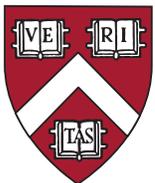


STUDENT DIRECTORY



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**MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE
FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**



LORENA “LORE” AVILES TRUJILLO

Hometown: Park City, IL | Residential House: Adams | Class of '17

Concentration(s): Sociology; Ethnicity, Migration, and Rights

Research Interest/Area: Coyotaje Smuggling System in the United States-Mexico Border

“I grew up in a beautifully small town in the middle of nowhere, Mexico and moved to Illinois at the age of eight. Upon my arrival in the United States, I focused on learning English as soon as possible and eventually enrolled in honors and advance placement classes. All along, I have loved to dance to bachata, merengue, and cumbia, and have loved remaining close to my culture while growing as a scholar.”



KAPENA BAPTISTA

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA | Residential House: Leverett | Class of '16

Concentration(s): Music and Social Anthropology

Research Interest/Area: Hawaiian Music and Performativity

Kapena is a queer native Hawaiian musician, composer, and artist, with interests in ethnomusicology, social justice, and indigenous self-determination.



MARYSSA BARRON

Hometown: Little Rock, AR | Residential House: Mather | Class of '17

Concentration(s): Social Anthropology

Research Interest/Area: Theories of governance in French communities

“I am an undergraduate student at Harvard University. I concentrate in social anthropology with a projected secondary in organismic and evolutionary biology. I am passionate about scholarship specifically focusing in theories of governance and interdisciplinary convergence in environmental and biomedical issues. In my free time, I am usually outdoors hiking, ice climbing, or rock climbing.”



CHERLINE “CHÈLIN” BAZILE

Hometown: Spring Hill, FL | Residential House: Adams | Class of '17

Concentration(s): Social Studies with a secondary in Mind, Brain, and Behavior

Research Interest/Area: Modern Social Thought

“I am a writer/thinker/performer that is fascinated by the way we conceptualize our interactions with space, time, and people. Navigating Harvard as a first generation student has been a difficult process eased by love and support, and I hope that my research can provide others with a way to understand themselves.”



IKO'TSIMISKIMAKI “EKO” BECK

Hometown: Missoula, MT | Residential House: Pforzheimer | Class of '17

Concentration(s): Social Studies with secondary in Environmental Science and Public Policy

Research Interest/Area: American Indian Migrant Farmwork in the 1950's and 60's

Iko'tsimiskimaki "Ekoo" Beck is enrolled in the Blackfeet Nation and additionally affiliated with the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Cree and Metis. Growing up with a strong sense of her tribal history and race relations in America, Ekoo seeks to eradicate injustice and advocate for indigenous peoples through her work in academia. Ekoo's passion for dissecting the intersections of environmental and racial justice sparked her interest in the history of American Indian Migrant Farmwork.



KIRIN GUPTA

Hometown: Washington, DC | Residential House: Winthrop | Class of '16

Concentration(s): Social Studies + Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies

Research Interest/Area: Violent Formation of Gendered Subjectivities in the Global South

“I'm passionate about the intersectional fight for liberation from a hegemonic social project, which for me means both critical inquiry + intelligent action steps/interventions. I work with the feminist and reproductive justice groups on campus, and am dedicated to a fight for racial justice. I look forward to continuing my research and learning from this community for years to come!”



LESHAE HENDERSON

Hometown: Kailua, HI | Residential House: Mather | Class of '16
Concentration(s): Sociology
Research Interest/Area: Culture, Race, Mass Incarceration

Hailing from Kailua, HI, LeShae is interested in questions of culture and race as they pertain to diversity and inclusion in the United States. More specifically she hopes to find more community specific responses and solutions to social problems ailing marginalized and indigenous communities across the US. As a Native Hawaiian, her current research interest centers on the ways that mass incarceration affects Native Hawaiian communities, contributing to the overrepresentation of Native Hawaiian men, women and children. When she isn't studying, LeShae enjoys hiking, dancing hula and singing.



CJ JARAMILLO

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA | Residential House: Winthrop | Class of '16
Concentration(s): Human Evolutionary Biology
Research Interest/Area: Biomechanics of Running

"I was born and raised in Los Angeles, but spent the better part of my High School career in every other city in California competing in archery tournaments. I decided to concentrate in Human Evolutionary Biology at Harvard because it is a discipline that integrates a number of different approaches to the study of humanity. When I am not in the lab studying variation in medial longitudinal arch stiffness, I volunteer as an EMT, coach Olympic weightlifting at a local gym, and enjoy rereading ludicrously long Russian novels."



NANCY KO

Hometown: Brooklyn, NY | Residential House: Lowell | Class of '17
Concentration(s): History and Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
Research Interest/Area: Jewish intellectual history; Moroccan Jewish history; Emmanuel Levinas; Early Modern European Jewish History

"I plan to visit all seven continents before my inevitable end, but at heart I'm a Brooklyn girl. I grew up in an Italian and Jewish cultural milieu in Bensonhurst, and the stories my parents' customers told us at our family-run grocery store instilled in me a deep respect for and curiosity about the past. I plan to pursue a Ph.D in History, with a special interest in Jewish intellectual history. I am a proud member of the Harvard Political Union and I write for the Harvard Political Review, but few things beat a fresh cup of Arabic coffee or a sick mountaintop view."



CHELSEA LIDE

Hometown: Farmington Hills, MI | Residential House: Currier | Class of '16
Concentration(s): Psychology: MBB, Linguistics
Research Interest/Area: The Effect of Linguistic Structure on Children's Interpretation of Verb Meaning

"I was born and raised in a suburb of Detroit, where it was very uncommon for people to get accepted to an Ivy League university, let alone even apply to a college that was out of state. While at Harvard, I've had the opportunity to grow as an academic in my specific field of research, while also staying true to my passion for mentoring and minority outreach. As a Mellon, these two worlds -- academia and minority development -- have joined to create one of the most meaningful and memorable experiences I've had as an undergraduate here at Harvard."



KIMIKO MATSUDA-LAWRENCE

Hometown: Honolulu, HI | Residential House: Currier | Class of '16
Concentration(s): History & Literature and African American Studies
Research Interest/Area: Aunt Jemima and performances of race in American history and culture

Kimiko Margaret Matsuda-Lawrence from Washington DC, and Honolulu, Hawai'i, she is a proud product of DC public schools and the University Laboratory School. A scholar in African American Studies and History & Literature at Harvard University, Kimiko wrote and directed her first play, *I, Too, Am Harvard*, in the spring of her sophomore year. She recently co-founded *Renegade*, an arts collective and magazine by and for students of color at Harvard, which can be found online at renegade-mag.com. Kimiko is a proud member of the *Kuumba Singers of Harvard College*, a choir dedicated to celebrating black creativity and spirituality.



KAIHO MATSUMOTO

Hometown: 'Ewa, Hawai'i | Residential House: Adams | Class of '17
Concentration(s): History and Literature
Research Interest/Area: Applying decolonized methodologies in historicizing moments of cross-cultural contact in 19th century Hawai'i

"Welina pumehana. Eia au he kupa, he mamo, he 'ōiwi, a he aloha 'āina a Hawai'i nui kuauli. Mai Hawai'i, lāpana, Kelemānia, a me Kina mai ko'u mau kūpuna. Ma hope o ko'u puka kula 'ana, makameka nō au e lilo i mahi'ai a polopeka ho'i ma Hawai'i. I enjoy sharing stories, playing music ('ukulele), surfing, farming, reading, writing, cooking, drinking 'awa, and exploring ways to resist the colonial legacies of the ongoing U.S. imperial occupation of Hawai'i."



YUSUPH MKANGARA

Hometown: Columbus, OH | Residential House: Quincy | Class of '17
Concentration(s): African Studies and Sociology
Research Interest/Area: Tanzanian Education

“I was born in Russia, grew up in Tanzania, and grew a few more inches in Columbus, Ohio. While traveling is in my blood, I feel most comfortable in places that feel like home. When I am vibing artistically, I enjoy writing and performing poetry. Whether new or old, I am always looking for a good, acoustic guitar, folk-like song. Although I want to focus on Tanzania's education system, I am hoping to learn more about how education functions worldwide.”



ARTURO NAVA

Hometown: Norwalk, CA | Residential House: Winthrop | Class of '16
Concentration(s): Sociology
Research Interest/Area: Eu sou Brasileiro (I am Brazilian): Afrobrasilians
Perception of Race in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

“Hello, my name is Arturo and I am a rising senior at the college. I was born and raised in a small suburb just outside of Los Angeles, CA. A child of Mexican immigrants, and a first-generation college student, my main academic interests include the study of access to higher education, social mobility, and social inequality. At Harvard, I have followed my passion for public service and am an active member in the Latino community. While I am still figuring out my long-term career plans, I hope to one day combine my passion for both service and research.”



ANDREA ORTIZ

Hometown: Miami, FL | Residential House: Kirkland | Class of '16
Concentration(s): Social Studies, Secondary in Economics
Research Interest/Area: Transnational Networks and Migration Effects on Local Governance in Mexico

Andrea Ortiz was born in Mexico City, Mexico and grew up in Miami, Florida. She has spent her years at Harvard studying different issues around migration, as well as participating in various public service and advocacy efforts on campus. She hopes to pursue a JD/PhD and continue advocating for immigrant issues around the world.



SANTIAGO PARDO

Hometown: Alpharetta, GA | Residential House: Adams | Class of '16
Concentration(s): History and Archaeology
Research Interest/Area: Late Antiquity

"I am usually either asking myself what was going on in the later Roman Empire or I am one meter below the surface digging (sometimes I do both). My current project is on the literary production in Late Antique Gaul. I have a suspicion that I am Ernest Hemingway and Jean-Paul Sartre's illegitimate love-child but the paternity test from CVS was inconclusive. I am a slave to a diet of a daily espresso."



IKAIKA RAMONÈS

Hometown: Honolulu, HI | Residential House: Cabot | Class of '16
Concentration(s): Social Anthropology
Research Interest/Area: Social Movements in Oceania: Indigenous theory, kinship, ethnic studies, citizenship, colonialism

"My family is from Kalihi, O'ahu, Hawai'i. We are Native Hawaiian, Ilocano Filipino, Chinese, Japanese, and Spanish. I am an undergraduate student of social anthropology at Harvard University, where previous work has covered HIV/AIDS in media anthropology, Hawaiian history and politics, and socio-linguistic movements in West Papua under colonialism. My future research will explore contemporary Native Hawaiian subjectivities of ethnicity, citizenship, and the politics and forms of Hawaiian knowledge. I am interested in new theories of ethnographic methodology. I am also active in issues of Native Hawaiian socio-cultural and political development and decolonization."



CARLOS SNAIDER

Hometown: Boulder, CO | Residential House: Cabot | Class of '17
Concentration(s): Sociology
Research Interest/Area: Sociocultural Perspectives on "Afrological" Music: Radical Aesthetics and Transnational Identity

"I am a student, brother, musician, and composer hailing from Boulder, CO, with experience living in Houston, Quito and now Boston. With family roots in Ecuador and Puerto Rico, I am very interested in exploring cultural identity and citizenship, primarily through music. More specifically, I hope to couple musical performance with scholarship in an effort to forge identity, while also challenging and extending musical traditions embedded within certain cultures. I aspire to be an advocate for political engagement and art in transnational communities."



ITZEL VASQUEZ-RODRIGUEZ

Hometown: Lakewood, CA | Residential House: Kirkland | Class of '17

Concentration(s): Sociology

Research Interest/Area: The disproportionate negative effects the California drought has imposed on the Latino/as population in the state and the role of education on this topic.

“I’m a proud Native Chicana from Southern California. I love to run, do yoga, and bake gluten-free desserts. I’m really interested and passionate about Latino/a studies and education. On campus I’m part of various Native American and Latino/a cultural organizations and PBHA programs, and I also manage the Varsity Track and Field team. As of now, I’m thinking of getting into higher education, education administration, or perhaps even policy, so that I can work to institute real change within the U.S. and around the world.”



CARY WILLIAMS

Hometown: Milton, MA | Residential House: Pforzheimer | Class of '16

Concentration(s): History & Literature, America Field

Research Interest/Area: Slave Owning Free Women of Color in Louisiana, 1800-1850

“I identify as Louisiana Creole, and my family's history and culture have always been important parts of my narrative and upbringing. Once I declared History & Literature as my concentration, I was inspired to more deeply interrogate the history of my ancestors and, more broadly, free people of color in the American South. Outside of the classroom, I am proud to be the President of the Association of Black Harvard Women. Because I am fascinated with the opportunity to explore the past through creative expression, I love writing fiction.”

