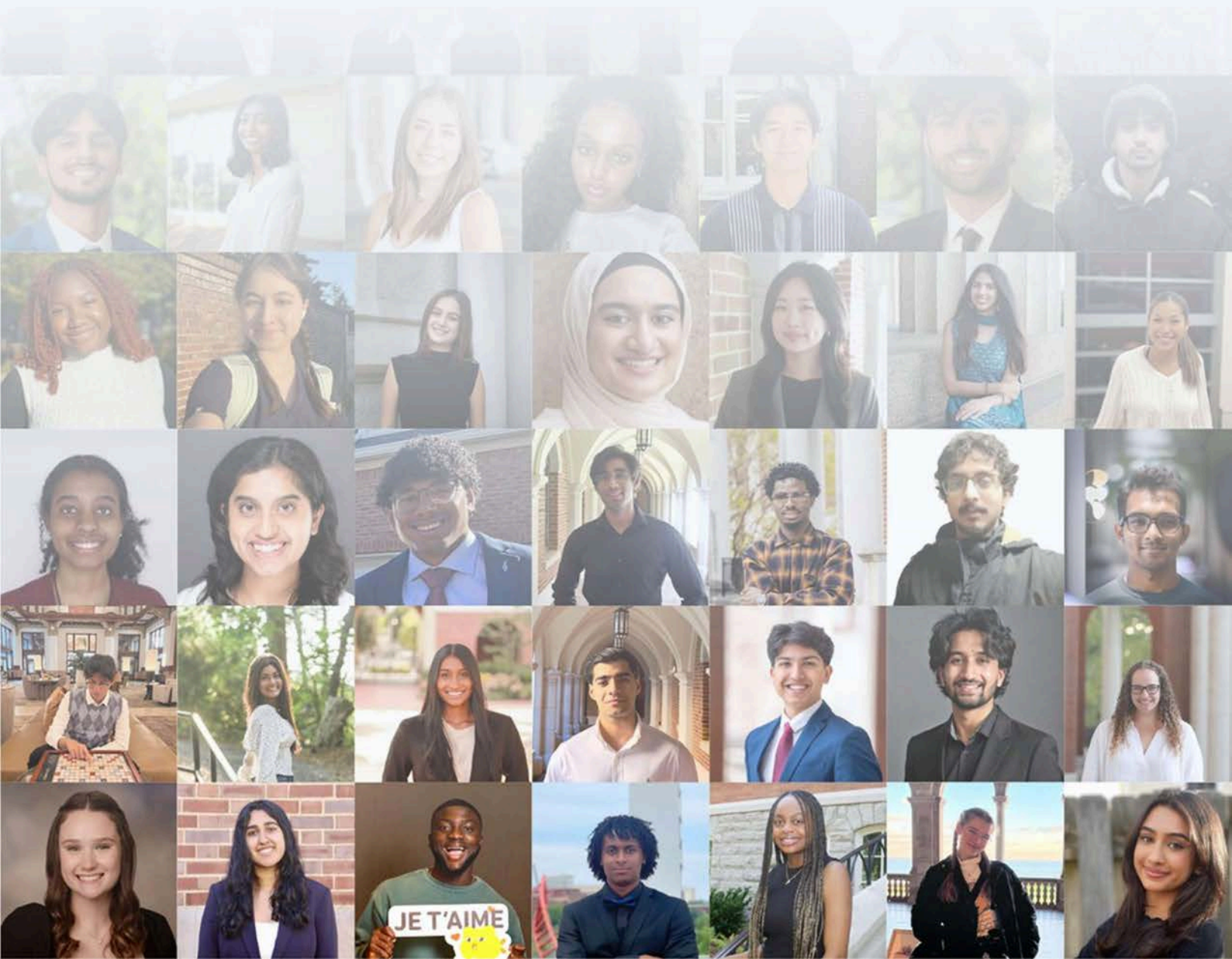




VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY  
Nichols Humanitarian Fund

# 2025 Nichols Scholars





To the Nichols Scholars,

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***

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# Introduction

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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 the office of Immersion Vanderbilt.

Fifty-four Nichols Scholars were selected in 2025 to work on humanitarian projects during the summer academic break in nine U.S. states and twenty-one foreign countries.

The projects are in Atlanta, GA; Denver, CO; Fort Lauderdale and South Florida; Honolulu and the island of Oahu, HI; Houston, TX; Nashville, TN; New York, NY; St. Louis, MO; Trenton, NJ; Argentina; Australia; Cameroon; Chile; Costa Rica; Egypt; England; Ethiopia; Fiji; Germany; Greece; Guatemala; India; Indonesia; Japan; Malta; Nepal; Pakistan; Panama; South Korea; and Ukraine.

The projects include studying a unique mutational signature in renal cell carcinoma prevalent in Japanese patients; creating a video about Plaza Mariachi in Nashville highlighting its cultural significance and community impact; launching a digital learning lab in rural Pakistan that will help out-of-school girls go back to school; distributing hygiene and food care-packages to the homeless in Atlanta and organizing a street art fundraiser to share their stories; conducting STEM education workshops for disadvantaged Nashville high school students; establishing a pharmacy and mobile medical units in rural Pakistan; sending new physics and chemistry lab equipment to an underfunded high school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and teaching the students how to use it; making a documentary about how Kyoto, Japan, preserves its cultural heritage and sharing their strategies with communities in Ghana facing similar challenges; introducing North St. Louis public school students to 3D printing and printing a free prosthetic device for a patient; working to end the practice of chhaupadi in Nepal; teaching impoverished students in Indonesia generative AI; developing a curriculum that includes human rights education for schools in Kerala, India; and much more.

Nichols Scholars and projects can change after they are announced. The final Nichols Scholars and projects for the year after all changes are found in the Reflection Reports and may differ from those originally posted.





## SHAFABBBAS

*Psychology; Public Policy Studies, '26*

**Hometown:** Lawrenceville, GA

**Project Location:** New York, NY

“For my service project, I will work with New York Common Pantry, assisting with daily operations such as food distribution, inventory management, and community outreach. Through this hands-on experience, I will gain insight into the logistical and policy challenges of addressing food insecurity. I am eager to apply what I learn to my future career in food security policy and take a meaningful step toward my long-term goal of opening a food bank.”



## SHREETI AMIT

*Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown:** Crestview, FL

**Project Location:** Tokyo, Japan

“I am partnering with the National Cancer Center Research Institute in Tokyo, Japan, and its affiliated institutions. My service project focuses on investigating a unique mutational signature in renal cell carcinoma prevalent in Japanese patients, linked to an unknown mutagen. I will assist in analyzing tumor samples, studying Th17 cell metabolism, and identifying potential sources of the mutagen. Additionally, I will engage in community outreach to raise awareness of RCC risk factors and prevention strategies. I hope to learn advanced techniques in genomic analysis and metabolic assays and gain a deeper understanding of the interplay between genetic mutations and immune cell metabolism in cancer.”



## ANEESH BATCHU

*Comm of Science & Technology; Neuroscience, '26*

**Hometown:** Chesterfield, MO

**Project Location:** Siheung, South Korea

“I will be working with this medical center in a variety of volunteer work to gain better perspective, including as a central supply room volunteer, health promotion center volunteer, hospital guide volunteer, and as a hospice volunteer. Some of my tasks would include managing materials and forms, visiting patients, and guiding visitors. Although involved with the medical field in the United States already, I am looking forward to learning about how healthcare varies globally firsthand.”



## ISAAC BEVIN BOAKYE

*Architecture and the Built Environment, '26*

**Hometown: Accra, Ghana**

**Project Location: Kyoto, Japan**

“My project is a documentary exploring how Kyoto preserves its cultural heritage amidst rapid modernization. By interviewing local artisans, architects, and community members, I aim to uncover strategies that balance tradition and progress. The goal is to share these insights with communities in Ghana facing similar challenges. I hope to learn how communities in Kyoto successfully protect their cultural identity while embracing modern life. I’m also eager to grow as a storyteller, learning how to capture these experiences in ways that inspire and inform others back home.”



## JOHN BOHATCH

*Chemical Engineering; Biomedical Engineering, '26*

**Hometown: Coral Gables, FL**

**Project Location: Nashville, TN**

“I will create a video project at Plaza Mariachi in Nashville, highlighting its cultural significance and community impact. Through interviews with visitors, staff, and residents, I aim to showcase how Plaza Mariachi fosters cultural exchange, supports local businesses, and strengthens community ties. I am most excited to use this opportunity to celebrate my heritage and share the impact of Hispanic culture in Nashville. As a Cuban American, creating this project at Plaza Mariachi allows me to connect with my roots while highlighting how cultural spaces strengthen community identity and belonging.”



## MARIA CARDENAS

*Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Miami, FL**

**Project Location: South Florida**

“I am honored to partner with Florida Baptist Mobile Dental Unit to volunteer as a registered dental assistant and volunteer Spanish interpreter. For three weeks over the summer I will assist in providing a variety of free dental treatments and oral health education to underserved communities in South Florida. As an aspiring Latina in dental medicine, I hope to strengthen my patient interaction skills through hands-on clinical involvement. My experience will expose me to the social and health determinants affecting nearby communities, inspiring me to find ways to address these challenges in the future as a professional.”





## MICHAEL CARROLL

*Engineering Science; English, '26*

**Hometown: Vallejo, CA**

**Project Location: Nashville, TN**

“I will be working within the Nashville library system to improve access to adult literacy resources and tools. I want to learn more about the state of literacy and local libraries in this country and what can be done to preserve access to books and other resources provided in these spaces. I also want to learn more about the Nashville community and what needs and expectations are within the scope of adult literacy and education. I would also like to learn about potential avenues to make books more accessible to the community.”



## LAASYA CHALLA

*Molecular & Cellular Biology; Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Ooltewah, TN**

**Project Location: Mysore, India**

“This Summer, I will intern with the Public Health Research Institute of India (PHRI) in Mysore, Karnataka. My work will focus on community-based participatory research and educational outreach related to women’s health—particularly cervical cancer and breast cancer screening, as well as HPV prevention through vaccination programs. I hope to deepen my understanding of how public health research and clinical care intersect in resource-limited settings.”



## ABDOULAYE CHARLES

*Political Science, '27*

**Hometown: Antioch, TN**

**Project Location: Nashville, TN**

“This project, hosted by LAUNCH Mentorship in partnership with MoreComputing and the McGruder Family Resource Center, is a STEM education initiative for under-resourced students in Metro Nashville. Taking place from June 2–13, 2025, it will engage 15 students in hands-on technology workshops, problem-solving exercises, and mentorship from STEM professionals. The goal is to bridge the gap in STEM opportunities by equipping students with practical skills, career guidance, and confidence to pursue STEM education and careers. I believe that hands-on experience will not only spark curiosity in the students but also help me develop stronger mentorship and leadership skills.”



## LAUREN CHUNG

*Human & Organizational Development, '26*

**Hometown: Palo Alto, CA**

**Project Location: Naxxar, Malta**

“For the first two weeks, I’ll spend time interacting with students while meeting with faculty to design a lesson plan tailored to the student’s needs. By incorporating concepts about emotions through visuals, stories, and games, my objective is to help students understand how emotions influence behavior. In the final two weeks, I will teach these lessons, observing student responses and adjusting the plans as needed.”



## KATHRINE CORRENTI

*Human & Organizational Development; Political Science, '26*

**Hometown: Nashville, TN**

**Project Location: Sydney, Australia**

“I will be volunteering with FoodBank in Sydney, Australia. Foodbank's mission is simple, to "to end hunger by sourcing and distributing food for people in need." They are the largest hunger relief charity in Australia. As a volunteer, I will help organize and distribute food to local charity and school partners in the area. I am excited to be able to observe and engage with real-world hunger solutions and research to understand what works and why.”



## ERIN DAVIS

*Molecular and Cellular Biology, '27*

**Hometown: Plainfield, IL**

**Project Location: San Jose, Costa Rica**

“I’m grateful for the opportunity to take part in a three-week service project in San Jose, focused on supporting elderly and special needs populations. My work includes assisting with patient care, physical therapy, mealtimes, and activities like exercise workshops and arts and crafts. I hope to provide meaningful companionship while promoting dignity, inclusion, and overall well-being. I want to use my own privileges to help people who don’t always have access to the support they deserve, whether through healthcare, advocacy, or simply showing up for them.”





## KATHERINE DIAZ

*Neuroscience, '27*

**Hometown:** Austin, MN

**Project Location:** Panama City, Panama

"I will be part of a cohort of Vanderbilt students who will deliver medical aid to rural communities in Panama. As well as providing medical aid, I will also assist in translating medical information between patients and doctors to help strengthen my Spanish speaking skills. This project is important to me because it combines two of my biggest passions: healthcare and service. I've always felt a calling to use my skills to help others, and being part of a medical mission trip allows me to do that in a very real and impactful way. I believe that everyone deserves access to quality healthcare, no matter where they live or what resources they have."



## NAHUM ENDALE

*Biochemistry; Medicine, Health, & Society, '27*

**Hometown:** Murfreesboro, TN

**Project Location:** Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

"My service project involves obtaining new chemistry lab equipment and sending it to an underfunded high school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. During my time in Addis Ababa, I will be teaching the students on how to utilize the equipment as well as lead students through lab procedures. I hope to immerse myself within the culture and hear the experiences of a high schooler in Ethiopia. Being aware of how people across the globe live their life in contrast to a typical American lifestyle is an important aspect of being a well-rounded individual."



## SHAYAAN ESSANI

*Medicine, Health, & Society; Psychology, '26*

**Hometown:** Hoover, AL

**Project Location:** Nashville, TN; Sydney, Australia

"I will be expanding my non-profit work from Nashville, TN, to one of the most developed countries still experiencing some of the world's highest levels of mental health disparities in Sydney, Australia. I'll be running public health campaigns to teach curricula that advocates for better access to mental healthcare and teaches curricula regarding the physiology integrating mental health, physical movement, and coping strategies in a simple way. I'll also be filming educational videos in a variety of languages teaching mental health principles that can be delivered to schools in less developed countries that lack a mental health curriculum."





## PRAVEENA ESWARAN

*Human & Organizational Development, '27*

**Hometown: Highlands Ranch, CO**

**Project Location: Denver, Colorado**

"I plan to work with Meliora Charity in Denver, Colorado. Meliora Charity is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that aims to support young adults with chemotherapy-induced hair loss through wig and head accessory programs throughout the greater Colorado community. I will be interning with this non-profit, assisting with outreach and aiming to help the organization meet its goals of serving this underserved community of young adult cancer patients. I hope that this experience will deepen my understanding of the several psychological factors that may be overlooked in clinical settings for young adult cancer patients."



## KATELYN GREENFIELD

*Special Education; Child Development, '26*

**Hometown: Centennial, CO**

**Project Location: Kathmandu, Nepal**

"I will be volunteering with International Volunteer HQ's Special Needs Care program in Kathmandu, Nepal, providing support to children with disabilities. My role will involve assisting with educational activities, daily caregiving, and skill development, helping to create a more inclusive learning environment. This experience will allow me to apply my special education background in an international setting while learning about disability support in Nepal."



## HANA HAILU

*Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Mount Juliet, TN**

**Project Location: Sigatoka, Fiji**

"I will be working with kids and adults to make an overall impact on community as a whole. Will be spending time interacting/playing with kids, but then also helping build lesson plans & curriculums and then in doing that also helping children learn. Additionally, will be helping older members in the community with learning as well, but also helping educating them on movements such as the women's right movement. In all will be closely interacting with the community as a whole to make the biggest and impactful change in the community."



## ANTHONY HOANG

*Neuroscience; Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Honolulu, HI**

**Project Location: Honolulu, Hawaii**

“For my service project, I will partner with Palama Settlement in Honolulu to support middle and high school students from underserved communities as they prepare for life after graduation. I will develop lesson plans on post-secondary opportunities, connect students with local colleges and professionals from various fields, and organize workshops to help them explore potential career paths and build confidence in their future goals.”



## AHMED IMAMI

*Biological Sciences; Psychology, '26*

**Hometown: Merritt Island, FL**

**Project Location: Sydney, Australia**

“We are raising awareness about the importance of both mental and physical wellbeing. We will teach lessons that incorporate activities that our participants can take back with them to use in their daily lives. I hope to learn about a new culture in Sydney because I have never been to Australia. Secondly, I hope to evaluate how big of a priority mental and physical health is placed on various populations.”



## ZAIN IMTIAZ

*Neuroscience, '27*

**Hometown: Valley Stream, NY**

**Project Location: Berlin, Germany**

“My service project involves working as a health outreach worker/volunteer with Alzheimer's groups in Germany. Through informational posters, social media work, and public sessions, I hope to provide information to individuals so that they are better equipped to assist their loved ones who may be suffering from Alzheimer's. Additionally, I intend to provide information on how to live a better lifestyle, one that will aid people in maintaining their brain health.”





## GABRIELLE JOSEPH

*Biomedical Engineering, '27*

**Hometown: Longpond, PA**

**Project Location: Panama City, Panama**

“I am grateful for the opportunity to engage with the community in Panama to make a lasting impact and support sustainable change. This generous support will enrich my undergraduate experience and provide me with a deeper understanding of community engagement and its role in addressing healthcare disparities. Throughout my service project, I hope to gain a deeper understanding of global healthcare disparities and reflect on both the strengths and shortcomings of the American healthcare system. I also look forward to learning about region-specific medical conditions and Panamanian cultural approaches to healthcare.”



## SOPHIA KANTEJEVA

*Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: North Chicago, IL**

**Project Location: Nashville, TN**

“The medical kits I am preparing aim to provide essential healthcare supplies, such as wound care items, to underserved communities with limited access to medical resources or to war zones with urgent need for medical supplies. This project specifically targets communities in Ukraine and my hometown. By addressing immediate health needs and promoting basic first aid, I hope to offer both practical support and a sense of care from Vanderbilt to those affected by conflict and those who cannot afford health insurance.”



## SOPHIE KAVALALI

*Anthropology; Economics & History, '27*

**Hometown: Nashville, TN**

**Project Location: Neltume, Chile**

“My project will involve a series of investigations in Neltume, Chile, researching socioecological interactions between the Mapuche people and Northern Patagonia. We will be focusing on climate mitigation efforts in face of environmental disasters within the Choshuenco Volcano region. We will additionally be surveying Capuchin churches and residential schools across the Chilean-Argentine border that conducted forced assimilation of indigenous communities from the late 19th to early 20th centuries.”





## LYLA KIANI

*Computer Science, '26*

**Hometown: Brooklyn, NY**

**Project Location: Okinawa, Japan**

“Gathering on the ground data for my migration model for Loggerhead turtles who pass through Japan. I am excited for the opportunity to learn and interact with research professionals in a new country while also immersing myself in a new culture for an extended period of time. I hope to not only deepen my understanding of loggerhead turtles, but also to hopefully expand my perspectives and see how interconnected the world around us is.”



## CHLOE KIM

*Psychology, '26*

**Hometown: Marietta, GA**

**Project Location: Guatemala**

“I will go with Seton Hall University's chapter of Global Dental Brigades to remote, rural, and under resourced communities in Guatemala to implement sustainable health systems. Our team of students, medical professionals, and local communities will provide access to dental and medical care, while also delivering public health workshops aimed at empowering the community to meet its health goals.”



## NITYA KODALI

*Molecular & Cellular Biology; Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Houston, TX**

**Project Location: Nashville, TN; Houston, TX**

“I am most excited about the opportunity to expand Vanderbilt Illuminate and directly serve communities in need through diabetes education and free eye care services. Through this experience, I hope to deepen my understanding of the barriers underserved communities face in accessing diabetes care and eye health services. I aim to learn how to implement sustainable, community-driven health initiatives that effectively address these disparities. Additionally, I hope to develop stronger patient education and advocacy skills to empower individuals in managing their health.”



## HANNA KOSTIV

*European Studies; Economics & History, '26*

**Hometown: Kharkiv, Ukraine**

**Project Location: Lviv, Ukraine**

“This summer, I will volunteer with Razom for Ukraine as a tutor at a youth math camp and serve as an organizer for a major literary event in Lviv dedicated to the late Ukrainian writer Victoria Amelina. I will also lead English-language workshops and trainings on European democratic values for Ukrainian youth. My work will focus on education, cultural resilience, and community-building.”



## MONG NA LOI

*Biochemistry & Chemical Biology, '26*

**Hometown: Macau, Macao**

**Project Location: Fort Lauderdale, FL**

“This project directly targets the critical needs of underserved women in the Ft. Lauderdale area, particularly those affected by economic hardship, digital illiteracy, and gender-based violence. By bringing our programming to Ft. Lauderdale, we aim to provide women with practical skills, reduce the barriers of digital illiteracy, support survivors of domestic violence and provide community.”



## ISHAN MAHAJAN

*Medicine, Health, and Society '27*

**Hometown: Duluth, GA**

**Project Location: Athens, Greece**

“I will lead a health initiative that documents and promotes traditional Greek herbal remedies to improve health literacy and self-care practices among underserved refugee populations. Through educational workshops and multilingual resources, the project will equip individuals with culturally relevant, affordable solutions to common health challenges. I am excited to engage directly with local communities and bridge traditional knowledge with modern healthcare education. The Fund will empower me to address urgent health disparities while learning from the rich cultural landscape of Greece.”





## MEKLIT MESFIN

*Cognitive Studies; Medicine, Health, & Society, '27*

**Hometown: Crofton, MD**

**Project Location: Rural Panama**

“My service project is a week-long dental brigade in rural Panama, where I will assist local dentists in providing essential oral healthcare to underserved communities. As a pre-dental student, I will help with cleanings, fluoride treatments, extractions, and patient education, directly impacting hundreds of patients. This experience will allow me to develop my clinical skills while addressing critical gaps in dental care.”



## RIA MIRCHANDANI

*Neuroscience; Medicine, Health and Society, '26*

**Hometown: Saint Louis, MO**

**Project Location: Saint Louis, MO**

“The goal of this project is to introduce a group of middle and high school students from North St. Louis Public Schools to 3D printing. Through a series of workshops, students will learn how to design 3D prints in Autodesk Fusion and print them on a Bambu Lab X1C Combo 3D printer. The workshop series will culminate with students working in a team to 3D print an upper limb prosthetic device that will be donated to a recipient in need of the device.”



## MILIND NATRAJ MUTHIAH

*Economics; Neuroscience, '26*

**Hometown: Brentwood, TN**

**Project Location: Las Minas, Panama**

“I will lead a medical service trip to Las Minas, Panama, where our team will set up a clinic providing primary care, dental and ophthalmological services, pharmaceuticals, and preventive education to underserved communities. Collaborating with local healthcare professionals and community health workers, we will support a week-long brigade as part of a sustained, year-round initiative to improve healthcare access in rural Panama. I hope to gain a deeper understanding of the barriers to healthcare access in rural Panama and how the Panamanian healthcare system operates. I also want to learn about the primary health challenges in these communities and how rural doctors effectively treat them with limited resources.”





## AHMED NAWAZ

*Neuroscience, '27*

**Hometown: Gujrat, Pakistan**

**Project Location: Basti Dhup Sari, Pakistan**

"I'll be leading the launch of a Digital Learning Lab at Chiraagh Vocational Training School in rural Punjab, Pakistan. This initiative will equip out-of-school girls with essential digital and literacy skills, creating pathways for economic independence and re-entry into formal education. I'm incredibly excited to translate vision into impact—this funding allows me to bridge deep systemic gaps in education with tangible, community-centered solutions. It's a privilege to serve on the ground, alongside resilient individuals, and contribute to something that outlives me."



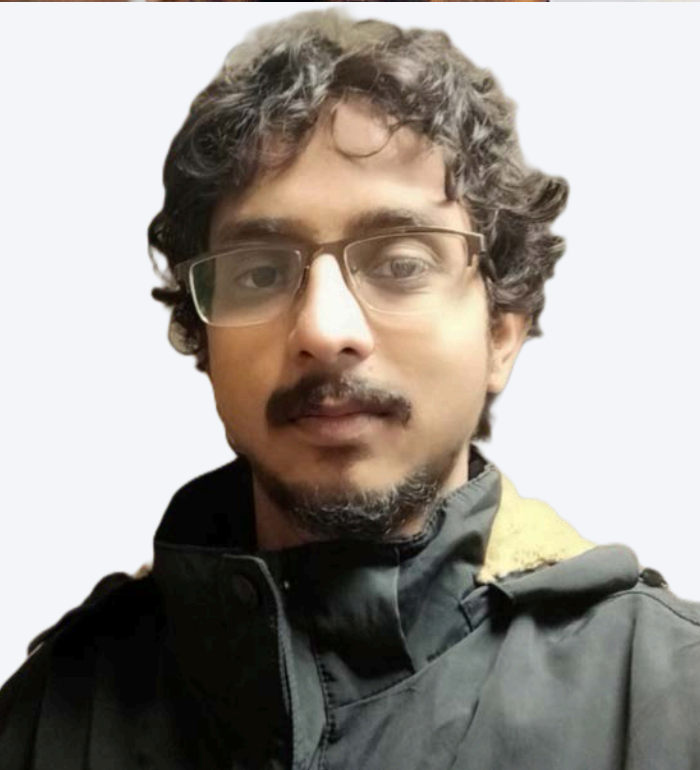
## WINSTON NFOR KANJO NDI

*Mechanical Engineering, '27*

**Hometown: Bamenda, Cameroon**

**Project Location: Bamenda, Cameroon**

"This August, I will travel to Cameroon to collaborate with OpenDreams and the Urega Foundation at a summer camp, where I will help guide high-achieving high school students from low-income backgrounds in preparing for standardized exams, unlocking global educational opportunities most of them would otherwise not have. We will empower them by providing the resources and support they need to achieve their dreams of accessing quality education from across the globe."



## BISHAL PANTHI

*Computer Science, '27*

**Hometown: Arghakhanchi, Nepal**

**Project Location: Mugum Karmarong, Nepal**

"My service project, "SustainHer Strength, End Violence: Period," aims to combat the harmful practice of Chhaupadi in Mugum Karmarong, Nepal, where women face isolation and gender-based violence during menstruation. Through educational workshops, menstrual hygiene training, and sustainable sanitary napkin production, the project seeks to empower women and raise awareness among students and local communities. By integrating scientific curriculum, creative arts challenges, and collaboration with local partners, this initiative strives to break menstrual taboos and promote gender equity."





## SOORAJ PUSAPATI

*Neuroscience, '27*

**Hometown:** Germantown, TN

**Project Location:** Las Minas, Panama

"I am very excited to travel to a new country and meet people with a different perspective on healthcare. Through this experience, I am looking forward to making a meaningful impact while learning more about global health disparities. I hope to learn how to effectively provide care in a setting with limited resources and adapt to these unique circumstances. This experience will help shape my approach to compassionate healthcare in the future."



## TAWFIQ RAWNAK

*Human & Organizational Development, '25*

**Hometown:** West Palm Beach, FL

**Project Location:** Bali & Lombok, Indonesia

"I will be working alongside the Bali Children's Fund to assist impoverished students in implementing an AI-based education curriculum to better promote education with just an internet connection. I hope to teach students, ranging from 12-year-olds to 20-year-olds of varying levels how to maximize the use of Generative AI for personal projects and personal/social innovation."



## ANTHONY RODAS

*Law, History, & Society; Political Science, '26*

**Hometown:** Trenton, NJ

**Project Location:** Trenton, NJ

"I will be teaching weekly English classes at the Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund (LALDEF) as an English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor. The aim is for the students to be comfortable with English to where they can use it in their daily life. I hope to learn techniques or skills that can help people learn other languages while I complete my humanitarian experience. I am also interested in learning more about the immigrant experience in the United States by interacting with the different students."





## SUMIRA SEHGAL

*Economics; Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Lewes, DE**

**Project Location: O'ahu, HI**

“My proposed project is to serve as a health assistant and community outreach worker at a managed care consortium in O'ahu, Hawaii. I will be working within a nonprofit integrated healthcare system that provides medical care, emphasizing prevention, awareness, wellness, and health education. I will take part in community health programs such as health screenings, educational initiatives, and the Youth and Wellness Program which focuses on teaching younger generations about the importance of nutrition and mental health.”



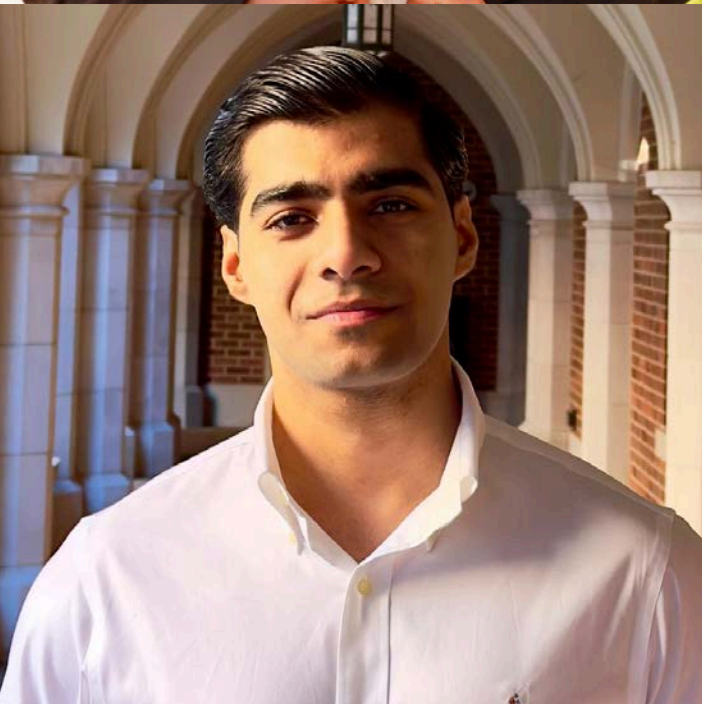
## SOWMYA SENTHILKUMAR

*Neuroscience, '26*

**Hometown: Knoxville, TN**

**Project Location: Panama**

“We will establish a healthcare clinic that includes a triage for initial health assessments and see that many of these patients have not seen a physician in years... patients will have the opportunity to receive dental and optometric care. As a volunteer, my personal favorite responsibility is spending time with children as many young patients need reassurance and support to alleviate their anxieties getting treatment. Overall, Vanderbilt Global Brigades will grow closer together as a local collegiate community while making the difference globally.”



## MUHAMMAD SHAMEER

*Medicine, Health, & Society; Molecular and Cellular Biology, '26*

**Hometown: Southington, CT**

**Project Location: Gilgit Baltistan, Pakistan**

“My service project aims to address the severe lack of medical infrastructure in underserved rural communities. In collaboration with the Ar Razzaq Foundation, I will procure essential medical supplies and help establish a small pharmacy along with mobile medical units to serve isolated villages. This initiative will provide much-needed healthcare services, reducing preventable complications and improving overall community well-being.”





## AYAAN SIDDIQUI

*Economics & History, '26*

**Hometown: Phoenix, AZ**

**Project Location: Palakkad, India**

"I will be leading a curriculum development initiative in partnership with the Nadam Foundation to integrate human rights education into schools in Kerala, India. Our team will work directly with students and educators to design engaging lesson plans that align with the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights while ensuring cross-cultural applicability for both Indian and U.S. schools. This project aims to foster global civic awareness and build stronger international educational partnerships. I'm excited to immerse myself in education efforts and engage with students, shaping a curriculum that will have a lasting impact on human rights education."



## SHREYASH SINGH

*Cognitive Studies; Mathematics, '26*

**Hometown: Kenner, LA**

**Project Location: San Jose, Costa Rica**

"As a volunteer, I will be tasked to assist local healthcare professionals deliver needed resources and promote health education to individuals from geographically isolated areas, where the current governmental healthcare system does not have available resources to support due to economic strains from rising healthcare costs within Costa Rica. Additionally, I will be able to assist implementing public health workshops and providing resources to increase preventative care measures within these populations that would help prevent health issues and lessen the burden on the healthcare system."



## EMMA SMITH

*Cognitive Studies; Child Development, '26*

**Hometown: Clearwater, FL**

**Project Location: Sunderland England**

"I am partnering with Love Mexborough, a local organization in Northern England, to support community outreach initiatives in an economically disadvantaged area. I hold a leadership position with 3 other team members, and my role will include helping facilitate events that foster connection and engagement with the local community, as well as assisting in primary schools to support students and educators. I am most excited for the opportunity to make a meaningful impact in Northern England by serving and building relationships in impoverished communities."



## ALLISON STARKEY

*Special Education, '26*

**Hometown: Bartlett, IL**

**Project Location: Kathmandu, Nepal**

“For my service project, I will be traveling to Kathmandu, Nepal for 3 weeks in May. While I am there, I will be working in a day care facility for children with special needs. My responsibilities will include assisting the daycare staff with teaching, feeding, and providing individualized support for the children in their care. I hope to gain valuable insights into special needs care and how it varies across cultures. I am excited to connect with children from diverse backgrounds and learn from them and their families.”



## DAPHNEY TALEKAR

*Computer Science, '26*

**Hometown: Lilburn, GA**

**Project Location: Atlanta, GA**

“I will volunteer with Love Beyond Walls in Atlanta, Georgia, an organization dedicated to supporting individuals facing homelessness, poverty, and social injustice. My role will include distributing hygiene and food care-packages through the Gather Atlanta initiative and organizing a street art fundraiser to share the stories of unhoused individuals through art, photography, and poetry.”



## DAVIS TAMEH-NFON

*Computer Science; Mathematics, '26*

**Hometown: Bamenda, Cameroon**

**Project Location: Cameroon**

“I will be carrying out a humanitarian project that is going to involve getting laptops and other academic materials for students affected by the sociopolitical crisis in Cameroon, to help them prepare for their end-of-year national examinations, and subsequently even apply to Higher Education Institutions in the US and other countries abroad.”





## YONATAN TARIKU

*Medicine, Health, & Society, '26*

**Hometown: Antioch, TN**

**Project Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

“My service project focuses on equipping a low-income high school in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia with essential physics lab materials to improve science education and support hands-on learning. I will collaborate with local educators and professors to train teachers and students on using the equipment effectively, ensuring both immediate impact and long-term sustainability. This project aims to address educational inequality while empowering students with the tools and skills to pursue STEM-related opportunities.”



## SHREYAS TEEGALA

*Medicine, Health, & Society; Neuroscience, '26*

**Hometown: Beavercreek Township, OH**

**Project Location: Siheung, South Korea**

“I will be volunteering at Shihwa Medical Center in a variety of roles. I plan to focus on how the Korean healthcare system collects, monitors, and addresses health-related social needs, comparing and contrasting these newfound insights with those gained from my perspective as a community health worker in the States. Because I do not know the language, I will have the unique opportunity to develop a diagnostic framework from the ground up—without the heuristics afforded by linguistics. Ultimately, I hope to serve the local community by bridging different healthcare practices and enhancing patient-centered care.”



## KENG TEGHEN

*Cognitive Studies; Communication of Science & Technology, '26*

**Hometown: Williston, ND**

**Project Location: Yaounde, Cameroon**

“I will travel to Yaoundé, Cameroon, to volunteer with the Holy Family University Institute for Business and Biomedical Sciences. My project focuses on addressing the shortage of clinical training tools for nursing students by donating essential supplies and supporting hands-on training workshops. I hope to better understand the systemic barriers to healthcare education in under-resourced communities and see how meaningful, targeted efforts can help overcome them. This experience will also show me firsthand the impact of global service.”





## KRISTINA TROJAK

*Anthropology; Cinema and Media Arts, '26*

**Hometown: Churchville, PA**

**Project Location: Chile; Argentina**

“Proyecto Antropología Ambiental Huilo-Lanin is a long-term research initiative based in the Huilo-Huilo Biological Reserve in southern Chile. We will be conducting research in collaboration with the Mapuche, an Indigenous community primarily residing in Chile and Argentina, to learn about the historical and current interactions between the Mapuche people and their local environment. We aim to learn from their experience enduring various natural events, including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and floods.”



## KERMINA WADEH

*Medicine, Health, & Society; Sociology, '26*

**Hometown: Antioch, TN**

**Project Location: Cairo, Egypt; Alexandria, Egypt**

“The mission trip includes volunteering with working youth and teaching them educational lessons that they would otherwise not receive, sending 20 college youth from America to engage with young people and children of different age groups and help run activities for them. We would also have the opportunity to implement the healthcare aspect through volunteering at the Ragaa Medical Center. This medical center focuses on incurable diseases, especially organ transplants cases (kidney, liver, spine, cochleas), and also follow-up with cochlear implants in terms of updating the devices, and having speech and evaluation sessions.”



## CAREN ZAREF

*Neuroscience; Medicine, Health, and Society, '27*

**Hometown: Nolensville, TN**

**Project Location: Cairo, Egypt; Alexandria, Egypt**

“I will be working with Project HOPE which partners with Egypt’s Ministry of Health and Population, as well as local health workers, to strengthen local health systems, educate health workers, and improve care for people living with NCDs which is a leading cause of death in Egypt. We will also be providing the youth with educational lessons that they would otherwise not receive... [and] have the chance to visit holy and historic sites, deepening my connection to my Coptic roots. This experience will allow me to give back while immersing myself in the rich culture and history of Egypt.”





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