



THE HAMMIESPHERE

hamiltonscholars.org/quarterly-newsletter

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Sponsors

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Shining a Spotlight on 2022

Welcome to our last edition of 2022! This edition features a **look back at all the accomplishments our HamFam shared with us**; plus, read **more about Texas Leader Week**, the **new folks joining AHS in January**, and so much more!



[Above: Our 2018 and 2019 Scholars pose for a group photo with volunteer professionals who engaged in career preparedness as part of Texas Leader Week]

Are we connected on social media? Don't miss out on exciting scholar news, program updates and ways to support Hammies!

   @hamiltonscholars





LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy winter, Hamilton Community!

As I reflect on our fourth quarter of 2022, I am grateful for all the large and small ways that our entire team, Board, Alumni Board, Council of Advisors, volunteers, and donors continue to engage our 151 active Scholars in meaningful ways through mentorship, special road trips to visit and support

our Hammies, and a return to in-person Leader Weeks. Our program continues to evolve with Scholar led Town Halls, ongoing pillar-based conference calls, application outreach, and community building.

Some quarterly highlights:

- The 2023 Hamilton Award Cohort application launched, and we are accepting applications through January 25th, 2023; please encourage high school juniors that might be a good fit to apply
- We concluded in-person Texas Leader Weekend this November with our 2018 and 2019 Scholars
- The team have intentionally built a Learning Management System (LMS) and will roll out to our Scholars to go live in 2023
- Our Alumni raised enough donations to fully support our Hamilton Award application platform fees; the platform allows new cohorts of students to apply and be evaluated before joining the HamFam
- Three options to passively support AHS: 1) [Give with Bing](#); 2) [Amazon Smile](#); and 3) [Fred Meyer Community Rewards](#)

Our Scholars are so inspiring; be sure to check out our feature on the spotlights of 2022, including the ones from this quarter!

With the fall season wrapping up and winter starting with the solstice, we enter a time I associate with reflection done both in solitude and collaboration – reflection of candlelight, on community, on growth, on vision alignment of the year past and for the upcoming year, and on those people and moments that were truly beautiful reminders of what a gift it is to be right here, right now. As we enter this season of longer nights and shorter days, may we be the light for our loved ones, our communities, our selves, and our world.

All my best,

Dr. Angela Hedwall

Shining a Spotlight on 2022

Celebrate with us the accomplishments of our Hamilton Community from this year!

Spotlights let Scholars highlight themselves and fellow Hammies; from internship placements, to personal or professional goals achieved, we are so proud of our HamFam!

Often, first-generation, low income students face impostor syndrome — feelings of self-doubt, despite their education, lived experiences, and accomplishments — and diminish their own achievements; Spotlights are one way we empower our students to authentically show-up as their full-selves, accomplishments and all.

Awarded Dept. of Defense David L. Boren Scholarship, to study Arabic in Amman, Jordan
Muna Sultana, 2019



Muna Sultana ('19) was recently awarded the prestigious David L. Boren Scholarship through the U.S. Department of Defense to study Arabic in Amman, Jordan.

Two Hamilton Scholars (Two of Forty) Awarded National Marshall Scholarship

Grace Kim, 2018; Dominic Arzadon, 2018



Grace Kim ('18) who is finishing her BSc degree in Engineering Sciences with a focus on Aerospace and Robotics from Harvard University, was one of

the forty scholars across the nation awarded the Marshall Scholarship.



Dominic Arzadon ('18) who is currently working to obtain his Bachelor's degree in Environmental Analysis and Critical Global Studies with a minor in Asian American Studies from Pitzer College, was one of the forty scholars across the nation awarded the Marshall Scholarship.

Promoted to Assistant Director of Presidential Initiatives, Office of College Board CEO; Ran first marathon

Anastasiya Parvankin, 2014



2014 Hammie Anastasiya Parvankin ran her first marathon in Philadelphia on November 20th. With a goal to complete the run in under 4 hours, Anastasiya achieved her goal with a time of 3:49:26. Even though it was a very cold marathon, she is

looking forward to warmer races in the future. Not only that but a week later Anastasiya received a promotion from her current role as an Executive Assistant for two divisions (Risk Management and Learning & Assessment) to the Assistant Director of Presidential Initiatives in the Office of the CEO at College Board starting in January.

Participated in Adolescent Substance Use Prevention at The Boston Children's Hospital

Ibne Tamim, 2022



Over the summer, 2022 Hammie Ibne Tamim participated in a research internship at The Boston Children's Hospital where she researched Adolescent Substance Use Prevention at The Center for Adolescent Behavioral Health Research (CABHRe) Lab. Ibne's hard work was noticed by her supervisors who offered her a position to work with them throughout this school year as well.

Received Girl Scouts Gold Award and Grant to Support Developmentally Disabled Community of Frederick, Maryland.

Diya Jha, 2022

Through her work with the Developmentally Disabled Community in Frederick, Maryland 2022 Hammie Diya Jha recently received the Gold Award from Girl Scouts, the highest honor one



can receive. Diya was awarded \$1,146.02 from the Community Foundation, who are proud to have Diya as a partner in making a positive and lasting impact in Frederick County.

Two Hammie Produced Episodes of Untextbooked Podcast

Gavin Scott, 2020; Victor Ye, 2019



2020 Hammie Gavin Scott and 2019 Hammie Victor Ye, within the last years, produced and released their episodes on the UnTextbooked Podcast (@untextbooked on Instagram), a platform in which teen changemakers interview leading historians, bringing the power of good history so we can build a better future. Gavin's episode on an Indigenous People's History of The United States was released in October 2022, and Victor's episode titled "When will Asian Americans stop being seen as 'perpetual foreigners?'" was released in November 2021.

Harvard Business School Names Hammie 2022 Recipient of Horace W. Holdsmith Fellowship Mackenzie Welch, 2009



Harvard Business School (HBS) announced Mackenzie Welch, a 2009 Hammie, as one of the recipients of the 2022 Horace W. Goldsmith Fellowship, which encourages incoming MBA students from the nonprofit sector to attend HBS. The award's winners have held leadership positions in nonprofit and public sectors and have shown a strong dedication to continuing their professional careers in these fields.

Awarded Mundelein Arts Commission Art Contest, Mural Installed in Hometown

Ava McQuain, 2022



In a recent art contest sponsored by the Mundelein Arts Commission, 2022 Hammie Ava McQuain submitted a beautiful mural that is now installed in her town. The theme was "Uplifting" and Ava utilized different elements within her piece to convey messages of the importance of uplifting a diverse community, the work her community has done to support native butterfly habitats and recognizing the high population of Dreamers in her community.

Hammie Featured on NPR Interview about Pandemic affect on School, Family, and Community

Omar Abdellall, 2022



2022 Hammie Omar Abdellall was featured in an @npr (National Public Radio) Interview article where he spoke about his experiences with the pandemic and how it affected his school, family, and community – Omar spoke about re-learning study habits, the struggle of learning virtually and the virtual dissection of a frog. As he looks forward to 'making things right' his senior year, we are excited to see him finish strong!

2nd Place, 1:47:32 time in First Ever Half-Marathon

Derek Sadorra, 2022

This past August, 2022 Hammie Derek Sadorra, ran his first half-marathon – the culmination of



his entire running career that began six years ago; deciding this was the perfect year to tackle the challenge, he surprised himself by running a 1:47:32 race, placing second in the 20 & Under age division. Derek's friends, family, and community came through to support him during the entire 13.1 miles

Hammie Business Participates in St. Louis Festival of Nations

Elise Zeigler, 2022



Selah Textiles, founded by 2022 Hammie Elise Ziegler, participated in the Celebration of the Festival of Nations in collaboration with the International Institute of St. Louis. Elise's team developed and produced the official festival merchandise. A portion of their profits from textile sales is donated to tutoring programs for kids in the STL community. Other initiatives include: giving

their staff members training in printing, company integration, and the value of being a good neighbor; and, uplifting their neighbors by allocating 100% of proceeds to supporting tutoring programs for New Americans, English as a Second Language classes, and extracurricular activities for staff.

Bath, England Study Abroad

Ashley Neyra, 2019



2019 Hammie Ashley Neyra studied history in the Advanced Studies for England (ASE) program abroad in the city of Bath! There she took Romans in Britain and Medieval Maps, Monsters, and Marvels. They had a chance to visit Stonehenge, Wales, many castles, and Oxford University. This study abroad program was supported by an F&M Summer Awards Grant and the Don Nunes Scholarship from ASE.



RTDNA Scholarship Recipient
Kevin Palomino, 2018

Kevin Palomino, a 2018 Hammie, was selected as a recipient of the RTDNA Scholarship. This year, RTDNF awarded more than \$35,000 to 13 talented students and early career journalists, and Kevin is one of them! Scholarship and fellowship winners also will attend an all-expense paid conference called RTDNA22, Sept. 14-16, in Indianapolis.

Creates F&M Chapter of Alexander Hamilton Society

Muna Sultana, 2019



This past fall, 2019 Munahil Sultana, worked tirelessly to create a chapter of Alexander Hamilton Society, an organization aiming to create the next generation of foreign policy leaders at Franklin & Marshall College; Alexander Hamilton Society

boasts over 80 local chapters at a myriad of institutions across the country, including several Ivy League colleges and liberal arts colleges. Additionally, Muna serves as the Sophomore Senator for Diplomatic Congress, President of S.I.S.T.E.R.S. — a non-greek affiliated women's empowerment organization — and serves as a House Advisor for upperclass housing.

Awarded 1k My Story Matters Scholarship

Mariana Chavez Ontiveros, 2021



2021 Hammie, Mariana Chavez Ontiveros was one of six students to receive the My Story Matters Scholarship. She received \$1000 and had the opportunity to share her story in front of an audience in Downtown LA

Awarded Three Graduating Seniors Shine Bright Scholarship
Diamond Bynum, 2015

2015 Hammie, Diamond Bynum awarded three graduating seniors with the Shine Bright Scholarship at North Pitt High School in Bethel, North Carolina! This scholarship encourages students to express what makes them unique and supports students with needs -- such as travel, room essentials, or general supply costs as they transition to college.



Completed Multiple Service Projects & Starting Amsterdam-Based Internship

Chidinmma Egemonu, 2018



2018 Hammie, Chidinmma Egemonu, is studying Cognitive Studies & Human and Organizational Development at Vanderbilt University; she participated in a service project in Lisbon, caring for people experiencing homelessness; furthermore, Chidinmma completed another service project in Vietnam at the Little Rose Warm Shelter, providing education and other resources for young girls escaping abuse and poverty. Lastly, she received an internship with an Amsterdam-based music program teaching immigrant children Dutch. Chidinmma is passionate about making education more accessible for underserved people.

Interning at Space X After Leading Harvard Satellite Team

Grace Kim, 2018



2018 Hammie Grace Kim has been interested in satellites since previously leading the Harvard Satellite Team as Chief Engineer building their 2U CubeSat to test a student-designed payload of a new solar array deployment mechanism using SMAs (shape memory alloys). All of this has lead up to this summer, where Grace will intern for Space X! She'll work alongside the Starlink Mechanical Systems team, providing advanced broadband internet via satellite internet constellations!

Passed Candidacy Exam, Now Dual-Degree Candidate

Van Truong, 2012



2012 Hammie, Van Truong, after two-hours of sharing her research proposal and defending her ideas before a panel of experts, passed her Candidacy Exam. She'll now pursue her research full-time until her graduation as a dual-degree candidate (Ph.D. with Penn Medicine and MA in Statistics with Wharton); she is now one step closer to becoming the first woman in her diaspora village to get a Ph.D.

Featured in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution against Classroom Censorship

Tsion Agaro, 2021



2021 Hammie, Tsion Agaro continues to organize against classroom censorship bills in the Georgia legislature; Agaro spoke with AJC reporters about how the bill would affect people such as herself. Currently, she is working to help progressive school board candidates win their elections to protect Georgia's students from the rise in right-wing candidates/ideals within the educational space.

Awarded \$25k Future Sacramento Scholarship

Da'jauntay Wynter, 2021



2021 Hammie, Da'jauntay Wynter was one of two students chosen from a competitive pool of 300 applicants for the Future Sacramento Scholarship. He now join a network of other winners and will use the \$25k to pay for his college education.

Help us keep shining



You can help us keep the spotlight on these incredible changemakers.

Learn more on page 14 or by visiting hamiltonscholars.org/donate



PROGRAMMING

Updates

The past few months in programming have been busy and exciting as we plan for the new year: January kicks-off with new team members joining us, and a new way for Hammies to engage with our curriculum via an AHS Learning Management System (LMS) to communicate announcements, assignments, and upcoming calls with our Scholars in a way that's familiar to them. Finally, after our first season of in-person Leader Weeks since 2019, we've learned a lot and are excited to evolve the experience for our Hammies once more — bring on 2023!

Welcome! New Hammie Staff

2018 Scholars Anubhav Thapaliya and Liliana Gonzalez join the AHS staff in January as Program Coordinators. Already, these two have volunteered the past few months of their time to assist with the roll-out of our LMS; between interns, volunteers, and staff, Hammies represent almost half of those leading our organization!

Texas Leader Weekend Highlights

Last month, 21 of our college junior and senior Scholars joined us in Dallas for Texas Leader Weekend. Over the four days, our Hammies reconnected, explored post-undergraduate

options, learned from over 20 professional volunteers from across the country, and ate some incredible Texas BBQ! Sessions included: career and grad school interview preparation, how to build your own professional brand, taking their professional headshots, advanced financial literacy for post-college life, and 1-on-1 resume reviews.

Hammie Updates

- For our 2022 Hammies, now is the big “wait and see” moment between getting their essays and scholarship applications submitted and waiting to hear back on the results; already, we’re hearing exciting news from those matched through QuestBridge and early decision colleges!
- A big shout out to our Communications Team and their Marketing Intern, 2021 Hammie, Paul Quach! Paul showed incredible leadership, reigniting our Ambassador program of younger Hammies spreading the word about the Hamilton Award and lighting up Instagram with his posts, reels, and takeovers. Seriously. Our Hammies ROCK!
- Our East Coast Hammies were treated to food, coffee, and community with Financial

Aid Counselor Lynell Engelmyer and Assistant Director & Director of DEI Mikala Lain; the two road-tripped up the coast and had a great time seeing our current and alum Scholars, sharing Mik’s homemade cookies.

Application Season

- November 5th marked the start of our 2023 Hamilton Award application season; so far, we’ve seen almost double the number of applications started compared to 2021. We’re so excited to close the application on January 25th and begin the judging process!
- Volunteers, alum, AHS Board members, and staff reached out to over 180 high schools and counselors in-person, over the phone, and via email to spread the word about the 2023 Hamilton Award and AHS Empowerment Program — stay tuned for a recording of our Dec. 14th Counselor Webinar on our website!

Emergency Fund Breakdown

Q3 \$9,325
YTD \$20,725

Breakdown totals more than 100% due to funding covering multiple areas





DEVELOPMENT

2023 Building Bridges

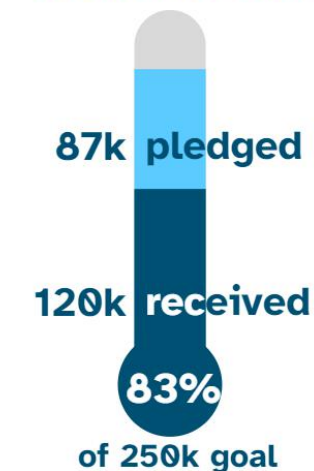
Three things to do before 2023:

Less than 2-weeks remain in 2023 and time is running out to help us reach our 250K end-of-year Building Bridges campaign goal!

We need you and your network's support during this critical time of expansion at Alexander Hamilton Scholars. **Bridges span unfriendly gaps; without your support, we cannot further bridge the gaps between high school, college, and career for our Hammies.**

- Finish 2022 strong with a year-end donation! In addition to giving by card or check, we now support giving with Venmo and Paypal; once you're done, share it loud and proud on Facebook, LinkedIn, Whatsapp, Twitter, and email!
- Join our Building Bridges Fundraiser: create your page in under 5 minutes, share YOUR story, and invite your friends, colleagues, and community (plus, you'll get the credit you deserve for doing so)!
- Connect your networks! In addition to sharing our fundraiser directly, email donations@hamiltonscholars.org folks YOU

207k
raised so far!



know would join us in closing the equity gap for our Hammies! Our staff will follow-up with you directly.

Ways to support us

- One-time giving via our website/check; checks postmarked by December 31st will still count!
- A monthly donation (*most impact!*)
- Employee Matching
- Passive Giving

SPONSORS

Our important work is made possible with the generous support of organizations, including:

Morgan Stanley



Alexander Hamilton Scholars' is a Seattle-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit Empowering high-achieving, underserved young leaders to thrive in college and beyond. A community of ethical leaders who break barriers to build an equitable society. Our five-year program provides these students with a comprehensive network of support and guidance so they, in turn, can be agents of positive change in their communities.

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