The HEAR Scholarship Foundation’s mission is to provide financial and mentoring support to Chicagoland high school graduates of need who have demonstrated academic excellence, commitment to community, and personal integrity in pursuing their dream of a college education.
A MESSAGE FROM HEAR PRESIDENT
CHRIS EIGEL

Dear HEAR Scholarship Foundation Friends and Supporters:

When we last prepared our Annual Report, we all thought the COVID-19 pandemic would surely be behind us by the time 2021 neared an end. Despite the many challenges that the pandemic poses, we are determined to pursue our mission and have seen continued success on the part of our scholars. In May, we added 17 outstanding scholars to the graduating class of 2025 and remained steadfast in our commitment to the 100+ scholars who were already in our program.

The pandemic forced HEAR to eliminate many of our cherished in-person events, but we were thrilled to be able to host the welcome workshop for our incoming class of 2025 in person. There is nothing like being face-to-face to build a strong sense of community. With that in mind, our goal is to host an in-person fundraiser celebration in the Spring of 2022. We look forward to celebrating our amazing scholars with you.

We have been honored to receive strong and steady support from our donors and are working to expand it. We are deeply grateful for the support we have received over the years and are hopeful that it will continue in these challenging times. We are also delighted to welcome two outstanding local residents to the HEAR Board of Directors in the past year.

Our scholars continue to face many challenges beyond the normal transition to college. At this time, it appears that the vast majority of colleges and universities are conducting in-person classes, which is a dramatic improvement over last year’s remote learning. We are committed to supporting our students in whatever capacity they need to ensure the transition back to in-person learning is a successful one.

Our Mission continues to be providing financial assistance to deserving students in need. In addition, we learned from our scholars that they greatly appreciate our support activities. These include college and career-readiness workshops that aid in the transition beyond high school, our mentoring program, internship and full-time placement assistance, and sending care packages. Providing these types of services, beyond writing checks, sets us apart from most other organizations that provide only financial assistance.

In this difficult environment, we are pleased with the following highlights so far this year:

- 17 new scholars for the class of 2025
- 15 new mentors welcomed into the HEAR network
- 16 new HEAR graduates in 2021
- Almost 800 applications received from students representing 150+ Chicago-area high schools
- Achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.64
- Maintained a 96% four-year graduation rate and a 99% college persistence rate
- Welcomed Teresa Devereux, Managing Director, Administration for William Blair's Private Wealth Management and Rula Marziani, Assistant General Counsel at Idex as new Directors to the HEAR Board.

One of the achievements we are most proud of is being named Scholarship Provider Of The Year by the National Scholarship Providers Association. This is a huge honor for us and is recognition of the important work that HEAR has done over the last 10 years supporting low-income students during their college journey. I would like to extend our sincere thanks to those who helped make it possible. I am excited to see what the next 10 years bring for HEAR and look forward to sharing our successes with you in the future!

We continue to be extremely grateful for the invaluable support we receive from our directors, volunteers, and donors. You make it possible for us to assist high-achieving students of strong character realize their goal of earning a college degree.

Our sincere thanks!
Chris Eigel
President, HEAR Scholarship Foundation

Amanda B.
HEAR Class of 2021
Loyola University
A MESSAGE FROM HEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR VERA POLLINA

Dear Friends,

I am so excited to share with you that this is our 10th year of awarding scholarships to outstanding, under-represented young men and women throughout the Chicagoland area. While the last 18 months have proved challenging beyond belief, I am delighted to share that the HEAR Scholarship Foundation has remained true to its mission and will continue to do so!

10 years ago, the very first class of HEAR Scholars began their college journey. Since then, you, your efforts, and your generosity have sent scholars to 66 schools throughout the United States and beyond. With your help, HEAR scholars have become doctors, nurses, artists, accountants, financial advisors, supply chain managers, scientists, social workers and more. 12 scholars have gone into graduate school and another six plan to further their education in the future. Over 50% of our graduates have returned to Chicago and are passing it on in our very own hometown. And 17 young men and women have just begun their college journeys as part of the HEAR Class of 2025.

Today we invite you into our virtual office. In the following pages you’ll find more of our Scholars’ amazing stories. We’ll provide you with an update on what we are doing with the trust that you placed in us. And we’ll look back at how our journey started and share how it’s going.

Thank you for having supported us in so many ways through these last amazing 10 years. Here’s to 10 more!

In health,

Vera Pollina
Executive Director, HEAR Scholarship Foundation

Since awarding our first scholarships in 2011, the number of students awarded scholarships has increased annually. In 2019, we awarded our 100th scholarship and committed to awarding 30 awards on an annual basis.

Sadly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our fundraising efforts were severely affected and we were only in a position to award 17 scholarships, despite the almost 50% increase in applications we received. We are hopeful that we will be in a position to once again award 30 scholarships in the near future.

HEAR’s program hasn’t just grown in the number of students it is supporting. The program itself has evolved and developed to meet the needs of the scholars within what is now HEAR’s College Success Program. Despite the challenges of the last 18 months, the support framework we provide has not changed.

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HEAR SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION - WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHY?

Who?
Any high school senior within the Chicagoland area who meets HEAR's selection criteria and who excels academically. To date, recipients of a HEAR Scholarship have come from over 110 high schools within the Chicago Metropolitan Area and have widely diverse backgrounds. Over 70% are minority students, almost 70% are first-generation college goers, and all are low-income.

What?
Each student receives a $20,000 scholarship paid directly to the college over a four-year period. This may be applied to tuition, fees, room and board. In addition, students are enrolled in a structured college success program, which provides them with a one-on-one mentor, access to college and career readiness workshops, assistance with seeking internships and more.

Where?
HEAR Scholars are currently enrolled at 66 colleges and universities in the US and beyond.

Why?
The current national average graduation rate from a four-year college program for low-income students is 16%. HEAR is committed to improving that statistic. By finding gifted students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds and providing financial and college access support to assist students in their college career, HEAR offers a solution to diversity-related workplace challenges and fosters greater equality.
Ivan and Tomas joined the HEAR Scholarship Foundation in 2013. They both attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign but studied very different majors and took different career paths.

**TWIN SCHOLARS PROFILE**

**IVAN & TOMAS D., HEAR CLASS OF 2017**

Ivan graduated with a BS in Nuclear Engineering. He began his career in the defense industry with Raytheon Technologies and subsequently joined Northrop Grumman. He is now an Integrated Product Team Lead and is thoroughly enjoying working on new technologies. After being a Big-10 rugby player at UIUC, Ivan now enjoys Olympic style weightlifting and hiking in his spare time.

Tomas graduated with a BA in Economics and a minor in Business. After working at US Bank for two years as a CDO Portfolio Administrator, Tomas began working at FactSet, Chicago in 2019 where he is currently a Consultant. He works specifically within the Fixed Income & Analytics space, so most of his clients are insurance companies and asset managers. When he’s not preoccupied troubleshooting clients’ workflows and processes, you will find Tomas in the gym or enjoying hiking trips with his brother in Colorado!
As predicted this time last year, the number of applications that HEAR received in 2021 was unprecedented. Over 800 applications were received, an increase of almost 50%, and the selection process for the HEAR Class of 2025 was more challenging than ever. This year’s application cycle will begin shortly, and HEAR is once again anticipating a significant increase in the number of applications it will receive.

To-date, HEAR has committed in excess of $3,000,000 in renewable scholarships and has enrolled over 150 students into its college access program. 53 graduates have now successfully completed their college education and continued onto either higher education or have found employment. According to research published by the EAB (www.eab.com), 90% of low-income, first-generation college students don’t graduate within 6 years. HEAR’s 99% college graduation rate is testament to the fact that its program works.

HEAR Scholars continue to perform strongly in college, despite the restrictions to in-person learning over the last 18 months. HEAR is hopeful that many of the restrictions that were imposed last year are now lifted and students can start to enjoy a more normal college experience. 103 students are actively enrolled in HEAR’s College Success Program and all are now on campus. The majority of students continue to choose STEM subjects as their major of choice. Business and finance majors also remain popular fields.

Sadly, two students from the HEAR Class of 2020 decided to postpone their college journeys at the end of their freshman year. Staff will stay in contact with these students in the hopes that they may decide to return to their studies in the future.
Our vision for 2026 and beyond is to become a conduit for greatness. The HEAR Scholarship Foundation exists to support scholars on their journey, hold them up when they need a helping hand, and push them forward when they doubt themselves. HEAR is their safety net and cheering section, but the scholars take every single step themselves.

The hard work, dedication to its scholars, and success of the Foundation over the past 10 years has been recognized by the National Scholarship Providers Association who awarded HEAR Scholarship Provider of the Year. This is testament to how well the program has progressed and the difference it has made to over 100 scholars. It will not make us complacent however; HEAR will continue to develop its program to ensure that the changing needs of the students in its program are met.

Over the next two years, we will seek and build more partnerships with corporations, organizations, and friends to develop an entire network of connections. With your help, we can open more channels for scholars so they can continue to forge a successful future for themselves.

HEAR welcomed an additional two new board directors in 2021. Teresa Devereux, Managing Director of Administration at William Blair, and Rula Marziani, Assistant General Counsel at Idex Corporation, joined the other 13 directors who are committed to the Foundation’s mission.

Today, we know that the model that we have built works. The HEAR Scholarship Foundation has proven results, including an enviable graduation rate that we are immensely proud of and an incredible alumni group who continue to offer support and advice to new students.

In order to keep this success going, we need your help. The pandemic has presented HEAR with numerous challenges over the last 18 months, but it will not stop us. HEAR is determined to return to pre-pandemic funding levels and be in a position to award 30 scholarships annually again as soon as possible. The need for financial assistance in low-income and under-represented families within the Chicagoland area is greater than ever. Please support us in our endeavor. Help us build and sustain the fund for the HEAR Class of 2026.

HEAR Class of 2022 Scholar Siyana P. secured a summer internship at Morgan Stanley. She was working remotely, but had the opportunity to work in person at the New York City Office in July.

She was very excited about the experience and enjoyed learning financial concepts through her projects.

Morgan Stanley displayed the summer analyst photos on a screen at their headquarters in Times Square as a way to welcome new interns!

A huge thanks to volunteers from Evergreen Bank for hosting our first virtual Financial Literacy seminar earlier in the summer. The seminar, for our freshman and sophomore classes, covered topics from student loan management to old school skills like balancing a checkbook and building a credit history. The event was very well received by our scholars who had many questions on the topic and we hope to make this event an annual occasion going forward.
Reflecting on the past 10 years reminds us how far we have come in such a short time. Over the next two pages, read about the students who have graduated from our program who are now working full-time. This is ALL as a direct result of your generosity and belief in HEAR's program. Smile as you read how your donations helped these young men and women accomplish their goals of a college education and are going on to do great things.

Stephanie F.
HEAR Class of 2016 Graduate
DePaul University
BA in Education

Since graduating from HEAR, Stephanie has been working as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools system (CPS). She went back to school to pursue her masters degree in Early Childhood Education/Special Education and is currently a preschool special education teacher in CPS. Stephanie is now in the process of applying to the University of Illinois at Chicago's PhD program in Special Education with a view to starting her studies in the fall of 2022. In addition to teaching, Stephanie is also a high school coach for swimming and water polo and a mentor to a HEAR Class of 2024 scholar. In her spare time, Stephanie likes to work out. She recently competed in the Chicago Triathlon over the summer.

Jerry L.
HEAR Class of 2020 Graduate
University of Michigan
BS in Computer Science and BS in Biopsychology, Cognition and Neuroscience

After graduating, Jerry started working as a software developer for Charles Schwab. He joined as part of the NERD new graduate program. He will be completing this program at the end of this month and will continue to work on technology advancements with his current team. In his spare time, Jerry enjoys playing basketball and weightlifting.

Lesley M.
HEAR Class of 2021 Graduate
Dartmouth College
BA in Economics Modified with Public Policy

Lesley is now working for Microsoft as a Business Program Manager. Reflecting on her college journey with HEAR, she says, “I see my journey as impossible without the help of people who genuinely care about my success (and failures). I grow through my experiences as well as from the advice and support I've received from my village. The HEAR Foundation is part of my village and I couldn't have reached this milestone without you all. I feel extremely fortunate to be able to go back home as a first-generation graduate and provide my parents the best gift they could possibly receive - a college diploma. Thank you HEAR for providing me the resources and support I needed to achieve my goals. On to the next goal!”
Above: The HEAR Class of 2021 at their awards ceremony at St. Ignatius High School, May 2017.

Brianna G.
HEAR Class of 2019 Graduate
St. Louis University
BS in Communication Sciences and Disorders & a minor in Special Education

After graduating Magna Cum Laude, Brianna started her doctorate in Audiology at Rush University where she is currently a third year audiology graduate student. She has just started the search and application process for her fourth year externship. Brianna is currently serving as the Vice President for Rush's Student Academy of Audiology and is working on her Investigative Project. When she graduates in 2023, she hopes to work in a medical center with pediatric and adult populations, specifically with cochlear implants. Brianna is grateful for everything she was able to learn from being part of HEAR’s program.

Above: Brianna at Rush.

Carlos M.
HEAR Class of 2016 Graduate
University of Illinois at Chicago
BS in Biological Sciences

After graduating from UIC, Carlos continued his educational journey, attending the University of Illinois College of Medicine from 2017-2021. Earlier this year, he successfully completed his Doctorate of Medicine qualification and is now a Resident Physician at UI Health. He started an anesthesiology residency in July, and has now completed two months of internal medicine and one month of cardiology. He is currently working in the ICU. His plan is to subspecialize but he is unsure which area that will be in. Carlos plans to remain working in Chicago once he graduates his residency.

Above: Carlos at UI Health.

Allison L.
HEAR Class of 2019 Graduate
Northwestern University
BSJ in Journalism, an Integrated Marketing Certificate, and a Religious Studies minor

Since graduating, Allison has been working at her alma mater as a Program Assistant in the Career Advancement and Alumni Engagement at Northwestern’s Alumni Association. She also serves as the editor and producer for the team’s podcast, and as a researcher for career programming. She has also been involved in the launch of the identity-based mentoring program, which connects underrepresented student populations to alumni with similar backgrounds and career paths. Allison has enjoyed working in the higher education space and is hoping to return to school in the fall of 2020 to work towards her master’s degree.

Above: Allison at the Shedd Aquarium.

Nick C.
HEAR Class of 2019 Graduate
Illinois Wesleyan University
BA in Accounting

Nick started working for State Farm as an intern his junior year of college. The opportunity arose as a result of his mentor, Matt. Nick was offered a full-time position as soon as he graduated and has been at State Farm ever since where he is currently a Finance Analyst in the Financial Operations Department. Nick played basketball throughout high school and college and now, in addition to working, he is the head boys basketball coach for 7th & 8th graders at Normal Epiphany. When he's not working or coaching, Nick likes to get out on the golf course. Nick recently proposed to his girlfriend and is very excited for their upcoming wedding in August 2022!

Above: Nick and his fiancée.
Our first 12 months as Scholarship Co-Chairs have been like no other! It has been both exciting and humbling to read the many applications and interview the many incredible young people who applied to become part of the HEAR Class of 2025.

Deciding who to include in this year’s class was especially difficult due to the unprecedented number of outstanding applications we received, almost 50% on last year, and our need to reduce the number of awards we were able to provide. We are so grateful to those who donated to our fund and made these scholarships possible. Our sincere thanks must also go to the team of evaluators who helped us to narrow the pool.

We are excited that our freshman students can experience in-person learning this year. Of course, our sophomore class also finally get to experience a more normal campus experience and we are looking forward to hearing how they progress during the year.

The financial scholarship, in conjunction with the mentor program and college and career-readiness workshops, combine to make HEAR’s College Success Program unique and invaluable to these young promising students. We are grateful for your continued support and involvement and aim to award more scholarships again next year.

Thank you,
Mary Kate Hatfield & Peggy Rogers

HEAR'S SELECTION PROCESS

In the 2021 scholarship cycle, HEAR received almost 800 applications from 153 high schools within the Chicagoland area. The number of applications received increased by almost 50% and the number of schools increased by 15% on last year. As in year’s past, 40% of the applications met HEAR’s initial screening criteria. Over 250 applications were assessed by HEAR's team of volunteer evaluators, and the quality of the applications was, as always, outstanding. 40 finalists were invited to attend a virtual interview and from there, 17 students were finally welcomed into the HEAR Class of 2025.

Eligibility criteria remained similar to previous years, although the requirement to submit an ACT or SAT score was removed due to the difficulties so many students faced trying to sit exams during the pandemic. Applicants were still required to hold a GPA of 3.0 or higher, submit two essays, and show commitment to their community. Submission of a high school transcript and a letter of recommendation was also required. A proportion of students who completed their application were rendered inadmissible because letters of recommendation and/or transcript were not submitted despite a number of reminders being sent by HEAR Staff.

A MESSAGE FROM HEAR CO-SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRS MARY KATE HATFIELD & PEGGY ROGERS

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Thank you,
Mary Kate Hatfield & Peggy Rogers

THANK YOU TO OUR APPLICATION EVALUATORS!

We are so grateful to the many volunteers who took on the time-consuming task of reviewing and evaluating all eligible applications. It can be an emotional task but is essential to the selection process.

Jennifer Bax, Liesel Brown, Bob Buchta, Annie Cusick, Christina DalPorto, Teresa Devereux, Chris Eigel, Sally Gregory, Therese Harris, Mary Kate Hatfield, Jane Hatfield, Jim Hatfield, Larry Katz, Julie Lawless, Sam Levis, Dee Macey, Meghan MacKinnon, Katie McCalla, Elizabeth McCoy, Peg McGowan, Suzanne Meagher, Sarah-Beth Molder, Nikki Nocera, Joe O'Malley, Iliana Perea, Ray Pollina, Brittany Pollina, Ana-Marie Postelnicu, Hunter Purcell, Peggy Rogers, Tayler Salo, Debra Schalk, Sarah Seavers-Wise, Jennifer Viglucci, Josh Walsh, Angeley Willis & Jim Ziemba.
I am excited to once again chair the HEAR Mentoring Program which is now in its 3rd year. The Mentoring Program has continued to grow and is now supported by 70 adult mentors engaging one-on-one with their scholars throughout their college career. The guidance and stability that our mentors provide is invaluable to our scholarship recipients, many of whom are first generation students.

I truly believe that the HEAR Mentoring Program is as important to our students as the scholarship money they receive. More than ever, mentoring support is critical to a group of students who have faced extra challenges in the new COVID college environment.

As college life continues to change and evolve, I believe that the HEAR Mentoring Program is making a difference in our students’ success. I am proud to be a part of the HEAR mission and I know that the entire HEAR Mentoring Family is committed to changing each of their scholars' lives!

THANK YOU TO OUR MENTORS

Over the past 12 months, HEAR Mentors have continued to play a crucial part in supporting our scholars during these unprecedented times. The below group of volunteers have ensured that our students know that there is someone who is championing their cause and looking out for them every step of their college journey. We are so grateful to each of them for their valuable contribution to the success of our scholars. Thank you!

Welcome to the new mentors for the HEAR Class of 2025: Lisa Anderson, Ryan Apple, Lynn Bednar, Kristin Bradley, Veronica Couzo, Mindy Dapin, Teresa Devereux, Simon Harris, James Hatfield, Nick Kamenjarin, Dana Kirkegaard, Kenny Langston, Sam Levis, Meghan MacKinnon, Karen Morgan Holmberg, Nikki Nocera & Yessell Rojas.

HEAR Scholars from the incoming freshman class of 2025 are delighted be part of this year’s cohort and are excited for their college journey to begin. We are looking forward to keep you updated of their achievements

From left: Luz M. (Michigan), Charity C. (North Carolina A&T), Grace C. (University of Illinois) & Jacobi M. (Morehouse College)
HEAR ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Enrichment Committee has really helped to keep HEAR Scholars spirits up over the last 12 months. Mary Sue Smith continues to spearhead this wonderful component of HEAR’s program along with a number of volunteers. HEAR Scholars are incredibly grateful for their efforts to continue to support them in this way and love receiving packets a few times a year!

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to the volunteers who work with Mary Sue to shop, package and send the care packages to our 100+ scholars each semester. You really do enrich our student’s lives!

Sue Boehm, Nancy Davis, Jean Gray, Linda Hamman, Sarah Jost, Patti Kelly, Pat Pollina, Diane Silca, Vicki Swanson & Cindy Ziemba.

Above: Jenifer Núñez receives a care package at the University of Pennsylvania.

Above: we even managed to get a package to HEAR Class of 2022 Moira H. who studies in Dublin, Ireland thanks to a little international contact!

A selection of packages put together by the amazing enrichment committee! These care packages remind all HEAR Scholars that we are more than just a scholarship check, we are a true family!
ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

The annual fundraiser and awards ceremony were once again canceled this year, due to COVID concerns. We are hopeful that we will be able to host the annual fundraiser in the Spring of 2022. More information will be shared as soon as possible and we look forward to celebrating with you, our supporters and friends in the near future.

We are hopeful that we will gather our family of scholars together in early 2022 and know it will be a celebratory time for all. We have missed seeing our amazing students in person and can’t wait to see them all again.

We were disappointed to be unable to host a winter social for our scholars last year and it is unlikely that we will be able to host one at the end of 2021. We are hopeful that HEAR’s Executive Director, Vera Pollina, led the Freshman 101 workshop, which provides important information on what to expect at college, in addition to providing advice on how to manage different situations that may arise and the different services and resources that are available on campus. This workshop is always well received by our new students, many of whom don’t have anyone in their family who has experienced a college journey.

We were fortunate to be able to fit in a summer workshop for our newest cohort in July!

SUMMER WORKSHOP

In July, we were delighted to host an in person summer scholar workshop. It was wonderful to meet the new scholars who make up the HEAR Class of 2025. The students themselves really enjoyed connecting and have formed a group chat to communicate in.

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We were joined later in the afternoon by scholars from the HEAR Class of 2024 who led a lively discussion on what new scholars can expect in their first year of college. They shared some great information on surviving the first semester and adjusting to life on campus. It was the first time HEAR Staff had met the majority of students in this class in person too, so it was wonderful to finally be in a position to do so.

Enrichment Committee Chair, Mary Sue Smith, also presented the new scholars with their first care package - a basket of essentials for college. She was unable to join in person but sent a video introducing herself and her team of volunteers. This was very well received and scholars made a thank you video to send back to Mary Sue.
HEAR SCHOLARS HAVE ATTENDED:

- Agnes Scott College
- Ball State University
- Carroll University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Chapman University
- Claremont McKenna College (CMC)
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- DePaul University
- Dickinson College
- Drake University
- Elmhurst College
- Elon University
- Emory College
- Florida A&M
- Fordham University
- Gettysburg College
- Grand Valley State University
- Hampton University
- Harvard University
- Howard University
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Illinois State University
- Illinois Wesleyan
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Lake Forest College
- Lewis University
- Long Island University Brooklyn
- Loyola University
- Marquette University
- Michigan State University
- Morehouse College
- Middlebury College
- New York University
- North Carolina A&T
- North Central College
- Northeastern University (Boston)
- Northeastern University (Illinois)
- Northwestern University
- Occidental College
- Rasmussen College
- Santa Clara University
- Southern University A&M
- Spelman College
- St. Edward’s University
- St. Louis University, Missouri
- St. Olaf College
- Stanford University
- Syracuse University
- Tampa University
- UCD, Dublin, Ireland
- UCLA
- University of Illinois at Chicago
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Miami
- University of Miami at Ohio
- University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- University of Missouri, Columbia
- University of Missouri, St. Louis
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Oregon
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Southern California
- University of Toronto, Canada
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Vanderbilt University
- Wake Forest University
- Washington University of St. Louis
- Xavier University (Ohio)
- Xavier University of Louisiana
- Yale University

HEAR HONOR ROLL:

**HEAR Scholars have attended:**

**FALL 2020 cont'd**

- Abby Enck 4.0 (Class of 2024)
- Jeremiah Fisher 4.0 (Class of 2024)
- Myana Johnson 4.0* (Class of 2024)
- Ahmad Koya-Oyefuwa 4.0** (Class of 2024)
- Amelia LaSpisa 3.95* (Class of 2024)
- Brendan Lemezis* 3.94 (Class of 2024)
- Alinda Li 3.71 (Class of 2024)
- Xonhane Medina 3.82* (Class of 2024)
- Ashwini Modi 3.87* (Class of 2024)
- Danny Moran 4.0** (Class of 2024)
- Maggie O’Malley 4.0** (Class of 2024)
- Nikola Stamenkov-Diz 4.0* (Class of 2024)

**WINTER 2019**

*(Students on a trimester schedule)*

- Andres Lagunas 4.0*** (Class of 2021)
- Salma Barhoume 3.82 (Class of 2023)
- Darius Johnson 4.0* (Class of 2023)
- Andrea Ramirez 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Lucy Weaver 4.0** (Class of 2023)
- Nikola Stamenkov-Djed 3.85 (Class of 2022)

**SPRING 2021**

- Aileen Acosta 3.93 (Class of 2021)
- Amanda Bardihoisi 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Eden De Jesus 3.92 (Class of 2022)
- Andrea Guzman 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Lior Stevens 3.87 (Class of 2022)
- Darius Johnson 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Auschwitz Modi 3.82 (Class of 2024)
- Rose Carroll 3.84 (Class of 2022)
- Tara Deane 4.0 (Class of 2022)
- Nikole Stamenkovic-Diz 3.85 (Class of 2022)

**FALL 2020**

- Aileen Acosta* 4.0 (Class of 2021)
- Amanda Bardihoisi* 4.0 (Class of 2021)
- Salma Campos 3.8 (Class of 2021)
- Brianna Dang 3.95 (Class of 2022)
- Jina Dudek 4.0 (Class of 2022)
- Andrea Guzman 3.95 (Class of 2022)
- Andres Lagunas 4.0 (Class of 2021)
- Nick Moran 4.0 (Class of 2021)
- Lire Steffel 3.87 (Class of 2021)
- Zurel Trejo 3.8 (Class of 2021)
- Salma Barhoume* 3.92 (Class of 2022)
- Eric Brzeski 3.76 (Class of 2022)
- Tara Deane 3.83* (Class of 2022)
- CJ Foronda 3.94 (Class of 2022)
- Shagutta Khatoon 3.67 (Class of 2023)
- Nicole Maimo 4.0** (Class of 2022)
- Jacqueline Mendoza 4.0* (Class of 2022)
- Siyana Popova 3.84* (Class of 2022)
- Taylor Smith 3.94* (Class of 2022)
- Caitlin Strickland 3.9 (Class of 2022)
- Ellery Therriault 3.95* (Class of 2022)
- Annie Zhou 4.0 (Class of 2022)
- Melanie Zuniga 4.0 (Class of 2022)
- Kevin Alcantara 3.75 (Class of 2023)
- Mia Cinquini 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Mea Cinquini 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Mea Mair 3.9 (Class of 2023)
- Miguel Fernandez 3.74* (Class of 2023)
- Angelica Glogowski 4.0** (Class of 2023)
- Cathy Guan 4.0* (Class of 2023)
- Gerleen Kaur 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Izabela Kwietniewski 3.91 (Class of 2023)
- Alyssa Matias 4.0** (Class of 2023)
- Tamara Mazets 3.74 (Class of 2023)
- Alexandra Moin 4.0** (Class of 2023)
- Michel Alcantara 3.75* (Class of 2023)
- Alexandra Ramirez 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Amir Zuniga 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Anna Maria Palacios 3.8 (Class of 2023)
- Adelana Velazquez 4.0** (Class of 2023)
- Lucy Weaver 3.87* (Class of 2023)

**SPRING 2021 cont’d**

- Kress Stewart 3.94 (Class of 2022)
- Caitlin Strickland 3.8 (Class of 2022)
- Ellery Therriault 3.83 (Class of 2022)
- Aniya Trask 3.91 (Class of 2022)
- Annie Zhou 3.8 (Class of 2022)
- Melanie Zuniga 3.81 (Class of 2022)
- Angelique Acedo 3.7 (Class of 2023)
- Kevin Alcantara 3.83 (Class of 2023)
- Mea Mair 3.9 (Class of 2023)
- Ines Garcia-Valdivia 3.73 (Class of 2023)
- Angelica Glogowski 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Cathy Guan 3.96 (Class of 2023)
- Darius Johnson 3.8 (Class of 2023)
- Gerleen Kaur 3.75 (Class of 2023)
- Izabela Kwietniewski 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Alyssa Matias 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Kasiid Moy 3.76 (Class of 2023)
- Marc Ridgell 3.88 (Class of 2023)
- Andrea Salamanca 3.96 (Class of 2023)
- Ataika Shaikh 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Alexandra Siek 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Alondra Velazquez 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Lucy Weaver 4.0 (Class of 2023)
- Melanie Corona 3.72 (Class of 2023)
- Saniya Drake 3.88 (Class of 2023)
- Myana Johnson 3.8 (Class of 2024)
- Ahmad Koya-Oyefuwa 4.0 (Class of 2024)
- Amelia LaSpisa 3.8 (Class of 2024)
- Brendan Lemezis 3.94 (Class of 2024)
- Xonhane Medina 3.87 (Class of 2024)
- Ashwini Modi 4.0 (Class of 2024)
- Danny Moran 4.0 (Class of 2024)
- Maggie O’Malley 4.0 (Class of 2024)

Every year, we love to congratulate those students whose academic achievements deserve extra recognition. The HEAR Scholars listed below all made honor roll (GPA at or above 3.7) over the past 12 months.

* Made honor roll in two or more terms
** Scored a 4.0 in two or more terms
Darius J.
HEAR CLASS OF 2023

Darius is a junior at Santa Clara University studying Finance and Business Analytics. This past summer, he secured an Investment Banking Summer Analyst internship at Goldman Sachs. He enjoyed being in person in New York City, and says it was great working on equity offerings and sell-side M&A. He built a strong network learning from people in the industry and working on over $10bn of transaction volume. He was offered another internship there next summer but has instead opted to take a position at Insight Partners. A Technology Investment Firm in Midtown Manhattan.

Darius has a strong relationship with his mentor Jim. They meet regularly for lunch and a catch-up. He says of the program, “Volunteers in the HEAR program are invaluable resources to HEAR scholars such as myself. My mentor has played a key role in helping me to connect to professionals in my industry of choice, learn more about the opportunities that exist, and ultimately have the opportunity to greatly expand my network. Beyond this, having volunteers as additional support in the HEAR program help to create community and make me feel as if I have a team pushing for me and wishing me all the best (shoutout to the enrichment committee with amazing care packages). Overall, I am really thankful for the volunteers as they help bring the family aspect to the HEAR Scholarship foundation.”

Darius has continuously performed well at Santa Clara and has a current cumulative GPA of 3.76.

SCHOLAR PROFILE
ANDREA G., HEAR CLASS OF 2021

Andrea graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BS in Public Health from St. Louis University. She is currently taking a gap year and is in the process of applying to physician assistant school in the fall of 2022. She had been working as a medical scribe in the emergency department at SLU Hospital but recently transferred to a hospital in Chicago. She is now working at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, where she plans to continue for the remainder of her gap year. Andrea says "I am so grateful for all the assistance and guidance HEAR has provided during my undergraduate education."

In the fall of 2022, Andrea will start her Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies at North Central College, IL.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

HEAR Class of 2021 Hall of Fame

Aileen Acosta
Drake University
Magna Cum Laude

Amanda Bardhoshi
Loyola University
Magna Cum Laude

Gina Dudek
Lake Forest College
Magna Cum Laude

Andrea Guzman
St. Louis University, Missouri
Magna Cum Laude

Andres Lagunas
DePaul University
Summa Cum Laude

Nick Moran
Grand Valley State University
Magna Cum Laude

Lori Steffel
2021 Graduating Women of Excellence Award, 100 Senior Honorary Award, SGA President Award & Robert Goizueta Award for Leadership

Zuriel Trejo
University of Illinois in Chicago
Magna Cum Laude

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

HEAR is actively seeking partnerships with individuals and organizations in the Chicagoland area to ensure future funding and success of its programs. There are numerous ways to help support the HEAR Scholarship Foundation:

- Consider becoming a donor or sponsor;
- Ask whether your organization has a gift matching policy;
- Become a mentor for a future HEAR Scholar;
- Provide access to internships to HEAR Scholars in the summer and during winter and spring breaks;
- Offer career exploration days and job shadowing;
- Volunteer to be a speaker at a workshop and explain career opportunities within your organization.

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