Fall 2023 Graduates

Abiola Ojo

From Saint Charles, Maryland, Abiola Ojo is set to graduate from Towson University with high honors, magna cum laude, having pursued a bachelor's degree in biology. Post-graduation, Abiola is committed to furthering her career as an orthopedic technologist, accruing valuable clinical experience to pave her way into Physician Assistant School. The Honors College has been an invaluable pillar of support and kinship for Abiola throughout her undergraduate journey. During her time at Towson University, Abiola had numerous roles: she served as an undergraduate learning assistant, and a medical assistant, volunteered at MedStar Union Memorial, and actively engaged in the pre-physician assistant organization. She holds a deep appreciation for the Honors College staff, her cherished friends, her supportive brother, and her devoted mother, all of whom have been an irreplaceable backbone throughout her college career.

Amaya Collins

Amaya Collins hails from Elkridge, Maryland, and will graduate December 2023, earning a degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Psychology. She plans to start her career as a teacher soon. She appreciated all the professors and peers within the Honors College who provided her with the support and drive to complete her degree with Honors. She would like to thank her professors, staff at the Honors College, and family for helping her through her college journey.

Beverly Yirenkyi

Beverly Yirenkyi is from Silver Spring, Maryland, and will graduate with a degree in Philosophy and English. After graduation, Beverly plans to start working and studying for the LSAT. In the Fall of 2024, Beverly will be enrolled as a doctoral candidate in Philosophy. What she appreciated most about the Honors College was the community and faculty. Beverly was the founder and President of the Women in Philosophy Club, Dean Student Advisor, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Student Representative, and a recipient of the College of Liberal Arts' Undergraduate Research Award of Summer 2023. She would like to thank all of the faculty, staff, and Towson community who have supported and will continue to support her in her higher education journey. Most of all, she would like to thank her family and friends for listening to her ramble about philosophy.

Charles Hess

"Billy" Hess is from White Hall, Maryland and will graduate (Magna Cum Lade/Cum lade depending on final grades) earning a B. S. in History with a minor in Asian Studies. After graduation, Billy plans to continue working in the lumber industry at J. Gibson McIlvain where he sells premium hardwoods. While in the Honors college, Billy studied abroad in Greece, was an editor in Towson's undergraduate History Journal, and received multiple academic awards and scholarships. His favorite part of the Honors experience was the small class size, interdisciplinary study, and the excellent Honors staff. Billy would also like to thank his Fiancé Emily, Dr. Zajicek, and the TU History department, as well as his family for guiding him through his college experience and contributing to his success.

Ebony Lewis

Elizabeth Sterling

Elizabeth Sterling, originally from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, will graduate with a degree in Dance Performance & Choreography with a Concentration in PreK-12 Education. During her time at Towson University, Elizabeth has been an involved member of the community through various roles, having been a part of performances within the Dance Department and through Fusion Dance Team, as well as being the Community Service Chair for Fusion. She also held many jobs on-campus, including as a Resident Assistant and Campus Recreation Yoga Instructor, alongside multiple internships with BCPS, Joffrey Ballet School, and Flair Dance Company. One of her favorite experiences at Towson, and within the Honors College, was developing her undergraduate research project. This research project created many opportunities for Elizabeth as she received the Undergraduate Research Impact Award, placed 2nd in Research at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning, and was able to present her project at the National Dance Education Organization's 2023 Conference. As she moves forward, she plans on teaching dance in the surrounding counties, as well as pursuing professional dance opportunities. Elizabeth would like to thank the Dance Department Professors, Honors College Staff, and her family for helping her through this time.

Hannah Harr

Hannah Harr will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing on December 21, 2023. Hannah aims to work as a registered nurse in an Intensive Care Unit post-graduation. This fall she completed an internship in the Intensive Care Unit at Sinai Hospital and conducted a literature review examining the history of cannabis legalization and how nurses' perceptions of cannabis use can influence how they care for patients. For this project, Hannah won the 2nd place audience choice award in the internship category at the fall 2023 Celebration of Scholarship and Learning. Hannah's favorite experience in the Honors College has been taking a class on biblical archeology. She enjoyed the opportunities that the Honors College gave her to stay engaged with other members of the Towson community. She would like to thank her parents for their continuous support and Dr. lobst for the guidance and encouragement she provided throughout the internship experience.

Jenna Smith

Jenna Smith from Elmer, New Jersey is earning a degree in Anthropology. After graduation, Jenna plans to attend graduate school in the fall. She was able to participate in undergraduate research through the Honors College. Jenna was the director and outreach coordinator of a student organization, Kesem, which helps kids impacted by a parent's cancer. Jenna was also a resident assistant her junior year. Last year, she was the recipient of the Most Distinguished Scholar in Anthropology, Kesem, under her direction, won the Hoke L. Smith Student Organization of the Year Award, and she received the program of the year award from Housing and Resident Life. Jenna would like to thank her family for their support, the Honors College for my opportunities, and Dr. Siegel and Dr. Buresh, for believing in her.

Jesse Griffith

Jesse Griffith is from Aberdeen, Maryland, and will be graduating with Honors, earning a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. Following graduation, Jesse will enter into the work field of chemistry driven research or forensic investigation where he then hopes to pursue his masters degree in Forensic Science. During his undergraduate career, Jesse was fortunate enough to have various involvements on campus, including his roles as a section leader and member of the piccolo section in the World Famous Towson University Marching Band and Pep Band, captain of his intramural volleyball teams, member of the Towson University Winter Guard, member of the Forensic Science Student Organization, Public Relations Director of the Independent Greek Council, and member, webmaster, assistant vice president of membership, diversity and risk management officer, chapter assessment program officer, and President of Tau Beta Sigma. Furthermore, Jesse completed a summer internship on Aberdeen Proving Ground working under the DEVCOM Chemical Biological Center CBR Filtration Team where he researched and presented the ""Photooxidation of a sulfur mustard gas simulant using metal organic frameworks."" Jesse also dived into undergraduate research with Dr. Dana Kollmann to anthropologically study human remains and further build his forensic knowledge. Jesse is very appreciative of all the skills and experiences he has gained through the Honors College. He would like to thank the Honors College faculty, his professors, his friends, and his family for all their support throughout his undergraduate career."

Kenneth Cooper

Kenneth Cooper was born in Memphis, TN, but grew up in Owings Mills, M. He will be graduating with a nursing degree and plans to work in the field of psychiatry. He hopes to eventually become a psychiatric nurse practitioner after gaining a few years of experience in the field. He was a member of the Honorables of Color organization and the Honors College Leadership Council. His favorite part of the honors college was the variety of topics he learned about that he was not familiar with, such as poetry and coding. He would like to thank everyone who helped him through his academic journey!

Lexi Cioffi

Lexi Cioffi is from Frederick, Maryland, and will graduate summa cum laude as one of the first students to earn a degree in Business Analytics from Towson. After graduation, Lexi will pursue her MBA at Hood College while starting her career at the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Throughout her time at TU, Lexi studied abroad in Spain, served as a Student Leadership Consultant for the Tigers Lead program, and also held positions as a member of the Towson University Student Foundation as well as an orientation mentor and recruitment officer for the Honors College. She would like to thank the Honors faculty, her family, and her closest friends for their constant support and encouragement.

Logan McNelly

Logan McNelly spent most of his life in Potomac, Maryland. He'll graduate cum laude with Honors, earning a degree in English with a concentration in Literature. After graduation, he plans to pursue a Masters degree and if all goes according to plan, a PhD. As a student in the Honors College, he completed a thesis on Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, under the mentorship of Dr. McMahand and Dr. Attié. He would like to thank them both, as well as Dr. Fehskens, the late Dr. Lawrence, the staff of the English Department and Honors College, and his family and friends for supporting and encouraging him through his time at Towson University.

Lucy Saper

Lucy Madaline Saper will graduate with a degree in Art + Design with a concentration in Painting, Drawing, and Print making and in the Honors College. Lucy plans to continue her independent art and animation business and teach art. Lucy was on the Dean's List every semester. She was awarded the Provost's Scholarship, Art Department Scholarship, Ro and Marcus P. Johnson Endowment Scholarship Award, a Kaplan Travel Grant, Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry Travel Award, and also an Honors College Scholarship. At Towson, Lucy also had a Springboard Dive Team (Division 1) Scholarship. She has been in five exhibition in Towson and Baltimore, and hopes to continue to exhibit and work professionally in art and animation.

Makaylie Doody

Makaylie Doody is an aspiring artist born and raised in Frederick, Maryland, earning her degree in Electronic Media and Film. After graduation, Makaylie hopes to work for the entertainment industry, bringing her stories to life on screen for an audience of all ages. Makaylie studied abroad in both Ireland and Japan during her time at Towson and participated in Lambda Kappa Tau with her fellow film students as well as the Honors College. Makaylie's fondest memories include sneaking Dave the cat into the Towson sound booth to create lifelike animal sounds for her final project and late night film shoots with her closest friends. Makaylie would like to deeply thank the Honors college for challenging her academically, providing her with scholarships, and allowing her to meet lifelong friends.

Michael Harris

Michael Harris hails from Frederick, Maryland, and he will graduate from Towson University's Honors College with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science via the NSA/DHS-recognized Cyber Operations track and a minor in Political Science. In his time at Towson, he was a member of the National Society of Black Engineers and the Undergraduate Research Club, and he was in the inaugural class of the Honorables of Color. Michael has also served Towson's Department of Housing and Residence Life as both a Community Center Assistant and Community Center Manager. In his two years with HRL, he earned the Tubman House MVP Award and contended for the CCM of the Year Award. After graduation, Michael will pursue his Master's in Security Policy Studies at George Washington University. After his time at George Washington, Michael hopes to enter the Intelligence Community as an Intelligence Analyst. He would like to thank Dr. Kelleher, Dr. Sivey, and Dr. Clark for their wisdom in the intersection between technology and policy and their unwavering support throughout his academic career.

Morrisa Bussie

My name is Morrisa Bussie and I am from Upper Marlboro, Maryland. I will be receiving a Bachelors degree in Information Technology. My time at TU has been nothing short of transformative. As an Undergraduate Research Assistant in the SecOps Research Team, I had the incredible opportunity to be part of the pioneering Alpha team—the very first research team in our department. One of the highlights of my academic journey was being nominated and voted as the Honors College Banner Carrier at the 2023 Fall Fisher College of Science & Math Graduate Commencement. Making the dean's list for four consecutive semesters was a proud moment for me. Looking forward, I'm excited about what the future holds. With a recent certification in Scrum and Agile Framework, I'm on the lookout for a job that aligns with my expertise and interests. I'm also carving out time to focus on my creative dreams—acting and writing. Beyond that, I'm planning to continue my collaboration with TU's Office of Competitive Fellowships and Awards as I gear up for the Fulbright application process. My ultimate goal is to pursue a Masters in Business Management and continue growing as a leader in my field.

Swadha Bhatt

Swadha Bhatt is from Abingdon, MD will graduate in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics with a minor in Biology and Computer Science. She is an accelerated master's student who will continue her graduate computer science education at Towson while working part-time as a Data Scientist for the US Army. During her time at Towson, Swadha completed research under the guidance of Dr. Ana Soto and received The Jess and Mildred Fisher College of Science and Mathematics (FCSM) Undergraduate Research Grant for her work. She also had the opportunity to present her research findings at the Gibbs Conference on Bio thermodynamics. Swadha served as secretary of the South Asian Student Association, a webmaster for the Tri-Beta Biological Honors Society, and a member of the Data Science Club. Swadha would like to thank her parents, God, friends, and advisors for their guidance and encouragement throughout the last four years. The unwavering support that she had received from the faculty at Towson is unparalleled and Swadha could not be more grateful for those that have helped her along the way.

Walter Donoughe

Walter Donoughe is a native of Ellicott City, MD, and will graduate with Latin Honors earning a degree in political science with minors in economics and international studies. During his time as an undergraduate, Walter held multiple leadership positions on campus, including Honors College Student Director, Editor-in-Chief for the TU Journal of International Affairs, founding Vice President of the John Quincy Adams Society, Political Science Teaching Assistant (Bureau Chief), and Ambassador for Dr. Nancy Grasmick's TU Women's Leadership Collective. Walter also volunteered for civic engagement roles like Student Ambassador for the United Nations Academic Impact, Student Representative for the TU Votes Committee, and Student Coach for the TU-BCPS Model United Nations Conference. Walter earned numerous recognitions at TU; he was a nominee for the Vice President of Student Affairs Award, won the Audience Choice Award at the Fall 2021 Celebration of Scholarship and Learning, and received a travel grant to present research at the Northeast Regional Honors Council Conference in Pittsburgh.

Off-campus, Walter served as the Communications Director for the re-election campaign of MD State Senator Katie Fry Hester and interned with Providence Strategies, a boutique political consulting firm in Annapolis, MD. Following graduation, Walter will join Providence Strategies as a full-time associate before pursuing a graduate or law degree. Walter would like to thank his family, friends, and mentors for their support throughout his undergraduate career. "

Spring 2024 Graduates

Abigail Paul

Abigail Grace Paul, hailing from Columbia, Maryland, will complete her bachelor's degree in nursing this May. Immersed in the diverse and rigorous courses of the Honors College, she gained invaluable global perspectives that she eagerly anticipates applying to her nursing practice. Her passion for teaching blossomed unexpectedly while serving as a supplemental instructor for second-semester nursing students, igniting a profound love for the role.

Post-graduation, Abigail aims to specialize in caring for critically ill patients with neurological diseases. With aspirations to pursue a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and return to Towson University to teach, she envisions molding the next generation of nurses in clinical practice. Abigail deeply valued the sense of community within Douglass House and among the Honorables of Color. Grateful for the encouragement to challenge norms and embrace creativity, she extends heartfelt thanks to the Honors College staff and professors.

Lastly, Abigail expresses profound gratitude to her parents for their unwavering support and guidance, recognizing that her journey to becoming the woman she is today would not have been possible without them.

Abigail Zaversnik

Abby Zaversnik will graduate with a degree in psychology with a minor in French. She appreciates the honors college and their helpfulness in the college experience.

Aja Baruti

Aja Baruti is a Price George's County native. She will earn her degree in Sociology and Anthropology with a Concentration in Criminal Justice. After graduation, Aja will take a gap year before attending law school. During her gap year, she will work within the legal field to gain more experience in the field and prepare her application for submission to law school. Aja has appreciated to opportunity to be an Honors College Orientation Leader. She has, also, appreciated the connections she has made while living and working in Douglass House.

Alicia Anthony

Alicia Anthony is earning a degree in Mass Communication, along with a minor in marketing. While at TU, Alicia managed being president of both the American Advertising Federation and American Marketing Association. Regarding employment, she's served as the Marketing Manager of Campus Rec since her freshman year, has worked as an assistant for the Department of Mass Communication for two years and balanced 5 internships through college. In addition, she has been recognized as one of the top multicultural students in the country by the American Advertising Federation, selected as an 2023 IRTS Fellow, and been awarded a scholarship for being one of the most promising Mass Communication students. Alicia has also placed in the top 10 in the College of Business & Economics' Strategic Sales Competition 3 consecutive times. She would like to thank her advisors, her supervisors and several mentors for their help and support throughout her college career.

Annie Keele

Annie Keele hails from Bel Air, Maryland, and will graduate summa cum laude, earning a degree in Cell and Molecular Biology. After graduation, Annie plans to pursue medical school. Annie was a member of the field hockey team, studied abroad in Australia and New Zealand, and was a Hill-Lopes Scholar. She would like to thank all of the staff at the Honors College and her family for all of their support throughout her time at TU.

Arjun Singh

Arjun Singh is set to graduate with a degree in Computer Science, fueled by an unwavering passion for mathematics. Throughout his academic journey, he has seamlessly integrated his passion for numbers into his studies, demonstrating a remarkable aptitude for complex problem-solving and analytical thinking. His dedication to his field has not gone unnoticed, as evidenced by the opportunity he was given to assist mathematic professors with grading papers of assignments, quizzes, and exams, where his meticulous attention to detail and depth of understanding have been proven invaluable. He was also given an opportunity to work as a mathematic tutor in the tutoring and learning center department. He plans to work after graduation to gain more experience in industry, most preferably in a federal position. He would like to thank all his tutor colleagues, professors, family, and friends.

Austin Raymond

Austin Raymond hails from Walled Lake, Michigan, and will graduate with his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with a concentration in Actuarial Science & Risk Management, and a minor in Computer Science. After graduation, and before working as an Actuarial Analyst at Deloitte Consulting in Chicago, Austin will pursue short-term post-graduate studies at the University of Cambridge and HEC Paris. With a keen interest in Property & Casualty (P&C) insurance, Austin has held P&C actuarial internships with Travelers Insurance, Arch Insurance, Verisk Analytics, and Deloitte Consulting. To recognize his academic achievement and industry involvement, Austin has received scholarship awards from numerous organizations including The Actuarial Foundation, Spencer Educational Foundation, International Association of Black Actuaries, Wholesale & Specialty Insurance Association, National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, American Academy of Actuaries, and many others. At Towson, Austin has served as the Public Relations Officer for the Actuarial Science & Risk Management Club and the Data Analytics & Visualization Group. Austin strives to live up to the Jesuit motto of being "A Man for Others" through his passion project called "The Banneker Theorem," spreading awareness to the history and legacy of blacks in the mathematical sciences, and inspiring young people to pursue mathematical and actuarial careers.

Briana DeMarcy

Briana DeMarcy will graduate with a bachelor's degree in nursing. Following graduation, she plans to travel to Iceland for sightseeing and hiking before commencing her new role as a registered nurse at Johns Hopkins Neurosciences Critical Care Unit. Throughout her undergraduate journey, Briana actively engaged in campus life, serving as a peer mentor at the Hussman Center, a supplemental instruction leader for the College of Health Professions, Vice President of her sorority, and a member of Towson University's Student Nurses Association. She presented her nursing internship and research on sedation strategies in the ICU at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning, where she received the audience choice award in the internship category. Briana extends her gratitude to her family, friends, Honors faculty and staff, and the nursing department for their unwavering support over the past four years.

Britney Whittington

Britney Whittington was born in Germany and moved to Maryland with her family when she was 2 years old. Britney will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Software Engineering concentration, and a minor in Astronomy. After graduation, Britney will start a summer internship with Space Telescope Science Institute, where she will help develop software for the Hubble and James Webb Space Telescopes. She then plans on pursuing a job that will allow her to combine her love for programming, astronomy, and art. During her time at Towson University, she helped refurbish and operate Towson's 16" Telescope, putting together a software suite that controls the telescope. She did summer research with Dr. Neda Saeedloei and attended Astro Scholars, an astrophysics mini-course with STScI. She was the president of the TU Astronomical Society and became a member of Sigma Pi Sigma, the Physics & Astronomy Honor Society. She was the recipient of the Maryland Space Grant and the L. Melvin Roberts Scholarship. Britney was also a Hill-Lopes Scholar, a program that proudly supports women in STEM. She would like to thank the Hill-Lopes Scholar Program and everyone who supported her throughout her college career.

Cassandra Phillips

Cassandra (Cassie) Phillips will graduate with a degree in mass communication, public relations, and advertising and a minor in marketing. After graduation, Cassie plans to work as a Marketing Coordinator at Maxim Healthcare Services, where she has worked as an intern the past year. Throughout college, Cassie involved herself in a variety of student organizations including the American Marketing Association, Order of Omega Honor Society, and Kappa Delta Sorority where she served as President and Vice President. Cassie was recognized this year as an outstanding senior in the Department of Mass Communication. Throughout her time at TU, she was also the recipient of the Elizabeth Wainio Memorial Communications Scholarship Endowment, Dr. Wolfgang Fuchs Memorial Essay Prize, and Kappa Delta M. Amanda Gordon Scholarship. She would like to thank Dr. Cooney for his continuous support throughout her Honors College experience, as well as her friends and family for always pushing her to strive for excellence.

Chaz Edwards

Chaz Edwards is from Fort Washington, MD, and will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in psychology. After graduation, Chaz plans to gain more research and internship experience for his future career choice of becoming a counseling psychologist. Even though Chaz was here for 2 years, he greatly enjoyed his experience at Towson University and is highly thankful for those who helped him along his journey. During his time in The Honors College here at Towson University, he most appreciated his seminar classes because of the topics they covered, such as shipwrecks, biology in pop culture, and interpreting the Book of Genesis. Chaz would like to thank the Honors College staff, professors, family, friends, and peers for helping him thrive in this program.

Chidimma Obeleagu

Chidimma Obeleagu grew up in Prince George's County, Maryland, and will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in biology. After graduation, Chidimma plans on taking a gap year before applying to medical school programs. She has studied abroad in San José, Costa Rica, and received the TU Honors College Study Abroad Scholarship and TU Institutional Diversity Study Abroad Scholarship to do so. Chidimma Obeleagu received the Leadership for the Public Good Summer Fellowship to conduct research. She also completed a summer internship with the Baltimore City Health Department. She has served the community by volunteering with the Catholic Charities of Baltimore and the Cool Kids Campaign Foundation. At Towson, she was the co-president of Not Your Granny's Book Club and fundraising chair of Honorables of Color. She was an Honors Orientation Mentor and a College Readiness Outreach Program (CROP) Mentor. She would like to thank her mentors, Dr. Gitter, and Dr. McDougal for all their guidance, and her family, and friends for all their support.

Christina Anyalewechi

Christina Anyalewechi hails from Rosedale, Maryland, and will graduate with summa cum laude, earning a bachelor's degree in Healthcare Management with a minor in Business Administration. After graduation, Christina either plans to continue her education to gear up for Dental school through shadowing and obtaining experience in dental offices. Furthermore, she plans to start a job/internship surrounding Medicare and social justice. What she appreciated most about the Honors College were the various opportunities and programs that catered toward advancing her education and career. Christina is a part of the pre-dental club, Delight Ministries, and was a constant recipient of the Dean's Award, Delegate Scholarship and Senatorial Scholarship. She would like to thank the Honors College staff for their support and encouragement throughout her college career.

Colin Mullican

Colin Mullican hails from Carroll County, Maryland, and will graduate with a degree in Computer Science as a part of the Cyber Operations track. He hopes to start a career in cybersecurity in the private sector, and pursue a postgraduate education in the future. During his time at Towson, Colin became an active member in the Cyber Defense Club and participated in several significant cybersecurity competitions hosted around the country. He appreciated the challenging and insightful courses offered by the Honors College, as well as its outstanding and caring professors. Colin would like to thank his professors in the Honors College and in the Department of Computer & Information Sciences, as well as his family and all of his friends he met during his time at Towson University.

Daniel Szczepaniak

Daniel Szczepaniak, Jr. is a first generation college student that hails from Essex, Maryland and will graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science. What he appreciated most about the Honors College is the intimate classroom environment and the interesting course options offered. He would like to thank his professors and most importantly his family for helping throughout his college career.

Danylle Otteni

Danylle Otteni from Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, will graduate with honors earning a degree in biology, with a concentration in molecular and cellular biology, as well as a minor in psychology. After college Danylle plans to go on to her MS in genetic counseling in Pediatrics and Oncology. While at TU, she completed research working with genetically engineered mice to evaluate changes in antibody production, this research could be used for the future of vaccines for immunosuppressed individuals. She has gotten many opportunities to present this research including the chance to give an oral presentation at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research (NCUR), she also won an award for her research presentation at the Spring 2024 Honors College Celebration of Scholarship and Learning. She would like to thank everyone in her research lab, especially her research mentor Dr. Harberts, as well as the professors who helped her throughout her college career.

Eber Guzman-Cruz

Eber Guzman-Cruz is a Rockville, Maryland native, graduating summa cum laude with a degree in cellular and molecular biology with minors in public health and MB3. After graduation, Eber will start his cancer research fellowship at the National Cancer Institute before eventually applying to MD-PhD programs as he aspires to pursue a career as a physician-scientist. During his time at Towson, he has served as the following: Honors College Orientation Mentor; Honors College Recruitment Officer; tutor for the science & mathematics departments; teaching assistant; and a mentor for the CROP program to help underrepresented students enroll in college. Among these activities, Eber has won numerous awards/recognitions such as Maryland's Honors College Student of the Year from the Maryland Honors Collegiate Council Conference, 1st place research project at Celebration of Scholarship & learning, and recipient of the URCI Research Impact & Advanced Research Grant to support his undergraduate research work. He also helped publish a paper in a dermatology journal to bring awareness to side effects associated with commonly prescribed medications. He would thank the whole Honors College staff/faculty, his mentor Dr. John Weldon, his family, friends, and professors for their un wavering support.

Elianna Albert

Elianna Albert hails from Baltimore, MD and will graduate earning a degree in Psychology and International Studies. After graduation, Elianna hopes to pursue a career in public service. Elianna studied abroad in Israel on an archeological dig Summer 2024, Managing Editor for the Psychology Department's bulletin, PSYC Insight, interned and worked at the Study Abroad & Away Office, and served as a student ambassador for incoming international students. She would like to thank the wonderful staff at the Honors College, her mentor Dr. Joseph Clark, and her family for supporting her throughout her time at Towson.

Elijah Clarke

Elijah Clarke is from Prince George's County, Maryland and will graduate cum laude with a degree in political science. After graduation, he will pursue a career in public policy research and political advocacy. While completing courses at Towson, Elijah interned at the Maryland General Assembly, where he collaborated with state public officials to push forward legislation concerning pressing environmental issues such as forest and land conservation and the use of clean energy. He went on to work at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society where he promoted efforts to expand healthcare access and improve resources for people with disabilities. Elijah was involved on campus as well, as he participated on the service committee in the Honors College Leadership Council. He would like to express his gratitude towards Professor Elfreth, Dr. Sillah, and his family for their tremendous support and mentorship during his time at Towson.

Elisabeth Maddox

Elisabeth Maddox, a Harford County native, will graduate with a Bachelors in Nursing with plans to become an intensive care nurse serving Maryland's vulnerable populations. Elisabeth is a proud member of Towson's nursing school and completed research about palliative care in nursing and was named as the representative of the honors college for spring commencement. She would like to thank the honors college and college of health professions faculty as well as her family and friends for their continued support throughout her college career and their continued belief in her success.

Elizabeth McMillan

Elizabeth (Lizzie) McMillan was born and raised just inside Baltimore, Maryland, and will graduate from Towson summa cum laude with a degree in Biology. After graduating, Lizzie plans to start teaching science in the Baltimore County Public School system. What Lizzie appreciated the most about being in the Honors college were the small honors college class sizes that allowed her to make and deepen friendships with her classmates, get to know the wonderful professors, and have deep intellectual discussions about the course content. She would like to thank all of the Honors college faculty and staff, her fellow students, and her family for helping her to not just make it through but to thrive in her college career.

Emily Spencer

Emily Spencer from Chestertown, Maryland will graduate this Spring, May 2024, earning a degree in Biology and Interdisciplinary Studies: Animal Behavior. After graduation, Emily plans to pursue a career with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, educating the general public on the importance of conservation and protecting the wildlife within the state. During her undergraduate, Emily interned at Plumpton Park Zoo as an Animal Caretaker and Environmental Educator. She was a member of the Marching Band and became the Piccolo Music and Marching SMAC, a sister of Tau Beta Sigma and served as their Secretary, and performed piccolo in the Pep Band and flute in the Wind Ensemble. Emily would like to thank her professors, advisors, friends, and family for supporting and guiding her throughout her college career.

Erica Wattanarungsikajorn

Erica is from Columbia, Maryland, and will be graduating cum laude with a B.S. in Geology and a minor in Japanese. She plans to return soon to earn an M.S. in Environmental Science. Despite the response to COVID-19, Towson has provided opportunities to be a part of a community, gain experience, and meet different kinds of people. From being part of the TU Symphony Orchestra for a time, to working alongside Honors colleagues, and to working as a research assistant, she is grateful for how colorful the road has been, regardless of the bumps and faults. Erica would

like to thank her friends, family, the Japanese Language and Geosciences faculty, and her rabbit, for supporting her journey throughout higher education. She will not be taking their kindness, warmth, and passion for granite.

Faith Brennan

Faith Brennan is from Clarksville, Maryland, and will graduate magna cum laude with a degree in Sociology and a minor degree in Women's and Gender Studies. After graduation, she will get a full-time job so that she can take some time to focus on her passions and hobbies, like film photography and astrology. While at Towson, Faith studied abroad in England for two weeks and completed an internship as a personal assistant. Her favorite part of being in the Honors College was the chance to choose challenging, thought-provoking classes offered only for Honors students. She would like to thank her parents for giving her the opportunity to go to college and believing in her.

Feonil Limiac

Feonil Limiac was born in Angeles City, Philippines and raised in Baltimore, MD. He will graduate with a degree in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics. Throughout his studies, he was a constant Dean's lister. After graduation, he will work at the NIH-NIDA in an In-Vivo Electrophysiology Unit. What he appreciates about the Honors College are the peers in his classes. Feonil is an active researcher in Dr. Sivey's lab, presenting several posters on two main projects. He would like to thank his Honors College advisors, Dr. John Sivey, and his family for motivating him throughout his college career.

Georgette George

Georgette George from Frederick Maryland will be graduating with a 3.5 GPA in Law and American civilization with a minor in business law. After graduation, she plans to attend Penn State Dickinson School of Law to purse a JD. With her JD, she hopes to promote wealth equality and equity in marginalized communities. What she appreciated most about being in The Honors College were seminar courses. Georgette had to opportunity to hear from many of her classmates and this shaped her worldview. She will forever most grateful for the deep and thoughtful discussions that made her the woman she is today!

Glory Omodia

Glory Omodia was born in Nigeria and moved to the United States at 15 to continue her education. She will be graduating with honors this spring earning a degree in Biology. After graduation she plans to start a PhD program at Boston University where she will earn her doctorate in Neuroscience. During her time at Towson, she was actively involved in research and was able to present her work at numerous conferences like the American Association for Immunologists (AAI), Annual Biomedical research conference for Minoritized students (ABRCMS), and American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) while also presenting at Towson during the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning (CSL), Falling for research symposium and the Research creative inquiry forum. She also completed an undergraduate honors thesis on her research in the lab of Dr. Erin Harberts. Glory was a member of the Hill-Lopes Scholars program and the president of Beta Beta Beta Biological Honors Society (TriBeta) while also being involved in a few other STEM clubs. She worked as a Resident Assistant in her last two years, a student ambassador for the Office of Competitive Fellowship and Awards (OCFA) and part of the Undergraduate FCSM council. Glory would like to thank her family, mentors and the Hill-Lopes scholars program for their unwavering support and love.

Hannah De Groff

Hannah De Groff, a student from Ellicott City, will graduate magna cum laude with a degree in Cell and Molecular Biology with a minor in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics (MB3). She won first place at the Honors College Celebration of Scholarship and Learning for her presentation of the work she did at her internship with the "Lost Towns Project." She also completed an internship at the Maryland Department of Health where she worked in their microbiology lab. Hannah was a board member of Towson University's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, as a freshman, and later was a member of Beta Beta Beta, the Biological Honor Society. After graduation, she plans to pursue a MS. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support throughout her undergraduate career.

Hannah Herman

Hannah Herman, hailing from West Chester, Pennsylvania, is poised to graduate with honors, earning a degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. She will begin her career with Aetna, a CVS Health Company, as a Group Retiree Associate Broker Manager. Throughout her tenure at Towson University, she was a member of the American Marketing Association and held leadership positions within her sorority, Zeta Tau Alpha, including Panhellenic Delegate and Chapter Assessment Program Chair. Her undergraduate career is also distinguished by several impactful internships, including positions at companies such as Warner Bros. Discovery, CVS Health, LINQ, and Chartwells Higher Education. Moreover, a noteworthy achievement includes placing 1st in the College of Business and Economics Strategic Sales competition. Hannah also enriched her academic experience by studying abroad in Barcelona, Spain, during the Spring 2022 semester. Hannah wants to express her gratitude to all her professors at Towson University, as well as her friends and family, for their support and guidance throughout her college career.

Jacob Stanley

Jacob Stanley is a Chesapeake, Virginia native, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in environmental science with a biology concentration alongside two minors: climate, weather, and society and mathematics. Initially enrolling in Towson University for mathematics, Jacob was very mathematically oriented but realized after three years that his passion was more than just numbers. It expanded to include sustainability practices and working towards a more promising future environmentally. After graduation, he plans to enter a career involving stormwater management hoping to contribute to creative, sustainable solutions. During his time at Towson University, he played viola in the Towson University Symphony Orchestra and is grateful for the opportunity as a non-music major. Jacob would like to thank all his professors, his family, and his wonderful partner for being supportive and encouraging of his academic journey these last five years.

Jacquelyn Amaya

Jacquelyn Amaya, a Baltimore native, will graduate with a degree in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics. After graduation, Jacquelyn will continue working with Dr. Bonnie Arroyo, an oral maxillofacial surgeon, as a surgical assistant while studying for the Dental Admissions Test as she prepares for dental school. She appreciates how the honors college provided courses allowing for more in-depth conversations about important topics.

Jayla Lowery

Jayla Lowery is a x4 TU scholarship recipient and will graduate with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing. After graduation, Jayla plans to return to her home state, New Jersey, to launch her passion for public health and women and infants into a career as a labor and delivery registered nurse. One of her biggest takeaways from Towson were her roles as second vice president and chaplain of the National Council of Negro Women where she participated in numerous community service events, and fostered sisterhood and fellowship among the organization. Another meaningful takeaway was her externship working as a Labor and Delivery Nurse Extern at Medstar Harbor Hospital in Baltimore in which she had the opportunity to work and train alongside nurses to care for mothers and newborn infants. She would like to express her utmost gratitude to her parents, Rodney, and Kim Lowery, for their unconditional love, support, and relentless sacrifice throughout her college career.

Jiala Devine

Jiala 'Jai' Devine comes from Hagerstown Maryland and transferred from Iona College in New Rochelle New York. Jai will be graduating with a degree in Computer Science with a focus in Software Engineering. At Towson Jai was the Honors Student Director of programming for two years and a member of the Center for Student Diversity Office as an assistant and assistant researcher on gender and sexuality in the Black community. Jai went on to research Human Bias in emerging Artificial intelligence and the overlooked Queer history of Baltimore. Jai enjoyed spending time with new Honors students to help them adjust to life in University. Jai received the SGA Pride award for their work in the LGBTQ+ community on and off campus. Jai would like to thank their family, peers, and mentors for guiding the way.

Jocelyn Mundy

Jocelyn Mundy transferred to TU from American University in Fall 2022. She comes from Prince George's County and will graduate with a Bachelors of Science in Psychology. After graduation she plans to work in the field of psychology to continue her education then get her masters in Counseling psychology to become a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. While at TU she made Dean's List two consecutive times, worked two jobs, an internship at Kennedy Kreiger Institute and participated in extracurriculars on campus. Her goal it is to work with children, adolescents, and families. What she appreciated about being in the Honors College was working with people who wanted to see her succeed and the community that she has. She would like to thank Dr. McCartney and Dr. Elliot along with all the Psychology department staff for helping and encouraging her to do well throughout her career.

Jordan Baber

Jordan Baber is a graduating Honors student, earning her degree in History Secondary Education. She hopes to find a job in the school system where she grew up and did her student teaching. She has enjoyed the opportunities the Honors College has provided her with, including conducting research on topics that will be relevant to her teaching career, such as the use of social media in the classroom and teacher burnout. She would like to thank the Honors College for also providing her the opportunity to share her research at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning, where she received an audience choice award for her research on social media in the classroom. Finally, she would like to thank all her professors, both in the Honors College and College of Education for their continued support!

Jordan McConville

Jordan McConville, (Annapolis, MD), is a graduating senior at Towson University's Honors College, where she majors in International Studies and minors in Political Science. For the past two years, she has worked as a Tutor at the Writing Center and as a Resident Assistant in Douglass House. Heavily involved in undergraduate research, she concentrates on terrorism, non-state actors, human rights, and national security. In Spring 2022, the Towson Journal of International Affairs published her analysis of Kurdish sovereignty, entitled ""The Issue of Kurdish Sovereignty: Why a Kurdish State Developed from the Kurdish Regional Government is Impossible." Most recently, she examined the impact of human trafficking by ISIS on detainee repatriation from Northeast Syria which she presented at the Northeast Regional Honors Council Conference in Albany, NY. In March, she was the first undergraduate Keynote Speaker for the TU-BCPS Model UN Conference, and in April, she attended the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference. Upon graduation, Jordan will join BGR Group, an international lobbying firm in Washington D.C., as a clerk. She would like to thank the entire staff of the Honors College, Drs. McCartney, Dr. Clark, and Dr. Rook, for all of their support throughout her college experience.

Josephine Stahl

Josephine Stahl is a graduating Honors College student from Rockville, Maryland. She will earn her B.S. in English with a concentration in creative writing, a degree she intends to use in the publishing industry. Highlights of her experience as a Towson University student include three years in the Towson University Marching band, a semester abroad in Ireland and a winter term in Japan, and working as head fiction editor for the 2023 edition of Towson's literary magazine Grub Street. There are many things she will miss from her time at Towson, the campus printing stations notably not among them. She would like to thank her parents, for their emotional and financial support over the last four years, and her sister, for regularly sharing her Tiger meals so Josie didn't starve before she could graduate.

Josiah Nuguid

Josiah Nuguid grew up in Laurel, Maryland by way of Baguio City, Philippines and will graduate later this month, earning a degree in Speech Language-Pathology & Audiology. After graduation, Josiah plans on attending Graduate School at Towson University of his Masters in Speech-Language Pathology. During his tenure in the Honor's College, Josiah appreciated the various Honors seminars in literature, politics, & other topics as well as his relationships with professors and other students. He made Dean's list for numerous semesters. Josiah would like to thank all of the staff at Towson University, his peers, and most importantly, his family for helping him through his undergraduate journey.

Julia Murphy

Jullianne Nicole Guevarra

Jullianne Nicole Arboleda Guevarra from Manila, Philippines, graduating with a degree in Psychology. After graduation, Jullianne plans on pursuing a career in Clinical Psychology at Sheppard Pratt. What she appreciated during her Honors College career is the diversity of Honors Seminar and the challenging yet rewarding coursework that was offered to her. She would like to thank her advisor, professors, and most importantly her family that pushed her to be her very best during her college career.

Kai Merriman

Kai Merriman grew up in Bowie, Maryland and will graduate Summa Cum Laude, with a degree in Exercise Science. Following graduation, Kai will be attending the Doctor of Physical Therapy program at the University of Maryland Baltimore in the Summer of 2024. What Kai valued the most as an Honors College student was the supportive and engaging community it provided. Whether Kai got to know fellow Honors College students through events held in Douglass House, through presenting research, or through Honors College classes, all of these opportunities enhanced her college experience. Kai took part in research under the guidance of Dr. Landers-Ramos for two years and was a coauthor on a publication. Kai was also a recipient of the Research Impact Award in 2022, and presented the research in the Maryland Gerontological Association Meeting in 2023, as well as in many other on campus events throughout her time there. Outside of research, Kai was a Writing Center Tutor and Community Center Assistant. For fun, she became very involved in Tigers on the Rocks and the Student Environmental Organization. Through the Honors College and everything Towson University had to offer; Kai is certain that she has been set up for success.

Kaija Harlow

Kaija Harlow grew up in Aurora, Illinois, and will graduate suma cum laude, earning a degree in Biology (concentration: Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation) and Animal Behavior with a minor in Spanish. After graduation, Kaija will pursue a PhD in Human Paleobiology at the George Washington University, studying in the Primate Behavioral Ecology lab. While at Towson, Kaija worked as a Writing Center tutor, studied abroad in the Galápagos Islands, was President of the Animal Behavior Club and Treasurer of Towson's Spanish Honor Society, and completed multiple research projects, spanning from estimating the population of state-endangered species to better understanding the limits of canine cognition. Kaija received the undergraduate TU Research Impact Award, the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, the Towson Biology Scholarship Endowment Award, the TU Institutional Diversity Study Abroad Scholarship, and the Towson FCSM Undergraduate Research Grant. She would like to thank her family, friends, the Honors College faculty and staff, her mentor Dr. Kimble, and all of the professors she has had throughout her experience at Towson for their invaluable support and guidance.

Katherine Cook

Katherine Cook comes from Rosedale, Maryland and will graduate with a degree in Art History and Art+Design and a minor in Museum Studies. She plans on continuing her studies at CCBC and, eventually, attending Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation at the Winterthur Museum and University of Delaware. At Towson, she enjoyed making friends of all ages across campus and creating emotional and impactful art. Katherine would like to thank all the staff at the Honors College and Art Department for helping her throughout her college experience.

Katherine Dreiss

Katherine Dreiss is from Annapolis Maryland, and will graduate cum laude, earning a degree in psychology. After graduation, Katherine is attending Loyola University in Maryland to receive her Master's in Clinical Professional Counseling. From there, Katherine has plans to become an LGPC and eventually an LCPC in the state of Maryland. What Katherine enjoyed the most about her Honors College experience were the friends she made through her classes. Katherine was a member of the Clinical Area of Focus undergraduate program, working under Dr. Mattanah and Dr. Brand, to gain more clinical skills for her future career. While in this program, Katherine interned at Key Point Health services, working with adults with serious mental illnesses. Katherine also worked within the Laboratory of Comparative Neuropsychology under Dr. Devan, helping research Alzheimer's disease, and presented at Towson University's Student Research and Creative Inquiry Forum with her fellow lab mates. While on campus, Katherine was a member of Psi Chi and Alpha Kappa Delta. She would like to thank her professors, friends, and family for always supporting her throughout her education and life changes.

Kelley Garrison

Kelley Jane or "KJ" Garrison of Leonardtown, Maryland, will be graduating from the College of Health Professions with a bachelor's of science and a major in nursing. She participated in the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning event both her junior and senior years and won 1st place in the Internship category for her senior internship project "A Day in the PACU". After graduation she will begin her job as an RN at University of Maryland Hospital main campus in Baltimore on the Surgical Acute Unit. There, she will be enrolled in a new graduate program where she will continue her education for the following year. She plans to continue on with her education and get her Doctorate of Nursing with a specialty in psychiatry.

Kristin D'Souza

Kristin D'Souza was raised in Rockville, MD and will graduate from Towson University in May 2024. Kristin will earn two degrees: (1) Business Systems & Processes and (2) Business Administration with a track in Project Management & Business Analytics. Kristin continued her learning outside the classroom with certifications, an internship, and club activities. Kristin joined the Data Analytics & Visualization Group (DAVG) and SAP Student User Group to expand her skillset. Kristin served DAVG as the Fundraising Chair, Vice President, and President. Kristin learned many skills by teaching her members data skills. She always thrived to provide resources to assist her members in entering the data industry and connect her club to the greater Towson community. She led fundraising events that helped local thrift stores and partnered with companies on campus like Aramark. Kristin worked to improve her personal leadership skills to better serve her members. She is involved in numerous leadership development and mentoring programs, including Dr. Nancy Grasmick's Leadership Institute, Tigers Lead, LeaderShape, MentHer, and MAPD. After graduation, Kristin plans to enter the workforce with her interest in leadership, data, operations, and accessibility. Kristin would like to thank her parents, executive board members, mentors, and advisors.

Lauren Asbury

Lauren Asbury, majoring in Anthropology and Spanish with a minor in International Studies, will graduate with Honors. Currently pursuing an Honors thesis titled "Clandestine Harm: The Lasting Impacts of Authoritarian Violence," her research centers around forensic anthropological pursuits in the interests of community autonomy. She has accumulated a number of awards at Towson University, including the William Michael Hogan & Dr. Dana Kollmann Student Professional Development in Compassionate Forensic Science Award, Most Distinguished Scholar in Anthropology, Distinguished Academic Excellence in Spanish, and the Honors Society Distinction Award in Spanish. She studied abroad in Ecuador in January 2023, later pursuing independent research in Spain in August 2023 at an active site excavating and identifying civilian remains from the Spanish Civil War. She is grateful for the support and foundations she has received here, with help from her mentors Dr. Kollmann, Dr. Fabricant, Dr. del Pozo, Paco, Dr. Devadas, and countless other members of the Towson community that have helped her to achieve her goals. After graduation, she plans to attend the George Washington University to pursue a Master's degree in Anthropology, continuing her research from her undergraduate career aiming to bring home the missing.

Leah Alkire

Leah Alkire is finally graduating! Leah is from Ellicott City, Maryland and will graduate with a degree in elementary education. After graduation, Leah will teach in Howard County Public Schools and eventually pursue a masters degree in English Language Learning. Leah's time at Towson was spent participating in numerous clubs and organizations, making her very busy. From vice-president of Hillel to president of Original Blend acapella, and treasurer of the Women's Club Soccer Team, Leah has enjoyed her involvement on campus. After aspiring to become a teacher her whole life, Ms. Alkire was nominated for the Maryland Teacher of Promise Award by her mentor Mrs. Miller for her dedication and passion for education. She would like to thank Mrs. Miller, her advisor Dr. Blake, her wonderful elementary mentor teachers, and her family for being a shoulder to lean on the past four years.

Leila Ibrahim

Leila Ibrahim, originally from Waldorf, Maryland, will be earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Post-graduation, she aims to join the Emergency Department at George Washington University Hospital. She values her experience in the honors college, particularly the enriching seminar classes that provided her with opportunities such as assisting an elementary teacher in Baltimore City. Leila expresses gratitude towards her advisors, Dr. Park & Dr. Brewer with whom she conducted extensive research on resilience and its impact on the health and well-being of older communities, as well as the organizational climate's influence on nurse well-being. Additionally, Leila served as the treasurer of the Muslim Student Association, playing a key role in its growth and development. She fondly recalls her time at Towson University as enjoyable and fulfilling.

Logan Turner-Mannix

Logan Turner-Mannix is earning his degree in electronics media and film. After graduation, Logan will be attending the Disney College Program in Florida. The Honors College offered Logan with many opportunities to interact with a diverse group of people and majors. He would like to thank his family and all the staff at Towson University that helped pave the way for him.

Lydia Miller

Lydia Miller is from Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, and will be graduating from Towson University with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Lydia is also a student-athlete at Towson as a member of the women's field hockey team. She will be fulfilling her dream of becoming a nurse after graduation at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital on the Pediatric Surgical Care Unit. She would like to thank her family for their commitment to her success and for the support they have shown throughout her years at Towson.

Makaelan Bond

Malik Barry

Malik Barry '24 is from Gaithersburg, MD and will be graduating with a degree in Political Science. After graduation Malik will be taking a gap year before pursuing a law degree with plans to pursue a career in corporate or criminal law. During Malik's time at Towson he served as the following: Honors College Student Director, President of Honors Civic Engagement Council, Ambassador of TU's Women's Leadership Collective, and Treasurer of Freshman Council. Among these activities, Malik has won numerous awards, scholarships, and accolades such as being the First Recipient of the Honorables of Color Scholarship and a recipient of the TU Institutional Diversity Study Abroad Scholarship. Malik studied abroad in France where he was able to garner the benefits of experiential learning. Malik would like to thank the Honors College faculty, his family, and Towson's academic community for their support and encouragement through the years.

Mary McDonald

Mary McDonald was born in Kansas City and will graduate from Towson University with Honors earning a degree in Biology. Following graduation, Mary will be working at the NIH Vaccine Research Center for a two year research oriented Postbacc. Following this wonderful opportunity, Mary plans on applying and attending medical school to pursue her dreams of becoming a physician. Mary was the Treasurer of the Premed club, a recipient of the Undergraduate Research Grant as well as presented her research at the Biophysical Science annual conference. She would like to thank her mentor, Dr.Tran-ba for his amazing guidance throughout the research process as well as several professors and staff who were crucial to her success along the way.

Maya Cobb

Maya Cobb hails from Severna Park, Maryland and will be graduating with Honors, earning a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with minors in Data Analytics and International Studies. Maya has earned Dean's List Honors numerous semesters while at Towson. During her time at Towson Maya completed four internships: T. Rowe Price, COPT Defense Properties, Maryland Mulch, and Kilma, Peters, and Daly Mid-Atlantic Law Group. Upon graduation, she plans to return to a full time job at T. Rowe Price in their Global Client Account Services department. While at Towson she participated in a semester long study abroad program in Barcelona, Spain. Maya was the recipient of the Study Abroad Diversity Scholarship as well as the Honors College Study Abroad Scholarship. In addition, she presented her study abroad experience at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning and received second place for her category. She would like to thank the Honors College for the opportunities they enabled her during her time at Towson as well as her family for always supporting her.

Mckenna Howells

Mckenna Howells comes from Ocean City, New Jersey, and will be earning a degree in Psychology. After graduation, Mckenna plans to gain a master's in either School or Industrial/Organizational Psychology where she can work with others to improve their school or work life. Mckenna served on the executive board of her sorority, Alpha Xi Delta. She also studied abroad in Austria and Hungary, interned at the Harbour School, and remained on the Dean's List every semester. Mckenna would like to thank her friends and family for all the support they have given her during her college years!

Melissa Rayo

Melissa Rayo will be graduating with a degree in English with a focus in creative writing. During her time at Towson University, Melissa was a member of the Towson University Marching Band for 3 seasons, playing flute and baritone. Through an Honors College course, she was also able to intern at The Belair-Edison Middle School under the Community School Coordinator for a semester. What she appreciates most about the Honors College is the freedom she was given to explore her interests. Since childhood, Melissa knew she wanted to write stories, and after completing a short story compilation for her Honors Thesis, she plans to continue her journey in writing. She would like to greatly thank her mentor, Thomas Bechtold, Honors College faculty, and her family and friends for all their help and support.

Morgan Hawkins

Morgan Hawkins, from Brandywine, Maryland, is graduating with a degree in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics. Morgan values the Honors College's encouragement to explore beyond Towson's campus and embracing diverse experiences.

One such experience was her participation in a study abroad program in Costa Rica. Inspired by her international experience and internship at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, Morgan is set to pursue a PhD in Comparative Biomedical Sciences. She's recognized for achievements such as the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program Award, Research Impact Award, Richard E. Burdette Scholarship and being a member in the Hill-Lopes Scholars Program at Towson University, highlighting her commitment to academic and diversity initiatives. Active in leadership roles like Secretary of the Towson University Pre-Vet Club and Vice-President of the Student Environmental Organization, Morgan demonstrates a passion for animal welfare and conservation. With lab experience managing the Towson's sugar glider lab and assisting in the axolotl lab, alongside participation in sports clubs such as the Equestrian Club Team, Morgan combines her love for animals with science, aiming to make a lasting impact in her field. She extends gratitude to her family, friends, and mentors for their support throughout her academic journey.

Mya Williams

Mya Williams is graduating cum laude, earning a degree in Sociology & Anthropology with a concentration in Sociology and a minor in Museum Studies. She has interned as a Museum Educator and Community Programming Assistant at Towson's Center for the Arts, and written a research paper titled Black Abstract Expressionism in Museums. Throughout her years at TU, she has won the Irwin Goldberg Award for Outstanding Achievement in Sociological Research and the Most Distinguished Scholar in Sociology award. She also served as a secretary to the TU Naturalists Club. She plans to intern as a museum educator or programmer at a black history institution. She'd like to thank the Honors College for its wonderful faculty and thought-provoking courses. She also thanks her family and friends for their endless love and support. She extends a special thanks to Dr. Chantal Francois, Stacy Arnold, and Dr. Michael Elliott.

N'Deye Walton

N'Deye Walton is from Anne Arundel County, MD and will graduate with Honors this spring, majoring in biology with a concentration in cellular, molecular, and organismal physiology. In her time at Towson, N'Deye has been an active leader, serving as treasurer for both the Naturalistas club and the Pre-vet club, as well as holding the role of vice president of One Accord Campus Ministries. N'Deye has set her sights on a career in animal research medicine and will be starting as an assistant in an animal research lab post-graduation as a stepping stone towards pursuing a Ph.D. in animal research medicine. N'Deye's commitment to advancing animal health and research is evident through her diverse experiences, including internships in equine rehabilitation, volunteer work at animal shelters, and shadowing at the Baltimore Zoo. Notably, her research contributions in the labs of Dr. Harald Beck and Dr. Renee Dickie have been recognized, earning her a first-place award for her study on axolotI tail regeneration at the 2023 Student Research Symposium. N'Deye extends her heartfelt appreciation to her professors and advisors for their support and guidance throughout her academic journey. She is also grateful to her friends and family for their encouragement and support.

Naomi Barnett

Naomi Barnett is from Upper Marlboro, MD. She will graduate earning her B.S. degree in Early Childhood Education. Throughout the undergraduate years, Naomi was awarded the Maryland Teaching Fellows full ride scholarship. After graduation, Naomi is excited to give back to her community by beginning her teaching career in Prince George's County. Naomi cherishes most from the Honors College the opportunities for leadership, the enriching classes, and her time living in Douglass House. Within the Honors College, Naomi has served as a Recruitment Officer, the College of Education Liaison, and a member of the Marketing Team and the Honors College Leadership Council. She presented her honors research at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning and the Student Research and Creative Inquiry Forum. During her time on campus, Naomi stayed active in the Towson community. She served as the president of Teachers of Towson, co-captain of Allure Dance Team, and was a member of the Women's Leadership Collective, and Intervarsity Campus Fellowship. Naomi had the esteemed honor of receiving the Francis T. Bond Distinguished Service Award last fall from the College of Education. She would like to thank God and her family and friends for their unwavering support during her college years.

NatalieFlanders

Natalie Flanders hails from Prince Frederick, Maryland, and will graduate cum laude, earning a degree in Mathematics: Secondary Education. After graduation, Natalie will begin her new job at a high school in Anne Arundel County teaching high school mathematics. During her time at Towson University, Natalie's biggest accomplishment was creating a podcast titled, "Mathematics Across the Writing Multiverse," and presenting her research on the perceptions Mathematics college student have regarding their writing and strategies that can aid in writing tutoring for Mathematics students at the IWCA Baltimore conference in October of 2023. She would like to thank all of the staff at the Honors College, her professors in the UTeach program, and her family for helping her throughout her college career.

Nathan Usi

Nathan Usi is from Eldersburg, Maryland, and will graduate summa cum laude, earning a degree in molecular biology, biochemistry, and bioinformatics with a minor in public health. After graduation, Nathan plans to complete a postbac research position in immunology and infectious disease before applying to graduate school. During his time at Towson, Nathan worked as a tutor at the Writing Center and the Tutoring and Learning Center. He studied abroad in Australia and New Zealand, conducted research on allergen immunotherapy, and received the TSEM Information Literacy Award. What he appreciated the most about the Honors College was the engaging and thought-provoking seminars. Nathan would like to thank his Honors professors, his family, and his friends for supporting him through the past few years. He would like to extend a special thanks to Dr. Harberts for her never-ending positivity, encouragement, and willingness to help.

Nawal Ali

Nawal's hometown is two hours south of here in Southern Maryland. Graduating Cum Laude, she has excelled as a double major in Business Analytics and Business Systems and Processes, while also distinguishing herself as a member of the Business Honors Society. Post-graduation, she aims to kickstart her career as a data analyst. Nawal has enjoyed her time in the Honors College, and greatly appreciates the exposure she's gotten to different disciplines, like art, psychology, and religious studies. She says that every professor was a delight to have and that she will look back fondly at her time with her Honors peers.

Nicholas Wynn

Nicholas Wynn is from Towson, Maryland. He will graduate from Towson University with degrees in Business Administration and Electronic Field Production. After graduation, Nick plans to continue learning technical skills of film production through working on sets and freelancing.

Nick enjoys music, staying active, and communication. He has been heavily involved with Tiger Toastmasters, a public speaking club on campus, crediting his peers and faculty advisor, Professor Quincy Johnson, for his development of professionalism and confidence throughout his time at TU.

Some of Nick's favorite Honors College experiences were Jazz History class with Professor James McFalls and Resonant 20th Century Ideas class with Dr. Terry Cooney. These classes exemplified how learning can be very enjoyable, and Nick is thankful that the Honors College has taught him that lesson."

Olasubomi Lawal

Olasubomi Lawal, also known as Subi Lawal, is from Edgewood, Maryland and will graduate with cum laude, with a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science. After graduation, Subi plans to work as a Software Engineer at Walmart Global Tech. The Honors College allowed him to meet many people of different backgrounds and with great personalities to help him reach his goals through college and post-graduation. He would like to thank all of the Honors College staff for their role in his ongoing success.

Olivia Brady

Olivia Brady comes from Annapolis, Maryland, and will be graduating with her degree in psychology with a minor in mass communication. After graduation, Olivia plans to get her master's in counseling psychology at the University of Baltimore. What she enjoyed the most about the Honors College were the opportunities it gave her and how helpful the advisors were. Olivia was a member of the Honors Society in Psychology Psi Chi, and won 2nd place at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning conference in the service-learning category for her research on students with ADHD. She would like to thank the Honors College staff, her professors, and her family for helping her make her college career so successful.

Owen Black

Owen Black grew up in Salisbury, Maryland and will be graduating from Towson University with a degree in Electronic Media and Film and a minor in Spanish. After graduation, Owen plans to seek corporate film work in the Baltimore area while fostering creative connections and applying for the English teaching assistantship grant, NALCAP, offered through the Ministry of Education of Spain. During his time at Towson, Owen directed three short films and one documentary, produced, and directed an independent research film, and volunteered on countless student sets in secondary roles. In addition, Owen marched snare drum with the TUMB, co-founded and lead the Towson University Music Collective, hosted the radio show "Peace, Love & Procrastination," and played drum kit for Towson rock band, Miss Mary Rose. Owen pursued various employment opportunities as an undergraduate, including his roles as resident assistant in Glen Complex and writing tutor for TU's Writing Center. Owen participated in the minimester study abroad trip to Ecuador in 2023, a highlight from his time at Towson University, and will become a published writer in the latest volume of TU's literary magazine, Grubstreet. Owen would like to thank his family, his co-workers in Tower D, his fellow musicians and drummers, and his professors that challenged him. Finally, Owen would like to thank his peers, collaborators and friends who brought him so much joy to his experience as an undergrad.

Parker Cross

Parker Cross will graduate from Towson with a double major in Family and Human Services and Deaf Studies and a minor in Political Science. She will be furthering her education at University of California - Los Angeles with plans to achieve a master's in social work. As a former Student Director of the Honors College, Parker prides herself in the quality connections she made with undergraduate students in mentoring them in experiential learning. Additionally, she took part in the Grasmick Women's Leadership Institute, Undergraduate Research Club, and the Political Science National Honors Society. With the help of Faculty Mentor Dr. Willis, Dr. K, and Dr. McCartney, Parker attended multiple conferences from Maryland to Puerto Rico, on research related to decision making regarding adoption choices in young adults. Parker is incredibly grateful for the opportunities she had at Towson to build a ladder of success and is eager to continue climbing this ladder in California, with the knowledge and tools she learned here. She thanks her mentors in the Honors College and the College of Liberal Arts and her family for consistently believing in her to achieve her goals and pursue her dreams.

Phoebe Calkins

Phoebe Calkins will graduate with a degree in Cell and Molecular Biology. Next fall, she will attend the University of Pennsylvania for her PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology with a discipline area in Cancer Biology. As an undergraduate, Phoebe researched in Dr. Harberts' Immunology lab, where she completed her Undergraduate Honors Thesis. Phoebe also participated in two cancer research summer programs, at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore Maryland and at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston Texas. During undergraduate career, Phoebe presented her research nineteen times, including at regional and national conferences. This research earned her the Research Impact Award, multiple Best Presentation Awards, multiple Travel Awards, and Undergraduate Research Awards. Phoebe was the Northeast Regional Honors Council Student of The Year awardee, served as President of the Women in Science Club, Co-Vice President of the Undergraduate Research Club, Vice President of the Math Club, member of the Women's Leadership Collective and was a Hill-Lopes Scholar. She would like to thank her mentors, including Dr. Harberts, Dr. Snyder, Dr. McCartney, and Dr. Kolesnikov for their encouragement and support. She would also like to thank her family and friends for continuously uplifting and inspiring her.

Rachel Plumley

Rachel Plumley is from Calvert County, Maryland, and will earn a degree in Speech Pathology/Audiology and Deaf Studies. After graduation, she plans to attend Gallaudet University and work towards her Doctorate of Audiology. Rachel studied abroad in Ireland during the winter break, was secretary of the American Sign Language Club, and was an active member of the Towson University Color Guard for four years. This year, she, and her team, Fusion Winterguard, won gold for independent world color guard at the 2024 World Championships. She also won first in the Honors College Celebration of Service and Learning in the Spring of 2024. She would like to thank her teachers for their shared knowledge and her mother and sister for their unending support.

Ren Neely

Rianna Thomas

Rianna Thomas is from Annapolis, Maryland, and will be graduating with honors, earning a bachelor's degree in sociology and anthropology. During her time at Towson Rianna was able to explore various cultural and social topics. Her independent study with Dr. Heather Hax granted her the opportunity to deep dive into the topic of "Black Feminist Thought" which she really enjoyed. Rianna also worked as a writing tutor at the Towson University writing center. After graduation Rianna plans to work for the federal government through the Pathways program. She would like to extend gratitude and appreciation to her family, and her Honors mentors Dr. Hax and Dr. Elliott, for their guidance and support. Rianna is optimistic about her future, made possible by her time and relationships built at Towson University.

Rowan Reusing

Sabrina Sutter

Sabrina Sutter is from Frederick, Maryland, and will be graduating cum laude with a degree in History and a minor in English. She is a recipient of the 2021 and 2022 Mary Catherine Kahl Prizes, the 2023 Matthews Memorial Scholarship, the 2023 Armin Mruck Scholarship, the 2023 Robert and Ruth Sanders Prize, and the 2024 Three Arts Club of Homeland – CLA Prize. After graduation, Sabrina plans to rest after returning from her spring semester abroad interning with the Irish Architectural Archive in Dublin, Ireland. During her time at Towson University, Sabrina was involved in multiple student organizations, and served as an officer in the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor society and the Boxing and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu sports clubs. She was also an editor for the Towson Journal of Historical Studies and served as Editor-in-Chief for the 2024 edition. Sabrina is immensely grateful to the Honors College for providing her the opportunity to explore projects for honors experiential learning credit, which led to her internship in the University Special Collections and Archives in 2022, as well as her spring semester abroad at the University of Leeds in 2023. She would like to thank her friends, family, and the History department faculty.

Sadie Barrett

Sadie Barrett is from South Jersey and will graduate with a B.S. degree in Business Administration: Project Management & Business Analysis after three years at Towson in the Honors College, achieving Dean's List each semester. As an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's student, she will continue her education at TU to earn an M.S. degree in Supply Chain Management by Spring 2025. Sadie presented her experience in an accelerated master's course at the Spring 2024 Honors Celebration of Scholarship and Learning with a poster titled "Supply Chain in Healthcare," for which she placed third in the research category. She values her committed involvement in various organizations at TU, including the Delta Phi Epsilon sorority, Women In Business, Delight Ministries, MentHER, and Young Life. As a senior, she interns with MentHER and conducts research with the Empowering Secure Elections Research Lab in CBE. Sadie also worked as a Supply Chain Intern at Novo Nordisk Inc. in New Jersey throughout Summer 2023 and looks forward to returning in Summer 2024. She would like to thank her incredibly supportive and loving family, her amazing friends, the Honors College and Business professors and advisors, and Douglass Hall for an unforgettable start to her college experience.

Samantha Hawes

Samantha Hawes, from Sykesville, Maryland will graduate cum laude, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Management with a Business Administration minor. She completed her undergraduate internship at the University of Maryland Medical Center in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer with the Clinical Effectiveness Team. Passionate about healthcare, her long-term post graduation plans are to return back to school to achieve a Master's in Business Administration degree. Samantha will present her honors college thesis work ""The Impact of COVID-19 on Residential Care Providers: Long-Term Care Administrator Stress, Job Satisfaction, and Intent to Leave during the Pandemic."" at the American College of Health Care Administrators' annual convocation later this week. She would like to thank her biggest supporters: Her mom, two sisters, and best friend Taylor as well as Dr. McSweeney-Feld who worked tirelessly to support her thesis work. A special shoutout to her dog, Dasher.

Samuel Patterson

Samuel Patterson transferred to Towson at the start of his sophomore year, and often says it was "the best decision I ever made." Despite the late start, Samuel completed the 54-credit Law and American Civilization major on time and will be graduating magna cum laude. In his time at Towson he also pursued a music performance minor, which involved studying both classical and jazz guitar. Outside of class, Samuel could be found in rehearsals for the competitive a cappella group ""Untitled,"" where he served as secretary and vice president. In the summer before junior year, Samuel interned at the Maryland Department of Commerce as a fellow in the Governor's Summer Internship Program. The following year, he interned in the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship through the office of Senator Ben Cardin. This experience ignited a passion for working in public policy, which has motivated him to return to Capitol Hill after graduation. Samuel would like to thank the outstanding Honors College faculty for their guidance and support, particularly Dr. Terry Cooney and Senator Sarah Elfreth.

Shannon Markward

Shannon Markward is a Maryland native, and will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in physics. While at Towson, she conducted research with Dr. Jennifer Scott measuring extragalactic distances and presented preliminary results at the 241st and 243rd American Astronomical Society meetings. She was awarded the Eddie L. Loh Undergraduate Physics Scholarship Award and the Edward I. Rubendall Physics Achievement Award for Outstanding Junior in 2023 as well as the Edward I. Rubendall Physics Achievement Award for Outstanding Senior in 2024. In the fall, she will be attending the University of Maryland, Baltimore County to begin graduate studies in pursuit of a PhD in physics doing research in the field of high energy astrophysics. She would like to thank the faculty and staff who recognized her hard work and dedication and her family and friends for their support and enthusiasm throughout the last four years.

Soo In Cho

Sooin Cho will be graduating and receiving her Bachelor's of Science in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology with a minor in Applied Adult Disability Studies. During her time here, she was a member of the TU chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSHLA). In addition, she actively participated and performed as a Tenor Saxophone member for the "World Famous" Towson University Marching Band (TUMB), serving as Drum Major later in her career. She also played the tenor saxophone for the Towson University Pep Band, and bass clarinet for the Towson University Symphonic Band. Furthermore, she was an active Sister and Historian of Tau Beta Sigma, a music and service sorority, and served as Secretary of the Independent Greek Council (IGC). After graduation, Sooin plans to continue her education through the graduate program here at Towson University and pursue her Master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology. During her time here, she appreciated the in-depth Honors classes, where she was able to gain deep insight into various subjects through the seminars. She would like to thank her family, professors, and mentors, including her directors of the TUMB, and everyone who has contributed to this valuable experience.

Sumra Chaudhry

Sumra Chaudhry is a first-generation college student from Baltimore, Maryland and will graduate Magna Cum Laude, earning a degree in molecular biology, biochemistry, and bioinformatics. After graduation, Sumra plans to begin a post-baccalaureate research education program at the University of Colorado before pursing her MD/PhD degree. Sumra studied fashion abroad in Paris, France after receiving the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. She is a member of the Hill-Lopes Scholars Program, conducted research in Dr. Erin Harberts lab, completed two summer research internships at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and New York University, and was a recipient of the Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry Impact Award. Sumra presented her research on Skewing of UV-Induced Cell Death Pathways using TLR4 Ligands at the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning Fall 2023, where she placed first in the research category. Sumra has also presented her research at various conferences ranging from the Towson University Student Research Forum, Towson University Biology Symposium, American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and American Association for Immunology. Sumra has worked as an undergraduate learning assistant for molecular biology in addition to immunology, and currently works at an urgent care as a medical assistant. She would like to thank her mentors Dr. Erin Harberts, Dr. Michelle Snyder, Kristin Pinkowski, Dr. Nimra Chaudhry, her family, and all those who helped guide her throughout her college career. "

Taylor Perkowski

Taylor Washington

Taylor Washington is a graduating Psychology major and Marketing minor from Bowie, Maryland. She has maintained good standing in multiple jobs throughout her years at TU while also maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.74.Throughout her years at TU, she has participated in a number of extracurricular activities and programs including being a programmer on TU's Campus Activities Board, an Event Planner at the Career Center, and a pharmacy technician. She would like to thank the Honors college for providing her with the platform to be successful in her future endeavors.

Vanessa Gregorio

Vanessa Gregorio is graduating with a degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Legal Studies. Being in the Honors College at Towson alongside her main degree plan greatly enriched her educational experience. She worked as a student researcher for the Empowering Secure Elections Research Lab under the guidance of Drs. Josh Dehlinger and Natalie M. Scala since her sophomore year, contributing her skills in writing and analysis to various projects and to-be publications. She is planning to continue working for the federal government as a student trainee at Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) after graduation.

Victor Terranova

Victor Terranova hails from Baltimore, Maryland, and will graduate as an honors physics student of Towson University. During his time at Towson, he has been very involved in his department, having been a teaching assistant for multiple classes, earning the award and recognition of Sigma Pi Sigma membership, and working as vice president of the Sigma Pi Sigma chapter for Towson University. Victor appreciates the honors college most for its push for interdisciplinary study. Victor conducted undergraduate research in the detection of cancer, presented at multiple conferences, and won the audience choice award at the honors celebration of scholarship and learning. He plans to peruse a further career in biophysics and bioengineering.

Victoria Akingbehin

Victoria Akingbehin was born in Nigeria and moved to the United States at the age of 13 with her family. Victoria transferred to Towson University in the Spring of 2022 and will be graduating this spring, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology: Cell and Molecular concentration. After graduation, Victoria plans on going to graduate school and getting a PhD in Cancer/Cell biology. During her time at Towson, she was an executive board member of the Undergraduate Research Club and the Vice President of Membership for the National Residence Hall Honorary. Victoria is also a member of the Women in Science Club, the Towson University's Pre-med Club and served as an orientation leader for the Honors College in 2023. Besides voluntary work, Victoria has been working in Dr. Michelle Snyder's Cell biology lab throughout her time here at Towson and has gotten multiple research grants and travel awards, including the competitive Research Impact Award. She would like to thank her family, friends, and professors for all of the support they have given her throughout these years.

Zaire Abraham

Zara Freeland

Zara Freeland will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, and Bioinformatics. After graduation, she plans to work at a biotech company or pursue a graduate degree. During her time at Towson University, she conducted nanoscience research in Dr. Devadas' lab. She has presented her research at several conferences, including the Celebration of Scholarship and Learning. She was a recipient of numerous undergraduate research grants. She would like to thank the Honors College, her family, and her advisor, Dr. Devadas, for helping her succeed.

Zolani Grady

Zolani Grady, a native of Montgomery County Maryland, is a dedicated and accomplished student, currently pursuing a degree in Forensic Chemistry and General Chemistry at Towson University.

His research journey began in July 2021, as a participant in inorganic chemistry research funded by the FCSM UG Grant. Here, Zolani developed his skills in synthesis reactions, characterization methods, and presentations. Building upon this experience, Zolani transitioned into his current role as an undergraduate researcher and a member of the Sivey Lab. This group focuses on quantifying common disinfecting agent byproducts in drinking water using Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry.

In addition to their academic pursuits, Zolani has demonstrated his commitment to advancing knowledge in STEM through various extracurricular activities. Zolani was selected for the LSAMP Summer Research Fellowship, engaging with distinguished STEM faculty, and presenting research at the LSAMP Research Symposium. His involvement in the Forensic Science Student Organization further highlights Zolani's proactive approach to networking and professional development.

With proficiency in advanced analytical chemistry techniques, Zolani is well-equipped to make significant contributions to the scientific community. Their accolades, including being named a Mikey Leland Fellow and receiving the LSAMP Fellowship, attest to their exceptional academic achievements and commitment to excellence.