



U-ENGAGE

2023-2024 YEAR END HIGHLIGHTS

Undergraduate Academic Engagement



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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Undergraduate Academic Engagement was developed to provide a home for the academic programs and offices at UNC that span across multiple disciplines. However, that name is quite the “academic” one, and I have found when saying the name out loud, by the time you have passed through the 5th or 6th syllables we’ve lost the audience. So this year we became “U-Engage” to better represent from a student perspective who we are.

U-Engage includes all of the following offices and programs:

- Interdisciplinary Studies: Student Designed B.A.
- Leadership Studies
- McNair Scholars Research Program
- Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Works
- Office of National Scholarships and Fellowships
- Air Force and Army ROTC Programs
- University Honors Program

Our largest event this year was the Student Showcase of Artists and Scholars, a rebranding of Research Day, where we engaged with 197 presenters from across all UNC colleges. Our largest program is the Honors Program, which saw an enrollment of 312 Honors students in our newly revamped University Honors Program as well as from Honors Interdisciplinary and Upper Division Honors Programs. The new curriculum framework in University Honors includes a path for first year students to earn a First Year Honors experience designation on their transcript. We are recognizing 56 students who are completing this journey at UNC. We are also celebrating a near record breaking 53 Honors Program Graduates this year. The last year Honors saw that many graduates was in the mid 1970’s. This number I think highlights the resilience and high academic aspirations of UNC Bears. Our UNC students also win national awards, including Maddie Gremillion, who won the prestigious Portz Fellowship from National Honors, and several are working on professional journal publications. I am as always in awe of the achievements of our students and the support they have received from their faculty mentors here at UNC.

Loree Crow

Executive Director for Undergraduate Academic Engagement

U-ENGAGE

Undergraduate Academic Engagement

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Coordinator



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Office of Undergraduate Research
Coordinator

FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Undergraduate Academic Engagement ("U-Engage") Faculty Advisory Council ("FAC") includes faculty who provide leadership and feedback on curriculum and programming for the Honors Program, McNair Scholars Program, and Office of Undergraduate Research. The FAC provides feedback and guidance in developing and revising the curriculum requirements and new courses for programs that are housed in Undergraduate Academic Engagement.



Nancy Matchett, Ph.D.
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Vice President for Undergraduate
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Leadership Studies
faculty representative



Jordan Garcia, Ph.D.
McNair Scholars Research
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Krista Cauffman, M.P.P.
McNair Scholars Research
Program Director



Madison Gremillion,
Student Representative

HONORS AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

The Honors Ambassador Program is a new initiative that was started in the Spring 2024 semester. The purpose of the program is to connect new Honors students, both Freshmen and transfer students, with Honors students who have been in the Honors program for longer in their college career. There is a lot to navigate when starting college, so we wanted to create a support system for new students where they had people they could reach out to with questions and for advice about the Honors program and UNC as a whole.

In the Spring 2024 semester, we had one Honors Ambassador representing each of the five primary colleges at UNC. Our ambassadors not only helped support new Honors students, but they have also assisted in our recruitment initiatives over the course of the Spring 2024 semester. We are so thankful for our Spring 2024 Honors Ambassadors and excited for the future of this program!



Humanties and
Social Sciences
Anita Patane



Monfort College
of Business
Betel Fisseha



Natural and
Health Sciences
Indigo Peppard



Education and
Behavioral Sciences
Nat Holland



Performing and
Visual Arts
Samantha Finken

HONORS ACTIVITIES



HONORS CONNECT

The UNC Honors Program is firmly grounded in the concept of holistic student development. Honors Connect is an integral part of the Honors Program as it offers fantastic opportunities for students to connect with their communities. Within the program, we offer a number of workshops and events each year. These events can help students develop socially and emotionally, expose them to new skills and concepts, and provide knowledge that cannot necessarily be found in a classroom. This year through Honors Connect, students learned about the college "hidden curriculum", important conflict resolution skills, how to swing dance, and so much more. Thank you to all the students who showed up to these events and participated. Your support and enthusiasm meant the world!

WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

FALL 2023

- Best Kept Secrets of College
- Applying to Graduate School (OUR)
- TED-ish Talks
- Big Bad Wolves: A colloquium with Dr. Kristin Bovaird-Abbo
- REU information session (OUR)
- Conflict Resolution

SPRING 2024

- Scholarship & Fellowships (OUR)
- Things You Didn't Know About Therapy
- Swing Dancing with Sam Finken
- Costume & Identity: A colloquium with Dr. Tom Endres
- Brown Bag Workshop - Getting Started with Research (OUR)

TED-ISH TALKS

A TED Talk style event where Honors students take the stage to share their ideas, passions, or interests.

- Loree Crow (keynote) - Big Dreams, Small Steps
- Julianna Kramer (First Year Honors) - Why Does Music Sound Good: The Math Behind the Melody
- Nat Holland (UHP, McNair) - YOU, ME, WE
- Ally Ashbaugh (UHP) - Chronic Pain: A Silent Disease
- Amber Rogers (UHP) - Run Like a Girl, Cry Like a Boy

POINTS LEADERS

Each event is worth points to be active within the Honors Program.

High Points Earners:

FALL 2023

- Betel Fisseha (HIP) - 19 points
- Clare Bolon (UHP) - 13 points
- Amber Rogers (UHP) - 12 points
- Savannah Burgess (FYE) - 11 points
- Regan Frioux (HIP) - 11 points

SPRING 2024

- Betel Fisseha (HIP) - 23 points
- Jorie Burnes (UHP) - 12 points
- Busi Chimembe (FYE) - 11 points
- Daphne Alexander (HIP) - 10 points
- Brooke Welsh (UHP) - 10 points

HONORS ACTIVITIES

STUDENT HONORS ACTIVITIES COUNCIL (SHAC)

The Student Honors Activity Council had an exciting year. Fall 2023 started with new leaders, with Madison Gremillion as President, Clare Bolon as Vice President, Casey Moran as Student Outreach Chair, and Sarah Hess as Treasurer. SHAC's goal for activity planning has always been to offer opportunities for social interactions, personal interest exploration, and a chance to give back. To do this, fall activities included a day hike at Poudre Trail, a Bob Ross paint along night, a guided fiber circle, and a Holiday Toy Drive which provided 20 UNC student-kiddos with toys! Big changes happened between Fall and Spring. Madison gave birth to a baby girl leaving Clare to take over SHAC, and Anita Rose took over as Treasurer, allowing Sarah to focus on her degree after serving SHAC for three years. Former President, Jorie Burnes, also returned to support SHAC through this change. Additionally, we welcomed Bella Petramala who started an Honors book club, Parker Coffelt who has connected SHAC with the Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Club, Lilia Mortiz who is leading the popcorn fundraiser, Alyssa Baker who has helped make nomination forms for SHAC elections, and Anwei Forgues who has helped with event execution. Spring activities started with a game night where students could have a place to enjoy a relaxing evening while they adjusted back to the academic rigor. Then, a service project with kindness rocks where students got to paint encouraging messages or pictures and leave the rocks around campus. Finally, we had a felt flower making workshop to welcome Spring and figure skating at the Ice Haus.

SHAC OFFICERS



President
Madison Gremillion



Vice President
Clare Bolon



Treasurer
Anita Patane



Secretary
Bella Petramala



Student Outreach Chair
Casey Moran



Advisor
Pranali Haribhakti



UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The University Honors Program was launched this year as a revamp of our previous two-tier program. The program nurtures exceptional students with enriched courses, research opportunities, faculty support, and peer community, fostering a culture of academic excellence and recognition. It encourages students to elevate their academic standards, fostering critical thinking, independent learning, and engagement in research or creative projects.

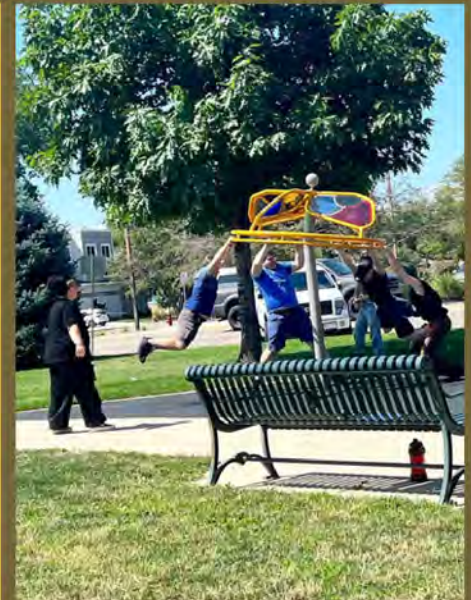
FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE

First Year Experience, within the University Honors Program, offers incoming students interdisciplinary analytical skills and academic groundwork within a supportive cohort, integrating seamlessly with their regular studies. Through Honors Connect, students interact with faculty and peers beyond the classroom, enhancing their holistic educational experience.

MEET PARKER

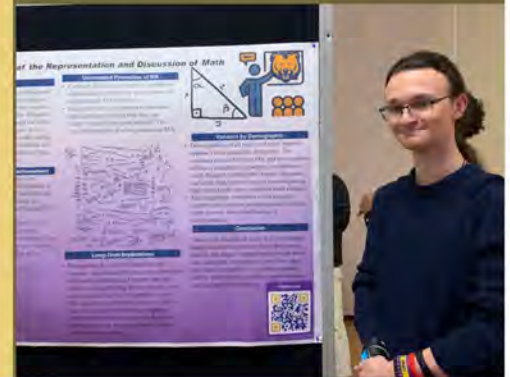
Parker Coffelt joined the First Year Honors Experience this academic year, and chose to live in the Honors residential community in Lujan Hall along with some of his first-year cohort. He is a pre-med student with a Spanish minor, as well as an active Student Honors Activity Council member and the Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Club President.

Honors curriculum provided Parker with advanced critical thinking and problem solving skills. "My experience as a first-year student has been amazing," Parker said. "I have taken two classes through the program, and they have both been amazing classes educationally, but within them, the community aspects have been great as well." The thing he loved most about his first-year experience in Honors is the combination of academic challenge and being part of a community that is just as motivated as he is. "This program has connected me with many people that I am very grateful that I have met," he said. When asked what Parker would tell someone if they were thinking of joining the First Year Honors Experience, he underscored the importance of the Honors community and how those friendships will help students reach their goals.



UNIV101 POSTER WINNERS FROM HONORS

- Ava Bockhouse 1st
- Katelyn Buchanan 1st
- Allyson Becerra 2nd
- Cayla Jackson 3rd
- Kaitlin Stubbings 3rd



ELECTIVES

- UNIV101: "University 101" Honors sections with Dr. Angela Vaughan
- HON100: "The Quantum World to the Cosmic Universe" with Dr. Jan Chaloupka
- HON185: "Religions and Worldviews" with Dr. Thomas Smith
- HON200: "Culture & Consciousness" with Dr. Michael Kimball
- HON395: "Sound Art and Sound Studies" with Dr. Joseph Chaves
- HON 492 : "Honors Internship or Study Abroad"

HONORS COURSES 2023-24

CAPSTONE

- LIB251: "Research as Inquiry" with Prof. Brianne Markowski
- HON351: "Honors Project Design" with Dr. Corinne Wieben
- HON451: "Honors Research Thesis" with Dr. Corinne Wieben

HONORS INTERDISCIPLINARY AND UPPER DIVISION HONORS PROGRAMS

HONORS INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM

ABOUT HIP

The Honors Interdisciplinary Program is designed for students entering UNC as freshmen or sophomores who are motivated to participate in self-directed learning, to explore new ideas, and challenge one's self and others to move outside the traditional boundaries of single discipline approaches to thinking. This program was offered through catalog year 2022-2023.

MEET MELODY

Melody has enjoyed every moment of participating in Honors. "The Honors program was so welcoming and really helped me establish my community at university. I met some of my best friends through honors!"



"As I progressed, honors seemed less intimidating to me and more of a springboard of support." In addition to the support of the Honors community, she enjoyed additional academic opportunities. "Through these classes, I have made some of my favorite projects and essays, like a presentation and paper analyzing the LGBTQ+ representation in [TV shows]." Melody says that leadership opportunities were the most beneficial parts, such as being a peer mentor and HON101 TA. "Overall being in the HIP program has gifted me with a confidence I will carry with me in my future schooling, career, and beyond!"

UPPER DIVISION HONORS PROGRAM



MEET RAQUEL

Raquel Eduardo Núñez completed an Honors Capstone through the Upper-Division Honors Program titled, "Unveiling Existentialism and Self Expression: Utilizing the Arts."

Raquel's project is an exploration of identity as a Mexican-Born individual living outside of their culture. It is an examination of artistic practice as a means of self-expression. Raquel stated, "This process has been rewarding by allowing me to dive into my own development as a creative artist and document my process and journey through creative writing." Raquel noted that UHP impacted her overall experience at UNC. "The Upper Division Honors Program has allowed me to connect with fellow students... to foster meaningful discussions... These interactions have enriched my understanding of academic advancement and provided valuable insights into scholarly pursuits. Additionally, through regular meetings with academic advisors, I have delved deeper into my studies, career aspirations, and enhanced my college experience by taking a step further in my academics."

ABOUT UHP

The Upper Division Honors Program provides Honors students the opportunity to engage in an in-depth study or independent honors project of their choice. Upper Division Honors Students work individually with a faculty mentor and strengthen their research, writing, creative, and presentation skills. This program was offered through catalog year 2022-2023.

MCNAIR SCHOLARS



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The McNair Scholars Research Program prepares high-achieving first-generation/income-eligible students and students from underrepresented populations for graduate study. They are funded by a TRIO grant from the United States Department of Education to preserve the legacy of scholarship of Ronald E. McNair, Ph.D., the second African American to fly in space.

Through the McNair Scholars Research Program, students will complete an independent undergraduate research project guided by a faculty mentor. Students have conducted research across a variety of disciplines, including psychology, biology, math, philosophy, nursing, anthropology, sociology, political science, and speech language pathology.

McNair seniors are currently in the process of receiving graduate school acceptances and planning for their post-undergraduate academic pursuits. Their students have been accepted into graduate schools across the United States, including the University of Vermont, University of Oregon, George Washington University, University of Washington, University of Montana, University of Wyoming, SUNY Buffalo, and University of Northern Colorado.

MEET ANITA

Anita Patane is a current McNair Scholar and hopes to be a professor one day.



Anita is an Anthropology major where her focus is on Biological Anthropology. In addition to finding a supportive community through McNair, the program has also helped her become a better student and researcher. "McNair has been an incredible supporter in my academic experience, and I have experienced several improvements to many of my habits as a student, including writing, reading, researching and community building. My connections with my professors have gotten stronger as my research project through McNair has piqued their interest and given me additional avenues to connect and build relationships with faculty."

Anita is grateful for the preparation the McNair program has given her for the next steps in her education. "As a first-generation student, I knew that everyone 'goes to college.' However, being in McNair has given me the ability to see what college aspects can look like after graduation, like graduate school."

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

STUDENT DESIGNED B.A.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelors of Arts is a program that allows students to design their own major in subject areas of the arts, sciences, and everything in between. Students can design their course of study based on a future career path or even a particular topic. ISSD students work closely with faculty advisors to complete their program and apply what they've learned toward a major research project before graduation. Previous student-designed majors have included Art Therapy, Feminist Studies, International Education, and Sports Psychology.

SPOTLIGHT: SCHULZE CHAIR

The Robert O. Schulze Chair for Honors & Interdisciplinary Studies provides vision and oversight for the curricular programs within Undergraduate Academic Engagement.



These include the Interdisciplinary Studies: Student Designed B.A. and the curricular components of the Honors Program. The Schulze Chair teaches HON 351 and HON451, provides leadership for the Faculty Advisory Council, recruits faculty to serve as instructors for honors courses, and provides guidance and support to Honors Program students pursuing an honors capstone. Dr. Corinne Wieben, a Professor of History and longtime supporter of interdisciplinary work, is the current Schulze Chair.

MEET JAMIE

Jamie Alexander is a non-traditional transfer student who came to UNC after completing an Associates of Arts with English Designation at Front Range Community College.



During her time at FRCC, she re-discovered her love for history, but her historical interests were specifically focused on ancient and medieval religious texts, especially mythological texts. At UNC, she designed her major in *Religious Studies in Pre-Modern Europe*, which combined her previous literary and religious studies education, and would fill in the gaps of her historical and philosophical knowledge. After graduation, she will be pursuing her Masters in History with Medieval Studies Emphasis at the University of Birmingham, UK.

MEET JACKSON

Jackson Alston designed his own major in Public Health Analytics. The focus of his program is to use statistics to evaluate certain areas of public health.



When Jackson came to UNC, he had already earned his Certified Nursing Assistant License and was a pre-nursing major. Jackson admits to struggling with the biology courses of the nursing program but used that obstacle as an opportunity to follow his aptitude for math. He had received a 5 on the AP Stats exam in high school but didn't want to abandon his love for medicine, so he combined his interests to design an interdisciplinary program of study he hopes will lead to a career in epidemiology.

LEADERSHIP STUDIES

ABOUT

Leadership Studies at the University of Northern Colorado defines leadership as a process of social influence which develops the capacity of a human community to bring forth new realities. As our definition brings to light, Leadership Studies is about harmonizing individual leadership skills and characteristics with the communities we're a part of (UNC, local, global). This integration happens through engaged, active learning whereby students are given tools, support, and opportunities to pursue change that is self-driven and socially informed. We recognize that in order for students to participate in and meaningfully contribute to modern society, they need to be well-versed in critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and collective collaboration; this holds across disciplines and majors. UNC offers a Leadership Studies Minor and the President's Leadership Program (PLP).

SPOTLIGHT:

LEADERSHIP STUDIES COORDINATOR

Dr. Thomas Endres, a Professor of Communication Studies at UNC since 2003, serves as the current Leadership Studies Coordinator, working closely with Leadership Studies Minors and PLP scholars.



With a Ph.D. in Speech Communication from the University of Minnesota, he's authored over three dozen publications and delivered 250+ research presentations globally. Recognitions include the UNC Provost Award for Leadership and Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rocky Mountain Communication Association. He's also the author of "Sturgis Stories," "My Costume, Myself," and co-author of "The Rhetorical Power of Popular Culture."

MEET DIANA



Diana Ledet is a Leadership Studies minor here at UNC. The goal of the Leadership Studies minor is to foster leadership development through both theory and experiential learning. It is an 18-credit program that spans ethics, global and cross-cultural understandings, and an internship to allow students to gain hands-on experience. Diana decided to change their minor from dance to Leadership Studies after it was recommended to them by their professor of Communication Studies, Dr. Endres. They felt it was a better fit with their major in Communication Studies, and they have found it to be a great way to add experience to their resume in addition to completing relevant courses.

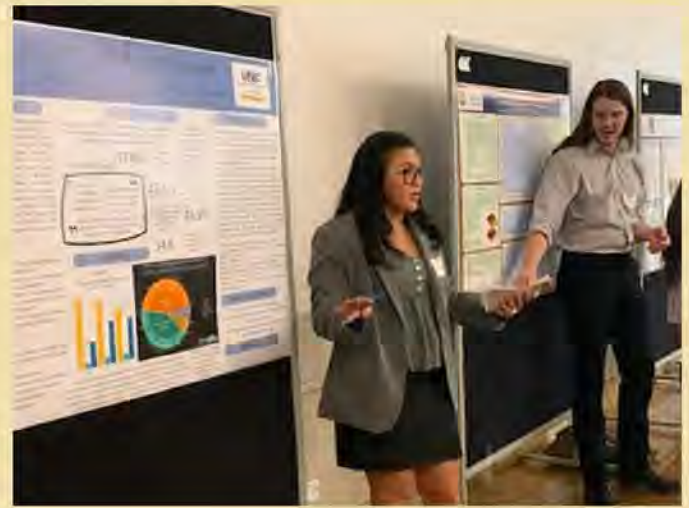
"LEAD minors were invited to a Colorado Young Professionals board matching event last semester where students met with board members to ask questions and gain insight about what it is like to be on a board," Diana told us. "I, along with Jorie Burnes, met with a representative from a nonprofit who gave us an internship opportunity with her nonprofit. Since then, Jorie and I have been working on this internship and are learning and growing from the experience each day."

Diana is excited about the opportunities they have gained through the Leadership Studies minor and how they will use their experience after they graduate. "I have a thorough understanding of what it means to lead in any context, whether it is a meeting, an event, or an organization," they said. "I plan to encourage collaboration, inspire change, and foster meaningful relationships wherever I go as a leader."

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH & CREATIVE WORKS

FALL SYMPOSIUM

This year's Fall Symposium allowed for students to present their research and creative endeavors. Some presenters from this event were selected to attend the National Conference of Undergraduate Research with full funding. In addition to this, students had the opportunity to compete for Research and Creative Excellence Awards.



RESEARCH AND CREATIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

MEET ALLY

The Poster Winner for the 2023 Fall Symposium was Ally Ashbaugh for her research titled *Function of FceR-1 in a Mouse Breast Cancer Model*.

She has been working on her project for three years with her faculty mentor, Dr. Nicholas Pullen. When asked about her favorite part of the research process, Ally stated, "I love being in the lab and collecting the data. I was looking at a phenomenon in breast cancer that has yet to be observed so it was a very surreal experience to have as an undergraduate." Ally was grateful to have her work acknowledged but she was also excited about the implications for the future of breast cancer research. "Winning makes me feel like the work I'm doing is worth something bigger than just me and my advisor, and that as more people understand what is going on, the bigger the impact this could have on treatment in the future."



MEET MADELINE

Madeline Dannewitz won best Oral Presentation for her research on *The Deaf Experience in the National Parks with an Emphasis on Rocky Mountain National Park*.

When asked about her experience preparing for the symposium, Madeline said, "I was very nervous to present my research, as this was my first time displaying it to a large audience. In order to prepare myself I practiced my presentation to my McNair Cohort, McNair staff, my research mentor, a professor within my discipline, my partner, and some of my friends." Madeline is supported in her research by her faculty advisor, Dr. Barbara Garrett. On winning, she said, "The collective feedback from my community and the time they allowed me to present and ask questions was a monumental factor in winning First Place. I was shocked and elated to win and that moment will be one of my favorite memories in completing my Bachelor's Degree."



OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH & CREATIVE WORKS

STUDENT SHOWCASE OF ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS



Research Day has been rebranded to Student Showcase of Artists and Scholars. At this event, undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty members had the opportunity to present research, creative, and scholarly works. 197 students presented in an array of categories.



NCUR

This year, 12 UNC students presented at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research, held in Long Beach, California. Each of these students were funded to attend this conference by OUR and McNair Scholars. Student presenters from UNC included Breanna Bailey, Madeline Dannewitz, Zayra Gonzalez, Alyssa Hill, Nat Holland, Casey Jeanes, Isaac Larson, Jessica Lucero, Daniel Mangandi-Escobar, Yasmeen Mustafa, Anita Patane, and Kadienne Sizemore.



OUR GRANTS

In fall 2023, OUR awarded 15 undergraduate students a total of \$9,000 in grants. 58 students applied during the fall semester for grant funding. In spring 2024, 6 undergraduate students were awarded a total of \$4,000. 21 students applied during the spring semester for funding.

WORKSHOPS

OUR held many informational workshops for students this year. These workshops included *Research Experience for Undergraduates*, a *Scholarship and Fellowship* information session, and a *Getting Started in Research* information session.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

NATIONAL PORTZ FELLOWSHIP

MEET MADISON



Madison Gremillion won the 2023 Portz Interdisciplinary Fellowship Award through the National Collegiate Honors Council for her Honors Thesis work in progress. Only three Honor students win this award nationally per year. The award amount was for \$5,000.

Madison won the fellowship for her thesis titled "End-of-Life Patient Communication: Exploring Comfort, Communication and Education of Healthcare Professionals for End-of-Life Care." Her research project explored the phenomenon surrounding healthcare professionals working with dying patients.

Madison's thesis is interdisciplinary based on her inclusion of methods and frameworks from Psychology, Philosophy, Communications, and Biomedicine. Her study used a phenomenological methodology with semi-structured interviews. She included five healthcare professionals in her research who specialized in oncology, palliative care, grief counseling, family medicine, and emergency medicine. The emerging themes from this study included the influence of cultural influences, availability of support within the healthcare system, and accountability within the professional space. She presented her research at the 2022 National Collegiate Honors Conference in Dallas, Texas and won the Sloan Award for the best Health Sciences Poster.

Madison is graduating in Spring with a B.S. in Biomedical Sciences and Chemistry minor. She will be starting in UNC's Master of Public Health program in Fall, and she plans to apply to medical school after she completes the MPH. Her long-term goals include expanding her professional education to include Bioethics, and is planning to work with healthcare public policy as part of her career. The Portz Fellowship program was launched in 2010. It is intended to support creative and innovative endeavors that cross boundaries, inviting application from individuals who wish to undertake cross disciplinary research. Projects are funded for a period of up to 18 months.



NCHC

Founded in 1966, the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) is a unique educational organization designed to support and promote undergraduate honors education. NCHC has nearly 900 member institutions and several hundred individual members, impacting over 330,000 honors students. NCHC provides its members with resources, training opportunities, and collaborative events to build and sustain honors programs and their curriculum. Students also have access to honors scholarships and exclusive events through NCHC and its members. UNC sends up to two students to the NCHC annual conference if they are accepted into the research competition.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

UNC students have many scholarship and fellowship opportunities available to them such as the Truman, Newman, Portz, Fulbright, Mitchel, Rhodes, and Udall award programs. U-Engage staff will assist students with inquiries and application materials for national scholarship opportunities. Some scholarships have specific internal deadlines, since in many cases the University must recommend the student to the scholarship organization, and the more competitive scholarships may limit the number of students any one institution may put forward for consideration. Students interested in applying for National awards should contact the U-engage office early in their degree. Successful applicants often begin the process in their Sophomore year.

DIRECTOR'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AWARD NOMINEES

MIRANDA BERMUDEZ



As an anthropology major, Miranda has had the opportunity of working closely on varying community-based projects and research in addition to her own independent Honors international research.

One such research project, titled: "The Heritage Conversations Partnership (HCP)", regarding a 2021-2022 UNC partnership with the Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado was particularly inspiring to Miranda, in which her applied anthropology class conducted virtual heritage exchanges with newly integrated migrants learning English. This classwork led to her greater involvement working with the research and furthering the findings as a third author in the *Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education*. Her Honors project was community-based research studying gender identity of the Charra, an indigenous community in India, in which she travelled to India for this project with her research mentor.

KATHRYN BRODERIUS



Kathryn uses all of her spare time to participate in a variety of civic and community engagement and leadership opportunities. Over the past four years she has served as the marketing coordinator and master of ceremonies for the High Plains Chautauqua event.

She assists with planning and media outreach, and during the event she serves as an MC. Kathryn has also been involved in her community as a coach for both soccer and track at rec, school, and club levels. Through these roles she helps youth to grow in both their athletic and sportsmanship skills. She has also engaged with her community by volunteering with Greeley Morning Garden Club, Greeley West FFA, Cornerstone Community Church and the Weld County Fair, to name a few. She has served as a leader on campus as Operations Manager for UNC's hockey team, which is strictly a volunteer-based position. Most recently she was chosen as a leader in the History department to serve as one of the Hewitt History Camp counselors for this summer's program.

MADELINE DANNEWITZ



Madeline is a member of the McNair Scholars Research Program, Stryker Institute for Leadership Development, Upper Division Honors, and the National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association. She has traveled to professional conferences and has

volunteered for the Scottish Rite Foundation. Madeline's goal is to work in a rural community where she can be a leader and educator. For her Honors and McNair research projects she took the path of an action project, researching The Deaf Experience in National Parks. She is currently working with Rocky Mountain National Park and with Suburu to develop programming within the Park for the deaf community. In her personal life, she has devoted time and money into wilderness training to help anyone who is injured on the river or trails.

RAQUEL EDUARDO NÚÑEZ



Raquel is deeply immersed in her communities as making an impact in her volunteer roles and other connections. Most recently, she dedicated her 2024 spring break to under-represented populations.

In that role she volunteered for the homeless and refugee communities in San Diego, California, organizing activities and playing with children from refugee families. Raquel has also worked with local community organizations including Future Immigrant Generations Tutoring at Greeley Central High School, Samaritan's Purse Children's in Englewood, Colorado, Food Bank of the Rockies, and Harmony Nursing Home in Yuma, Colorado. Raquel desires to continue to positively impact lives through humility, praise, and prayer across continents.

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



JAMIE ALEXANDER - UHP & INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Major: Interdisciplinary Studies: Religious Studies in Pre-Modern Europe

Thesis Title: A Divine Comedy: A Work of Medieval Mythology

Plans after graduating: Masters in History with Medieval Studies Emphasis at the University of Birmingham UK

Activities and Awards: Summer 2023 OUR Grant, Trustee Transfer Scholarship, Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship, Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award, URSIDAE Undergraduate Research Publication, Writing Consultant for Undergraduate Research, Research Assistant to Dr. Corinne Weiben



JACKSON ALSTON - INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Major: Interdisciplinary Studies: Health Analytics

Plans after graduating: Will be completing an internship focused on health care analytics

Activities and Awards: Club dodgeball, Club volleyball, Club flag football



ALEXANDRIA ASHBAUGH - UHP

Major: Chemistry with a Pre-Health Emphasis; Minor: Biology

Thesis Title: Mast Cells in Mammary Carcinoma

Plans after graduating: University of Utah Immunology and Microbiology Ph.D. Program

Activities & Awards: President of the Pre-Health Professionals Club, American Association of Immunologist Annual Conference, *TGF- β Training of Mast Cells: Do Inflammasomes Matter?*, Undergraduate Fall Symposium, American Association of Immunologists Annual Conference, *Unexpected Expression and Function of Fc ϵ R-1 in Breast Cancer*, Jim & Judy Delaney Philmont Staff Association Scholarship, Bonnie and Bob Phelps C.A.P Research Award 2023, Research Excellence Award 2023 from UNCO



TYLER ASHCRAFT - HIP & UHP

Major: Chemistry

Thesis Title: An Internal Standard Analysis of X-Ray Fluorescence Data

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend graduate school

BREANNA BAILEY - UHP & MCNAIR

Major: Political Science Minor: Mexican American Studies & Leadership Studies

Thesis Title: Transporting Theatre: Can transnational theatre foster political self-efficacy in women of color?

Plans after graduating: Will be attending graduate school for her Ph.D. or her Masters

Awards and Activities: Political Science Club 2023 Spring Secretary, Ethics Bowl Team Fall 2022, NCUR 2024 Oral Presentation and Moderator, 2023 Poll Watcher, Bear Pantry Volunteer, UNCO Student Affairs Front Desk Training Lead, 2023 & 2024 Dickeson Leadership Award Selection Committee, Voter Engagement Committee, Catalyst 2023 Participant

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!

MIRANDA BERMUDEZ - UHP

Major: Anthropology Minor: Gender Studies & Human Services

Thesis Title: In the Shadows of Stigma: Perceptions of Gender Among Women of India's Modern Denotified Chhara Tribe

Plans after graduating: Taking a gap year before attending graduate school

Awards and Activities: Anthropology Department Research Assistant, UNC Research Day Presenter 2022 & 2023, Office of Undergrad Research Fall 2022 Grant Winner, Anthropology Department Excellence Award 2022, Honors Dr. Eugene Koplitz Memorial Award 2023, Contributed as third author in associated publication to the partnership with the Immigrant and Refugee Center of Northern Colorado, titled, "The Heritage Conversation Partners Project: Virtual Cultural Heritage Exchange in an Anthropology Course", in the Journal of Community Engagement and Higher Education (Volume 14, Number 4).



SARAH BLAIR - HIP & PLP

Major: Elementary Education

Plans after graduating: Will be attending graduate school

Awards: Amy Smart Memorial Scholarship, PLI Scholarship.



ZOË BONASERA - HIP

Major: Physics with a Concentration in Math

Plans after graduating: Zoe plans to pursue a PhD in Physics

Awards & Activities: President of the Society of Physics Students (vp the year before)/ Vice president of the National Panhellenic Conference/ Diversity Equity and Inclusion chair of Alpha Sigma Alpha, The Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics '23&'24, The American Physical Society's March Meeting, Paul Heidger Scholarship 2020, First place poster for the division of soft matter at APS March Meeting, Arizona State University for a PhD in Physics at the Tempe location



PHILEMON BOATENG - LEADERSHIP STUDIES MINOR

Major: International Affairs & Economics



KATHRYN BRODERIUS - HIP

Major: History w/an Emphasis on Secondary Education

Minor: Business Administration Plans after graduating: Teach 6th Grade Social Studies at Tointon Academy

Awards and Activities: William H. Benson Scholarship Award Recipient 2022/23 and 2023/24, College of Humanities and Social Sciences Honors Convocation 2021/2022, UNC Dean's List of Academic Distinction 2021, 2022, 2023, FFA American Farmer Degree Recipient, Tointon Academy JV Soccer Coach, High Plains Chautauqua Master of Ceremonies and Marketing Coordinator, Town of Windsor Museum Intern, Hewitt Camp Intern, Operations Manager - UNC Hockey



CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



JOSHUA CHATMAN - PLP

Major: Criminology & Criminal Justice Minor: Psychology

Plans after graduating: wants to go to graduate school at the University of Denver for cybersecurity or go into a career as a police officer.

Awards & Activities: Youth Soccer Coach 2011/2012 Boys



ANNA DERTZ - HIP

Major: Psychology Minor: Sociology

Plans after graduating plans on taking a gap year before attending graduate school

MADELINE DANNEWITZ - UHP & MCNAIR

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Thesis Title: The Deaf Experience in the National Parks with an Emphasis on Rocky Mountain National Park

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend graduate school

Awards & Activities: National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association, Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society, Fall Symposium, National Conference of Undergraduate Research, Student Showcase of Artists and Scholars, McNair Scholars Program, Stryker Institute for Leadership Development, Phelps Family NHS CAP Undergraduate Research Grant, University of Northern Colorado Office of Undergraduate Research Grant, Vinnie Scalia Scholarship, Charles M. Foster Memorial Scholarship, Maude Teal Codoni Memorial Scholarship, Research Excellence Award: 1st Place Winner in Oral Presentation, Rafting Guide, Snowboard Instructor, Lifeguard, Paddle Science Instructor



KATHRYN DOBSON - HIP

Major: French w/an Emphasis on Secondary Education

Plans after graduating: Plans to get a job as a French teacher.

Awards & Activities: Studied abroad last year in Northern France, French teaching practicum at both Greeley West High School and Greeley Central High School.



EMMA DOUGLASS - PLP

Major: Elementary Education

Plans after graduating: plans on finding a teaching job at an elementary school

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



COLE ECKHARDT - LEADERSHIP STUDIES MINOR

Major: Communication Studies

Plans after graduating: will be taking a gap year

Awards & Activities: Lambda Pi Eta- Vice President



RAQUEL EDUARDO NÚÑEZ - UHP

Major: Graphic Design/Studio Art w/an Emphasis in Photography Minor: Digital Marketing

Thesis Title: Unveiling Existentialism and Self Expression Utilizing Arts

Plans after graduating: Joining the Communications Team at Engineering Ministries International
Awards & Activities: NRF New York UNC Conference & Southard Award Finalist PVA, Honors Undergraduate Research Grant 2023, Phelps Contribute, Achieve, Pay-it-forward 2023. University of Northern Colorado, Stryker Leadership Institute, Winograd Dean of Students, Volunteer for Homeless Shelters/Refugees Community Volunteer, Disaster Relief Flooding Repair Volunteer, UNC Figure Skating, UNC Christian Challenge, COSI Scholar, Future Immigrant Generations Tutor at Greeley Central High School, UNC Literary & Arts Magazine, 2020-2021



MELODY FIKE - HIP

Major: Psychology Minor: Human Services

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend graduate school for a Master degree in the United Kingdom.

Awards & Activities: UNC Research Day Presentation, Honors Convocation Award, Lutheran Family Services, Visitation Specialist, Honors TA and Peer Mentor, University 101 Class Leader, Study Abroad Peer Mentor



ANGELICA FLETCHER - HIP

Major: Business Administration with an Emphasis in Management

Plans after graduating: Plans on pursuing an MBA in Human Resources from UNC.



JOSIE FUGATE - HIP

Major: Nursing

Plans after graduating: plans on working after graduation.



AUDREY GLENN - HIP

Major: Psychology

Peer Mentor for Honors Interdisciplinary Program 2022-2023; Student Honors Council Fundraising Chair 2022-2023. Courage to Excel Scholar 2020-2021.

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



MADDIE GODSEY - HIP

Major: Psychology Minor: Criminology and Criminal Justice

Awards & Activities: Peer Mentor for Honors Interdisciplinary Program in 2022-2023, Barbara Heidger Memorial Scholarship 2021-2022, Boys and Girls Club of Weld County, Rec Volleyball



ZAYRA GONZALEZ - MCNAIR & PLP

Major: Special Education w/an Emphasis in General Teaching

Thesis Title: Behavior Coursework in Teacher Preparation Programs

Plans after graduating: Will be teaching special education in District 6

Awards & Activities: Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Inc, Stryker, OUR Grant



MADISON GREMILLION - UHP

Major: Biomedical Sciences Emphasis in Pre-Health

Thesis Title: End-of-life Patient Communication: Exploring Comfort, Communication, and Education of Healthcare Professionals for End-of-life Care

Plans after graduating: Will be Attending the Colorado School of Public health for her masters and then onto Medical school

Awards & Activities: 2023 NCUR, 2022 NCHC Conference poster competition winner, Research Day, CSU 15th Annual Rocky Mountain Reproductive Sciences Symposium, Phelps Family C.A.P Award 2023-Spring, Portz Interdisciplinary Fellowship Award from National Collegiate Honors Council 2023-2024, Koplitz Memorial Award Recipient spring 2022 for strongest proposal, OUR Undergraduate Research Grant Recipient Spring 2021 & 2023 Biological Sciences Alumni Scholarship 2022-2023, Student Employee of the Year award 2024, College of NHS Commencement Speaker Spring 2024



CAMRYN GROSSHANS - HIP

Major: Psychology

Plans after graduating: Plans to pursue a Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Awards & Activities: Honorable mention at Research Night 2021, Interned at Connections for Independent Living and Breathe Counselling, UNIV 101 Class Leader, Graduating Summa Cum Laude



JULIA HERNDON - HIP

Major: Psychology

Plans after graduating: Will be doing missionary work for a Catholic Church or will be attending graduate school for a degree in school counseling



NAT HOLLAND - UHP, MCNAIR, & PLP

Major: Psychology Minor: Sociology and Entrepreneurship

Thesis Title: Silent Killer: The Impact of Awareness and Stigma on Loneliness Among Post COVID College Students

Plans after graduating: Plans on attending graduate school

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



QUINNTON HURLBUT - HIP

Major: Psychology Minor: Human Services

Plans after graduating: Will be taking a gap year before attending graduate school a masters in social work.

Awards & Activities: Over 200+ hours in volunteer work, Internship at North Range Behavioral Health



CHARLIE JOHNSTON - UHP

Major: Health Sciences w/an Emphasis in Public Health

Thesis Title: Examining Attitudes Towards Scientific Research

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend medical school



RACHEL KILBY - UHP

Major: Mathematics: Statistics and Data Science Concentration Minor: Psychology

Thesis Title: Effect of Emotional Intelligence and Social Support on the Relationship Between Childhood Maltreatment and Disordered Eating

Plans after graduating plans to attend graduate school



TY LAMM - LEADERSHIP STUDIES MINOR

Major: Communication Studies

Plans after graduating: wants to start working in community relations and motivational speaking



KENNEDY LARSEN - UHP

Major: Dietetics

Thesis Title: Nutrition-Related Barriers Faced by Marginalized Communities and Cultural Adaptations of a Nutrition Education Intervention

Plans after graduating: Attending Montana State University for a Masters in Dietetics

Awards & Achievements: Student Nutrition and Dietetics Association (SNDA) secretary & social media manager, Research day 2023 & 2024, Florence Fish Memorial Scholarship 2022-2024, UNC Natural and Health Sciences Program Scholar 2024, Volunteer with Weld Food Bank, Competitive gymnastics team coach 2022-2024



DIANA LEDET - LEADERSHIP STUDIES MINOR

Major: Communication Studies

Plans after graduating: plans on going to graduate school

Awards & Activities: Lambda Pi Eta president, Clothing Drive co-creator

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



AVERY LILEY - UHP

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Thesis Title: Implementing Appropriate Practice with Children Affected by Trauma in the Field of Speech-Language Pathology

Plans after graduating: Plans to pursue a Master's in Speech-Language Pathology

Awards & Activities: Natural & Health Sciences Academic Scholar Award, UNC Sugar Bears Dance Team-- 4-Year Member; 2022-2024 Coach, 2021-2022 Captain



TRINITY LINDSAY - PLP

Major: Psychology

Plans after graduating: Will be attending a Masters program for clinical psychology at Grand Canyon University

Awards & Activities: Vice president of black women of today



JESSICA LUCERO - UHP & MCNAIR

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders Minor: Psychology

Thesis Title: Parent Perceptions of Self Following Parent Communication Coaching Programs

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend graduate school for a Masters in Speech-language Pathology

Awards & Activities: Member of the National Student Speech-Hearing-Language Association and the Student Academy of Audiology, Presenter at Fall Symposium, NCUR and Student Showcase, Presenter at Fall Symposium, NCUR and Student Showcase, OUR research grant, presidential scholarship, Colorado opportunity scholarship initiative recipient



SKYELAR LUTHY - HIP

Major: History

Plans after graduating: Plans on taking a year off to travel and substitute teach.

Awards & Activities: Alpha Sigma Alpha (Ritual Chairman, Special Events Chairman, Standards Chairman, Student Teaching



DANIEL MANGANDI-ESCOBAR - UHP & MCNAIR

Major: Psychology & Philosophy

Thesis Title: Determinism and Free Will: an Exploration on Gender Identity and Moral Responsibility

Plans after graduating: Will be attending University of California at Long Beach with full funding and a TAship for a master's in philosophy

Awards & Activities: Sociology club and Philosophy club, Fall symposium, NCUR, & Research day, Top 3 finish presenter at fall symposium, Philosophy student representative, psychology peer advisor, teaching philosophy in high school



SAVANNAH MASON - HIP

Major: Communication Sciences and Disorders Minor: Special Education

Plans after graduating: Plans on attending graduate school for her Masters degree.

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



KRYSEE MCKELVEY - UHP

Major: Sociology and Human Services

Thesis Title: Adverse Childhood Experiences: How to Build a Resilient Trauma Informed Community Plans after graduating: will be pursuing a certificate in public health.

Awards & Activities: The National Society of Leadership and Success, President's List, Volunteer @ United Way, Volunteer/Helping people find resources/ EBT/ TANF



RILEY MENDONCA - HIP & UHP

Major: Biological Sciences: Cellular and Molecular Biology

Thesis Title: The Effect of Yamanaka Factors on the Differentiation of Metastatic Breast Cancer Plans after graduating: plans to attend graduate school to pursue a PhD

Awards & Activities: Beta Beta Beta, TriBeta National Conference Presenter, UNCO CAP Grant Recipient, TriBeta Regional Conference 1st Place Platform Talk Awardee



GALE MIKESH - HIP

Major: Anthropology

Plans after graduating: Plans on attending graduate school for a Masters in Library and Information Science.



LOGAN MOORE - UHP

Major: Mathematics: Pure and Applied

Thesis Title: Matching an applied Painlevé equation to a canonical example

Plans after graduating plans to attend graduate school to pursue a PhD.

Awards & Activities: NHS Program Scholar and Selected for the NHS Student Research Celebration, 150 hours of Practicum in Secondary Schools



LILIA MORITZ - UHP

Major: Psychology Minor: Human Services and Sociology

Thesis Title: How to Write a Children's Book on Adoption- Little Lil's Big Adventure

Plans after graduating: Plans to working with foster care organizations during her gap year before attending law school

Awards & Activities: Internship at Little Willows, VP of Womens Rugby and Treasurer of Figure Skating



KELBI O'CONNOR - HIP

Major: English: Secondary Education w/a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Emphasis

Plans after graduating: Will be teaching English at Fort Lupton High School

Awards & Activities: Provost Scholarship Recipient, Founders Grant Recipient, Honors Scholarship Recipient, Internship at Greeley History Museum, Student teaching at Brentwood Middle School

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!

YASMEEN MUSTAFA - UHP & MCNAIR



Major: Nursing

Thesis Title: Emergency Room Nurses' Perception of Medication Errors in the Emergency Department

Plans after graduating: wants to work as an RN in the ICU before attending graduate school to obtain a Doctorate in Nursing Practice

Awards & Activities: Student Nurses Association (SNA), National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS), National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), Eugene D. and Peggy J. Koplitz Memorial Scholarship Award, OUR Research Grant, Sigma Theta Tau Research Grant, Fall Symposium Research Excellence Award, Eugene D. and Peggy J. Koplitz Memorial Scholarship award, NHS Academic Scholars Award, Nurse Externship at NCMC, Biochemistry Supplemental Instructor (SI), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)

ANITA PATANE - UHP & MCNAIR



Major: Biological Anthropology Minor: French

Thesis Title: Australopithecus Afarensis: We're Weak in the Talus for You

Plans after graduating: Plans to pursue a PhD

Awards & Activities: National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR), Long Beach, CA, Smithsonian Institution Fellowship - Emerson Collective - 8 weeks in person internship with the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH)

INDIGO PEPPARD - UHP



Major: Physics with an Emphasis in Engineering

Thesis Title: Creasing as a Candidate Mechanism of Foveal Pit Formation

Plans after graduating: Plans on attending graduate school

Peer Mentor for Honors Program 2022-2023, Ambassador for Honors Program 2023-2024.

BRIANNA PETERSEN - HIP



Major: Criminology and Criminal Justice

Plans after graduating: Plans on working after graduation

Awards & Activities: Criminal Justice Club, Beulah M. Moses Scholarship, Bowers-Higer Memorial Scholarship, Barbara Heidger Memorial Scholarship

JESSIE RIEKEN - HIP



Major: Business Administration w/an Emphasis in Marketing

Plans after graduating: Plans on working after graduation

Awards & Activities: Medical Device Sales and Marketing Internship with Fischer Medical & Regional Marketing Internship with Terumo BCT, Women's Club Soccer

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



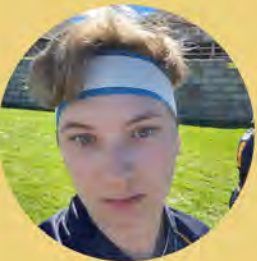
KAYLA SCHILZ - UHP & MCNAIR

Major: Applied Mathematics with an Emphasis in Computer Science & Philosophy
Thesis Title: An Exploration of NP-Complete Problems in Finite and Infinite Constraints
Plans after graduating: plans to pursue a Master's degree
Awards & Activities: Math Club, History Club, Student Showcase



KADIENNE SIZEMORE - UHP & MCNAIR

Major: History
Thesis Title: Female Faithfulness Encouraged: Gendered Piety in Early American Baptist
Publications Plans after graduating: Plans to pursue a PhD in American History
Awards & Activities: Robert Larson Scholar, Hazel Johnson Personal Achievement Award, HSS Undergraduate Research Award, Greeley Museums Intern, Club Lacrosse



CHARLOTTE STUCK - PLP

Major: Communication Studies Minor: American Sign Language
Plans after graduating: planning on attending UNC for a PhD in Psychology
Awards & Activities: Women's Rugby, Resident Assistant, Student Ambassador



ALESSANDRA TIBBETTS - HIP

Major: Psychology Minor: Human Services
Plans after graduating: She will be working in an in-patient mental health facility.
Awards & Activities: Member of Psi Chi, Intern at North Range Behavioral Health. Peer Health Educator at the Office of Health Promotion. Advocate for the Assault Survivors Advocacy Program.



A TONNESEN - UHP

Major: Music Education
Thesis Title: Ravel in the Post-Tonal World: An Analysis of Histories Naturelle's
Plans after graduating: plans to get a position working in education.



MADISON TURNER - UHP

Major: Biomedical Sciences/Pre-Health
Thesis Title: Gene Expression of Cellular Respiration Enzymes in Breast Cancer
Plans after graduating wants to attend a physician assistants' program.

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!



ASHLEY URBOM - UHP

Major: Nutrition

Thesis Title: The Psychological and Physical Consequences of Childhood Obesity in Adults

Plans after graduating: Plans on attending graduate school for a Masters in Public Health

Awards & Activities: Academic Scholar Award from the College of Natural Health Sciences



ALBERT URSETTA - LEADERSHIP STUDIES MINOR

Major: Communication Studies

Plans after graduating: plans on getting a job in Sales and volunteering as a youth mentor for Denver Public Schools

Awards & Activities: Pi Kappa Alpha President, Denver Scholarship Foundation, Smythe Award, Pi Kappa Alpha Gold Certification-Leadership/Professional Development, Philanthropy Weeks accumulating over \$20,000 to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Salt Company(Campus Ministry), Intramural Sports, Interfraternity Council Delegate, Bear Den Development- Student Section



JAIDAN URSICH - UHP

Major: Cello Performance

Thesis Title: Fin de Siècle Russian Musical Topos and Rimskey-Korsakov's The Golden Cockerel

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend graduate school

Awards & Activities: 2024 AMS Regional Conference, OUR Grant, Conference Grant, Longy School of Music Cambridge, MA - Cello Performance, Oklahoma City University - Cello Performance, University of Memphis, TN - Cello Performance



BROOKE WELSH - UHP

Major: Psychology & Criminal Justice

Thesis Title: History of Physical Neglect and Current Food Insecurity: Moderation by Mental Health Symptoms

Plans after graduating: Plans to attend graduate school for a Masters in Forensic Psychology

Awards & Activities: Criminal Justice Society, Research Day 2023, Dean's List of Academic Distinction 2022, Dean's List of Academic Distinction 2023, Magna Cum Laude, Assault Survivors Advocacy Program Advocate, Honors Program Assistant, Office of Undergraduate Research Coordinator, NACP Credentialed A-Level Victim Advocacy Training, The Chicago School MA Forensic Psychology, Arizona State University MS Forensic Psychology

CONGRATULATIONS U-ENGAGE GRADUATES!

ALLISON WILLIAMSON - PLP

Major: Music Education

Plans after graduating: planning on taking a gap year before starting her career.

Awards & Activities: Performances with UNC's Lab Band 3, Trombone Choir, Symphonic Band, Greeley Chamber Orchestra, Greeley Philharmonic, Northern Lights, Marching Band, Symphony Orchestra, Glee Choir, Concert Choir, Chamber Choir, Early Music Ensemble, and Opera Theatre.

Notable Performances: Cover soloist at Carnegie Hall, Stravinsky's Rite of Spring, and the leading role "Adina" in Donizetti's Opera "L'elisir D'amore.", Horatio Alger State Scholar, Stryker Institute for Leadership Development Scholar, Bears Scholar, President's Leadership Program Scholar, McDonald, Phyllis & Glenn Music Award, PVA Talent Award, Southard PVA Award, Tieman, Matthew Memorial Award, Third Place CO/WY NATS Competition, First Place CO/WY NATS Competition, Patrick S. Gilmore Award, Resident Assistant, Housing Assistant, Desk Assistant, Parking Services, Dining Services, Dutch Bros Broista, Domino's, Research Assistant, Orchestral Assistant, Drum Major



ANNA YEPEZ - HIP

Major: International Affairs w/a concentration in Latin America.

Plans after graduating: Plans to work at a law firm or in government.



GRACE ZIELINSKI - HIP

Major: Psychology & Nursing

Plans after graduating: Grace plans to start working as a registered nurse



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

We applaud your hard work and perseverance, and are so proud of you and your accomplishments. We wish you all the best in this next chapter of your life.

HIP = Honors Interdisciplinary Program
UHP = Upper Division Honors Program
PLP = President's Leadership Program
McNair = McNair Scholars Research Program

DONOR & SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION



AMY SMART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Amy (Wilcox) Smart was born on August 16, 1969, and grew up on a family ranch 20 miles outside of Douglas, Wyoming. After attending a one-room school until the eighth grade, she attended Douglas High School and graduated in 1987. When it came time for college, the easy thing for Amy to do would have been to follow her parents' and brother's footsteps and remain in Wyoming for college. Instead, Amy chose to forge her own path and create her own legacy by traveling out of state to attend the University of Northern Colorado.

Amy created a lasting legacy at UNC. While studying communications and journalism, she also was a member of the varsity track team, was elected to Mortar Board as a senior, and was a Golden Key National Honor Society member. She graduated in 1991. After beginning her career at CareerTrack, Amy returned to her alma mater in an administrative role as UNC's Associate Director of the President's Leadership Program. She was extremely passionate about the program, mentoring numerous students and impacting the lives of everyone with whom she connected.

Amy met Russ Smart at UNC and they married in 1994. They lived in Longmont and Greeley before settling in Windsor and starting a family - two daughters, Taylor and Ally. Amy was an involved and loving mother, even creating her Windsor neighborhood's first play group. After a battle with cancer, Amy passed away in December of 2006.

The Amy Smart Memorial Scholarship Fund Endowment was created by Amy's family to provide scholarships for students in the President's Leadership Program at UNC. The endowment is a lasting gift to UNC that ensures Amy's legacy will live on forever at the University and with the President's Leadership Program.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipients: Sarah Blair, Nat Holland, Molly Morgan



JOHN C. BROMLEY SCHOLARSHIP

The President's Leadership Program was founded through an El Pomar grant in the spring of 2000. With the help of UNC's President, Hank Brown, John Bromley was the first Program Director and the main creator of the Presidential Leadership Program. John brought Amy Smart, a former student of his and a UNC alumnus, on board to help with the administrative side of the program, as he tackled the curricular side. The inaugural class of PLP scholars began the program in the fall of 2000. John's wife, Susan Bromley, started the John Bromley Memorial Scholarship Endowment to continue John's passion for the President's Leadership Program in 2009.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipients: Nat Holland, Michael Kirkpatrick, Joseph Mestas

THOMAS SUTHERLAND LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

In June 1985, professor Thomas Sutherland was working at the American University of Beirut. In 1991, he finally returned home to Fort Collins to a hero's welcome after spending six years as a hostage in Lebanon. His determination and courage during his captivity was recognized and celebrated the world over. Sutherland and his family - his wife, Jean, and his daughters Ann, Kit, and Joan - spent the years following his return (as well as a substantial portion of the

multimillion-dollar settlement he received from the frozen assets of the Iranian government) building a legacy of advocacy and philanthropy locally and around the world. Tom and Jean's careers and community involvement made them beacons of joy and positivity throughout Northern Colorado. This scholarship was established to recognize leadership at the student level at UNC.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient: Nat Holland



DONOR & SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION



EUGENE D. AND PEGGY J. KOPLITZ SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Eugene Koplitz, Professor Emeritus of Educational Psychology, came to UNC in 1958 and studied mental processes of advanced intellects. Because of his experience in gifted education, the task of establishing an Honors program was given to Koplitz. In only a year and a half, Koplitz established the UNC Honors Program with partnership in 19 departments on campus as well as establishing the Honors thesis tradition that still stands to this day as one of the more rigorous Honors thesis requirements in the state. As founder of the UNC Honors Program, Dr. Koplitz began a tradition that centered on the intellectual development of many of the University's top students. Throughout his professional career, Dr. Koplitz presented research papers at international, regional, state, and local levels, and he made a large impact on all he met and taught. Sadly, Dr. Koplitz passed away in early September 2017 and is survived by his wife, Peggy, his children David and Stephanie, and five grandchildren. The Koplitz Scholarship is for the student with the strongest Honors Thesis/Capstone Proposal.

2023-2024 Koplitz Scholarship Recipient: Yasmeen Mustafa



MARIE LEIGH LIVINGSTON & HONORS SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr. Marie Leigh Livingston is Professor Emerita of Economics at University of Northern Colorado. She came to Colorado in 1979 to work for the Economic Research Service, U.S.D.A. and began her career at UNC in 1985 after earning her Ph.D. While at UNC, she was Professor and Chair of Economics, and served as Director of several interdisciplinary programs, including the University Honors Program, International Trade and Relations (now International Affairs), and the Life of the Mind Program. With specializations in water resources and international economics, she worked extensively in Central Europe and has been a visiting professor at University of Minnesota, University of Frankfurt, and University of Madrid. In 2009, she was a Fulbright Senior Specialist at the University of Economics in Prague. The Livingston scholarship is designated for a strong Honors student with preference for students with an interest in Economics or International Affairs.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient: Ares Thompson

The Honors Program Scholarships were established by Dr. Marie Livingston while she was the Director for the Honors Program at UNC. This scholarship is awarded based on a student's progression through the honors curriculum, high academic achievement, and evidence of civic engagement.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient: Clare Bolon

GREGORY E. HOLMAN AND DEBRA K. HOLMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Greg and Kaye Holman's love of students and belief in the power of education to transform lives strongly guides how they give of their time and talents. As recipients of a variety of grants and scholarships over the course of their academic careers, Greg and Kaye hope to support other first generation students through the establishment of the Gregory E. and Debra K. Holman Scholarship. In directing their support towards Honors students, the Holmans recognized the students Kaye had worked with in her time at UNC were students like the Holmans themselves, who had a passion and a commitment to academic excellence and the capacity and drive to serve others and the natural world.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient: Betel Fisseha



DONOR & SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION



PAUL HEIDGER SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. Paul Heidger '63 was part of the first UNC Honors class of graduates, where he met Barbara. Barbara and Paul married shortly after she returned from Kenya. Until he retired in 2012, Paul taught for 38 years at the University of Iowa, where he was a professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology. After retirement, he continued to work closely with UI students, working as a student adviser for an undergraduate research training program. He led an accomplished path of service and dedication to his profession and his students. This scholarship recognizes a first year Honors student who is in the natural sciences.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient: Parker Coffelt



BARBARA HEIDGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Barbara Jane Heidger (Hyslop) entered UNC (then Colorado State College) as a member of the newly inaugurated Honors Program, then under the direction of Professor Eugene Koplitz. There she met fellow Honors student Paul Heidger, who she later married. Barbara's academic excellence and devotion to her field (international relations) led her to work abroad with Columbia's Teachers for East Africa during the completion of her Master's coursework. She taught at a residential boys secondary school in Kericho, Kenya for two years, teaching world history and researching the development of political parties, which had just begun in Kenya in 1964. She continued to be involved with the local and international community, sponsoring the Model UN Program and assuming a leadership position to welcome and resettle refugee families from Southeast Asia. It is sincerely hoped that this scholarship bearing Barbara's name may assist students at UNC to reach their life goals and full potential. Barbara passed in 1994, and is survived by Paul and their two daughters, Julie and Lisa. This scholarship is designated for an incoming first year student who is interested in international studies.

2023-2024 Scholarship Recipient: Amadou Niang

BECKY R. EDGERTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Honors Program is pleased to recognize the generosity of Ronald K. Edgerton who provided the gifts to create this scholarship in memory of Becky Edgerton to perpetuate excellence in the University Honors Program. Dr. Ron Edgerton was Director of the Honors Program from 1985 to 2000. Becky Edgerton (April 22, 1941-December 17, 1999) loved poetry, opera, and good movies; the New York Times Book Review and The New Yorker magazine, good literature, wine, and conversation; feminist theory, loyal friends, and her family. For her, reading was a way of life, and she read just about everything. She published poetry and taught in the Honors and Life of the Mind programs. Following is a short excerpt from a poem wrote by Becky that embodies the soul of the Becky R. Edgerton Award:

That I do have the inner resources.
That relationships are central.
That work is a saving grace.
That the way you meet a trouble is important.
That it is necessary to forgive and to know when to forgive.
That loyal friends count.
That the failure to create is a felt failure.
That wild birds can bring pleasure.
That music can bring pleasure.
That these things can help save one.



The Becky R. Edgerton Memorial Scholarship is for an honors student with a meritorious thesis who also exhibits the highest level of intellectual curiosity.

2022-2023 Recipient:
Madison Baczuk
2023-2024 Recipient To Be
Announced at Banquet

DONOR & SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION



PHELPS FAMILY C.A.P. AWARD

BOB AND BONNIE PHELPS

Championed by UNC friends Bob and Bonnie Phelps Family, the C.A.P. Awards recognize students whose lives demonstrate an exceptional and exemplary personal commitment to:

Contribute... by volunteering time and personal skills, talents, abilities, experience, and passion around issues in service to the community.

Achieve... by displaying a bias toward action and performance, overcoming obstacles and setbacks, and accomplishing goals.

Pay-it-forward... by impacting the lives of others in meaningful and positive ways through random and planned acts of kindness, caring, and "giving back."

The Phelps have chosen to generously invest their money, time, and expertise into growing and enhancing the UNC experience for many of its students. Inspired by the impact a UNC education offered their son, Brian Phelps '12 (BA-Communication Studies), the Phelps have become life-long supporters of UNC and its students. Bob and Bonnie have supported students at UNC through the creation of several endowed scholarships and awards, including the Phelps Family C.A.P. Awards to recognize annually three students who exemplify these key principles.

With a background in small business ownership preceded by decades of corporate experience in human resources management, Bob Phelps knows personal financial decision-making can trouble many people throughout their lives. With encouragement from the Phelps, UNC has integrated a Personal Financial Literacy course into its Liberal Arts Core, affecting a positive impact on the financial health of students that extends far beyond their beginnings at UNC. The impact of the Phelps' acts of kindness and generosity has been immeasurably impressed upon UNC's students as well as upon the communities in which they will go on to thrive.

2024-2025 \$10,000 Scholarship Recipients:

Marjorie Burnes: Criminology & Criminal Justice, with a minor in Leadership Studies

Alejandra Eduardo Núñez: Graphic Design/Studio Art with an Emphasis in Photography

THANK YOU, DONORS!

Thank you, again, for supporting our program in our mission to develop a diverse community of intellectually engaged student scholars through an enriched curriculum that promotes critical thinking, inquiry and analysis, integrative learning, intercultural competence, community engagement, and creative problem solving.

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