

The Pittsburgh Promise

Executive Scholars

of Giant Eagle

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 2024 Executive Scholar Class. Congratulations!

EXECUTIVE SCHOLAR COMPANIES

UPMC

Highmark • PNC • BNY Mellon

American Eagle Outfitters • Giant Eagle

Cleveland Brothers Equipment Company • F.N.B. Corporation

Highmark Wholesale • Howmet Aerospace • KeyBank

McGuinn Family Foundation • PPG

Thermo Fisher Scientific • Viatris

2024



Sophia Dull

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Sophia has a passion for helping struggling youth uncover their potential. During her time at Allderdice she volunteered as a Promise Leader with Sandy Hook Promise (SHP), was a member of the National Honor Society, and attended Carnegie Mellon University's Statistics and Data Science Camp. Sophia plans to continue her commitment to helping youth by studying Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh.



Alexander Ferris

Alex, a graduate from Pittsburgh CAPA, is deeply committed to academic excellence and community impact. Alex aspires to use education as a tool for positive change, addressing local challenges, and promoting equity. Alex attends Duquesne University and is majoring in Pharmacy.



Nyera Kelly

Nyera is a dedicated Music and Performance student at Dickinson College, where she is driven by a desire to overcome adversity and make a meaningful impact. A former member of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council at Pittsburgh CAPA, Nyera is passionate about using her bold voice, leadership skills, and unwavering work ethic to advocate for what she loves while striving to inspire others.



Treshaun Parker

Treshaun attended Pittsburgh Perry where he was involved in the Will Allen Foundation for Career Exploration Program. Treshaun is a Photography major at Robert Morris University with the dream of owning his own business to capture the lives and experiences of people of color in his community.



Ayanna Ruff

Ayanna, a proud graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick, is a dedicated student at Point Park University pursuing her dream of becoming an artist. Known for her hard work and determination, she strives to turn her passions into a fulfilling career.

2023



Sacha Billit

Sacha is a graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick where she learned many valuable lessons. She was a member of the volleyball team, fencing, and Japanese Club. After an unfortunate accident, Sacha quickly realized she needed to push herself to perform well. Sacha is now taking this dedication and work ethic to Temple where she studies Graphic Design.



Luis Jimenez

Luis dreams of bringing people together and teaching lessons through his love of sports. While a student at Pittsburgh Allderdice, he played soccer, most recently as a Pittsburgh Riverhound. Luis is studying Sports Management at Wilson College to make his dream a reality.



Hannah Paras

Hannah is passionate about helping others and has devoted her time to volunteering at her local Boys and Girls Club to make her community better. At Pittsburgh CAPA, she was an engaged member of the National Honor Society and President of the Keystone Club. Hannah is studying Fine Arts at Carnegie Mellon University.



Ivry Sasson

Ivry was the captain of the chess team at Pittsburgh Allderdice and devoted time to helping families and young kids learn to play chess through Queen's Gambit Chess Institute. Ivry is continuing his studies at The University of Pittsburgh in Global Business.



Alisha Smith

Alisha is a graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, where she found a love for astronomy. She took great pride in striving for excellent grades and is looking forward to keeping this trend throughout college. Alisha is now studying Astrophysics and Astronomy at Carnegie Mellon University.

2022



Amare Code

Amare believes that if students have a positive impact on their lives while they are young, it could have a significant impact on their future. During her years at Pittsburgh Brashear, she spent time engaging with the Magnet Teaching Program and Cultivating Resilient Youth. Amare is an early education major at Penn State University.



Spencer Corbesero-Smith

Spencer is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice. He is motivated by excelling academically and following in the footsteps of his scholar mom. In high school, Spencer took nine advance placement courses leading him to fall in love with psychology. On track to becoming a therapist, Spencer is studying psychology at Penn State University.



Haider Hattab

As a Pittsburgh Online Academy graduate, Haider has a passion for learning. After moving to the United States at the age of 12, he faced the challenges of learning English. Rising to the challenge, Haider is looking forward to continuing to acquire knowledge and build relationships as he studies marketing at CCAC with plans of becoming a business owner.



Lyniece Jones

Lyniece is majoring in Criminal Justice at Seton Hill University. While at Pittsburgh CAPA, she participated in the Debate Club, Student Government, and African American Centers for Academic Success Executive Council. Lyniece also devoted her time to volunteering for the Alliance for Police Accountability and Neighborhood Learning Alliance.



Lexibella Miknevich

Lex is a graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick. They were engaged in their school community by participating in Color Guard and serving as manager of the wrestling team. They maintained being an excellent student while being involved in extracurricular activities and working part-time. Lex is studying counseling in psychology at Chatham University.

2021



Ashanti Anderson

Ashanti is proud to have graduated from Pittsburgh Obama, overcoming the adversity of a pandemic. During her years in high school, she worked while balancing schoolwork, and was a member of the Superintendent Student Advisory Council and Neighborhood Learning Alliance. Ashanti is attending Carlow University with a focus on criminal justice.



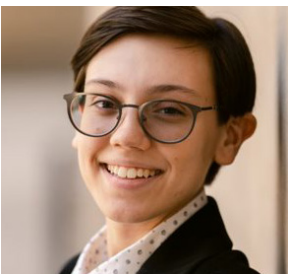
MacKenzi Harris

A Ben Carson Scholar, MacKenzi aspires to be a pharmacist and to educate others about the importance of taking care of their health. She was a High Honor Roll student at Pittsburgh Obama, and now attends Duquesne University in their pharmacy program.



Devin McArdle-Larrow

Devin was a High Honor Roll student during his time at Pittsburgh Allderdice and became a member of the National Society of High School Scholars. He loves robotics and working with a team towards a common goal. Devin is a mechanical engineering major at Robert Morris University.



Charlie Schwartz

"I am proud of me," a sentiment made by Charlie regarding his progress in life and school. He was a member of the Book Club, Youth & Government, and the Gender & Sexuality Student Union over his four years at Pittsburgh Obama. Charlie is attending Allegheny College and wants to have a career in media communications.



Kate Strong

During her four years at Pittsburgh Allderdice, Kate showcased her talent in the choir, orchestra and concert, jazz, and pep band. She is a computer science major at Bucknell University, with the goal of becoming a programmer to help address societal challenges in multiple industries.

2020



Ava Cook

At Pittsburgh CAPA Ava founded the Asian Student Union to provide support to her peers and was a member of National Honor Society. Currently, she is majoring in education at Point Park University and aspires to be a teacher. She is passionate about education and hopes to have an impact on many young lives.



Nicole Gurvich

Nicole attends University of Pittsburgh and is driven by a career in medicine. Volunteering at A Safe Haven has inspired her to want to give back to her community. While a student at Pittsburgh Allderdice Nicole played varsity lacrosse, was a member of Critical Thinking and Outdoors Clubs and achieved high honor role.



Jonathan Grabowski

Jonathan is a graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick where he earned an award for his work in the STEM field. He was a member of the baseball and soccer teams. At Washington and Jefferson College he studies chemistry. In his free time, he enjoys playing video games and swimming.



Chloe Shorkey

At Pittsburgh Allderdice Chloe was captain of the cross country and track and field teams. She was also a member of National Honor Society, Global Minds and Students Against Destructive Decisions. Chloe studies psychology and criminal sciences at Penn State University and strives to support criminal justice reform.



Joseph Jones

Joseph attends Ghettsburg College where he studies history. Joseph is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice where he participated in Japanese and Anime Clubs and was a research assistant in the Stephen F. Babylak Lab at the McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

2019



Sydney Martin

At Pittsburgh Allderdice, Sydney served as African American Center for Advanced Studies Executive Council Secretary and was a member of Black Student Union. She is studying journalism at Robert Morris University where she will cultivate her passion of writing for advocacy and meaningful change. She aspires to use her voice as a pathway to positively impact the lives of others.



April Rigot

April was active in theatre arts and Society of Women Engineers at Pittsburgh Brashear. She graduated co-valedictorian and is attending The University of Pittsburgh through the Pittsburgh Public Scholars program. April is studying computer science and hopes to encourage young girls to also pursue careers in STEM fields.



Cesare Pampana

A Pittsburgh SciTech graduate and environmental engineering student at Carnegie Mellon University, Cesare wants to contribute to a long-term solution to combat the global climate crisis. Cesare is most proud of his participation in volunteer activities with The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and American Red Cross through Interact Club and National Honor Society.



Zoe Fuller

Zoe is a hard worker who aspires to enact change in her community. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, she was active in soccer, musicals, Youth and Government, and held a part-time job. Zoe attends The University of Pittsburgh where she majors in linguistics with a minor in film studies. She hopes to eventually become a lawyer and change the world in positive ways.



Jasmynie Miller

As a successful student athlete, Jasmynie participated in soccer, track and field, in addition to the African American Center for Advanced Studies and Black Student Union. She graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice and is now attending Temple University where she is studying marketing.

2018



Jeffrey Martin

Having received The Swanson School of Engineering Excellence Award, Jeff is attending The University of Pittsburgh where his focus is mechanical engineering. He hopes to extend his passion for his go-kart into a career in automotive engineering. Jeff was involved in numerous activities and clubs and served as Class President at Pittsburgh Allderdice.



McKenzie Williams

McKenzie was salutatorian of her class at Pittsburgh Carrick. She is now in the pre-pharmacy program at the University of Pittsburgh. McKenzie was president of the student leadership group The Future Is Mine, secretary of both National Honor Society and Student Council, and participated in the Homecoming committee, International Club, and Engineering Club.



Markeya Killer-Dorsey

Being accepted at her dream school, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, made Markeya proud of her efforts to maintain good grades during high school. She played on the basketball team while attending Pittsburgh Allderdice. In addition to volunteer work, she also held retail jobs and worked summers at the Ammon Recreational Center.



Jordyn Kemp

While attending Pittsburgh Obama, Jordyn participated in National Honor Society and the drama club. She was proud to receive the Carson Scholarship, which she is using along with her Promise award to pursue her nursing degree at Duquesne University. She works at Eat'n Park and in her spare time she plays on a community softball team.



Blaze Pelles

At Pittsburgh Carrick, Blaze was a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador. He was proud of his community service work with National Honor Society and also participated in the Engineering Club and Chess Club. He is studying pharmacy at Duquesne University and has interest in conducting his own research someday.

2017



Erick Vail

Erick attends CCAC with plans to transfer to the University of Pittsburgh. He is a computer science major who is very passionate about the rapidly growing field of technology. Erick is a graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech.



Brett Searcy

Brett is an electrical engineering major at Geneva College. In addition to her Promise award, Brett received numerous scholarships for her outstanding academics and leadership. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, she looks forward to becoming an engineer.



Marie Weimer

Marie is a Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate with plans to one day become a teacher. She takes pride in her excellent academic history. Marie is attending Carlow University to study early childhood education.



Alexis Zito

Alexis is studying mechanical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. She loves math and science and takes pride in her many awards and scholarships in STEM. A graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech, she hopes to be an inspiration for young girls interested in STEM.



Justin Novakowski

Justin studies pharmacy at Duquesne University and plans to become a pharmacist and help his community. In his spare time, Justin enjoys playing the piano. He is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA.

2016



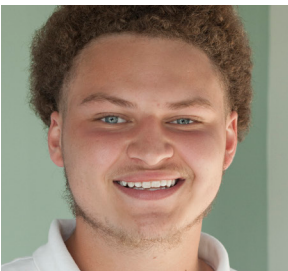
Tayler Kirkland

Tayler is a Pittsburgh CAPA graduate now pursuing a psychology degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She worked at Children's Hospital and was a member of the National Music Honors Society. She also volunteered with Peer Helpers at Planned Parenthood and hopes to eventually become an obstetrician.



Madison Novak

Madison is a computer engineering major at Penn State University. She hopes to work for a major technology company in the future. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, Madison was stage manager for the school's musical and played varsity soccer. She also held a part-time job at Wholey's throughout high school.



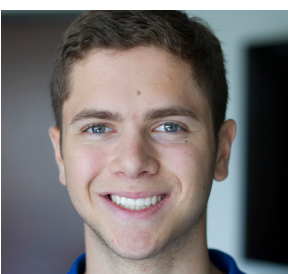
Bryndyn Jones

Bryndyn is a geography major at Slippery Rock University whose hope is to make a positive impact on the world and environment. A graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick, he was a member of the varsity basketball team. He also volunteered for the school's clean-up projects and participated in the garden program.



Brandy Hardy

A graduate of Pittsburgh Perry, Brandy was the president of Students Against Destructive Decisions, president of the National Honor Society, and a member of JROTC. She was also valedictorian of her graduating class. She is now studying business at the Community College of Allegheny County and hopes to someday open a facility to care for foster animals.



Milan Abramovitz

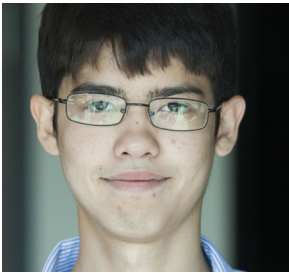
Milan is studying industrial engineering at Penn State University where he is a part of the Schreyer Honors College. Milan worked at Friendship Circle, where he had the opportunity to help students with special needs. He also participated in J-Serve and community clean-ups. He graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice.

2015



Divine Zyhier

Divine is a graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear and attends Penn State–Behrend. Divine has volunteered with WCAA. She loves to help people and put a smile on their faces. A petroleum engineering major, her community service has taught her to be humble and use her skills to improve the world.



John Novakowski

John studies pre-pharmacy at Duquesne University, where he received an academic scholarship. A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, he enjoys playing piano and animating. During high school, John volunteered at St. Clair Hospital as a concierge, and at the Brookline branch of the Carnegie Library.



Aaron Jones

Aaron studies multimedia at Point Park University. A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, his goal in life is to use his gifts to serve and become successful. Throughout high school, Aaron majored in theatre and worked as a Salvation Army Camp Counselor. Aaron graduated high school with perfect attendance.



Jessica Ignasky

Jessica is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA and is attending Chatham University for cultural studies. She is a writer who aspires to publish her work. Jessica has received a Gold Award in Girl Scouting for creating a documentary that promotes body positivity. In addition, she participated in the Environmental Club and Student Union.



Kacey Boland

Kacey graduated from Pittsburgh Carrick. She was captain of the soccer team and president of Carrick's National Honor Society. Kacey currently studies pre-pharmacy at the University of Pittsburgh, where she was awarded the National Merit Scholarship.

2014



Jayla Akers

Jayla is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA where she was the class president. Jayla loves to give back and volunteered with Homewood Community Sports. Jayla is a communications and PR major at Penn State University and hopes to own her own business one day.



Brandon Hutton

Brandon studies business at Duquesne University. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, Brandon enjoys hockey and volunteers for the Susan B. Komen foundation. He is especially proud of his Carson Scholarship and his work with National Honor Society.



Abdullahi Mada

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Abdullahi attends the University of Pittsburgh for electrical engineering. In high school he played many sports, volunteered at the Carnegie Library and did neighborhood cleanups in Garfield.



Ian Milbee

Ian studies accounting at Robert Morris University. A graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick, Ian was a Promise Ambassador. Ian is interested in international travel and relations and dreams to one day work with the FBI or CIA.



Timothy Williams

A graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear, Timothy studies biochemistry at Washington and Jefferson College. He is proud that he was able to manage working full time while in high school and that he placed in his high school tennis tournament.

2013



Bakir Becirevic

Bakir is excited to be studying Pharmacy at the University of Pittsburgh–Greensburg. A graduate of Pittsburgh Perry, he was a member of the National Honors Society. In addition to his Promise award, he received a University of Pittsburgh scholarship.



Shiri Goldis

Shiri graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice and attends the University of Pittsburgh, majoring in both psychology and business. Shiri was active in her community during high school through volunteering at the local soup kitchen, interviewing Holocaust survivors, and participating in her school musical.



Miller Goughneour

During his time at Pittsburgh CAPA, Miller was the photography editor for his school yearbook and coached a community soccer team. Miller received an academic scholarship to attend Duquesne University and pursue a degree in marketing.



Kellie McIntyre

Kellie is pursuing a degree in communications at Point Park University. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Kelly was the president of the school's Women's Student Union. In addition to her Promise award, she received a President's Club award from Point Park.



Jasper Wang

Jasper attends Carnegie Mellon University with a focus on English and pre-medical studies. A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Jasper was a member of the Environmental Club and tutored other students throughout her high school experience.

2012



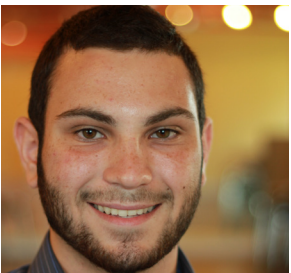
Eliot Golin

Eliot attends Penn State University and studies mathematics. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Eliot was an active high school mentor as well as a member of the Allderdice Leadership Club. In addition to The Promise Scholarship, he was proud to receive the National Hispanic Achievement Award.



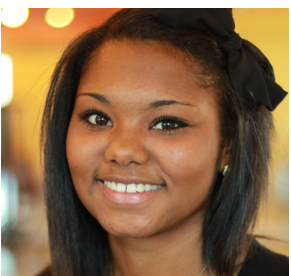
Jasmine Johnson

A graduate of City Charter High School with a 3.92 GPA, Jasmine attends Seton Hill University and is majoring in pharmacy and biology. In addition to The Promise Scholarship, she was proud to receive the Horatio Alger National Scholarship. Jasmine hopes to stay in Pittsburgh and give back to her city.



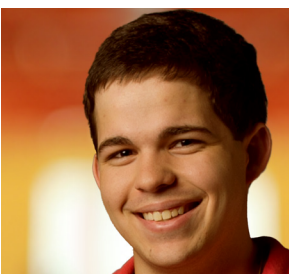
Ethan Abramson

Ethan attends the University of Pennsylvania and studies market engineering and computer science. He was honored to graduate with a 4.0 GPA and to be named the valedictorian of his class at Pittsburgh Allderdice. Ethan is also a recipient of the Mensa Education and Research Foundation's David Hunt Memorial Scholarship.



Shanda Snyder

Shanda attends Penn State University and studies crime, law, and justice. A graduate of Pittsburgh School for the CAPA, she is also interested in communications and public speaking. During her senior year, Shanda served as a Promise Ambassador working to engage students and promote college readiness in her school.



Ethan Buszko

A graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick with a 4.0 GPA, Ethan continues his education at Duquesne University studying pharmacy. He hopes to pursue the study of oncology and medicine in the future. Ethan was honored to be the valedictorian of his graduating class.