



*From the Office of the American Secretary*

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## American Rhodes Scholars-elect for 2023

*(Subject to ratification by the Rhodes Trustees after acceptance by one of the colleges of Oxford University)*

### DISTRICT 1

#### Massachusetts

**Tessa K.J. Haining**, Newton, is a senior at Harvard College, where she is completing dual majors in Chemistry and Comparative Literature. She is an accomplished chemist who is also writing a senior thesis on twentieth-century French metaphysical philosopher Gilles Deleuze. Tessa is a varsity athlete on the heavyweight rowing team and a violinist and production manager for Harvard's student-run orchestra. As co-director of Harvard's Eating Concerns Hotline and Outreach service, she helped expand the program's reach on campus and also serves as a peer counselor. At Oxford, Tessa will do the M.Phil. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology.

### Massachusetts

**Isaac A. Robinson**, Milton, is a senior of Harvard College where he majors in Computer Science and Mathematics. He has done research or interned at N.I.H., Jane Street, Meta, and the Beijing Genomics Institute. He created and occupied the position of Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Ethical Technology at Technology for Social Good. Isaac is a varsity heavyweight rower, co-president of the Harvard College Democrats and has two patents pending. He will do the M.Sc. in Advanced Computer Science at Oxford.

## DISTRICT 2

### Connecticut

**Margaret T. Williams**, Greenwich, is a senior at the United States Military Academy where she majors in Economics. Margaret has won major awards in social sciences, economics and athletics, interned at the White House with the National Security Council, and is a research assistant at the Irregular Warfare Institute. She is a four-year varsity lacrosse player, and represented the United States at the Youth World Cup in soccer when she was 12. As an Army Engineer, she will conduct humanitarian aid in developing countries and following that hopes to help develop national security policy. At Oxford, Margaret plans to do the M.Sc. in Economics for Development.

### New Jersey

**Kai L. Youngren**, Florham Park, is a senior at the United States Military Academy where he majors in Law and Legal Studies. At West Point, he was Regimental Commander for Cadet Basic Training and is now the Deputy Brigade Commander, while ranking 1st in his class. Kai is a Presidential Fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress and edited a forthcoming book on the American Vice Presidency. His interest in service and scholarship was inspired by the loss of his grandfather, a soldier and a professor, who died on the plane that crashed into the World Trade Center South Tower on 9/11. Kai intends to do the M.Phil. in Development Studies at Oxford.

## **DISTRICT 3**

### **New York - South**

**John “Jack” B. Cook**, Long Island City, graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2022 with a B.S. in Computer Science and Engineering and is currently completing a Master of Engineering in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, also at MIT. Jack’s academic work examines the use of cognitive assessments powered by artificial intelligence to help diagnose patients with neurodegenerative disorders. He has also applied AI to help analyze biomedical research, combat misinformation, and defend against cyber-attacks. As the director of MIT’s annual hackathon, Jack helped build a digital platform to convert one of the world’s largest hackathons to a virtual event during COVID-related closures. At Oxford, Jack will pursue the M.Sc. in Social Science of the Internet.

### **New York - South**

**Marie-Rose Sheinerman**, New York City, is a senior at Princeton University where she majors in History. The Editor-in-Chief of the Daily Princetonian, she has won many national and state awards for journalism, and was on the team awarded a Pulitzer Prize for Breaking News for reporting on the collapse of the Surfside condominium complex for the Miami Herald. She also has interned for Bloomberg News, and was previously a student board member of Princeton’s Center for Jewish Life. With deep interest and scholarship in Eastern Europe, she will do the M.Phil. in Modern European History at Oxford.

## **DISTRICT 4**

### **New York - North**

**Sophie A. Bryant**, Port Henry, is a senior at Columbia University, where she is completing dual majors in East Asian Languages and Cultures and Mathematics. Her scholarship focuses on the domestic drivers of foreign policy, with a particular interest in U.S.-China relations. Sophie has completed research internships with a range of organizations, including the Council on Foreign Relations, PEN America, and Carnegie China. She is also active in educational service and advocacy work. At Oxford, Sophie intends to do the M.Phil. in Global and Area Studies.

## Pennsylvania

**James “JT” A. Mullins**, Hershey, is a senior at Yale College where he majors in Ethics, Politics and Economics. JT also completed Yale’s Directed Studies Program. He has been a scholar at the Institute for Responsible Citizenship, an intern with the Public Defender Service of Washington, D.C., as well as for the Center for Law and Social Policy, and was co-president and Solidarity Chair of Yale Black Men’s Union. JT is passionate about criminal justice reform and was coordinator of mentors for public school teachers in New Haven. JT will do the M.Sc. in Criminology and Criminal Justice at Oxford.

## DISTRICT 5

### District of Columbia

**Henry Large**, Washington, D.C., is a Yale College senior with dual majors in History and Spanish. Much of his academic and volunteer work is focused on issues related to Latin American migration crises. He has worked with at-risk youth in Guatemala, with the office of the Public Defender in San Diego, and did thesis research in Peru. Henry is captain of the Yale Men’s Rugby team, and after Oxford will plan to be an officer in the Marine Corps. At Oxford, Henry will do the M.Phil. in Latin American Studies.

### District of Columbia

**Isabella Turilli**, Arlington, Virginia, graduated this year from Georgetown University with a B.S.F.S. in Science, Technology, and International Affairs. She currently works as a research associate at the Council on Foreign Relations, focusing on global health issues. While at Georgetown, Isabella served as an active-duty EMT, providing more than a thousand hours of volunteer ambulance services to students and community members, much of it during the pandemic. She also sang with the Georgetown University Chamber Singers and was elected as its co-president. At Oxford, Isabella plans to do the M.Sc. in Public Policy Research.

## DISTRICT 6

### North Carolina

**Shreyas Hallur**, Phoenix, Arizona, is a senior at Duke University with majors in Statistics and in Public Policy. Already recognized nationally as an advocate for individuals with autism, Shreyas has interned at Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for

Medicare and Medicaid Services, and has done research at Harvard Medical School and Duke. He is co-president of the Duke Disability Alliance and co-director of Disability Policy for the Duke Student Government. He was elected as a junior to Phi Beta Kappa, and has supported Arizona's Medicaid efforts for over two years. Shreyas plans to do the M.Sc. in Medical Anthropology at Oxford.

### North Carolina

**Alice N.C. Hauser**, Kennebunk, Maine, is a senior at Wake Forest University, where she is majoring in both Philosophy and Piano Performance. Alice is an accomplished pianist who has completed independent research in Germany and Austria on Johannes Brahms. Her extracurricular activities focus on the law, including internships at the Major Crimes Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office, Lawyers Without Borders, and other legal organizations. She is the captain of the women's club ultimate frisbee team and works with a student association to tutor and support Syrian refugees. At Oxford, Alice will do the M.Sc. in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies.

## DISTRICT 7

### Florida

**Sophie M. Huttner**, Sarasota, is a Yale College senior majoring in Global Affairs. Much of her academic work and service activities have focused on issues of gender, violence and forced migration. She has worked for six years as a volunteer interpreter in Spanish and Portuguese for women escaping gender-based violence. She has also been active in community service in New Haven, and in political advocacy, with a particular focus on Latin America. Sophie was elected as a junior to Phi Beta Kappa and has career interests in immigration reform. Sophie will do the M.Sc. in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies at Oxford.

### Florida

**Natalie E. Navarrete**, Boca Raton, is a senior at the University of Georgia with majors in International Affairs, Russian and Spanish. This year Natalie is studying at the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University in Almaty, Kazakhstan. A heritage speaker of Spanish and proficient in Russian, she has done research at the Center for International Trade and Security, the National Nuclear Security Administration and the Department of Energy. She

also spent a term at Oxford and competed on the women's volleyball team. Natalie will do the M.Phil. in Russian and East European Studies at Oxford.

## DISTRICT 8

### Texas

**Isaac W. James**, Arlington, received his B.A. in Government and Plan II Honors with a minor in LGBTQ+ Studies from the University of Texas at Austin in May. Isaac is spending this year as a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs, a public sector leadership development program in New York City. Active in student advocacy at UT Austin, he was an elected leader of the UT Senate of College Councils and directed the Queer and Trans Student Alliance. He has published extensively on LGBTQ rights and his career goals relate to implementing LGBTQ-inclusive education policy. Isaac will do the M.Sc. in Education at Oxford (Digital and Social Change).

### Texas

**Matthew Kearney**, Austin, is a senior at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with majors in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Philosophy. He has technical experience in machine learning at Google X, deep sensing for climate forecasting, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence. He is Captain and an All-American on the M.I.T. cross-country team, and has a perfect academic record. Matthew is especially interested in the unintended consequences of artificial intelligence. A Native American, much of his work is focused at the intersection of philosophy, AI, machine learning and governance. At Oxford, Matthew will do the M.Sc. by Research in Statistics.

## DISTRICT 9

### Virginia

**Atharv Gupta**, Fairfax, is a senior at Georgetown University, where he is majoring in Science, Technology, and International Affairs. Artharv's work engages the intersection of international development and digital technologies. He has interned in the State Department's Office of West African Affairs and plays lead trumpet in the Georgetown University Jazz Ensemble. He also writes, edits, and publishes a weekly newsletter on film,

television, and media. At Oxford, Atharv intends to do the MSc in Social Science of the Internet.

### Virginia

**Tahrington “Tahri” R.M. Phillips**, Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, will be graduating next year from Washington and Lee University where she majors in Cognitive and Behavioral Science and English, and minors in Africana Studies. Elected as a junior to Phi Beta Kappa, she captained the women’s varsity basketball team and was co-president of a women’s a capella group. Tahri was a research assistant in a behavioral science laboratory, and won college prizes in English, and for leadership, service and writing. She has also been an active leader of youth in her church and community. Tahri will do the M.Phil. in Evidence-Based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation at Oxford.

## DISTRICT 10

### Illinois

**Lauren Kim**, Chicago, is a Harvard College senior where she will receive a B.A. in Chemistry and Engineering Science and an M.A. in Chemistry and Chemical Biology. Since high school, she has done extensive volunteer arts therapy for dementia patients. She is president of an organization committed to menstrual and reproductive health, and co-founded and co-directs public health and education programs in Uganda. Lauren has also done research with extensive publications, including at the Broad Institute and the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Lauren plans to do the M.Sc. in International Health and Tropical Medicine at Oxford.

### Illinois

**Irena S. Petryk**, Morton Grove, is a senior at Northwestern University, with dual majors in Economics and International Studies. Her academic interests center on understanding and strengthening international commitments on economic development. She has completed internships at the Council of Economic Advisers, the State Department, and the U.S. Agency for International Development. The daughter of Ukrainian immigrants, Irena co-founded Northwestern for Ukraine following the Russian invasion. She is also active in an organization to support girls’ education in West Africa. At Oxford, Irena will pursue the M.Sc. in Economics for Development.

## DISTRICT 11

### Minnesota

**Astrid M. Liden**, Eden Prairie, is a senior at Columbia University with majors in Political Science and Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Raised between Venezuela and the United States, Astrid is keenly interested in immigration policy, where she has done extensive academic work and made important direct contributions in research and as a volunteer locally and regionally. She has worked with several non-profits including the International Rescue Committee, while winning many awards for her scholarship and leadership, while writing and speaking extensively. She is also music director for an a capella group. Astrid will do the M.Sc. in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies at Oxford.

### West Virginia

**Henry A. Cerbone**, Albright, is a senior at Harvard College where he will graduate with bachelor's and master's degrees in Computer Science. He created his own concentration in the Ontology of Autonomous Systems, exploring the technical expertise to build robots alongside the ethical stakes of such creations. He has done extensive research, with many publications, especially in robotics. Henry also wrote a bi-weekly op-ed column in the Harvard Crimson using philosophy, biology and robotics to present perspectives on daily life, was editor of the Harvard Review of Philosophy and is a published photographer. At Oxford, Henry will do a D.Phil. in Biology.

## DISTRICT 12

### Missouri

**Veer Sangha**, Columbia, is a senior at Yale College with majors in Computer Science, Statistics and Data Science. He has excelled across multiple disciplines in his motivation to explore how artificial intelligence can revolutionize health care. He has four peer-reviewed journal articles, including a first author publication in Nature Communications, and a patent relating to hidden cardiovascular disease. Veer has also been active in the delivery of public health services, including hypertension screening. Veer will pursue a D.Phil. in Health Data Science at Oxford.



## Tennessee

**Ulystean Jonathan Oates**, Knoxville, is a senior at Yale College, where he is majoring in Political Science. Jonathan's academic work engages questions of democracy, justice, and equality, and he has completed recent internships in the office of Representative Jim Cooper and at the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy. Jonathan has served in numerous positions in student government at Yale and received multiple campus awards in recognition of his leadership. At Oxford, Jonathan intends to do the M.Phil. in Politics.

## DISTRICT 13

### Colorado

**James "Jamie" M. Landy**, Washington, D.C., is a senior at the United States Air Force Academy, where he is completing double majors in Political Science and Latin American Studies. A Truman Scholar, Jamie has received numerous awards for his independent research. Jamie is ranked first out of all cadets in his class based on academic, military, and athletic performance. Jamie has founded multiple community service organizations and served as captain of an Air Force Academy rugby team as a freshman. At Oxford, Jamie will do the M.Phil. in International Relations.

### Colorado

**Brian H. Wee**, Erie, is a senior at Harvard College, with dual majors in Chemical and Physical Biology and Government. His academic research examines the impact of COVID-19 on individuals with underlying health conditions. At Harvard, Brian organized the World Pre-Health Conference to bring together organizations representing medical students from around the world. He is a dedicated volunteer at the Harvard Square Homeless Shelter, which received the Harvard Student Organization of the Year Award in 2022. At Oxford, Brian will do the M.Sc. in International Health and Tropical Medicine.

## DISTRICT 14

### Idaho

**Kaya N. Evans**, Pocatello, graduated in 2021 from the College of Idaho, where she received a B.A. in Political Economy. Her senior thesis focused on issues of voter suppression. Since graduating, she has worked in political campaigns in Eastern Idaho. While at the College of

Idaho, Kaya was captain of the women's soccer team and helped lead the team to its first conference championship and berth at the national championships. At Oxford, Kaya will do the M.Phil. in Politics.

### Washington

**Ilina Logani**, Spokane, graduated from Columbia University in May, summa cum laude in Economics. During college she received prizes for her thesis, for poetry, and for non-fiction writing. Ilina founded the Spokane Youth of Color Coalition, and has done extensive political and advocacy work in Washington State, New York, Massachusetts and India, most focused on how to repair systems of inequity. She is currently a research fellow at the University of Chicago. Ilina will do the M.Phil. in Comparative Social Policy at Oxford.

## DISTRICT 15

### Arizona

**Nathaniel M.R. Ross**, Mesa, is a senior at Arizona State University (Tempe), where he is completing four majors: Bachelors of Science degrees in Biological Sciences, Applied Quantitative Science, and Political Science, and a Bachelors of Arts degree in history. A disability rights advocate, Nathaniel was the youngest person to qualify for the ballot in city history when he ran for a seat on the Mesa City Council. During the pandemic, he founded a virtual mentorship network for children with Eosinophilic and related disorders. At Oxford, Nathaniel will do the M.Sc. in Comparative Social Policy.

### California - North

**Amisha Kambath**, San Ramon, is a senior at Harvard College where she majors in Social Studies. A Truman Scholar, she is passionate about criminal justice reform. She was President of the Harvard College Project for Justice, co-chair of the Policy Program at the Harvard Institute of Politics and interned at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. Amisha heads the Program in Engaged Scholarship at the Harvard Kennedy School. Amisha intends to do the M.St. in English (English and American Studies).

## DISTRICT 16

### California - South

**Benjamin “Ben” D. Kwong**, Newport Beach, is a senior at the United States Naval Academy where he will receive a B.S. in Cyber Operations. Ben is passionate about sustainable energy policy in his military and academic work, and intends to research ways in which a transition to renewable energy might bolster national security. Ben spent last summer at the Cambridge Security Institute analyzing how China’s reliance on fossil fuels may increase the risk of conflict in the South China Sea, and studied at the University of Reykjavik in Iceland where his capstone project proposed retrofitting abandoned oil wells in Texas to create geothermal energy systems at one-tenth the cost of the drilling process. Ben will do the M.Sc. in Sustainability, Enterprise and the Environment at Oxford.

### California – South

**Jupneet K. Singh**, Somis, is a senior at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where she majors in Chemistry. Her academic work has examined the biochemistry of human innate immunity and microbial pathogenesis. A cadet lieutenant colonel in the United States Air Force ROTC program, Jupneet plans a career as a military surgeon. She has founded multiple programs to support young people, including pediatric patients, children affected by domestic violence, and underserved youth tennis players. While at Oxford, Jupneet will pursue the M.Sc. in Evidence-Based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation.

PLEASE NOTE: Given the time challenge and complexity of 16 concurrent district selections across the United States, initial versions of the short bios and winners’ list included with this press release may contain small errors, typographical and otherwise. Most are corrected within 24 hours, so always check [www.rhodesscholar.org](http://www.rhodesscholar.org) for the most up-to-date versions. In addition, you may find photos of the winners on the global Rhodes Trust website, [www.rhodetrust.ox.ac.uk](http://www.rhodetrust.ox.ac.uk), where they will be uploaded as soon as practicable.