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Sixteen Students Awarded Alumnae Undergraduate Research Grants

EVANSTON, Ill. --- The Alumnae of Northwestern University is pleased to honor 16 students who have been named as recipients of the Alumnae Undergraduate Research Grants. Funding for these grants comes from The Alumnae Centennial Endowment for Undergraduate Research, established in 2016 to commemorate the organization’s 100th anniversary. The Endowment, administered by the Office of Undergraduate Research, supports students from all academic areas, giving them opportunities to develop and complete independent research and creative projects across a wide range of fields. These students will work with faculty sponsors this summer to explore answers to questions raised by research projects from many fields of study.

Peter Civetta, director, Office of Undergraduate Research, thanked The Alumnae for its support of this program. “The Alumnae is proud to be a part of this learning experience for undergraduates and excited to have 16 students given this opportunity in 2024 – all made possible through The Alumnae’s Centennial Endowment,” notes The Alumnae president Carol Willis.

Recipients of \$4,000 grants and their sponsors are:

Argueta, Amy (WCAS)

“Wishing at Bay”

Amy, a first-year student, is studying psychology.

Sponsor: Raymond San Diego, assistant professor of instruction, Asian American Studies (WCAS)

Haley Bart (Speech, WCAS)

“Frances Willard’s Strange and Untold Friendship: Expanding the Definition of Female Relationships through Theatre”

Haley, a sophomore, is studying theater and English, and dance.

Sponsor: Lauren Schellhardt, associate professor of instruction, theatre (C)

Eleanor Bergstein (Journalism)

“Coming Out of History: The Consequences of Coming Out in the late 20th Century as Experienced by John Heefner”

Eleanor, a first-year student, is studying journalism.

Sponsor: Karen Sprngen, assistant professor, clinical journalism (J)

Ethan Bledsoe (WCAS)

“Uncovering Spatial Health Data Dynamics: Investigating Demographics and Health Disparities Near Warehouses in the Chicago Metropolitan Area”

Ethan, a sophomore, is studying economics, environmental science and data science.

Sponsor: Daniel Horton, assistant professor, Earth & planetary sciences (WCAS)

Meli Canales (WCAS, J)

”On the Immoral Nature of Capitalistic Unfreedoms”

Meli, a junior is studying philosophy, journalism, and Latino/a studies.

Sponsor: Pascal Brixel, assistant professor, philosophy (WCAS)

David Diouf (Speech, WCAS)

“Beyond Trauma: Exploring Black Grief in Film”

David, a sophomore, is studying radio, tv & film, entrepreneurship and business institutions.

Sponsor: Felicia Henderson, associate professor, radio, television, and film (C)

Josie Halporn (J)

“Understanding Barriers to Child Therapists Implementing Digital Mental Health Tools in Clinical Practice”

Josie, a junior, is majoring in journalism, psychology and Portuguese.

Sponsor: John Pankhurst, assistant professor, psychiatry and behavioral sciences (Feinberg School of Medicine)

Olivia Heimann (Speech, WCAS)

“Writing Realistic women: Dismantling the Sad Girl Stigma”

Olivia, a junior, is majoring in theater and English.

Sponsor: Rachel Webster, professor of instruction, English (WCAS)

Elyse Malamud (WCAS)

“Chicago-area Jewish Medical Philanthropy’s Impact on Medical Research and Education Locally and Nationally in the Golden Age of American Medicine”

Elyse, a first-year student, is majoring in economics, Jewish studies and transportation.

Sponsor: Guy Ehrlich, Mellon postdoctoral fellow, Jewish studies (WCAS)

Daniela Morales (Speech)

“Exploring Latine Identity Through Folklore: A Webseries”

Daniela, a junior, is studying radio, TV, and film.

Sponsor: Nijae Draine, School of Professional Studies

Cecelia Olszewski (Music)

“Andrew Wyeth: A Sonic Representation”

Cecelia, a sophomore, is studying music composition and German.

Sponsor: Hans Thomalla

Katarina Viana de Souza Andrade (WCAS, Speech)

“Galactic Data’s Journey Unveiling Universe’s Hidden Narratives”

Katarina, a first-year student, is studying physics and astronomy and theatre.

Sponsor: Allison Strom, assistant professor, physics and astronomy (WCAS)

Victoria Wade (School of Education and Social Policy, WCAS)

“Threads of Identity: Exploring the Impact of Clothing Access on Foster Youth’s Identity Perception Throughout Transitional Phases in the Foster Care System”

Victoria, a sophomore, is studying learning organizational change and international studies.

Sponsor: Audrey Young, assistant professor, pediatrics, Feinberg School of Medicine

Anika Wilsnack (WCAS)

“Multiracial Population Growth and its Discussion in U.S. Media Contexts”

Anika, a junior, is studying psychology and musicology.

Sponsor: Sylvia Perry, associate professor, psychology (WCAS)

Sydney Johnson (J, WCAS)

“Exploring Black Queer Poetic Resistance in Chicago” (group project)

Sydney, a sophomore, is studying journalism and English.

Sponsor: Rachel Webster, professor of instruction, English (WCAS)

Atarah Israel (J, WCAS)

“Exploring Black Queer Poetic Resistance in Chicago” (group project)

Atarah, a sophomore, is studying journalism, English and Black studies.

Sponsor: Rachel Webster, professor of instruction, English (WCAS)

The Alumnae of Northwestern University is an all-volunteer organization of women that raises funds for a wide range of projects to benefit Northwestern while sharing the university’s academic resources with the community through its Continuing Education Program. Founded in 1916, The Alumnae has given more than \$10 million to the university in the form of grants, fellowships, scholarships, an endowed professorship, funding for special university projects, and summer internships. For more information, visit The Alumnae website (www.nualumnae.org).

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