



# **CANISIUS COLLEGE**

# **WESTERN NEW YORK**

# **PROSPERITY FELLOWS**

2017-2018



## Meredith Battin '16, MBA '18

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Meredith is a Buffalo native enrolled in the MBA program at Canisius College and is expected to graduate in May 2018. In May 2016, she graduated from Canisius with a double major in International Business and Marketing.

During her undergraduate studies, Meredith was a member of the All-College Honors program and studied abroad at Lorenzo de Medici in Florence, Italy. She chose to write her honors thesis, *Marketing Rebirth: Buffalo, NY- A Case Study*, on Buffalo's rebirth through the rehabilitation of historic buildings throughout the city.

As an undergraduate, she tutored students learning English as a second language, and was awarded the Trustees Academic Scholarship multiple semesters. In 2017, she received the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Endowed Scholarship. Meredith held several internships gaining experience at a small digital media company, a 43 North startup, and M&T Bank. She contributes to her community by providing marketing assistance to non-profit organizations.

Currently, she works as an Assistant Account Manager at ChemMet LLC, and interns at Rich Products in Health & Authenticity. Meredith hopes to own a business in the WNY area in the future.

## Joey Hamilton '20

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Joey Hamilton is a Western New York native and sophomore at Canisius College majoring in Entrepreneurship. He has distinguished himself academically by achieving Dean's List during the past two semesters.

Joey attended St. Mary's High School in Lancaster, and as a student he co-founded Charlie and Checkers, a children's entertainment company serving western and central New York as well as northern Pennsylvania. This company has been profitable each of the past 5 years and has performed at the annual White House Easter Egg Roll for three consecutive years. His goal is to continue to grow his company and take it in exciting new directions.

Joey was recognized in a nation-wide scholarship event hosted by the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB) Youth Foundation. He was one of five national recipients of this prestigious award. Outside of school and business, Joey enjoys living in Lancaster, NY where he is active in community events.



## Sheena Jarmon, '17, MBA'19

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Sheena Jarmon is a Buffalo native and 2017 Canisius College graduate with majors in Finance and International Business. She is currently pursuing an MBA in Professional Accounting.

Sheena is a Graduate Assistant at the Women's Business Center and a member of the Accounting Society. Outside of Canisius, Sheena volunteers at a local tax firm and is in the process of creating a nonprofit organization that will concentrate on increasing financial literacy.

Upon graduation, Sheena plans to obtain her CPA and work full time in her family's business, Fat Lady Cakes and Pies, controlling the assets and financial operations as President and CFO. She plans to expand the business in order to create jobs and be a source of hope and inspiration for the community.



## Andrea Kraft '18

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Andrea grew up in Kenmore, NY and is a member of Canisius College's class of 2018, majoring in Biology and Psychology.

Andrea is actively involved both on and off campus. She serves as a Class of 2018 Senator in the Undergraduate Student Association, is a member of the Finance Board and Public Health Committee, and serves as the treasurer of the Alpha Theta Chapter of the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society. Further, she is a rower on the Canisius Women's Rowing team, works for Campus Ministry as a Chapel Sacristan, has participated in several service immersion experiences over her winter breaks, and is a

former Resident Assistant for the Office of Student Life. Andrea is an All-College Honors student and was awarded the Trustee's Academic Scholarship to attend Canisius College.

Off campus, Andrea works at Garwood Medical Devices, LLC, which is a start-up company housed at the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus that is developing a line of devices to promote wound healing and control orthopedic implant infections.

After she graduates from Canisius College, Andrea plans to pursue graduate school at the University at Buffalo in either business or public health and is enthusiastic about continuing to live and work in Buffalo.

## Brianna LaPrell, MBA '20

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Brianna was born and raised in Buffalo and is currently enrolled at Canisius College with a dual major in Accounting and Finance. Brianna expects to graduate in 2020 with her Bachelor's Degree, CPA certification, and MBA.

Brianna is a member of the Accounting Society and participates in networking events at Canisius, such as Meet the Accountants Night and the Griff Fair.

Brianna volunteers regularly at Corner Stone Manor, which is the woman and children's center at the Buffalo City Mission. At the center, she volunteers in the after-school program where she helps children with their school work, plays games, and acts as a mentor to them.

Brianna currently works at a software development company called Food Service Enablers. She has received valuable work experience at this company and truly enjoys the job. After graduating, Brianna plans to work for a CPA firm in Buffalo, eventually starting her own accounting firm.

## Juston “Lee” Locklear ’17, MBA ’19

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Lee Locklear is a North Carolina native but considers himself an adopted Buffalonian. He graduated from Canisius in May 2017 with majors in Marketing and Psychology and a minor in International Management. Lee is currently a student in the MBA program.

Throughout his time at Canisius, Lee has enjoyed being involved on campus. He was President of the American Marketing Association Chapter for the 2016-2017 academic year and also served as the Treasurer of the Public Relations Student Society of America society.

Currently, Lee is a Marketing and Communications intern with 43North. Upon graduation, he hopes begin his career working in the entrepreneurial startup realm of Buffalo, where he is able to help small and under-recognized companies reach their full potential.



## Msaada Nankumba '19

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Msaada is a resident of Buffalo; however, he grew up in a refugee camp in Kenya after his family fled war and violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo. His family was relocated to Buffalo in late 2014, and he has worked tirelessly to catch up with English speaking peers ever since.

Msaada majors in biology on the premedical track, is in the All College Honors Program, and expects to graduate in May 2019. Currently, he is an active member of the Beta Beta Beta Biology National Honors Society, Minority Association for Pre-Medical Students (MAPs), Pre-Students Osteopathic Medical Association, Pre-Health Professionals, Afro American Society, and Intervarsity Club. He was an Honors Orientation Leader at the beginning of the 2016 year, and he holds a student assistant position with Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Margaret McCarthy.

Msaada worked with Dr. James Mohler, chair of the Roswell Park Urology Department, researching prostate cancer recurrence after failure of androgen deprivation therapy in men. He has presented this work at three different institutions. Msaada also participated in the Roswell Park Junior Robotics Surgery Challenge Competition where he obtained hands-on experience in robotic surgery.

Msaada enjoys running, playing soccer, dancing, and reading history. In addition to his mother tongue Mashi, he speaks Swahili, Lingala, French and English. He interprets for refugee families in Buffalo and serves as a minister and an interpreter at the Revival church of Buffalo.

After graduation, he plans to earn his MD and MBA degrees. His goal is to start a clinic serving underrepresented minorities and refugees in a multilingual environment. The clinic would include a rehabilitation center to help fight opioid and other addiction diseases. He also hopes to start a charity foundation to help economically disadvantaged individuals. This foundation will provide ESL classes, guidance with technical skills, and counselling.

## Sarah Owen '17, MBA '19

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Sarah graduated summa cum laude from Canisius College in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in International Business and Political Science. She is currently a student in the MBA program.

As an undergraduate, Sarah won Northeastern University's International Business Case Competition and was honored as the International Business Student of the Year through the Wehle School of Business. Sarah's previous internship experience includes working in marketing and business development at Excelsior Orthopaedics and as an international distribution intern with Stampede Presentation Products.

In addition to her studies, Sarah is a peer tutor for economics and writing and also works as a substitute teacher in her hometown school district of Springville, NY. She spent a summer volunteering at a refugee camp in Berlin, Germany, following a semester studying abroad at the Berlin School of Economics and Law. An active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sarah is involved in promoting equal education opportunities and supporting the transition of newly naturalized citizens to life in the Buffalo area.

Following graduation, Sarah hopes to enroll in a PhD program to further her research on the impact of culture in international trade and continue to work toward promoting access to equal education for students of all socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds.

## Amber Quinney '17, MBA '18

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Amber is a Buffalo native and 2017 graduate of Canisius College. She is currently pursuing a MBA and plans to graduate in 2018.

Amber is a member of Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Co-Ed Business Fraternity, an ambassador for the ALANA Student Center (ASC), and a finalist for the National C.E.O. Elevator Pitch Competition. Her recent accomplishments include earning the GEICO Achievement Award, being selected for the Canisius Earning Excellence Program (CEEP) research grant, securing an internship with Turner Broadcasting in Atlanta, Georgia, and winning the 2017 Buffalo/Niagara Sales & Marketing Executives Collegiate Scholarship Award and the Michael F. Dillon Pre-Law Scholarship.

Outside of school, Amber leads a girls academy that she recently founded to “teach young and teen girls of color to embrace their authentic selves and use their gifts to make the world a brighter place.”

Amber’s career aspirations are to be an entrepreneur and philanthropist -creating employment and educational opportunities through her learning academy – and to be an attorney, working in corporate/entertainment law.



## Karanjit Singh '18

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Karanjit is a senior at Canisius College majoring in Entrepreneurship and Management, with a minor in Global Supply Chain Management. Following graduation, he plans to attend graduate school.

Karanjit was born in India, but has lived the majority of his life in Buffalo. He participates in the Human Resources Department of the Canisius Innovation Lab. Innovation Lab participants help Canisius students pursue their entrepreneurial ambitions.

Outside of his academic activities, Karanjit works at his family's business, Frontier Liquor, as an operations manager. Karanjit intends to use his educational background in entrepreneurship, as well as his entrepreneurial experience to expand his family business. He also hopes to open other businesses in the Buffalo area to contribute to the city that has provided his family so many opportunities.

## Cassandra Webber '17, MBA '18

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Cassandra Webber was born and raised in Buffalo and is an MBA student at Canisius College. She attended Canisius as an undergraduate with a Marketing major and graduated in May 2017.

Cassandra is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society as well as Alpha Sigma Nu, the honor society for Jesuit Colleges and Institutions. She has been on the Dean's list every semester of her college career and was also Co-President of Canisius College Women in Business.

Cassandra interned at Moog Inc. in East Aurora, NY, a large Fortune 500 company in Western New York, where she worked on several international marketing initiatives. She also interned at 43North, the \$5 million start-up competition based in Buffalo, NY, which was created through the Buffalo Billion initiative. Through these ventures, Cassandra has been learning the skills and resources needed to launch and grow a new business in Buffalo. Cassandra wants to continue to learn how to better market Buffalo to be viewed as destination city on the rise in order to bring prosperity to the city.

## Timothy Wysocki '18

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Tim was born and raised south of Buffalo and is pursuing a double major in Entrepreneurship and Business Management. He expects to graduate in 2018.

Despite being a commuter, Tim is involved in campus clubs and organizations. He is a member of the Canisius Ski Club and the Canisius Entrepreneurs Organization. Tim also serves as the Executive Director for the Canisius Innovation Lab.

Since high school, Tim has been dedicated to developing his leadership skills. He was a goaltender for the Orchard Park High School Federation Hockey team where he and his teammates were active in volunteer activities. Additionally, he used the automotive skills he learned at the W.D. Ormsby BOCES center to repair vehicles for people in his community.

Following graduation, Tim aspires to start his own company and serve as a leading example for businesses to participate more actively in the community. Eventually, he hopes to retire as a philanthropist.