

The Pittsburgh Promise Executive Scholars of Viatrix

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



Megeney Abdiaziz

Megeney, a student at Carlow University pursuing a degree in Nursing, has been passionate about helping people from an early age. At Pittsburgh Allderdice, she worked at summer camps and Panera while actively participating in the National Honor Society, Children of Steel, and the Spanish Club. Bilingual and artistically inclined, Megeney brings a diverse skill set and a compassionate spirit to her journey toward a career in healthcare.



Whitney Baranzini

Whitney has always been inspired by her love for animals. At Pittsburgh CAPA, Whitney was on the dance team as well as a member of the Pre-Vet and Furry Friends clubs. She is pursuing a degree in Biology at the University of Pittsburgh with aspirations of becoming a veterinarian.



Christian Cole

A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Christian is passionate about ice hockey, channeling the sport's mindset of continuous improvement into all areas of life. Diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in 2018, Christian was inspired to pursue a career in medicine, aiming to help others as medical professionals once helped them. Christian is now pursuing a Biology degree on a Pre-Med track at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



Eymi Ibarra Vazquez

At Pittsburgh Allderdice, Eymi demonstrated remarkable dedication, working diligently to improve her English while achieving outstanding academic success. As the first person in her family to attend college, Eymi is motivated by her resilience and determination to overcome challenges. Now pursuing a Pre-Med track at the University of Pittsburgh, Eymi is committed to her goal of becoming a dermatologist.



Gad Yava

Gad, a graduate of Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy, is pursuing a degree in Computer Science at the University of Pittsburgh. During high school, he was an active member of the Robotics Club, participating in the First Tech Challenge. Alongside his academic achievements, Gad gained work experience at Panera, showcasing his dedication and work ethic.

2023



Deshaun Blackwell

Deshaun is a natural leader from Pittsburgh Westinghouse. He enthusiastically joined the football and track teams and managed the school store. Deshaun takes pride in bringing school spirit to everything he's involved in. He is pursuing a degree in Business at PennWest Clarion.



Silas Davidson

Silas is a devoted leader from Pittsburgh CAPA. He takes pride in excelling academically and being an engaged member of his school and social community. Silas is intrigued by the field of medicine and is impassioned to follow in his grandfather's footsteps. Silas is studying Biochemistry at the University of Pittsburgh.



Nishan Pariyar

Nishan is a Brashear alum who found an interest in architectural engineering, thanks to his father who introduced it to him at a young age. During his time at Brashear, Nishan participated in sports like soccer and volleyball while maintaining good grades. Nishan is now studying Biotechnology at CCAC.



Rayvin Threet

Rayvin is a leader from Pittsburgh CAPA who enjoys giving back. During her high school career, she was involved in national honors for dance and academics, cheerleading, Black Student Union, and dance at the Hill Dance Academy Theatre. Rayvin is now a student at Indiana University of Pennsylvania studying Psychology.



Nina Williams

Nina is a graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick who takes pride in her academic achievements. During her time at Carrick, Nina participated in cheerleading and the National Honor Society. She is excited to be a role model and achieve great things. Nina is now studying Human Biology at Chatham University.

2022



John Grimm

A graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick, John was a member of the baseball and swim teams and worked as a Promise Student Ambassador. He hopes to fulfill his passions for helping others and giving back to his community by becoming a teacher. John is a student at Slippery Rock University studying elementary and special education.



Allahna Johnson

Being passionate about the criminal justice field is fueling Allahna to become a lawyer. While at Pittsburgh Obama, she took pride in being an excellent student as well as being dedicated to cheerleading for the last six years. Allahna is pursuing a criminal justice degree at Lincoln University.



Kailey Keating

Kailey stayed active in her time at Pittsburgh Carrick, where she excelled as a student and an athlete. She was a member of National Honor Society, the volleyball team, and senior class committee. Kailey is studying criminal justice at Robert Morris University.



Normah Salazar

During her years at Pittsburgh Carrick, Normah enjoyed volunteering at toy drives, food drives, trash clean-ups, and youth centers. She was a member of the National Honor Society, and the cheerleading, soccer, and cross-country teams. Normah is on a pre-med track at the University of Pittsburgh with aspirations of becoming a surgeon.



Della Wagner

Della was an active student at Pittsburgh Allderdice. She was a member of the National Honor Society and Chamber Choir. Della also participated in Reaction Contraption club, Global Minds, and the Readiness Institute. She is now a student at Ursinus College, excited to explore her interests in Japanese and film.

2021



Robyn Arrington-Epperson

“I will be a difference-maker, change my circumstances, and rewrite my family’s story.” Valedictorian, basketball team captain, senior class representative, and community servant leader all describe Robyn. After graduating from Pittsburgh Westinghouse, she studies sports management and nursing at La Roche.



Anna Cappella

While at Pittsburgh Allderdice, Anna was co-captain of Mock Trial Team, vice president of National Honor Society, and dance captain for the spring musical. She loves writing poetry because she feels that communication can shape the way people understand and connect with each other. Anna majors in biology at Carnegie Mellon University and wants to use biology to make a difference.



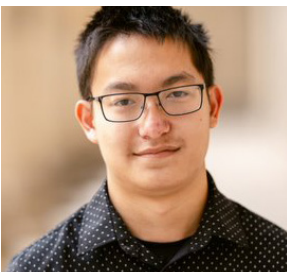
Vanessa Garcia

Vanessa is a first-generation college student attending CCAC. At Pittsburgh Allderdice, she was a member of the Feminist Club and began working while in school. She enjoys learning new things and wants to be a positive role model to younger people.



Alison Harvill

Alison is passionate about biology and advocating for women in STEM. She aspires to conduct research and travel the world. One of her proudest accomplishments is having the one-act play she wrote produced by City Theater. Alison graduated from Pittsburgh CAPA and studies biology and computer science at the University of Pittsburgh.



Chuong Truong

Chuong was a member of the Marching Band Team, BotsIQ Robotics Team, and Russian Olympiad Team, winning the Gold and Silver medal for the latter. As a first-generation college student, he wants to continue his education, obtain a Ph.D., and become a minister or missionary. Chuong is studying philosophy and Russian at Carnegie Mellon University.

2020



Sophia Catanzaro

As an environmental engineering student at University of Pittsburgh Sophia believes that our duty as a society is to take care of the planet. At Pittsburgh Carrick Sophia was a member of National Honor Society, recognized by Society of Women Engineers for her performance in science and math, and valedictorian.



Shreyo Das

Pursuing his interest in bioengineering at University of Pittsburgh, Shreyo hopes to specialize in regenerative medicine. He is a graduate of Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy where he won Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science awards. Shreyo enjoys academia, soccer and storytelling.



Kurt Englehardt

While attending Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy Kurt participated on Pitt's Gene Team, SeaPerch Robotics and volunteered with American Red Cross. Kurt attends University of Pittsburgh and aspires to become a chemical engineer with hopes of developing solutions to climate change.



McKenzie Thompson

McKenzie studies biomedical engineering at Temple University. She is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice where she immersed herself in advanced course work, participated in African American Center for Academic Success, Investing NOW at Pitt and the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.



Olivia Helms

While attending Pittsburgh Carrick Olivia participated in The Future Is Mine, National Honor Society, GSA and school plays. At Thiel College she studies communications sciences and disorders and hopes to become a speech language pathologist and work with children.

2019



Julie Ceoffe

Julie's biggest passion is writing. She is attending Robert Morris University to study English and aspires to write novels and poetry that will help others in their times of need. She also enjoys practicing yoga and volunteers with Tree Pittsburgh and Teamster Horsemen. Julie graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice.



Ramara Stevenson

At Pittsburgh Brashear, Ramara participated in the teaching magnet program. Currently, she is studying physical therapy at Slippery Rock University with hopes of someday owning her own practice. Ramara is appreciative of the support she receives from her family and the different cultures she was exposed to through her academic career in Pittsburgh Public Schools.



Curran McCune

Curran is enhancing his love for space and pursuing his dream of becoming an astronaut by studying aerospace engineering at Penn State University—Greater Allegheny. He aspires to one day travel to Mars. At Pittsburgh SciTech he participated in the Dungeons and Dragons Club, Feminist Student Union, and the Gay-Straight Alliance.



Thao Tran

Thao's participation on the track and field and cross country teams at Pittsburgh Brashear supported her interests in physical activity. She now studies exercise science at Chatham University. She wants to someday create more efficient methods to help people who are in pain. Thao has worked with the Citiparks Summer Lunch Program and Pretty Up Beechview.



Brian Woolley

Brian chose chemical engineering as his major at Carnegie Mellon University because he aspires to contribute to innovations that will help preserve the environment. Brian graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice, where he was involved in many activities including soccer, tutoring, working with children, and numerous volunteer efforts.

2018



Grace Woolard

Grace graduated from Pittsburgh Allderdice. She is now majoring in pre-medicine at Edinboro University, where she received an Honors Program Award. In the future, she plans to specialize in women's health because it is her hope to positively impact the lives of women all over the country here in the U.S.



Charysma Adams

Studying civil engineering at Drexel University will help Charysma reach her goal to own a bridge-building business in Europe. In addition to her job at Panera Bread, she played for the volleyball and softball teams at Pittsburgh Allderdice and was in National Honor Society. She was proud to receive awards from the Society of Women Engineers twice during high school.



Bree McCullough

Bree is studying physics at Bucknell University, where received a Presidential Fellowship. She hopes to use her degree to help wildlife and improve the world. She was a member of the fencing team, active in the music program, and President of the Jewelry Club at Pittsburgh Allderdice. An entrepreneur, she operates her own face-painting business.



Austin Burnett

Enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh, Austin is studying physics and astronomy. A Pittsburgh Obama graduate, Austin was proud to earn an IB Diploma. While in high school, he participated in the We Promise program and the Black Student Union. He also volunteered with KaBOOM!



Irina Kramkova

Irina is studying psychology and biology sciences at Carnegie Mellon University because she wants to become a doctor or physician assistant. Irina maintained High Honor Roll all four years at Pittsburgh Allderdice, where she played volleyball and participated in Student Council. She also volunteered at Children's Institute of Pittsburgh and Friendship Circle.

2017



Tayjanay Reed

Tayjanay is a Pittsburgh Carrick graduate. In high school, she was on the cross-country team. Tayjanay is passionate about helping communities and now studies nursing at Carlow University.



Jasmine Dorsey

Jasmine is a graduate of Pittsburgh Westinghouse, where she was in the CTE Health Careers program. She had a high school internship at West Penn Hospital and hopes to become a registered nurse. Jasmine attends the University of Pittsburgh—Bradford.



Jacob Lundy

Jacob graduated from Pittsburgh City High. He loves science and medicine and enjoys helping people. He is studying biology at Carlow University, where he received the Presidential Scholarship, in addition to his Promise award.



Victoria Mavrogeorgis

A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Victoria loves music and plays the violin. She is passionate about social justice and presently attends the University of Pittsburgh to study mechanical engineering. Victoria takes pride in being fluent in Greek.



Eitan Rabinovich

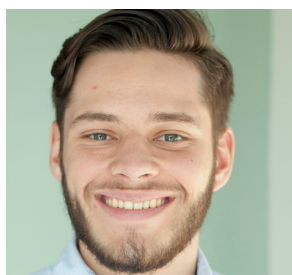
Eitan has a strong interest in medicine and hopes to become a surgeon. In high school, he researched sickle cell anemia at the Vascular Medicine Institute at the University of Pittsburgh, which he now attends in the Honors College. Eitan is a graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech.

2016



Brianna Watson

Brianna attends Penn State University where she studies chemistry. Brianna is proud of her involvement in research from a young age, and cites her passion for chemistry as a lifelong one. She also loves music and plays piano. Brianna volunteered at her church and was a peer mentor while attending Pittsburgh SciTech Academy.



Jacob Beckman

Jacob is enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh, where he hopes to study subjects related to medicine. A graduate of Pittsburgh Obama, during high school Jacob was a peer mentor, captain of the baseball team, and valedictorian. In his spare time, he also worked at a local non-profit art studio.



Megan Schwerin

While attending Pittsburgh Carrick, Megan played soccer as well as coached it. She was also her class's valedictorian. Megan is a recipient of the Linus Pauling Award for Excellence in Chemistry, and she is now pursuing a degree in pharmacy from the University of Pittsburgh.



Katrice Wade

Katrice attends the Community College of Allegheny County where she studies business management and one day aspires to become a successful entrepreneur and run her own business. She is passionate about culture and history. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, in her free time Katrice organized a walk to raise money for cancer research.



Sonia Panic

Sonia is a Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate who now studies civil and environmental engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. Proud of her Bosnian heritage, Sonia was a member of an Eastern European Folk Dance Ensemble. She also volunteered at East End Food Co-op and took a mission trip to Nicaragua.

2015



Rojanai Alston

Rojanai is a graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice and attends Slippery Rock University. During high school, she participated in the National Honor Society, Leadership Club, Cheerleading Team, and Prom Committee. Majoring in physical therapy, Rojanai is a recipient of the Slippery Rock University Scholarship.



Amani Bey

Amani is a biological sciences major at the University of Pittsburgh–Greensburg. While attending Pittsburgh SciTechAcademy, her community service taught her to work hard for a brighter future for herself and others. Amani was awarded the Outstanding Academic Excellence Award and a Certificate of Recognition for Perfect Attendance.



Nicholas Darke

Nicholas is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA. In high school, he developed a passion for theatre while building sets and operating the sound for shows. Currently attending Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Nicholas is majoring in communications media.



Sylvia Freeman

A Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate, Sylvia is attending the University of Pittsburgh with an interest in both biology and art. During high school, she participated at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild and Swim Team. She hopes to challenge herself by becoming a doctor, running a marathon, and travelling to Egypt.



Nathan Whitney

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Nathan made his mark by winning the regional physics bowl and leading Allderdice's lacrosse team. He was also a part of the National Honor Society, Model UN, and Student Hunger Action Coalition. He is now an engineering major at the University of Pittsburgh.

2014



Brittany Creely

Brittany is an english major at Duquesne University that lives for writing. She believes that the power of the written word surpasses all others and hopes to make a difference in the world with her writing. Brittany is a three time Scholastic Gold Key winner and a graduate of Pittsburgh Carrick.



Dana Strabryla

Dana graduated from Pittsburgh Carrick with a 4.0 GPA and was valedictorian of her class. Dana was on the Tennis Team and won the silver medal during her high school championships. She attends Carlow University and is majoring in nursing.



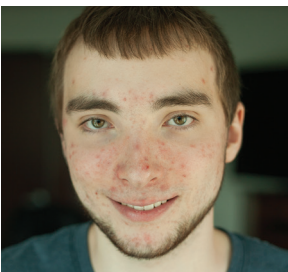
John Chmura

A nuclear engineering major at Penn State University, John is passionate about nuclear science. He hopes to one day become a Nuclear Safety Inspector. A graduate of Pittsburgh Perry, John was a soccer player and a participated in Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.



Kausar Shaikh

Kausar is a biology pre-medicine major at the University of Pittsburgh and hopes to become a doctor in the future. A graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA, Kausar was a member of Crew Team, Environmental Club, and a Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador. Kausar is also a four-time Carson Scholar.



Wesley Lebarty

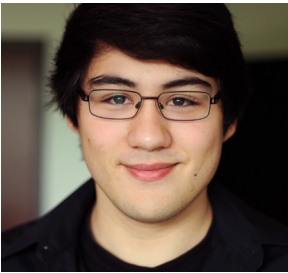
Wesley is a computer science major at the Community College of Allegheny College. A graduate of Pittsburgh Brashear, Wesley enjoys ultimate frisbee, programming, and graphic design. He is especially proud of obtaining high honors in his senior year.

2013



Aryell Heywood

Aryell studies biology and kinesiology at Temple University. A Pittsburgh CAPA graduate, Aryell is not only passionate about science but has a strong connection to music. She plans to give back during her time in college by volunteering in low-income neighborhoods near her campus.



Amadeo Hirata

A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Amadeo participated in over 400 hours of service with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank while in high school. He is pursuing a double-major in mechanical and civil engineering at the University of Pittsburgh.



Joseph King

A graduate of Pittsburgh Perry, Joseph attends the Community College of Allegheny County in pursuit of a biotechnology degree. Joseph is highly interested in the sciences and participated in the STEM Summer Academy during high school. Joseph also received the Allegheny War Memorial Scholarship.



Rina Matsuda

Rina is pursuing a biology degree at the University of Pittsburgh. Rina was always passionate about the sciences, so much so, that she attended summer science camps at Johns Hopkins University during her years at Pittsburgh Obama.



Goda Tarcijonas

Goda studies biology and Spanish at Franklin and Marshall College. A graduate of Pittsburgh Allderdice, Goda was the captain of the swim team and tutored elementary students. To explore her love of science, she participated in the Gene Team Summer Research Program at the University of Pittsburgh.