

Congratulations to our Recent Graduate Degree Recipients!

Gabby Bosmenier Cruz: MD, University of Vermont
Emily Hynes: PhD in Musicology, UNC Chapel Hill
Jewel Lee: Doctor of Optometry, Midwestern University
Tenzin (Tsetan) Lobsang: Doctor of Nursing Practice in Nurse Anesthesia, St. Mary's University
David McGowan: MA in Biostatistics, UMN Twin Cities
Yadi Quintanillo: PhD in Occupational Therapy, UW Madison
Sam Rivera: Master of Music Ed, UIL Urbana-Champaign
Sydney Gieger: MD, UMN Twin Cities
Ian Roback: MA in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development, American University and University for Peace
Lori Tran: MA in Higher Education, UMN Twin Cities
Chris Steene: MA in English, University of St. Thomas

St. Olaf TRIO McNair Results

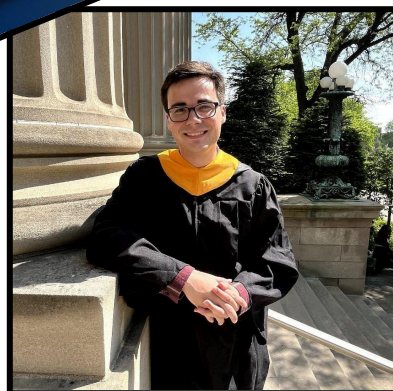
Number of students served by the St. Olaf McNair program since 2007 **237**

St. Olaf McNair Scholars who have enrolled in or have earned their M.A. degree **42%**

St. Olaf McNair Scholars who have enrolled in or have completed their PhD or MD **22%**



Top Left: Congratulations to Dr. Emily Hynes who completed her Ph.D. in Musicology at UNC Chapel Hill! One of her dissertation advisors was St. Olaf TRIO McNair alum Dr. Aaron Harcus (pictured top right)! **Middle (left to right):** Lori Tran and David McGowan earned their Master's degree from the UMN. Gabby Bosmenier Cruz and Sydney Gieger graduated with their MD. **Bottom (left to right):** Ian Roback, ACM GSEF Scholar, graduated with his MA in Natural Resources and Sustainable Development. Yadi Quintanillo completed her doctorate in Physical Therapy at UW Madison.



Congratulations to the St. Olaf TRIO McNair Class of 2024!

Samantha Dodoo (Biology)
 Jose Gonzalez Ramirez (Chemistry)
 Elijah Johnson (Biology)
 Athziri Marcial Rodriguez (Biology/Spanish)
 Truman McNeil (Biology)
 Blue Nawa (Creative Writing)
 Angel Nieto (Environmental St/Biology)
 Jennifer Rios Lopez (Spanish)
 Autumn Pozniak (Biology/Creative Writing)
 Brenton Sykes (Social Studies Education)
 Autumn Pozniak (Biology/Creative Writing)
 Lissette Trinidad Mejia (Soc/Anthropology)
 Cheng Vang (Math)



We are so proud of you and all of your hard work! We can't wait to see where life takes you!

- Melissa and Janis

We wish our McNair Scholars all the best this year as they begin graduate/professional school!

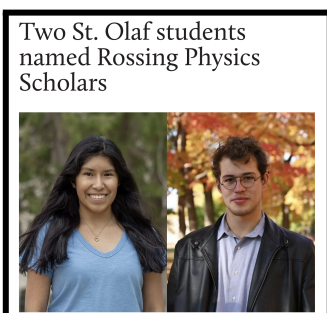
Fernando Aguilar Ortega ('22): Ph.D. in Neuroscience, Baylor University
Jose Gonzalez Ramirez ('24): Doctorate of Optometry, Pacific University (pictured right)
Liban Jama ('21): MS in Software Engineering, University of St. Thomas
Stephanie Sanchez ('23): Doctorate of Physical Therapy, Midwestern University
Kei Skeide ('12): Ph.D. in Couple and Family Therapy, Antioch University
Cheng Vang ('22): MA in Data Science, University of St. Thomas
Antonia Zheleva ('23): MD, Rush University



2024 Summer Research/Internship Experiences

Class of 2025 - Name	Major/s	Summer Experience
Gudon Ahmed	Psychology	Summer course; working at Eye Clinic
Ashley Briceno	Psychology	St. Olaf TRIO Upward Bound RA
Ivy Castillo	Biology/SOAN	McNair Research with Dr. Will Matchett "Viruses with Zoonotic Potential."
Ana Colliton	Physics/Math	Purdue REU with Prof. Reppert
Carolina Cornejo Ayala	Psychology	Shadowing in Psych and nannying
Jan-Rose Davis	SOAN/Race & Ethnic Studies	St. Olaf Choir tour to South Africa, Spring research with Ryan Shephard and Jody (Smith)
Paola Diaz	Biology/Environmental Studies	Shadow vet clinic
Daniella Embu	Psychology	UW Madison Psychology REU
Chelsea Hurtado	Biology	University of Washington CICOES REU
Rose Lopez	Kinesiology/Psychology	Internship with ETS Strength and Conditioning and Kids Strong, research with Dr. Holbein
Anh Mai	Environmental Studies	Cornell REU
Lulu Makene	Psych/Asian Studies/Japanese	PREP CTSI U of M
Alexander Perez	Chemistry	CURI research with Dr. Takashi Maie "Vertebral Biomechanics - Material testing and kinematics during predator escaping behavior in fish"
Jureenna Tway	Biology	CURI research with Dr. Will Matchett "Viruses with Zoonotic Potential"
Blanca Torres Lopez	Biology/Chemistry	CNA at hospital, Organic Chem summer course
George Yang	Physics/Math	Pittsburgh MEMS FIRE REU

Class of 2026 - Name	Major/s	Summer Experience
Esi Amoah	Biology/Chemistry	McNair Research with Dr. Umbanhowar "Reconstructing 10000 years of environmental history in southwestern MN"
Anthony Calderon Reyes	Quantitative Economics/Race and Ethnic Studies	McNair Research with Dr. Seth Binder "Investigating the Relationship between Declining Homicide Rates and the Rise of Tourism in El Salvador"
Ruth Feleke	History	PCA for elderly; Magnus Research with Dr. Elaigwu Ameh
Sophia González	Math//Physics	Electrical Engineering Internship
Natalie Gonzalez	Math/Physics	Cornell CLASSE REU
Malikiah Guillory	Poli Science/Environmental St	McNair Research with Dr. Dana Horton "Editing and Writing for the Journal of Hip Hop Studies"
Karen Henriquez Fajardo	Poli Sci/Spanish/Latin American St/Race and Ethnic St	Colorado College Activism Institute
Charlie Knieff	Sociology/Anthropology	Intern with Jean-Nickolaus Tretter Collection
Emyla Lewis	Social Work	Minnesota Summer Impact Corps Summer Youth Learning and Enrichment Fellow
Brenna Lindeen	Biology	McNair Research with Dr. Kandl "Fat Storage Utilization during Tetrahymena Starvation"
Melanie Merkel	Environmental Science	McNair Research with Dr. Grossman "Climate Change Resilience of Native Plants"
Veronica Torres-Bermudez	Biology/Chemistry	Mayo SURF program
Tashani Williams	Chemistry/French	McNair Research with Dr. Brezny "Organic Chemistry Aerobic Oxidation of Alkenes"



Top Left: Ivy Castillo presents her research at the Private Colleges' Scholars at the Capitol event in February. **Top Middle:** McNair Scholar Ana Colliton receives \$10,000 [Rossing Physics Scholarship](#). **Top Right:** McNair/GSEF Alumni Jenna Castillo, Mariah DuBose, and Yadi Quintanillo join our First-Gen Graduate School Panel for St. Olaf's first-generation celebration in November. Hosted by McNair senior Athziri. **Middle:** Lulu Makene, Daniella Embu and Carolina Cornejo Ayala attend the ACM GRADx summit at the UMN Twin Cities. **Bottom Left:** McNair Scholars Elijah Johnson and Jose Gonzalez Ramirez present at the annual St. Olaf DEI Symposium.



TRIO McNair Alumni Updates?

Email melgar@stolaf.edu with personal or graduate school updates that you would like to share with McNair staff or the St. Olaf and TRIO communities! We would love to hear from you!