Nichols Humanitarian Fund live beyond yourself

2023 Recipients To the recipients,

Thank you for making service to humanity part of your summer. Your work this summer matters. You will make a difference and the people and the communities that you serve will be better off because of you and your projects. Janice and I are proud of you and our hopes and prayers are with you this summer and always.

With all our gratitude and admiration, *Ed and Janice Nichols*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1

RECIPIENTS

John Abad	2
Alexys Ahn	2
Marvi Ali	2 2 2 3 3
Natalie Andreoli	3
Charu Balamurugan	
Benedict Ballman	3
Ojas Bhagra	4
Dani Chacon	4
Riya Chinni	4
Muhammad Dilawar	5
Carson Dixon	5
Ralph Francois	5
Elaine Gboloo	6
Madison Glenn-Lawson	6
Ellen Habteyonas	6
Carol Ham	7
Jonathan Jesalva	7
Min Joo Kim	7
Jasmine Kongmanychanh	8
Camille Liska	8
Emma Marlowe	8
Mahd Mohsin	9
Maya Mueller	9
Anthony Munoz	9
Imaad Muwahid	10
Micah Olson	10
Aidan Pittsenbargar	10
Sujan Rachuri	11
Davis Recht	11
Luke Rickers	11
Marius Schueller	12
Yunah Song	12
Matthew Stein	12
Julia Tilton	13
Aryana Valedon	13
Soumia Vellanki	13
Carson Viggiano	14
Lillian Zheng	14



Introduction

The Nichols Humanitarian Fund is a companion scholarship fund to the Nichols-Chancellor's Medal. These programs seek to make Vanderbilt students better members of their communities and society in general by supporting their humanitarian activities and bringing speakers to Vanderbilt who embody the best of humanity. For more about the Fund, visit its website or contact Vanderbilt's Office of Experiential Learning and Immersion Vanderbilt.

Thirty-eight students received awards in 2023 to work on humanitarian projects during the summer academic break in eight U.S. cities and twelve foreign countries.

The projects are in Burlington KY, Indianapolis IN, Nashville TN, Pittsburgh PA, Redwood City CA, San Francisco CA, Santa Barbara CA, Washington D.C., Ecuador, France, Germany, Honduras, Latvia, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Spain, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, and Tanzania.

The projects include creating the first Peruvian School of Emerging Leaders program in Lima, Peru; teaching English lessons in both France and Spain; battling food insecurity in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; working with the disabled population in Nashville, Tennessee; creating a program to support young people formerly, currently or at-risk involvement within the California justice system; working to improve child education, care and poverty within Ecuador; working as an emergency medical technician in Mexico; aiding female entrepreneurs in Peru; providing education to individuals with special needs; partnering with Women's Economic Ventures in Santa Barbara, California; supporting the Mercy Health Clinic in Washington, D.C.; and much more.

The average GPA of the recipients is 3.74.



JOHN ABAD

Computer Science; Economics, '26

Hometown: Lima, Peru Project Location: Lima, Peru

"Through partnership with the non-profit, Captain Planet Foundation, I will create the first Peruvian School of Emerging Leaders within Lima, Peru. The aim is to provide training to young people to become the next generation of social and environmental-positive leaders that will change the world. We will provide a comprehensive curriculum on social impact and assist students with leadership potential in developing their Climate Action Plans. I am eager to learn how to inspire and empower the next generation of environmental leaders so that they can continue to drive positive change in the future."

ALEXYS AHN

History, '24

Hometown: Los Angeles, California Project Location: Barcelona, Spain and Normandy, France

"I will be working with organizations in both Spain and France where my main objective will be teaching students English. I will be serving various needs in these spaces including playing with the students, cleaning, and performing maintenance. This project is important to me because supporting youth is crucial to the success of our future. I hope to learn strategies for engaging with large communities in impactful ways that last generations."

MARVI ALI

Economics; Cognitive Studies, '25

Hometown: Hopkinton, Massachusetts
Project Location: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

"This summer, I will volunteer with 412 Food Rescue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This organization partners with food retailers, volunteer drivers, and nonprofit organizations to connect surplus food with individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity. I plan to work as a "Food Rescue Hero" at the grass-roots level, bagging large amounts of donated food into individual servings and delivering them across Pittsburgh."



NATALIE ANDREOLI

Cognitive Studies, '25

Hometown: Wyckoff, New Jersey
Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"I will be working with Disability Rights Tennessee within their outreach departments to assist in staff projects and/or develop a tangible product. My aim is to help disabled P-12 students and families better understand their rights, know what resources are available, and have a welcoming support system!"

CHARU BALAMURUGAN

Biological Sciences; Medicine, Health & Society, '25 Hometown: Los Angeles, California Project Location: Redwood City, California

"My project focuses on increasing mental health supports for reentry youth at the Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY) Program in Redwood City, CA, an organization that caters to youth formerly, currently, or at risk of involvement with the justice system. More specifically, I will be creating and facilitating a music & wellness program for reentry youth at FLY and girls at the Margaret J. Kemp Camp, a community school in San Mateo County. Ultimately, this project is aimed at increasing resiliency among these justice-involved youth, along with improving educational outcomes in the long-run."



Philosophy; Public Health, '25

Hometown: Potomac, Maryland Project Location: Quito, Ecuador

"I will work to support NGOs operating in the Ecuadorian capital in their mission of improving childcare, child education, and other vital aspects of children's lives in the country. Given the challenges many children face in Ecuador, we will be working to break the cycle of poverty that has ensnared so many lives."





OJAS BHAGRA

Medicine, Health & Society, '25
Hometown: Rochester, Minnesota
Project Location: Quito, Ecuador

"Quito possesses a large population of children coming from low-income communities who struggle with accessing the basic necessities of life, preventing them from capturing their full potential in the classroom. I have partnered with International Volunteer HQ and a nongovernmental organization to engage in their community outreach efforts, in addition to growing their strategic reach to attract more funding in order to fuel the efficacy of their programs."

DANI CHACON

Political Science; Latin American Studies, '25
Hometown: Orlando, Florida
Project Location: Munich, Germany

"I am excited to be working with The Excellence Center in Munich, Germany. This service project focuses on volunteering with refugees in Germany and advocating for human rights in refugee camps. I will also be working on the integration of Syrian refugee children into German society."



Medicine, Health & Society; Psychology, '24
Hometown: Carmel, Indiana
Project Location: Indianapolis, Indiana

"This summer, I'll be leading a comprehensive women's health lecture series, at a domestic violence shelter, to help inform and educate survivors of breast cancer awareness, prenatal nutrition, and reproductive health. With the help of the generous NHF, I will be able to distribute products at each health discussion and to shelter residents. These products include menstrual products, prenatal vitamins, and more. I hope to empower women at the shelter in understanding their own bodies and equip them with the knowledge and tools necessary to promote a broader understanding of their health!"





MUHAMMAD DILAWAR

Computer Science; Cognitive Studies, '25

Hometown: Lahore, Pakistan Project Location: Punjab, Pakistan

"I will be partnering with the Parwah Foundation to work with governmental schools that lack library, internet or computer access. Working with Parwah Foundation we are assisting these schools in providing access to these educational resources. I will be hosting workshops that introduce them to literary facilities around them and online. Allowing them to learn outside their classroom with the new resources available. Moreover, I want to host similar workshops by collaborating with a NGO that has schools of similar nature."

CARSON DIXON

Human and Organizational Development, '25 Hometown: Tampa, Florida Project Location: Quito, Ecuador

"My project focuses on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #10 to help aid reduced inequalities. I will be supporting existing NGOs on projects they are currently working on in Quito. These tasks include, but are not limited to, administrative support, fundraising, grant applications, marketing and communications, website design, creating or developing sustainable projects, social support activities, teaching children, cleaning and repairing equipment, and assisting with other campaigns. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to make an impact beyond my immediate community."

RALPH FRANCOIS

Psychology, '25

Hometown: Cap-Haïtien, Haiti

Project Location: France

"My service project will be centered around field methods in archaeological and/or forensic excavation in France. Working with defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) to focus on the practice of excavation techniques to aid in the recovery of any human remains found in association with a plane crash site, as well as personal effects or other evidence that will help identify missing individuals. In an effort to return the bodies of servicemen from WWII to their loved ones."



ELANIE GBOLOO

Biomedical Engineering; Medicine, Health & Society, '25
Hometown: Prairieville, Louisiana
Project Location: Barcelona, Spain

"I will be working with the healthcare company Roche in Barcelona to research how to expand diabetes care. Our goal is to make Diabetes care more accessible in order to make the condition more manageable for patients."



MADISON GLENN-LAWSON

Political Science; Economics, '24

Hometown: Fairlawn, Ohio

Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"The service project I will be partaking in is Launch Mentorship's Nashbash. Nash Back-to-School Bash is a backto-school fair where free school supplies are given to Nashville families along with a day filled with food and fun for the entire family."

ELLEN HABTEYONAS

Cognitive Studies; Medicine, Health & Society, '25
Hometown: Blacksburg, Virginia
Project Location: Halle, Germany

"My project will address the needs of refugee/migrant Arab and African children residing in Halle, Germany through an internship at the Excellence Center. This center serves as a community resource and language school for the thousands of refugees and migrants residing in this town who have come for a variety of reasons, but often having fled conflict in their home countries. As an intern, I will be helping run workshops sharing marketable skills with the refugee community such as CV writing, photo/video editing, and academic writing.



CAROL HAM

International Human Rights & Advocacy, '24

Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia

Project Location: San Francisco, California

"I will serve as a multilingual tutor and professional development coach for the at-risk youth in San Francisco, California. As a volunteer, I will work in the delivery and distribution department to help the nonprofits, Larkin Street and La Casa de Las Madres in the distribution of supplies to youth in shelters, congregate housing, and scattered sites on the weekends. Additionally, I plan to help with their marketing outreach strategies, community education initiatives, and lobbying/tabling efforts."

JONATHAN JESALVA

Electrical & Computer Engineering, '25 Hometown: Cary, North Carolina Project Location: Taipei, Taiwan

"I will be working with disadvantaged children in Taipei's rural areas, who may not have access to education due to medical, physical, or financial reasons. As a part of my role, I will be involved in curriculum planning and teaching centered on creative thinking in all disciplines."



MIN JOO KIM

Biochemistry, '24

Hometown: Seoul, South Korea Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"I believe that we can do best for children on the spectrum when we integrate and communicate as a team. Through the experience, I will be working with ACCESS (Autistic Children Care for Early access to Social Skill training) a program that creates a place for children on the spectrum to experience social skills through different activities such as arts, exercise and more. The project's aim is to create a community to support the communication among the family members, facilitate early diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and enhance social interactions between autistic children in Nashville, Tennessee."



JASMINE KONGMANYCHANH

Biological Sciences, '24

Hometown: Murfreesboro, Tennessee Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"Through the OFC's Adult and Child Advocate Internship, I will assist domestic abuse victims in Nashville, TN, in receiving protection against their perpetrators. I will serve this community by helping victims navigate the court system, access basic needs, and receive emotional support."



CAMILLE LISKA

Medicine, Health & Society; Cognitive Studies, '25 Hometown: Chatham, Massachusetts Project Location: Ollantaytambo, Peru

"I will volunteer with Awamaki, an organization that provides opportunities for Indigenous women artisans living in Peru by connecting them to an online marketplace and wholesale programs to sell their work. The organization additionally aims to equip women with the skills to form new client relationships to grow their businesses independently of Awamaki. In turn, the Awamaki supports women's financial independence to support themselves and their local communities to keep their culture alive."

EMMA MARLOWE

Sociology, '25

Hometown: Dayton, Ohio

Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"This summer, I will volunteer as an Assistant Teacher with the East Nashville Hope Exchange to improve elementary literacy rates in the Maplewood and Stratford clusters. Literacy is the foundation of learning, communication, and social mobility, but especially with virtual learning, many students have fallen behind. This program is designed to provide students with a love for learning that lasts a lifetime, and as a volunteer Assistant Teacher, I hope to make a significant impact on their educational journeys."



MAHD MOHSIN

Computer Science; Mathematics, '26 Hometown: Lahore, Pakistan Project Location: Pakistan

"My project aims to address the recent flooding in Pakistan. As a result of the flooding, over 10 million people in regions across the country have been affected and even displaced. Therefore, the flood relief campaign under my project can provide these people with a fresh start."

MAYA MUELLER

Clarinet Performance, '25

Hometown: Rio Rancho, New Mexico

Project Location: Kilimanjaro Region, Tanzania

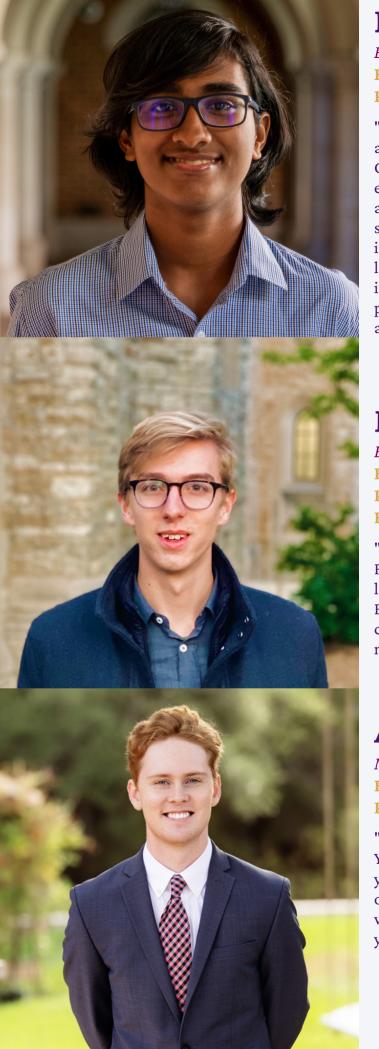
"My service project is to teach clarinet to students in the Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania. On top of the free music education, the Daraja Music Initiative also partners with local conservationists to plant and conserve Mpingo trees which are also known as African Blackwood trees. These trees are the source of the wood used to manufacture clarinets and other wood-based art around the world and the high demand for this wood has threatened the future sustainability of Mpingo trees."



ANTHONY MUNOZ

Physics; Bassoon Performance, '24 Hometown: Rockwall, Texas Project Location: Riga, Latvia

"I will be volunteering at a summer camp for Latvian students and Ukrainian student refugees. The camp is three weeks long, and we will spend the following three weeks checking in with all of the students we meet. We hope to engage these students on a holistic level and develop not only personal relationships with them, but also foster new relationships between the two groups."



IMAAD MUWAHID

Economics; Political Science, '26
Hometown: Colombo, Sri Lanka
Project Location: Colombo, Sri Lanka

"My project involves the establishment of computer labs and a series of digital literacy workshops in two orphanages in Colombo, Sri Lanka. This endeavor is expected to help to empower disadvantaged and impoverished youth who lack access to holistic and practical education, thereby strengthening their academic background whilst ingraining important soft and hard skills. Therefore, once the youth leave the orphanage, the risk of them falling into low-pay informal employment is much lower given that they would possess the skills to access decent employment opportunities and therefore a better quality of life."

MICAH OLSON

Economics; History; Philosophy, '25
Hometown: Northfield, Minnesota

Project Location: Barcelona, Spain and Normandy,

France

"I will be working as a leader at a Multi-cultural camp in France, InterAction Camp, engaging youth with English learning opportunities. Following this I will volunteer in Barcelona through a local church, Simeon Trust, to assist the community through service projects, relationship building meetings, and English lessons."

AIDAN PITTSENBARGAR

Mathematics, '24

Hometown: Austin, Texas

Project Location: Barcelona, Spain

"I will partner with Esparanca Barcelona and the City Council Youth Division to provide support for both the underprivileged youth and unhoused populations of Barcelona. My roles in each organization will provide the opportunity to execute four city wide meal distribution marches and educate a small group of young adults in a variety of academic disciplines."



SUJAN RACHURI

Computer Science; Applied Mathematics, '24

Hometown: Dublin, Ohio

Project Location: Galapagos Islands, Ecuador

"My service project aims to investigate cardiovascular disease risk factors and trends in the Galápagos Islands. Using this information, I will develop and implement a digital education platform to target these modifiable factors and track the potential resulting changes in health outcomes."

DAVIS RECHT

Public Policy Studies; Climate Studies, '24

Hometown: Fort Thomas, Kentucky

Project Location: Burlington, Kentucky

"My service experience would involve expanding the bedding, clothing, and toiletry items of Project Campfire, a nonprofit in Northern Kentucky with the mission of fostering kids' happiness through balancing out socioeconomic discrepancies. As founder and president of Project Campfire, I would spearhead the effort. This summer and through this project, the nonprofit would expand its distribution of needed resources to children attending the summer camp and create a new bedding package system."

LUKE RICKERS

Psychology; Communication Studies, '25
Hometown: Saint Louis, Missouri
Project Location: Ollantaytambo, Peru

"I am going to work as a consultant for female Andean Weavers in the mountain town of Ollantaytambo. Given that the majority of Peruvian women have little personal income, I am working with Awamaki to help these women get their products to domestic and international markets, improving their financial literacy and establishing financial independence."



MARIUS SCHUELLER

Computer Science, '25

Hometown: Minnetonka, Minnesota

Project Location: Lima, Peru

"I will be providing service with the youth in Villa María del Triunfo in Lima, Peru. I will create workshops to teach English, Music, and Math to the youth. My goal is to teach the youth valuable skills and build a sense of community"

YUNAH SONG

Cognitive Studies; Child Development, '24

Hometown: Mansfield, Texas

Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"GiGi's Playhouse is a nation-wide nonprofit that aims to provide free educational, therapeutic-based, and career development programs for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, and the community through a fun and engaging playhouse model. The first component of the project consists of purchasing and utilizing digital devices to increase access to more tutoring resources that are currently unavailable due to the lack of digital devices at the playhouse. The second component of the project includes implementing a digital literacy curriculum for their TeenTastic program that provides services to their teenage participants."

MATTHEW STEIN

Neuroscience, '24

Hometown: East Grand Rapids, Michigan Project Location: Ciudad Cuauhtémoc, Mexico

"I will be traveling to Cuauhtémoc Chihuahua with my family, and volunteering for the Cruz Roja as an Emergency Medical Technician. I will be working on the ambulances and responding to 911 calls throughout the community."



JULIA TILTON

Earth & Environmental Science; Spanish, '24 Hometown: Amherst, New Hampshire Project Location: Campeche, Mexico

"Working alongside nonprofit organization Ninth Wave Global in Mexico's Yucatán region, I will serve in an environmental journalism position focused on ethical storytelling. This work will bridge the science communication gap by bringing awareness at regional and international levels to issues faced by communities and indigenous populations in the Yucatán, a region affected by drought and deforestation. My work will incorporate on-theground involvement in sustainability projects intended to improve quality of life in Campeche."

ARYANA VALEDON

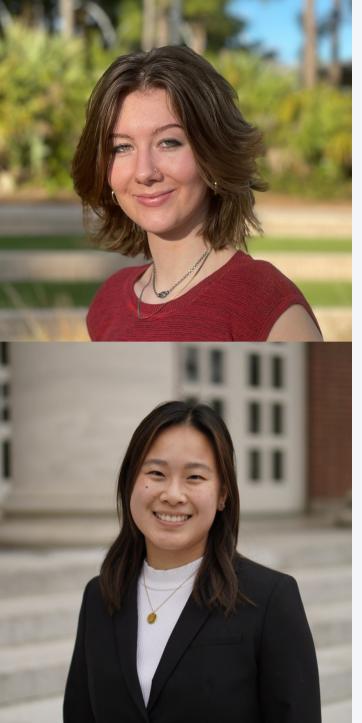
Medicine, Health & Society; Spanish, '24
Hometown: Baltimore, Maryland
Project Location: Tegucigalpa, Honduras

"This summer, I will be serving as a clinical volunteer and research intern for One World Surgery. I will spend 3 weeks on the ground, about an hour northeast of Tegucigalpa, at the Holy Family Surgery Center operated on the property of the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos children's home. I will spend the following 7 weeks as a remote research intern, helping to organize and interpret the data collected while at the surgery center to be compiled into a final project."

SOUMIA VELLANKI

Human and Organizational Development; Sociology, '25
Hometown: Corners, Georgia
Project Location: Santa Barbara, California

"I plan to partner with Women's Economic Ventures in Santa Barbara, California to design a culturally relevant Credit Building program supporting Latinx, Indigenous, and women small business owners. Poor credit is currently an obstacle to securing small business loans. The goals of the project include (1) understanding the credit building needs of WEV clients, (2) conducting benchmarking research on current credit building offerings, and (3) presenting a comprehensive program implementation plan for launch in 2024."



CARSON VIGGIANO

International Political Conflict; Spanish; Portuguese, '25
Hometown: Portland, Oregon
Project Location: Nashville, Tennessee

"I will be working with Vanderbilt University's Latin American Public Opinion Project by translating and auditing interviews about democratic opinion in Latin America, processing and modeling data, and writing analytic reports about study findings. Additionally, I will be working with Tennessee Justice for Our Neighbors, translating information and documents regarding naturalization processes and the organization's relevant legal services."

LILLIAN ZHENG

Psychology; Medicine, Health & Society, '24 Hometown: Potomac, Maryland Project Location: Washington, D.C.

"Through my work with Mercy Health Clinic, I can help provide support to increase the efficiency of the clinic's high-quality healthcare and health education for community members to help ensure that everyone in the county and nearby cities has access to and receives the medical care they deserve. My goal to fundraise and contribute monetary support will bring the organization closer to their missions and recruit more volunteer healthcare professionals and physicians to work at Mercy Health. This will increase the quality and diversity of care patients can receive—a necessary and essential human right."

