UK SUMMER INSTITUTES
2022 Cohort
The Fulbright University of Bristol Summer Institute on Arts, Activism and Social Justice

Armour Armoni hails from Brooklyn, New York, and is now a rising junior at Georgetown University where she majors in English and minors in Justice and Peace Studies. After spending the summer volunteering at a historically Black cemetery, Armoni became passionate about slavery remembrance and reconciliation efforts—a passion she is excited to further explore at the University of Bristol.

In the future, she hopes to do research on the psychological effects of slavery and how those effects connect to Black generational trauma. As a student at Georgetown, arts, activism, and social justice are at the heart of everything Armoni does. Through her school’s Prison Outreach program, Armoni serves as a GED Math Tutor for a group of students experiencing incarceration. She also is a member of the Educational Events Committee on the GU Prison Outreach Advocacy Team where she helps curate campus-wide events that inform students about various injustices within the criminal justice system such as mass incarceration and police brutality.

Armoni satisfies her love of literature through her work as a consultant at the University Writing Center and her role as a section editor for The Blaxa, Georgetown’s Black student news publication and media hub. Armoni hopes to come back from her Summer Institute in Bristol with a more global and intersectional view of history—along with some books from Beware Of the Leopard.

Danielle Hjerpe was raised in La Quinta, California, and is now a rising senior at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Majoring in Biochemistry with a minor in Dance, Danielle is interested in pursuing a career in medicine while continuing to engage her passion for the arts.

Danielle previously participated in the Arts, Activism, and Social Justice institute at the University of Bristol, where she learned about the powerful role that the arts play in furthering social justice movements. This summer, she is excited to expand her scientific knowledge and lab skills by continuing her studies at the University of Bristol through the Biomedical Sciences Lab program.

As she pursues a career in the medical field, Danielle is interested in exploring the intersection of public health, sustainability, and social justice. She believes that an important part of this will be to ensure that scientific information is clearly communicated and accessible to all, so she looks forward to improving her scientific presentation and communication skills this summer.

Having never travelled outside of the United States for an extended period of time, Danielle is also looking forward to exploring Bristol and learning from community members and students from across the globe!
Gianell Lopez was born and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and is currently a rising junior at American University in Washington, DC. Gianell is majoring in International Studies with a focus on Global Inequality and Development. With a passion for social justice, specifically combatting human trafficking, Gianell hopes to work with an international humanitarian aid organization in the future.

As a Literature minor, Gianell is also interested in combining her love of literature with activism. Gianell looks forward to further exploring the intersection that literature and the arts has with social justice at the University of Bristol.

Gianell is also passionate about fighting for education equity. Through her various experiences working with youth and education organizations, Gianell’s interest in helping youth, especially those from marginalized backgrounds, achieve access to education opportunities has increased. Gianell is excited to apply the skills and knowledge learned from this summer institute to better serve her home communities while acting as a higher education advocate.

In addition to the academic experiences at the summer institute, Gianell is excited to meet and work with individuals from diverse backgrounds. Having never traveled abroad for an extended period, Gianell looks forward to exploring the culture and history of Bristol.

Shivam Patel is a recent graduate from East Tennessee State University with a Bachelors in Health Sciences. Growing up all across the United States, he lived in unique areas and experienced the transformative ways a community can come together to make a difference. He spends much of his time learning about the cultural barriers within healthcare. Driven by the passing of his mother in high school, Shivam intends to pursue medical school.

Shivam was drawn to The Fulbright University of Bristol Summer Institute for its focus on how the arts can shape a social movement. Having grown up playing instruments, acting in local theatre, and joining his colleges choir, he knows the power that the arts have in storytelling. While his passion is in medicine, he hopes to play a further role in community advocacy and to pave a way towards equal access to health resources for the people in his region. He believes that social issues are at the core of medicine and that to be a great physician, he must first be aware of the sociocultural barriers of the patients he hopes to treat. Through the University of Bristol, Shivam hopes to gain a new confidence in his ability to advocate for change.

Karlee Resler-Seek from St. Joseph, Missouri, is a rising senior at the University of Missouri-Columbia and is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Political Science, with minors in Women and Gender Studies and Film. She has always loved painting and baking, and got interested in politics through Mizzou College Democrats, where she was just elected president for the upcoming school year.

Karlee chose to study Arts, Activism and Social Justice at the University of Bristol through the Fulbright program. She felt like the program exemplified what she has been interested in throughout her undergraduate studies and would serve her best with what she wants to do in the future. She gained experience on the local political level when she was the campaign manager for Barbara Buffaloe, who recently won bid for Columbia, Missouri mayor, but she wants to broaden her horizons. She’s always been interested in how countries around the world handle activism and social justice, and this program gives her the opportunity to further her understanding of that knowledge. After the program, Karlee wants to utilize her knowledge learned through her studies at the University of Bristol in legislative politics and advocate for underrepresented groups.
Matt Tessema, originally from Alexandria, Virginia is a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a Bachelor of Journalism. Growing up in the D.C. Metro Area, he spends his days reading, playing sports, and spending time with his big family. As a first-generation American and graduate, he plans to matriculate to law school to use his education to be an advocate to marginalized people in his community.

Matt was intrigued by the Fulbright program at University of Bristol and University for its rich culture of arts and grassroots activism. With his goal to uplift minority communities around the world, he hopes this experience will help him learn about social justice, the transatlantic slave-trade, and colonialism from a different perspective and will give him the insight to contribute to solving the pressing social issues of today. While in Bristol, Matt intends to gain a deeper knowledge of how colonialism effected areas like Africa, the Caribbean, Asia, and the Americas. He was a leader on campus founding the pre-law society as well as being a voting rights advocate.

Matt is following a pre-law track to develop a legal background that will inform his advocacy for minority populations. He additionally wishes meet interesting people at the program, especially those who have similar aspirations to impact their communities.

The Fulbright UK Summer Institute at Queen’s University Belfast

Maria Angelica Cornejo was raised in Douglas, Arizona and Agua Prieta, Sonora. She is a rising senior at Arizona State University majoring in Political Science and minoring in Statistics. As a Latinx border native, Maria is interested in pursuing a Masters in Migration studies and learning more about the implementation of border securitization and policies in relation to the border community and migrants crossing the border.

Maria is interested to study at the Queen’s University of Belfast to learn more about how border communities exist outside of the United States without security or military intervention, such as in Northern Ireland and Ireland. For the past year, Maria has been working on her honors thesis focused on Title 42, a Covid-19 policy implemented at the start of the pandemic in the United States to prevent migrants from seeking asylum, and its application at the US-Mexico border port of entry between Douglas and Agua Prieta.

She is excited to learn in her conflicts and transformation program about what peace approaches are used after and before the de-militarization of border zones and the impact policies, art, and media representation play a role in how communities define themselves in times of conflict. She also looks forward to leaving North America for the first time to explore Belfast's rich architecture and history, and learn from its vibrant local and international community!

Morgan Dent was raised in Walton, Kentucky and recently graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor's in Medical Sciences and a certificate in
Legal Studies. During her undergraduate career, Morgan explored the fields of public health, criminal justice, and social justice.

Striving to promote education and equity inside and outside the classroom, Morgan spent time in a variety of positions such as health educator, HIV counselor, law intern, tutor, and Red Cross volunteer. For her senior capstone project, Morgan partnered with both a local political organization and a ministry-based food pantry to help create an online data dashboard that demonstrated social need for welfare programs around Cincinnati.

She is excited to learn more about social justice and conflict resolution at the University of Belfast in Northern Ireland. Morgan hopes to take what she learns from the Fulbright program into graduate school and a career at the intersection of health and politics.

Benjamin (Ben) Randall, born and raised in the cornfields of Omaha, Nebraska, is a recent graduate of Colorado State University, in Fort Collins, Colorado. In December of 2021, Randall graduated with honors distinction, as a summa cum laude member, and commencement speaker—with a major in Journalism & Media Communication and a minor in interdisciplinary leadership studies.

Specializing in journalism and media communication, with an emphasis on science communication and outdoor-centric storytelling, Randall aims to be a voice for the voiceless across writing, audio storytelling, videography, and other multimedia channels. Some of his recent work includes social media and article production for the USDA Forest Service’s Rocky Mountain Research Station, published air quality communication articles within his college’s Liberal Arts Magazine, as well as maintaining a sizeable Instagram Influencer account (@triathletebenny).

Since 2019, Randall has donated much of his time outside of writing and academia to triathlon—a sport consisting of swimming, cycling, and running—and has seen great success. After suffering an unfortunate cycling crash in August of 2021, Randall has rehabbed and come back tremendously, placing within the top 40 of all athletes at USA Triathlon Nationals in April 2022. With upcoming summer races and another collegiate season starting next fall, Randall has his sights set on earning a professional license in the sport—and using this credential to bolster his media platform and influence.

Above all, Randall is an outspoken advocate for mental health, having endured a grueling combination of depression and eating disorder trauma throughout his undergraduate career. Whether writing articles about new cycling routes in Northern Colorado or exploring the science that goes behind the news platforms we prefer—Randall aims to always put mental health at the forefront of his work.
Farming and Agriculture in Wales: Sustainable Food Production and Land Use Fulbright UK Summer Institute at the University of Aberystwyth

Nicholas Blumenthal Having moved from chocolate in Pennsylvania to cheese in Wisconsin, Nick has always been raised around food. He is currently a rising junior at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida.

Majoring in Nutritional Sciences with a certificate in Artificial Intelligence, Nick aims to contribute towards alleviating food insecurity and nutritional deficiency amongst vulnerable populations. He recognizes that solutions are not dependent solely upon scientists or policymakers; rather, reducing these inequalities necessitates the understanding and addressing of unique, local challenges.

He is excited to study Sustainable Food Production and Land Use at Aberystwyth University to better gain a foreign perspective of political, corporate, and agricultural cooperation in combating food insecurity in Wales.

Nick has previously been involved in programs hosted by the World Food Prize Foundation focused on discussing the many barriers to healthy food in Florida. Realizing the range of complexities impacting diverse demographics, Nick is interested in learning how sustainable practices to address food insecurity developed in Wales might be transferable to his own community. He is looking forward to experiencing Aberystwyth and learning from university experts, fellow students, and community members alike!

Kathryn Cates was born in Annapolis, Maryland, and is now graduating with her Bachelors of Science in Supply Chain Management with a minor in Sustainability from the University of Maryland. Next year, she will continue on to get her Master of Science in the same. She has a passion for bringing sustainable practices into supply chains worldwide, and aspires to make a lasting positive impact on the Earth. She is thrilled to be travelling to Aberystwyth University to learn more about agriculture and sustainability from a different viewpoint.

After arriving at the University of Maryland, Kathryn discovered this passion for sustainability through on campus groups, and decided she wanted to dedicate her career to the cause. Through that excitement, she then found a love for agriculture, and chose Supply Chain Management as an avenue to make a bigger impact. She is excited to see the cross-section of these areas in a new light at Aberystwyth University this summer.

As someone who has Welsh heritage spanning back generations, Kathryn is excited to spend time immersing herself in the culture of Wales and making new memories that can be passed down through her family in the future. She hopes to explore the country and make lasting and meaningful connections with locals, as well as her cohort!
Alyssa Cortez was raised in Glendale, Arizona, and is now a rising sophomore at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. Majoring in Business Management and pursuing a concurrent degree in Sustainable Horticulture, Alyssa is interested in owning a business in sustainable agriculture while continuing her research on the lack of incentives for sustainability in the US government and possible innovations for everyday food that is affected by climate change and unsustainable farming practices.

She is excited to study issues in Farming and Agriculture at the University of Aberystwyth to learn more about how biology and sustainability can play a major role in the movement against climate change. As she pursues a career in business, Alyssa is particularly interested in exploring the intersection of industrial and organic farming systems, sustainability, and crop health, and she looks forward to deepening her understanding of these topics through her participation in the summer institute. For the past five years, Alyssa has been involved in outreach and project management for sustainable energy and lifestyles, which piqued her interest in understanding the role that sustainability can play in promoting food security and bringing attention to the impacts of climate change on the US and the world.

She is excited to learn more about agriculture as a tool for social change during her time in Aberystwyth, and how to apply the knowledge to help her future goals of promoting sustainability. Having never travelled outside of the United States for an extended time, Alyssa is also looking forward to exploring Aberystwyth University and Wales while learning from community members and students from across the globe!

Grace Goodpasture is a sophomore at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia, majoring in Biology and minoring in Spanish. She has been passionate about sustainability and green technology since she was very young and loved learning about how genetics played into farming, specifically in the poultry industry.

As a fourth-grader, Grace learned about genetics and Punnett squares, and the concept of heredity fascinated her. This led her to create her own breed of chicken, the Goodpasture Breed, which was a healthier and heartier alternative to commercially produced chickens. She then created a project for her Girl Scout Gold Award that consisted of incubating chicks, studying the lifecycle of chickens, and a curriculum focused on sustainability and green living, all for elementary school students. She strongly believes that mass poultry production and mass farming production in general in America is in dire need of reinventing, and more sustainable and innovative options are the key to creating a healthier and happier country.

Learning about agriculture in the UK has been a truly eye-opening experience for Grace. Even over Zoom, she can see how passionate they are about creating a greener lifestyle, and that is truly inspiring. She believes with what she has learned throughout the presentations and guest speakers, she is a more well-rounded and informed person, and is incredibly grateful for all the opportunities this Fulbright Program has offered.
Richie Holmberg is from Naperville, Illinois, and is a rising Junior at the University of South Carolina. He is creating his own major in Food Policy, History, and Culture through the Honors College’s BARSC program and wants to use his interdisciplinary study of food to pursue a career in law and public policy.

Richie is excited to participate in the summer institute on Sustainable Food Production and Land Use to gain an international understanding of food systems. Richie sees parallels in the issues that food systems face both in Wales and in the United States. He wants to explore options to feed the world while protecting the environment. He is interested in the way food serves as an intersection of policy, culture, and public health.

Outside of the classroom, Richie covers Food and Dining for the Daily Gamecock. He also leads campus tours through the University Ambassador program. Richie is an avid cook and gardener. He enjoys playing and watching Baseball and Football. He is excited to explore the unique food culture of Wales this summer.

Jazmine Rud was raised in Grants Pass, Oregon and is a rising junior at the University of Pennsylvania. She has developed an appreciation for nature and is majoring in both Earth Science with an Environmental Science concentration and Biology. She wants to pursue a career in sustainable agriculture or forestry, and she is currently working in a lab studying the dynamics of organic matter cycling in soils. In her independent study at a new urban farm on campus, Penn Park Farm, she is analyzing the fertility of the soils and the impacts of soil management practices upon them.

She has a deep interest in urban agriculture and its role in addressing food insecurity and achieving environmental justice. Jazmine plans to apply the knowledge she gains from her time at Aberystwyth University to her work at the Penn Park Farm in order to improve management practices. She is also interested in learning about the impact that traditional Welsh farming practices have had on various aspects of food production, as well as the ways in which their implementation may influence the carbon emissions produced by the agricultural industry and various other negative impacts modern food production can have on the environment.

Alexandria (Alex) Speak is a rising junior at Mississippi State University, majoring in Animal and Dairy Science with a minor in International Studies in Agriculture. Growing up in the Arkansas delta, she has cared for horses and other animals for most of her life, contributing to her interest in pursuing a career in veterinary medicine.

She is especially interested in the relationship between sustainable agriculture, food security, and animal health, incorporating population medicine and One Health strategies. At Aberystwyth University, Alex is thrilled to study Farming and Agriculture in Wales: Sustainable Food Production and Land Use to gain a deeper understanding of solutions to global agriculture issues. By working within local and global communities, Alex is aware of the relationship between agriculture and culture.

She has focused on community-based learning and outreach in her home community by introducing a veterinary education proposal and in Guatemala by developing a meat rabbit husbandry project. She is looking forward to exploring the cultural ties in Aberystwyth to further develop an in-depth, global framework of agriculture and animal science. The Summer Institute will be her first opportunity for extended international travel, and she is especially excited to explore different perspectives with her fellow scholars.
Autumn Sylvestri is a rising senior and Park Scholar at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she majors in Biological Engineering (Bioprocessing Concentration) and Plant Biology. Her studies also include minors in Biomanufacturing and Microbiology. Her pervasive curiosity for life science drives her passion for studying the intersection of natural and mechanical systems, especially novel plant, tissue, and microbial biotechnology.

She is interested in work optimizing mechanical systems with designs inspired by or directly interacting with nature. Through her coursework and extracurricular research and industry experiences, she is learning how to integrate engineering principles with the life sciences, principally biochemistry and microbiology, to design, invent, and optimize the production of biologics, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy sources. She is currently conducting an independent research project on the bioprocessing of waste plant biomass, focusing specifically on the degradation of lignin.

She is looking forward to learning at Aberystwyth University and augmenting her understanding of agricultural production as a macroscopic interaction between human and biological mechanisms. She is especially excited to visit the National Plant Phenomics Centre and the BEACON Centre of Excellence for Biorefining to expand her perspectives on her course of study.

The Fulbright UK UCL Summer Institute

Taylor Ferreira grew up in Havertown, Pennsylvania and is currently a rising sophomore at Bryn Mawr College. She is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Chemistry and plans to minor in Spanish. When she is not in school, she spends her time working at a day-care, dog-sitting/walking, babysitting, exploring nature, and spending time with her loved ones.

Taylor is passionate about caring for children and animals, which has influenced her interest in environmental chemistry, and how environmental issues are harmful to the health and wellness of children and adults, as well as animals. As she enjoys studying the intersection of environmental science, sustainability, and environmental justice and equity, she is delighted to attend the Geography and the Built Environment Program at University College of London this summer.

Following her participation in Bryn Mawr College’s Geology Department field trip to the Florida Keys, she is intrigued by the impact of climate change on islands. While she is interested in studying the problems climate change generates, she hopes to learn about viable solutions concerning environmental issues that are produced by political and social action. Taylor has spent her entire life in the U.S. and has not been surrounded by much cultural diversity which is why she is thrilled to spend time in London with her peers from all over the world!

Emily Myers was raised in southeastern Pennsylvania in the small town of Pennsburg. As a rising junior at Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Emily is an environmental science major with a concentration in geoscience. Upon returning to college in the fall, Emily will add an additional major or minor in anthropology. Emily is passionate about environmental issues and their intersections — and is particularly interested in pursuing a career where she can address and draw attention to environmental justice related issues.
Emily is looking forward to the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study Climate Change and Sustainability in Practice at the University College of London (UCL). Emily is a first generation college student who grew up in a single parent household. Due to financial constraints she has not done much traveling and has never had the opportunity to travel outside of the United States of America. As a result, Emily is excited for the opportunity to travel to London, experience a new and different environment, exchange stories and knowledge with new people, and gain a new perspective of environmental issues and novel solutions. After the culmination of this program, Emily looks forward to returning to the United States of America with exciting new ideas on how to implement green infrastructure and other environmental policies and projects within the Lancaster community.

The Fulbright Scotland Summer Institute on Technology, Innovation and Creativity hosted by the Glasgow School of Art and the University of Strathclyde

Rafael Alfonso grew up by the sea in Virginia Beach, Virginia, but took to the mountains to double major in Computer Science and Creative Writing at Marshall University in West Virginia. He is a rising sophomore and attends Marshall on a full ride scholarship as a Yeager Scholar.

After college, he hopes to pursue a career that combines both his fields of study. This hope led him to the Fulbright Scotland Summer Institute for Technology, Innovation, and Creativity so that he could gain the experience he needs to not straddle the Arts and Sciences, but unite them. Rafael likes applying problem-solving skills he learns in his Computer Science classes to his other interests and activities: martial arts, storytelling, acting, singing, learning other languages, etc. He plans to do the same with the research skills he develops at the University of Strathclyde and the creative processes he works with at the Glasgow School of Art. Rafael will go on to utilize his newfound knowledge through computer science research, internships, and creative projects he writes/codes into existence.

Outside of academics, Rafael cannot wait to be inspired by all the people he meets, food he eats, and castles he sees in Scotland!

Tuere Cunningham was born in Washington DC and raised in Washington State. Tuere is a hard-working rising junior at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, majoring in Art. She has her heart set on pursuing a career in Animation and Graphic Design, and one day having an Animation Studio of her own.

Tuere is excited to study Art and Design at Glasgow School of Art and University of Strathclyde as well as explore art and design in Glasgow itself through its community and students from around the world. She hopes to use this extraordinary opportunity to broaden her knowledge within her career interest as well as improve her leadership skills. Tuere hopes to return and share her experience and knowledge with those she encounters and actively use what she has learned to take on her career and pursue her passions. Tuere is currently the vice-president for Whitman College’s Black Student Union and also desires to use
the leadership skills she learns to both build upon and lead the club; as well as reach out, encourage, and uplift other students of color to help them succeed. Tuere is also the founder of Tuere Gives a nonprofit project that works with young girls of color who are in the foster care system to help them build connections to other females of color as a support system in the making. She expects to instill what she takes from this opportunity in furthering this program as well. Tuere is both deeply honored and delighted to be accepted into this program and is eager to begin her journey as a Fulbright Summer Institute participant.

Reese Dunne is a senior at Mississippi State University (MSU) pursuing his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. Born and raised in Starkville, Mississippi, he decided to attend his hometown college and devoted himself to excelling in various research and extracurricular endeavors. Some of these endeavors include his commitments to the MSU Track and Field/Cross Country team, university choir, and leadership positions in Tau Beta Pi and Lambda Sigma Honors Societies.

Moreover, Reese developed an immense passion for conducting interdisciplinary research through his various mechanical and biomedical engineering projects at MSU, Johns Hopkins University, and Stanford University. His drive to expand his breadth of knowledge and make lasting contributions through research have allowed him to become a 2021 recipient of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Astronaut Scholarship.

Reese is looking forward to tapping into his research passions and skills during the three-week institute at the University of Strathclyde and Glasgow School of Art this summer. He is specifically interested in enhancing his technical and global education by witnessing first-hand how researchers in Scotland utilize technology, creativity, and innovation to uncover groundbreaking discoveries in the fields of mechanical and biomedical engineering. As someone who has never been outside of the United States, Reese is especially excited to see the world from different perspectives and explore the rich history of Scotland.

Kyle Kalmar was born and raised in Fort Collins, Colorado, and is currently a rising fourth-year student at Syracuse University in upstate New York. He is studying architecture, with a secondary focus in public and environmental policy. Architecture is his chosen career for it combines his skills in math and technical engineering and passion for the arts and design.

At Syracuse, he has grown to recognize the important role that architecture plays in sustainability, climate resiliency, and social justice, which lead to exploring the intersection of architecture and policy. Growing up alongside the spectacular Rocky Mountains, Kyle has a deep connection to the natural world. His greatest career ambition is to employ the tools of architects and policymakers to protect and revitalize natural areas that are being harmed by climate events.

Kyle previously participated in the 2021 Fulbright Summer Institute at the University of Bristol, which explored the arts, activism, and social justice. Through his experience, Kyle has been empowered to be an advocate as an architect, and has since worked for non-profit design firms that investigate solutions for climate-related and social justice issues. In his first expedition abroad, Kyle is greatly motivated to apply the learning themes of technology, innovation, and creativity to his design thinking. Additionally, Kyle is excited to explore Scotland’s rich architectural history and experience Glasgow’s many renowned buildings.
Zander Gabriel Lichosik is a rising Senior at Ball State University. Originally from Grafton, WI, Zander chose to attend BSU in order to study Exercise Science. Alongside his major, he’s also a student– and current Fellow– of the Honors College. Through the Honors curriculum, Zander has learned about topics such as philosophy and Intersectionality and how they weave into current world issues. Drawing from his two academic fields, Zander strives to bring a nuanced perspective into the profession of Athletic Trainer. Following his trip to Scotland, Zander will be one step closer towards his dream of helping athletes stay healthy and primed for success in their respective sport.

Originally a recipient of the 2020 UKFSI award, the program’s hiatus has given Zander ample time to think of what he wants to do in Scotland. In fact, he’s made a list; some highlights include: running through the Scottish Highlands, trying haggis, visiting local bookstores, taking a selfie with Highland Cattle, going to cafes and bars, and trying to discover what lies at the bottom of Loch Ness. In short, Zander is very excited for the adventures he’ll have with his cohort in Scotland.

This past May, Claudia Linczer graduated from the University of Notre Dame with majors in neuroscience and behavior and pre-health studies. She plans to spend the next year as a medical assistant in South Bend before attending medical school, where she will specialize in functional gynecology.

In Scotland, Claudia hopes to learn more about health care in the United Kingdom in order to become an ambassador for the United States’s medical system. In addition to her passion for women’s physical and psychological health, Claudia had always had an interest in the intersection of technology and philosophy of the mind. This past year she presented her research on fear of missing out and problematic social media usage at a conference in Chicago. She is looking forward to delving into these topics at the Fulbright Scotland Summer Institute on Technology, Innovation and Creativity.

She is curious to learn more about Strathclyde’s Technology and Innovation Centre and it’s Biomedical Sciences Digital Health Institute. And lastly, she is so excited to explore Glasgow’s art scene with her fellow scholars. As an amateur painter herself, Claudia loves to wander through art museums and learn about the local culture.

Amy Liu was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, although she spent a few years of her early childhood in Fuzhou, China and has lived in multiple cities throughout the United States. Now a rising junior at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Amy is a Neuroscience major on the pre-medical track with a minor in Chinese.

The culmination of her experiences in these vastly different cities along with those in her traditionally Eastern household have helped to realize her passion for languages and cultural studies that will ultimately be critical for communication with her future patients and understanding the health disparities within minority communities. Amy hopes to further study the fields of Technology, Innovation, and Creativity and their connections to advancements in medicine at the University of Strathclyde and the Glasgow School of Arts in Scotland this summer.

She intends to dedicate her time there learning Scotland’s innovative history and how architectural designs and art can contribute to a technique such as brain mapping. With limited experience outside of the US, Amy is looking forward to meeting Scottish locals and others in the program, sharing stories and life lessons with one another while venturing throughout the country.
Victoria Nguyen was born and raised in Irvine, California. Attending Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania was her first opportunity to be on the east coast. Here, as an incoming sophomore, she studies Mechanical Engineering and Biomedical Engineering and pursues a career in the healthcare industry, aiming to combine engineering and design to produce low-cost medical devices. Participating in this summer institute will be Victoria’s first opportunity to be in Europe. There, she looks forward to exploring how innovation is a multi-faceted endeavour that requires contribution from academia, industry, and policy.

Hopefully, this understanding will give her the perspective to develop medical devices for underserved communities around the globe. As a creative, Victoria has dabbled in everything from graphic design and yearbook during high school to woodworking and sewing during college. This has sparked thought regarding how individuals choose to express themselves.

She is excited to interact with the Artists in Residence in Glasgow and to understand how art, culture, and values influence the day-to-day life of this community. Victoria believes that it is the people, both the residents from these Scottish communities and her peers from around the US, that will make this experience unforgettable.

Rebecca Parnell, was born and raised in a small town, Bright, Indiana. She graduated from East Central high school with an honors diploma, and is a rising sophomore at Ball State University’s Honors college in Muncie, Indiana. She is majoring in pre-medical and biology with a minor in chemistry, and has an interest in pursuing a career as an anesthesiologist. She wants to further my medicinal knowledge and create new understandings of the different cultures and sciences offered from Glasgow school of art and University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland.

Understanding different cultures and heritages around the world and the different ways science is presented to different cultures of people will help her to create a more well-rounded understanding of medicine and science itself. Working with people from all walks of life will help her have a better concept of doctor-patient relationships in my future of medicine. She designates many hours per week to researching medical related topics, typically just for fun. She loves studying and has always made education her number one priority. Besides having an extreme interest in the medical field, she also have a love for art and has taken many art classes, and truly enjoy going to art museums. She is excited to experience the new art and culture that represents Glasgow, Scotland and the UK. Having never travelled outside of the United States, she is very excited to see, experience, and indulge in the land, people, and social norms of this new culture!

Mackenzie Weidel was raised in Orange County, New York, and is now a rising sophomore at Villanova University in Pennsylvania. She is excited to study Technology, Innovation, and Creativity at the University of Strathclyde and Glasgow School of Art. Majoring in Comprehensive Science, Mackenzie is interested in pursuing a career in medicine while continuing to engage her passion for innovation. She is very interested in studying the research and technical advances aligned with the digital healthcare agenda, as she looks forward to deepening her understanding of these topics through her participation in the summer institute.

For the past several years, Mackenzie has served as a volunteer at numerous organizations such as the Special Olympics, Ruibal (tutoring service for children in downtown Philadelphia), and as an EMT at her school and throughout the community. Through these different experiences, Mackenzie has gained a greater
understanding and awareness for the world outside her home. She looks to explore the intersection of public health and social justice to find better ways of providing care for individuals of historically marginalized groups. She is excited to learn how technology is the key to the future during her time in Glasgow, and how to apply the knowledge she gains to help serve her community. Having never travelled outside of the United States for an extended period of time, Mackenzie is looking forward to exploring Scotland and learning from community members and students from across the globe!