

WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL AID ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

2019–20 Recipients

Alva Chavez '21

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

My name is Alva Chavez, and I am now in my third year at Northwestern. I am majoring in journalism and global health studies. Through these majors, I am able to fully combine my love of writing and storytelling with my passion for health equity and justice. In the winter and spring quarters of my sophomore year, I was given the wonderful opportunity to learn about Israel and Palestine through a journalism class that aimed to better understand the conflict, and during spring break, I was able to travel to these places. For one of my assignments, I was able to learn more about and write on the impact of the conflict on Palestinian mental health. Now, I am in a global health class called International Perspectives on Mental Health, where I am learning even more about different understandings of global health and the different factors that surround mental disorders, such as conflict. I am excited for the many ways in which I can continue to combine these majors in the future. Furthermore, I am looking forward to pursuing a master's degree in public health to continue learning about health issues and how to best address them.



This past summer, I interned at a hospital in the south side of Chicago called La Rabida Children's Hospital. This hospital is really special because it is a nonprofit hospital that specializes in the long-term care of children with disabilities, either through their inpatient or outpatient units. Additionally, they have an acute care clinic that is open to any child who needs it, whether they are disabled or not. This internship was a nice glimpse into the kind of work that I could do in the future. It was wonderful to get to know every patient in the hospital as well as the staff. I also really enjoyed learning more about the behind-the-scenes operations of a hospital.

Without this scholarship and other financial aid, it would have been harder for me to participate in these activities, as I would have been more stressed about my finances.

Thank you for your support,

Alva Chavez

For more information, contact:

Kelly Colpoys, Director of Development at 847.467.4317 or kelly.colpoys@northwestern.edu

Hui Ling Chen '20

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

I hope this letter finds everyone well! It's hard to believe, but it's spring quarter of my senior year. I'm graduating, hopefully on time, in June. I just need to complete one more class for both my psychology and economics majors. Thank you so much for being a part of my college journey these past four years. It has always been a pleasure to meet and chat with everyone in the fall and spring, and with just our class in the winter.

This past summer, I went to Washington, DC, to intern at the Congressional Hunger Center, mostly helping with program management for one of their fellowships. I learned a lot about the state of hunger for people in the US and internationally, as well as a little on the workings of policy and legislation. I also realized I'm not much of a politics person.

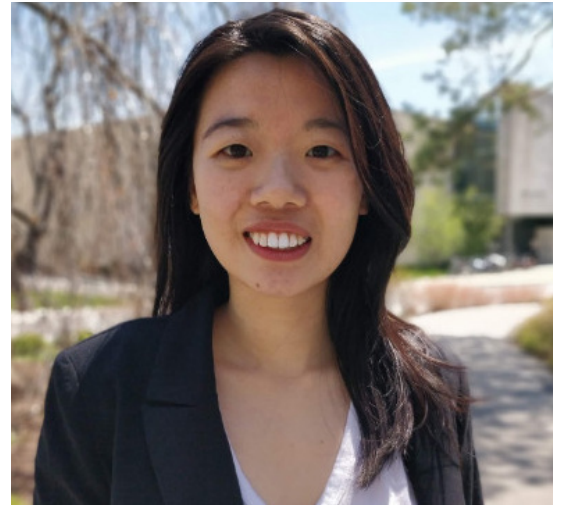
In the fall, I studied abroad in France. I didn't know any French going in, but it was an amazing experience learning French and practicing with my host family. I was in Reims, a small city about an hour-and-a-half drive from Paris, so it was nice experiencing a smaller setting, given that I grew up in Chicago. Even Evanston felt pretty big compared to Reims.

Currently, I'm in the midst of taking classes and trying to figure out what I'd like to do after graduation. For the past two years, I've been working as a research assistant at the Network for Nonprofit and Social Impact, but I decided to take two quarters off and focus on looking into fellowships and jobs that might interest me. Thanks to the generous aid I receive, I'm able to focus on what I want to prioritize without worrying about money. The same goes for study abroad. France was my third study abroad program—I went to Germany and South Korea last year. It's amazing that I had opportunities to study in these countries without having to worry about tuition, living expenses, or flight tickets.

Thank you for your generous aid, support, and mentorship as I have navigated the whole college experience.

Sincerely,

Hui Ling Chen



Hailey Cox '20

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

Thank you for all of your generous financial support—it truly means a lot to me. Because of this scholarship, I have been able to experience things that I would not have been able to otherwise. While many of my friends can partake in costly leisure activities with ease, this is not the case for me. Being a low-income student on this campus can sometimes feel isolating, so having your financial and emotional support has really helped me feel more comfortable and at ease during my time here at Northwestern.



In June, I will be graduating from the School of Education and Social Policy with a degree in human development and psychological services. I will also be graduating with a minor in sociology and in gender and sexuality studies from the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. I have learned a lot over the past four years, and I have enjoyed many of my classes. Some of my favorite classes have been Schooling in America, Educating Exceptional Children, Youth and Society, Social Psychology, and Developmental Psychology. Being in these classes led me to develop an interest in social justice work, which is what I will be pursuing post-graduation. I have recently been accepted to the year-long Northwestern University Public Interest Program, where I will likely work at Evanston Township High School or an educational nonprofit. I am interested in educational equity and racial equity, and I would like to spend my time working on inclusion efforts within schools. Though I am unsure of what career I want to pursue, I am leaning towards becoming a teacher or a professor.

During my time here on campus, I have been highly involved in Supplies for Dreams, a student-run 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides mentoring and field trips to CPS students. I am currently the chief programming officer for the organization, where it has been my role to evaluate our programs and focus on areas of improvement. This organization means a lot to me, and I am going to miss it dearly when I graduate. One of the reasons why I joined this organization is that I grew up in Chicago; I am a CPS alum, and I am also a first-generation college student. All of these experiences have led me to place strong importance on my education, and I want to be able to improve the education system for future generations of students. I became part of this organization so that I could help improve educational access for students and so that students could have another support figure in their lives.

I am also involved in Peer Inclusion Educators (PIE) through the Social Justice Education office. Through this program, I facilitate workshops for student organizations that are about identity, often with a focus on power and privilege. This has allowed me to meet many great people who also have a passion for social justice, and doing this work has made me realize that it is something I greatly enjoy and something that I want to continue pursuing. Growing up, I never would have dreamed that I would be able to attend a school like Northwestern. I wasn't sure if I would be able to attend college at all, but with generous financial support like yours, I was able to make my dream a reality. During the last four years, I have tried to make the most of my time here and become involved in as many things as possible. Being co-president of Girl Up, chief programming officer for Supplies for Dreams, a PIE workshop facilitator, a fellow at the Center for Civic Engagement, and an intern for both the principal of Evanston Township High School and a school psychologist at Loyola University has allowed me to uncover my interests. I will really miss being on this campus and attending our quarterly WEAA gatherings. I have really enjoyed my time here at Northwestern, and having support from you all has made my experience here far better.

I cannot thank you enough for your generosity and support. It has meant the world to me, and I will always be grateful for it.

Sincerely,

Hailey Cox

Kaitlyn Dutchin '21

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

Thank you very much for your contributions to Northwestern University. Your support has allowed me to enjoy my time abroad this fall at Prague Film School and while readjusting to Northwestern this winter. My semester in Prague was one of the most transformative and important experiences of my life. I was at a point in school where I was beginning to hold myself back, and going to Prague was exactly what I needed to find myself again and regain my confidence. I worked on five student films and made two lifelong friends from Sweden and Austria. For the first time in a long time, at the Prague Film School, I felt like I belonged in the space I was in.



Now, at Northwestern, I am studying theater, poetry, and French. I am taking a French drama course where I am reading Molière and discussing theater in French, which is quite exhilarating. I am also enrolled in two theater courses; one course is about Greek plays and the other is on Shakespeare. My poetry course is aiding immensely in my understanding of the complex language and understanding the iambic pentameter of my Shakespeare verses. I am working independently on writing screenplays, and I read in my free time. I adore Deering Library and often peruse the magical books on the shelves there.

I am a participant of Mayfest Productions, which is the group of students that puts on the largest student-produced music festival in the nation, Dillo Day. This year, I am on the programming team, and prior to COVID-19, I planned to lead an art installation to be displayed on the day of the festival. This year, Dillo Day will be held online as Digital Dillo. I am also a part of a theater group called Sit & Spin Productions; I am currently crafting our group's website.

I have learned a lot at Northwestern, and I am so incredibly grateful for the support of WEAA. I am so passionate about art and creating art with purpose. I strive to make a difference in this world, and I believe my experiences in life and my incredible education made possible by you will allow me to do so.

I thank you greatly.

Best,

Kaitlyn Dutchin

Chelsea Franklin '22

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

My name is Chelsea Franklin, and I am a sophomore at Northwestern. I just want to say thank you to all of the donors who have made it possible for me to be a Women's Educational Aid Association Scholar. I initially became involved with WEAA with the intention of studying creative writing.

However, this past summer, WEAA helped me attend an externship in the writers room for the CBS show Madam Secretary. After my externship, I realized how much I love screenwriting as well as creative writing.

Because of my experience, I have begun my major in Radio/Television/Film and am currently applying for internships within the film industry. Without the support that allowed me to go to Los Angeles for my externship, I would have never discovered that my love of writing extends outside of writing for the page.

Thank you,

Chelsea Franklin



LaTesha Harris '20, '20 MSJ

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for making the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship possible. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor way back in 2016, and I am deeply appreciative of the association's endless support throughout the years.

I grew up in a single-parent, working-class household and had very little designs on college as I approached my senior year of high school. After applying to the QuestBridge National Scholars Match program and getting accepted to Northwestern, I was overwhelmed to learn my education would be further supported by WEAA. As a first-generation, low-income student, it meant so much to me that people would believe in my success.

Over the past four years, I've had a litany of opportunities presented to me. I am pleasantly surprised to share that I am currently the co-president and public relations chair of the Northwestern Quest Scholars Network and the vice president and treasurer of the Nu Sigma chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

Through Medill, I was able to travel on three fully-funded reporting trips to Shanghai, China; Tokyo, Japan; and Johannesburg, South Africa. Additionally, through Medill, I had my first editorial internship with Variety in Los Angeles, California, where I was fully immersed in celebrity wonderland.

I have also had two life-changing summer experiences. Through the Global Engagement Studies Institute program, I was able to live in Hanoi, Vietnam, for three months and fully realize my love for traveling and learning new things. With funding from the Summer Internship Grant Program and WEAA, I had my first legal internship in Anchorage, Alaska, which remains the best opportunity I've ever had.

WEAA's unconditional support encouraged me to finish my undergraduate degree in three years. With one extra year of aid left, I was inspired to look into Medill's accelerated graduate options. I am currently pursuing a master's degree in investigative journalism.

The financial assistance from WEAA was a huge blessing for me throughout my time at Northwestern; I worried less about budgeting and putting in a lot of hours at my work-study job and focused more on how I wanted to channel the skills I learned in my education into action for my community.

Thank you once again for your generosity and support. I'm happy to share that my time as a WEAA Scholar at Northwestern prepared me for taking on the huge responsibility of becoming a Peace Corps volunteer. I was invited to serve in Colombia and plan to depart in mid-September of this year. After the Peace Corps, I hope to go to law school and eventually practice immigration or civil rights law.

It's been a blessing getting to know the WEAA members, alumnae, and board members. Thank you.

Warmly,

LaTesha Harris (she/her/hers)

Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications, BSJ20/MSJ20

Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Creative Writing (Fiction)



Kaniya Hester '23

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

My name is Kaniya, and I'm a freshman here at Northwestern. First, I'd like to thank you for your generosity and kindness. Since I've come to Northwestern, I've received support in ways I couldn't have imagined. I couldn't be more grateful to the WEAA for seeing something in me and supporting me in my efforts.

My current major is human communication sciences, a major in the School of Communication focusing on topics such as speech and hearing differences and disorders as well as topics like bilingualism, language development, dysphagia, etc. I also plan to declare a minor in Spanish. This quarter, I'm taking an introductory computer science course, Spanish, public speaking, a seminar about bilingualism, and a seminar about the census. Outside of classes, I am a research assistant for the Bilingualism and Psychoacoustics Lab, a volunteer instructor for a student-run organization called the Academy of Music and Arts for Special Education (AMASE), and a mentee under the Compass Mentoring Program for first-generation, low-income students.

In my family, money is a constant stressor in our daily lives. And as a first-generation, low-income student, I have not known anything outside of this generally negative relationship with money. This scholarship has impacted that by affording me experiences that contribute to my personal development and materials that aid me in my academic endeavors. For example, I was able to purchase video editing software in order to create a short documentary. This is something I've always been interested in making, but before coming to Northwestern and receiving aid from the WEAA, I lacked the resources to do so. The topic I chose for the documentary, maternity leave in the United States, has been so interesting to me that I am actually currently searching for opportunities to further pursue my interest in this topic. In regards to the future, I'd like to study abroad in order to have an immersive experience in a Spanish-speaking country in my junior year. With your support, I am able to start the process of getting a passport for the first time.

Once again, thank you so much for your generosity. I hope this letter gives you a glimpse of how much it means to me.

– Kaniya



Joy (Bing Lan) Huang '23

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

I hope this email finds you well! I am writing to thank you for your generous contributions towards the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship that I have received this year. My name is Joy Huang, and I am a freshman in the McCormick School of Engineering. I am currently listed as a civil and environmental engineering major, but I am seeking to transfer and obtain a dual degree in mechanical engineering and manufacturing and design engineering. This quarter, I am taking five courses: Multivariable Calculus, Engineering Analysis II, Korean, Design Thinking and Communication (DTC), and Climate Action: Mitigation, Adaptation & Geoengineering. In addition to these challenging courses, I am also trying to balance work. I have been on the lookout for an internship opportunity related to engineering to enhance my skill sets and gain new experiences, and, currently, I work as a waitress in a Korean restaurant. The amount of combined school work can take away from time when I am available for work, so, with sincerity, I am thankful for receiving funds that have helped alleviate some of the stress I am having financially.

Aside from academics and work, I am also involved in extracurricular activities: KASA, Taekwondo, and Northwestern University Table Tennis Club. KASA stands for Korean American Students Association, a student-run organization that welcomes all undergraduate students sharing an interest in Korean culture, community, and issues. In the club, I have created my own family and have an "older sister" that watches out for me. Here, I participate in many events that promote family bonding. On the other hand, Taekwondo and table tennis are sports that have enabled me to relieve stress while working out. I participate in every practice to gain or enhance transferable skills.

Overall, my first two quarters at Northwestern University have had their ups and downs. No doubt, courses here have been challenging, yet, as I tackle these obstacles that I am encountering in class, I am growing bit by bit. With the financial assistance from this scholarship, I was able to purchase my own textbooks and get new supplies to ultimately become the engineer of my education and my future. I really appreciate your help. I cannot thank you enough for your generosity!

Thank you!

Best regards,

Joy Huang



Christina Im '20

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

I am so grateful for the support that I have gotten from the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship. The scholarship has allowed me to worry about my finances a little less and focus more on my passions and career. Last quarter, I participated in Chicago Field Studies, the largest academic internship program at Northwestern, and interned at AVIA. I have learned so much more about the healthcare industry from another perspective and know this will be invaluable to my future career as a physician. I am also involved in Northwestern to Benefit Special Olympics (NUSO) and a couple other organizations. I

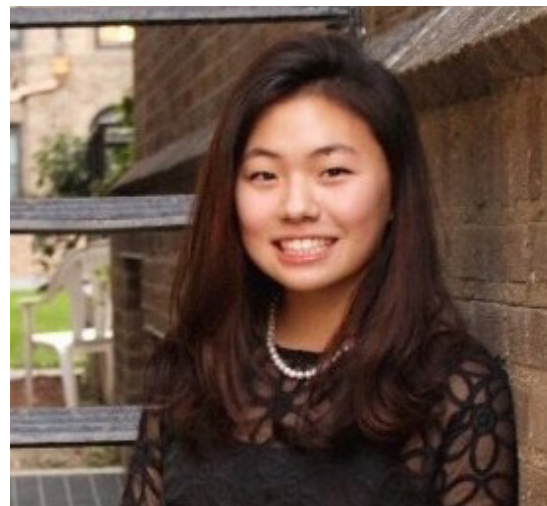
have been the president of NUSO for the past two years, and this is the organization I am most passionate about. I am graduating this June with a degree in biological sciences. Although most of my classes have been science oriented, I fortunately had the opportunity to study abroad in Barcelona last summer, which was the number one item on my college bucket list! This was exactly the break I needed before heading back to Evanston to be a Bridge counselor—someone who helps prepare incoming first-generation and low-income students for success at Northwestern—towards the end of the summer.

I am still figuring what I am doing after graduation. My only set plan is to apply to medical school during my gap year, but I will keep you updated.

Again, thank you so much for everything. I would not have been able to do all of my internships and programs without WEAA.

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Christina Im



Unsun Lee '22

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

Hello, this is Unsun Lee, a sophomore recipient of the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship. First, I would like to thank you for your support to make WEAA scholarships possible for students like me. WEAA has been an amazing support system on campus for me the past one-and-a-half years in allowing me to take full advantage of what Northwestern has to offer me.

Although this sophomore year has been a challenge academically, it has also been very meaningful in furthering my personal growth. Last summer, I got to work in a research lab for the first time, where I learned a lot more about conducting scientific experiments. I am looking to join another lab over the course of the next year. I also participated in the HPA-Northwestern Medicine Physician Shadowing Program where I shadowed a doctor for five weeks. This experience has provided me an opportunity to hold my aspirations with even more weight and has motivated me to continue on in my pre-med track.

Again, thanks for making all this possible, and I truly appreciate your support.

Best,

Unsun Lee



Adriana Martinez-Smiley '23

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

My name is Adriana Martinez-Smiley, and I'm a first-year student in Medill, as well as an S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship recipient.

First of all, I cannot stress enough how grateful I am for being named a WEAA Scholar. WEAA has been able to fill the gaps in my financial aid and has ensured that I'm comfortably living life on campus like many other students have the privilege to do.

On campus, I've recently been promoted to senior editor for *BlackBoard Magazine*, the only Black interest publication on campus. I've also been active with Northwestern's Social Justice Education, working as a Peer Inclusion Educator and holding workshops on inclusion, power, and oppression with the ultimate goal of making a more inclusive, socially aware campus community. In addition to this, I've also begun working with Dissenters, a group of young activists that want to stop useless war, which has often been a tool for profit.

Without your help, it would be much harder to maintain all these activities that I get to participate in. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Adriana Martinez-Smiley



Abby Neufarth '23

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

Thank you so much for your support and all that you do for us. I so enjoyed the brunch this past quarter. It was so great to have an opportunity to get to know the other scholars of my year and our mentors. It came at the perfect time in the quarter. I was thankful for the opportunity to decompress and enjoy the community. So far, I have really enjoyed my time at Northwestern. My favorite class so far has been Engineering Analysis 2. Previously, I had never had the opportunity to go in-depth with the calculations behind physics, and I learned so much during this class. I also had an awesome professor. Even though it was my last class of the day, he kept us all engaged with the material.

I am also super excited to become involved with Cru, a faith community at Northwestern.

Overall, I find myself very busy, but I am truly enjoying all of the things I end up spending my time on. Especially with my classes, though they are definitely challenging, I find it very rewarding to invest in my future. Thank you again for everything. I appreciate your support, both financially and emotionally, and it means more than you know.

Sincerely,

Abby Neufarth



Amya Scott '23

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

My name is Amya Scott, and I'm a freshman at Northwestern University studying Radio/TV/Film. I'm a recipient of the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship, and I'd like to thank you so much for your support! This grant has allowed me to participate in extracurriculars that really enrich my college experience. One of these activities is Mayfest Productions, an organization on campus that produces Dillo Day, the largest student-run music festival in the country. In the future, I would like to be a producer in television or film, so I feel this will give me some transferable skills for that occupation. This summer, I hope to acquire an internship. I've looked into being an intern for the Chicago Children's Film Festival, and I am interviewing to be an intern at a film studio in Los Angeles later this month. I hope you're all doing well, and thank you again so much for your support!

Best,
Amya Scott



NaKaya Short '23

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

My name is NaKaya Short! I am a freshman recipient of the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship. I am currently a pre-nursing student, and so far on campus I have gotten involved in Sustained Dialogue, an organization that facilitates student-led conversations about experiences at Northwestern with the goal of creating a more inclusive community.

This quarter, I am taking chemistry, Spanish, psychology, and a freshman seminar. I am really enjoying my psychology class, which is why I am considering becoming a psychology major. I also would like to become fluent in Spanish by the time I graduate from Northwestern, so I am planning on studying abroad at some point during my college experience. Additionally, I am happy to say I have recently received a B average from winter quarter. I want to personally thank you all for your support along this journey. College has been hard—however, since receiving this scholarship, I have been able to pay more attention to my academics rather than finances. I am planning on becoming an advanced psychiatric nurse, and I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to pursue my dream!

Thank you for everything,

NaKaya Short
Class of 2023



Kimberly Sloan '21

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

Hello, and thank you! I have been incredibly grateful for the opportunity to go to Northwestern and explore my interests. As someone from rural Arkansas, it is a rare blessing to receive such a quality education.

In my time at Northwestern, I've been able to discover my passion for learning sciences and computer science. In my courses, I've been able to meet with wonderful academics and mentors, and I'm eager to get into research during this coming summer.

The Women's Educational Aid Association has been one of the greatest resources in my time at Northwestern. I love the community within the WEAA organization, and I am so grateful to be part of it.

Kim Sloan



Abigail Sutter '22

Women's Educational Aid Association,

I am honored to be a recipient of the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship. It has allowed me to do so much at Northwestern I would not be able to otherwise.

This year, I was lucky enough to make the Mock Trial team at Northwestern. This club has great opportunities to travel and compete at other campuses, but with traveling comes expenses. The scholarship has given me the ability to travel and eat on weekends where that would have been hard to figure out. I am able to buy the right kind of clothes and fit into a fairly elite group

of students and feel as though I can belong there. I've gotten the opportunity during winter quarter to become a captain of one of our teams, and the scholarship has made sure that I am able to focus on the team, not my own logistics.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, I planned to travel to Israel-Palestine over spring break for a global reporting class. This scholarship once again provided me with the knowledge that I can take advantage of unique opportunities like this without suddenly running out of funds or having to stretch very little farther than it can go.

Thank you for enabling all of these opportunities and more! My Northwestern experience is better because of this scholarship program.

Best,

Abigail Sutter



Tiara Swartz '20

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

I want to thank you for all the help and support you have given me during my time at Northwestern. Because of you, I have been able to participate in activities that I could have only hoped be a part of. I have been able to take part in my sorority, where I have met my lifelong friends, learned so much about others and the world, and taken on leadership positions that have given me experience I will carry into my future.

Fueled by my passion for education, I have been able to take courses that have helped me develop a sense of the changes that should be made to help educate children from all backgrounds. With that being said, after graduation I will be doing Teach For America and teaching elementary school for Chicago Public Schools.

I hope that I can make a difference in children's lives like you have made a difference in mine. Your generous support during my time here at Northwestern has allowed me not to worry about financial barriers. So, again, thank you for not only the scholarship, but also for your willingness to always help and be a resource of knowledge.

Sincerely,

Tiara Swartz



Aura Ulloa '22

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

Thank you for your generous contributions to the S A Women's Educational Aid Association Scholarship. Through the WEAA's financial assistance, I've been able to obtain books and materials for my social science courses like Global History II, which deals with the Industrial Revolution and the impact of carbon-based technology. As a computer science major seeking to understand both the benefits and repercussions of past and current technologies, I am able to receive a more well-rounded education through courses like this. The WEAA has also introduced me to a community of mentors able to provide me advice in both my current school life and career aspirations. This way, I'll be able to better analyze the impact of the work that I'll be doing in the future.

Best,

Aura Ulloa



Chloe Wong '21

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

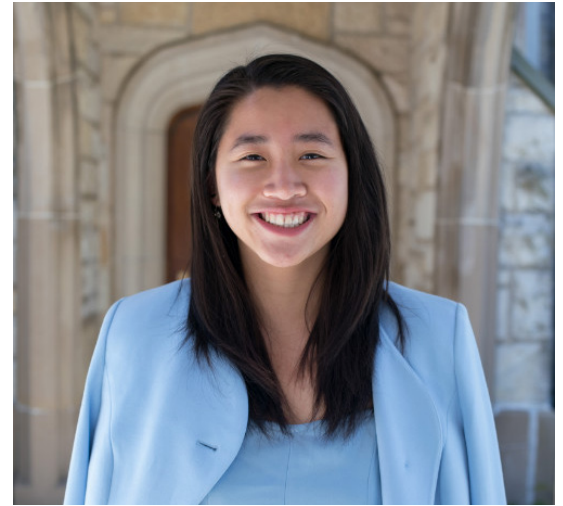
I would like to sincerely thank you for supporting my Northwestern experience and making it possible for me to learn, engage, and grow here at Northwestern. As a low-income, first-generation student, I never thought that I would be able to study abroad or see the world beyond my narrow scope. I am currently pursuing a double-major in anthropology and global health and a minor in Asian American studies. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to explore my interests within the social sciences and learn about what kind of impact I can make. Generous donors and organizations like the WEAA have changed my Northwestern direction time and time again. Because of your support, I know that I am able to explore my options and see the impact that I want to make on the world. Studying abroad has become a pivotal part of my Northwestern experience, and, I daresay, an irreplaceable part of my education and growth. I have studied public health in Paris at Sciences Po, interned for an NGO in Vietnam, and studied on exchange at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. These experiences would not be possible without your generous aid.

While studying abroad, I have realized my passion for international public health and civic engagement. I am currently doing an independent research project on women's health at Feinberg School of Medicine on an undergraduate research grant and hope to develop that into my thesis for anthropology. I am also a fellow at the Center for Civic Engagement, helping to run civic programs for students. The value of your scholarship enables students like me to further think about the state of the world and how we can leverage our own abilities to do better, not necessarily to do more.

This year, I became the president of Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., a multicultural Asian-interest sorority. The multicultural community has offered me a sisterhood and a home in Evanston. I have been able to further understand my APIDA (Asian Pacific Islander Desi American) identity and grow as a leader because I'm at Northwestern. After graduation, I plan to either pursue a fellowship to do research abroad or pursue health policy and research. To that end, thank you for your continued support of my Northwestern direction.

Sincerely,

Chloe Wong



Annie Zhang '22

Dear Women's Educational Aid Association,

I am currently a WEAA Scholar and a second-year student in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. Over the past two years, I've received so much support and guidance from this organization, and WEAA has helped me thrive during my time here. I am eternally grateful that I have the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful organization.

In terms of my academic journey, I love that Northwestern's quarter system enables me to explore my interests in both STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) and social science fields. I've explored courses in a multitude of different subject areas, and I've done everything from learning about undocumented immigrant politics to delving into the inner workings of chemistry. Although I started off as a biology major, I am now studying economics and global health. My plans for my future are not completely set in stone yet. However, for now, I am highly interested in combining my interests in economics and public health, and I am hoping to pursue a career that involves health policy or health administration.

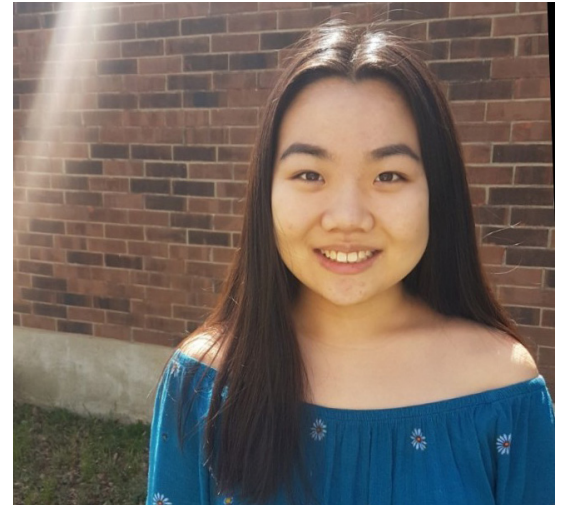
Moreover, I am involved in several extracurricular activities on campus. Notably, I'm currently an executive board member of Active Minds, where I work to advocate for mental health awareness and destigmatization at Northwestern. Additionally, earlier this year, I became a board member of the Global Engagement Summit, where I organize an annual social impact conference for aspiring young social entrepreneurs from all around the world. The other activities I'm heavily involved in include writing for The Northwestern Business Review, volunteering as a coach for the Special Olympics, and being a sister in Kappa Phi Lambda (an Asian-interest multicultural Greek sorority).

All of these activities have brought so much color and excitement to my everyday life at Northwestern, where I've crossed paths with so many influential people (including other WEAA members, coincidentally!). I constantly reflect on the fact that it's only possible for me to become involved in the myriad of activities that I'm involved in right now because of the financial support that I've received from this scholarship. Without it, I would not have discovered these opportunities and grown into the leader that I am now. Because of this, I am forever grateful for your support.

Again, thank you so much for allowing me to become a part of this organization, and thank you for your continued support. The assistance and mentorship that I've received has helped me so much, and the wonderful people that I've met through this organization have all had a positive impact on my life. I wish you all the best!

Sincerely,

Annie Zhang



Kimberly Collins '20

Kimberly is a senior from San Antonio, Texas. The first in her family to attend college, Kimberly is majoring in the biological sciences with a concentration in cell biology and physiology.

A self-proclaimed science lover, Kimberly has been an independent research student in the Andersen and Woodruff labs, where she studied cancer drug dosage response and oncofertility, respectively.

As a Certified Peer Educator, Kimberly co-facilitates educational programs focusing on alcohol and other drug issues in a university setting. She also studies topics expanding into other areas of health and wellness and participates in awareness campaigns as a member of Wildcats Advancing Total Campus Health (WATCH). Kimberly joined WATCH to explore her interest in public health and learn more about harm reduction.

She is also involved with Women in Computing, Northwestern University Philharmonia, and NU Bioscientist. After graduation, Kimberly aspires to attend medical school.



Cayla Clements '21

Cayla Clements is a junior who hails from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She is an aspiring documentarian and multimedia journalist majoring in journalism and minoring in global health studies. Says Cayla, “I fully support my own college education and living expenses, and the WEAA scholarship helps to make that happen. I am so thankful for your generosity and investment in low-income students like me who wouldn’t be able to afford or imagine attending here.

“I have a passion for social justice reporting, and that has been what I’ve focused my internships and interests in. I am currently on the executive board of the National Association of Black Journalists, and I am an office assistant at Multicultural Student Affairs.”

Last summer, Cayla was a video production and editing intern for The TriiBE, an up-and-coming media platform whose mission is reshaping the narrative of black Chicago. “I performed various tasks and served as a production assistant and videographer for the platform’s current documentary projects,” she says. “I was also a photographer for events such as Pitchfork Music Festival Chicago and the Silver Room Sound System Block Party, and I was a video and audio editor for social media and their website.”

She has also been involved with the Peer Health Exchange, which focuses on empowering young people with the knowledge, skills, and resources to make healthy decisions, as well as the Medill Undergraduate Student Advisory Council, *STITCH Magazine*, and the WNUR Media team.

Cayla hopes that as a documentary filmmaker and screenwriter, she will be able to tell untold stories. “I hope to make a valiant effort to advocate for social justice in my career.”



Sarah Fernandez '22

Sarah is a second-year student from Henderson, Nevada, majoring in English literature and French. Her interests include social justice, prison abolition, race/gender theory, and public policy.

In the summer of 2017, Sarah participated in the Medill Cherubs program, a selective, five-week journalism program for about 80 rising high school seniors. An experience that had a lasting impact on her was when she had the opportunity to interview a former inmate who had been recently exonerated. “[She] was honest, raw, and willing to answer all my questions. [The experience] made me a better journalist and person.”

Sarah interned last summer at Organizing Neighborhoods for Equality: Northside, which builds collective power to eliminate injustice through bold and innovative community organizing. During her internship, she helped with organizing tenants, canvassing, planning 1:1 meetings with member institutions and tenants, and attending planning meetings with larger coalitions.

This past fall, she was accepted into the Brady Program in Ethics and Civic Life—a community of undergraduate students who join together with graduate students and faculty to discuss values and norms, goodness and badness, rightness and wrongness, virtue and vice, duty and obligation, justice and rights, equality and freedom, and the application of these concepts to local, national, and international communities. She also interned this year at the Juvenile Expungement Help Desk and will intern at the Rights and Restoration Law Group, LLC, this summer.

Her other campus activities include graphic design for North by Northwestern and being involved with the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and BLAST—Northwestern’s ballroom, Latin, and swing team. After graduation, Sarah aspires to attend law school.



Hannah Whitehouse '20

“I am a fifth-year student in the dual-degree program at Northwestern studying music education in the Bienen School of Music and social policy in the School of Education and Social Policy. I have interests in music education access, particularly for low-income students, which is evident through my global undergraduate research experience of various music education initiatives. In addition to music education, I have interests in broader education policy and reform, particularly in urban public school districts. I am also pursuing minors in arts administration and religious studies.”

During the 2018–19 academic year, Hannah was a Circumnavigators Scholar who traveled to England, Greece, Kenya, India, the Philippines, and New Zealand to complete her comparative research study Global Perspectives on the El Sistema Movement: Social Change through Music Education. She was awarded a \$14,500 research grant to independently conceive, plan, and conduct her study.



She is also a violin and viola instructor at The People's Music School and a youth intern at Grace Presbyterian Church of the North Shore.

On campus, she is involved with the National Association for Music Education, Delta Zeta Sorority, the Waa-Mu Show, and Reformed University Fellowship.