

Class of 2023

(Biographies provided by the candidates.)

ALABAMA



Jefferson - Katelyn Anna McInerney, daughter of Kerry and Jennifer McInerney, Mountain Brook, Alabama. Katelyn will graduate from Mountain Brook High School where she is the founder and copresident of the Sign Language Club, recipient of the Yale Book Award, the highest award given to a member of the Junior class, and has been voted "Most Intellectual". She is founder and board copresident of Special Siblings, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit; a research intern at Dr. Farah Lubin's neuroscience lab at UAB; and a Bronfman Fellow. Katelyn plans to major in chemical engineering.

COLORADO



Denver - Michael John Ankner, son of Jacqueline Kruszek and Michael Ankner, Denver, Colorado. Michael will graduate from Denver East High School and is the American Legion 2018 Eagle Scout of the Year for Colorado and the nation. Michael led a statewide student voter registration drive partnering with the Governor's and the Secretary of State's Office to launch the first ever High School and College Student Voter Registration Week. Michael served on the student advisory boards for History Colorado, Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank's Denver Branch, and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Michael plans to major in civil or energy engineering and international relations.

CONNECTICUT



New Haven - Autumn Ellena Boyce, daughter of Donald and Elizabeth Boyce, New Haven, Connecticut. Autumn will graduate from Hamden Hall Country Day School where she participates in an independent research program and leads several student groups, including Music Community Service and the Computational Linguistics Olympiad. She is a member of the Cum Laude Society, is an AP Scholar with Distinction, and has sung in the Connecticut State Choir. Autumn plans to major in biological engineering.

GEORGIA



Forsyth- Isabella Marie Condo, daughter of Veronica and Theodore Condo, Cumming, Georgia. Isabella will graduate from Forsyth Central High School where she is the vice president of HOSA, a National Honors Society member, and a part of the STEM Academy. She has been a volunteer at local science outreaches and has attended the Governor's Honors Program for science. Isabella plans to major in microbiology.



North Fulton - Irene Nazario, daughter of Rene Nazario and Mariela Garcia, Alpharetta, Georgia. Irene will graduate from Chattahoochee High School, where she is a member of the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and had the opportunity to serve and organize activities to help the community. She has also been a member of the Talented & Gifted program at her high school since 2016 and has worked as an Intern at The Village Animal Hospital for more than a year. Irene plans to major in animal science and later apply to veterinary school.

ILLINOIS



Lake Cook - Kelly Koehler, daughter of Karsten and Christine Koehler, Barrington, Illinois. Kelly Koehler will graduate from Barrington High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society, a Best of BHS Pride nominee, and part of the top five percent of her graduating class. She is a foster parent for the local Animal House pet shelter and the head coach of a Barrington Park District youth basketball team. Kelly plans to major in zoology on the pre-vet track.

MARYLAND



Frederick - Rachel Lauren Beall, daughter of Timothy and Colleen Beall, Jefferson, Maryland. Rachel will graduate from Brunswick High School where she is co-founder and lead scout of her FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics team, captain of the varsity soccer team, and coach of Frederick Moves, a soccer camp for underserved elementary students. She attended the International Science and Engineering Fair twice as a student observer, is a research intern at the National Cancer Institute in Frederick, and won Startup Frederick, a business competition similar to Shark Tank. Rachel plans to major in materials science and engineering.

MICHIGAN



Kent - Zachary James VanHekken, son of Matthew and Debra VanHekken, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Zachary will graduate from Forest Hills Northern High School where he is president of Student Government, stage manager of the theater department, and involved in Science Olympiad as a middle school coach and a high school competitor. Zachary has also been an ambassador for his school and the state of Michigan at multiple Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) conferences, he has been awarded the Gold Presidential Volunteer Service Award, and volunteered as a summer camp counselor for underprivileged children in North Carolina. Zachary plans to major in chemical engineering and Spanish.

NORTH CAROLINA



Avery - Cortney Ollis, niece of Jessica Hughes, Elk Park, North Carolina. Cortney will graduate from Avery County High School where she is president of the National Beta Club. She volunteers at Life Care of Banner Elk and started a volunteer fundraiser for Alzheimer's Awareness. Cortney plans to major in animal science.



Cumberland - Catherine Maria Dean, daughter of Paul and Cecilia Dean, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Catherine will graduate from Cape Fear High School where she is the head drum major of the Cape Fear Marching Colts, a varsity letterman on the girls' soccer team, and serves as a mentor for the Freshman Experience Program. Catherine is also the worship team leader for the Epicenter Church Youth Praise Team, a student leader for her church youth group, and is a student assistant for the Mac Williams Middle School band. Catherine plans to double major in elementary education and mathematics.



Cumberland - Ritika Shamdasani, daughter of Danny and Sapna Shamdasani, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Ritika will graduate from Terry Sanford High School where she is senior class president and co-captain of the varsity tennis team. She is also the co-founder of Sani and was Amazon's first high school intern this past summer. Ritika plans to double major in fashion design and computer science.



Forsyth - Sarah Elizabeth Jarrell, daughter of Beth and Ed Jarrell, Kernersville, North Carolina. Sarah will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where she is the state secretary of the North Carolina Technology Student Association chapter, a residential life assistant on Ground Reynolds, and the president of Thrifty Transformations: A Fashion Club. Sarah plans to major in fashion design.



Gaston - Christiana RoseMarie Daniel, daughter of Robert and Kimberly Daniel, Gastonia, North Carolina. Christiana will graduate from Highland School of Technology and is president of HOSA-Future Health Professionals and captain of the varsity women's soccer team. She also created and leads the Warmth of Jesus Project, which makes blankets for the homeless. Christiana plans to major in biological sciences with a human biology intent.



Gaston - Daniel Oakes Friday, son of Todd and Dana Friday, Gastonia, North Carolina. Daniel will graduate from Highland School of Technology and is the founder of Designing Our Future, an engineering program for elementary students; president of the National Beta Club; and vice president of the Technology Student Association. Daniel also volunteers in the Mosaic Ministry with special needs individuals at his church. After winning the Catalyst Award in Mathematics from North Carolina Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics, Daniel presented his research at the State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium held at NC State. Daniel plans to major in civil engineering.



Gaston - Abigail Wucherer, daughter of Talia and Rick Wucherer, Belmont, North Carolina. Abigail will graduate from Salem Academy where she is president of House Council, overseeing all boarding students; president of Key Club; and captain of the robotics team. She also dedicates her time to the special needs community through her involvement with the Adaptive Sports and Adventures Program by fundraising with Cycle to the Sea for the past nine years, as well as with the Webb Street School by working in the aquaponics system. Abigail plans to major in mechanical engineering.



Guilford - Daniel Carter Hutchinson-Kausch, son of Gerald Hutchinson and Leslie Kausch, Greensboro, North Carolina. Daniel will graduate from Grimsley High School where he is co-president of Model United Nations, lead alto saxophone for the jazz band and jazz combo, and president of the Ultimate Frisbee Club. Daniel is also an Eagle Scout from BSA Troop 101, was a Bucket Brigade team leader for the North Carolina Folk Festival, and mentors weekly at Morehead Elementary. Daniel plans to major in materials engineering.



Guilford - Nehemiah Isaiah MacDonald, son of William and Victoria MacDonald, Greensboro, North Carolina. Nehemiah will graduate from Western Guilford High School where he is president of National Honor Society, publicity chair of Student Council, and serves on the executive council of Youth Leadership Greensboro. He has worked as a service learning ambassador, raised money to support cancer research through Relay for Life, and been recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction. Nehemiah plans to major in biomedical engineering.



Iredell - Siddharth Samal, son of Devi Samal and Snigdha Sahu, Mooresville, North Carolina. Siddharth will graduate from Lake Norman High School where he is the founder of Coders Club, threeyear president of Student Council, and vice president of the Mooresville Public Library Teen Advisory Board. Siddharth is an alumnus of North Carolina Governor's School, NC-13 Student Library Ambassador for North Carolina Library Advocacy, and 2nd place winner at North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair regionals. Siddharth plans to major in mathematics.



Lenoir - John William McPhaul III, son of John and Laura McPhaul, Kinston, North Carolina. William will graduate from Arendell Parrott Academy where he is a school service advisor, treasurer of the National Honor Society, and the senior class secretary. William has been on nine mission trips (both domestic and abroad); been named to the all-conference team in football, swimming, and lacrosse; and is an AP Scholar with Distinction. William plans to major in chemical engineering.



Mecklenburg - Shriya Bhoothapuri, daughter of Ramesh and Premini Bhoothapuri, Charlotte, North Carolina. Shriya will graduate from Levine Middle College High School where she is the student body president, is treasurer of the National Honors Society, and will graduate with an associate's degree in biological sciences from Central Piedmont Community College. She also attended the North Carolina Governor's School for mathematics, is a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist, and actively volunteers for the education of underprivileged children in Charlotte and in Chennai, India. Shriya plans to major in biological sciences.



Mecklenburg - Shannon Carney, daughter of Timothy and Heidi Carney, Charlotte, North Carolina. Shannon will graduate from Ardrey Kell High School where she is captain of the volleyball team, a member of the National Honor Society, and the first chair clarinet player in Wind Ensemble and Indoor Winds Marching Band. Shannon has also dedicated over 375 service hours to Deer Valley YMCA Camp, tutors math and Spanish for Young Professors Club, and volunteers with children at St. Matthew Catholic Church. Shannon plans to major in secondary mathematics education.



Mecklenburg - Alvin Hesbon Mutongi, son of Patrick and Anne Mutongi, Huntersville, North Carolina. Alvin will graduate from Lake Norman Charter where he was named one of the 2019 top six seniors, is a member of the track team, and is captain of the cross country team. He has also volunteered as a member of the Student Council and a tutor through Charlotte Mecklenburg Library. Alvin started a project focused on collecting books for a primary school in rural Kenya with the goal of increasing global literacy. He is a National Merit Commended Scholar and an AP Scholar with Distinction. Alvin plans to major in civil engineering.



Mecklenburg - Beckett Vance Stillman, son of Meredith and Vance Stillman, Charlotte, North Carolina. Beckett will graduate from South Mecklenburg High School where he is a member of a fourtime world champion Odyssey of the Mind team, an alumnus and current ambassador for the global youth peace education program NewGen Peacebuilders, and captain of both his year-round competitive swim club group and his high school swim and dive team. Beckett serves as president of his school's National Beta Club; president of SwimMAC Senior Leaders, an entirely student-run service organization; and as a volunteer swim instructor with a focus on drowning prevention. He plans to major in chemical engineering.



Pitt - Carina Elizabeth Becker, daughter of Brian and Christy Becker, Greenville, North Carolina. Carina will graduate from Junius H. Rose High School where she is vice president of National Honor Society, president of Spanish Club, and an active leader in Link Crew, an organization that aids freshman in their transition to high school. Voted captain of the varsity swim team during her junior year, Carina has swum all four years of high school. Additionally, she initiated and organized a swim program to provide swim lessons for thirty Boys and Girls Club members in her community. Carina plans to major in biology.



Surry - Ethan Gray Shumate, son of Lori Griffith and Eddie Shumate, Mount Airy, North Carolina. Ethan will graduate from North Surry High School where he is president of the student body, a National Honor Society member, and is vice president of the Technology Club at Surry Community College. Ethan also interns as a software developer at Advanced Electronic Services (AES) and recently organized a school fundraiser for the local Sheriff Atkinson's Give a Kid a Christmas campaign that raised over eight thousand dollars. Ethan plans to major in computer science.



Wake - Anna Charlene Gessner, daughter of Richard and Sarah Gessner, Raleigh, North Carolina. Anna will graduate from Trinity Academy where she is the head prefect for Student Government, head props mistress for the theatre arts department, and president of the National Beta Club. Anna also organized and led a service project to teach impoverished women in rural Kenya, Africa how to make reusable feminine hygiene products, earned the Gold Level President's Volunteer Service Award, and received a Best in Show art award. Anna plans to major in physics.



Wake - Camilla Irene Keil, daughter of Matthew and Shannon Keil, Wendell, North Carolina. Camilla will graduate from Longleaf School of the Arts where she is chief editor of the Literary Arts Magazine, president of the Art History Club, and vice president of the Animation Club. She also tutors elementary and middle school students, and is a member of both her school's National Honor Society and Student Government. Camilla plans to major in art and design.



Wake - Nicolas Muecke, son of Stan and Milanka Muecke, Cary, North Carolina. Nicolas will graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics where he is captain of the cross country and track and field teams, elected dorm senator for Student Government, and founder of a fundraising team for type 1 diabetes research. Nicolas has also presented research he conducted on a new nanofilm catalyst for water splitting and enjoys giving tours as a student ambassador at his school. Nicolas plans to major in materials science and engineering.



Wake - Madison Rose Mueller, daughter of Dr. Geoffrey and Amanda Mueller, Raleigh, North Carolina. Madison will graduate from the International Baccalaureate Program at Millbrook High School where she lettered in lacrosse and soccer, participated in National Honor Society, and founded MalaWEGarden, a group that partners with students in Malawi to build a sustainable garden to support their school. Madison also serves as the Student Leadership team chairperson at her church and volunteers with local and international construction projects. Madison plans to major in engineering.



Wake - Srikar Nanduri, son of Kiran and Himaja Nanduri, Cary, North Carolina. Srikar will graduate from Raleigh Charter High School where he is co-president of the Key Club, co-leader of Environmental Research Club, and the lead guitarist in a music collective called Weston Estate, which has thousands of monthly listeners on Spotify. Srikar is also a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist, a National AP Scholar and a recipient of the Columbia University book prize for academic excellence. He is an active volunteer and leader of a Habitat for Humanity community workday group at his high school, and a winner of the TiE Young Entrepreneurs statewide business plan competition. Srikar plans to major in biomedical engineering.



Wake - Keya Pothireddy, daughter of Suresh Pothireddy and Suneetha Odulapalli, Raleigh, North Carolina. Keya will graduate from Enloe High School, where she is vice president of service for the student body, the president of Food Ark, and the executive secretary of Key Club. Keya also helped lead her school in raising \$205,000 for the Autism Society of North Carolina in December 2018, volunteers at both UNC Rex Healthcare and Duke Hospital, and holds a third-degree black belt in karate. Keya plans to double major in biology and economics.



Wake - Dante Jude Tomaino, son of Vincent and Lisa Tomaino, Raleigh, North Carolina. Dante will graduate from Leesville Road High School and is an Eagle Scout, junior volunteer at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, and tutor for chemistry and math. Dante has also received academic awards in Anatomy & Physiology Honors, AP Calculus AB/BC, and AP Chemistry. Dante plans to major in biochemistry.



Wake - Daryn Alexis DuPree Wilkerson, daughter of Monica and Reginald Wilkerson, Raleigh, North Carolina. Daryn will graduate from Leesville Road High School where she is drum major of the marching band and co-founder and president of the Science Olympiad. Daryn also volunteers for Little Dresses for Africa and Brides Against Breast Cancer. Daryn plans to major in fashion design and textiles.

OHIO



Cuyahoga - Hannah Isabelle Braun, daughter of Peter and Kelly Nagusky, Shaker Heights, Ohio. Hannah will graduate from Shaker Heights High School where she is captain of the cross country team, co-president of Junior States of America, and a student leader of the Student Group on Race Relations. She has been a member of Menorah Park's Teen Philanthropy Board since 2016, is a recipient of the Harvard Book Award, and is a National Merit Commended Scholar. Hannah plans to major in political science.

OKLAHOMA



Oklahoma - Cailin Ashley Harrington, daughter of Pete and Lisa Harrington, Edmund, Oklahoma. Cailin will graduate from Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School where she is president of the Math Club, a varsity swimmer, and a varsity Academic Bowl competitor. Cailin also works part-time at Chickfil-A and has run both half- and full-marathons. Cailin plans to major in mechanical engineering.

SOUTH CAROLINA



Florence - Annie Katherine Watson, daughter of Russ and Suzette Watson, Florence, South Carolina. Annie Kate will graduate from Wilson High School where she is president of the Tiger Club, co-captain of the math team, and chairperson for Florence One Schools' Student Facilities Committee. She designed, raised funds for, and coordinated the construction of a library for an elementary school in Plan de Flores, Honduras. Annie Kate is also a graduate of Florence Junior Leadership and represented Wilson at Palmetto Girls State where she was elected attorney general. She plans to major in biomedical engineering.

TENNESSEE



Hamilton - David Edward Horne, son of Chad and Amy Horne, Lookout Mountain, Tennessee. David will graduate from McCallie School where he is president of Senate; head of Missionary Committee, a Christian service organization; and team captain for the varsity swim team. David has also been inducted into the Cum Laude Society and Keo-Kio, a leadership and service organization recognizing outstanding leadership in the senior class. David plans to major in aerospace engineering.

VIRGINIA



Arlington - Kevin Robert Cabral, son of Kathryn A. Cabral, Arlington, Virginia. Kevin will graduate from Yorktown High School where he is co-president of both the Technology Student Association chapter and the 28th Street Improv troupe. Kevin is a participating member of the National Honor Society, a recurring finalist within the regional International Science and Engineering Fair, and a senior altar server at Saint Agnes Parish. Kevin plans to majorin aerospace engineering.



Bedford - Megan Lindsey Cislo, daughter of David and Kimberly Cislo, Forest, Virginia. Megan will graduate from Central Virginia Governor's School and Jefferson Forest High School where she is president of the Jefferson Forest Health Occupation Students of America club, a member of the Jefferson Forest Wind Symphony, and secretary of the Mountain View EDGE Youth Group. She is also a verified fabricator and device assembler of 3D printed prosthetic hands for e-NABLE, volunteers with Harvest of Hope to glean produce to donate to food banks, and packages meals for malnourished children in Haiti through Rise Against Hunger. Megan plans to major in human biology.



City of Alexandria - Ariana Nadaja Yvonne Frazier, daughter of Thurl and Ronada Frazier, Alexandria, Virginia. Ariana will graduate from T. C. Williams High School where she is president of the Minority Student Achievement Network, vice president of the Black Student Union, and a member of the National Honors Society. She is also a Commended National Merit Scholar, a peer tutor in the Writing Center, and co-founder of a small business where she crochets stuffed animals with her sister. Ariana plans to major in biomedical engineering.