



HECKSCHER SCHOLARS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SECOND EDITION | DECEMBER 2024



HECKSCHER NEWS

USE THE QR CODE TO JOIN OUR LINKEDIN ALUMNI GROUP FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE NEWS ON THE PROGRAM AND MORE.



PLEASE ALWAYS UPDATE YOUR LINKEDIN PROFILE.

WE ENCOURAGE ALL HECKSCHER SCHOLARS TO TAKE SWIMMING OR DRIVING LESSONS.



REACH OUT SO WE CAN HELP YOU SET IT UP AND PAY FOR IT.



GEOFFREY HOWARTH,
DIRECTOR OF
HECKSCHER
SCHOLARS PROGRAM

REFLECTING ON A YEAR OF GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

THIS YEAR, OUR HECKSCHER SCHOLARS DEMONSTRATED EXTRAORDINARY DEDICATION AND RESILIENCE IN PURSUING THEIR DREAMS.

OUR GRADUATING CLASS IS NOW EMBARKING ON JOURNEYS TO COLLEGES NEAR AND FAR, FROM THE VIBRANT STREETS OF PARIS TO RENOWNED INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE SOUTH AND EAST COAST. DESPITE A CHALLENGING YEAR FOR COLLEGE APPLICANTS NATIONWIDE—MARKED BY THE COMPLEXITIES OF AN EVOLVING FAFSA PROCESS—OUR SCHOLARS NAVIGATED THESE OBSTACLES WITH DETERMINATION, SECURING SCHOLARSHIPS AND ADMISSION TO THE SCHOOLS OF THEIR DREAMS.

OUR JUNIORS, MEANWHILE, EMBRACED OPPORTUNITIES TO PREPARE FOR THEIR NEXT CHAPTER. THEY PARTICIPATED IN A TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC THROUGH OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH GLOBAL GLIMPSE. WHILE THERE, THEY CONTRIBUTED TO MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY PROJECTS, EXPLORED THE COUNTRY'S RICH HISTORY, AND GAINED INVALUABLE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP.

TRUE TO THE SPIRIT OF THE PROGRAM, OUR SCHOLARS SOUGHT ADDITIONAL CHALLENGES AND EXCELLED IN PRESTIGIOUS PROGRAMS AT INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS NYU, NORTHEASTERN, AND COLUMBIA. THEY EXPLORED FIELDS RANGING FROM LINGUISTICS TO ENGINEERING TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, FURTHER FUELING THEIR PASSION FOR LEARNING. AS THE YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE, THEY ARE EXCITEDLY SUBMITTING THEIR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS, READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP TOWARD ACHIEVING THEIR ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL GOALS.

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SCHOLARS' ACHIEVEMENTS AND EAGER TO SEE THE IMPACT THEY WILL MAKE IN THE WORLD.

SINCERELY,
GISELLE ROBLEDO
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, HECKSCHER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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MEET OUR GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024



EDWIN MURUZUMBAY
HUNTER COLLEGE



KATHERINE SILLERO
HAMILTON COLLEGE



AUGUST SMITH
SUNY ONEONTA



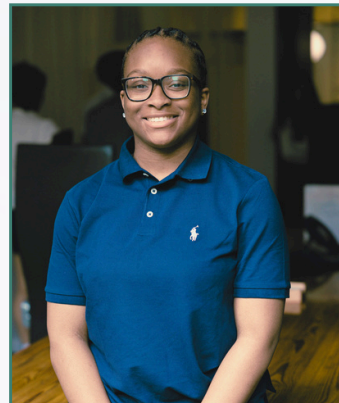
DEBORAH AIGBOGUN
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



FARIDA MOHAMMAD
UNIVERSITY OF
ROCHESTER



HAOYU HUANG
RENSSELAER
POLYTECHNIC
INSTITUTE



OLIVIA DOM
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY



NATE CUMMINGS
UNIVERSITY OF
ROCHESTER



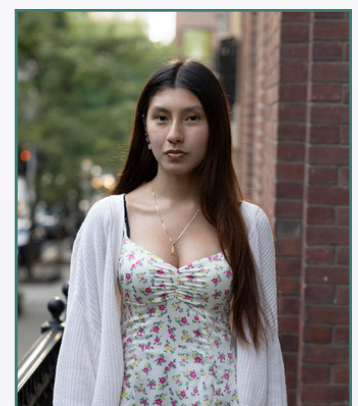
TRAN TRAN
EMERSON COLLEGE



RAHIM RAHAMAN
MESSINA COLLEGE



SOPHIA CHEN
UNIVERSITY OF
RICHMOND



STEPHANIE MARTINEZ
UNION COLLEGE



SURAILENNY PEREZ
HAMILTON COLLEGE



JENNIFER LOPEZ-
ALVARADO
BARUCH COLLEGE

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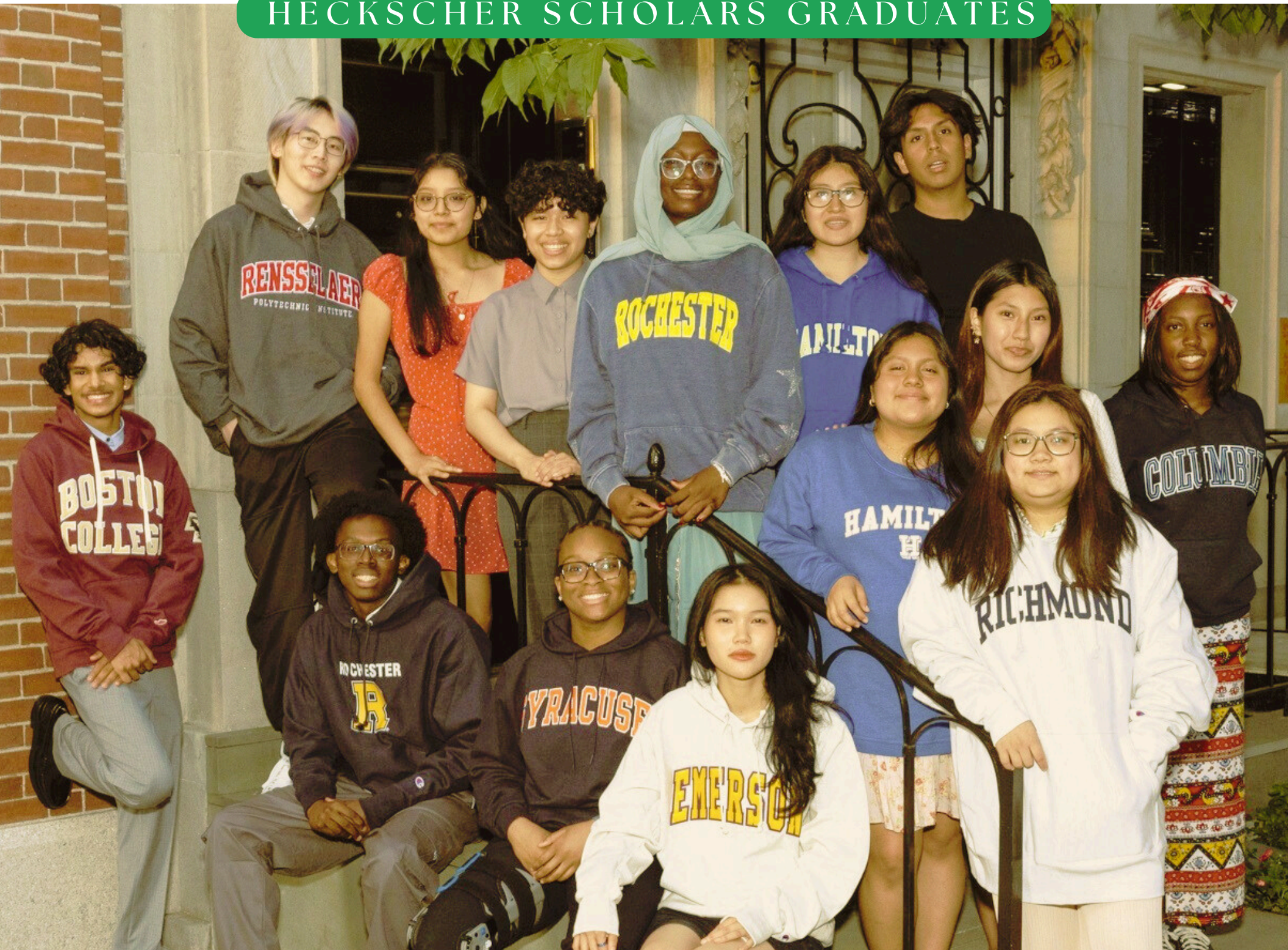
CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATION CEREMONY



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SECOND EDITION | DECEMBER 2024

CELEBRATING OUR CLASS OF 2024
HECKSCHER SCHOLARS GRADUATES



CLASS OF 2024

August Smith
Deborah Aigbogun
Edwin Muruzumbay
Farida Mohammad
HaoYu Huang
Jennifer Lopez-Alvarado
Katherine Sillero
Nate Cummings
Olivia Dom
Rahim Rahaman
Sophia Chen
Stephanie Martinez
Surailenny Perez
Tran Tran

CLASS OF 2025

Alexandra Palafox
Ashley Callejas Uraga
Dania Neri-Bravo
Jeovani Alvarez
Kelly Mendoza
LeSean Tyson
Lesley Balmes Lucero
Mariam Diallo
Mariana Degante
Nanakofi Kagya
Naralia Acateco
Ramses Solano
Troyina McCoy
Vikki Perez
Xiao (Michelle) Chen
Yadid Charry

CLASS OF 2026

Alay Polanco
Alexander Hernandez-Reyes
Angelin Serrano
Callice Watson
Daisy Romero Cruz
Jessica Garcia-Castilla
Kareem Alarefi
Kevin Morales
Leslie Castillo-Martinez
Medine Akca
Norman Sorokin
Samierla Boalds
Sean Michael Rivas
Viola Saweris
Williamson Urbano
Yamelis Bautista

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HECKSCHER ALUMNI UPDATES

JOSHUA ROBERTSON (CLASS OF 2018)

JOSH IS A GLOBAL HISTORY TEACHER AT PARK EAST HIGH SCHOOL. HE GRADUATED FROM SUNY NEW PALTZ IN 2022 WITH A DEGREE IN ADOLESCENT EDUCATION AND IS ALSO ENROLLED IN THE ADOLESCENT SPECIAL EDUCATION GENERALIST MASTER'S PROGRAM AT CUNY HUNTER COLLEGE. SOON, HE WILL BE CERTIFIED IN NOT ONLY SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION, BUT ALSO SPECIAL EDUCATION.

JOCELYN RENDON PASCUAL (CLASS OF 2018)

JOCELYN HAS MOVED BACK FROM CAMBRIDGE WHERE SHE WAS AN OPERATIONS ANALYST AT BANK OF NEW YORK AND IS NOW LIVING IN NYC AND WORKING AS A FINANCE ASSOCIATE AT THE RESOLUTION PROJECT, A NON-PROFIT THAT IS DEDICATED TO FOSTERING YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE WORLD THROUGH COLLABORATIVE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP. JOCELYN GRADUATED FROM VASSAR IN MAY 2022.

ANGELIE (LALL) HANIFF (CLASS OF 2018)

ANGELIE DECIDED TO SWITCH CAREER PATHS AND NOW IS A FIRST-YEAR ALGEBRA I TEACHER AT HER ALMA MATER. SHE IS ALSO PURSUING HER MASTER'S IN EDUCATION AT PACE UNIVERSITY, WITH HOPES OF MOVING INTO ADMINISTRATIVE WORK.

EMELYN ROSARIO (CLASS OF 2019)

EMELYN HAS EARNED HER BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY, WITH DOUBLE MINORS IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS & PEACE STUDIES. SHE WORKED IN COLLEGE ACCESS IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES.

SHE BEGAN AS A COLLEGE TRANSITION COACH AT COLLEGE BOUND INITIATIVE, WHERE SHE HELPED NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS NAVIGATE THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS AND FINANCIAL AID.

LATER, SHE TRANSITIONED TO UASPIRE, DIVING DEEPER INTO FINANCIAL AID KNOWLEDGE AS A COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY ADVISOR, ASSISTING GRADUATES WITH THEIR POST-SECONDARY PLANS. SHE CURRENTLY SERVES AS THE ADVISING PARTNERSHIPS COORDINATOR AT UASPIRE.

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WE AT THE HECKSCHER FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN
ARE SO PROUD OF OUR FORMER HECKSCHER SCHOLARS
AND LOOK FOR WAYS WE CAN ASSIST THEM IN THEIR CAREERS.

PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU.

STAY IN TOUCH AND SEND AN EMAIL TO:
GHOWARTH@HECKSCHERFOUNDATION.ORG

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SECOND EDITION | DECEMBER 2024

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MUHAMMAD MBAYE
STATISTICS & MATHEMATICS
SCHOLAR AT FORT VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY



KIARA WALTERS
STUDENT AT
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



EMELYN C. ROSARIO BELLO
ADVISING PARTNERSHIPS
COORDINATOR AT UASPIRE



JULIAN HUTSON
FLIGHT CREW RECOVERY
COORDINATOR AT JETBLUE



ZHAVIERRE MCGOWAN
TRANSCRIPTIONIS AT
TRANSCRIBEME



KAITLYN CEPEDA
JD CANDIDATE AT
ELISABETH HAUB SCHOOL OF LAW
AT PACE UNIVERSITY



JOCELYN RENDON PASCUAL
FINANCE ASSOCIATE
AT RESOLUTION PROJECT



SAIDA BLAIR
COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE
AT ESP GROUP



SAAD SHARI
CLINICAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR II
AT BIOSCIENCE RESEARCH, LLC



KAZI NOOR
BOARD MEMBER AT
OFFICE OF THE BRONX BOROUGH
PRESIDENT



JAYCE JASSO
ACCENTURE SUMMER ANALYST



DEBORA CAMACHO
STUDENT CO-CHAIR MARKETING
AND COMMUNICATION AT
SMITH COLLEGE



GERALDINE NIETO-AYALA
STUDENT AT
LA GUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE



AHMAD SALMAN
RESIDENT ADVISOR AT
CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

HECKSCHER SCHOLARS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SECOND EDITION | DECEMBER 2024

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ISAAC BASIS
AUDIT ASSOCIATE AT
RSM US LLP



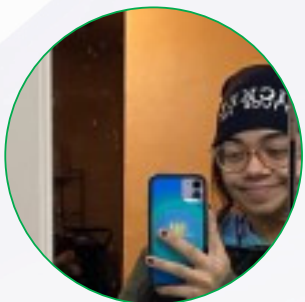
ISHMAL SHAIKH
PROGRAMMING ASSISTANT AT
MACALESTER COLLEGE



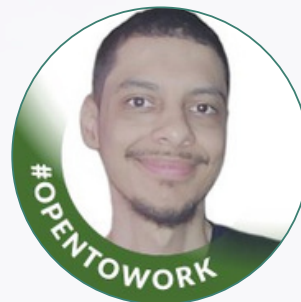
EMMANUEL ASANTE
PRIVATE EQUITY ANALYST AT
GARNETT STATION PARTNERS



JOSUE PEREZ
SUPERVISOR
AT UPS



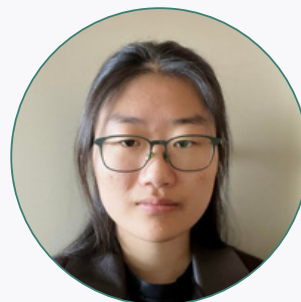
ALINA LUGO
DOG WALKER AT
SWIFTO



LUIS PEREZ
DOORMAN AT
FIRSTSERVICE RESIDENTIAL
NEW YORK



SMARLIN ESPINO
PLANNING TECHNICIAN AT
TOWN OF BRIGHTON



SHERYL YANG
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT AT
TSAI PERFORMANCE CENTER



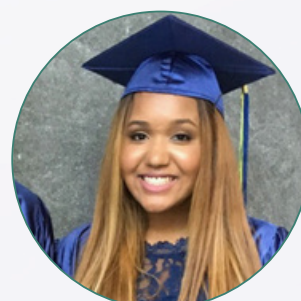
IZABELLA TANDLMAYER
STUDENT AT
CORNELL UNIVERSITY



AMINATA KONATEH
INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS
COUNSELOR AT LIM COLLEGE



TEYLOR HAMILTON
ENGLISH TEACHER AT
DES MOINES PUBLIC SCHOOLS



HENNESSY LOPEZ
STUDENT AT
BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE



XAVIER ARCE
SEASONAL GROUNDSKEEPER AT
NYC DEPARTMENT OF PARKS
& RECREATION



SHANE LADENDALE
GLIMPSE AT
GLOBAL GLIMPSE



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UWILL
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS



HECKSCHER
SCHOLARS

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when you need
someone to talk to



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gender, ethnicity, language, focus area

At a time that fits your schedule
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HECKSCHER APPAREL

IF YOU'D LIKE TO RECEIVE ONE, PLEASE LET US KNOW, AND WE'LL SEND IT TO YOU FREE OF CHARGE.

SIMPLY EMAIL US AT COMMUNICATIONS@HECKSCHERFOUNDATION.ORG WITH THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:

- YOUR NAME
- FULL MAILING ADDRESS
- ITEM NAME
- SIZE (AVAILABLE IN SMALL, MEDIUM, LARGE, X-LARGE)

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE REST AND ENSURE IT REACHES YOU!



BACKPACK



SWEATER WITH HOOD



LONG SLEEVE SHIRT



SWEATPANTS



WINTER HAT



T-SHIRT



POLO SHIRT



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OUR PHILOSOPHY

THE HECKSCHER SCHOLARS PROGRAM

IS A MULTI-DIMENSIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS FROM UNDER-RESOURCED PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS HOUSED AT THE HECKSCHER FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK CITY.

OUR PROGRAM PROVIDES INDIVIDUALIZED ACADEMIC GUIDANCE, COLLEGE AND FINANCIAL AID COUNSELING, AND A MULTITUDE OF OPPORTUNITIES AND SUPPORT TO STUDENTS FROM DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES. HECKSCHER SCHOLARS GUIDES ITS STUDENTS TOWARDS THE GREATEST PATH OUT OF POVERTY, A COLLEGE EDUCATION, OPENING DOORS TO COMPETITIVE FOUR-YEAR PRIVATE COLLEGES AND A HIGHER EDUCATION THAT WILL HAVE A CATALYTIC IMPACT ON THEIR FUTURE.

AN OPEN-ENDED COMMITMENT

THE OVERARCHING PHILOSOPHY OF HECKSCHER SCHOLARS IS TO GIVE ITS STUDENTS WHATEVER IT TAKES FOR THEM TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS. HECKSCHER SCHOLARS BEGINS WITH A TWO-YEAR COLLEGE PREP PROGRAM, WHERE SCHOLARS RECEIVE RIGOROUS ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION, TUTORING, PERSONALIZED COLLEGE GUIDANCE, FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION SUPPORT, CAREER-READINESS SUPPORT AND LIFE-SKILLS TRAINING.

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN AN INTENSIVE FIVE-WEEK ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT PROGRAM THAT BEGINS IN THE SUMMER BEFORE THEIR JUNIOR YEAR, AND CONTINUES THROUGH SENIOR YEAR WITH WEEKLY MEETINGS. ONCE OUR STUDENTS ENTER COLLEGE, HECKSCHER SCHOLARS CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT AS INDIVIDUAL NEEDS ARISE.

A FOCUS ON THE INDIVIDUAL

HECKSCHER SCHOLARS PROVIDES A DEEPLY PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCE FOR EACH STUDENT THROUGH ITS ACADEMIC AND COLLEGE ACCESS SUPPORT. HECKSCHER SCHOLARS' STAFF DEVELOP STRONG AND LONG-LASTING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STUDENTS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE ACADEMIC AND CAREER SUCCESS.

WITH INDIVIDUALIZED GUIDANCE, OUR SCHOLARS FIND INTERNSHIPS, COLLEGE COURSES, AND PROGRAMS THE SUMMER BEFORE THEIR SENIOR YEAR, AND MOST EXPERIENCE OVERSEAS TRAVEL THROUGH OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH GLOBAL GLIMPSE.

WE FOSTER A COMMUNITY OF FUTURE LEADERS, GIVING OUR SCHOLARS THE RESOURCES AND TOOLS THAT THEY NEED TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES AND FIND A PATHWAY TO SUCCESS.