

Meet the 2020-21 PSSP Scholars

Becky Liang

Becky Liang (she/her) is a 4th year student in Urban Studies with a concentration in Urban Society and Social Change and a minor in Theater & Performance Studies. For her honors thesis this year, Becky is studying social needs and language access for an immigrant population during COVID-19. Language barriers can create limitations in accessing social institutions and services for immigrant communities. She hopes to understand such challenges during this time and community networks that may exist to address these needs. She is excited to participate in the Public Service Scholars Program and learn how to meaningfully engage with a grassroots organization during the development of her project. During her time at Stanford, Becky have been dedicated to service and community building within the Asian American and FLI communities. These experiences have informed her interest in embarking on a community-informed research project that is collaborative and mutually beneficial.

Ciauna Tran

Ciauna Tran (she/her) is a rising senior (Class of 2021) majoring in Human Biology. She designed her concentration, Pediatric Health and Wellness, around her interests in both medicine and working with youth/children. Ciauna's interests have allowed her to participate in unique service opportunities. In a community engaged learning course, Ciauna worked with a team to produce a case study on maternal and newborn health in a Burundian refugee camp for Save the Children. As part of the Cardinal Quarter program, she spent nine weeks in Bolivia to implement health and hygiene interventions for the community of children who have been rescued from abusive and negligent families in Niños con Valor. Ciauna is excited to continue pursuing her interests through her project with Blue Dragon's Children Foundation, based in Vietnam, to provide educational resources about issues that affect vulnerable youth in Vietnam such as poverty and human trafficking.

Dayton Kalanikumupa'a Seto Myers

O Dayton Kalanikumupa'a Seto Myers ko'u 'inoā nō Hawai'i mai au. Dayton, known as Buddy (he/him), is a Kānaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) student at Stanford University, class of 2022. He is a pre-med student and is currently pursuing a BA in Human Biology with a focus on the medical anthropology of Indigenous Peoples and a minor in Native American Studies. Buddy is particularly interested in: (1) the relationship between our indigenous identities/cultures and our physical, mental health, and (2) how these connections can better address health disparities and promote indigenous resilience. Through the 2020 HAAS Community Based Research fellowship, Stanford's Cardinal Free Clinics, the Stanford Native American Cultural Center (NACC), the annual Stanford Powwow, and his coursework, Buddy is humbled to engage so deeply with indigenous health and cultural vitality. He is very thankful for their kūmū

(teachers) and our kūpuna (elders) and is looking forward to learning more about his ancestors, relatives, and his future! Pūpūkahi i Holomua “Unite in order to progress”.

Gülin Ustabas

Gülin (she/her) is a senior majoring in Philosophy and Political Science and minoring in Human Rights. This year, she will be working on their honors thesis through the Ethics in Society program on global justice theory and moral obligations regarding access to accountability and justice for all individuals around the world who are subjected to global domination structures and harms by parties that are not accountable to them, which points to a significant institutional gap on global level. Gülin’s research is inspired by and committed to serving peoples who have gone through transnational conflicts, lethal airstrikes, and other forms of interventions. Outside her academic work, Gülin has served in the leadership of Society for International Affairs at Stanford (SIAS), a Cardinal Commitment organization focused on responsible global citizenship, and tutoring women in recovery in humanities classes through Ethics Center's Hope House Scholars program. Gülin has also completed a Cardinal Quarter as an intern at the Wilson Center's Middle East Program, where she provided research assistance on public argumentation for certain issues in women's rights in MENA.

Hannah Kelley

Hannah (she/her) is an undergraduate at Stanford University, majoring in Linguistics and Public Policy with a Health Policy concentration. Additionally, Hannah is minoring in Middle Eastern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures in the Arabic track. Hannah has grown up in Portland, Oregon, exploring areas of medical research, public policy, community development, and social justice. At Stanford, she serves as the Co-President of the student led organization, Habla, as well as an Habla Advocacy member, and English tutor to Stanford custodial employees. Hannah also serves in the Stanford Health Advocacy and Research in the Emergency Department (SHAR(ED)) program, Students for Environmental and Racial Justice, and Director of Fellowships for Stanford Women in Politics (SWIP). Since 2019, she has served as a Research Assistant at the Bill Lane Center for the American West, conducting research in areas of telehealth access on American Indian/Alaskan Native land and public health initiatives in the Navajo Nation during COVID-19. Hannah is primarily interested in addressing the social determinants of health through an environmental justice lens of public policy and law.

Jane Boettcher

Jane Boettcher (she/her) is an undergraduate senior at Stanford University studying linguistics and pursuing an honors thesis. She is particularly interested in understanding how language impacts connections between people and between people and opportunities and in exploring how technology can be leveraged to increase this understanding. She has done research with Dr. Rob Podesva, examining how different people across California express emotions and sentiment phonetically and presented her findings in a department research presentation. Currently, she is

studying bias in the courtroom with Dr. Bridget Algee-Hewitt and Dr. Katherine Hilton, combining qualitative linguistic discourse analysis with text-mining to understand how defendants are portrayed. At Stanford, she is a leader in an education advocacy group and is involved in a public interest technology lab. She is also founder and Executive Director of The Merry Tutor, a free tutoring nonprofit with multiple chapters in the Chicagoland area. She hopes that through her work in research in advocacy, she's able to expand whose voices are heard. Jane is a CocaCola Scholar, Presidential Scholar, and Elks Scholar. In her free time, she enjoys playing the ukulele, taking part in card and board games, and hanging out with family and friends.

Jasmine Nguyen

Jasmine Nguyen (she/her) is a sophomore at Stanford University majoring in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity with a focus on Politics and Policy. She is interested in racial justice and advocacy and is currently leading a nationwide campaign to change high school curriculums as to include books by people of color (diversifyournarrative.com). She participated in a Cardinal Service course and a Haas Center Leadership Retreat in the Winter of her freshman year.

Jonathan Lipman

Jonathan (he/him) is a Senior studying Philosophy and Computer Science at Stanford. He is writing an honors thesis as part of the Ethics in Society program on the distributional effects of Cost Benefit Analysis. On campus, he serves as an ASSU senator, advocating for a more just and student-centered college experience. Outside of class, he's an avid baker and NYT mini crossword fan, albeit not a very fast one.

Julia Paris

Julia Paris (she/her) is a rising senior pursuing a B.A.H. in Economics ('21) and an M.A. in Public Policy ('22). She is writing an undergraduate honors thesis on the effects of public-school funding changes on educational outcomes and social mobility in Canada. During her time at Stanford, Julia has advocated to improve sexual violence prevention policies at the institutional, state, and federal levels. She is originally from Ottawa, Canada.

Lily Amelia Susman

Lily Amelia Susman (she/her) is a second-year M.A. student at the Center for East Asian Studies where she focuses on women and gender through transnational cultural history. Prior to arriving at Stanford, she earned an A.B. in Asian Studies from Bowdoin College, served as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Taiwan, and worked at non-profit organizations in her hometown of New York City. Lily is

currently crowdsourcing and digitizing photographs for *Zhao Zhao Wo*, a grassroots community archive project.

María Valentina Suárez-Nieto

María (she/her) is a senior pursuing a BS in Biology (Neurobiology), and minors in Human Rights and Data Science. She is from Villavicencio, Colombia and immigrated to Miami, FL when she was younger. María is passionate about health equity and aspires to one day advocate for solutions that reduce health care disparities experienced by underrepresented communities in medicine. During her time at Stanford, María has volunteered as a pre-clin, summer intern, and Spanish interpreter chair at Pacific Free Clinic, where she helped develop a project aimed at better understanding how the health and social needs of communities in the South Bay area have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. María has also volunteered abroad in Tarija, Bolivia, where she shadowed physicians to learn about rural community health, participated in a service project within “Fundacion down-Tarija”, and volunteered at La Libelula “EDYFU”, where she tutored at-risk youth and helped organize community building activities. Additionally, María is the founder of the South Florida “SoFlo” Scholars organization that aims to mentor first-generation and/or low-income high school students in South Florida throughout the college process. María is also the co-founder of ALEUP, a non-profit that aims at empowering Latin American youth through education.

Minha Khan

Minha Khan (she/her) is a student of sociology and education, with a particular interest in and passion for community-based research. Minha believes in the utilization of research to inform policy and practice; and that it is of utmost importance to include community members in the research and decision-making process. Since summer 2018, she have been working alongside with The Citizens Foundation (www.tcf.org.pk) to design, develop, and implement a Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education Curriculum in Tharparkar, Pakistan. This is a key example of employing community-based research to inform policy and practice: the requirements, preferences, and opinions of the community members are foundational in informing any curriculum-related decisions which are made. Currently, Minha is working on her senior thesis which focuses on the educational and occupational aspirations of first-generation females in Pakistan. She is working with a group of girls who are the first in their entire community to attend college to see 1) what factors helped them reach this milestone, and 2) how they envision their academic and professional future. It has been an honor for Minha to be able to speak with, spend time with, and learn from them.

Mustafa Tikka

Mustafa Tikka (he/him) is a junior majoring in international relations with a minor in history.(they) have recently interned at the Kashmir Committee in the National Assembly of Pakistan. As a research assistant, Mustafa researched how development projects for the Kashmir area may transform the

region into a global tourist spot and generate employment for the Kashmiri community. In 2018, Mustafa interned at the micro-finance bank, Akhuwat, working on the Khawaja-Sira Welfare Project, a flagship scheme that focused on uplifting the Pakistani transgender through sustainable programs that would guarantee self-reliance, income generation and alleviate societal exclusion. This summer, Mustafa interned with the STV program to develop a project focused on the use of social media as an effective tool for new entrepreneurs to engage with their communities. Mustafa's current IR honors thesis research broadly focuses on transformations in the perspective of Kashmiris. (Their) research attempts to deduce the cultural, political, and deep-rooted social factors that have brought Kashmir to its current state. The study will include a historical investigation of the problem and the perceived support for the armed struggle by the Kashmiris. The study will also concentrate on the present view of Kashmiris in the Pakistani held part of the region.

Natalie Chapman

Natalie Chapman (any/all), is a junior in the Materials Science and Engineering Department. She loves singing, dancing, learning, and research. She is a proud member of O-Tone: East Asian A Cappella, Kaorihiva: the Polynesian dance group, and an aspiring life-long learner and future professor in engineering. As for research in her department, Natalie looks at how we can implement materials and nanotechnology for sustainable and clean energy. As such, Natalie sees materials research as an important part of the solution for climate change. Before college, Natalie engaged with various communities through Black cultural dance performances and Hurricane Harvey relief for Saint Martin, among many annual volunteer/fundraising efforts. While in college, Natalie seeks to provide a platform for their peers in STEM as a scholar activist. She is particularly interested in student outcomes in introductory STEM courses as well as equity in STEM education and professional development. Currently, Natalie's efforts at Stanford are focused on increasing the diversity of graduate school admissions in engineering and researching equitable STEM pedagogy in first-year undergraduate courses.

Ruben Anguiano

Ruben Anguiano (he/him) is a senior pursuing a bachelor's degree in urban studies and a coterminal master's degree in sociology. He is from Los Angeles and is a first-generation and low-income student at Stanford University. His honors thesis in urban studies attempts to illuminate the self-perceived role of the urban planner and its impact on the community engagement process. His interests revolve around urbanism, especially its intersections with social justice, housing, sustainability, and self-determination. During his sophomore summer, Ruben had the opportunity to work with Causa Justa :: Just Cause, a multi-racial, grassroots organization fighting for social justice in the San Francisco Bay Area. During his internship, Ruben learned about and practiced community organizing specific to housing, immigration, and youth issues. During his junior fall, Ruben interned at the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) as a neighborhood planning intern. At HPD, Ruben was able to gain experience in the community planning process as well as work on a project compiling homeowner resources and responsibilities into a comprehensive homeowner manual. In the future, Ruben will pursue a master's

degree in urban and regional planning to work towards equitable, inclusive, and sustainable neighborhoods.

Shania Santana

Shania Santana (she/her) is a senior majoring in urban studies and minoring in CSRE. Shania is proudly from Chicago and is a first-generation and low-income student. Her honors thesis in urban studies will explore the process of community-led urban planning in Chicago, will identify the community organizations leading these efforts, and detail how community organizations use collaboration and community engagement in their work. In the future, Shania wishes to pursue a master's in urban planning and become an urban planner to uplift, repair, and restore marginalized neighborhoods/cities. Through her work, Shania hopes to learn how to use urban planning for liberation and community empowerment. Her interests include cities, environmental justice, education, housing, transportation, art, abolition, youth activism, and public health. In her free time Shania enjoy trying new foods, watching shows (re: anime) and movies, expanding her earring collection, and reading. As a FLI student, she is involved in the FLI community and LSP (the Leland Scholars Program) family. She is also co-president of Barrio Assistance tutoring program and the previous leader of the ASB trip to Chicago titled "Unearthing our Roots: Grassroots Movements in Chicago" which introduced students to community organizations which are working to redefine Chicago's narrative.

Siena Fay

Siena Fay (he/they) is a rising senior pursuing a bachelors' degree in International Relations and minors in Human Rights and French with a focus on the intersection between social movements, international human rights law, and gender politics. Siena has engaged with activism and social justice work in a variety of ways. They were a Human Rights Summer Fellow (working at Advocates for Youth, an NGO in D.C.) and a Public Interest Law Fellow (at the Transgender Law Center), where they worked on addressing the needs of transgender inmates in prisons and immigration detention centers. Siena was an organizer for the SB 562 Campaign for universal healthcare in California and for Pamela Price's District Attorney Campaign. Additionally, Siena worked as a research assistant at the International Human Rights Clinic at Stanford Law School, the Martin Luther King Jr. Institute, and the Stanford-MIT Healthy Election Project. With PSSP, Siena hopes to expand on their research skills as they write their Human Rights Capstone. Siena's goal is to create an educational tool for communities, particularly transgender and gender non-conforming youth (TGNC), to learn more about the ways in which TGNC historical figures have been present across cultures and centuries to help contextualize contemporary trans issues.