

STUDENT MAJORS AND PROGRAMS

HOST COUNTRIES

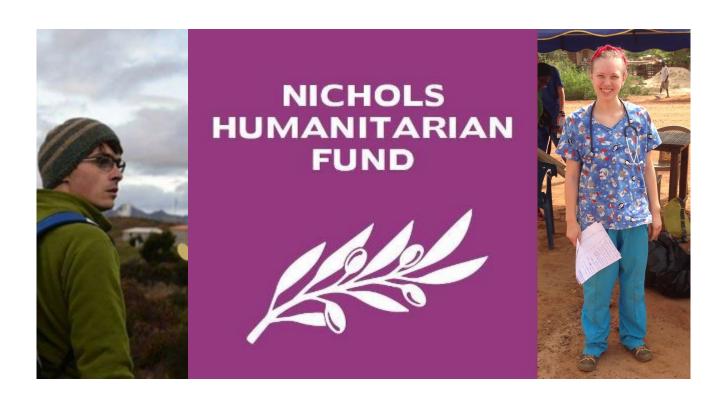
FUND

NICHOLS HUMANITARIAN FUND

HTTP://WWW.VANDERBILT.EDU/NICHOLSFUND/

Forty students have been selected to receive the Nichols

Humanitarian Fund Award to pursue humanitarian projects during the summer of 2016. The award will enable students to work with communities on humanitarian efforts including human rights, public health, immigrant rights, early childhood education, and environmental sustainability. The average GPA of the student recipients is 3.5, and the countries where they will work include Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, England, Ethiopia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, India, Morocco, the Netherlands, Peru, Russia, South Africa, Tanzania, and the United States.





Natalie Brackett | Chattanooga, TN — M.Ed., International Education Policy and Management Natalie Brackett received her BA in Anthropology and Religious Studies from Washington University in St. Louis in 2013. Brackett's demonstrated commitment to South and Southeast Asian communities has included study and research throughout Nepal, Bhutan and India; a yearlong Princeton in Asia teaching fellowship in remote northern Thailand; and ongoing work with refugee populations in the United States. The Nichols Fund will support Brackett's efforts in Sikkim, India, where she will join the Tennessee-based Taraloka Foundation in their mission to provide education, healthcare, and safe refuge for vulnerable Himalayan youth. The non-profit's Happiness Home is a place of comfort and love for over two-dozen girls rescued from very difficult circumstances, and Natalie is thrilled to serve there in the summer of 2016.



Mary Isabel Casey | Maspeth, NY — Medicine, Health, and Society, 2018

Mary Isabel Casey is a sophomore from Maspeth, New York. She is majoring in Medicine, Health, and Society and double minoring in Spanish and Women's and Gender Studies. Mary will be working for a non-profit, public health organization in Newham, a borough of London, as well as interacting with local and governmental officials to gain further insight on health issues facing the community. Mary is excited to learn about London's healthcare system and hopes to use the knowledge she gains to solidify her future career endeavors in healthcare.



Leah Chisholm | Atlanta, GA — Neuroscience, 2016

Leah Chisholm is a senior in the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt. She is from Atlanta, GA. Leah is a neuroscience major with a Spanish minor, and will be attending medical school next year. Her Nichols Fund Project involves participating in the OACS Global Service Trip to Rabat, Morocco. While there, she will be working with multiple organizations involving health care, teaching the English language to youth, and social justice advocacy for women's rights.



Marissa Davis | Paducah, KY — English Literary Studies, 2017

Marissa Davis, originally from Paducah, Kentucky, is a member of the class of 2017. Marissa is pursuing a major in English Literary Studies and a minor in French. This summer, she will be partaking in the OACS service trip in Rabat, Morocco. This two-part program includes pre-trip trainings and informational sessions followed by six weeks of on-site service. The program specializes in health, education, and community development.



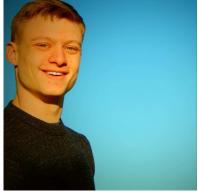
Miah Davis | Orlando, FL — Political Science, 2019

Miah Davis was born in raised in swampy Orlando, Florida. Currently Miah is a freshman in the class of 2019. As it stands, Miah aspires to major in Political Science with a minor in Russian, but is also keen to explore Medicine, Health, and Society as a major. The generous grant provided by the Nichols Fund will help Miah work alongside other Vanderbilt students in serving the community in Rabat, Morocco. Miah will be teaching underprivileged children English and helping them advance in other aspects of their education.



Terrance Dean | New York, NY — Ph.D., Graduate Department of Religion

Terrance will be working on Constitution Hill with Justice Edwin Cameron of the Constitutional Court of South Africa. His research project is on religious rhetoric, the judicial system and the intersections of HIV/AIDS and LGBT persons. Terrance argues that religion/religious rhetoric and the judiciary systems are equally engaged in the aiding and abetting of the political, economic, health mobility and performativity of LGBT persons in South Africa. Meaning, religious rhetoric and the judicial constitutional laws of Constitutional Court impacts the religious and constitutional rights and life of LGBT South Africans. In addition to working with Justice Cameron, Terrance will work closely with the various churches and outreach organizations including, Activate Wits, The Gay and Lesbian Archives, and The Tutu Foundation.



Zack Ely | Cleveland, TN — Biological Science and Literary Studies, 2018

Zack is from Cleveland, Tennessee, and is also a recent transfer student at Vanderbilt University. Zack plans to graduate in 2018 after completing a double major in Biological Science and Literary Studies. This summer, Zack is excited to pursue service work in Accra, Ghana and surrounding villages. Zack will work with a nonprofit organization called Unite for Sight to provide volunteer support to local eye clinics. These clinics perform thousands of sight-restoring surgeries every year to impoverished Ghanaians. Zack looks forward to connecting with the people of Ghana while also increasing his understanding of their healthcare conditions.



Leah Fassinger | Nashville, TN — Biomedical Engineering and Russian, 2018

Leah Fassinger is a double major in Biomedical Engineering and Russian, and hopes to encourage medical professionals to learn languages and better serve their patients. Many tier one research institutions employ language interpreters to support families who often default to their native tongues when under stress. Leah lives in a language immersion residence hall to practice Russian over dinner with a professor and other students, and also attended a summer immersion camp at Middlebury College. Leah will be participating in a Maymester trip to Vladmir, Russia, and volunteering at such community organizations as a veterans home, a dog shelter, and an orphanage. Leah will live with a Russian family to get to know them on a more personal level.



Rachel Gilfarb | Miami, FL — Neuroscience, 2018

Rachel Gilfarb is a sophomore from Miami, Florida. She is a neuroscience major with a minor in Women and Gender Studies. Rachel is active in Hillel, AOII, the Imperfection Project, Gluten Free at Vandy, and Tap That. This summer, she will be volunteering in the Dominican Republic to help establish a sustainable type one diabetes community there. She will be working as a facilitator, mentor, and peer educator with the local community.



Haley Green | Greenbrier, TN — Child Development and Psychology, 2018

Haley grew up in Greenbrier, Tennessee, a small town outside Nashville. Currently a sophomore pursuing a double major in child development and psychology, Haley aspires to become a clinical psychologist specializing in children. Through a program with Vanderbilt's Office Of Academic Citizenship and Service, Haley will travel to Quito, Ecuador and volunteer at schools for children who are underprivileged and/or have disabilities. To be immersed in Ecuadorian culture, Haley will be staying in the homes of Ecuadorian families.



Venus Green | Jackson, MS — M.A., Medicine, Health, and Society

Venus Green is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and received her BA in Political Science and African American Studies with a minor in Gender and Sexuality Studies from the University of California, Irvine. Her current research interests include examining middle class African American women's health, coping mechanisms, gender ideologies, and maternal health and well-being within Black communities in the US South. Venus plans to synergistically work alongside the Maternity Services Liaison Committee in the East London borough of Tower Hamlets. Venus wishes to learn about how gender roles, structural power dynamics, and ideologies of motherhood inform one another and may craft how ethnic minority women receive and perceive maternal health care in their communities.



Arulita Gupta | Atlanta, GA — Neuroscience and Medicine, Health, and Society, 2017

Arulita is a junior from a suburb of Atlanta, Georgia, studying Neuroscience and Medicine, Health, and Society. This summer, Arulita is ecstatic to be working in two intertwined domains of education and healthcare in Rabat, Morocco. Arulita hopes to inculcate scholastic values in students, help remove stigmas impinging healthcare success for patients, and learn from the communities she will be serving.



Safiah Hassan | Murray, KY — Medicine, Health, and Society and Spanish, 2016

Safiah is a senior currently entering the Medicine, Health, and Society 4+1 masters program. She is a Medicine, Health, and Society major along with a Spanish minor. Her service project will be addressing racial and ethnic health disparities in Newham, a multicultural borough of London. She is considering doing a thesis on immigrant racial and ethnic health disparities and plans to contribute what she learns on her service trip into her future academics and career.



Caleb Hayes | Hendersonville, TN — M.A., Latin American Studies

Caleb Hayes, who is from Hendersonville, Tennessee, is a student in the 2017 cohort of the Master of Arts in Latin American Studies at Vandy. This summer he intends to enroll in a K'iche' indigenous language school in Nahualá, Guatemala and collect data for his M.A. thesis project on the health of K'iche' speakers in that city. His central aim is to understand and describe the idea of health among the indigenous people in Nahualá in context of other public health, economic, agricultural, and infrastructural factors.



Audrianna Irving | Dallas, TX — Cognitive Studies, 2017

Audrianna Irving is a member of the Class of 2017 from Dallas, Texas. She is majoring in Cognitive Studies with a minor in Corporate Strategy. This summer Audrianna will be participating in the OACS Global Service Program in South Africa. During the project she hopes to gain knowledge about Apartheid South Africa and the socioeconomic consequences that arose from it. She also will be working with Missionvale Care Centre, volunteering in their primary school, medical clinic, clothing warehouse and other community resources.



Allison Katz | Armonk, NY — Human and Organizational Development, 2017

Allison Katz is from Armonk, New York. Allison is majoring in human and organizational development as well as child development, and is minoring in Spanish. This upcoming summer Allison will be spending ten weeks in Tanzania partaking in a teaching project in collaboration with local teachers and helping in the community orphanage over the weekends and after school hours. Allison looks forward to the opportunity to work alongside the local people in order to improve the wellbeing of the children in the area.



Peter Kent-Stoll | Santa Cruz, CA — M.A., Medicine, Health, and Society, 2017

Peter Kent-Stoll grew up in Santa Cruz County, California and attended University of California, Irvine. He is now a first year M.A. student in Medicine, Health, & Society at Vanderbilt University, where he is studying the social determinants of colorectal cancer among African American men. His service project will take place in the east London borough of Newham, where he will focus on working with a local organization that assesses community members' perceptions about the health services they receive. Through this project, he hopes to learn how local health organizations frame and then act upon issues related to chronic disease risk and how these issues are framed differentially based on racial and ethnic statuses.



Heebong (Scott) Kim | New York, NY — Earth and Environmental Science, 2019

Heebong (Scott) Kim is a freshman from New York City, and an Earth and

Environmental Science major. Through this project, Scott hopes to address the

potential inefficiencies of the Greek charity system through the apparatus of practice
theory. Community partners will include a local farm and DESMOS, a new non-profit
organization in Greece playing an important role matching local and international
donors (people, organizations and corporations) with Greek charities.



Samantha Long | Johnston, IA — Musical Arts, 2018

Samantha Long is a sophomore from Johnston, IA in the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University. She is majoring in Musical Arts (Voice), with minors in French and Political Science. She has a received a grant to spend the month of May abroad in Russia, where she will be living and serving in the city of Vladimir. During her time abroad, Samantha will be serving in orphanages, dog shelters, and veteran homes, while also interacting and forming relationships with the inhabitants of Vladimir and being exposed to the culture of modern-day Russia.



Rediate Molla | Columbus, OH — Economics and Public Policy, 2018

Originally from Columbus, Ohio, Rediate Molla is a sophomore studying Economics and Public Policy. This summer, she will travel to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to work with a local NGO in hopes of addressing the educational equity issues that face the city's burgeoning orphan population. She also anticipates that the time in her homeland will allow her to study sustainable service models as well as non-profit management.



Morgan Newman | Bloomington, IN — Public Policy and Sociology, 2019

Morgan is a first-year student at Vanderbilt University from Bloomington, Indiana. Morgan will be working and focusing on aspects of public policy and health policy that affect the community of Newham, London. Morgan will have the opportunity to partner with many different organizations that focus on health-related issues.



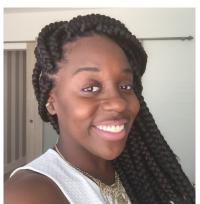
Karin Oh | Cincinnati, OH — Medicine, Health, and Society, 2018

Karin Oh is a sophomore from Cincinnati, Ohio, majoring in Medicine, Health, and Society. She hopes to combine her interests in science and humanitarian work by pursuing a career in medicine. At Vanderbilt, she devotes much time to exploring different ways to improve human health. She is the founder and president of Lyrical Movements, a service organization which helps provide music therapy services to children with disabilities. This summer, she will travel to Dodowa, Ghana, to further delve in her passions for public health. Her project aims to provide access to basic healthcare and affordable treatment services to local children and adults. In addition to assisting local healthcare professionals in performing health check-ups, she also plans to formulate and deliver educational talks at orphanages, schools, churches, villages, and community centers about the importance of hygiene and healthy lifestyle choices.



Kelly Perry \mid Chiang Mai, Thailand — English, Neuroscience, Medicine, Health, and Society, 2018

Kelly is a sophomore from Chiang Mai, Thailand. She is active in the Multicultural Leadership Council, VUcept, and Vanderbilt Circle K. For six weeks, Kelly will serve alongside locals in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth, assisting with projects in the medical clinic, primary school, and nutrition unit. She is extremely honored to have this opportunity and excited to make an impact within and beyond her sphere of influence, to absorb all the richness South Africa has to offer, and to better appreciate this vast land of hope.



Mona Quarless | Brooklyn, NY — M.Ed., Child Studies

Mona is a master's student in the Empirical Research Track of the Child Studies program. Mona's service project will target the implementation of culturally-sensitive practices when working with community-based projects.



Megan Ramirez | Vernon Hill, IL — Special Education and Child Studies, 2017

Megan is a junior studying Special Education and Child Studies, and is from Vernon Hills, Illinois. This summer, Megan will serve in Quito with the Vanderbilt University Office of Active Citizenship & Service Ecuador Project. Megan will have the opportunity to be part of the community partners' wonderful work with children and adults with disabilities.



Matt Reynolds | Westport, CT — Medicine, Health, and Society, 2016

Matthew Reynolds is from Westport, CT and is part of the class of 2016. Matthew is pursuing a major in Medicine, Health and Society and minors in Spanish and Psychology. Matthew's project take place in Cusco, Peru working in one of the several underfunded and understaffed hospitals. Thanks to the Nichols fund, Matthew will be able to help ensure that more patients in this region will be able to receive the care that they greatly need!



Radha Sathanayagam | Staten Island, NY — Medicine, Health, and Society, 2018

Radha Sathanayagam is a sophomore from Staten Island, NY majoring in Medicine, Health, & Society on the pre-med track. She is looking forward to being part of the Vanderbilt OACS Global Service Immersion Program in South Africa, where she will engage in service with the Missionvale Care Centre and Sapphire Road Primary in Port Elizabeth. The service program will address various needs of the community including education, social injustice, and healthcare.



Layla Shahmohammadi | Pueblo, CO — Human and Organizational Development and Political Science, 2019

Layla Shahmohammadi is from Pueblo, Colorado. Layla is a freshman in the College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University pursuing a double major in Human and Organizational Development and Political Science. In the summer of 2016, Layla will participate in the South Africa Service Immersion Program alongside two community partners, Missionvale Care Centre and Sapphire Road Primary, in Port Elizabeth. While there, Layla will work to promote self-development and provide love to the people of the townships, all while challenging assumptions and considering new perspectives.



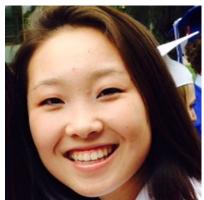
Paul Snider | Mandeville, Jamaica — Biology and English, 2016

Paul grew up in Mandeville, Jamaica and is currently a senior, studying Biology and English. As the son of American missionaries to Jamaica, he has grown up crossculturally and is passionate about working with high school students with similar experiences. This summer Paul will return to Port Shepstone, South Africa, for eight weeks. His team will work with young people in local communities strongly affected by HIV and unemployment. For three weeks before the trip, he will work as one of three intern leaders, developing 11 college interns that will in turn lead the 80 high school participants in SA.



Carly Stewart | Libertyville, IL — Psychology and Medicine, Health, and Society, 2017

Carly Stewart is from Libertyville, IL. A member of the class of 2017, Carly is double majoring in Psychology and Medicine, Health, and Society. Carly's project takes place in Stellenbosch, South Africa, learning about the health care system and working in clinical rotations in Public Health Care community clinics. Carly will be looking at multiple aspects of South African health care such as HIV and AIDS, malnutrition and poverty, environmental health, and worldviews of health.



Joanna Sun | Highland Park, IL — Economics, 2018

Joanna is a member of the class of 2018 in the School of Arts and Science. Joanna plans to major in Economics with minors in Chinese and Financial Economics. This summer Joanna will be going to Morocco through a service trip with the Office of Active Citizenship & Service to work with other cohorts in various local NGOs.



Harini Suresh | Celina, TX — Oboe Performance and Chemistry, 2017

Harini Suresh is currently a junior at Vanderbilt University (class of 2017), studying oboe performance and chemistry. She hails from the great state of Texas, and is immensely excited to travel to South Africa this summer with OACS to learn through service. The OACS immersion program spans three cities - Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, and Cape Town - with service opportunities ranging from collaborations with local community programs to meeting with activists to volunteering at a primary school and clinic. The immersion program spans six weeks, during which a deep understanding and appreciation for the history and culture of South Africa will be gained.



Courtland Sutton | Charleston, SC — Communication Studies and Public Policy, 2017

Courtland Sutton is a Junior from Charleston, South Carolina in the College of Arts and Sciences double-majoring in Communication Studies and Public Policy. She will collaborate with the Danish National Centre for Social Research Fellows Program to study barriers to access higher education for homeless students. She plans to research comparisons across the methods and solutions used in different countries to create more solutions for American students.



Ana Vassan | Western Springs, IL — Cognitive Studies Major, 2018

This summer, Ana will be traveling to Quito, Ecuador with a small cohort of peers to engage in a four-week long service project. Ana will work as a teacher in an elementary school in Quito to develop the interests and work ethics of the children, while being immersed in the culture native to Ecuador.



Justin Yeh | Auburn, AL — Molecular and Cellular Biology, 2016

Justin Yeh is a senior from Auburn, AL. He is majoring in Molecular and Cellular Biology and will attend medical school in the fall. Justin will be participating in the OACS Global Service Project to London, where he will work to address community health and health education issues among minority populations.



Chelsea Yip | Tampa, FL — Computer Science, 2018

Chelsea is so excited to be participating in the OACS Global Service Program in Morocco this summer. Through a partnership with the Cross Cultural Center for Learning, Chelsea will be working with local NGOs focusing on human rights, education, and health care.



Abel Yosef | Nashville, TN — Economics and Medicine, Health and Society, 2018

Abel Yosef is from Nashville, Tennessee. Abel is a sophomore double majoring in Economics and Medicine, Health, and Society. This summer, Abel will be serving communities in Rabat, Morocco through Vanderbilt's Office of Active Citizenship and Service (OACS) Summer Service Program. In Morocco, the service projects will address issues ranging from education for the disadvantaged to human rights.

Recipients of the Nichols Humanitarian Fund Award from the

Vanderbilt Law School



Rachel Z. Johnson | Temple, TX — Vanderbilt Law School

Rachel is a rising second-year students at Vanderbilt Law School. She is from Temple, TX, and double-majored in German and History at Amherst College. Shortly after graduation, she moved to Berlin, Germany, where she interned at the German parliament through the International Parliamentarian Scholarship program. Through her internship, Rachel became interested in international humanitarian law. This summer, Rachel will be working for the Radovan Karadzic defense team at the Residual Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT) in The Hague, Netherlands.



Olivia Marshall | Washington, D.C. — Vanderbilt Law School

Olivia Marshall is a law student in the class of 2018 from Washington, D.C. This summer, Olivia will work as a legal intern at the Office of the Pardon Attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice. Olivia will review clemency petitions from federal inmates to help determine whether inmates are eligible for executive clemency. Many inmates are non-violent drug offenders serving sentences that would be substantially lower if they were convicted of the same offense today.



Alexandre Todorov | St. Louis, MO — Vanderbilt Law School

Alexandre Todorov is a member of the Vanderbilt Law School class of 2018 from St. Louis, Missouri. He will be working for DNA People's Legal Services in Window Rock, Arizona, on the Navajo nation. DNA offers free legal representation for civil litigation to clients who could not otherwise afford an attorney. Alexandre will be doing client intake, taking depositions, helping choose which clients to represent, writing trial documents, and aiding attorneys inside the courtroom during trial.