



# PULLMAN PATHWAYS

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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# A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Since 1950, the George M. Pullman Educational Foundation has steadfastly committed itself to fulfilling the aspirations of countless Chicago area students by bringing the dream of a college education within their grasp. The Pullman Scholars, embodying the rich diversity of our greater Chicago community, all share a common goal – the desire to broaden their horizons and achieve more through higher education.

Throughout the decades since its inception, each graduating class has confronted an ever-evolving world, shaped by the dynamic forces of its time. The rapid advancement of technology, a workforce undergoing dramatic transformation, the lingering impacts of the pandemic, escalating college attendance costs, and the challenges of independent living post-graduation are just a few among the many hurdles facing this generation.

In addition to offering financial support, the Pullman Educational Foundation remains attuned to the evolving needs of Pullman

Scholars by continually enhancing our programs and resources. Addressing unique situations, our dedicated staff collaborates with scholars to find tailored solutions, ensuring their success. The Pullman Educational Foundation stands unwaveringly by each scholar, guiding them every step of the way to graduation.

This invaluable journey would not be possible without the tireless efforts and commitment of the Alumni Scholar Selection Committee. Their diligent work in reading essays and interviewing applicants, coupled with the unwavering support of our generous donors, provides the critical funding necessary to make these aspirations a reality.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we extend a warm welcome to our new class of Pullman Scholars as they embark on their college journey. Heartfelt congratulations are also in order for our 24 members of the 2023 graduating class, celebrating their achievements in earning their bachelor's

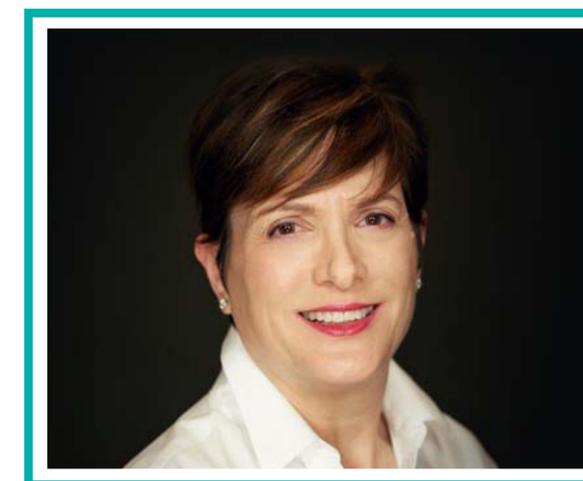
degrees. We wish them the best of luck as they venture into new paths, pursuing graduate and doctoral degrees, conducting research in medical labs, developing innovative solutions at tech hubs, exploring the realms of finance and healthcare, and much more.

We eagerly anticipate hearing of your myriad successes and wholeheartedly embrace you as the newest alumni of the George M. Pullman Educational Foundation.

Sincerely



Barbara M. Kaufman, President



# A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The George M. Pullman Educational Foundation strives to remain relevant and responsive to our scholars and the vast alumni network who are front and center of our efforts every day. In 2023, we focused our work on developing and enhancing multiple pathways for broader communication and deeper engagement among our community. Just some of our initiatives this year included:

- Revamping and implementing our alumni communication efforts to ensure that we are keeping our community connected, however far away and distant from their time as a Pullman Scholar.
- Increasing scholar applications by updating school contact information across Cook County, creating a promotional poster for every school to increase visibility, and maintaining a consistent communication schedule with key partners.
- Prioritizing the tracking of where scholar applicants live and how they learned about the Foundation to better understand where

and how our applicants are coming to the Foundation to adjust our awareness campaigns accordingly.

- Producing another successful Scholar Symposium that included more Alumni as presenters and panelists as an essential component of the scholars' learning and networking experience.
- Creating a new sponsorship program for the Symposium and Scholar Success Seminars to expand resources that directly benefit scholars.
- Hosting our first-ever Alumni Mixer to provide more opportunities for our community to socialize and network together beyond the annual Symposium reception.

As the Pullman Educational Foundation community diversifies and grows, our goal is to develop multiple pathways for Alumni to stay connected and to help support the dreams and aspirations of our incredible cohort of Pullman Scholars. Through Selection Committee

participation, attending events, sharing relevant expertise with scholars through different learning opportunities, and by providing essential financial contributions, Pullman Scholar Alumni play a critical role in the Foundation's success. Thank you to the many donors and volunteers who are recognized in this annual report for their vital support, and congratulations to our new and graduate Pullman Scholars who inspire us with their drive and passion every day.

Sincerely

Eric Delli Bovi, Executive Director



# MEET OUR 74<sup>TH</sup> CLASS OF PULLMAN SCHOLARS



**Zachary Allen**  
Niles West High School  
OBERLIN COLLEGE



**Karen Alvarez**  
Eric Solorio Academy High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



**Christopher Bottari-Tower**  
Maine South High School  
UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN-MADISON



**Mohammed Danial**  
Amundsen High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT CHICAGO



**Taron Ghlijyan**  
Glenbrook North High School  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



**Byron Guzman**  
Chicago Math and Science Academy  
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY



**Abdelaziz Hasan**  
Oak Lawn Community High School  
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
*\*Fred and Natalie Marcon Scholar*



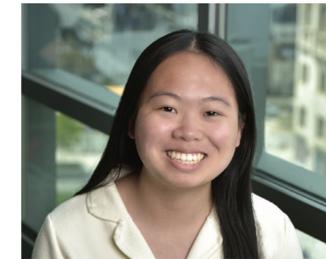
**Imranhusain Hassan**  
Stephen Tyng Mather High School  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO



**Jacqueline Jones**  
Evergreen Park High School  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
BERKELEY



**Paulina Komperda**  
Oak Lawn Community High School  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



**Joanna Lam**  
Northside College Preparatory  
High School  
POMONA COLLEGE



**Jacianna Lendor**  
Kenwood Academy High School  
LEWIS UNIVERSITY



**Anaya Okonmah**  
Richard T. Crane Medical Prep  
High School  
HOWARD UNIVERSITY



**Rafael Ortiz**  
John Hancock College Prep  
High School  
DEPAUW UNIVERSITY



**Lisa Patel**  
Amundsen High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



**Litzy Perez**  
Roosevelt High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT CHICAGO



**Stephanie Roldan**  
Lane Technical College Preparatory  
High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO



**Yousra Sadiq**  
Lane Technical College  
Preparatory High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO



**Fareen Samad**  
Lincoln Park High School  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO



**Ana Serban**  
Walter Payton College Preparatory  
High School  
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



**Lana Shraim**  
Amos Alonzo Stagg High School  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO



**Mohammed Uddin**  
Palatine High School  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY



**Shonni Watkins**  
Whitney M. Young Magnet  
High School  
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY



**Mia Williams**  
Robert Lindblom Math  
& Science Academy  
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

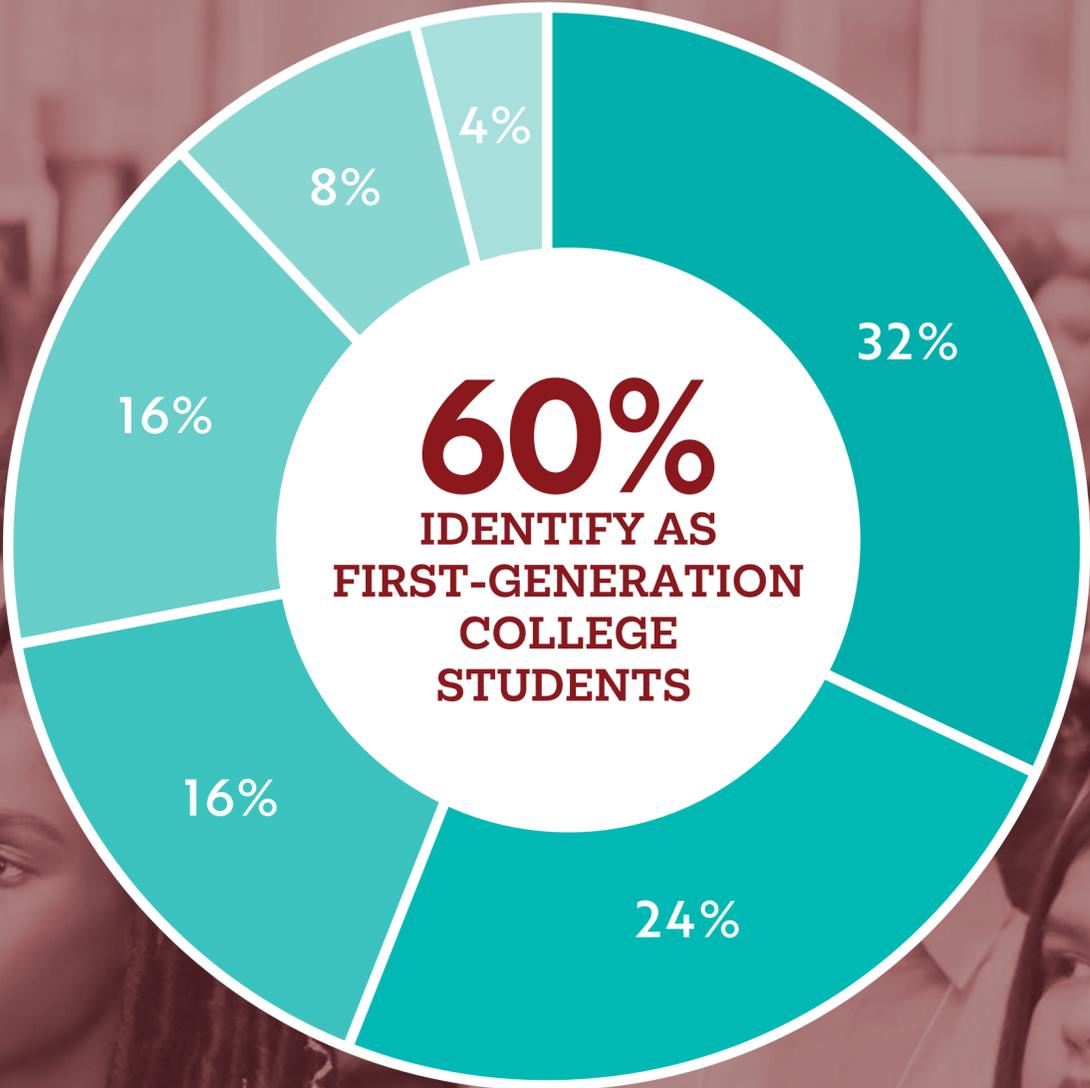


**Earl Zhu**  
George Westinghouse College  
Preparatory High School  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

*\*Thanks to the generosity of Pullman Scholar Alumnus, the late Fred Marcon, the Marcon Foundation awards The Fred and Natalie Marcon Scholarship to an outstanding student who plans to study business or science. The scholarship is administered by the George M. Pullman Educational Foundation.*

# SCHOLAR STATS

**32%** IDENTIFY as Asian  
**24%** IDENTIFY as Black, African American  
**16%** IDENTIFY as Hispanic, Latino  
**16%** IDENTIFY as White  
**8%** IDENTIFY as Middle Eastern  
**4%** IDENTIFY as Multi-ethnic



**60%**  
IDENTIFY AS  
FEMALE

**40%**  
IDENTIFY AS  
MALE

**3.88**  
AVERAGE  
CUMULATIVE  
GPA

# NEW SCHOLARS ON WHAT SUCCESS MEANS TO THEM

“My ultimate goal is to have a positive impact on a global scale using technological advancement. I want to bring change to people's lives.”

**TARON GHLIJYAN**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN '27

“My idea of success is not just about achieving my own goals, but also helping others to achieve theirs because it is only through the collective success of all of us that we can create a better world.”

**IMRANHUSAIN HASSAN**  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO '27

“I strive to be triumphant because those that have supported me, and consistently put me in the right positions to prosper, deserve their return on investment.”

**BYRON GUZMAN**  
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY '27

“I will become a leader in my community, inform my people that we can work through our adversities, and live a better life than we have ever imagined.”

**ANAYA OKONMAH**  
HOWARD UNIVERSITY '27

“My idea of success is improving the lives of others, especially those coming from low-income, immigrant, or refugee communities like me. I want to inspire them to dream big, regardless of their background, and make education more accessible since it is a key component of social mobility.”

**JOANNA LAM**  
POMONA COLLEGE '27

“I now understand how much my family's values have influenced my life, including my motivation for lifelong learning and perseverance that will continue to follow me beyond my hometown. Therefore, I value a strong work ethic towards my academic goals because higher education is one of the factors that my parents did not have access to.”

**PAULINA KOMPERDA**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN '27

“College will play a huge role in achieving my definition of success. Not only will I be able to obtain a degree and proceed to become a surgeon after medical school, but I will also be able to achieve my parents' version of success. As a first-generation college applicant from my family, I want to give it my all and make sure I am doing all that I can to make my family proud.”

**LISA PATEL**  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN '27



# MEET OUR 2023 GRADUATES

## ELIZABETH BENITEZ HERNANDEZ

University of Illinois at Chicago

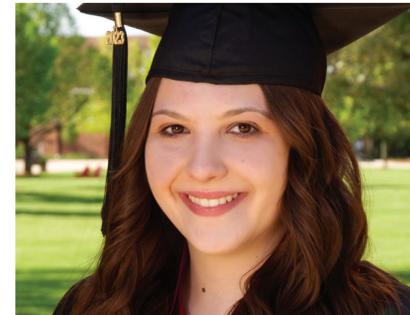
Elizabeth Benitez Hernandez graduated with her degree in applied statistics and is looking forward to entering a STEM related field.



## ALEXCIANA CASTANEDA-DEIR

Lewis University

Alexciana Castaneda-Deir is pursuing her Master of Public Health degree with a concentration in Community Health Promotion, before later pursuing a Doctorate of Public Health.



## FARAH ELHOUMAI

Loyola University Chicago

Farah Elhoumaidi is working at Strata Decision Technology as an Analyst.



## ALLANNAH GILES

Arcadia University

Allannah Giles is pursuing a double master's degree in international Peace and Conflict Resolution and Diplomacy at Arcadia and the American Graduate School in Paris.



## JAVOHN CHANDLER

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Javohn Chandler is working full-time in the finance industry.



## MARIO CAMACHO

Brown University

Mario Camacho is moving to San Jose to work for Netflix as an Engineer.



**83%**  
graduated within four years

## MEREDITH GOONE

University of Southern California

Meredith Goone is working as a Registered Behavioral Technician in Atlanta and plans to apply to graduate schools to pursue a career in occupational therapy.



## ALEXIS ESCUTIA

University of Illinois at Chicago

Alexis Escutia is job searching and preparing for technical interviews with his degree in computer science.



## NIKKY JORDAN

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Nikky Jordan is working as a Chemist that preforms gas chromatography at Isotech.



The average student loan debt among graduating Pullman Scholars was

# \$2848

## DIVY KUMAR

Northwestern University

Divy Kumar was accepted to Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine, which he plans on attending on a full-tuition merit scholarship.



## RIDA MANSOOR

Loyola University Chicago

Rida Mansoor is hoping to secure a position in research, where she can apply her knowledge and skills to make meaningful contributions and discoveries in bioinformatics.



## TANIA LOPEZ

Columbia University

Tania Lopez is working as a preschool teacher in New York while also applying to graduate schools.



## GINA MUSSO

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Gina Musso is working in Oracle NetSuite's Business Development Representative program.



## JUAN ROJAS

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Juan Rojas is pursuing his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



## JOCELYN PANTOJA

Western Illinois University

Jocelyn Pantoja moved to New York City and is working full time while enjoying the city and experiencing different cultures.



## LADORA THOMAS

Lawrence University

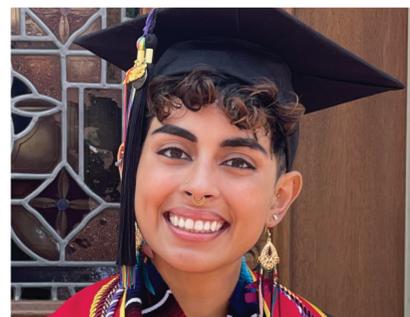
LaDora Thomas is working as an Operations Leadership Development Program Analyst with Cigna Healthcare while pursuing a master's in jurisprudence.



## YESSI PINA

University of Southern California

Yessi Pina is working on launching a book publishing, herbal, and design and consulting business.



## FATIMA SHARIFF

Loyola University Chicago

Fatima Shariff is working as an analyst at Northwestern Medicine.



The average cumulative GPA of the senior class was

# 3.52





## KENECHUKWU UWAJEH

University of North Carolina

Kenechukwu Uwajeh is working as a Sales Development Representative at Sprout Social.



## DANIELLE WEIMERSKIRCH

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Danielle Weimerskirch plans to go to graduate school in library science for archiving and preservation.



## NOAH ZUNIGA

Loyola University Chicago

Noah Zuniga recently started a one-year MBA program in Business Administration at the Loyola Quinlan School of Business. He'll graduate this spring, and also plans on taking the MCAT and applying to medical school.



## DASHAUN EDWARDS

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dashaun Edwards is working as an Inventory Analyst at Target.



## ANDRES VALENCIA

Illinois Institute of Technology

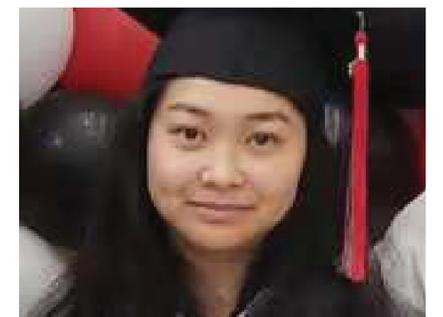
Andres Valencia is pursuing a master's in public policy and administration at Illinois Institute of Technology.



## KASSIDY MOY

Illinois Institute of Technology

Kassidy Moy is working in the manufacturing industry before going back to get her master's degree.



# 19

seniors reported that they are graduating debt-free

Retention rate of

**100%**  
over four years

“I will always be forever grateful for the Pullman Foundation Scholarship because without it, I simply would not have been able to attend college. I come from a low-income family, and I remember how much I struggled my senior year of high school figuring out how I was going to afford college or if I would even be able to attend college. I remember after finding out I was going to be awarded the Pullman Scholarship, the whole family was emotional because my dream was coming true. My immigrant parents' dream was also coming true. Both of my immigrant parents don't hold a college degree, so I was the first one in the family to attend college, and I owe it all to the Pullman Foundation. I will never forget all that the Foundation has done for me. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.”

**FARAH ELHOUMAI**  
**Loyola University Chicago**

“The Pullman Foundation allowed me to attend college; without this scholarship, I would not have been able to afford to go anywhere. I am so grateful to this foundation, for everything that has been offered to me. The community itself is a blessing to me. I do not know how I would have been able to obtain a degree without it.”

**ALLANNAH GILES**  
**Arcadia University**

“I am very grateful for the Pullman Foundation because it gave me the opportunity to attend college. I would not have been able to afford a four-year university without the support of the Pullman Foundation. I do not know where I would be right now without my financial aid, because neither of my parents was able to assist me financially with the cost of my higher education.”

**JOCELYN PANTOJA**  
**Western Illinois University**

“I appreciated the scholarship itself for how it relieved my financial stress and allowed me to focus more on my studies. Having the cost of my basic needs met by the scholarship gave me the time and space to be a student, to complete assignments, and succeed in my classes. Throughout my studies, I felt deeply appreciative of this opportunity that the Pullman Foundation scholarship afforded me, and it inspired me to work harder to make the most out of my time in undergrad.”

**DANIELLE WEIMERSKIRCH**  
**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

“The George Pullman Foundation was the biggest financial contributor to my university education. Thanks to them and two other external scholarships, I was able to attend and graduate from the University of Southern California 100% debt free. Aside from financial assistance, the Pullman foundation always gave me a place to go home to in the summer during their scholar symposium, supported me with monthly check-ins, and the opportunity to attend monthly professional and personal development workshops.”

**YESSI PINA**  
**University of Southern California**

# PULLMAN SCHOLAR PROGRAMS

The Foundation provides essential financial aid to ensure Pullman Scholars graduate on time and with as little debt as possible. However, financial support is only one aspect of the benefits Pullman Scholars receive. The Foundation also provides educational, personal, and professional resources that are necessary to succeed in and beyond college. Pullman Scholars conduct monthly check-ins with the Foundation, which provide scholars with a chance to ask questions and update the Foundation on successes and challenges. These check-ins ensure scholars are staying on track and let scholars know they have a support system in the Foundation.

In addition, **SCHOLAR SUCCESS SEMINARS** are held throughout the academic year designed to respond to the needs and interests of Pullman Scholars. These live webinar sessions feature special speakers and alumni and are recorded and made available to scholars for ongoing access. Topics this school year included:

**BUDGETING IN COLLEGE** with the organization Ladder Up, led by Pullman Scholar Alum Phyllis Cavallone-Jurek. Phyllis shared tips for making a budget and how to navigate buying books, renting an apartment, and saving for the future.

**COMBATING IMPOSTER SYNDROME** with the organization Ama la Vida who discussed ways to maintain mental health in college. They had a special focus on how to combat feelings of imposter syndrome, which is loosely defined as doubting your abilities and feeling like a fraud, which many college students can feel.

**FINDING INTERNSHIPS** with a panel of five new Pullman Scholar graduates who shared how they found an internship in college and gave advice on applying, interviewing, and starting at a new internship.

**APPLYING TO GRADUATE SCHOOL** with a panel of four Pullman Scholar alumni who have gone on to various graduate school programs. They shared advice and tips for applying to graduate school, learning about different types of graduate programs, and what the life of a grad school student is like.

**LIFE AFTER COLLEGE** with a panel of new Pullman Scholar alumni who shared what life is really like after college. They discussed managing finances, finding roommates, starting a full-time job, and more.

The annual **PULLMAN SCHOLAR SYMPOSIUM** offered stimulating workshops, professional development, inspirational speakers, and networking opportunities designed to help Pullman Scholars thrive in college and beyond. The day's schedule included workshops focused on honing an 'elevator pitch,' resume tips, financial literacy, and professional etiquette. The day ended with a special panel discussion between three Pullman Scholar Alumni who are members of the Scholar Selection Committee. The alumni discussed why it is important to give back after college, and why they give back to the Foundation.

The post-Symposium Networking Reception with Pullman Scholars, Alumni, Scholar Selection Committee Members, Board of Directors, and Staff provided an opportunity to come together in support and celebration, enabling the community to build connections, and for scholars to put their networking skills into practice. [Click here](#) for a brief video of the 2023 Symposium.

# WHAT OUR SCHOLARS SAY ABOUT PULLMAN PROGRAMS

“The various workshops have tremendously helped in shaping my resume and how I interviewed and networked. I have been able to take the advice and apply it to my life in ways that have allowed me to land internships and full-time jobs after graduation.”

**LADORA THOMAS**  
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY '23

“The Pullman Foundation enabled me to become more comfortable with adjusting to college life as I got to talk with others going through the same thing. I also gained many tools that I can carry with me in life through the Pullman workshops and communicating with my fellow Pullman scholars.”

**NOAH ZUNIGA**  
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO '23

“The Pullman Foundation greatly impacted my journey to earn my degree. Besides the monetary support, the foundation provided me with information in their webinars. For example, webinars helped me improve my resume, find internships, and helped me with my financial literacy. I have learned many valuable lessons from the foundation and applied them throughout my college career. Lastly, the monthly check-ins always reassured me that I had someone on whom I could count and serve as support for any questions or concerns I might have about college or life in general.”

**ANDRES VALENCIA**  
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY '23

“With the monthly updates, I felt I had someone to talk to as things came up in life or at school. I knew I had people cheering me on and hoping for the best of me. I also enjoyed the monthly online meetings because they made me feel more connected to the Pullman Foundation, and I learned useful information like how to build my resume or my LinkedIn profile.”

**JOCELYN PANTOJA**  
WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY '22

“Hearing from Pullman Alumni about their career paths, how they developed their resume, and their internship experiences was very beneficial in helping my professional development.”

**GINA MUSSO**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON '23

“The Pullman Foundation also provided me with a network of individuals who I know I can also seek advice, assistance and guidance from. I also have confidence that this is an organization that I can remain active in and provide the same supports to future/current scholars. The ability to be a part of an organization that offered me support, but also sees the value in alumni offering support has been very impactful.”

**ALEXCIANA CASTANEDA-DEIR**  
LEWIS UNIVERSITY '23



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



The Pullman Educational Foundation congratulates Valarie King-Bailey (University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1982, B.S., Civil/Environmental Engineering) on her momentous recognition in the September 4, 2023 issue of **Crain's Chicago Business' Notable Women in STEM**.

Valarie King-Bailey is **CEO of OnShore Technology Group**, which provides products and services to life sciences that help speed new products to market faster through advanced testing solutions. She conceived and developed **ValidationMaster**, an enterprise validation management and quality system (Many engineers still conduct systems validation using inefficient manual and paper-based processes). She also added artificial intelligence and machine-learning to the platform, a first-to-market positioning that revolutionizes testing by generating test scripts that are self-correcting. She leads a 21-person global team.

King-Bailey provides technology gifts, including laptops, tablets and other science-related items, to encourage learning to Southside Tabernacle for its annual Education Day, which honors high-achieving students and STEM scholars. Mrs. King-Bailey was also a keynote speaker at the 2015 Pullman Scholar Symposium, inspiring our young scholars to reach new heights. You can view her motivational speech ([click here](#)).

“The Pullman Foundation was the FIRST scholarship I received when I graduated from Wendell Phillips High School. I remember I was so excited and honored to receive it! It truly made a difference! Beyond my wildest dreams, my company, OnShore Technology Group, has been listed 3 times on the prestigious INC 500 list and Crain's Chicago Business has honored me as one of the 2023 NOTABLES IN STEM! It all started with my Pullman Foundation Scholarship. I encourage all Pullman recipients to prepare yourselves for an outstanding career!”

## VALARIE KING-BAILEY

CEO ONSHORE TECHNOLOGY GROUP AND  
PULLMAN SCHOLAR ALUMNUS (1982)

# WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOLARS

## BEQUESTS

Memorialize your philanthropic interests and your legacy while providing for the next generation of Pullman Scholars by making a bequest to the George M. Pullman Educational Foundation for a specific amount or percentage of your estate.

## DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Establishing a donor-advised fund may allow you to claim a charitable gift deduction in one year and advise annual gifts from your fund to support the Foundation over several years. If you already hold a donor-advised fund (e.g. Fidelity Charitable or Schwab Charitable), please consider recommending grants from your fund to support the Foundation.

## CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

This type of donation is a way to make a gift to support Pullman Scholars and receive a steady flow of income for yourself or others for life. Learn more by contacting the Foundation office.

## IRA CHARITABLE GIFT ROLLOVER

Donors at least 70 1/2 years of age can make a gift directly to the Foundation from their IRA without needing to claim the gift as taxable income. IRA rollovers, up to \$100,000, also can be used to satisfy your annual minimum distribution requirement.

## RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS & LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES

You can support today's and future Pullman Scholars by naming the Foundation as a beneficiary of your 401(k), 403(b), IRA, other retirement account, or life insurance policy.

## STOCKS & SECURITY

Investors can maximize their philanthropy by donating gifts of appreciated securities. In addition to being able to claim a charitable gift deduction on donated stock, you may avoid paying capital gains tax. Speak with your investment advisor for more information.

## THANK YOU FOR INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF PULLMAN SCHOLARS AND THEIR SUCCESSES!

For more information please contact the Foundation at  
312-422-0444 | [info@pullmanfoundation.org](mailto:info@pullmanfoundation.org) | [www.pullmanfoundation.org/support](http://www.pullmanfoundation.org/support)



### DISCLAIMER

The information provided here is not offered as tax or legal advice. Donors and potential donors should consult with a qualified tax advisor regarding their own specific circumstances, the tax and non-tax considerations, and consequences associated with a charitable gift to the George M. Pullman Educational Foundation.

# THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE DONORS

On behalf of the Pullman Educational Foundation community, we would like to recognize and extend our deepest appreciation to our generous donors for their support.

Milosava Acamovic	Elaine Barbeau	Kathryn Caccamo	Eduardo Coronado	Henry Dykema	Martin Garay	Laura Hepburn	Jeffrey Janulis
Jerry Ackerman	Kenneth Baumel	Agnes Canning	Ronald Corradin	Thomas Dykstra	Barbara Garrison	Laureen Higgins	Anthony Jasaitis
Ava Adams-Morris	Gianna Bern	John A. Canterbury	Debbie Cotton	Franklin Elder, Ph.D.	Jane Gately	John Higginson	Barry Johnson
Tammy Ahn	Nicole Berry	Timothy Carroll	Charles Coughlin	James and Lionelle Elsesser	Georgene Geary	Joel Hillison, Ph.D.	David A. Jones, M.D.
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Pamela Allen	Sheryl Blackwell	Beatriz Cervantes	David Cwi	Margaret Farrington	Dr. George Gloeckler and Mrs. Christine (Jumbalo) Gloeckler	Melvin Houston	Barbara M. Kaufman
Victor Andrade	Thomas Bowen	Melissa Chakars, Ph.D.	Ana Daniels	Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago	Daniel and Elaine Glumac	John Howe	Gregory Kelley
Mamie Andry	Christine Boylan	Yvonne Charles	Richard W. Daspit, Jr.	Rhoda Feldman, Ph.D.	Deborah Godo	Mark Hudson	William Kemp, Jr.
Anonymous (16)	BBMR Fund of the Whatcom Community Foundation	William and Donna Charmelo	Katherine Davis	Vincent Finnegan	Arthur Goewey, Jr.	David Hueter, M.D.	Sabrina Kendrick, M.D.
Emilia Arellano	Bruce Brabec	Susanne Chawaszczewski	Daniel DeLaurentis	Robert Fioretti	Constance Goldgar	Kathryn Hutson	Joseph Khazen
Brenda Asare	Patrick Chesley	Daniel Denov	Elizabeth Diddia	Jonathan Fisher	Bruce Gottschall	Dr. William Hylander and Dr. Linda Hylander	Robert Kilian, Ph.D.
Michael Augustyn	Charlene Chisek	Sandra Dilley	Discover Financial Services	Dr. James Fister and Mrs. Kathy Fister	Sherwin Greenblatt	Martin Israel, Ph.D.	Kathleen Killick, Ph.D.
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# WHY OUR DONORS GIVE

“The Pullman Educational Foundation continues to evolve the value of being a scholar, alum, and member of the community. The investment in scholars and the community is important for underrepresented scholars in Cook County who deserve the opportunity to achieve the American Dream. It begins with less worry about finances and more focus on enjoying the college experience and exploring the world to make a difference.”

**NICHOLAS L. TARLETON, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN '16**

“The Pullman Educational Foundation significantly helped me during my studies at the University of Illinois-Chicago. It gave me the support and economic foundation to allow me to achieve my goals of college to continue to medical school and become a physician. And, I am finally at the point where I am financially able to start giving back and wanted to start here to keep this foundation to continue to help other students like me.”

**LAUREN TRAN, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO '08**

“To continue the legacy and to assist others. Education closes the gap.”

**ROBERT FIORETTI, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN '78**

“I appreciated the help when I felt financially strapped to attend college in 1977. I also see and applaud the commitment to help diverse and underserved students attain a college education.”

**CONSTANCE GOLDGAR, GRINNELL COLLEGE '77**

“The Pullman Foundation provides vital support to bright individuals. As an alum of the Pullman Foundation, receiving financial support provided profound validation of my dreams, now turned reality.”

**EDUARDO CORONADO, DEVRY UNIVERSITY '85**

“As the child of a single parent, my scholarship from the Pullman Foundation helped start me toward my career as a college professor. I was the oldest of five children and my positive experience inspired the other four to also attend college.”

**ANDREW JORGENSEN, PH.D., QUINCY COLLEGE '70**

“As a program Alumni, I am grateful to have received the scholarship throughout my academic career. I am also honored to pay it forward so that our future leaders can have the opportunity to fulfill their education dreams and life goals.”

**DEBBIE COTTON, WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY '78**

“The George M. Pullman Educational Foundation was incredibly generous to me and my family. I did not realize at the time how impactful the scholarship would be to achieving my academic goals and also to realizing my goals beyond graduation. Even in a small way, it is very important to me to give back to a foundation that helped me and helps so many students pursue their goals and dreams.”

**ARES D. PANAGOULIAS, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN '11**

“I never knew we were poor (we had books, artwork, and each other), and the Foundation never made me feel disadvantaged. Even better, after I flunked out my freshman year, John H. Munger reassured me that I am not alone, that he still had faith in me, and that when after a year off (or whatever it takes) I could go back with my scholarship intact. With both moral and financial support from the Foundation, I returned and graduated with Phi Beta Kappa and cum laude. Even more fundamental, the Foundation identified Beloit College as right for me - a school I had never heard of, until the Foundation gave me a scholarship for this school. The match was perfect. I am still grateful and want today's and tomorrow's students to have their own chance to shine.”

**GUNDEGA KORSTS, BELOIT COLLEGE '71**

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