The Pittsburgh Promise

# Executive Scholars

## of KeyBank

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 2025 Executive Scholar Class. Congratulations!

## EXECUTIVE SCHOLAR COMPANIES

**UPMC**

**Highmark • PNC • BNY Mellon**

**American Eagle Outfitters • Giant Eagle**

**Cleveland Brothers Equipment Company • FNB**

**Highmark Wholecare • Howmet Aerospace • KeyBank**

**McGuinn Family Foundation • PPG**

**Thermo Fisher Scientific • Viatris**

# 2025



## Ireland Dugan

Ireland attended Pittsburgh CAPA, where she was actively involved in film, athletics, and community activities, including the 48 Hour Film Festival, girls' soccer, CAPA Friends, and Pittsburgh Art All Night. She now attends Penn State and aims to inspire young women while making a meaningful impact in the future.



## Delia Graham

Delia attended Pittsburgh Allderdice, where she was involved in the National Honor Society, volleyball, softball, wrestling, and the gardening club. She is now attending Robert Morris University, studying Health Sciences, with plans to become a cardiovascular perfusionist



## Anthony Hlavsa

Anthony attended Pittsburgh Carrick and is currently studying Computer Science at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. He is a motivated and diligent student focused on building a successful future.



## VonNasia Parker

Von attended Pittsburgh Milliones/UPrep, where she was actively involved in AACAS, Student Voice, Student Government, and the Citizen Science Lab. She is studying for her Commercial Driver's License at CCAC as she enters a field with unlimited options.



## Muskan Sharma

At Pittsburgh Allderdice, Muskan made her mark as a member of the tennis team, while also engaging in community service and acquiring practical work experience. She continues her academic journey at Robert Morris University, majoring in Criminal Justice, as she prepares for a future career in law.

# 2024



## Taylor-Renee Grimsley

As a student at Pittsburgh Milliones, Shanelle worked many jobs including Hello Bistro, Chipotle, and Starbucks. She also attended the PPS CTE Program where she learned critical networking and leadership skills. Shanell attends PennWest California and is majoring in Business.



## Dino Harper

A graduate of Pittsburgh SciTech, Dino prides himself on his strong leadership skills and commitment to integrity. He maintained high honor roll throughout high school while actively contributing to his community. Dino is currently a Finance major at Duquesne University.



## Kamari Jones

Kamari is a graduate of Pittsburgh CAPA where she established a compelling ability to display discipline by balancing her academic, athletic, and extracurricular activities. She was a High Honors student, president of the Black Student Union, a member of the Executive Board of Student Council, and a member of the track and basketball teams. Kamari attends Lincoln University and is majoring in Psychology with the hope of becoming a Clinical Neuropsychologist.



## Korey Lowe

Korey has always had a passion for building, which led to his interest in becoming an engineer. During his time at Pittsburgh Obama, Korey excelled academically while participating in Youth and Government, soccer, volleyball, and student council. Korey is preparing for a successful future as an Engineering major at the University of Pittsburgh, where he aims to make a meaningful impact on the world.



## Keliyah Washington

Keliyah, a Pittsburgh City High graduate, is embarking on a new chapter in life, studying Digital Marketing at Juniata College. In high school, her volunteer work with Communitopia's Youth Summit and her involvement in sustainable leadership programs at Chatham University highlight Keliyah's dedication to community and environmental impact.

# 2023



## Shanelle Banks

As a student at Pittsburgh Milliones, Shanelle worked many jobs including Hello Bistro, Chipotle, and Starbucks. She also attended the PPS CTE Program where she learned critical networking and leadership skills. Shanell attends PennWest California and is majoring in Business.



## Owen Bluman

Owen is driven by the desire to give back to the areas that made him who he is today. This well-rounded scholar from Pittsburgh Allderdice participated in track and field, basketball, and Investment Club. He also volunteered with the University of Pittsburgh research, Dice Friends, and the Boys and Girls Club. Owen is Science at Haverford College pursuing Computer.



## Julian Gass

Julian has an ambition for inclusion and helping others. At Pittsburgh Allderdice, he was the Co-Founder and Vice President of the Anti-Bullying Club and was Co-Founder of an indoor soccer team promoting a competitive environment for all players. Julian attends Penn State and is majoring in Business.



## Gabriel Signore

Gabe is passionate about helping his community and has volunteered his time at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History Summer Camp and at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall. As a student at Pittsburgh SciTech, he was a member of the National Honor Society. Gabe enjoys adventure and helping others. He is now studying Cybersecurity at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.



## Carerra Turner

Helping others and contributing to society has always impassioned Carerra. At Pittsburgh Carrick, Carerra enjoyed participating in Carrick Culinary CTE and being a member of Student Voice. She is now a Psychology and Criminology major at Carlow University.

# 2022



## Alexander Mann

Alex is motivated by excelling in academics and athletics. He dedicated himself to playing baseball throughout high school at Pittsburgh Carrick. Alex will continue playing the sport while studying at Penn State University Greater Allegheny. He participated in the Information Technology Career and Technical Education Program and is leaning toward majoring in IT.



## Victoria Murphy

Victoria was active in Mock Trial, Student Council, Green Team, Students Demand Action and National Honor Society at Pittsburgh CAPA. During her senior year, Victoria conducted the school musical. She has been active in her community playing piano for dementia patients and as a counselor for preschool nature camps. Victoria attends the University of Pittsburgh where she studies theater arts and political science.



## Camryn Ross-Taylor

At Pittsburgh Milliones Camryn strived to make school better for her peers and teachers as Vice President of Student Government. In the future Camryn hopes to own a daycare center to support the development of children. In her free time, she enjoys softball and drawing. Camryn is studying early childhood education at Carlow University.



## Jana Skowvron

At Pittsburgh Obama, Jana demonstrated exceptional leadership skills. As captain of the varsity soccer team, she rose to the challenge of showing up for others. She also participated in varsity track and field, varsity Equestrian Club, and Manchester Craftsmen Guild. Jana is pursuing her bachelor's degree in nutrition and dietetics at Seton Hill University.



## Akiya Wilkerson

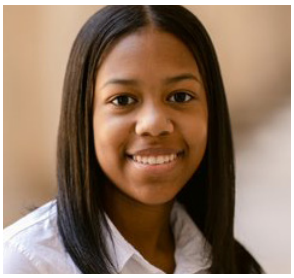
Akiya stayed involved at Pittsburgh CAPA by engaging in Yearbook Club, serving as Vice President of the Black Student Union, and captain of the soccer team. She is attending PennWest - California studying psychology and hopes to become a forensic research psychologist. Akiya desires to make the world a better place.

# 2021



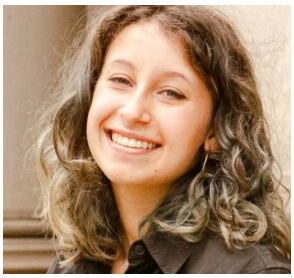
## Rico Harper

Rico grew from a shy kid into a leader who took on more responsibilities and initiatives. Over his four years at Pittsburgh Allderdice, he was a High Honor Roll student and a member of the National Honor Society. Rico is attending CCAC and wants to earn a Ph.D. in psychology.



## Atasia Little

Proudly being accepted into 17 colleges, Atasia wants to be an advocate for others in the medical field. She loves basketball, playing in high school for Pittsburgh Allderdice. Atasia attends Lincoln University to further her goal of being a physician assistant.



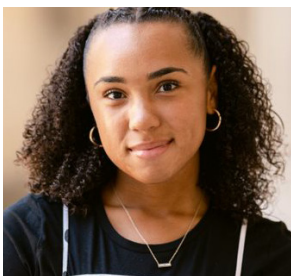
## Mica Siegler

Mica is passionate about making a difference in the world and believes it is crucial that everyone should work together to make the world a better place. She is proud of her ability to connect with others and loves building relationships. Mica is enrolled at the University of Pittsburgh.



## Chau Truong

At Pittsburgh Brashear, Chau was a member of the Varsity Tennis Team, Medical Club, and Asian Club. She loves to learn about different cultures and languages and is also very fascinated by science and human anatomy. Chau is a first-generation college student at the University of Pittsburgh and wants to become a doctor.



## Isabella Vincent

With a love for education, Isabella plans to share it with young people in her career as an elementary school teacher. She is a former Pittsburgh Promise Ambassador and earned multiple scholarships to attend Chatham University.

# 2020



## Dominic Victoria

Dominic dreams of a career advocating for Pittsburgh's residents. At Pittsburgh Obama he participated in Youth and Government, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, Obama Eagle newspaper, A+ School's TeenBloc and was a Promise Student Ambassador. He attends University of Pittsburgh where he studies politics and philosophy.



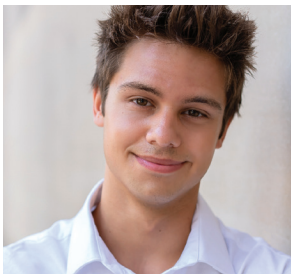
## Mya Ziegler

Mya is an avid reader who enjoys drawing, painting and sculpting. While a student at Pittsburgh Carrick she participated in volleyball, track and swimming as well as church mission. Mya has chosen to study nursing at Carlow University with hopes of becoming a nurse practitioner and helping others.



## Elijah Terry

Elijah is interested in studying how the universe works, particularly the makeup of planets and formation of meteors. These interests have led him to University of Pittsburgh where he studies astrophysics. At Pittsburgh Brashear Elijah received Citizenship, President's and High Honor awards.



## Jacob Voelker

Jacob aspires to earn a medical degree and have a fulfilling career aiding in the health of others. At Pittsburgh CAPA he was editor of the school newspaper, vice president of National Honor Society and a member of Student Council. Jacob attends University of Pittsburgh where he majors in biology.



## Amari Turner-Ford

Among the top graduates of Pittsburgh Westinghouse, Amari was a vocal advocate for her school. She served as class secretary, participated in the PACT Program, and earned a semester's worth of college credits by taking dual enrollment courses. Amari studies psychology at Duquesne University with plans to become a child and family psychologist.

# 2019



## Totionna Hill

Totionna wants to help folks who struggle with mental health disorders. For her senior project at Pittsburgh City Charter, she created a video to support people battling poor body image and depression. Totionna is a hard worker, having participated in Gwen's Girls and maintained a part-time job while succeeding academically. She is now studying psychology at Slippery Rock University.



## Kyra Baillie

In addition to her role as Pittsburgh Obama's Youth and Government Chapter president, Kyra participated in track, cross country, soccer, and swimming. She hopes to someday work in local government and become a teacher. Her love of the city led her to enroll at The University of Pittsburgh, where she is studying political science.



## George Begler

While attending Pittsburgh Allderdice, a service trip to Dominican Republic sparked George's interest in history and learning about other cultures. Recognizing similarities between people from different parts of the world led George to study sociology at The University of Pittsburgh. He plans to study abroad and hopes to build bridges between cultures.



## Giordana Verrengia

Giordana was a valedictorian at Pittsburgh CAPA and has received numerous awards for her writing and poetry. She participated in volunteer activities with National Honor Society and was an Urban EcoSteward with the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy. Giordana is pursuing her passions for writing and language as an English major at The University of Pittsburgh.



## Gabriella Henderson

Gabriella is proud to be attending Temple University, where she studies criminal justice. She hopes to one day work for the FBI. At Pittsburgh Allderdice, Gabriella participated in volleyball, cheerleading, track, and the African American Center for Advanced Studies. Volunteering with local food banks taught her to be more selfless.

# 2018



## Jeremy Berardo

In addition to being salutatorian of his class at Pittsburgh Carrick, Jeremy was also president of National Honor Society. He was recognized by the American Legion for both his academic performance and his community service work. Now a student at the University of Pittsburgh, he aspires to become a doctor after finishing college.



## Rauli Johnson

Rauli received an academic scholarship from Duquesne University, where she is majoring in accounting. Rauli is interested in auditing or forensic accounting after college, and eventually wants to work independently. This Pittsburgh Carrick graduate values community service and hopes to make a difference in people's lives.



## Ignacio Cuevas Manu

A Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate, Ignacio was a National Honor Society member and a member of the cross country and track & field teams. He now attends the University of Pittsburgh where he's studying statistics, economics, and mathematics. Proud of his martial arts experience and accomplishments, Ignacio works as an Assistant Black Belt Instructor.



## Anai'ya Jones

A Pittsburgh Urban Pathways graduate, Anai'ya earned the Top Student Award, the President's Award, and a Leadership Award. She is now studying criminal justice at California University of Pennsylvania, where she received a Board of Governors Scholarship. She strives to be a peacemaker who can find justice in unjust situations and hopes to someday work for a major law firm.



## Joshua Zito

Joshua is studying mechanical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh. He enjoys making gadgets and engineering maker projects and won several engineering awards while attending Pittsburgh SciTech. He was an intern and teaching assistant with Gene Team and a SciTech Student Ambassador. He also played soccer.

# 2017



## Korionna DeVaughn

Pittsburgh Brashear graduate Korionna is majoring in accounting at Penn State University. She aspires to become an accountant. In addition to her Promise award, Korionna received a Ben Carson, NAACP, and PSU Blue and White Scholarship.



## Rose Wetzel

A Pittsburgh Allderdice graduate, Rose hopes to use her passion for the outdoors to raise awareness on environmental issues in hopes of making impact on the world. Rose attends Susquehanna University where she studies earth and environmental science.



## Rico Mesich

Rico has a fascination with mathematics and quantitative analysis. He hopes to give back to his community by teaching. Rico is a Pittsburgh SciTech graduate who is now pursuing a mathematics degree at the University of Pittsburgh.



## Maisie Arlet

Maisie is a business management major at Carlow University. She plans to one day own her own business. Maisie was president of the National Honor Society at Pittsburgh Perry. She is passionate about giving back to her community and family.



## Ruthanne Pilarski

Ruthanne is passionate about education and working with children. She has received various gold and silver medals for art and creative writing. Ruthanne graduated from Pittsburgh CAPA and attends Temple University to study mathematics.