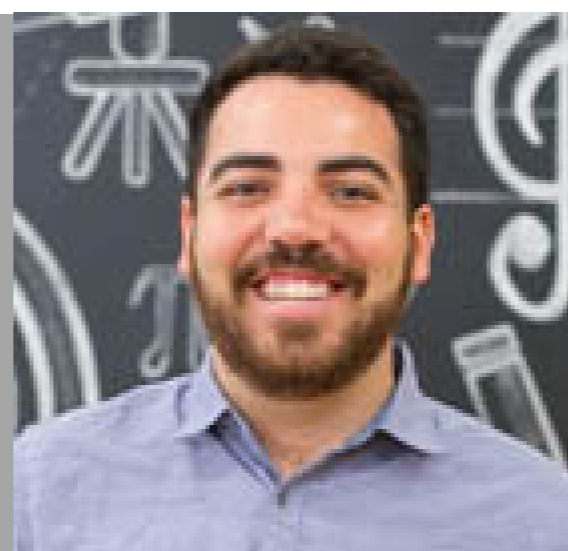


OACS Alumni Newsletter

[march 2018]

www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs

Alumni Spotlight



*Logan Keller,
class of 2017*

When I was in school, OACS was an incredible resource and outlet for me. Growing up, service was a key tenet in my life. When I came to college, OACS was integral in helping me channel my passion for service into action. I was able to explore and solidify my passion for service because of OACS. While all 4 of my ASB's were incredibly formative and unique in their own ways, I vividly remember my ASB in Escalante, Utah during my junior year. There was something incredibly special about camping in the complete wilderness without any access to society with 11 humans doing direct service, reflecting upon solutions, and learning about each other's lives. I'll never forget that trip, or any of my ASB experiences.

OACS completely formed and, dare I say, revolutionized my current career path. I currently work at a non-profit called DonorsChoose.org, an organization dedicated to getting public school teachers across America the supplies, resources, and experiences they need to be successful. Not only did OACS further ignite my desire to work in a service-oriented organization, it also adequately prepared me for the skills I needed to succeed in this position. I am incredibly fortunate to work at an organization where I can see the direct impact of my work every single day. At Vanderbilt, it can feel difficult to pursue a career in the non-profit sector. You (most likely) will have to accept the fact that you will graduate without a job lined up. I just want to say that the payoff of that risk and fear has been tremendous. I am ecstatic to walk into work every day, I'm surrounded by passionate individuals, and I am able to use the lessons I learned at Vanderbilt to make a difference.

To learn more about OACS programs and to donate visit www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs

OACS Events

2018 Global OACS Service Programs Cohorts

Congratulations to our 2018 Global OACS Service Program cohort members! The Ecuador cohort will travel to Quito, Ecuador May 14th-June 24th, with a focus on public health, environmental justice, and education. The Morocco cohort will volunteer in Rabat, Morocco from June 16th-July 28th, with an emphasis on human rights and women's rights. Both programs welcome alumni engagement and mentorship. Contact Lauren Moon (lauren.moon@vanderbilt.edu) to connect.

Ecuador Global Service

In Ecuador, one of seventeen megadiverse countries in the world, Vanderbilt students are immersed in Ecuadorian culture by working alongside community leaders, educators, and public health specialists to better understand social and environmental injustices, specifically in the realms of public health and education, from a community-based service perspective. Through a close partnership with the Simon Bolivar Spanish Immersion School and Foundation and other local agencies in Quito, the Ecuador Global Service Immersion project seeks to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes for the Vanderbilt student cohort, local partners, and the communities they serve. The program emphasizes the importance of human connectedness, integrated sustainable development, cultural sensitivity, and a humble and informed approach to international service.

Morocco Global Service

In partnership with the Center for Cross Cultural Learning in Rabat, the OACS Global Service Program in Morocco aims to provide a comprehensive service-learning experience whereby students are immersed in Moroccan culture and society, while serving alongside locally run organizations to build capacity and address salient social injustices. The six-week program's multi-pronged, holistic approach includes 20 hours of preparatory spring seminars, living-learning homestay accommodations with families in the Rabat medina, a peer-supported cohort model, structured group and individual reflection sessions led by a qualified site leader, and skills-based service site placements at local NGOs focused on human rights, immigration, women's rights, and education. Ultimately, through delving into community-identified needs related to inequity and justice at their service sites, students gain a greater understanding of the interconnectedness of humankind and of the vital importance of global citizenship.



OACS Student Advisory Board

Kyle Gavulic
Mallory Johnson
Alex Livingstone
Minnie Mangafra
Marguerite Manning

Marissa Steiber
Emma Stewart
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Sydney Wasserman
Randy Wu

Connect with Us

Alumni Focus Group- Participants Needed

OACS is seeking alumni focus group participants to help us plan our developing alumni outreach initiative! Participants will take part in 1-2 one-hour focus groups this spring, either in person or over conference call depending on your location. Our hope with these groups is to:

- Connect alumni with one other to strengthen their network of service-minded community leaders
- Update alumni on OACS programming, particularly in relation to alumni engagement
- Seek feedback and suggestions from our alumni on how to better connect and encourage service within our alumni base

If you are interested in participating in a focus group, email your name, job title, and current location to Lauren Moon at lauren.moon@vanderbilt.edu.



Did you know...?

OACS has an Alumni Network on LinkedIn!

We want to connect with you! The OACS Alumni LinkedIn page serves as the social media hub for alumni seeking opportunities to engage and connect. With weekly updates of information and articles relevant to community engagement and action, the LinkedIn page provides alumni with an opportunity to network around service and active citizenship. Alumni can connect with each other and OACS staff as professional resources.

Join the "Office of Active Citizenship & Service (OACS) Alumni Network" group on LinkedIn today!

Volunteer and Job Opportunities



OACS Hiring New Director

OACS is searching for a new director! The OACS Director maintains long-standing relationships with key partners and stakeholders on campus, within the community, and in support of global service programs, and fosters and stewards new partnerships of strategic importance. They are responsible for providing supervision and support to a diverse professional team as well as developing and supporting community engagement models based on community-identified need, service-learning pedagogy, and best practices in the field. Additional responsibilities include overseeing and managing the OACS budget, maintaining human resources for the office, and helping create a vision for the future of OACS.

For more information or to apply, visit the Vanderbilt Job Posting page:

https://vanderuniv.taleo.net/careersection/.vu_cs/jobdetail.ftl?job=1800312&tz=GMT-06%3A00

Volunteer With Hands On Nashville



Hands On Nashville provides opportunities for individuals and groups to serve the greater Nashville community. Through Hands On Nashville's volunteer programs, they build capacity for community and corporate partners and public volunteers. By developing relationships between community organizations and those who serve, volunteers can increase their impact on the community. Volunteer opportunities range from working with their Home Energy Savings program or the HON Urban Farm and Greenhouse to connecting with other nonprofits in the area who need volunteers. Their website includes a calendar for both short- and long-term volunteer opportunities.

For more information or to register to volunteer, visit www.hon.org.

Avodah Jewish Service Corps



Applications are now open for the Avodah Jewish Service Corps, a year-long program for recent college grads to build a lifetime of leadership skills, an active Jewish community, a powerful professional network, and a more just America. The Avodah Jewish Service Corps provides recent grads a place to build the foundations for careers, Jewish community, and lifelong activism in social and economic justice movements. They're looking for leaders and not-yet-leaders, activists and organizers, challah bakers and Shabbat dinner hosts, teachers, learners, and everyone in between to spend the next year pursuing justice with Avodah.

Do you know someone who is wondering what they can do to help create a more just America, or how to build a career that makes a difference in people's lives? Find out more at avodah.net/serve. The next deadline is March 27th. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Recruitment Manager, Emily Becker, at ebecker@avodah.net.

Have a job you'd like OACS alumni to know about?

Email lauren.moon@vanderbilt.edu to have it included in our next Alumni Newsletter.

Give to Service



Donate today to continue contributing to the OACS community.

We want every interested student to have the chance to experience one of our Local or Global Services Programs. If you would like to contribute a donation towards student accessibility for these immersive experiences, follow these quick steps:

- Go to the Vanderbilt Giving page [here](#).
- Select a designation of "Other."
- On the next page, make sure to enter "Office of Active Citizenship and Service" as the designation.

Thank you for continuing your commitment to the OACS community!

Vanderbilt University Office of Active Citizenship & Service

www.vanderbilt.edu/oacs

(615) 343-7878 | oacs@vanderbilt.edu

Check out our Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn accounts for the latest on Vanderbilt Active Citizenship and Service.