



THE HAMMIESPHERE

hamiltonscholars.org/quarterly-newsletter

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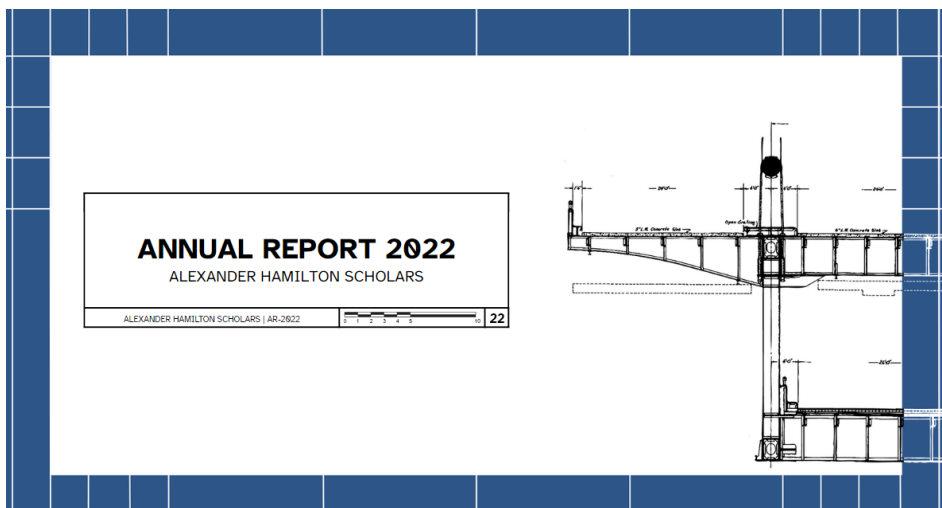
Hammiesphere Editor:
Elias Olson

Contributing Editor:
Yenny Arteaga

media@hamiltonscholars.org

2023 Starts Strong

Welcome to our first edition of 2023! This edition features an **introspection on our Scholars "Being There Already;"** plus, get a sneak peek **at the 2022 Annual Report,** the **new folks joining AHS in January,** and so much more!



Above: Have you read our 2022 Annual Report yet? Head to our homepage to learn more about the bridges we built in 2022 and where we're bridging to in 2023; this report features the stories of eight Hammies spanning a variety of backgrounds, goals, and journeys thus far. Plus, read up on the latest reports: 2022 Cohort, Organization Finances, Sponsors, and 2017 Grad Stats.

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 spring, Hamilton Community!

In three short months: our 142 active Scholars joined AHS on Schoology — our new Learning Management System — further engaging in asynchronous curriculum; our new Program Coordinators Anubhav Thapaliya ('18) and Liliana Gonzalez ('18) spearheaded Scholar-Led Town Halls; and, the 2023

Cohort judging process is well-underway — we can't wait to welcome the 40 new Scholars to join our program come April! As always, our team has continued in their meaningful mentorship of our Hammies; Q2 promises exciting road trips to visit and support our Hammies, the official welcome of the 2023 Cohort, and the furthered, community-centered evolution of our program.

Spring equinox is a time I equate to regeneration: an awakening from the warmth of winter hibernation to welcome the return of connections with those meaningful in our lives, thanks to those longer daylight hours. Entering this season of renewal, may we tend to our growth, facilitate growth for others with the warmth of empathy and waters of grace, and foster safe and brave spaces.

Some of our quarterly highlights have been:

- Our selection process for the 2023 Cohort; they join our program next month!
- Our 2022 Annual Report launched; eight Scholars, nominated by our community, share their stories and the values that drive their continued partnership with AHS
- The promotion of Cassandra Baddeley, on our Program Team, to Program Manager
- Our 2020 Scholars selecting Women's Health as their Year 4 Scholars' in Service Project
- You helping us raise \$200,000 on our goal of \$250,000 for Strong Start; thank you to those who've generously donated – it's not too late for those still looking to make an impact for Critical Summer Leader Weeks!
- Two options to passively support AHS: (1) [Give with Bing](#) and (2) [Fred Meyer Community Rewards](#)

Our Scholars are so inspiring; be sure to check out our 2022 Annual Report and Q1 Hammie News!

May each of you make time for the activities and relationships that nourish your mind, body, and spirit – giving you capacity to show up for others with openness and authenticity.

All my best,



Dr. Angela Hedwall

SPOTLIGHT

On Being There Already



By George Cox, AHS Founder

The formal Hamilton Scholars program deals with three distinct chronologically linked periods beginning in late high school and ending after one's traditional college years – roughly a period of six years. Our vision is to assist each Scholar and new cohort of Scholars to enter the adult world each will inhabit feeling equal and, on a level, playing field with anyone else they may encounter. To do this requires some practical things: attend appropriate institutions and graduate; obtain additional professional training; enter the workforce as nearly debt-free as possible. These are things we help each Scholar achieve. It takes work on their part and on the part of the staff, volunteers, and increasingly our cadre of Scholar alumni.

These are necessary goals to participate in the game of life on a level playing field, but not sufficient. Something else is still needed and that is for each Scholar to come to feel they are already on that level playing field. The practical ramification of this at Hamilton Scholars is our staff, alumni, and volunteers treat them as if they are already where they need to be.

What do I mean by that? Let me give you a personal example. Over a decade ago, I came to realize I was in this for me because I could learn so much from our young Scholars. By knowing them, I felt more fulfilled. So, I began to turn the tables. I started to view myself as the student and the Scholars as teachers. By doing so, it began to feel like we were like peers talking over a latte.

How does this differ from other organizations? Consider this. Most educational organizations with aims like or similar to Hamilton Scholars treat their student-clients as people who need to rise up from some sort of condition: low-income; limited professional guidance; scant experience dealing with the organizational cultures they aspire to join down the road – that sort of thing. This way of thinking can, inadvertently and even with the most well-meaning people, freeze a hierarchy into the mix, resulting in a permanent sort of teacher-student relationship. In turn, this can lead a young person to conclude if they belong on that level playing field it is in spite of their background; an intrinsically unequal state.

Hamilton Scholars is different. Because we view our individual role be it as staff member, volunteer, or alumni as one of student who is learning from the Scholar or Scholars in front of them, Scholars develop a sense of self-worth that helps each conclude he, she, or they are on that mythic level playing field not in spite of their background, but because of it. Who they are and can become are important not just for the well being of a particular Scholar, but because who they are and can become are important for everyone's wellbeing. Our Scholars are already there, they simply must come to recognize that fact.

If we are ever to become a truly inclusive society that level playing field must contain a celebratory function that appreciates and embraces as necessary the diverse nature that is America. And in this effort, Hamilton Scholars truly leads the way.



PROGRAMMING

Welcome 2023

We've been looking forward to 2023 for awhile now; with it has come new staff, new Scholars, and new ways to engage with the AHS Empowerment Program.

2018 Hammies, Liliana Gonzalez and Anubhav Thapalyia, continue to bring their fresh and fun energy to staff meetings and curriculum development as Program Coordinators; while we wish we could keep them on-staff forever, we're equally excited for their next-step into grad school.

Our expanded Program Staff, alongside dedicated volunteers and alumni, just finished the third round of judging for the 2023 Hamilton Award. We are one step closer to welcoming 40 new Hamilton Scholars in April; already, we're seeing the fantastic capacity for change this new Cohort will bring and can't wait to introduce you to them!

Finally, AHS on Schoology rolled out to every Cohort in late-January. We're seeing the possibilities of this new platform in how it engages our active Scholars, connects them to dynamic professional networks, and provides resources that further bridge the opportunities our Scholars can access.

Program Highlights

With AHS on Schoology, the AHS Empowerment Program enters a new era: legacy elements of our program have been given a new life online, thus creating a more consistent, accessible, and flexible experience for our Scholars. We're excited to continue adding new resources and ways for Hammies, Alumni, and the greater Hammie Support Network to connect.

Launching this has taken the cumulative efforts of the Programming and Communications team, working in partnership for the past two years, to provide Scholars access to: scholarships; exclusive partner organization internship and career opportunities; the AHS Board of Directors & Council of Advisors; partnership-provided tutoring resources; and, asynchronous Empowerment Program curriculum materials.

A huge 'Thank you' to Elias Olson and Yenny Arteaga for their hours of partnership, creativity, and support!

Hammie Updates

- Mentorship at AHS received a fresh coat of paint! Newly re-branded as Hammie Connect,



we launched this year’s mentor program with the first Hammie Connection Call, linking every 2022 Scholar with an older Hammie mentor to help provide friendship and guidance through the years ahead. During that call, we teased the new Most Valuable Mentor Pair Award — be sure to check back in Q2 where we’ll announce the winners!

- Alumni Scholars Isabelle Yang ('14), Steve Barillas ('09), and Anastasiya Parvankin ('14) led our second Scholar-Led Town Hall on Finances this month. The Scholars who attended, or will watch the town-hall on Schoology, discussed resources on managing budgets, healthy credit-card use, long-term investing, tax management, building generational wealth, and managing debt. **Huge 'thank you' to our incredible alumni for leading this fantastic and informative call!**

Award Season

We received 600+ applications for the 2023 Hamilton Award this season! With the help of over 40 incredibly dedicated volunteers, we narrowed the field down to 75 talented, creative, and deserving young students from all over the country. Now, we begin the almost impossible task of deciding on the 40 young scholars who will join our 2023 Cohort. We look forward to sharing the newest cohort with you soon!

Emergency Fund Breakdown

Q1	\$5,925
YTD	\$5,925

Academic Fees	58%
Transportation	42%

Hammie News

Admitted to Stanford Law Scholar Institute Program

Dajuantay Wynter, 2021



2021 Hammie, Dajuantay Wynter was awarded admission into the Stanford Law Scholar Institute Program, an internationally-recognized program that allows exceptional students to expand their legal knowledge. This program is designed to challenge students and provide them with the skills necessary to succeed in the legal profession. During his time in the program, Dajuantay will be able to work with and learn from legal minds in the country, and he will have the opportunity to explore his interest in the law further.

Accepted into JAMP Program

Julie Trinh, 2020



2020 Hammie, Julie Trinh was accepted into the Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP), a Texas-based workforce pipeline for aspiring doctors from low socioeconomic backgrounds. After a competitive 5-month selection process, will be placed into a smaller pool of medical school applicants, allowing her a higher acceptance rate to a Texas medical school of her choice.

Through JAMP, Julie will attend 4-week-long residential medical internship programs every summer and receive rigorous MCAT mentoring and resources sponsored by JAMP. She will also receive JAMP scholarships during her time as an undergraduate and medical student.

Rugby Team, National Champions

Adriana Cavazos, 2021



2021 Hammie Adriana Cavazos, as a first-year student was selected as one of twelve to play on the EPRU Women's Rugby All-Star Team. This was a major accomplishment for her, and she was thrilled to have been chosen. She dedicated many hours of practice to prepare for the tournament, and her hard work paid off when they flew out to Austin, Texas to compete in the NCR's Women's 7's National Cup in January. During the tournament, she played with great skill and determination. Their team earned the title of National Champions for the second consecutive year.

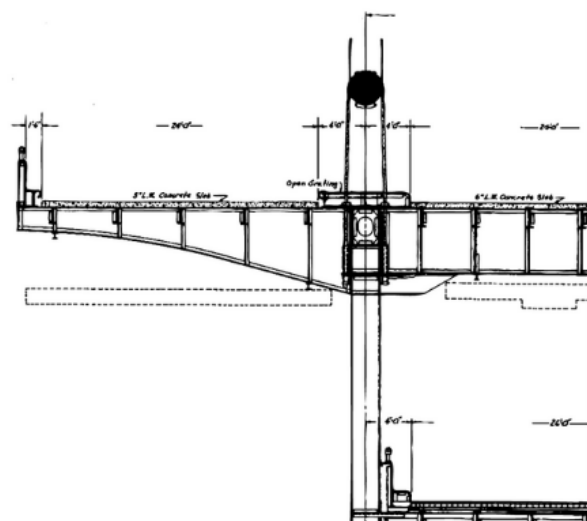
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DEVELOPMENT

2022 Annual Report

Why Bridges & What to Expect:

Bridges connect communities: they enable access and make movement across unfriendly spaces possible. At Alexander Hamilton Scholars (AHS), we've dedicated ourselves to bridging the opportunity gaps our Scholars face. In partnership with our Hammies, we empower their transitions between high-school, college, and beyond — connecting these changemakers to possibility.

For our Scholars, attainment of a college education disrupts the cycle of poverty; our personalized approach empowers 100% of our students to gain entrance into their best-fit colleges, with 93% graduating within five years or less.

Our goal is transparent leadership through gratitude, as we continue partnering with the incredible individuals in our five-year Empowerment Program.

This annual report features eight of our Scholars — lovingly nicknamed “Hammies” — and the values that drive their journey. You'll find them placed within context of how our program supports them, the impact we left on our community in 2022, and

how we've leveraged the generosity of our financial supporters.

In short: this report covers the bridges we've built and where we're bridging to next.

Thank you!

You helped us raise \$200,000 on our goal of \$250,000 for Strong Start; thank you to those who've generously donated — it's not too late for those still looking to make an impact for Critical Summer Leader Weeks!

Ways to support us

- One-time giving via our website/check; help us secure Critical Leader Week Funding!
- A monthly donation (*most impact!*)
- Employee Matching
- Passive Giving

Scan to view the Annual Report



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.

Alexander Hamilton Scholars
P.O. Box 81047
Seattle, WA 98108

Office: (206) 460-0740
Email: info@hamiltonscholars.org