

# The Pittsburgh Promise Executive Scholars of UPMC

THE EXECUTIVE SCHOLARS PROGRAM BUILDS A PIPELINE BETWEEN HIGH-PERFORMING STUDENTS AND OUR MAJOR CORPORATE DONORS.

The program provides students with the chance to connect with the prestigious company with which they are matched and pursue professional development opportunities and relationships during their college years. High school seniors with a strong academic performance, a commitment to community service, and leadership skills are encouraged to apply.

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. We are very proud of our 2021 Executive Scholar Class. Congratulations!

## EXECUTIVE SCHOLAR COMPANIES

UPMC

Highmark • PNC • BNY Mellon

American Eagle Outfitters • Giant Eagle

Highmark Wholecare • Howmet Aerospace • KeyBank

McGuinn Family Foundation • PPG

Thermo Fisher Scientific • Viatris

# 2021



## **Abidemi Asanbe**

Abidemi wants to make a difference in the world through helping people. At Pittsburgh SciTech, she was on the soccer team, track and field team, Black Student Union, and a Sci-Tech Student Ambassador. Abidemi attends the University of Pittsburgh where she is studying biology.



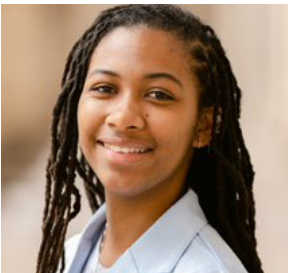
## **Jordan Catone**

Jordan's internship at The Midwife Center drove her to learn more about childcare and the effects of malpractice and structural racism in healthcare. She loves to help others and give back to the community. After graduating from Pittsburgh Allderdice, she is studying nursing at the University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg.



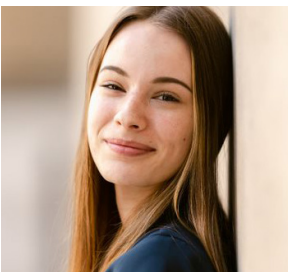
## **Ian Peck**

Ian maintained a 3.9 GPA during the pandemic at Pittsburgh Allderdice. He enjoys learning new things, traveling, and meeting new people. Ian attends the University of Pittsburgh with the career goal to become a physical therapist for a sports team.



## **China Reddix**

Passionate about mental health, China wants to be a psychiatrist who can connect to her patients and provide accurate treatment. She enjoys practicing piano and studying chemistry. China graduated from Pittsburgh SciTech and is attending Gannon University on a pre-med track.



## **Mackenzie Sabol**

Mackenzie is very proud of her academic performance at Pittsburgh Allderdice, which allowed her to attend Duquesne University. By having a growth mindset and being an avid learner, she wants to be the best version of herself. Mackenzie is studying business management and wants to become an entrepreneur.

# 2020



## **Haajar Ahmad**

While attending high school at Pittsburgh Online Academy, Haajar participated as a research mentee at Pitt. Her assistance on a project to find a cheap, biodegrade alternative to plastic inspired her to pursue biomedical engineering at University of Pittsburgh to promote environmental conservation.



## **Glenn Patton**

As valedictorian at Pittsburgh Brashear, Glenn has been awarded a scholarship to attend University of Pittsburgh where he is studying physical therapy. Glenn's biggest aspirations in life are to work hard and help others. During high school Glenn played soccer and served as a Promise Student Ambassador.



## **Chloe Blair**

Over her four years at Pittsburgh Allderice, Chloe is proud to have grown into a strongly educated and well-rounded individual. Through community service she has learned gratitude and leadership skills. At Duquesne University Chloe is studying to become a dentist with goals of operating her own practice.



## **Valeria Silva Yopez**

Along with Global Minds, French and Social Justice clubs, Valeria participated in Manchester Craftsmen's Guild Apprenticeship Training Program. She is most proud of her journey learning English during her years at Pittsburgh Allerdice. Valeria is attending University of Pittsburgh where she studies bioengineering.



## **Sean'dre Reid**

As a Challenge Program participant at Pittsburgh CAPA, Sean'dre won an award for most community service hours. Sean'dre also participated on the track and cross-country teams and as a Promise Student Ambassador. He is attending Temple University where he is pursuing a degree in public relations.

# 2019



## **Nile Ross**

Nile is pursuing her passions for movement and dance at Temple University where she is studying kinesiology and dance with aspirations of becoming a physical therapist. Nile is most proud of her advocacy work while at Pittsburgh CAPA as a member of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, organizing events for the Month of Nonviolence, and participating in rallies against injustice.



## **Guy Beresteanu**

An avid fencer, Guy organized a clinic, coached children, competed internationally in four Junior Olympics, and started a team at Pittsburgh Allderdice. He is attending The University of Pittsburgh Honors College where he is studying statistics and chemistry. Guy plans to go on to medical school and become a physician.



## **Pee Yar**

Originally from Burma, Pee graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear. She credits her volunteer experiences with allowing her to appreciate different perspectives, gain confidence, and be a part of a community. These qualities will serve her well when she becomes a physician's assistant after earning her degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



## **Brittney Smith**

Brittney played soccer and softball at Pittsburgh Brashear. She also served as Student Council superintendent and was involved in student advocacy work. She is now attending Robert Morris University where she is studying to become a nurse. Brittney is active in her church and holds a part-time job.



## **Ezekieli Seti**

Originally from Tanzania, Ezekieli aspires to return to aid in the medical and political development of continental Africa. He wants to make the world a better place by helping others. At Pittsburgh Allderdice he was president of the Garden Club and a participant in Global Minds Club. Ezekieli is studying global health and political science at Allegheny College.



# 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 DeFlitch**

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



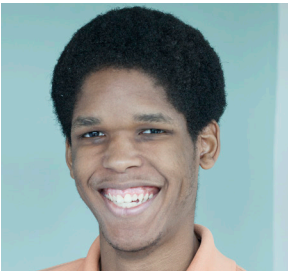
## **Adam Barsouk**

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.



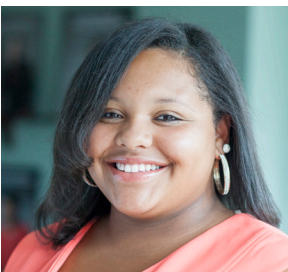
## **HongChing Cheung**

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.



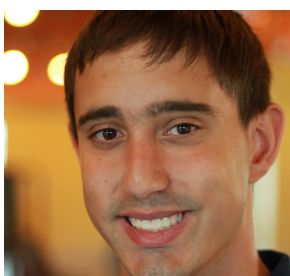
## **Timilehin Adebayo**

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.