



# **2023 AWARD RECIPIENTS**

# FCBA Foundation 2023 AWARD RECIPIENTS

The FCBA Foundation is pleased to announce it has selected 24 students from Washington, DC public high schools for merit and need-based awards and college scholarships to be distributed over four years of matriculation. Also, we will award scholarships to five law school students and stipends to 10 law school students who have accepted unpaid public service internships in communications-related agencies for the summer. None of these awards would be possible without the generous support of the FCBA's members and the organizations in which they work. We thank you for your generosity!

## 2023 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Under the leadership of the Foundation's college scholarship committee, **Rizwan Chowdry, Erin Griffith, Karen Sprung,** and **Nicol Turner Lee** the Foundation reviewed applications from high school students of diverse backgrounds with an interest in communications-related fields, including media, journalism, technology, engineering, or law. Our scholarship recipients this year came from 14 local public high schools: Basis DC, Bell Multicultural, Benjamin Banneker, Cardozo Education Campus, Duke Ellington, Dunbar, Eastern, E.L. Haynes, Jackson-Reed, McKinley Technology, School Without Walls, Theodore Roosevelt, Thurgood Marshall Academy, and Washington Latin. All 24 of the recipients will be provided with new laptop computers.

The Foundation thanks **Comcast NBCUniversal** for sponsoring the production of the video.

## 2023 LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Foundation's law school scholarship committee, **Angela Ball, Avonne Bell, Meagan Bolton,** and **Mike Saperstein** led the efforts to review applications from current students at law schools across the country who demonstrated merit and need, as well as an interest in communications law and technology and public service. We received applications from students at schools across the country and awarded five \$4,000 scholarships.

## 2023 PUBLIC SERVICE INTERNSHIP STIPEND PROGRAM

Under the leadership of the Foundation's internship committee, **Avonne Bell, Anisa Green, David Grossman,** and **Brenda Villanueva,** the Foundation reviewed applications from students at law schools across the country. The Foundation awarded stipends ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 to 10 students who have accepted public service positions for the summer.

*Congratulations to all of our scholarship and stipend recipients!*

The Foundation also thanks the following volunteers for their time and talent, serving as liaisons to participating public high schools, reviewing college and law school scholarship applications, and interviewing high school students: **Yasmine**

**Abdillahi, Eliya Bernstein, Ann Bobeck, Elizabeth Chernow, Marjorie Conner, Adam Copeland, Sara Crifasi, Emily Daniels, Justin Faulb, Nese Guendelsberger, Endeliza Hampton, Kathy Harvey, John Heflin, Diane Griffin Holland, John Hunter, Virgie Ingram, Christopher Koves, Adam Krinsky, Heidi Lankau, Caitlin League, Kasey McGee, Georgia McLean, Aimee Meacham, Joel Miller, Stephanie Minnock, Lynne Montgomery, Jake Nash, Courtney Neville, Nicholas Page, Adam Peters, Lee Petro, Ronnie Raju, Tamber Ray, Morgan Reeds, Michelle Schaefer, Savannah Schaefer, Morgan Schick, Jennifer Schneider, Randy Sifers, Anjali Singh, Madeline Sorg, Megan Stull, Johanna Thomas, Danielle Thumann, Hannah Wigger, Erin Williams, and Richard Young.**

## THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Thanks to the continuing generosity of our individual members, law firms, companies, and associations, the FCBA Foundation's fundraising efforts continue to reach amazing levels each year. Thanks to the contributions of many, we've awarded almost **\$320,000!**

The current list of donors is at the end of this handout and the final list for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023 will be included in the Foundation's annual report, in the FCBA newsletter, and on the FCBA Foundation website. To donate, please visit the Foundation's web page: <http://www.fcba.org/foundation>.

Your generous donations of time and talent enable the Foundation to do more in our community, and to nurture aspiring communications professionals. Thank you!

## SPECIAL THANKS FROM ERIN GRIFFITH AND AVONNE BELL 2022-2023 CO-CHAIRS, FCBA FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

We are thrilled to have completed another successful round of FCBA Foundation programs that award scholarships and stipends to talented, deserving students both starting their college journeys and pursuing legal education. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the many people that donated time and energy to make sure the Foundation was able to continue its vital mission this year. First, the FCBA membership and corporate donors whose generosity sustained the Foundation and made it possible to provide scholarship awards to deserving students. Next, we are extremely grateful to the FCBA's remarkable team – **Kerry Loughney, Janeen Wynn, Wendy Parish,** and **Elizabeth Hagerty.** The Foundation simply could not run without their support and hard work. Their continued attention to detail and commitment to the mission is invaluable. They go above and beyond, and words cannot fully express our appreciation.

Of course, we must extend acknowledgement and gratitude to this year's Board of Trustees for their commitment and hard work to ensuring the programs of the Foundation were executed

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effectively and efficiently. The Foundation has an ambitious agenda each year, and we could not accomplish our goals without an engaged and devoted Board comprised of individuals willing to offer up their time and talents, over and above the demands of their day jobs and other personal commitments.

Each Trustee is elected by you, the members, for a three-year term. Four Trustees are “graduating” this year: **Meagan Bolton**, **Anisa Green**, **Erin Griffith**, and **Michael Saperstein**. Each of these Trustees has played an instrumental role in running the College Scholarship, Law School Scholarship, and Law School Stipend/Internship programs over the last three years. We thank them for their leadership and dedication during their years on the Board.

While one of the intrepid Co-Chairs will be rolling off, Co-Chair **Avonne Bell**, along with Trustees, **Rizwan Chowdry**, **Brenda Villanueva**, **Rachel Wolkowitz**, **Angela Ball**, **David Grossman**, **Dr. Nicol Turner Lee**, and **Karen Sprung** look forward to continuing their work on the Foundation this coming year. We look forward to welcoming the newly elected members from among an exceptional set of candidates. Thanks to all the FCBA members who ran for election to the Board—we deeply appreciate your desire to be involved and it is a testament to the generosity of the FCBA community that we have an abundance of individuals that seek to join the Board each year.

Thanks, too, to former FCBA President **Megan Anne Stull**, whose ex-officio duties were invaluable to the Foundation this year. This year’s FCBA President **Barry Ohlson** prioritized collaboration between the Foundation and the FCBA and FCBA initiatives like the Diversity Pipeline Program, which is a program with interests and goals that align with those of the Foundation. We look forward to Barry’s participation as an ex-officio member of the Foundation over the coming year.

We reiterate our sincere thanks to the FCBA membership for your continued support. Remember, as a member of the FCBA, you are also a member of the FCBA Foundation. As Co-Chairs, we’ve had a unique perspective on how many volunteers it takes to help the Foundation reach its ambitious goals and it is impressive every time how many people raise their hands without reservation to review scholarship applications or to interview applicants, as well as how many are willing to help persuade an employer to support a named scholarship or to make generous monetary contributions themselves. This year was no exception and really served to underscore not only what a very special bar we have, but also how, together, we will ensure that the FCBA continues to positively impact on our community.

It is an honor to introduce this year’s scholarship and internship stipend awardees:

## 2023 College Award Recipients

### SERREEN “SISI” ARIDI

Young Lawyers and Charity Auction Scholarship (\$18,700)

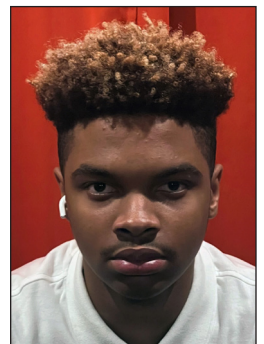
**Sereen “Sisi” Aridi** is a graduating senior from Dunbar High School and will attend the University of Maryland College Park, where she plans to concentrate in marketing. One of Sisi’s ambitions is to achieve a higher education being a first-generation student, aspiring to change the legacy of her family for future generations to come. Sisi has worked extremely hard to maintain a well-rounded high school profile, showing heavy commitment not only to academics but also to extracurriculars and community service. At Dunbar, Sisi is ranked Top 5 of her graduating cohort, maintaining above a 4.0 GPA. She has also served different communities within her high school as SGA Vice President, JROTC Battalion Executive Officer, and Captain of the Throws Team in Track & Field. Outside of school, she also balances being a dual enrollment student at Georgetown University, excelling in hands-on college-level academia. In addition, she is an active Youth Leader at her church, spending over 150 hours helping the local community with coat drives and food packaging. In her free time, Sisi loves to draw, cook, listen to music, play chess, and have meaningful conversations with others. Post-college, Sisi aims to develop a company geared toward helping children and adolescents build essential skill sets as they continue their educational journey, aspiring to use her college and life experiences to further inspire others with courage and perseverance.



### PATRICK ASHTON

DLA Piper LLP Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Patrick Ashton** will be graduating from McKinley Technology High School and attending Louisiana State University in the fall. He plans on majoring in animal science with a focus on pre-veterinary medicine as well as minoring in business. He hopes to own both his own zoo and combined animal sanctuary to further his lifelong dream in animal conservation. He joined the McKinley Tech Biotechnology Academy where he was trained in the biotech field while also receiving advanced biology knowledge to put him a step ahead of his competition. He also interned at the Humane Rescue Alliance during his senior year of high school where he received many of the technical skills in the veterinary world by shadowing established vets. He has thoroughly enjoyed his time in both programs and hopes to give back to them in the future.





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## JUAN AYALA-FLORES

FCBA Foundation Scholarship (\$8,000)

**Juan Ayala-Flores** will graduate from Washington Latin Public Charter School and attend George Washington University. He will study mechanical and aerospace engineering during his first year at GW. In high school, Juan was involved in a handful of extracurricular activities. This included being a part of Washington Latin's Honors Choir, Underwater Robotics, Curtains the Musical, and the wrestling team. He was also involved in social activism, as a plaintiff in the Ramos V. Neilson case and a part of the National TPS Alliance. Juan fought against this decision of the termination of Temporary Protected Status for 13 countries, done by the Trump Administration. His voice and the others had been avoided because of extensions coming from Ramos V. Neilson. Now TPS has been designated. But Juan will continue to fight for permanent residency for all TPS Recipients.



become a game designer at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. Outside of school, he found himself figuring out what his passions were and mostly working to help out his family, becoming a trainer and unofficial interpreter at work.

## DIYA BARDWELL

Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP Scholarship (\$12,000)

**Diya Bardwell** is a graduating senior from BASIS DC High School and will be attending Syracuse University this fall. They plan to double major in Citizenship & Civic Engagement and Policy Studies at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. In high school, Diya served as the YMCA Youth Mayor, YMCA Metro Washington Board of Directors Member, and as a National YMCA Youth Governors Association Board Member. Outside of the YMCA, Diya has co-organized DC's very first city-wide Pride Prom, interned with two DC State Board of Education Members, and served on the High School Advisory Council for the DC Office of the Attorney General and the DC State Board of Education. They are passionate about civic education and engagement and hope to pursue a career in law or youth development.



## JAMEELA AYOUB

Fox Corporation Scholarship (\$20,000)

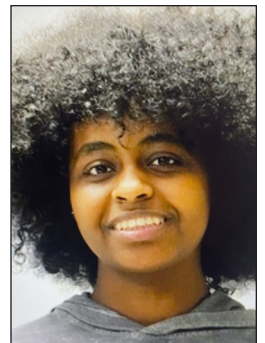
**Jameela Ayoub** is a graduating senior from Duke Ellington School of the Arts. She will be attending New York University in the fall to earn a BFA in Dramatic Writing. Throughout high school, she has been active in the film and arts industry. She created several short films and submitted her photography to different competitions. She directed the documentary Kennedy Street which was recognized by the D.C. Independent Film Festival and was given a silver key from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for her photography. She aspires to become a showrunner and create more shows with underrepresented groups. Her dream is to make a difference with her shows and showcase people of color in new and exciting genres that inspire younger generations.



## LUNA BERHANE

Consumer Technology Association (CTA)® Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Luna Berhane** will attend St. Mary's College of Maryland to study computer engineering after graduating from Columbia Heights Educational Campus. While in high school, she took part in a wide range of extracurricular activities, AP courses, and clubs. She was also quite committed to her community. She joined the National Honor Society, the Afro-Caribbean Club, and the World Smart Club. She also participated in basketball, soccer, swimming, track & field, and other sports. Additionally, she has kept up with internships and intends to do a work-study. She is excited about attending college, learning new things about herself, experiencing how the world functions, and enhancing society.



## JOSE BALLADARES

FCBA Foundation Scholarship (\$8,000)

**Jose Balladares** is a graduating senior at E.L. Haynes Public Charter School. His interest in Computer Science and Gaming began when his stepfather taught him about games early in his childhood. Fixing laptops with him or playing Halo together, he was all over it. His interest in games and computers allowed him to find his passion and granted him the ability to have a goal. He will be pursuing his passion to



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## ALIYAH BLAKE

NCTA – The Internet & Television Association Scholarship (\$10,000)

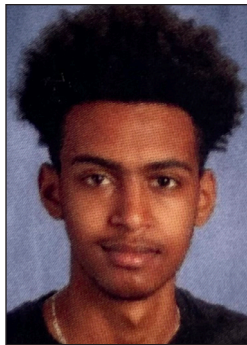
**Aliyah Blake** is graduating from School Without Walls High School. She is attending the University of Miami. She is majoring in business administration and international studies while also on a pre-law track. Aliyah would like to go into administrative law or international law. Throughout her years she has taken several AP classes. Her extracurriculars include two internships, her job, cheerleading, tennis, and flag football. She interned for the YesSheCanCampaign and Seeding Disruption Remix.



## GILIAD DAWITE

T-Mobile US, Inc. Scholarship (\$15,000)

**Giliad Dawite** will be graduating from Roosevelt High School and will be attending Howard University in the fall. His major will be in computer science. He maintained a high school, 3.95 GPA while playing soccer and being a part of the Honors Society and School Government Association. His goal is to get his bachelors in computer science and also obtain a Master of Business Administration.



## KAREEMA DEAN

Comcast NBCUniversal Scholarship (\$15,000)

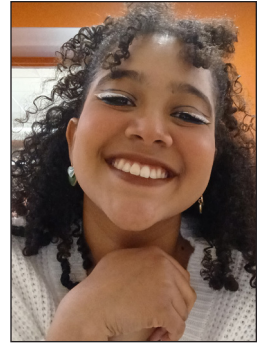
**Kareema Dean** is a graduating senior at Benjamin Banneker Academic High School. During her time at Banneker, she participated in various sports such as track and field, softball, and flag football. She also did 270 hours of community service at various places like Mary's Center, Mighty Greens, Tubman Elementary and Seaton Elementary. One of her favorites was Seaton Elementary because she was able to establish a strong bond with the children while also assisting teachers. Honor roll and Principal's Commendation are a few of the many awards Kareema has obtained. In the fall of 2023, she will be attending the University of Pittsburgh to pursue a degree in nursing. In the future, she wants to be a pediatric nurse working closely with kids and adolescents. She loves to read, hang out with friends, and spend time at her favorite place Barnes & Noble.



## KEILYHAN SUAHIY ECHEVARRÍA PADILLA

Mark Van Bergh Scholarship (\$10,000)

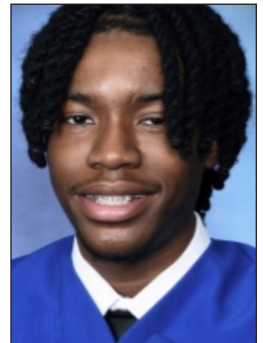
**Keilyhan Suahily Echevarría Padilla** will be graduating from Theodore Roosevelt High School in DC. Her interest in International Relations begins at the National Academy Foundation, where she concentrates in the Global Service and Diplomacy program. She enjoys opening the doors for students at Theodore Roosevelt High School to visit Bush School Texas A&M and Texas A&M on the Texas campus, thanks to her hard work at her first internship at Bush School Texas A&M on the DC Campus. This year, she made another trip to France, as a representative from Theodore Roosevelt High School to promote exchange programs between Saint Dominique Pau, in Pau, France, and her high school. She will attend Wake Forest University in North Carolina, with the hopes of majoring in Politics and International Affairs.



## CHARLES EZE

Karen Kincaid Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Charles Eze** is a graduating senior from Benjamin Banneker Academic Highschool, where he was a National Honor Society Member and an Advance Placement (AP) Scholar. He plans on majoring in biology and had a passion for science and community service throughout his high school career. He has accumulated over 200 hours of community service, volunteering at Tacoma and Lamond recreation center mentoring youth and organizing community events like food drives. He has also done volunteer work at Howard Hospital and his mother's clinic. Charles has been inspired by this work and it has shaped his goal going forward to help people in and outside of his community through medicine.





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## JENNIFER AYALA GUZMAN

Qualcomm Incorporated Scholarship (\$10,000)

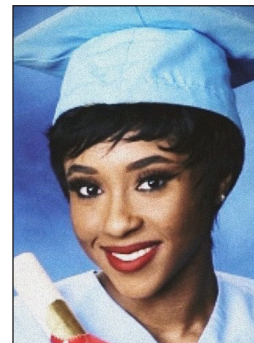
**Jennifer Ayala Guzman** is a graduating senior from Bell Multicultural High School and will be attending Cornell University majoring in cognitive science. She is a first-generation college student who is an active member of the National Honor Society and part of the music department. During her junior and senior year, she was the manager of the school soccer team, and participated in indoor soccer and cross-country. She is community-oriented and has participated in Sacred Heart's dinner program to feed the homeless. On Fridays, she distributed bags for families and the community as a part of the CHEC's parent center program. Jennifer enjoys learning new things and likes to challenge herself. She is interested in learning about the brain and becoming a neuroscientist to explore the world.



## CYDNEY HUDSON

FCBA Foundation Scholarship (\$8,000)

**Cydney Hudson** is a graduating senior from Eastern Senior High School. She was inducted into the National Honors Society during her junior year of high school and will be attending Alabama A&M University in the fall. During her high school years, she was very active in the school band as an auxiliary dancer for the Lady Gems that marched for the community. As one of the Captains, the Lady Gems dance team has helped her gain leadership skills that will be useful in future events. She wants to major in criminal justice and pursue a career in forensic science. She has a GPA of 3.6, which she maintains while participating in dance and competing with the Eastern Senior High School Lady Gems Dance team.



## JAYLAH JENNINGS

USTelecom – The Broadband Association Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Jaylah Jennings** is a Biotechnology student, graduating senior at McKinley Technology High School. Throughout high school, she has been a student who can synthesize complex material and explain it comprehensively. Though she has struggled with persisting medical issues, Jaylah is a strong-willed individual and willing challenge herself. Having a deep interest and willingness to learn about the world and the perseverance to put in challenging work whenever needed. Her interaction with peers and superiors is always caring and open-minded. With many jobs and community service opportunities at places like Martha's Table, Friends of Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Youth Service Opportunity Project, Girl Scouts of America, and many more under her belt, she is a prime example of a well-rounded strong student. In the fall, she will be attending Cosumnes River College in Sacramento, California, majoring in a veterinary technician pathway. She hopes to be a true advocate for animals and their caregivers.



## The Karen A. Kincaid Scholarship

**SPONSORED BY WILEY REIN AND KAREN'S FRIENDS**

The Karen A. Kincaid Scholarship is an annual award that pays tribute to the late Karen Kincaid, a partner in Wiley Rein's Communications Practice. Karen is remembered by her friends and colleagues for her warmth, intellect, and a deep commitment to her family and her community, qualities that also are demonstrated by the scholarship recipient, **Charles Eze**.



Prior to joining Wiley Rein, Karen served as a Senior Attorney-Advisor for the Private Radio Bureau, at the Federal Communications Commission from 1989 to 1993. She was a law clerk to the Honorable J. Smith Hensley, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the Honorable Leo Oxenberger, Chief Judge, Iowa Court of Appeals. She received her B.A. from Central College and her J.D. from Drake University.

Friends and colleagues of Karen Kincaid are proud to fund a scholarship in her memory to provide a deserving student assistance toward college tuition.

## JULIANA LOPEZ

Cox Enterprises Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Juliana Lopez** is a graduating senior at Columbia Heights Educational Campus. She will be attending Princeton University to study Public Policy and Latin American Studies with a certificate in Teacher Preparation. Juliana was a Student Representative with the State Board of Education, a part of the National Honor Society, a part of the Chancellor's cabinet, and played soccer and softball among other



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activities she participated in through her school. She loves the education field and hopes to one day have the opportunity to teach and start her own non-profit organization to help immigrant families and students overcome language barriers and understand the American education system.

## JORDAN MONGARDINI

Mark Van Bergh Scholarship (\$10,000)

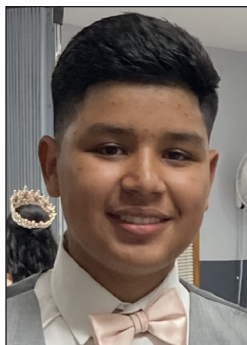
**Jordan Mongardini** is a graduating senior from Jackson-Reed High School who will be attending the University of Denver in the fall. Jordan will be majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Psychology pursuing his interest in AI. In high school, Jordan was enrolled in the SCIMATECH Academy on the Computer Science pathway and will receive NAF certification in his field of study. He is a recent Eagle Scout from Troop 61 in Washington, D.C. who began his journey in Scouting in second grade. He served as Webmaster, Patrol Leader, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader for his Troop. Jordan also works as an assistant rock-climbing coach with several youth teams at Movement Gyms in Rockville and has competed on Movement's highest-level competition team during high school. Jordan enjoys mentoring and teaching kids and plans to continue working at Movement in Denver while he attends school.



## HECTOR RUIZ

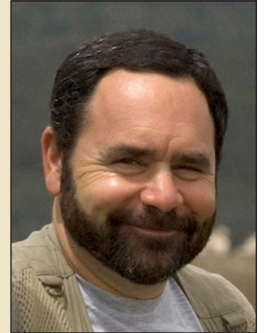
FCBA Foundation Scholarship (\$8,000)

**Hector Ruiz** is graduating from Columbia Heights Educational Campus and will be attending Georgetown University. He is the Bell Varsity Soccer Team's goalkeeper and a proud member of the Bell National Honor Society. At Georgetown, he plans to pursue a profession in law because, as an immigrant, he has firsthand knowledge of the difficulties immigrants encounter in the United States. Eventually, he intends to become a lawyer who can assist young people that are experiencing similar difficulties that he went through himself.



## The Mark Van Bergh Scholarship

**SPONSORED BY MARK'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS**



In 2022, family, friends and colleagues established the Mark Van Bergh Scholarship Fund in his memory. Mark was a long-time supporter of the FCBA Foundation and its mission. Each year, he would review applications, interview students, and photograph the award recipients. He had a unique connection with these students and truly cared about their aspirations and achieving their goals. Mark was known to many as FCBA's 'photographer-in-residence,' an unofficial title earned by virtue of his regular presence with a camera at Association events. For decades, Mark not only captured FCBA members at our events, but he was a friend who genuinely cared about everyone.

Mark was born in New York City on November 28, 1956. He attended high school in White Plains, and then Syracuse University, graduating in 1978 magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a B.A. in political science. He then attended George Washington University School of Law, graduating in 1981 with honors. Mark practiced communications law with Jim Edmundson and, later, Richard Waysdorf, and with firms such as Gardner, Carton & Douglas, Roberts & Eckard, and Arter & Hadden. He was a solo practitioner from 2003.

Mark was also a long-time FCBA member and held virtually every position in the Association other than President, including Secretary, Treasurer, and member of the Executive Committee, and member of the Board and Chair of the FCBA Foundation.

Parallel to his legal career was Mark's work as a photographer. Besides his assistance for the FCBA and FCBA Foundation, Mark photographed many things over the years, including weddings of friends and colleagues, travels to exotic parts of the world, and local events, such as those at the National Zoo, and much more.

In honor of Mark, the scholarship will provide deserving students assistance toward college tuition, a program that Mark whole-heartedly supported for over 25 years. This year, scholarships will be provided to two students, **Keilyhan Suahily Echevarria Padilla** and **Jordan Mongardini**.



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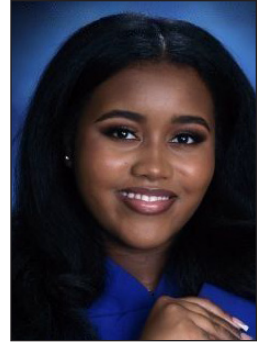
## BENICIA SEPHORA ZOUMA

Wireless Infrastructure Association (\$10,000)

**Benicia Sephora Zouma** is a graduating senior at Columbia Heights Education Campus. Her educational journey will continue at the University of Virginia in the fall of 2023, where she plans to pursue a dual major in Pre-Law and Civil Engineering. She was actively engaged in her school community as a member of the National Honors Society, where she had the opportunity to serve and lead alongside her peers. Additionally, as the treasurer of the Afro-Caribbean Club Student Union, she worked to foster cultural awareness and unity within the diverse student body. Dedication to academic excellence has earned her several honors and accolades, fueling her drive to continue striving for success. Originally from the Central African Republic, she faced challenges that have only strengthened her determination. It is through these experiences that she has discovered her passion for pre-law, as she aspires to make a positive impact and promote justice in our society.



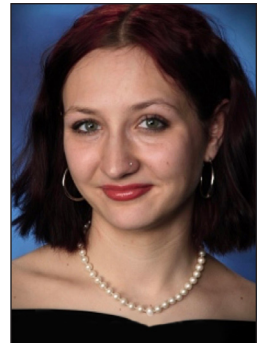
Deanwood Recreation Center, where she prepared young children for careers in technology using coding and computer science. She also participated in Girls Who Code and Girls in Technology, empowering young women in technology and closing the gender gap in tech. With her passion for AI engineering, Shakayla strives to design inclusive and unbiased AI programs. Additionally, Shakayla served as a Sexual Health Educator, a National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta Honor Society member, and secretary of her school's Robotics Club, where she creates a safe space for growth and change. Shakayla is thrilled to pursue a bachelor's degree in Artificial Intelligence Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University.



## SOFIA SMITH

Google Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Sofia Smith** is a graduating senior from Duke Ellington School of the Arts. She will attend Howard University in the fall. During her time in high school, she has played a big role in her school and neighborhood community. While maintaining a 4.2 GPA, Sofia has been the trumpet section leader for Duke Ellington's jazz, classical, and marching band ensembles. She was a member of the Student Government Association, National Honors Society, and the Chancellors Student Advisory Board in DC. Her passion for helping those in her community and playing trumpet has inspired her to pursue a pre-med degree with a minor in Jazz studies.



## YULI SIGUENSE

FCBA Foundation Scholarship (\$8,000)

**Yuli Siguense** is originally from Honduras. She will be graduating from Cardozo High School and will be attending Trinity Washington University majoring in nursing. Yuli came to the United States when she was 16 years old. She faced the challenges of starting a new life as an immigrant and learning a new language. After school, she works as a hostess in a restaurant to help her mother with expenses. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the Advanced Placement Club and has been taking many AP and honors classes while maintaining a GPA above 3.6. Since she was a child, Yuli's dream was to be a nurse. She has always cared about others. She wants to keep her family and other people in her community healthy. She also wants to be an example for her younger siblings and motivate them to go to college. Yuli is proud of what she has achieved so far and will not stop before achieving her dreams.



## ELIJAH VICKS

Verizon Scholarship (\$20,000)

**Elijah Vicks** will graduate from Thurgood Marshall Academy as the valedictorian. He plans on attending Morehouse College in the fall with a major in marketing. He is passionate about music, poetry, and activism. He values education because he wants to be an example for people in his community. He wants someone to see his story and be inspired to pursue their own education. He is excited to attend Morehouse because of the brotherhood that the school cultivates and he looks forward to making new memories.



## SHAKAYLA SMITH

AT&T Scholarship (\$15,000)

**Shakayla Smith** is a graduating senior at Benjamin Banneker Academic High School. Passionate about using technology and AI to create a more inclusive world, Shakayla aims to address underrepresentation and biases in the field. Throughout high school, Shakayla actively engaged in community service at



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## SAUL VILLATORO

CTIA Scholarship (\$10,000)

**Saul Villatoro** is a graduating senior from Cardozo Education Campus and will be attending George Mason University where he will major in computer science. He is the President of the National Honor Society and Advanced Placement Club. He is also a lead mentor of STEM Tutoring that supports students to excel in STEM courses, programming, and robotics, and the Captain of his school's Varsity Baseball team. Saul is a recipient of OSSE's Advanced Summer Program at Harvard University and OSSE's Dual Enrollment Program at George Washington. He is a College Board's AP Scholar, a National Hispanic Recognition Program for Excellence in Academic Achievement awardee, an Amazon Future Engineer Scholar and Intern, and a 2023 U.S. Presidential Scholar. As an aspiring software engineer, it is his passion to design and create creative and innovative AI technologies that will eradicate the stigma towards mental health and help create healthier lifestyles.



## 2023 Law School Scholarship and Internship Stipend Recipients

### SARAH BARTLETT SCHROEDER

Internship: National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Recipient of the Henry Geller Internship Stipend

Sarah Bartlett Schroeder is a first-year law student who became interested in communications and technology law while working as a research librarian at the University of Washington. She hopes to contribute to policy developments that will make accurate, reliable information more accessible to all. She will spend summer 2023 interning with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.



### XELEF BOTAN

FCBA Foundation Scholarship

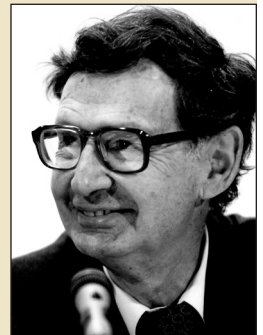
Xelef Botan is a rising 3L at the University of Colorado Law School. He graduated from Brown University majoring in international relations. After college, Xelef worked at a big technology/home appliances company for five years in Istanbul, Turkey. Xelef received his MA from the University of Chicago writing his thesis on the political formation and constitution

building process of the Syrian Kurds. At Colorado Law, Xelef is a LILAC (Leaders in Law and Community) Fellow and actively involved in Silicon Flatirons Center. Last year, he received a TMT Certificate through the FCBA Diversity Pipeline Program, while last summer, he interned at Twilio, and he will be interning at the NTIA this summer, which he is very excited about. Xelef's interest in technology law/privacy stems from his life-long experiences coupled with important societal and legal ramifications this ever-evolving and exciting field presents.



## The Henry Geller Internship Stipend

The FCBA Foundation honors Henry Geller, a legend in the telecommunications field. Known for his encyclopedic institutional knowledge, Henry was an innovator, advocate and visionary who nurtured generations of communications talent. His energy and impact extended across a wide range of policies, from a Fairness Doctrine proposal that resulted in the end of cigarette ads on TV and radio to a successful challenge of the equal-time doctrine that led to a rule allowing televised debates among major presidential candidates.



His more than 50-year professional career included serving as general counsel of the Federal Communications Commission and the first administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration as assistant secretary of the Commerce Department. Henry always advocated for the public interest, often against powerful corporations. He worked tirelessly to foster minority ownership of broadcast facilities and relentlessly pursued a 2% spectrum fee to provide support for public broadcasting.

This internship stipend, created by Henry's wife, Judy Geller, helps extend his legacy. This year's recipients are **Sarah Bartlett Schroeder** and **Adela Oldham**.

# FCBA Foundation 2023 AWARD RECIPIENTS

## SEAN HARMS

Internship: FCC, Office of Commissioner Starks  
Recipient of the Diane Cornell Internship Stipend

Sean Harms is a rising 3L at the University of Colorado Law School who focuses on telecommunications law. Prior to law school, he graduated magna cum laude from the University of Arizona, taught 7th-grade history in Texas as a Teach for America corps member, and received a Master's in Education

from Southern Methodist University. During his time at law school, Sean has co-founded the CU Space Law Society, co-authored a report on spectrum rights for a conference, and advocated for accessibility in communications technologies as a student attorney in the Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law and Policy Clinic. He is also a Hatfield Scholar.



## The Diane Cornell Internship Stipend

In 2020, friends and colleagues established the Diane Cornell Scholarship Fund in memory of their colleague, mentor, and friend. Diane not only rose to prominence but changed institutions she became a part of, a truly rare quality. She spent two tours of duty and many years at the FCC holding an expansive list of positions, first joining the Common Carrier Bureau's Division of Policy and Program Planning in 1987, and finally as Special Counsel to FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler prior to her retirement in 2016. Other ranks of great responsibility Diane held included Chief of the International Policy Division of the Common Carrier Bureau, Chief of the Telecommunications Division of the International Bureau, and the Chief of Staff/Associate Chief of the Wireless Communications Bureau. She also served as legal advisor to FCC Commissioners Patricia Diaz Dennis and Sherrie Marshall, and as Acting Senior Legal Advisor to FCC Chairman Reed H. Hundt.



Prior to joining the FCC in 1987 Diane began her career at the law firm Squire, Sanders and Dempsey (now Squire Patton Boggs). Between Diane's two stints at the FCC she served as vice president at CTIA and Inmarsat where she led regulatory and government relations departments. Diane also served as FCBA President from 2007-2008.

Diane's unique combination of keen intellect and transformative work ethic leave behind a legacy as a lawyer, policy maker, advocate, and passionate public servant that most can only imagine.

In honor of Diane, the Diane Cornell Internship Fund supports law students accepting unpaid summer internships. This year's recipients are **Sean Harms** and **Kailey Lauter**.

## ANNA JUDSON

FCBA Foundation Scholarship

Anna Judson is a rising second year law student at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law. Prior to law school, she obtained her Bachelor of Arts at University of California, Berkeley in Legal Studies with a double minor in public policy and human rights. During her undergraduate studies, Anna served as a case clerk with Davis Wright Tremaine LLP where she conducted legal research in the class action lawsuit *Wyatt B. v. Brown*. In law school, Anna is an editor for the Berkeley Business Law Journal, a member of First Generation Professionals, co-leader of the Foster Education Project, and will serve as Berkeley Law's Graduate Assembly Representative. This summer, Anna will intern with the Santa Clara Superior Court and complete international law courses at Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University.



## KRISTIE KARGUS

FCBA Foundation Scholarship

Kristie is a rising 3L at New England Law | Boston, where she is pursuing a certificate in Intellectual Property. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison with a degree in Communication Arts and a concentration in Radio, Television & Film. Prior to attending law school, Kristie worked for a basketball team and a travel agency. Kristie serves as the Executive Technical Editor for the New England Law Review, an executive board member of the Entertainment & Sports Law Organization, the Justice of her Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity chapter, and as a Campus Outreach Chair for the Boston Bar Association. She previously interned for the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court for the Honorable Justice Serge Georges, Jr. and for the Massachusetts State Auditor's Office. Kristie currently works for a law firm and looks forward to pursuing a career in media, intellectual property, and First Amendment law.





# FCBA Foundation 2023 AWARD RECIPIENTS

## KAILEY LAUTER

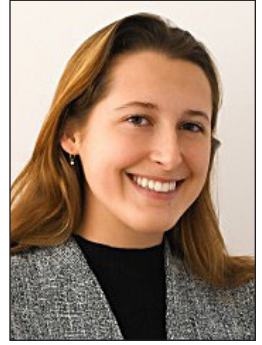
Internship: FCC, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Mobility Division

Recipient of the Diane Cornell Internship Stipend

Kailey Lauter is a rising 2L at the University of Colorado Law School who is excited to explore the regulatory side of telecommunications. She is particularly interested in addressing broadband access issues from a policy perspective to help close the digital divide. She has accepted an internship with the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau in Washington D.C. where she is excited to help develop policy and rules that facilitate widespread deployment of wireless communications services. Kailey's passion for technology has stemmed from her involvement in the Silicon Flatirons Center at Colorado Law where she will serve as Treasurer for the student group. She has been selected to join the Colorado Technology Law Journal beginning her 2L year, and looks forward to writing about current legal issues in the tech sector. Kailey is also a Dale Hatfield Scholar.



with the Silicon Flatirons Center at the University of Colorado. As a Hatfield Scholar, Adela will participate in a spectrum management course before beginning her summer internship with the Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program. As a native Virginian, Adela is looking forward to spending her summer on the East Coast and reconnecting with friends and family in the Washington, D.C. area.



## EMILY TAING

Internship: Federal Trade Commission

Emily Taing is a rising 2L at UC Law San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings). Prior to law school, Emily worked in corporate law in New York City as a paralegal. And during undergrad, she interned for Congressman Ted Lieu in California 33rd District, at the House of the Oireachtas – National Parliament of Ireland, and at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington D.C. She received her B.A. in International Development Studies and Asian American Studies from UCLA, and her M.A. in American Studies from the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University. Emily is interested in exploring the intersection between economic justice, consumer privacy, and antitrust. This summer Emily is looking forward to building upon her interest in regulatory affairs through working on cybersecurity, consumer protection, and antitrust issues at the FTC.



## TAYLOR LAWING

Internship: FCC, Office of Commissioner Starks

Taylor Lawing is a rising 3L at Vanderbilt University Law School. She is a member of the Vanderbilt Law Review and served as the president of the Women's Law Students Association last year. She is interested in administrative law, gender law, and the intersection of law and policy in regulated industries. Taylor graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with degrees in History and Women's and Gender Studies. Prior to law school, she worked as an advance staffer for two presidential campaigns and led external communications for a national nonprofit. Last summer, Taylor interned in the Appellate Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina. She is looking forward to working with Commissioner Starks' office to close the digital divide.



## SAMARA TRILLING

Internship: Department of Justice, Antitrust, Tech & Digital Platforms Section

Samara Trilling is a rising 2L at Harvard Law School interested in strengthening anti-monopoly law, building tech worker power and regulating discriminatory machine learning algorithms. In her seven years as a software engineer, Samara built anti-eviction tools at Justfix, city master-planning software at Sidewalk Labs and digital divide and democratic news reporting tools at Google. She received an Aspen Institute fellowship to write machine learning



## ADELA OLDHAM

Internship: Department of Commerce

Recipient of the Henry Geller Internship Stipend

Adela Oldham is a rising second year law student with an interest in media, technology, and intellectual property law. Before law school, she graduated from the University of Virginia, where she studied English Literature and French Language & Culture. She then worked in New York City for two years as an assistant at Fross Zelnick Lehrman & Zissu, a firm specializing in U.S. and International Intellectual Property law. In law school, she has explored her interest in technology law through her involvement

policy recommendations. Samara has a degree in computer science from Columbia University with a specialization in artificial intelligence and a concentration in history. At Harvard, she serves on the board of the Law and Political Economy Association, the Antitrust Association and Labor Employment



## FCBA Foundation 2023 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Action Project. Samara loves hiking, collects books on the history of computing, and plans to build a queer land co-op with friends after law school. She will intern in the Technology and Digital Platforms section of the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division.

### ELLIE TWIGG

Internship: FCC, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Competition and Infrastructure Policy Division

Ellie Twigg is a rising second-year law student at The Catholic University Columbus School of Law. Ellie is an incoming Associate Editor for The Journal of Law and Technology, Volume 32 at Catholic and is also a member of the Law and Technology Institute, pursuing a certificate in communications and data privacy law. Before law school, Ellie graduated from James Madison University with her Bachelors in English Language and Literature and worked in Insurance Risk for D.C. law firms and non-profits. This summer, Ellie will be working with the Competition and Infrastructure Policy Division of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau where she looks forward to working on a variety of communications issues, particularly FCC's broadband mapping project. Ellie is looking forward to expanding her knowledge and earning hands-on experience in telecommunications law and policy this summer while interning at the FCC.



### RIA REBEIN

Internship: FCC, International Bureau, Global Strategies & Negotiation Division (GSN)

Ria Rebein is a rising 2L at Georgetown University Law Center. Ria is passionate about public service, international work, and communications policy. After graduating from Indiana University with degrees in English, International Studies, and Spanish, she spent two years running a strategic communications freelance business and teaching English in Madrid, Spain. At Georgetown, Ria teaches legal lessons to high schoolers, translates documents



for Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition, is a member of the Public Interest Corps, and took GULC's social justice-focused first-year curriculum, Curriculum B. Ria is especially interested in international communications and technology policy and is looking forward to learning more about the FCC's global strategy at her internship this summer.

### YAMILÉ RODRIGUEZ

FCBA Foundation Scholarship

Yamilé Rodriguez is a rising 2L at Emory University School of Law. She has over ten years of experience in marketing, communications, and non-profit management. Before law school, she graduated summa cum laude from Rochester Institute of Technology, majoring in Visual Media with minors in Art History and Sociology. She also earned a Master of Science in Mass Communication from Florida International University, magna cum laude. At Emory, she will serve as the VP of Communications for the Latin Law Student Association for the upcoming year. She is interested in the intersection of visual media, law, and technology.



### GRACE WANG

FCBA Foundation Scholarship

Grace Wang is a rising 2L at Columbia Law School. She was selected as one of the three individuals nominated by the London School of Economics to the Columbia JD/LSE LLB double degree programme. Grace's interests in technology and its role in the delivery of financial products stemmed from her client engagement role at one of the first robo-advisories in Singapore, which she pursued as an articles editor focusing on information tech and competition law for the London School of Economics Law Review. Previously an External Officer of the LSE Developing Markets Society and a fellow in the Global Forum on Cities Community, she has a keen interest in how information and communication technology can play a significant role in economic development across economies in the world, contributing to the infrastructure for trans-world connections.





## Honorary Degrees (Organizations)

Inspired by the Foundation's mission to support educational and professional pursuits, organizations and their collaborative individuals' donations, this year so far, have been recognized with the following honorary degrees:

### **DEGREES ALL THEIR OWN**

(\$10,000 and above)

AT&T  
Comcast NBCUniversal  
Consumer Technology Association (CTA)®  
Cox Enterprises  
CTIA  
DLA Piper LLP  
Fox Corporation  
Google  
Karen Kincaid: Sponsored by Wiley Rein and Karen's Friends  
Mark Van Bergh: Sponsored by Mark's Family and Friends  
NCTA – The Internet & Television Association  
Qualcomm Incorporated  
T-Mobile US, Inc.  
USTelecom – The Broadband Association  
Verizon  
Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP  
Wireless Infrastructure Association  
Young Lawyers and Charity Auction

### **MASTERS OF MEDIA**

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

### **BACHELORS OF BROADBAND**

(\$2,000 - \$4,999)

Jenner & Block LLP

**We would also like to thank the following companies and firms for their donations:**

Cooley Soda Fund  
Wiley TMT



## Gems (Individuals)

Individual donations this year that will be going to support the Foundation's public service programs have been recognized at the following "birth stone" levels:

### DIAMOND

(\$1,000 and above)

Christine Crowe  
Seth Davidson  
Scott Delacourt  
Margaret Flinner  
Henry Gola  
Wayne Johnsen  
Elinor Kopmar  
Adam Krinsky  
Angela Kronenberg  
Sarah Morgan  
Barry Ohlson  
Jane Robinson  
Roger Sherman  
Jennifer Tatel  
James Van Bergh  
Josh Waldman

### EMERALD

(\$500 - \$999)

Megan Brown  
Edgar Class  
Timothy Cooney  
Yaron Dori  
Anna Gomez  
Jack Goodman  
David Grossman  
Jennifer Hindin  
Diane Holland  
Kathleen Kirby  
Charla Rath  
Davina Sashkin  
Jennifer Schneider  
Rachel Wolkowitz

### PEARL

(\$250 - \$499)

Sara Baxenberg  
Robert Beizer  
Daniel Brooks  
Sally Buckman  
Jonathan Cohen  
Timothy Cooney  
Kurt DeSoto  
David Furth  
Patrick Halley  
Mitsuko Herrera  
Brian Higgins  
Charles Keller  
Nancy Liebermann  
Madeleine Lottenbach  
Phillip Marchesiello  
Ari Meltzer  
Hap Rigby  
Craig & Carleen Russell  
Meredith Singer  
Laura Stefani  
Anne Swanson  
Rebecca Troth  
Bryan Tramont  
Joshua Turner

### RUBY

(\$100 - \$249)

Janet Barsy  
Utpal Kumar Bhattacharya  
John Burgett  
Megan Chavez  
Richard Engelman  
Jeffrey Gee  
Craig Gilmore  
Kara Graves  
Erin Griffith  
J.G. Harrington  
Jeffrey Jacobs  
Randolph May  
Brian Murray  
Radhika Raju  
Eve Klindera Reed  
Blake Reid  
Christopher Reynolds  
Jessica Rosenthal  
Jacquelynn Ruff  
Kathleen Scott  
Thomas Sugrue  
Scott Tollefsen  
S. Jenell Trigg

### SAPPHIRE

(\$99 and below)

Stephen Conley  
Carol Gregoire  
Katherine Harris  
Daniel Kahn  
Maury Mechanick  
Evelyn Remaley  
Mark Rubin  
Jeffrey Steinberg  
Michele Walters





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