

The Pittsburgh Promise

Executive Scholars

of UPMC

The Executive Scholars program builds a pipeline between high-performing Promise Scholars and Promise donors. It provides students with the chance to connect with the prestigious donor with whom they are matched to pursue professional relationships and connections during their college years. The shift from high school to college can be daunting, as can the shift from college to the workforce. Executive Scholars of The Pittsburgh Promise are provided with excellent professional development opportunities and relationships that will enrich the college experience and provide guidance to beginning a career.

The Executive Scholars program is one of the ways that The Promise can help students transition not only from high school to college, but also from college to a career. Thank you for being one of ten prestigious donors in our Executive Scholars program!

EXECUTIVE COMPANIES

UPMC

Highmark • BNY Mellon • PNC

American Eagle Outfitters • Thermo Fisher Scientific

Giant Eagle • KeyBank

The McGuinn Family Foundation • Mylan

2018



Sydney Washington

Sydney was a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador and salutatorian of her class at Pittsburgh Westinghouse. She is passionate about dance and was a member of the Lady Diamonds Dance Team. She is now attending Duquesne University and majoring in liberal arts. She wants to someday become a high school guidance counselor.



Tazio Polanco

A passion for all things technological led Tazio to create a video game design club at Pittsburgh CAPA. Now he is studying computer science at the University of Pittsburgh. Community service taught him valuable skills like working well with others and he hopes to someday become a programmer at a large company like Google or Microsoft.



Bryce Chisom

After graduating from Pittsburgh Obama, Bryce enrolled at Robert Morris University to study nursing. Bryce was Vice-President of her class and a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador. In addition to her Promise award, she received scholarships from the Northside Leadership Conference, NAACP Kappa Alpha Phi, and Macedonia Church of Pittsburgh.



Haley Herisko

Haley is studying pre-applied health science at Seton Hill University with hopes of becoming a physician assistant or working in the healthcare field. She was passionate about cheerleading at Pittsburgh Brashear, where she also played soccer. Haley was a member of National Honor Society and she received the Mary Schmidt Scholarship.



Chelsea Lewis

Chelsea was a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador at Pittsburgh CAPA, where she received several awards for writing and the Shyne Award for Academics. In addition to her Promise award, she received a NEED Scholarship. Chelsea is now studying business and entrepreneurship at Temple University. In the future, she wants to run her own business.

2017



Tobias Junker

At Pittsburgh Obama, Tobias was salutatorian and played on the soccer team. He continues to play in college at Carnegie Mellon University. He's interested in the intersection of sports and mathematics. In his spare time, he coaches soccer for middle school students.



Cheyenne Matthews

Cheyenne is studying psychology at Carlow University. She hopes to be a role model for her siblings by becoming a marriage and family counselor in the future. Cheyenne is a Pittsburgh Brashear graduate.



Alyssa Dugan

Alyssa graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear, where she served as a Promise Ambassador, played soccer and tennis, and was on the cheerleading team. Alyssa now attends University of Pittsburgh to study health information management.



Leah DeFlicht

Leah is interested in neuroplasticity and brain function. She is pursuing a degree in neuroscience at Temple University where she received a full scholarship and an annual research grant. She hopes to own her own lab one day. Leah graduated from Pittsburgh CAPA.



Phillip Bacinski

At Pittsburgh Carrick, Phillip was active on the hockey team and participated in theatre. He is studying cyber forensics and information security at Robert Morris University, and would like to work as cyber forensic analyst for a large company in the future.

2016



Adam Barsouk

While attending Pittsburgh Allderdice, Adam spent most of his free time dedicated to furthering cancer research through his work at the Hillman Cancer Center. He now attends Penn State University on a pre-med track and hopes to become a physician and contribute to a global effort greater than himself.



HongChing Cheung

HongChing is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice who now studies international business at Chatham University. HongChing played soccer, was a member of the robotics club, and enjoys photography and the outdoors. She hopes to one day work for a company that will allow her to utilize her bilingual abilities.



Steven Myrick

While attending the Pittsburgh SciTech Academy, Steven was a volunteer at a daycare and worked as a tutor. Now a computer science major at Duquesne University, Steven enjoys taking his programming skills to the next level by building video games. He is proud of his ability to combine his skills in both art and programming.



Alyssa Scott

Alyssa studies business management at the Community College of Allegheny County. At Pittsburgh Brashear she was the color guard captain, a choreographer for the musical, business manager for the yearbook, as well as a volunteer at a local library. She enjoys helping people discover their true potential, and recognizes that little things go a long way.



Eden Petri

Eden, a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, was in the math club and girl's robotics club. She learned the importance of giving back while volunteering as a Peer Helper at Planned Parenthood. She is studying computer science at the University of Pittsburgh and hopes to inspire young girls interested in STEM.

2015



Farhiya Sekondo

Farhiya is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice and currently attends Carlow University. As the first in her family to go to high school, she hopes to give back and inspire young people in her culture to follow their dreams. Farhiya's major is undecided but she loves kids and wants to help them learn and have fun.



David Levin

David is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice and studies business administration at Carnegie Mellon University, where he was awarded the Trustee Scholarship. During high school, David was the drum major of the marching band, a teaching assistant for AP Economics, an AP Scholar, and a member of the National Honor Society.



Meg Kharel

A Pittsburgh Brashear graduate, Meg is pursuing a computer science degree at Penn State University–Behrend. During high school, he fundraised for his soccer club and volunteered to help new international students. In the future, Meg sees himself as a successful computer engineer. Meg was also awarded Penn State's Provost Award.



Jamie Gratton

Jamie is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice and attends Robert Morris University, studying business. In high school, she was a manager for the volleyball team and took dance classes. Jamie is a Ben Carson Scholar and received the President's Award for Academic Excellence.



Richai Johnson

Richai studies economics at Penn State University. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, she volunteered for NeighborWorks of Pittsburgh, played varsity basketball, and was on student council. Richai also volunteered with the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh and is a Ben Carson Scholar.

2014



Thomas Brewton

Thomas is a business major at Penn State University. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, he is highly inspired by his father's work in non-profits to give back. Thomas volunteered with the Salvation Army, did neighborhood clean ups and even took a missionary trip to Haiti. He is especially proud of his Princeton Book Award.



Lindsay McParlane

Lindsay graduated from the Pittsburgh CAPA with a passion for the written word. During high school she volunteered with The Food Bank and Carnegie Library. Lindsay is a communication and creative writing major at Allegheny College.



Daniel Trompeter

A business major at Temple University, Daniel is interested in entrepreneurial pursuits. Daniel achieved high honor roll and volunteered his time as a basketball coach at the Jewish Community Center during his years at Pittsburgh Allderdice.



Breona Turner

A graduate of the Pittsburgh CAPA, Breona was a member of National Honor Society and enjoyed helping others. Inspired by her sister's career as a nurse, Breona attends the UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing to become a nurse herself.



Jordan Tyler

An engineering major at Penn State University, Jordan is a graduate of the Pittsburgh SciTech Academy. Jordan is very proud of his volunteer experience with the Special Olympics. He received a Pepsi Scholarship and the KSEF Scholarship in addition to his Promise award.

2013



Montel Anthony

A member of the chess and engineering clubs at his school, Montel graduated from Pittsburgh Obama with a passion for technology. He attends the University of Pittsburgh and studies computer and electrical engineering. Montel volunteers at the local food bank.



Michelle Lurie

Michelle studies marketing and communications at Penn State University. She graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice with high honors. She volunteers with Friendship Circle by supporting special-needs teens and participates in the Student Hunger Action Coalition.



Karlee Ralston

Karlee studies nursing at Duquesne University. She graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear with high honors. Karlee coaches a girl's softball team. She participated in Students Against Destructive Decisions in high school.



Jacalyn Sharp

A graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech Academy, Jacalyn graduated with a 4.0 GPA and a passion for engineering. She was active in her high school's Robotics Club and was a youth mentor for robotics camps for children. She studies mechanical and computer engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.



Jalice Shedrick

Jalice is pursuing a degree in biology from the University of Pittsburgh–Johnstown. A member of the first graduating class of Pittsburgh SciTech Academy, Jalice completed three lab research internships in biomedical and cancer research while in high school.



Emma Yellin

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Emma studies biology and journalism at Penn State University's Schreyer Honors College. As a Girl Scout, Emma completed an 80-hour service project launching a book club for Middle School girls. Emma hopes to become a concussion specialist.

2012



Shawnaquaya Dixon

A graduate of Pittsburgh Westinghouse, Shawnaquaya was proud to finish second in her graduating class. She attends Penn State University and studies clinical psychology. She plans to obtain her Ph.D. In addition to The Promise Scholarship, Shawnaquaya was awarded the Bunton-Waller Scholarship.



Rachel Deis

Rachel is a student at Drexel University studying biology. She would love to help others through the work of medicine and would like to specialize in anesthesiology. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, Rachel was her class president.



Timilehin Adebayo

Tim attends the University of Pittsburgh and is studying pre-medicine. A graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear, he believes that community service taught him the value of giving even when you are not receiving. Tim was awarded multiple scholarships for his studies.



Benedict Hoffman

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Benedict achieved a 3.92 GPA. He is a student at Villanova University, majoring in biology. Benedict hopes to use his education and the medical field to help the less fortunate. Benedict is also a recipient of the Lola G. Duff and William H. Duff Merit Scholarship.



Alexander Josowitz

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice with a 4.0 GPA, Alexander attends the University of Pittsburgh and majors in bio-engineering. He was a leader in his high school's Advisory Board tasked to combat racism within his school. Alexander is also the proud recipient of the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh Scholarship.