Scholar in the Willie A. Deese College of Business and Economics and is part of the University's Honors Program. Simone is the incoming President of Aggie Toastmasters. In the future, she aspires to become an economist for the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, or State Department.