

The Pittsburgh Promise Executive Scholars

of Thermo Fisher Scientific

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

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2024



Varun Bhat

Varun, a Biomedical Engineering student at Carnegie Mellon University, is passionate about merging engineering and medicine to create impactful solutions. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, he was an active member of the Allderdice Steel Dragons, Math League, and National Honor Society. Varun's commitment to STEM is exemplified through research apprenticeships with the Human Engineering Research Laboratories (H.E.R.L.) at the University of Pittsburgh.



Mary Eagle

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Mary is pursuing a degree in Physics at Villanova University. During high school, she was actively involved in the Chess Club, Robotics Club, cross country, track and field, Math League, Youth and Government, and Mock Trial. Mary values the connections she has made with peers from diverse backgrounds, which has deepened her appreciation for global perspectives.



Brandon Friez

A proud graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Brandon is impassioned by creating a diverse and inclusive environment. He has a strong curiosity for learning and was involved in Model U.N., Debate, Student Government, Eradicate Hate, and Quiz Bowl. Brandon is pursuing a degree in Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh.



Cailah Hall

Cailah, a graduate of Pittsburgh City High, is pursuing a degree in Wildlife Conservation at Juniata College. In high school he was an active member of the National Honor Society while volunteering at various animal organizations. Passionate about animals and environmental stewardship, Cailah is committed to making a meaningful impact in wildlife conservation.



Terrell Wafford

Terrell attended Pittsburgh Westinghouse where he was a strong student and captain of the basketball team. Terrell is pursuing a degree in Neuroscience at the University of Pittsburgh and is dedicated to excelling in his studies and building a successful future.

2023



Madison Maxwell

In 2020, Madison had knee surgery that reconstructed her MPFL ligament and ACL. This experience sparked her interest in medicine, and she became a Carlow University Science Nation researcher at Pittsburgh CAPA. Madison is now studying Biology at Slippery Rock University.



Tationna Pack

Tationna is a leader from Pittsburgh Allderdice who enjoys giving back and helping others. During her time at Allderdice, she engaged in the Black Student Union, Senior Class Council, and National Honors Society. With her excitement to gain the tools necessary to evoke change, Tationna is pursuing a degree in Psychology at Seton Hill University.



Zander Reppe

During his time at Pittsburgh Allderdice, Zander was actively involved in his school community. He participated in golf, swimming, Anti-Bully Club, Youth Group, and was an Eagle Scout. Being inspired by family, Zander found a passion for the business world. He is now a Business major at the University of Pittsburgh.



Uziel Rodriguez-Caba

Uzi is a well-rounded scholar from Pittsburgh Allderdice. He was involved in football, Jui-jitsu, and CTE for engineering. Uzi's goal is to give back to the Pittsburgh community. Uziel is now a student at CCAC studying Engineering.



Sevinch Rozmukhamedova

Sevinch is a natural leader from Brashear High School, where she was involved in numerous activities including captain of the tennis team, track, Student Council, and the Big Brothers & Big Sisters program. Her passion in life is to bridge communities and cultures to effect global change. Sevinch is pursuing Health & Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh.

2022



Gabe Barash

Gabe is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice. Being involved in National Honor Society, marching band, and musical theatre has shaped his ability to be a good teammate and leader. He has great interest in screenwriting and all things concerning the film industry. Gabe is pursuing a degree in supply chain management at the University of Pittsburgh.



Skyla Regan

Skyla is a graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear, where she was involved in National Honor Society, Student Voice, and Russian Olympiada. Her passions include scaling back climate change, finding renewable energy resources, and learning more about how to help nature and wildlife. Skyla attends Penn State University where she studies biology and Russian.



Dharma Trang

Dharma served as a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador and aspires to break cultural barriers. At Pittsburgh SciTech, she was active in National Honor Society, mock trial, dance, and musical theatre. She enjoys traveling and sewing. Dharma is continuing her studies at Carnegie Mellon University majoring in statistics and machine learning.



Laniah Walker

As a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador, Laniah was determined to be a good role model for her school. At Pittsburgh Milliones, she was active in Student Envoy, volleyball, and a leader amongst her peers while working part-time outside of school. Her commitment to pursuing a career in activism has led Laniah to study political science at PennWest - California.



Tyrique Whitson

At Pittsburgh SciTech, Tyrique was active as a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador and participated in the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, African American Center for Advanced Studies Executive Committee, and National Honor Society as the Vice President. Tyrique is pursuing a degree from PennWest - California.

2021



Dorothy Crow

Dorothy uses creativity as an outlet, such as painting, sewing, or creating digital media. While at Pittsburgh CAPA, she maintained at least a 3.9 GPA, along with being a Change Agent, Debate Club Co-President, and Green Team President. Dorothy is at CCAC studying computer science and environmental studies.



Garrett Grodin

Baseball and family will always be in Garrett's heart. The process of discovering how to sell a product or service and be profitable excites him. Garrett wants to enhance his business skills as he attends Penn State University.



Joshua Jones

Joshua loves to learn and wants to grow as a person. After graduating from Pittsburgh Allderdice, he attends the University of Pittsburgh where he plans to pursue a degree in chemistry. Joshua wants a career that involves making a difference in the community.



Paula Mendoza

Taking pride in her education and wanting to make her family proud, Paula is a first-generation college student attending Point Park University. At Pittsburgh Brashear, she was a member of the National Honor Society and the Girl's Tennis Team.



Kiera Robinson

A former Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador, Kiera is very passionate about learning new skills and cultures of the people around her. She graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear as a tennis team champion and National Honor Society member. Kiera attends the University of Pittsburgh studying molecular biology and Spanish.

2020



Caio Gomes

While attending Pittsburgh Millionaires, Caio participated in the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Student and Government Council, and served as a Student Envoy and Promise Student Ambassador. At Indiana University of Pennsylvania he studies political science.



Audrey Leong

A strong interest in the intersection of biology, data, and computation has led Audrey to study computational biology at University of Pittsburgh. While a student at Pittsburgh Allderdice, Audrey completed a biological research project with a professor at Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health.



David Missry

At Lehigh University, David is pursuing business and engineering. As a student at Pittsburgh Allderdice David won multiple awards for his academic achievements in science. David founded Students Against Destructive Decisions and Dragons Against Drugs to support his peers in making positive choices.



Nikki Nguyen

Nikki participated in many activities at Pittsburgh Brashear including Student Council, National Honor Society, The Future is Mine, Rock Climbing Club, soccer, volleyball, and softball. Nikki studies engineering at Penn State University. She attributes her success to the female role models in her life.



Chloe Ruben

A Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate, Chloe was active in National Honor Society, Jewish Student Union, Global Minds, and tennis. Currently, she is a Penn State University student studying criminology with aspirations of becoming a divorce lawyer. Chloe has a love of traveling and pursuing educational experiences.

2019



Vincent Folkes

A Pittsburgh City Charter graduate, Vincent now attends CCAC. He is learning about bioengineering and entrepreneurship and wants to own a biotech company. He was awarded the 2019 MLK Alpha Kappa Alpha Essay Contest and Carnegie Mellon University MLK Writing Awards. He's involved in Youth Undoing Institutionalized Racism and is an advocate for the black and trans communities.



Jada Woods

Jada received the KAPPA Scholarship Endowment Fund award, giving her a full scholarship to Penn State University to study chemical engineering. At Pittsburgh CAPA, Jada taught piano to younger students, was secretary of Students in Action Committee, and a leader in Female Empowerment Mission. She aspires to create a pre-college program to introduce underrepresented students to STEM.



Shane McKown

At Pittsburgh Allderdice, Shane was captain of the wrestling, lacrosse, and football teams. In addition to his love of sports, he enjoys traveling and experiencing different cultures. Shane attends Penn State University where he studies mechanical engineering and hopes to one day work as an engineer and travel the world.



Lan Anh Le

Lan Anh is a graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech, where she received numerous awards and honors for her success in academics. She has extensive volunteer experience including activities with American Red Cross, Central Blood Bank, and Animal Friends. Lan Anh enjoys drawing, movies, webcomics, and helping others. She is studying nursing at The University of Pittsburgh.



Riley Wolynn

Through involvement with Planned Parenthood, UPMC School Health Partnership, and The University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public Health, Riley has sought to understand and improve how scientific discoveries are applied to public health. A Pittsburgh CAPA graduate, she is studying biological sciences at The University of Pittsburgh through the Pittsburgh Public Scholars program.

2018



Halley Cook

Halley wants to become a physician to improve the quality of her patients' lives no matter where they live in the world. She is studying bioinformatics at University of Pittsburgh. Halley graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice. She completed a business internship with the Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition and received the 2018 Pittsburgh Penguins Scholarship.



Amaiya Lewis

Amaiya has a passion for helping and caring for animals. She is currently enrolled in the pre-veterinary program at Clarion University and hopes to one day own her own clinic. At Pittsburgh SciTech she was captain of the soccer team and a member of the Black Student Union. She also volunteered with Interact Club.



Uthman Fadu

Uthman is studying bioengineering at the University of Pittsburgh on a Stamps Scholarship. With passion for laboratory research and helping others, he aspires to become a heart surgeon. Uthman is most proud of his success at science competitions such as PRSEF and PJAS. He is a Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate.



Beatrice Milnes

During her time at Pittsburgh Allderdice, Beatrice received many awards for scientific research. She is now studying microbiology at the University of Pittsburgh with plans to go on to pursue a Ph.D. and run her own laboratory. Beatrice was on the soccer team and a member of the STEMInism Club and Mock Trial Team.



Kayla Ackerman

Kayla is majoring in nursing at Carlow University. She graduated with High Honors from Pittsburgh Carrick and participated in Student Council and the Senior Class Committee. Kayla is passionate about ice hockey and was proud to become assistant captain of the two teams that she played with during high school.

2017



Samantha Moon

A graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech, Samantha is passionate about helping others and her community. In the future, Samantha hopes to teach and become a pediatrician. She is a pre-med major at Seton Hill University.



Tatiana Klett

Tatiana graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice. She attends the Schreyer Honors College at Penn State University to study engineering. Tatiana is passionate about social justice and plans to use engineering and a law degree to make an impact on the world.



Courtney Thomas

Courtney graduated from Pittsburgh Obama with high honors, earning a full-ride to pursue her education at Lincoln University. She studies accounting and hopes to become an international accountant and eventually start her own firm.



Itunu Lawal

Itunu is a pre-med major at the University of Pittsburgh—Johnstown, where she is President of the Black Action Society. Her love of sports developed her interest in biology and the human body. At Pittsburgh Brashear, Itunu was a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador.



Donovan Schueler

Donovan is a Pittsburgh City High graduate pursuing a degree in science and mathematics at CCAC. He learned the value of giving back on a service learning trip to Costa Rica. He enjoys working for the Pittsburgh Steelers and spending quality time with friends.

2016



India Washington

A cellular and molecular biology major at West Chester University, India is interested in women's health and pre-natal care. She aspires to become an obstetrician. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, she was a Jubilee Soup Kitchen volunteer, a member of the marching band, and participated in One Act plays.



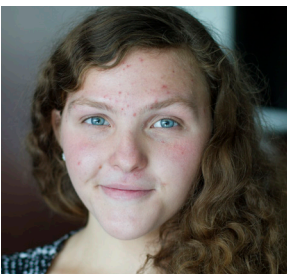
Dominick Openko

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Dominick is a natural sciences major at the University of Pittsburgh and hopes to eventually become a physician. He has been a competitive swimmer for most of his life. He worked as a junior lab assistant at the University of Pittsburgh and has also volunteered with Urgent Care.



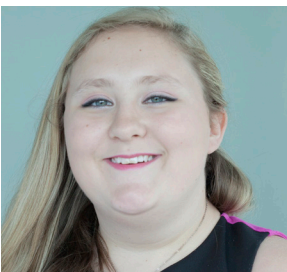
William Joshua Fitch

William is a mechanical engineering major at the University of Pittsburgh with a passion for physics. He aspires to develop prosthetics. Joshua was junior superintendent of his Sunday school and an active volunteer at his church. He is a graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech Academy where he was on the school news team.



Amanda Linn

Now attending Robert Morris University to study information systems, Amanda was valedictorian of her class at Pittsburgh Carrick. Volunteering at a food shelter and the Animal Rescue League taught her to be a more understanding person. She also participated in the high school marching band.



Patricia Donahue

Patricia studies global health and pre-medicine at Allegheny College. Her goal is to be a pediatrician and to someday teach. Throughout high school, Patricia was very involved in activities related to science, technology, and math. A graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech Academy, she was valedictorian of her class.

2015



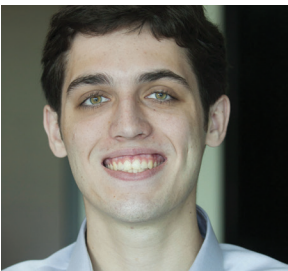
Chelsea Helterbran

A business management major at the University of Pittsburgh, Chelsea hopes to run her own business in the future. While attending Pittsburgh Brashear, she volunteered at her church. Chelsea is a recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Award.



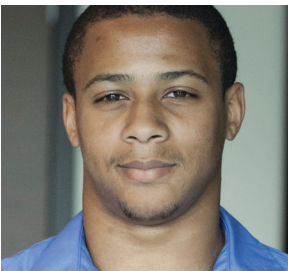
Henry Novara

Henry is a politics and philosophy major at the University of Pittsburgh. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, he played for the Allderdice soccer and Frisbee teams, volunteered at the food bank, and worked at a tennis club. Henry is very passionate about soccer and served as the captain of his high school team.



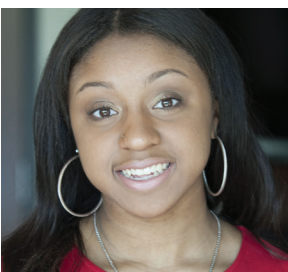
Logan Thompson

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Logan is now an astrophysics major at Villanova University. He is passionate about his major, and aspires to become one of the leading minds in his field with access to top research facilities. While in high school, Logan participated in Science Olympiad, Science Bowl, and was a camp counselor for Kinder Camp.



Kevin Williams

Kevin graduated from Pittsburgh SciTech Academy. During high school he was a part of the Physician Scientist Training Program, volunteered with the National Honor Society, and fundraised for natural disasters in Asia. Kevin is a biology major at the University of Pittsburgh.



Mia Williams

A mechanical engineering technology major at Point Park University, Mia is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA. She hopes to design technology for people undergoing rehabilitation therapy. Mia has volunteered with the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Knoxville branch and is a member of the National Society of Black Engineers.

2014



Kondaker Ahmed

A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, Kondaker volunteered over 100 hours during high school. He cites his volunteer experience with the Animal Shelter and Allegheny General Hospital as two of his favorites. Kondaker attends University of Pittsburgh studying biology and chemical engineering.



Danyelle Frischman

Danyelle attends Penn State University with an interest in studying communications. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Danielle graduated with honors. She is especially proud of her work with Friendship Circle, an organization that matches volunteers with special needs teens.



Kaitlyn Mahouski

A computer science major at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Kaitlyn is passionate about cyber security. A graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick, she was a soccer player and referee. In addition to Kaitlyn's Promise award, she received the Sutton Scholarship at IUP.



MaryKate Freeman

MaryKate graduated from Pittsburgh Carrick as Treasurer of Student Council and valedictorian. Studying environmental science at Robert Morris University, she wants to make a difference through protecting the environment. In addition to her Promise award, MaryKate received a Carson Scholarship.



Bani Randhawa

Valedictorian of her class, Bani graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice. Studying political science and pre-medicine at University of Pittsburgh, Bani is passionate about international relations and medicine. In addition to her Promise award, she was named the 2014 National Coca-Cola Scholar.

2013



Mara Greenberg

Mara attends the University of Pennsylvania and is pursuing pre-medical studies. A valedictorian at Pittsburgh Allderdice, Mara has won many awards pursuing her passions for math and science including a National Merit Award and a Carson Scholarship.



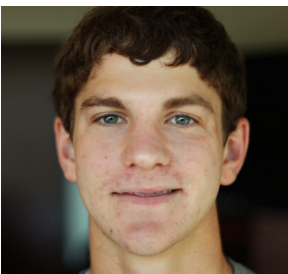
Aaron Jackson

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Aaron studies microbiology and psychology at the University of Pittsburgh. His goal is to work in neuroscience research. As a member of his high school marching band, he held benefit concerts for local charities, including the Animal Rescue League.



Matthew Marshman

Matthew graduated from Pittsburgh Brashear with high honors and was the recipient of a Computer Science Magnet Award. He currently studies computer science at Duquesne University. To give back, Matthew volunteers with the Urban League and Summer Dreamers Academy.



Aedan Marty

Aedan attends Carnegie Mellon University and studies biology while maintaining an interest in business as well. He is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice. Aedan is passionate about his volunteer work with TopSoccer, a student-driven organization that links special needs children with coaches for soccer games and tournaments.



Amanda Schwarz

A valedictorian at Pittsburgh Brashear, Amanda is studying molecular biology at the University of Pittsburgh. Amanda is a volunteer at The Pittsburgh Project and was the President of the Sign Language Club at Brashear. Her dream is to become a medical researcher to help cure chronic diseases.