Class of 2022
(Biographies provided by the candidates.)

GERMANY

Düsseldorf – Kelci RuiZe Cox, daughter of Bruce and Sherri Cox, Düsseldorf, Germany. Kelci will graduate from the International School of Düsseldorf where she is co-founder and leader of a biweekly children's art program at a camp for refugees seeking asylum; creator and leader of "Busking Corner" biweekly musical performance events; and a varsity volleyball player who coached U13 volleyball. Kelci also gave a TEDx talk about her search for identity as an adoptee, interned at a corporate R&D biology lab, and, while living in China, volunteered more than 500 hours as a hospital liaison for Love Without Boundaries, a charity that provides medical care for critically-ill orphans. Kelci plans to major in biology.

TURKEY

Döşemealtı – Micah Clendon Holdsworth, son of Jason and Sharon Holdsworth, Antalya, Turkey. Micah will graduate from homeschool; he is a founding member and co-leader of a citywide Christian youth group, and an active member of the Current Events and Creative Writing Clubs. He is an Eagle Scout in Troop 500 of the Transatlantic Council, has been involved in teaching Turkish to Syrian refugee children, and has achieved honors throughout Turkish middle school and high school. Micah plans to major in architecture with a concentration in environmental design.

UNITED STATES

CONNECTICUT

Middlesex – Shannon Marie Dolan, daughter of Paul and Mary Ann Dolan, Portland, Connecticut. Shannon will graduate from Portland High School where she is president of the Cybernetics robotics team, captain of the cross country team, and founder of an environmental teen group at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Glastonbury. She also plays the clarinet in the pit band, received the Silver President's Volunteer Service Award for completing over 235 hours of community service, and was selected for the American Fisheries Society Hutton Scholar summer internship program. Shannon plans to major in Environmental Science.

FLORIDA

Brevard County – Natalie Bress, daughter of James and Pamela Bress, Melbourne Beach Florida. Natalie will graduate from Melbourne High School where she is Vice President of the National Honor Society, treasurer of her high school's Best Buddies chapter, and a member of the varsity track and cross country team. She received the Regional award for TOPSoccer Buddy of the Year from the US Youth Soccer Association, and is starting a Special Olympics Unified Track team at her high school. Natalie plans to major in Biomedical Engineering.
Sarasota – Alexa Roland, daughter of James and Heidi Roland, Sarasota, Florida. Alexa will graduate from Pine View School for the Gifted where she is fundraising chair of the French Honor Society, a four-time medalist of Le Grand Concours, president of the Young Progressives Club, and an award-winning speech and debate team member. Alexa was a delegate to Florida Girls State, she developed the first high school internship program for the Sarasota County Democratic Party, and she served as a fellow with the Hillary Clinton campaign. Alexa hosts a girls empowerment segment on a local FM radio station, and she mentors children at Girls Inc. and the YMCA. Alexa plans to major in French language and textile management to prepare for a career in law and fashion industry reform.

MARYLAND

Frederick – Andrew Dominick Daddone, son of Peter and Marianna Daddone, Frederick, Maryland. Andrew will graduate from Governor Thomas Johnson High School where he is project manager of the Frederick Career and Technology Center Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam, Co-leader of Maryland SkillsUSA national Additive Manufacturing team, and executive committee member of the YMCA Leaders Club. He also received a bronze medal at SkillsUSA's national conference, a gold medal in the Real World Design Challenge at the state level, and is an active member of the National Honors Society. Andrew plans to major in Mechanical Engineering.

NEW JERSEY

Ocean – Emily Christine Ostermann, daughter of Stephen and Lisa Ostermann, Toms River, New Jersey. Emily will graduate from Donovan Catholic High School where she is President of Academic Challenge and Decathlon, Recording Secretary of National Honor Society, and a Student Ambassador. She has been an aide to special needs children at the St. Joseph's Parish Summer CCD program and a volunteer at the Ocean County Library. She is also a National Merit Semifinalist. Emily plans to major in Electrical Engineering.

NORTH CAROLINA

Catawba – Sarah Madison Hartsell, daughter of Robert and Dia Hartsell, Hickory, North Carolina. Sarah will graduate from University Christian High School, where she is captain of the Public Forum Debate Team, representative of her class on Student Council, and a desk editor and writer for the school newspaper. She has also served as a volunteer at Abernethy Laurels Retirement Community and the Corner Table Soup Kitchen, and she has been elected as publicist for the UCHS chapter of the National Honor Society. She plans to major in History.

Cumberland - Frank Zackary Jenio (Zack), son of Frank and Sherri Jenio, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Zack will graduate from the American School of Dubai where he is the student body president, two-year captain of the Varsity Swim team, and an Eagle Scout. He has been published in a medical book about rotator cuff disorders as a co-author and also received the National Security Language Initiative for Youth scholarship and studied Arabic in Amman, Jordan. Zack plans to double major in Biomedical Engineering and Foreign Languages and Literatures with a concentration in the Arabic Language.

Durham – Elizabeth Beyer, daughter of John and Natalie Beyer, Durham, North Carolina. Elizabeth will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where she is a Residential Life Assistant, an Editor-in-Chief of "The Stentorian," and the founder of the Spanish Conversation Club. She also earned the President's Gold Volunteer Service Award, attended the North Carolina Governor's School for Spanish, and received a scholarship to study Russian in Moscow from the National Security Language Initiative for Youth. Elizabeth plans to major in Environmental Engineering.
Forsyth – Natalie Kraft, daughter of Bob and Betsy Kraft, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Natalie will graduate from Mount Tabor High School where she is the president of the Habitat for Humanity Club, and takes an active role in the National Honor Society, National English Honor Society, and National Math Honor Society. She is an alumni of the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange, a study abroad program that awards full-scholarships to students interested in full immersion into the German culture. In addition, Natalie is the Fundraising Chair of the county wide Habitat for Humanity executive board and is a volunteer teacher's aide for students with disabilities. Natalie plans to dual major in Nuclear Engineering and International Relations.

Forsyth – Elizabeth Grace Rodgers, daughter of Brad and Donna Rodgers, Kernersville, North Carolina. Beth will graduate from East Forsyth High School where she is president of Madrigals audition choir, co-president of Leading Ladies service club, and senior executive of her National Honor Society chapter. Beth serves her community by singing at retirement centers and elementary schools during the holiday season, was named Rotary Student of the Month, and was honored with the 2016 Youth Leadership Award for her volunteer work at YMCA Camp Hanes. Beth plans to major in Mathematics Education with intentions of teaching high school math.

Forsyth – Noor Towfik Shehata, daughter of Hanan and Towfik Shehata, Advance, North Carolina. Noor will graduate from West Forsyth High School where she is president of Key Club, the secretary of the Multi-Cultural Society, and serves on the executive board of Interact club. She has received the Dartmouth Book Award, is a two-time winning poet laureate, and has started a tradition, now in its third year, of delivering Thanksgiving meals to refugee families through Interact club. Noor plans to major in Political Science.

Harnett – Trenton Charles Wallis, son of Brandy and David Embry, Lillington, North Carolina. Trenton will graduate from Harnett Central High School where he is: the electrical team captain of FIRST Robotics Team 6003 and is the team captain of the swim team. He tutors Math 1 students in his school community, has been awarded the Greater Neuse River AAAA Conference Swimmer of the Year, and has volunteered in STEM outreach for middle and elementary school students. Trenton plans to major in computer engineering.

Henderson – Megan Katherine Pryor, daughter of April and David Pryor, Hendersonville, North Carolina. Megan will graduate from Hendersonville High School where she is a student-editor in the Writing Center, a tutor in National Honor Society, and a co-founder of Dead Poets Society. She also runs varsity cross-country, is a student leader in her church youth ministry, and serves as an Online Ambassador and Student Instructor through the North Carolina School of Science and Math Online Program. Megan plans to major in Mathematics and Math Education.

Iredell – Noah Ethan Wolfe, son of Martin and Lisa Wolfe, Mooresville, North Carolina. Noah will graduate from Lake Norman High School where he is President and Cofounder of the Science Club, Vice President of Mu Alpha Theta, a Math Honor Society, and a volunteer with CoderDojo, where he teaches programming to middle school students. Noah plans to major in Physics.
Mecklenburg – Ethan Andrew Scheper, son of Steven and Jennifer Scheper, Matthews, North Carolina. Ethan will graduate from Providence High School where he is a Student Ambassador, former officer and active member of Technology Student Association, and three-year line one player and captain of the varsity tennis team. He volunteers extensively with Carolinas HealthCare’s Adaptive Sports and Adventures Program, assisting rehabilitation therapists weekly and serving the local disabled community by raising awareness and funds for benefit events, and he participates in frequent organized service activities through his membership in National Honor Society. Ethan plans to major in statistics.

Onslow – Tatum Celeste Kellum, daughter of Aisha and Jamie Gurganus, Jacksonville, North Carolina. Tatum will graduate from Northside High School where she is president of Science National Honor Society, National Math Honor Society, and SkillsUSA. She has actively participated in Science Olympiad; leading Onslow County’s first ever team to States, volunteers at the local hospital and, actively encourages youth in the community to explore STEM careers and activities. Tatum plans to major in Biomedical Engineering.

Orange – Grace Mingyu Baucom, daughter of Jen and Michael Baucom, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Grace will graduate from Middle College High School at Durham Technical Community College where she will receive an Associate in Science degree, serves as President of the National Honor Society, and competes on the Science Olympiad team. She also is the President of the Carrboro Youth Council, founded and taught a sustainability club for elementary homeschoolers, and is researching the impacts of climate change on local farmers through UNC's Climate Leadership & Energy Awareness Program. Grace plans to double major in Extension Education and Agroecology & Sustainable Food Systems.

Orange – Shannon Pinnell, daughter of John and Lynnette Pinnell, Durham, North Carolina. Shannon will graduate from Orange High School where she is: Drive Coach/Co-Captain/C.A.D. Captain of FIRST Robotics Team 587, Captain of the Women's Varsity Swim Team, and Teaching Assistant for the Physics Department. She also attended the North Carolina Governor's School for Natural Science, is a mentor for FLL Team 32432, and was a Research Intern at Medical Advocates for Healthy Air. Shannon plans to major in Electrical Engineering and Economics.

Orange – Nadia Sheppard, daughter of Scott and Claudia Sheppard, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. In May 2017, Nadia graduated from the United World College-USA in Montezuma, N.M. where she was a co-founder and co-president of the United World Podcast; student director of the UWC-USA Agroecology Research Center; and co-founder and president of her previous high school's chapter of Girls Learn International. She also received the Mountbatten Memorial Prize, which recognizes the student who best embodies UWC principles; the Girl Scout Gold Award; and the Bronze Presidential Volunteer Service Award. Nadia plans to major in engineering.

Pitt – Liam Thien Dao, son of Hoang Dao and Jeanne Finney, Greenville, North Carolina. Liam will graduate from DH Conley High School where he is the vice president of the FBLA chapter and a Link Crew leader; he serves as a Student Advisory Board member for a local organization, Love A Sea Turtle. He is the creator and coordinator of the Paint the Drain – PGV project, a volunteer coach for a little league baseball team, and chef at Sappari Japanese Steakhouse. Liam plans to major in statistics.
Rowan – Benjamin Bernard Zino, son of Katie and Galeal Zino, Salisbury, North Carolina. Ben will graduate from West Rowan High School. Ben has served as President of the National Technical Honor Society, President of Crosby Scholars and President and VP positions for Student Government. In the community, Ben has participated in Boy Scouts (Eagle Scout); leads red wolf conservation efforts; and produces the Wild Report at www.youtube.com/c/thewildreportofficial. Ben plans to major in Conservation Biology or Wildlife Biology.

Sampson – Jacob Bryant Anders, son of Gerald and Terrie Anders, Clinton, North Carolina. Jacob will graduate from Clinton High School where he is FFA President, Fellowship of Christian Students New Member Outreach Coordinator, and a member of the varsity football and golf teams. He also is an Eagle Scout, a Junior Deacon at Carr Memorial Church, and a delegate of the North Carolina Youth Legislative Assembly. Jacob plans to major in Agricultural Science.

Transylvania – Daniel Isaiah Toole, son of Danny and Lorraine Toole, Brevard, North Carolina. Daniel will graduate from Brevard High School where he is Student Body President, Vice President of Brevard FFA, and has been voted “Most Likely to Run for President.” He is also serving as President of West Region FFA, a member of the Transylvania County Superintendent's Advisory Council, and is the youth leader at Full Gospel Church where he leads weekly worship services. Daniel plans to major in Biological and Life Sciences, with Human Biology intent.

Union – Daniel Joseph Haller, son of Dan and Christa Haller, Marvin, North Carolina. Daniel will graduate from Marvin Ridge High School where he is president of Science Olympiad, the Science National Honor Society, and the Tri-M Music Honor Society. He is a recipient of the Eagle Scout award, and he has also co-founded a science mentoring program for middle school students. Daniel plans to major in Chemical Engineering.

Wake – Loujain Al Samara, daughter of Dima Droubi, Raleigh, North Carolina. Loujain Al Samara will graduate from Millbrook High School where she is President of the Spanish Honor Society, the Editor-In-Chief of the Literary and Art Magazine, and the Vice President of the DECA chapter. She is also the co-founder of a non-profit organization called the Syrian-American Ladies’ Association that helps refugees in the Triangle Area, as well as a guest Ambassador at WakeMed Hospitals and has been awarded for her community service by being inducted in the honorary Service Club at Millbrook High School. Loujain plans to major in Polymer and Color Chemistry.

Wake – Shevani Mehta, daughter of Devesh and Varsha Mehta, Holly Springs, North Carolina. Shevani will graduate from Middle Creek High School where she is president of the Miracle League of the Triangle Club, involved in Student Government, and has published academic research. She also is a recipient of the DAR Good Citizen Award and runs “Door 2 Door Santa,” her own non-profit organization which provides toys for impoverished children during the holidays. Shevani plans to major in International Business.
Wake – Shaily Shah, daughter of Kavita and Amish Shah, Apex, North Carolina. Shaily will graduate from Apex High School and the Academy of IT, where she serves as an IT ambassador. She is president of Environmental Club, the Society of Women Engineers, and captain of Science Olympiad. Shaily teaches dance and yoga to children in her community through summer yoga camps at the local Hindu temple, and through programs for at-risk youth and refugee populations. She is the HumSub Aapo Deepo Bhava first-place award recipient in the educational and cultural category for her accomplishments and contributions to her community. Last summer, she interned at SAS, publishing blogs on the JMP community. Shaily plans to major in chemical engineering with a minor in nanotechnology and nutrition.

Wake – Thomas Marshall Steckmann, son of Dirk and Anne Steckmann, Cary, North Carolina. Thomas will graduate from Raleigh Charter High School where he is the president of the Astrophysics Club, the captain of the varsity swim team, and a co-speaker for Student Legislative Assembly. He also volunteers as an editor for Middle School Quiz Bowl tournaments, attended North Carolina Governor's School for Math, and is a Peer Mentor at his school. Thomas intends to major in Aerospace Engineering.

Wilkes – Katelyn Marie Glen, daughter of Jessica Glen, North Wilkesboro, North Carolina. Katelyn will graduate from Wilkes Central High School where she is the President of National Honor Society, Senior Class President, and the Marching Eagles woodwind section captain. She has assisted with planning and volunteering at the county-wide Special Olympics and local blood drives, initiated the implementation of social media for her school, and is a North Carolina Governor's School alumni. Katelyn plans to major in Biology.

Wilson – Abby Marie Hodges, daughter of Gary and Sherry Hodges, Wilson, North Carolina. Abby will graduate from Ralph L. Fike High School where she is treasurer of the National Honor Society and a member of the leadership board of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club. She also is on the varsity swim team at Fike High School and is the senior advisor for the local Youth Leaders Institute. Abby plans to major in Biological Sciences and minor in Business Administration.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston - Annalise Rananne Hafner, daughter of Mark and Kellye Hafner, Daniel Island, South Carolina. Annalise will graduate from Academic Magnet High School where she is Cross Country Team Captain and the Treasurer of both Key Club, a service organization, and Mu Alpha Theta, a Math Honor Society. She has been a tutor at Meeting Street Elementary at Brentwood, a junior coach for her neighborhood swim team, and has served as a Ronald McDonald House Junior Board Member. Annalise plans to major in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

TENNESSEE

Knox – Hayley Harwood, daughter of Heather and Nelson Brittain, Knoxville, Tennessee. Hayley will graduate from Baylor School where she is captain of the fencing team, president of the Latin Club, and a member of the Cum Laude Society. She is a National Merit Semifinalist, was an intern in NASA's SEES Program, and has published a virtual reality app designed for children with autism spectrum disorder.
Prince William – Lauren Cassidy Warner, daughter of David and Jill Warner, Nokesville, Virginia. Lauren will graduate from Brentsville District High School and the Governor’s School at Innovation Park where she is the President and founder of Tutoring Club, a volunteer-based tutoring service for high school and middle school students, the Treasurer of Student Government, and a black belt in Tae Kwon Do. She has participated in Beta Club, a volunteer organization, since freshman year, presented her scientific innovation to the Prince William County School Board, and was named AICE Spanish IV Student of the Year. Lauren plans to major in Mechanical Engineering.