



Tatyana Nieves Brown



Lolayemi Charles



Elspeth Collard



Taylor Hamilton



Ibbly Han



Quinton Hayre



Layan Ibrahim



Ndeye Ndione



Kamryn Nelson



Reem Nemmassi



Makana Olaso



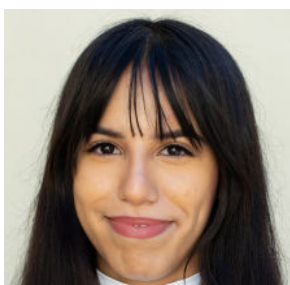
Lucy Ortiz



Giselle Schmitz



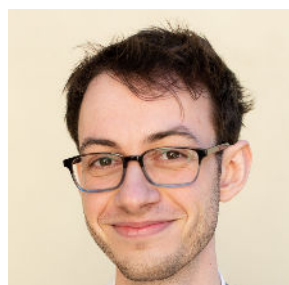
Angelique Southern



Sarah Toscano



Edward Tran



Coleman Yorke



Caroline Yuk



2023–2024 Luce Scholars

| Finalist Name | Age | Field of Professional Interest | Affiliated University/College |
|----------------------|------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Tatyana Nieves Brown | 23 | Art - Curation, Public Programs, Civil Society and Social Justice | New York University Abu Dhabi |
| Lolayemi Charles | 21 | Community Health and Health Systems Development | New York University |
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| Sarah Toscano | 24 | Film, TV, and Multimedia | Columbia University |
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| Mary Caroline Yuk | 24 | Anthropology and Neuroscience | University of Alabama |



2023–2024 Luce Scholars

Tatyana Nieves Brown

she/they

Age: 23
Degree: B.A. in Social Research and Public Policy, New York University, Abu Dhabi, 2022
Affiliated Institution: New York University, Abu Dhabi
Field of Professional Interest: Art - Curation, Public Programs, Civil Society and Social Justice

Tatyana Brown is an African American and Afro-Puerto Rican researcher, artist, and community organizer who recently graduated from New York University Abu Dhabi. After studying, working, and traveling in nearly 20 countries, she found a passion for the Global South, art as resistance, and Gen-Z's means of building solidarity across oceans on and off the internet. Her BA in social research and public policy with a minor in African studies allowed her to research these themes; her art in photography and poetry helps her to untangle them; and her organizing work allows her to advocate for them. She has participated in movements across the Americas, Europe, and Southwest Asia for land rights, racial justice, and LGBTQ+ liberation. She also led several institutional reckoning initiatives at NYU Abu Dhabi, directed programming at the Black Feminist Project, and co-founded AZIZA, an organization centering Black women and gender expansive people living in Abu Dhabi. After becoming a Truman Scholar and interning with the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Tatyana decided her path is to continue fusing political advocacy with international arts and culture institutions advancing critical thought in the everyday public. She intends to pursue a dual MFA and MA in Africana studies in graduate school, with the hope of working in curation and public programs. With feminisms and abolition as her north star, her long-term vision is to use the arts and culture world as a platform to invest in global Gen-Z, our spaces for strategizing, and dreams for social justice—all while dancing salsa and eating at every hole in the wall she can find along the way.

Lolayemi Charles

she/her/hers

Age: 21
Degree: B.A. in Global Public Health and Sociology, New York University, 2023
Affiliated Institution: New York University
Field of Professional Interest: Community Health and Health Systems Development

Lolayemi Charles is a student, advocate, and changemaker. Lolayemi is currently finishing her final year at New York University where she is studying global public health and sociology with a minor in

chemistry. Lolayemi eventually plans to pursue medicine and attain an MPH with the goal of becoming an emergency medicine physician. She looks forward to providing clinical care to underserved populations both within the United States and internationally. Lolayemi's clinical and research interests lie at the intersection of social inequality and health outcomes. Therefore, much of the research and clinical work Lolayemi does is geared towards illuminating many social issues as public health problems with a significant impact on health. Lolayemi also works as the associate director of research for the Empower Lab where she leads research teams and engages with research surrounding the topics of intimate partner violence, trauma-informed care, and sex trafficking. Outside of career interests, Lolayemi is developing her own non-profit in memoriam to her eldest brother who passed away from an epileptic episode in 2019. The non-profit organization intends to provide scholarships to student athletes with disabilities. Lolayemi also mentors high school students in her free time, and aids in their college application process. She will soon be giving a series of college access talks at her former high school geared towards low-income students applying to and funding post-secondary education. In her free time Lolayemi loves traveling, exploring new cities both domestically and internationally, and making new friends. Her favorite pastimes include singing, hiking, cooking, and learning new languages.

Elsbeth Collard

she/her/hers

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| <i>Age:</i> | 21 |
| <i>Degree:</i> | B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies (Environmental Health), University of Richmond, 2023 |
| <i>Affiliated Institution:</i> | University of Richmond |
| <i>Field of Professional Interest:</i> | Environmental Health |

Elsbeth Collard is a senior at the University of Richmond, and hails from Alexandria, Virginia. She is an environmental health major, a course of study she created through the university's Interdisciplinary Studies program. The major examines the intersection of environmental studies and public health with a particular focus on populations disproportionately impacted by issues in these fields. She is a student researcher on the University of Richmond's NASA SERVIR-Amazonia applied sciences team. She previously spatially analyzed the socioenvironmental impacts of road proposals across a region in the southwestern Amazon. She now studies the impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous communities in these same areas. Elsbeth plans to further investigate how air quality, worsened by agricultural and deforestation fires, could be exacerbating the effects of COVID-19 and other respiratory conditions on Indigenous peoples.

In the fall of 2021, she traveled abroad to Kenya through the School for Field Studies program to learn more about wildlife ecology, natural resource management, and the 'human dimension of conservation.' She did anthropological research under Dr. Richard Kiaka, conducting field interviews

with local Indigenous peoples, politicians, and NGO representatives. Through her thematic analysis of the interviews, she wrote the research thesis “The Viability of Community-Based Tourism in Conservancies of the Amboseli-Tsavo Ecosystem.” At the University of Richmond, Elspeth serves as the outreach coordinator and a summer camp counselor for Kesem, a year-round program that supports children whose loved ones have been affected by cancer. Elspeth is the Vice President of SEEDS (Students Engaging in and Enacting a Dialogue on Service), a student-run organization that plans three different service-learning trips for students over spring break. The trips involve talking with local stakeholders about their efforts to address issues such as environmental racism, food deserts, and sea level rise as well as intentional, informed service related to those issues. Elspeth also serves as an ambassador for the University of Richmond’s A&S NEXT conference in which Arts & Sciences students complete leadership workshops, network with alumni, and work collaboratively to propose fact-based, realistic solutions for some of Richmond’s most pressing issues. Lastly, she volunteers in Henrico County (outside of the City of Richmond) as an EMT for Tuckahoe Volunteer Rescue Squad, responding to 911 calls. She is training to be a squad leader, the lead care provider for patients and the supervisor of their crew.

Taylor Hamilton

she/they

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| <i>Age:</i> | 29 |
| <i>Degree:</i> | MPA & M.A. in International Relations, Syracuse University, 2018; B.S. in International Studies, University of Kentucky, 2016 |
| <i>Affiliated Institution:</i> | University of Kentucky |
| <i>Field of Professional Interest:</i> | Community Development and Urban Resilience |

Taylor Hamilton is a management consultant at Deloitte Consulting, where she advises government agencies and social impact organizations on change management, organizational design, and operational transformation. She has furthered social and economic equity through her consulting work, such as helping a U.S. federal government agency increase broadband access for tribal, rural, and black communities and performing an impact assessment on local economic mobility for an NGO in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Taylor graduated with a MPA and MA in International Relations from Syracuse University. She also completed a Certificate in Conflict Resolution because she enjoys negotiation a little too much. At Syracuse, she studied the regional geopolitics and economy of East Asia and the ASEAN, and the influence of non-state actors. Aside from academics, she worked to promote an equitable student and staff experience on campus as an employee of the SU Equal Opportunity Office, primarily assisting survivors of sexual violence and ensuring campus-wide ADA compliance. Taylor graduated from the University of Kentucky with a BS in International Studies and Economics. As an undergraduate she researched U.S. influence on the Korean film industry and wrote her bachelor's thesis on

homelessness in Japan. She was a member of Sigma Iota Rho, an honor society for International Studies, and volunteered with the Japan-America Society of Kentucky. Taylor also served as the university's Student Activities Board Cultural Arts Director for 2 years. In that role she planned and hosted many community arts events including spoken word performances, drag shows, and outdoor art installations. Before heading off to college, Taylor was homeschooled and completed her two years of her general education at Collin County Community College. She credits attending a community college as a dual credit student with preparing her to navigate spaces with confidence in her abilities and experience. Taylor is a fledgling blacksmith and has enjoyed learning American and Japanese metalsmithing techniques over the past few years. She likes to root unconditionally for the occasional female metalsmith contestants on The History Channel's Forged in Fire show and daydream about competing one day herself. In addition, she is an avid arts connoisseur who attends visual arts galleries, culinary arts demonstrations, and spoken word performances any time she has the chance.

Ibby Han

she/her/hers

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| <i>Age:</i> | 28 |
| <i>Degree:</i> | B.A. Political & Social Thought, University of Virginia, 2017 |
| <i>Affiliated Institution:</i> | University of Virginia |
| <i>Field of Professional Interest:</i> | Civil Society and Social Justice |

Ibby Han is a multi-racial Chinese American who is a community organizer rooted in Charlottesville, VA. She works to build sustainable youth movements by training and empowering young people to address structural injustice in their community. She is known throughout the state for rallying thousands of young people around causes of social justice, including but not limited to standing up against fascist and neo-Nazi attacks in Charlottesville, passing a bill for in-state tuition for undocumented students, fighting tuition hikes, and winning higher wages for campus workers. Ibby served as executive director of the Virginia Student Power Network (VSPN) from 2018-2021. VSPN was Ibby's political home and where she honed her organizing skills over the course of eight years: first as a volunteer member during her undergraduate career at the University of Virginia, then as a staff organizer, and then as ED. Ibby employed a variety of strategies, from mobilizing thousands of young Virginians to vote, to suing the police for civil rights violations. Outside of her day job, Ibby organizes for social change in the greater Charlottesville community. She worked on grassroots initiatives including supporting asylum seekers and distributing over \$4.5 million in COVID relief. Motivated by her years volunteering as an EMT for the local rescue squad, Ibby organizes street medics and therapists to provide care for people participating in protests. Ibby has presented her work to national, state, and local audiences, on topics ranging from how students and faculty can combat fascism to protest health & safety. She has been interviewed by outlets including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Vanity Fair*, and *GQ*. When she's not organizing, you can find Ibby

reading a huge variety and volume of books, jamming on old-time tunes with friends, and experimenting with watercolors and ceramics.

Quinton Hayre

he/him/his

Age: 21
Degree: B.S. Science Preprofessional and Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame, 2023
Affiliated Institution: University of Notre Dame
Field of Professional Interest: Epidemiology and Global Affairs

Quinton Hayre is a senior undergraduate at the University of Notre Dame majoring in Science Preprofessional and Global Affairs with a concentration in International Development Studies and a minor in Real Estate. Quinton was born and raised in Seattle, Washington in a family that practiced both Greek Orthodoxy and Sikhism. In Seattle, he learned to engage with his community through issues such as childhood literacy, cancer care, suicide awareness, and homelessness. In high school, Quinton had the opportunity to travel with a Peace Corps volunteer to an 80-person village in Fiji for a summer. Additionally, he worked for Water1st International on promoting community-led clean water and sanitation projects in Honduras. These experiences, mixed with his family's cultural and ethnic diversity, drove a passion for global public health. At Notre Dame, Quinton regularly interacts with the staff of the Global Health Department and through these conversations he identifies the complexity of the field and finds opportunities to gain practical and experiential skills. Quinton leads the Partners in Health Engage club at Notre Dame where he helps to connect undergraduate students to individuals in Notre Dame's Global Health Department and the Partners in Health network. Additionally, he works as the only undergraduate in an entomology lab where he researches malaria transmission and has developed strong data science coding skills in R and a deep understanding of experimental design in international projects. Quinton took his academic knowledge and global public health skills from his first three years at Notre Dame and designed an independent research project in rural Fiji, returning to the same village from his summer in high school. After spending a semester writing a project proposal, practicing his methodology on the local community, and successfully applying for International Review Board approval, he spent six weeks interviewing members of his small village of residence on community water governance. His project was a success, and he hopes to present his findings in a publication and professional conferences such as the Human Development Conference. In his free time, Quinton enjoys rowing competitively, camping with his friends, and spending time with his family and dogs. He is a serious sports fan following all Seattle-based professional and collegiate athletics intensely.

Layan Ibrahim

she/her/hers

Age: 23
Degree: MPH in Global Health, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, 2023; B.S. Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology, Emory University, 2020
Affiliated Institution: Vanderbilt University; Emory University
Field of Professional Interest: Medicine and Public Health

Layan Ibrahim is a first-generation Ethiopian American born in Columbia, Maryland. She lived in Ethiopia and Kenya for 10 years prior to attending Emory University. In 2020, Layan graduated with a BS in neuroscience and behavioral biology from Emory. At Emory, Layan was a research assistant at the Department of Neurosurgery studying epilepsy and an undergraduate scholar in the Initiative for Maximizing Student Development program, which seeks to increase the diversity of the scientific workforce. Layan is currently a second year MPH student, David Satcher Public Health Scholar, and Charles E. Shepard Scholar on the Global Health track at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. At Vanderbilt, Layan serves as the MPH Class of 2023 Representative and as a Graduate Area Coordinator. Currently, Layan is working on her MPH thesis, which explores epilepsy knowledge and trust in providers for participants enrolled in the Bridging the Childhood Epilepsy Treatment Gap in Africa (BRIDGE) study in Northern Nigeria. This summer, Layan was selected as an NIH T37 recipient for the Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Training (MHRT) Program through the University of Miami, where she conducted health disparities research in Jamaica in collaboration with faculty at the University of West Indies. Through this experience, Layan is currently working on a first-author manuscript investigating pandemic-related stress by cannabis use status. She is also working on starting up a study in Jamaica in collaboration with the CHARES clinic exploring anxiety and depression by cannabis use status among people living with HIV in Jamaica. In addition to her research experiences in global health disparities and in epilepsy, Layan has had other research experiences in different fields such as neuroscience, hematology, and public health education. In fact, Layan collaborated on a peer-reviewed research paper published in *Annals of Global Health*, which examined the impact of COVID-19 on global health education programs. Outside of research, Layan is passionate about mentoring underrepresented students in STEM. Due to her work in mentorship, Layan has gone on to be selected as one of the Graduating Women of Excellence at Emory and receive the 4th Year People's Choice Award through the Emory NAACP. Ultimately, Layan plans to pursue an MD/PhD, with a plan to eventually reduce global neurological health disparities. Layan is excited to work in the public health sphere and learn from public health leaders and researchers in Asia.

Ndeye Ndione

she/her/hers

Age: 21
Degree: B.A. in Political Science, CUNY Hunter College, 2022
Affiliated Institution: CUNY Hunter College
Field of Professional Interest: Government and Public Policy, Law, and Religions

Ndeye Ndione, class of 2022, is a first-generation college graduate, earning a bachelor's degree in political science. While at Hunter College, Ndeye was a Public Service Scholar and a Kneel Transportation Fellow, conducting policy analysis on transit efficiency and safety. Her experiences as a campaign coordinator, as an intern at Legal Outreach, State Senator Liz Krueger's Office, and at the Brennan Center for Justice reflect her interests in politics and advocacy. Ndeye also believes in the power and potential of government, seeking to use it as a tool for equity and building and restoring relationships. For her senior research project, she studied the relationship between Islam and democracy in her birth country, Senegal. Ndeye found a home at Roosevelt House, Hunter College's Policy School, and it became instrumental to her development of creative thought and public service. It has fostered her understanding of New York City and the role that she must play in its communities. Selected for the Trials program, Ndeye spent her past summer at Harvard Law School, preparing to pursue her JD. She hopes to become an attorney, exploring careers from criminal defense to being an advocate for democratic institutions. She is currently a New York City Urban Fellow, where she continues her public service and policy work as part of the Fire Department's Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs team.

Kamryn Nelson

he/him/his

Age: 22
Degree: B.A. in Political Science & B.A. in History, Howard University, 2021
Affiliated Institution: Howard University
Field of Professional Interest: Education & Government/Public Policy

Kamryn Nelson was born and raised on the southside of Chicago. He is a 2022 graduate of Howard University, receiving a BA in political science and a BA in history. Kamryn's interest resides in the dismantlement of education inequality through public policy and volunteerism. This journey started for Kamryn as early as high school while working for his city's Board of Education. He helped solve food insecurity at his high school and organized the "March Against Violence" in his local community. This work was expanded when Kamryn attended Howard, where he took part in many internships on Capitol Hill, became active in student government, and volunteered in his university's local high

schools by providing SAT prep and college financing advice. While his passion lies mostly in education, his interests are multifaceted. From becoming an archaeologist in a Maryland fellowship to being a historian and publishing data on the Intrastate Slave trade in the Chesapeake region; to even becoming a part-time film editor and researcher for a production studio. Currently, Kamryn is an associate producer on MSNBC's primetime news show, *The Reidout with Joy Reid*. He wishes to attend graduate school to further his education in public policy and education.

Reem Nemmassi

she/her/hers

Age: 20
Degree: B.A. in History and Art History, St. John's University, 2023
Affiliated Institution: St. John's University
Field of Professional Interest: Art History, Cultural Heritage

Reem Nemmassi is a genuine learner whose curiosity about cultural heritage stems from her Moroccan roots. She double majors in history and art history and minors in Africana studies at St. John's University in Queens, New York. Her interests include Islamic art and identity, decolonization, and their intersection in the museum practice. She loves being busy on and off campus in positions that engage humanity through research, writing, and the arts. Her undergraduate experiences include work with the National September 11 Memorial Museum, The Marcella Sembrich Opera Museum, Peace Action New York State, and Bright Minds Africa. If she is not an hour deep in conversation with her family, Reem is probably rewatching her comfort shows, *New Girl*, and *Community*, or unintentionally in her seventh hour of drawing. She is blessed to study and do what interests her most.

Makana Olaso

he/him/his

Age: 21
Degree: B.S. in Marine Biology & B.A. in Chemistry, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, 2023
Affiliated Institution: University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Field of Professional Interest: STEM – Biosynthesis

Caleb Olaso has lived on the island of O'ahu, Hawai'i for his whole life. In primary and intermediate school, he was enrolled in the Kula Kaiapuni (hawaiian language immersion) program, wherein instruction was done exclusively through the Hawaiian language. His teachers referred to him as "Makana", which was taken from his middle name, "Ku'umakanamakamaeokalani". In conversation, he usually goes by his Hawaiian name. Makana developed his English language fluency most throughout his secondary education at Hawai'i Technology Academy. He developed a keen interest

in the natural sciences and wanted to pursue a career in marine conservation. In 2018, he graduated summa cum laude a year early and enrolled in the biological sciences program at Leeward Community College. Following his first semester, he was recruited as an English peer tutor. Here, he predominantly tutored students learning ESL, English as a Second Language. During his associates degree, he struggled most with chemistry. However, this would slowly develop into a passion as he began attending workshops, study groups, and talks related to the field. After his second semester of general chemistry, he was given an opportunity to mentor STEM students until his graduation. Between 2019 and 2020, he tutored both semesters of general chemistry and organic chemistry and served as a teaching assistant for introductory biology. Following his graduation in 2020, he transferred to the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) to pursue two four-year degrees in marine biology and chemistry. While at UHM, Makana was hired to an internship position at Kewalo Marine Laboratory under the mentorship of Dr. Cooper J. Galvin, a post-doctorate of the McFall-Ngai laboratory. He received training in the fields of molecular biology and microbiology with the goal of altering gene expression in the model organism, the Hawaiian bobtail squid. In 2021, he was accepted into the NSF-REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) summer program and pursued his own research project under the mentorship of Professor Margaret McFall-Ngai at the Pacific Biosciences Research Center (PBRC). Following the REU program, he continued working as a junior researcher at the McFall-Ngai lab through the funding of the NIH Maximizing Access to Research Careers program. In August of 2022, he published his research on the molecular mechanism of bacterial recognition in the Hawaiian bobtail squid. He is currently conducting research related to fatty acid storage in the Asian tiger mosquito under the mentorship of Dr. Matthew Medeiros at PBRC.

Lucy Ortiz

she/her/hers

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| <i>Age:</i> | 29 |
| <i>Degree:</i> | B.A. in Economics, Washington and Lee University, 2015 |
| <i>Affiliated Institution:</i> | Washington and Lee University |
| <i>Field of Professional Interest:</i> | Education, Public Health, and Emergency Planning |

Lucy Ortiz grew up in Ketchikan, Alaska, a small island community in the Tongass National Rainforest that receives about 160 inches of rain each year. There, she passed the school survival class by perfecting her one-match fire building skills, played soccer on a gravel field, and spent many mornings tidepooling on local beaches, which remains one of her favorite hobbies. After high school, Lucy decided it was time for a culture shock and moved to the other side of the country to study economics and educational policy at the nation's ninth-oldest college, Washington and Lee University. She continued her adventure on the East Coast for two more years, teaching at an elementary school in Fairfax, Virginia. Lucy later moved from that spot, 3,000 miles east of her hometown, to another 3,000 miles west: Unalaska, Alaska, in the Aleutian Islands. There, she continued to teach fourth grade, joined the library board, volunteered as a firefighter and EMT, and earned her certification to teach

food preservation. In 2021, she returned home and became a third-generation Ketchikan educator. Currently, she serves as the response to intervention coordinator and a reading teacher at Houghtaling Elementary, the same school she attended as a child. As an educator, she is interested in exploring what culturally responsive education looks like for all her students. Lucy is a lifelong athlete. She competed in three sports in high school, which took her all across Alaska, sleeping in high school gyms and on the couches of rival team members — experiences that she credits with giving her the independence, adaptability, and skills to thrive in the outside world. She was also a three-season varsity athlete in college, competing in cross country as well as indoor and outdoor track. Her love of running, and the way Alaska’s unique sports culture shaped her life, led her to take up coaching too. She currently coaches the same cross-country team that she ran for in high school. (Go Kings!) A deep lover of learning, Lucy has never left school, moving from high school to college and straight into teaching. She spends free time outside of her own classroom in other classrooms, taking courses on everything from line dancing and Chilkat thigh spinning to ecology and coding. Lucy especially loves exploring fiber arts, including knitting, knot tying, and cross stitch.

Giselle Schmitz

she/her/hers

Age: 29

Degree: M.A. in International Political Economy and Development, Fordham University, 2022; J.D. in Environment and Natural Resources Law & Ocean and Coastal Law, University of Oregon School of Law, 2017; B.A. in English Literature, Walla Walla University, 2014

Affiliated Institution: Fordham University; University of Oregon School of Law

Field of Professional Interest: Environment (Climate Change, Conservation)

Giselle Schmitz is a researcher focused on the nexus of climate change, marine resources economics, and international law and addressing equity questions common to these disciplines in governance of biodiversity beyond national jurisdictions. Giselle currently works as a Knauss Marine Policy Fellow at NOAA Fisheries. She has prior experience working in state and local governments in the United States on ocean and coastal topics as well as working for various nonprofit groups on environmental topics and serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in China. She holds a JD from the University of Oregon School of Law, an MA in international political economy and development from Fordham University, and a BA in literature with a minor in biology from Walla Walla University.

Angelique Southern

she/her/hers

Age: 24
Degree: M.A. in Language and Communication, Georgetown University, 2022; B.A. in International Studies, Spelman College, 2020
Affiliated Institution: Georgetown University; Spelman College
Field of Professional Interest: Sociolinguistics, Asian Studies, and International Affairs

Angelique is a recent graduate of Georgetown University's MA in language and communication program (MLC). She graduated summa cum laude from Spelman College, receiving her BA in international studies and Chinese studies. During her time at Spelman, Angelique spent time studying in Nanjing, China, where she did comparative research on the inequities within the education system and volunteered at a school that catered to migrant workers' children. She also served as a student ambassador, vice president of education for the Toastmasters International club, and the president and captain of the speech and debate team. While at Georgetown, Angelique's research interests included discourse analysis, metaphor studies, intercultural communication, and identity construction, focusing on equity and cultural understanding as a means to achieve better language learning in the classroom. She also completed several research papers centering Blackness, motherhood, and intersectionality. Angelique has served as the graduate teaching assistant to the two-year Master of Laws program at Georgetown Law, assisting foreign-trained lawyers in their transition to the U.S. academic law space. She has also spent time professionally at CARE International's Atlanta Global Innovation Hub, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Freedom Schools of the Children's Defense Fund. An avid writer and lover of world languages, Angelique hopes to work on providing access and opportunities to international educational experiences.

Sarah Toscano

she/her/hers

Age: 24
Degree: M.A. in American Studies, Columbia University, 2023; B.A. in American Studies and English, Barnard College, 2020
Affiliated Institution: Columbia University
Field of Professional Interest: Film, TV, and Multimedia

Sarah Toscano loves everything related to pop culture, media, and visual culture. This is evidenced by her expansive comic book collection, all the movie and video game posters strewn across her apartment's walls, and the gaming PC that takes up most of the space under her desk. Sarah received her BA in American studies (with a concentration in media and pop culture) and English (with a concentration in creative writing) from Barnard College. She is currently working towards her MA in American studies at Columbia University. As a graduate student, she is building upon her

undergraduate research interests and continuing to investigate pop culture phenomena, as well as the ethnography of fandoms, the global fan experience, and people’s relationships to icons and fictional characters. Sarah is a writer who specializes in creating e-commerce and entertainment content related to tech, gaming, streaming, and fandoms. Her writing has been featured in publications such as *Entertainment Weekly*, *Travel and Leisure*, *Parents*, and *Business Insider*. She worked full-time as an e-commerce writer after graduating from Barnard but switched over to a freelance role as a graduate student. While studying at Barnard, Sarah interned at various media companies in New York City, including Hearst, Bustle Digital Group, and SLAM. She was also a story production fellow at Business Insider prior to becoming an e-commerce writer. As she immersed herself more and more in the media industry, she found herself driven to analyze the content people find themselves consuming daily, such as television, film, and music, as well as people’s interactions and relationships with this type of content. This curiosity helped shape the trajectory of her undergraduate studies and continues to shape her research interests as a graduate student. Born and raised in New Jersey, Sarah appreciates a good bagel and trip to the boardwalk. She’s lived in New York City for some time now, and she enjoys going to the movie theater or visiting museums with her friends when she’s not working or in class. Sarah also loves spending her free time playing League of Legends, watching music videos or Twitch streams, and reading sci-fi and fantasy books. Right now, her primary long-term life goal is to eventually enroll in a PhD program and secure a job in academia. Her second life goal is to win against her brother (literally just once) in any video game — it can even be Tetris.

Edward Tran

he/him/his

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| <i>Age:</i> | 21 |
| <i>Degree:</i> | M.S. in Management Science and Engineering & B.S. in Computer Science – Biocomputation, Stanford University, 2023 |
| <i>Affiliated Institution:</i> | Stanford University |
| <i>Field of Professional Interest:</i> | STEM and Public Health |

Edward Tran is a senior at Stanford University pursuing a bachelor's degree in computer science with a concentration in biocomputation. Simultaneously, he is pursuing his MA in management science and engineering under the health systems modeling and policy track and intends to confer both degrees in June 2023. He is passionate about the intersection between health, technology, and medicine and aims to address health disparities through technology. After witnessing the prevalence of mental illness in his community, Edward developed an interest in mental health advocacy. On campus, he serves as a peer counselor at Stanford’s student-run peer-counseling center and as Stanford’s director for student mental health and well-being. He is one of the founders of the *Flourish*, a monthly publication that provides students with timely information on key monthly health and wellness topics to support student flourishing and has spearheaded many resource navigation

initiatives. Combining his passion for health and technology, Edward worked on developing early-stage products for two startups. At Reveri, he led the efforts in translating decades of scientific research into an online platform that uses hypnosis to improve sleep, relieve stress, enhance focus, and more. At Esurgi Biotech, he put together and led a team to develop an early-detection Alzheimer's medical device using eye patterns. Whether it's working at Microsoft or Cisco Systems, he continues to seek opportunities to learn more and gain new skills. As a Gilman Scholar, Edward traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico, where he shadowed clinicians in clinics and hospitals, learned about the Mexican healthcare system, and engaged with their culture and community. Since he returned, he has taken what he learned and applied it: implementing a community health program at his community's free clinics as a Millennium Fellow, leading a cultural humility training for incoming volunteers, and exploring social determinants of health through creating a natural language processing model to analyze unstructured electronic health record data. Moreover, this experience has sparked an interest in learning more about and comparing healthcare systems from different countries. Edward seeks to leverage his background in community health, technology, and medicine to improve healthcare systems and the quality of care for immigrants and marginalized communities. During his free time, Edward appreciates Asian cuisine and enjoys learning how to cook and bake different Asian dishes with his mom. He also enjoys playing volleyball, playing the violin, listening to music, and teaching himself new languages on Duolingo.

Coleman Yorke

he/him/his

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| <i>Age:</i> | 25 |
| <i>Degree:</i> | M.Sc. in Clinical and Therapeutic Neuroscience, University of Oxford, 2021; B.A. in English, Columbia University, 2020 |
| <i>Affiliated Institution:</i> | Columbia University |
| <i>Field of Professional Interest:</i> | Medicine and Adolescent Mental Health |

Coleman Yorke was born and raised in New York City and stayed in his hometown for college, graduating from Columbia University in 2020 with a BA in English and a concentration in psychology. As an undergraduate, he specialized in 19th-century Victorian literature and its connection to character formation using models of attachment theory. He went on to complete his graduate work at the University of Oxford as he read for an MSc in clinical and therapeutic neuroscience, where he focused his dissertation projects on adolescent peer support programs and the effects of antidepressants on younger individuals. Although Coleman started out in investigative journalism, he decided to switch paths and embark upon a career in medicine and mental health education after witnessing the lack of mental healthcare support and educational resources for young people despite the prevalence of mental health disorders in this demographic. As an aspiring child and adolescent psychiatrist, Coleman is currently completing his medical school requirements through a premedical postbaccalaureate program at Bryn Mawr College. He cares deeply about young peoples' emotional

wellbeing and mental health and aims to spend his career instilling them with modes of resilience and coping skills while simultaneously destigmatizing mental health disorders and the preconceived notion that mental health concerns are not as valid as their somatic counterparts. Finding that much of the current information on mental health is not accessible to or geared toward adolescents, Coleman hopes to develop more widely available and relatable mental health and psychoeducational curricula alongside acting as a clinician in underserved areas in order to increase mental health literacy and support young people as they navigate this journey. In doing so, he aims for young people to find and have access to proper mental healthcare. He is also particularly interested in the role culture and varying community backgrounds play in young people's perceptions of mental health and how that in turn affects the resources they are offered or seek out. In his spare time, Coleman loves to rock climb, read novels (especially those by Edith Wharton, Henry James, and George Eliot), wander around old libraries, go to trivia with his friends, and generally try to not take everything incredibly seriously at all times (so far, it's a work in progress, but he's getting there).

Caroline Yuk

she/her/hers

Age: 24

Degree: M.S. in Medical Anthropology, University of Oxford, 2023; M.S. in Neuroscience, University of Oxford, 2022; B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Alabama, 2021

Affiliated Institution: University of Alabama

Field of Professional Interest: Anthropology and Neuroscience

Mary Caroline Yuk recently graduated from The University of Alabama as the Catherine J. Randall awardee, which recognizes the single top scholar based on academic record and scholarly endeavor. She has established interests in hearing healthcare disparities and gerontology, as well as neurobiology and biochemistry. Her work with Dr. Marcia Hay-McCutcheon on a rural mobile audiology clinic, Hear Here Alabama, inspired the first children's hearing education program in Alabama and secured grants for further accessibility efforts, including a \$2.1 million grant to fund community health workers and a hearing aid delivery program. At University of Alabama, Caroline conducted research with Dr. Rebecca Allen into the effectiveness of art therapy on Alzheimer's Disease and analyzed a hearing screen tool to assess mild cognitive impairment in a geriatric population, and rural and urban healthcare differences. She also conducted biochemistry research into antibiotic resistance in Dr. Jack Dunkle's Lab. Afterwards, Caroline conducted neuroscience research at University of Michigan's Kresge Hearing Research Institute in Dr. Gabriel Corfas' lab, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Dr. Yuri Agrawal's lab, and Harvard Medical School in Dr. Lisa Goodrich's Lab. As the first deaf Marshall Scholar and University of Alabama's first in over 40 years, Caroline has received the MSc in Neuroscience from University of Oxford, where she worked on research relating functional connectivity and heart rate variability with Dr. Miriam Klein-Flugge, as

well as corticofugal projections' role in spatial hearing with Dr. Victoria Bajo, Dr. Fernando Nodal, and Dr. Andy King. She is currently working with Dr. Sarah Hogan to analyze and create a profile of deaf children's sensory integration difficulties at Auditory Verbal UK, a charity that provides subsidized language training for deaf babies from low-income families. She is now pursuing a second MSc in Medical Anthropology at University of Oxford and plans to focus on deaf populations' access and perspective on medicine.