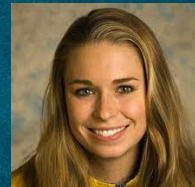


NEWSLETTER

Madeleine Jude Brown Foundation

FALL 2021
ATLANTA, GA



DEAR FRIENDS & FAMILY,

We want to wish you the happiest of holidays and bring you up to date on the activities of the Madeleine Jude Brown Foundation.

We have enhanced the mentoring aspect of the scholarship. One of our Board members, Karen Thompson (Madeleine's Godmother), has joined the mentoring team and we are now able to connect with the scholars on a more frequent basis. Most of our students are the first in their family to go to college and the transition from high school can be daunting.

Eight of our scholars have graduated from college and are employed. Two scholars are living abroad and bringing Madeleine's spirit to distant shores. Two scholars are married and one of them is juggling work and a one-year-old baby girl!!! The seven current scholars have settled well into their fall semesters; most are back to in-person classes.

All of the scholars have shown tremendous positivity, dedication and perseverance and we are proud of them! **We are so thankful for the love and support you have extended to us.** It is hard to believe that 15 years have passed since Madeleine took her last breath. May the Peace that surpasses all understanding be upon you and your loved ones this holiday season.

Peace – Mary, Reay, Veronica and Annie

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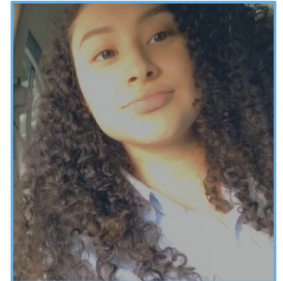
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MADELEINE JUDE BROWN FOUNDATION

SCHOLARS

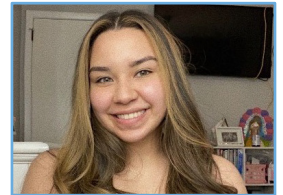
LISABETH VILLEGAS | 2018

Lisbeth Villegas completed her 3rd year at Mercer University where she excelled on all fronts. She is on target to graduate in May 2022 with a dual major in law & public policy and Spanish and a minor in political science. Despite the Covid restrictions, she stayed in Macon last year, took virtual classes and interned at a law firm that specializes in criminal and family law. Lisbeth took the LSATs this fall and will be applying to law schools this winter.



DARIANA RUIZ | 2018

Dariana Ruiz obtained her Associates Degree in Health Sciences from Perimeter College in May. This fall she began the dental hygiene program at Georgia State University which she will complete in May 2023.



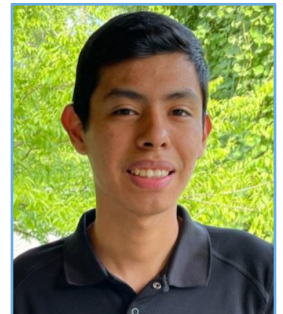
ANGELA VASQUEZ | 2019

Angela Vasquez is a junior at the Georgia Institute of Technology where she continues to receive the Zell Miller HOPE Scholarship that covers 100% of tuition. Angela is majoring in business administration with a concentration in marketing. One of her professors at Tech, Nikki Malgeri MacKenzie, went to Marist high school with Madeleine. The Universe has its own Wisdom. In addition to a busy academic schedule, Angela has become very involved in her church community. This summer she began teaching the Divine Will to a youth group and in June she organized the Ordination Mass for new priests at Christ the King Cathedral in Atlanta.



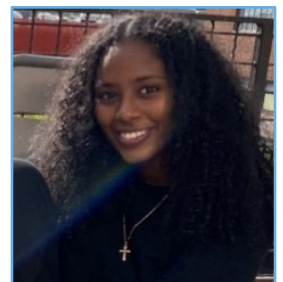
ABRAHAM PIZANO | 2020

Abraham Pizano completed his first year at Georgia Tech where he is studying civil engineering; he also is the recipient of the Zell Miller HOPE Scholarship. This summer he worked in the civil engineering department at Tech and helped a friend run a bakery while taking statistics and linear algebra. His hard work paid off and in the fall he was offered an undergraduate research assistantship (usually reserved for 3rd or 4th year students) in a simulated lab analyzing traffic flow for a local town. Abraham has really embraced the mentoring aspect of the scholarship and his enthusiasm is infectious!



TSION FITSUM | 2020

Tsion Fitsum completed her first year at Georgia Tech where she is studying industrial engineering. This summer, in addition to working 40 hours each week for Comcast, Tsion took classes in computing and microeconomics. She did so well at Comcast that she was offered an internship this fall in the Government Affairs Department which she will be taking in addition to her engineering classes. Tsion's people skills are remarkable and she enjoys seeing how industrial engineering principles can apply to a large company like Comcast.



MADELEINE JUDE BROWN FOUNDATION

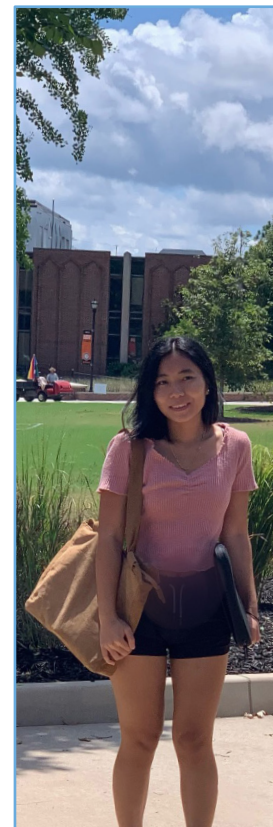
BAE NA DAE TA | 2021

Bae Na Dae Ta, our newest scholar, graduated from Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in May 2021. During high school, Bae Na volunteered with the Missionaries of Charity teaching catechism and working in their summer camp. In August, she enrolled at Mercer University in Macon where she plans to study nursing.

Bae Na is one of six children born in Myanmar (Burma). Her family fled to refugee camps along the Thailand border until they were brought to the US when she was 8 years old. She spoke no English at the time. Because of the language barrier, her transition to America was slow but then “My whole life changed when an African-American student from my class talked to me. She introduced me to her friends and helped me understand certain subjects and words. I started learning to read and write in English little by little thanks to my friend and books. I became comfortable in the group of friends I had, even though we all came from different cultural backgrounds.”

In 2019, Bae Na received 1st place in the 2019 national Jesuit Refugee Service Anne Frank Essay Competition.

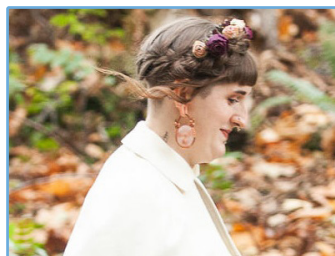
“As we learn to live together and care for one another, we are called to walk side by side with the oppressed, the abandoned and those who are shunned by everyone else. This means standing up for someone who is being bullied because he or she does not fit in with others. It means eating with the girl who sits alone during lunch while everyone else ignores her. When we shut others out because they are different from us, we are rejecting God’s call to love those around us. Without realizing, we are rejecting the Imago Dei because each one of us is created in God’s image and likeness. We must learn to live together because ‘whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen’ (1 Jn 4:20).” American healthcare will be blessed to have Bae Na join its ranks.



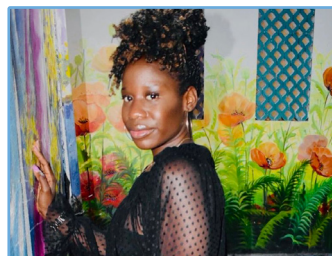
WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Yemesrach Tadesse (2009) graduated from Emory University with a major in Global Health. For the past 8 years she has been living in Addis Ababa working as a consultant, researcher and field manager for nongovernmental organizations. She arrived back in Atlanta in July and began a master’s program in Development Practice at Emory University Laney Graduate School.



Beatrice Flowers (2010) graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design in Interactive Game Design. She lives in Seattle and was married in November. She works as an Associate Systems Designer at Bungie.



Raven Osborne (2011) graduated from Kennesaw State University in Psychology. She currently is living in Nanjing, China and working for First Leap, an afterschool English program. “I had to make you uncomfortable. Otherwise, you never would have moved.”

– Unknown



Melanie McCall (2012) graduated from Georgia Tech in Computational Media and works as a User Interface (UI) Designer and Developer for Hidden Levers and as a coding instructor for NuCamp. She married (Kyle Diaz) last year and had baby girl Luna Jewel on January 2, 2021. In addition to her design work, Melanie and Kyle established their own company, Crystal Fengshui, an online metaphysical shop that specializes in crystals, a variety of herbs and tools for meditation.

MADELEINE JUDE BROWN FOUNDATION



Aniya Hamilton (2013) graduated from the University of Georgia in Environmental Science and spent three years living in Lomé, Togo in West Africa where she became fluent in French, worked in public health and tutored local children. In August she began graduate school at The Paris Institute of Political Studies.



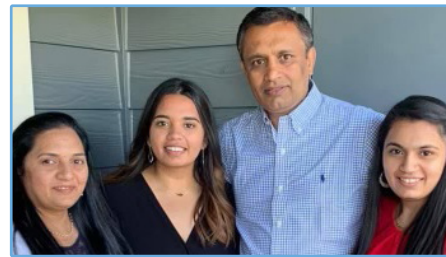
Simon Chang (2015) graduated from the University of Georgia with a major in Exercise and Sports Science and a minor in Chinese Language and Literature. He is in the second of three years of the Doctoral Program in Physical Therapy at Augusta University (Medical College of Georgia).



Apoorva Thapa (2015) graduated from the United World College USA, Montezuma, New Mexico. He currently is back home in Kathmandu, Nepal working with Ek Ek Paila, a community service organization that provides free healthcare and Covid-19 medicine packages throughout Nepal.



Ferdous Abdul Qassimi (2016) graduated from Emory University, majoring in Biology. Since graduation he has been working as a translator for the US military at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey. Ferdous has been assisting physicians, nurses, and EMT's process the Afghan refugees on base. Once his contract ends, he will begin applying to graduate school.



Janki Patel (2017) graduated from the University of Georgia in May with a degree in Environmental Science. Her dream is to become a neonatal nurse practitioner. This summer she obtained her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license and now is working at Wellstar Kennestone Hospital while she applies to Advanced Bachelors of Nursing programs.

ACTIVITIES

The MJB Foundation continues to support Mercy Care which provides healthcare to the homeless and financially needy in Atlanta. Mercy Care operates two stand-alone clinics, six multi-service clinics, two mobile vans that visit four additional sites and a street medicine team.

In 2019, Mercy Care provided:

- More than 60,000 patient encounters
- 2,000 mental health visits
- 11,000 dental visits
- 74% of the clients live at or below the poverty level
- 77% of the clients are uninsured

MJB was part of the initiative to expand the Decatur Street facility that will increase clinic space and also add senior and transitional family housing. This winter, the new clinic lobby will be dedicated to Madeleine.

