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### **Fifteen Students Awarded 2025 Alumnae Undergraduate Research Grants**

**EVANSTON, Ill.** -- The Alumnae of Northwestern University is pleased to honor 15 students who have been named as recipients of the Alumnae Undergraduate Research Grants. Funding for these grants comes from The Alumnae's Centennial Endowment for Undergraduate Research, established in 2016 to commemorate the organization's 100<sup>th</sup> 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, notes: "Given the challenges that research is facing these days, this partnership with The Alumnae allows new researchers to explore and engage with the problems of the world, seeking solutions that can better people's knowledge and experience. We are deeply grateful that The Alumnae lets us support students and research in this way."

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

1. **Adusumilli, Adithi**, WCAS, rising senior  
"Investigating Pyramidal Neuron and Interneuron Activity Coordination in Natural Behavior"  
**Sponsor: Andrew Miri (WCAS)**, assistant professor, neurobiology
2. **Barnes, Ethan**, WCAS, rising senior  
"Policing Mental Health Crises: A Cost-Benefit Analysis of Community Response Teams and De-Escalation Training"  
**Sponsor: Reuel Rogers**, associate professor, political science, WCAS

3. **Blake, Ariana**, MEAS, rising sophomore  
“Investigating Water Lilies as Sensors for Lake Health”  
**Sponsor: Nivedita Arora, assistant professor**, electrical and computer engineering  
McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science (McC)
4. **Carmona, Avryl**, WCAS, Rising senior  
“Breaking Barriers: Examining the Life Narratives of Prominent Latina Leaders Using a Narrative Identity Framework”  
**Sponsor: Dan McAdams, professor**, psychology, WCAS
5. **Castracane, Ian**, C, rising senior  
“Isolating Grief by Combining Live Action Film with Diorama”  
**Sponsor: Eric Patrick, associate professor**, radio, television, film, School of Communication (C)
6. **Chesky, Kason**, WCAS, rising senior  
“Prevalence Rates and Associated Factors of Burnout Among Young Career Actors”  
**Sponsor: KO**, associate professor, theater (C)
7. **Currey, Jacob**, School of Professional Studies, rising senior  
“Failing Reentry: Analyzing IDOC’s Noncompliance with Legal Reentry Obligations and Its Impact on Recidivism”  
**Sponsor: Jennifer Lackey, professor**, philosophy (WCAS)
8. **Globerman, Ari**, WCAS, rising junior  
“Quantifying Interneuron Death in an Autism Mouse Model”  
**Sponsor: John Armstrong, research assistant professor**, neuroscience, Feinberg School of Medicine (FSM)
9. **Koenig, Oliver**, BSM, WCAS, rising senior  
“Epistemic Networks in Jazz: A Case Study of Musical Development in "It Could Happen to You"”  
**Sponsor: Daniel Shanahan**, associate professor, Bienen School of Music (BSM)
10. **Lawson, Alexandra**, WCAS, rising sophomore  
“Protective Experiences as a Buffer Against Postpartum Depression: Examining Maternal Resilience in the Mother-Infant Relationship”  
**Sponsor: Renee Edwards**, research assistant professor, medical social sciences (FSM)
11. **Moon, Claire**, WCAS, rising senior  
“Using AI-Generated Visuals to Enhance Comprehension of Informed Consent in Research”  
**Sponsor: Susan Dun, associate professor of instruction**, communication studies (C)

12. **Niu, Regina**, WCAS, rising sophomore  
“Playing as Posthuman: Exploring Player Identity in Cyberpunk 2077 Through a Philosophical Lens”  
**Sponsor: Rayvon Fouche, professor, communication studies (C)**, Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications (J)
13. **Selch, Beatrice**, WCAS, rising sophomore  
“An Exploration of the Regenerative Relationship between Art and Writing”  
**Brian Bouldrey, associate professor of instruction**, English (WCAS)
14. **Simon, Jordyn**, WCAS, rising senior  
“Second Wave Feminism and Photographs in the Archives: Reshaping the Angry” Black Woman Narrative”  
**Sponsor: Amy Partridge, associate professor of instruction**, gender and sexuality studies (WCAS)
15. **Wang, Winnie**, WCAS, rising senior  
“Compensatory Mechanisms of Avoidant Attachment”  
**Sponsor: Wendi Gardner, associate professor**, psychology (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 University, while sharing the University’s academic resources with the community through its Continuing Education program. Founded in 1916, The Alumnae has given more than \$10.5 million to the University in the form of grants, fellowships, scholarships, summer internships and endowed professorships. For more information, visit The Alumnae’s website ([nualumnae.org](http://nualumnae.org)) or its Continuing Education website ([nualumnaecourses.org](http://nualumnaecourses.org)).

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