

## **Orson Abram 2025**

*Major: Percussion Performance, Cinema Studies, TIMARA*

### **New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival**

New York City, New York

The New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival (also known as NYCEMF) is dedicated to bringing new and cutting-edge Electroacoustic music from around the world to New York City, and is one of the largest festivals of its kind. Orson's piece got accepted into the festival and he attended many concerts at the festival, which ranged from fixed media works (heard through speakers) to live pieces with electronics. Orson met many other composers at the festival, which was Orson's first live music festival since 2019 and the first Electroacoustic Music-based festival in his musical career. Orson's mission was to not only have his piece performed, which was a success but also learned about various software and information about programming/making electroacoustic music, some of which are not taught at Oberlin currently. Orson met other students at other music schools (both in and outside the United States) and shared exchanges on musical processes and philosophies. Orson found the music festival to be engaging and very enlightening.

Financial support from my respective alumni donor made it possible for me to pay for the acceptance fee and travel/participate in the music festival, which I would not have been able to do otherwise. I was able to stay the duration of the festival (which was a week) rather than one day, which very much altered and improved the experience for me and made it a more informative, educational, and fun experience.

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Ron Abram, Father

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**Nada Aggadi 2024**

*Major: Neuroscience | Minor: Cognitive Sciences*

**UC Berkeley**

Berkeley, CA

I will be a research assistant for Professor J.D Allen in the Psychology department of UC Berkeley

Without the financial support from my donor, I would not be able to pay for everyday expenses such as housing, meals, and travel expenses. These are essential needs that will allow me to focus on my experience.

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## **Caroline Carter 2024**

*Major: Vocal Performance | Minor: French*

### **Chicago Summer Opera**

Chicago, IL

Chicago Summer Opera provides young artists with world class training in role preparation, vocal technique, and stage movement. Every student receives either a full or cover role, and performs in a fully staged production with orchestra at the end of the program. This summer, Caroline performed the role of Dorothée in Massenet's Cendrillon and studied with Nicole Cabell, the 2005 winner of the BBC Cardiff Singer of the World competition. In lessons with Nicole, she explored strengthening her vocal freedom at the top of the staff and through complex coloratura passages. Chicago Summer Opera provided Caroline with her first opportunity to perform a role with an orchestra, and she found the experience invaluable. Throughout the program, she learned a lot about the process of staging an opera and working in large ensembles. After a last minute emergency left a chorus member unable to attend the program, Caroline was able to step in and get extra experience singing on both performance nights. She loved being able to get a different perspective on the show, one much more forgiving than that of the stepsisters! Caroline was also fortunate to sing in a masterclass with Allan Glassman, a frequent performer with the Metropolitan Opera, where she received excellent feedback on the quality of her voice and dramatic interpretation.

The financial support from my alumni donor fund helped me cover the cost of tuition, which made it possible for me to participate in this program!

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Jenny Watts Photography

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**Wren Chan 2024**

*Major: violin performance and creative writing*

**Kent Blossom Music Festival**

Kent, OH

Kent Blossom is a five week program for pre-professional undergraduate, masters, and recently graduated musicians. The first four weeks are entirely chamber music work and private lessons, and the last week is orchestral. Students perform alongside and learn from members of the Cleveland Orchestra. Wren played violin in a string quartet, chamber orchestra, bassoon quintet, and flute quintet. They prepared their repertoire for their junior recital in lessons, helped lead rehearsals for Bach's Brandenburg Concerto 5, and improved their chamber rehearsal technique.

I'm not sure if I would have been able to attend KBMF without this funding. Besides covering a large portion of the tuition and housing costs, the program does not include a meal plan of any sort. I've been able to consistently eat nutritious meals because of the scholarship, and I am less worried about driving because I was provided transportation funds as well. It hasn't just made my experience possible, it's made it comfortable and much less nerve-wracking.

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## **Henley Childress 2023**

*Major: Environmental Studies (public health pathway), Global Health Concentration | Minor: Studio Art and Comparative American Studies*

### **Community Health Advocates**

New York, NY

Founded in 2010 and based in New York City, Community Health Advocates (CHA) is a network of 28 local community-oriented organizations committed to serving the diverse population of New York state. CHA empowers and supports individuals navigating complex, expensive, and exploitative health insurance plans through education campaigns, legal assistance, health care consumer training, and a free helpline. Henley's internship began with a rigorous month-long training program that dramatically improved their health insurance literacy. Henley operated the helpline where they assisted clients by resolving medical bills, negotiating medical debt, and by disputing coverage denials and eligibility determinations. Henley also joined the CHA Health Equity Workgroup Team where they did outreach and formed partnerships with local Disability Advocacy organizations.

My internship with CHA has been one of the most important experiences of my life. The work has been incredibly rewarding and I've made important NY connections. My mentor/ supervisor and I have begun discussing career opportunities for after I graduate. The full time internship has been quite demanding, I could have never done it while working a second job - which was my original plan before receiving funding.

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Tucker Panitch

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**Mayanka Dahal 2025**

*Major: Economics & Mathematics | Minor:*

**KPMG India**

Kathmandu, Bagmati, Nepal

KPMG India is a business consulting and services firm with a domestic client base of over 2700 companies. Its mission is to take a global approach to service delivery and provide value-added services to clients across multiple sectors. KPMG's differentiation is derived from rapid performance-based, industry-tailored, and technology-enabled business advisory services delivered by committed, hard-working professionals.

Mayanka interned as a Summer Associate Consultant at KPMG's Kathmandu office. He was part of the Nepal Invests team.

Without the generous financial support from the kind alums, it would have been challenging for me to cover the expenses of traveling 8,000 miles to Nepal and completing my summer internship. Their contribution allowed me to pursue something that I am interested in and aligns with my long-term goal of utilizing my knowledge to help improve the economic status of Nepal. I am very grateful to the donors for their contribution, as I have been able to focus on learning and to contribute at work instead of worrying about the hassles of travel and commuting expenses. I greatly admire and appreciate you all, and thank you again for making my internship a smooth, fun, and fruitful experience!

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## **Cendan Dillon 2025**

*Major: Percussion Performance | Minor: None*

### **The Battalion Drum and Bugle Corps**

Based in Salt Lake City, Utah, but we are performing on a tour across the midwest

The Battalion is Utah's only drum and bugle corps. Founded in 2014, it's focus is to provide learning and performing opportunities for young adults while building character, leadership, and musicianship in an inclusive-of-all environment.

Cendan has participated in this corps since 2019, and has been a section leader since 2020. As section leader, Cendan has led the Battalion's Front Ensemble to achieve high musical success while establishing life-long friendships with everyone he comes across. The Battalion rehearsed 12 hours a day, 6 days a week in the heat of Winslow, Arizona this past July, but Cendan wouldn't let that ruin their positive and encouraging attitude. Cendan loves playing music, and loves playing music for other people even more. In August, The Battalion went to Drum Corps International's Finals at the Lucas Oil stadium in Indianapolis for the first time in the Battalion's history. Cendan's years of participation and leadership contributed to this high achievement.

Due to last minute housing changes, a \$300 dollar food fee was added to my already \$3000 tuition balance. Receiving a \$500 scholarship meant that that fee would be covered, as well as my plane flight back to Ohio from Indianapolis. Having peace of mind from additional charges has allowed me to focus more on my experience.

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Donny Helvey @zuma4design

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**Biba Duffy-Boscagli 2023**

*Major: Art History | Minor: Fine Arts*

**Culturally Arts Collective**

Remote

Culturally Arts Collective is an arts non profit dedicated to arts accessibility, art as community activation, and support for emerging artists. The organization founded and maintains five virtual gallery spaces, hosts art courses for children, hosts networking events for emerging artists and is strives to make contemporary art accessible at an international scale.

The financial support from my donor has allowed me to take part in this unpaid work experience while still being able to support myself this summer. Working as an assistant manager of curatorial affairs at Culturally Arts Collective has introduced me to the administrative work attached to curation as well as the freedom to take initiative in the arts and professionally while working at a nonprofit and online space. The responsibilities I take on have introduced me to the many possibilities of a profession in the arts and I would not have gained this crucial perspective without support from the alumni donor fund.

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## **Riley Eaton 2025**

*Major: Biology, Economics | Minor: Math*

### **Temple University- Institute on Disabilities**

Philadelphia, PA

Temple University's Institute on Disabilities works with and supports people with disabilities, as well as their families, in diverse communities across Pennsylvania. Their mission is to create and educate, make change in broken systems, and promote self-advocacy and determination so that disability is recognized as a natural part of the human experience.

Riley Eaton interned as a research assistant under Dr. Sally Gould Taylor, the Executive Director and Associate Research Professor at the Institute on Disabilities. The main focus of Riley's research was on a Health Messaging study involving the development and implementation of focus group protocols with people with physical and intellectual disabilities. The study aims to reduce the disparate impact of COVID-19 on underserved populations in Pennsylvania through a community engaged approach to develop tailored health messages. It is one of the research projects under Temple's Health Equity Collaborative which is funded by the CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health. Riley also contributed to a series of Person-Centered Planning meetings with incoming Temple students with intellectual disabilities as a graphic facilitator.

I was overall able to participate in this research opportunity at all because of the funding I received for the internship. I worked another (paying) job in addition to this internship in order to still be able to make money throughout the summer, however I would have had to work significantly more payed hours had I not received this funding. This may have prevented me from going in person for the focus groups throughout July, as well as contribute to the research analyses for publication. Being able to participate at all in this internship and research experience in a professional setting was made possible by the funding I received. In turn, I have had the opportunity to deepen my understanding of health equity and public health activism, and work on a research team to broaden my perspective of the pre-health and medical field.

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**Hulan Edward 2023**

*Major: Psychology, Political Science | Minor: Religion - undeclared*

**Lansner & Kubitschek**

New York, NY

Lansner and Kubitschek is a small, private law firm that specializes primarily in Civil Rights law and Family law. In these areas, they seek to represent clients that have had their constitutional rights violated by the State of New York and the child welfare system. For the summer internship, Hulan was tasked with assisting on a variety of active cases that the firm had taken on. This included reading through transcripts to pull out key details and find points of interest, summarizing the findings of transcripts and research, and sitting in on meetings with clients. Hulan worked with the other interns and his supervisor to make sure that the office was prepared to work with their clients in the most efficient way possible. On top of the learning and working experiences, Hulan was able to meet countless professionals and other interns in the field of law and grow his network for future connections and opportunities.

Without the support of the MLK fund, I would never have been able to participate in this internship. Because the opportunity was unpaid, I was initially unsure that I would get to do it, even though it was the chance of a lifetime. The MLK funding allowed me to get housing and food in the city, which provided me the opportunity to do the internship this summer. I'm very thankful for the funding that I received.

No professional headshot currently, but I will work to get one in the coming days/weeks.

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## **Abraham Frato 2026**

*Major: Trombone Performance, Computer Science*

### **Blekinge International Brass Academy, National Youth Wind Band of Sweden**

Blekinge, Sweden and Linköping, Sweden

Blekinge International Brass Academy:

The mission of this one-week intensive brass festival is to provide brass instruction of the highest quality to participants from over the world, as well as serving as a meeting point for some of Sweden's most motivated brass musicians, putting on six concerts and numerous clinics and master classes.

Abe participated in the Academy part of BIBA, for brass students at the college level. In a given day, he either played in masterclasses, group lessons, ensemble rehearsals, or orchestra excerpt classes. When he did not have anything scheduled for himself during a slot of time, he sat in on other lessons and masterclasses in which other high-level brass students were performing, and thus had the opportunity to gain even more knowledge by viewing other learn. He participated in a brass ensemble in which he premiered a piece specifically commissioned for BIBA, as well as played other repertoire. He also further developed and formed new relationships with motivated students at his level from mainly Sweden and Scandinavia, which have already proven instrumental to his own musical development.

National Youth Wind Band of Sweden:

The National Youth Wind Band of Sweden brings together musicians aged 15-25 from all over Sweden, with the goal being to create Sweden's best non-professional wind orchestra for two weeks.

Abe participated in the National Youth Wind Band on Principal Euphonium, which gave him an excellent opportunity to hone his euphonium skills in the right environment, as this skill is an important one to have as a trombone player. During the rehearsal period he rehearsed for seven weeks each day and additionally played in various chamber groups in his free time, as well as performed with these in an internal concert. The band played a total of seven concerts on their tour at the end of the second week, three in different cities across Sweden and four in Kerkrade, the Netherlands, where they also competed in Division 1 of the World Music Contest Kerkrade 2022. He got the opportunity to form close relationships with like-minded young people from all over Sweden, which will prove helpful at this stage in his life, especially since it allowed him to closely keep in touch with the Swedish wind and brass world despite spending the school years in the US.

Since Oberlin in itself is expensive, not least for me who could attend university free of charge in the European Union, getting financial support for my summer experiences really helped lighten the financial pressure on both me and my family, and gave me a level of comfort and

peace of mind which was essential for me to stay entirely focused and absorbed with my summer experiences, allowing me to perform at my best and soak up as much knowledge and experience as possible.

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**Elijah Freiman 2025**

*Major: Food Studies | Minor:*

**Street Books**

Portland, OR

Elijah works for Street Books, a non-profit that operates a bike-powered, mobile lending-library that serves people living outside and on the margins in Portland's urban center. During his shifts as a street librarian, Elijah has worked to connect people with novels, coloring books, reading glasses and graphic novels. He has built relationships with those who Street Books lends to and learned a ton about the world of books. In his time working for Street Books outside of a shift, Elijah is working to organize the donated books that Street Books frequently receives and to locate and purchase the various requests from patrons in small bookstores around the city.

Financial support has been such a gift. In combination with the other work I've found this summer, it has allowed me to find housing and healthy food in a city that has a lot of great non-profit work and also a very high cost of living. Additionally, it has given me structure in my time at Street Books - this isn't an organization that I come to volunteer to when I have the chance, it's a job, and that mentality has allowed me to get so much out of it.

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**Cec Ganz 2025**

*Major: Undecided | Minor:*

**Bread & Puppet**

Glover, Vermont

Bread & Puppet is one of the oldest nonprofit theater companies in the country. The Bread & Puppet philosophy is that art and food are both necessities, hence why bread and aioli is served with the theater performances. Working at Bread & Puppet for Sec mostly means helping in the print shop, where they've been learning to print on various materials, as well as painting, ironing, and hemming the the designs used in performances and sold in Bread & Puppet's shops. In addition to this, Cec has been performing with the Bread & Puppet band and doing chores around the farm alongside other community members. These community members come from all over the world, and range from being college students like Cec, to retirees.

The financial support from my alumni donor made it possible for me to actually participate in this experience, as I otherwise wouldn't have been able to pay for the travel and housing elements I've needed to purchase, such as my lovely and warm sleeping bag. In addition to this, I would have needed to spend my summer working a summer job to support myself in the upcoming year, and wouldn't have had the time available to be at Bread & Puppet for any meaningful length of time.

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Michael Johns, friend

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**Rolando Gomez 2023**

*Major: Music Composition | Minor: TIMARA*

**Community Music Center of Boston**

Boston, MA

The mission of the organization is to provide services relating to music. These include lessons, community engagement programs, and performances. Rolando's work has focused on the organization's Summer Arts and Music program which serves the ages between 7 and 15. His role in the program was as a Group Leader where he acted as both a counselor and an instructor. As counselor, his responsibilities included guiding students between classes and assisting those students during activities. Additionally, he was also responsible for providing guidance to counselors in training to better prepare them to become counselors themselves. As an instructor, he co-taught a music production class which explored a wide range of topics relating to music composition. Topics covered rhythmic, melodic, and harmonic concepts that were utilized in the creation of small pieces created using online resources. The experience has shown Rolando how to teach students musical concepts with hands on activities and games that can better improve their ability to create music.

Financial support has enabled me to sufficiently fund both travel and food expenses. Without the funds, the experience itself would've proved too challenging or not feasible, since my family is unable to financially support such experiences.

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Kylie Buckham - Friend

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## **Sophie Griffith-Oh 2026**

*Major: Horn performance and biology | Minor:*

### **Blekinge International Brass Academy**

Karlskrona, Sweden

The Blekinge International Brass Academy is a week-long intensive summer program that attracts brass students of all ages from across Europe. Students at BIBA receive coaching from world class musicians and teachers in small group settings, while also getting the opportunity to perform in ensembles and hear faculty play solo in concerts held throughout the week.

At BIBA this summer, Sophie found countless opportunities to learn and grow as a brass musician, whether it was reading principal horn on Bruckner 7, getting to perform an incredible arrangement of Jupiter from The Planets for brass ensemble, hearing the world premieres of several pieces, or attending classes taught by such renowned musicians and pedagogues as Tom Hooten of the LA Philharmonic, Laurens Woudenberg and Bart Claessens of the Royal Concertgebouw, and Tomer Machkowsky of the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin. Students kept busy throughout the week participating in masterclasses, piano interpretation classes, group lessons, orchestral reading sessions, ensemble rehearsals, and seminars, while also having the chance to sit in on classes for other instrument groups during free time.

One of Sophie's favorite parts of attending BIBA was getting to connect with faculty members one-on-one, whether it was approaching them to ask questions about embouchure or high range during breaks or even playing board games together in the evenings. The intimate yet accessible nature of the program set it apart from any other Sophie has participated in before, and she is incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to attend.

International air travel was the biggest financial obstacle for me and my family, and I would not have been able to attend BIBA this summer without the support of donors to the Conservatory Student Success Fund. In addition to transportation to and from Europe, the financial support helped me cover program housing and meals throughout the week.

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Sally Griffith-Oh

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**Caris Gross 2023**

*Major: Theater | Minor: Russian*

**Seattle Children's Theatre**

Seattle, WA

Seattle Children's Theatre is one of the nation's leaders in producing new work, directed specifically at younger audiences. Their world-class education programming serves over 1000 students from the Greater Seattle area each summer through a plethora of exciting summer camps. As an administrative intern in the education department this summer, Caris provided direct support to a team of professional Teaching Artists and Teaching Artist interns, working alongside a highly-skilled team of educators and administrators. She managed all communication through the drama school, including official phone and email channels, and oversaw registration through the summer. Towards the latter half of the summer, Caris worked as a secondary Teaching Artist for multiple weeks, learning through practical experience with students aged 3.5-17.

Thanks to your generous financial support, Caris has been able to support herself while living and working in one of the most expensive cities in the US. They have been able to pay their rent, afford groceries, and have the resources to explore the beautiful pacific northwest.

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Chase Sortor, Oberlin student

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**Diana Guzman 2022**

*Major: Biology*

**I AM ABEL Foundation**

Chicago, IL

The I AM ABEL Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit medical organization that seeks to bridge socioeconomic gaps and promote achievement of underrepresented inner city youth with dreams of becoming physicians. The goal is to diversify the field of research and medicine by raising the next generation of healthcare heroes. Diana assisted I AM ABEL Foundation Scholars to apply for the POSSE Foundation scholarship by scheduling one on ones and revising scholars backgrounds. She helped scholar individually with their personal applications, build their resumes, practice interview skills, and hosted mock interviews. Diana attended weekly meetings with her supervisor, Ms. Gordon and ensured all scholars were on track to move to the next phase for scholarship success. Diana also came in-person to the foundation's headquarters and helped in moving, cleaning, and organizing material from the first floor to the third floor where headquarters shall reside from now on. Diana attended the 3-day Medical City-wide national medical conference at Rush Medical University. She aided in attendee registration needs and exhibitor hall setup as well as closing reception, got the chance to network with hundreds of medical professionals, and learned about different career paths in medicine. Diana participated in monthly webinars hosted by mentor physicians in aiding her application status for medical school, this past monthly workshop aided Diana in the AMCAS personal essay writing to objectively review her writing and revise as needed. Diana served as a mentor and role models for younger class to follow and have someone to look up to. "As a Latina first-generation graduate from one of the top colleges in the country, she is a living testimony of the possibility of greatness when the doors of opportunity are opened"- Taylor Burke. Taylor was one of her mentees and on the road to becoming a POSSE scholar and a part of the generation of the country's future healthcare heroes.

I still live at home with my parents because of how expensive living costs continue to rise in Chicago. The only person working is my father and these funds were able to help me support our family tremendously. I was able to pay for most of my own living expenses and allowed me to have time to devote myself to interning at the I AM ABEL Foundation to prepare myself for what I have now decided is for me- medical school. I now feel prepared as a graduate from Oberlin College to pursue my next professional endeavor.

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Susana Rodriguez- Mother

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**Yang Han 2023**

*Major: Greek, Latin, Russian | Minor:*

**FU Berlin**

Berlin

The organization digitalizes and edits important religious texts. He was reading and transcribing, learning the necessary skills of reading an ancient language.

I now have the money to live and eat, while doing the internship.

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## **Greer Hobbs 2023**

*Major: Law and Society | Minor:*

### **University of Córdoba**

Córdoba, Spain

Dr. Ciro Milione is an associate professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Córdoba. Greer assisted him in designing a course in Spanish Constitutional Law to be taught in English for international students. Their main tasks were translating the course materials, which include the syllabus, the power point presentations and readings. Greer's largest project was the undertaking of translating a full text to be read as a resource in the class, a sort of manual on the Spanish Constitution, "Ésta es la Constitución de Todos (This is the Constitution of Everyone)" by Juan Luis Rascón Ortega.

The donation made it possible for Greer to stay in Europe after their semester abroad, and dig deeper into the material that they had spent the last few months learning about in the classroom. The most impactful experience for Greer was translating an essential book in the field to make it accessible to more people who speak different languages. This would not have been possible without the support of the donors.

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Mary Hobbs Photography

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**Teagan Hughes 2023**

*Major: Politics | Minor: Comparative American Studies, Journalism (concentration)*

**Policy Matters Ohio**

Cleveland, Ohio

Policy Matters Ohio is a non-profit public policy research institute with offices in Cleveland and Columbus. Policy Matters researches and advocates policies to foster a more "vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive" Ohio. During the summer months, Teagan served as a Research Intern for Policy Matters, conducting background research for upcoming publications and contributing to written primers on key issues. Within Policy Matters, Teagan worked closely with the ReImagine Appalachia coalition, a partnership between numerous organizations in the Appalachian states of the Ohio River Valley that works toward economic recovery, prosperity, and equity for long-disadvantaged Appalachian communities. One of her primary projects for ReImagine Appalachia was creating a literature review for an upcoming publication on the community-driven, sustainable redevelopment of decommissioned coal-fired power plants.

I would not have been able to pursue this internship opportunity without the support I received from the Class of 1965 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Internship Fund. The support that I received enabled me to afford my living expenses while completing my internship, in turn allowing me to dedicate myself to my work, career exploration, and the professional relationships I got the opportunity to build at Policy Matters Ohio.

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## **Miriam Koby 2024**

*Major: Violin Performance | Minor:*

### **Chautauqua School of Music Instrumental Program**

Chautauqua, NY

Chautauqua's mission is to enrich people's lives through four components: The Arts, Religion, Education, and Recreation. The Instrumental Program is for pre-professional musicians to hone their skills over a seven-week season.

While attending Chautauqua, Miriam took part in orchestra, chamber music, private lessons and masterclasses, as well as attending concerts, lectures, and being part of the Chautauqua community. The orchestra rehearsed every day for 2 1/2 hours, and performed a concert every week. The chamber groups met most days of the week, and had two concerts over the season. The intensity of musical enrichment fostered an environment for accelerated learning. It was inspiring for her to see the appreciation and interest that the Chautauqua community members had in supporting her music.

The financial support I received helped me be able to appreciate my time at Chautauqua without any worries of a negative financial impact. I had an amazing experience, and I'm so grateful to have had it fully covered. The financial support this summer helps assure that I will continue to be able to advance my musical abilities, and will be able to attend a summer festival in 2023 as well, rather than this summer being a one-time opportunity.

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Almuth Koby

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**Mariana Kovalik Silva 2024**

*Major: Biology | Minor: Religion, Global Health Concentration*

**University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's Summer Research Immersion**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

The Summer Research Immersion (SRI) seeks to get students involved in clinical research and the day-to-day reality of working at very high-end hospitals such as the UPMC conglomerate. The program has a few components: the research project, overseen by a UPMC mentor, hospital shadowing, guest lectures, and workshops. My research project is overseen by Dr. Kate Flickinger, of the UPMC Emergency Medicine department. We are comparing self-reported moods of post-cardiac arrest patients with scores from cognitive tests administered by providers. Most post-cardiac arrest (PCAS) patients suffer from the psychosocial effects of their condition, but many don't receive appropriate help, even though they often score in the depression range of cognitive tests. We are hoping to explore that discrepancy, and generate hypotheses to explain it, in the hope of helping as many PCAS survivors to get mental health support. As a culmination of the internship, I will present an abstract to a panel of doctors and fellow students.

The hospital shadowing is also an amazing opportunity to not only observe what a hospital routine is like, but also learn about different career tracks and consider different specialties. Similarly, guest lectures have covered a wide range of topics, from data analysis to career advice, and have allowed me to make connections within the medicine world. Finally, workshops are the hands-on counterpart of the lectures. Rather than just talking about different breathing tubes, we actually learned to put them on patients; after reading articles about the benefits of different IV fluids, we learned to do IVs ourselves, and got to do them on one another. It is very rare that a college student gets to do any of this before medical school, and it gives me a whole new perspective on clinical articles I may read.

This experience would not have been possible without donor support. I am an international student, supporting myself through college. Without this funding, I would never have been able to afford living by myself this summer, as my Visa doesn't make me eligible for a lot of jobs that would have maybe been able to help. Still, this way I am able to focus all my energy on my career in medicine, and I am beyond thankful I get to have this experience.

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**Abigail Lopez 2024**

*Major: bassoon performance | Minor:*

**Music Academy of the West**

Santa Barbara, California

I recently underwent the biggest purchase of my life by buying a professional bassoon. It took my family and I years to get to this point but am so grateful to be one step closer to reaching my goal of playing in a professional orchestra. Though because of our big purchase, I unfortunately could not find the funds to buy plane tickets to get to the Music Academy of the West which is located in Santa Barbara, California nor did I have the funds to buy necessary equipment such as cane, and reed tools bassoonist constantly have to buy until I was gifted this generous scholarship. This fund took a lot of weight off my family's shoulders as we constantly live paycheck to paycheck. Fortunately, this festival is tuition and housing free and purely believes in giving each of their students the best opportunities and experiences no matter their financial status or background.

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## **Zihua Ma 2024**

*Major: Violin Performance | Minor:*

### **Aria International Summer Academy/ Green Lake Festival of Music**

South Hadley, MA/ Ripon, WI

The Aria Academy is designed to provide an intensive and in-depth experience for serious students. In two weeks, each participant receives eight 45-minute lessons and has the opportunity to perform in several masterclasses. In the Aria, Zihua had masterclass every 10am-12, they had different topics, such as Mozart sonata, Brahms sonata, and romantic concerto, etc. Also, there was 45 minutes private lesson in 8 different days. Rest of day, Zihua spent time to practice, improved her own skills and prepare for master classes. The Green Lake festival has chamber coachings, private lessons, and performance opportunities, including The Circle of Sound in a historic barn. The daily life in Green Lake for Zihua is mostly same, she has daily lesson and rehearsals working on Dvorak String Quintet in E-flat Major, op. 97 with other students. Also, there is sight reading different pieces with students and faculties, faculties concerts, and literatures.

I can concentration and spend more time on music and enjoying on improving myself than stress for money.

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**Lauren Marohn 2024**

*Major: Art History | Minor: Economics and East Asian Studies*

**Nantucket Shipwreck and Lifesaving Museum, Egan Maritime Institute**

Nantucket, MA

Egan Maritime Institute is a nonprofit organization on the island of Nantucket off the coast of Massachusetts that focuses on maritime education, heritage, and history. Through the Nantucket Shipwreck and Lifesaving Museum, the public is provided access to artifacts from the 19th and 20th centuries as well as dramatic stories of shipwrecks of the past and the bravery and heroics of lifesavers. At this museum, Lauren has had to take on many roles and responsibilities. She provides guided tours to visitors from all over the world as a docent, making the stories engaging and accessible to a wide array of visitors. As a docent, she had to have immense knowledge and understanding of specific Nantucket history and maritime history, giving her the opportunity and chance to research objects and peoples histories in more depth while sharing her passion for history with the visitors. This passion for history, combined with Lauren's interest in making museums and public institutions accessible to the broader public, has also made her a very successful Collections Assistant at the Shipwreck and Lifesaving Museum. As a Collections Assistant, Lauren has been responsible for a reinterpretation project of the museum as well as a research project relating to public programming. For the reinterpretation project, Lauren and the Collections Manager have looked at all aspects of the museum and have dissected it piece by piece, analyzing artifacts and their meaning in the context of the museum and its story. The end result of this project was a complete reorganization and interpretation of the museum that will aid in future renovations and reconstructions of the galleries. The other project that Lauren has been actively involved in is a research project that centered around specific stories relating to objects and artifacts in the museum, often building off of the information given on tours. Some of these stories included the lives of the divers that went down to the Andrea Doria, an ocean liner that went down in 1956 and remained on the bottom of the ocean in an area called the Mt. Everest of the Atlantic, and the domestic and social lives of women whose family (husband, brothers, and sons) were a part of the United States Lifesaving Service in the 19th century and how their day-to-day experiences differed to others on the island. While doing all of these duties, Lauren has had the opportunity to meet local Nantucket residents and share in their history, telling them more in-depth stories and learning from a personal perspective about Nantucket's history.

Financial support has helped me immensely this summer. The burden of housing and dining has been lifted off of my shoulders by the award given to me. Prior to receiving funding, I was anxious about how I would afford housing on such an expensive island and how I would cover groceries as well. Now, with this financial support, I can allocate my funds accordingly and not stress about if I can afford groceries or not this upcoming week. With financial support, I can focus on the day ahead of me and put my all into whatever task is asked of me or whatever project there is to complete. In addition to this, without such a strenuous financial burden, I am able to appreciate the art and culture of the island, making me better at my job and profession as a future art historian.

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Assatta Somerville

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## **Katharina Mueller 2025**

*Major: Composition BM; Creative Writing BA (Undeclared) | Minor: none*

### **Yellow Barn Young Artists Program**

Putney VT

Yellow Barn's Young Artist Program seeks to bring together young artists ages 13-21, from across the country and world to share with one another three intensive weeks of chamber music. Katharina participated in Yellow Barn as a composer, creating new music for assigned chamber ensembles both prior to and during the summer program. Beyond individual composition time and composition lessons, the total group of six young composers met for class each day, guided by professor Stephen Coxe in studying particular pieces pertinent to current composition assignments. Other guest composers were also invited to lead class and give lessons throughout the program: Elizabeth Ogonek, Eric Nathan, and Travis LaPlante. Young composers participated actively in rehearsals and coaching sessions of their 3 pieces, and attended all performance classes, masterclasses, and special guest lectures that Yellow Barn provided. Immersed in an environment of passionate musicians, and working with a faculty of established professors from top conservatories and universities, Yellow Barn was an experience of inspiration and remarkable growth in compositional skill, as well as the foundation of a network in the world of young musical artists that will continue to serve it's student participants throughout their lives.

After a year of studying music composition at Oberlin Conservatory, I myself and my professors shared in the expectation that I would attend composition programs over the summer if at all possible, these programs being some of the best opportunities I have to further grow and deepen my investment in music. That said, the monetary investment required by such festivals is always a definitive factor in what programs I can participate in, and how many. For a program of as high a quality as Yellow Barn, to engage fully in the experience knowing I had the support of alumni donors gave me a sense that I truly belonged there, facilitated by the spirit of generosity that I've come to know at Oberlin Conservatory. I am so grateful for my once-in-a-lifetime experience at the Yellow Barn Young Artist's Program (next year I will be beyond the eligible age range to apply). Because of the generous donations of Oberlin alumni through the Conservatory Student Success Fund, my family had the capacity to support my participation in a second music program this summer. With gratitude, I will spend the end of July at Apple Hill Summer Chamber Music in Keene, New Hampshire.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1xMfFvOwFDcLwGjc5sQdqWWRqSbvEFWiq>

Katharina Mueller

This photo is Katharina's artist's profile photo for Yellow Barn

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**Norman Mwangi 2024**

*Major: Economics | Minor: Concentration in Business*

**Elburgon Secondary School**

Elburgon, Nakuru county, Kenya

Elburgon Secondary School is on a mission to equip learners with knowledge, life skills, and values through teaching and learning for effective integration into society. As an intern, Norman shared his knowledge of economics concepts, business, and Mathematics. He was also granted a huge responsibility of peer support to the students which turned out to be therapeutic for both the students and him. With the ongoing global pandemic, a few weeks into the program, Norman was granted permission to organize individual and group sessions to research the economic impact of Covid- 19 on small and medium enterprises in Kenya. Even though the research was informal and an add-on to his core responsibilities, it surprisingly stirred up interest in both students and teachers which led the majority to come up with findings and observations that elevated the students' understanding of economics concepts in real-life scenarios.

With the help of the Oberlin College alumni donor funding, I was able to commute to and from my internship location and cover the cost of housing and dining throughout the internship period which could have otherwise been a heavy weight on my shoulders. The funding also made it possible to acquire a real-world job experience and give back to the community while still sharing my passion for Economics with others which awesomely sparked their interest; it was fulfilling. Special thanks for the financial support granted.

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**Iesha-LaShay Phillips 2022**

*Major: Law and Society | Minor: Rhetoric and Composition*

**Commission on Youth at Risk**

Washington, D.C.

The Commission on Youth at Risk's mission is to address the legal needs of children, youth and young adults who are disadvantaged or marginalized due to legal system involvement, poverty, race, national origin or ethnicity, gender or gender identification, disability, or religion. They reach this goal through zealous client-centered advocacy, innovative policy reform, and cross-sector community education. As an intern, I primarily dedicated my time to policy and advocacy work for state house and state senate bills affecting our population. As someone who was a disadvantaged child, I have special experience that allowed me to effectively write proposals for Commission on Youth at Risk staff to present to legislators and other people who control resources relating to underserved children.

By awarding me the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden, which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of summer learning: meaningful practical experience. It was an amazing opportunity to be able to spend the summer interning instead of worrying about working and securing money to live. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

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## **Ethan Pound 2024**

*Major: Trombone Performance | Minor: Religion*

### **Mostly Modern Festival & Atlantic Brass Quintet Seminar**

Saratoga Springs, NY & Amherst, MA

The Mostly Modern Festival is a three-week festival promoting modern classical music. Works are written by the 30-40 composers in residence and premiered by the festival orchestra musicians and vocalists. Additional music is performed by other composers, but everything on the programs is written in the past 100 years. Ethan rehearsed daily, performed a total of six concert programs, playing pieces such as Bernstein's "On the Waterfront" and Rouse's "Flute Concerto", and attended master classes of composers and other musicians. Ethan studied trombone with Tim Albright, Professor of Trombone at Lawrence University, and fostered industry connections in many genres of music. He also intensely studied jazz, and played several gigs for the festival in Saratoga Springs.

The Atlantic Brass Quintet Seminar is a two-week intensive in brass quintet playing. Ethan performed on two programs with his quintet "Big Tex and his Posse", performing pieces such as "Laudes" by Jan Bach and "Miniature Overture" by Witold Lutoslawski. He received four hours of daily coachings by the amazing members of the Atlantic Brass Quintet and spent several more hours practicing daily.

Without the support of the MLK Internship Committee, I simply would not have been able to afford these career-changing opportunities. Thank you to the committee for funding my summer and for having the confidence in me to get the most out of it.

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Unsure; one of the participants of the Seminar.

Tim Albright, Professor of Trombone at Lawrence University and Member of the Atlantic Brass Quintet.

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## **Jocelyn Ram 2024**

*Major: Biology | Minor: Global Health Concentration*

### **Unite for Sight**

New Haven, CT

Jocelyn is working as a Global Health Leadership Intern at Unite for Sight International Headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut. Unite for Sight is a nonprofit organization that supports eye clinics worldwide by investing human and financial resources. The organization also consists of a Global Health University where students can receive training in the many aspects of Global Health. Jocelyn worked as an intern for the Founder and CEO of Unite for Sight, Jennifer Staple-Clarke. She spent time doing research for potential speakers for the Virtual Idea Lab Summit. She also worked to provide contact information for different universities around the country to connect with the Unite for Sight Global Health University. Jocelyn rewatched the 2022 Virtual Global Health and Innovation Conference and the 2022 Global Health Idea Lab. She worked to create a higher quality experience for future viewers when viewing past events. She has learned many leadership skills through the conversations she has listened to as the global health leaders all come together to learn from each other and develop their communities. Jocelyn has learned about nonprofit leadership roles by listening to conversations regarding scaling, diversity, innovative financing, ethics, and more. She plans on continuing her work with Unite for Sight, going to one of the eye clinics, and volunteering abroad in India, Honduras, or Ghana to see the results of the work done at the International Headquarters firsthand.

The financial support has enabled me to be fully invested and committed to my work with Unite for Sight. I have been able to spend all of my time doing research and actively listening to the critical conversations that global health professionals and worldwide nonprofit leaders had. The financial support allowed me to do this unpaid internship and learn more about the other nonprofit organizations that Unite for Sight works alongside. This opportunity has opened my eyes to not only all of the work in the global health field currently being done but all of the work that still needs to be done to ensure equitable access to quality healthcare worldwide. This education has given me the information to educate my peers about where we should invest resources as we are the next generation of professionals.

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**Marilyn Recarte 2024**

*Major: Computer Science/ 3-2 Engineering | Minor: N/A*

**California Institute of Technology**

Pasadena, California

Working in the Learning Systems at the California Institute of Technology, Marilyn is working on a research project related to the theory and applications of machine learning. The project she is working in is titled "Neural Networks Learning from Hints" where the goal is to find new practices to make image classification for accurate by better generalizing the training process in a neural network.

With my donor's financial support, I have been able to pay for my travel expenses to/from Caltech. I have also been able to pay for the housing here at Caltech. These expenses were fundamental for me to be successful in staying focused on my research and to build a relationship with my mentor in person as opposed to what I could have if I would have taken the research remotely.

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Red Ventures

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**Miles Reed 2024**

*Major: Double Major- Cello Performance; Composition | Minor:*

**Aspen Music Festival and School**

Aspen, Colorado

Aspen Music Festival and School provides a high level of musical instruction for emerging professional musicians, and brings together many of the world's leading musical instructors from diverse institutions.

During my time at Aspen, I was in the Conducting Academy Orchestra, an ensemble which specializes in honing the skills of today's emerging conductors. As an instrumentalist, I received the privilege of devoting a great amount of time to the standard orchestral repertoire, with a rigorous six day rehearsal schedule every week. This experience helped me to form the skills necessary to perform in a professional orchestra, and granted me great insight into the subtleties of conducting and how to interpret them. In my free time at Aspen, I enjoyed teaching cello lessons in my very first studio and enjoyed hiking in the unmatched wilderness that Aspen offers.

Aspen Music Festival and School is an extraordinarily competitive program, and it has an equally impressive price tag. Without the help of my alumni donor, I simply could not have afforded to attend this program and have the incredible learning and interpersonal experiences that I had.

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Tanya Rosen-Jones (Rosen-Jones Photography)

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## **Sydney Rosensaft 2024**

*Major: Environmental Studies | Minor: Concentration in Journalism*

### **UGE International**

New York City, NY

UGE is a solar development organization that aims to expand the presence of solar fields in the US, some areas of Canada, and a few locations in the Philippines. Smaller teams at UGE work to seal deals, develop site plans, build the solar fields, and operate for up to 30 years. Sydney's formal title was a Development intern, so she worked closely with Development managers. However, Sydney was privileged to sit in on meetings with the Origination team, the Construction team, and the Investment Committee as well, getting a full taste of the solar development process. She worked with two other interns to complete various tasks assigned by people across UGE, gaining a lot more responsibility and independence as the summer progressed. For example, Sydney worked with the other interns to research the new field of Agrivoltaics in depth and present their findings to the team at UGE. She was also given out-dated project charters (which includes a broad summary of a solar project) for solar field sites in Maine and worked with a development manager to find the appropriate information to update the charter. Sydney also worked on Process Documentation Workflows, which required making workflow charts of various company protocols to share with the entire team. Additionally, a development team member gave Sydney and the other interns lessons on using Helioscope, a modeling software to design solar panel site plans. These are just a handful of tasks that Sydney completed as she spent the summer familiarizing herself with the field of renewable solar energy and advancing the beginnings of her career path.

UGE has an office in Toronto, as well as in Manhattan; I spent my summer in the Manhattan office. When the pandemic hit, UGE's team was forced into remote work, as everyone was. This summer, UGE has began pushing for New York team members to make it back into the office for the work day -- It is much easier to work as a team when you can swivel your chair and chat with a collaborator, rather than waiting for an email back to coordinate a Zoom meeting. Financial support from my alumni donor fund gave me the resources to commute into the Manhattan office and take part of that team-working experience. Working in an office and being able to work side by side with full-time team members at UGE was an invaluable education experience, one unmatched by simply participating through a screen from my home. Additionally, physically being in an office with co-workers allowed me to form professional bonds with the team members at UGE, a relationship that is harder to form remotely. Further, work days at UGE were long, a full 9-5 day. Financial support from Alumni donors allowed me to fuel my brain with food, not worrying about how I might be able to get lunch, and rather focusing on my work and learning experiences with UGE.

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**Ezra Rudel 2023**

*Major: Jazz Composition | Minor: Computer Science*

**Silkroad Global Musician Workshop**

New England Conservatory, Boston, MA

Silkroad creates music that engages difference, sparking radical cultural collaboration and passion-driven learning for a more hopeful and inclusive world. Directed by cellist Mike Block and co-led by Wu Man, Silkroad's Global Musician Workshop is a musician training program modeled after the genesis of the Silkroad Ensemble, to take place in Boston, MA from August 8-12, 2022.

Ezra has yet to start their week-long workshop at Silkroad, but they are very excited to meet and play with amazing musicians from all over the world! From the information they've received so far, it sounds like participation will involve playing in several faculty-coached ensembles, jamming and collaborating with other participants, attending workshops and masterclasses for world-class musicians, and performing at NEC's Jordan Hall.

Yes, although the tuition for the program is underwritten by the Silkroad Foundation, the financial support has enabled me to pay the meal fee and my rent for the week of the program.

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## **Katia Rumin 2025**

*Major: Viola Performance (Conservatory)*

### **Harpa International Music Academy / MusicFest Aberystwyth**

Reykjavík/Garðabær, Iceland / Aberystwyth, Wales

This funding enabled Katia to attend the Harpa International Music Academy (HIMA) an annual classical music summer course in the Reykjavík, Iceland area, which brings together students from Iceland and internationally for ten days of intensive music study in both solo performance and chamber music. (The remaining funds will also go to support Katia's attendance at MusicFest Aberystwyth, a summer course in Aberystwyth, Wales, UK with a similar mission, which will take place in late July).

At HIMA, each day included morning practice and almost daily lessons, 2 hours of chamber music study after lunch, and a masterclass in the late afternoon (every student played in one masterclass). There was a mid-course chamber music concert taking place at the Garðabær music school (one of the buildings in which the course took place), and at the end of the course everyone had the opportunity to play both a solo and a separate chamber music piece in the Harpa Concert Hall in downtown Reykjavík. Katia's two chamber music pieces were by Mozart and Jessie Montgomery, and she also performed solo Bach at a masterclass and Rebecca Clarke's *Morpheus* at the final concert (as well as beginning to study the Bartók Viola Concerto). While at HIMA Katia studied with the two viola teachers on faculty, Þórunn Ósk Marinósdóttir (Principal Viola of the Iceland Symphony, for whom she also played in the masterclass), and Ásdís Valdimarsdóttir (on faculty at the Royal Conservatory of the Hague, Netherlands). For chamber music she worked with Ari Vilhjálmsson (Principal Second Violin of the Israel Philharmonic) and Sibbi Bernhardsson (Professor of Violin at Oberlin). She also observed masterclasses of some of the other faculty members. All of the faculty members that Katia worked with, she found to be incredibly inspiring and helpful and offered her much valuable advice, and Katia hopes to return and work with them in the future.

The festival also provided students the opportunity to see both the sights and culture of Iceland — in addition to a course-sponsored trip to Thingvellir National Park, students (including Katia) often did exploring in the Reykjavík area and beyond after classes for the day were over. Also most international students were placed with host families who lived in the area (Katia stayed with the family of the Icelandic Oberlin alumna Herdís Mjöll Guðmundsdóttir '21).

Overall Katia found HIMA to be an enriching and eye-opening experience, and she hopes to return to the course and to Iceland next year.

Attending summer music courses, especially overseas, when the costs of flights, food, internal transportation, etc. is quite expensive. In addition, my family's financial situation is quite erratic, so it can be a struggle. However attending music courses each summer really contributes to my improvement as a musician and also enables me to make connections in different places, and I cherish the experiences I have this summer at the courses that I attend, particularly this one since this is my first summer attending music courses in Europe. Since I plan to study for my master's degree and hopefully to live in Europe after graduating, I feel that my summer experiences here are giving me valuable insights and connections into the music

world in Europe, and I am so incredibly grateful to the donor(s) supporting my time and studies in Europe this summer.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1ZMweDu2KZoL7AWiC6Vf-BAOkvY7PMQ97>

Nick Rumin (father)

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**Shay Rutkowski 2022**

*Major: Studio Art and Environmental Studies | Minor:*

**Second State Press**

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Second State Press is a communal printmaking studio that dedicates an affordable and accessible space for professional printmakers and people of all ages to learn how to print. Shay worked in the space as a studio assistant, focusing in educational and administrative work. This included prepping for and shadowing print classes, as well as serving as a teacher's assistant. They also helped execute several summer projects, such as installing a summer exhibit on the organization's fellows, and working with other local art organizations in Philadelphia. They were asked to show their own work at the summer exhibit, and have also enjoyed using the studio to work on their practice in monotype printing. Working with art educators, fellows, and the director of Second State Press was an enriching experience and both a supportive and pushing environment for artists.

I am deeply grateful for the financial support, as this has allowed to me live comfortably this summer and settle into a new city as a recent graduate. The financial support has given me extra time to work on applying for jobs in the artistic, creative, educational field in Philadelphia. Second State Press has by far been a wonderful work experience so far, and has taught me so much on how art businesses/non profits work, how to be a professional while balancing my artistic practice, and letting me work in an artistic process I value a lot and want to work in for as long as I can.

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**Luka Stefanovic 2023**

*Major: Bachelor's in Cello Performance, Bachelor's in Baroque Cello Performance, Master's in Historical Performance | Minor:*

**Madeline Island Summer Chamber Music Fellowship**

La Pointe, Madeline Island, Wisconsin

The festival is meant to provide a rigorous, in-depth, and very high level chamber music learning and performing experience. Each week of the five, a new set of world-renowned faculty members--such as the American String Quartet and Jupiter String Quartet--arrived and provided daily string quartet coachings and private lessons, as well as roundtable discussions and lectures about the business and current music world climate. As part of one of the selected Fellowship quartets, Luka had an even more involved experience than the regular participants, staying on an extra two weeks, preparing and performing triple the amount of music, and being part of many community outreach events and programs.

Financial support made travel and other related expenses to this festival possible. As a cellist, Luka is required to pay double the flight costs for a seat for his cello, and the remote location of the festival meant needing to fund a five hour shuttle bus to and from the Minneapolis airport.

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**Leo Tillson 2024**

*Major: Economics | Minor:*

**Cornell Death Penalty Project/Justice 360**

Ithaca NY/Columbia SC

These joint organizations conduct research and handle death penalty and juveniles appeals cases mostly in South Carolina. Leo did a wide variety of tasks: whatever the lawyers needed help with. He collected and analyzed empirical studies on the death penalty. He prepared for, conducted, and reported on interviews with inmates serving life and death sentences in South Carolina. Leo also got experience reviewing evidence and testimony used or prepared for trials. Finally, he got the experience to interact with, watch, and learn from highly successful lawyers as they went about their day to day business.

This financial support was crucial for my experience. Without this support I would have been forced to take a different job that would have paid me enough to support myself. This would have made me completely miss out on the experience I had with this group. Many thanks to the donors.

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**Dalia Tomilchik 2023**

*Major: Studio Art | Minor: Art History*

**Northern Clay Center**

Minneapolis, MN, USA

Northern Clay Center is a ceramic arts organization that is community focused; they have a gallery that presents artists work, and many resident artists that use the studio to create. They also participate in outreach, offering ceramics classes for children, teens, and adults.

At Northern Clay Center, Dalia worked as a teaching assistant for the summer clay camps. They have been assistant both hand building and wheel classes, geared towards kids aged 6+ and 9+. They assisted the teachers in preparing clay, tools, and projects, and helped the kids as they were working. They followed the class through the process of making, glazing, and firing, and taught the campers what everything meant. They were able to work with experienced teachers and ceramicists, and made so many important connections.

Financial support helped me afford rent, groceries, and other living expenses during the time of my internship. I was able to live comfortably and not worry about having housing.

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## **Brian Wacker 2024**

*Major: Vocal Performance | Minor:*

### **Sherborne Summer School of Music**

Sherborne, England, United Kingdom

The mission of the Sherborne Summer School of Music, located in the medieval market town of Sherborne in Dorset, England, is to provide a place for musicians of all backgrounds to study with world renowned teachers, network with like-minded people, and improve their musical skills. Sherborne aims to create a friendly yet stimulating atmosphere for dedicated musicians to hone their craft. The specific area of the school that participant Brian Wacker attended was the orchestral conducting program, directed by Maestro Rodolfo Saglimbeni. Prior to the commencement of the program, Brian spent many weeks preparing the music and studying the eight different orchestral scores. The repertoire for this year's Summer School included works like Dvorak's 9th Symphony, "Appalachian Spring," Suite for 13 Instruments by Aaron Copland, Mozart's Symphony No. 40, and other core pieces of the orchestral repertoire. Several gems by Russian composer Alexander Borodin and the Englishman Peter Warlock were also studied. The first week of the program was called "Practical Conducting." It consisted of numerous classroom ensemble sessions, as well as a few full orchestra sessions. Through these sessions,, Brian and fellow conductors gained a solid foundation in basic technical and interpretative conducting skills. Brian also received individual lessons with the experienced tutors throughout the week, enhancing his baton technique, score-reading ability, and ear training. The second week, or "The George Hurst Conductors' Course" provided a more advanced level of training for the student conductors. When they were not on the podium leading the ensemble, they were participating in it as orchestral players or pianists. With his primary instrument being voice, Brian contributed to these ensemble sessions as a pianist. A typical day began with a warm-up focused on baton technique, the left hand, and use of the body. The majority of the classes after the warm-up were held in small groups, out of which workshop ensembles were formed for Brian and fellow conductors to gain experience conducting. The tutors offered helpful criticism and commentary in a masterclass format during these workshops. Several times during the week, the student conductors were allowed to conduct the large symphony orchestra at the Sherborne Summer School. These were remarkable evenings, for directing an ensemble of highly skilled musicians is an experience like none other. The days at the Sherborne Summer School were long, sometimes running from 9:00 AM to 9:30 PM, but they were always inspiring and invigorating. One of the greatest highlights of this program for Brian was conducting the large symphony orchestra and learning the long-established "Toscanini/Barzin" conducting technique from Maestro Saglimbeni. This technique has roots that stretch all the way back to the time of great composers like Franz Liszt and Richard Wagner. Wagner, in particular, is a favorite composer of Brian, and so he was thrilled with this aspect of the summer experience at Sherborne.

Financial support from the Class of 1965 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Internship Fund has made all the difference in my internship experience. I come from a single-mother household and we scarcely make enough money to live on, let alone afford experiences like the Sherborne

Summer School of Music or a trip to England. The donor alumni fund is my only means of attending a summer experience this year. While it can still be worthwhile to remain at home for the summer, practicing music on my own and working part-time, I feel it does not compare to the value of traveling abroad to a celebrated summer music program. It is so important for aspiring professional musicians to put themselves out there in the world; to play, sing, or conduct for as many people as possible, and to learn from those who have already gone down the music path. Again, financial support from the donors has made every bit of the difference for me this summer. I now have the opportunity to focus my fullest attention on interpreting the music of Mozart, Copland, Beethoven, and Dvorak—instead of worrying myself to death about finances. The Class of 1965 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Internship Fund has given me an opportunity to continue to make music at a high level, to pursue my passion, and to go all in on what is sure to be a life-changing experience at the Sherborne Summer School of Music.

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1XysiYKJ10I0MRPveyPDWwcX7UY8\\_Uxtr](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1XysiYKJ10I0MRPveyPDWwcX7UY8_Uxtr)  
Genevieve Dilan, Oberlin Class of '24

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## **Jingjia Wang 2024**

*Major: Violin Performance | Minor:*

### **Bowdoin International Music Festival**

Brunswick, Maine

Bowdoin International Music Festival is a very famous Music Festival in the world. The Festival is a program of the Bowdoin College Music Department. It builds a diverse and world-renowned faculty, and reaches thousands of music lovers across the globe. During her three weeks of music festival, Jingjia took two private lessons, two chamber coachings and one studio class each week. In the chamber rehearsal, she learned a lot of cooperation skills from her peers, but also made a lot of like-minded friends. In the last week of the festival, she and her chamber group participated in the Young Artist Concert, which won praise from the audience. There were lots of extra activities like yoga classes, mountain climbing and beach trips that accompany the festival. In terms of living, Bowdoin College provided some excellent accommodation for students. In a word, Jingjia gained a lot in the Bowdoin Music Festival.

The donor from the alumni has helped me a lot, relieving my financial pressure and enabling me to receive a better education.

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**Xiaotian Wu 2022**

*Major: Piano*

**Vivace piano festival**

Wilmington, NC

The organization's mission is to provide extra musical training in the summer. Xiaotian will see this festival as a musical goal in the summer, and will get 5 masterclasses and attend daily concerts as either audience or performer.

Thank you for the funding. It is a relief for my family's finances, so I can focus on my musical goals.

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**Tsitsi Zana 2024**

*Major: Neuroscience and Creative Writing | Minor: Global Health*

**Biomedical Research and Training Institute (BRTI)**

Harare, Zimbabwe

BRTI is a Public Health Research Institute that implements research projects and provides training and support services in public health, biomedicine and health research mostly focusing on HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and operational research. Its mission is to promote the health and quality of life of the peoples of Zimbabwe through fostering research, training and research informed interventions in all fields that are relevant to essential national health needs. The main role of the BRTI is to provide the support that researchers in all aspects of health need to become effective in influencing policy.

BRTI has many projects and Tsitsi was involved in two of them. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, she worked at Harare Central Hospital (second largest public hospital in Zimbabwe) with the AVAPAR project which was an assay validation of equipment for antimicrobial blood testing. On average, it took seven days for microbial results from patients' blood samples to be generated which was inefficient because by that time, most patients would've been discharged or deceased and the results wouldn't be of any use. The machine the project was testing would potentially reduce that time frame to one hour or one day at most which would make a huge change. Tsitsi's duties included analysing data from the two new machines and comparing them to the standard one, taking note of any inconsistencies and weather sensitivity that the new equipment has. Tsitsi also delivered the results to the patients and nurses in the wards which allowed her to interact with hospital staff as well as observe hospital conditions. Lastly, she helped to facilitate and evaluate the training of junior doctors and training nurses for collection of blood cultures in the neonatal units as there had been many contaminations there.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, Tsitsi worked at Ardent Creative, a creative agency that partnered with BRTI to use art as a means to engage the public in health issues. Ardent runs a competition called The Art of Health Zimbabwe where they challenge young people to define health or tackle health issues using Art. Selected entries undergo a training bootcamp where they are mentored by artists and provided with resources they need to produce music, short films, spoken word poetry and other art tackling health issues. Tsitsi's duties included assisting with the preparation for the competitions. She also co-authored the plot, developed characters and a script for a 12 episode youtube mini-series tackling health in modern day Zimbabwe and was also responsible for running the auditions and picking the cast with a panel.

I am financially responsible for myself and some family members as I come from a low income family. The financial assistance has helped me immensely. Without it, I wouldn't have been able to pursue the internship as I wouldn't have afforded the cost of travelling back home. My internship is unpaid, and so the money has covered all my housing, transport and utilities costs

which has made my internship experience very convenient. I am deeply grateful for the financial support.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=12yDV1hE9T0rHhmPoUQaiN50Em05R-8sD>

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## **Qiaohui Zhang 2023**

*Major: Environmental Studies and Biology | Minor: Geology*

### **Lake Stewards of Maine**

Auburn, Maine

Lake Stewards of Maine is an NGO that works to protect Maine lakes and to promote lake stewardship through widespread citizen participation in the gathering and dissemination of credible scientific information pertaining to lake health. Qiaohui worked as a website developer and created visualizations for the organization. He created many webpages, improved and updated pictures and wrote many descriptive paragraphs. He worked with many different staff members on creating webpages on various topics. He also worked with the original creator of the old website and improved the data visualization using newer softwares. He also assisted the water quality monitoring volunteer workshops to train and guide volunteers. He also managed to assist in the daily operation of the organization, including taking the role of photographer in many events and planning for volunteer appreciation parties.

The financial support helped me in ways that I could afford to live in the state of Maine and to focus all of my attention towards working and resting.

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**Zihan Zhang 2023**

*Major: Comparative literature | Minor:*

**180 Degrees Consulting Berlin**

Berlin, Germany

180 DC consulting, as a non-profit consultancy, aspires to help "non-profits and social enterprises committed to sustainability, education, health, and poverty alleviation reach their full social impact potential by meeting their demand for accessible and high-quality strategic and operational assistance – that otherwise may not have been available".

The past few months, Zihan has been working with her team to give advice on project management tools to Jobs4Refugees, an NGO in Berlin that helps refugees find work and therefore integrate into the society better. The organization, on the one hand, gives refugees training and supports them with job applications, on the other hand, works with companies to increase their awareness of diversity in the workspace and suggests suitable candidates for their position openings. Her team's specific task was to find a most suitable tool to increase the organization's efficiency and transparency for project management so that they could provide data-driven reports for future donors.

Besides this project, Zihan attended many professional development opportunities such as story-telling workshops, design thinking training and client management workshop, and so on. She learned a lot from these workshops because they give her fresh perspectives on how to approach a problem.

Because one works pro-bono in this program, I would not have been able to have this experience without the financial support.

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**Ruonan Zheng 2022**

*Major: Piano | Minor:*

**Vivace music festival**

Wilmington

I will have maser classes with teachers. And participate recital and perform.

It allows me to acquire more information about my major. And provide me the chance to listen to more valuable recitals.

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**Ellen Zimmerman 2023**

*Major: Archaeological Studies | Minor: History, Anthropology, French*

**WWOOF**

Morón de la Frontera, Spain; Altare, Italy; Baltimore, Ireland

WWOOF is an organization that connects volunteers with organic farms who can provide room and board for volunteers in exchange for working on the farm. Ellen had the opportunity to volunteer on farms in three different European countries this summer through this organization. They worked on a large-scale farm in southern Spain helping primarily with pruning almond trees and herding sheep. They worked in the market garden of a bed & breakfast in Italy, doing various garden tasks including weeding, picking produce, and prepping beds for planting. They worked on a homestead in Ireland milking goats, working in the garden, and making cheese, preserves, and other artisan goods.

The funding has allowed me to experience several different types of farms and organic farming methods, as well as do it in places where I can also be immersed in other cultures and practice languages. It also allowed me to get off the farm a bit and have valuable cultural experiences in the regions I visited.

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=17i7gBd2VkEFML3nY5LvYF2oBurBYhbFE>

Jennifer Simpson Photography

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**Mae Harrell 2024**

*Major: Voice Performance, Politics | Minor: German*

**Songfest**

San Francisco, California

Songfest is a music festival that focuses on Art Song and consists of masterclasses, coachings, voice lessons, and concerts. I was able to work with many coaches from all over the globe as well as participate in concerts. I attended forums with composers and operas at the San Francisco Opera House.

This financial support was integral in my ability to attend Songfest in the first place. It also gave me the opportunity to save money for future summer programs.

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1YwxH07nsWBkCyvwU9S7ixXdy9FwgV\\_1x](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1YwxH07nsWBkCyvwU9S7ixXdy9FwgV_1x)  
Genevieve Dilan, private photographer

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