



M | ANTHROPOLOGY

Graduation
CEREMONY

Friday, May 2, 2025

Anthropology

MAJORS

Dua Ali

Ethan Appelbaum-

Schwartz

Elliot Baker

Lucy Bernstein

Theodora Bilich

Shira Black

Sophia Cangemi

Therese Cerdan

Madison Demski

Micah Dixon

Anders Foltz

Julia Frayne

Genesis Gonzales

Patrick Hullman

Mehree Islam

Stephen Jones

Emily Kiekhaefer

Victoria Kvasnikov

Ella Lado

Kate Lawson

Bridget Lee

Emma Marks

Gabrielle Marsh

Jared Mercieca

Ella Moomey

William Morrison

Elena Nestale

Amya Paul

Ava Polderman

India Pruette

Sammer Saeed

Mara Sagan

Carly Salazar

Terra Schneider

Emma Scznsny

Prajval Singh

Daniel Strong

Ava Tackabury

Shalma Torres

Lydia Ulfig

Benjamin Vanderhyde

Anya Coffeen Vandeven

Emma Weinberger

Addison Yerks

Shay Xianyang Zhang

Dua Ali

Sub-Major: Medical Anthropology

Ethan Appelbaum-Schwartz

Elliot Baker

Lucy Bernstein

Theodora Bilich

Sub-Major: Archaeology

Shira Black

Other programs: Communications & Media Major and Minor in Gender, Race, and Nation

Hometown: Plainsboro, NJ

Plans after graduation: Marketing Fellow at Brooklyn Nets

Special thanks: Thank you to my wonderful parents and sisters! I couldn't have done it without you all 😊



ANTHROPOLOGY MAJOR

Shira Black



Sophia Cangemi

Therese Cerdan

Madison Demski

Sub-Major: Medical Anthropology

Micah Dixon

Anders Foltz

Julia Frayne

Sub-Major: Environment and Conservation

Genesis Gonzales

Patrick Hullman

Sub-Major: Archaeology

Other programs: Double Major with Earth Science and Minor in Oceanography

Plans after graduation: Working on PhD student Zhani Gjyshja's project in Kosovo! Doing geology fieldwork in Wyoming! Doing Seismology/Landslide Fieldwork in Puerto Rico! Hoping to confirm a shipwreck discovery with Thunder Bay! Driving submarines!

Special thanks: Thank you to my parents, Meme, Jhon Cruz, and all my amazing friends and professors these past years!



Mehree Islam

Hometown: Ann Arbor, MI

Special thanks: I'd like to thank my parents and best friend for supporting me throughout my education journey!



Stephen Jones

Sub-Major: Politics, Law, and Economy

Emily Kiekhaefer

Sub-Major: Medical Anthropology

Other programs: Double major with Classical Studies, Honors in Anthropology

Hometown: Dafer, MI (in the upper peninsula)

Plans after graduation: I plan on taking a gap year and then applying to graduate school.

Special thanks: I want to thank my thesis cohort, my brilliant professors, and Amy Kuritzky especially for their guidance and support these past few years.



Victoria Kvasnikov

Other programs: Minor in Theater Design and Production

Hometown: Waterford, MI

Plans after graduation: Going to Wayne State for a Master's in Anthropology!



Victoria Kvasnikov



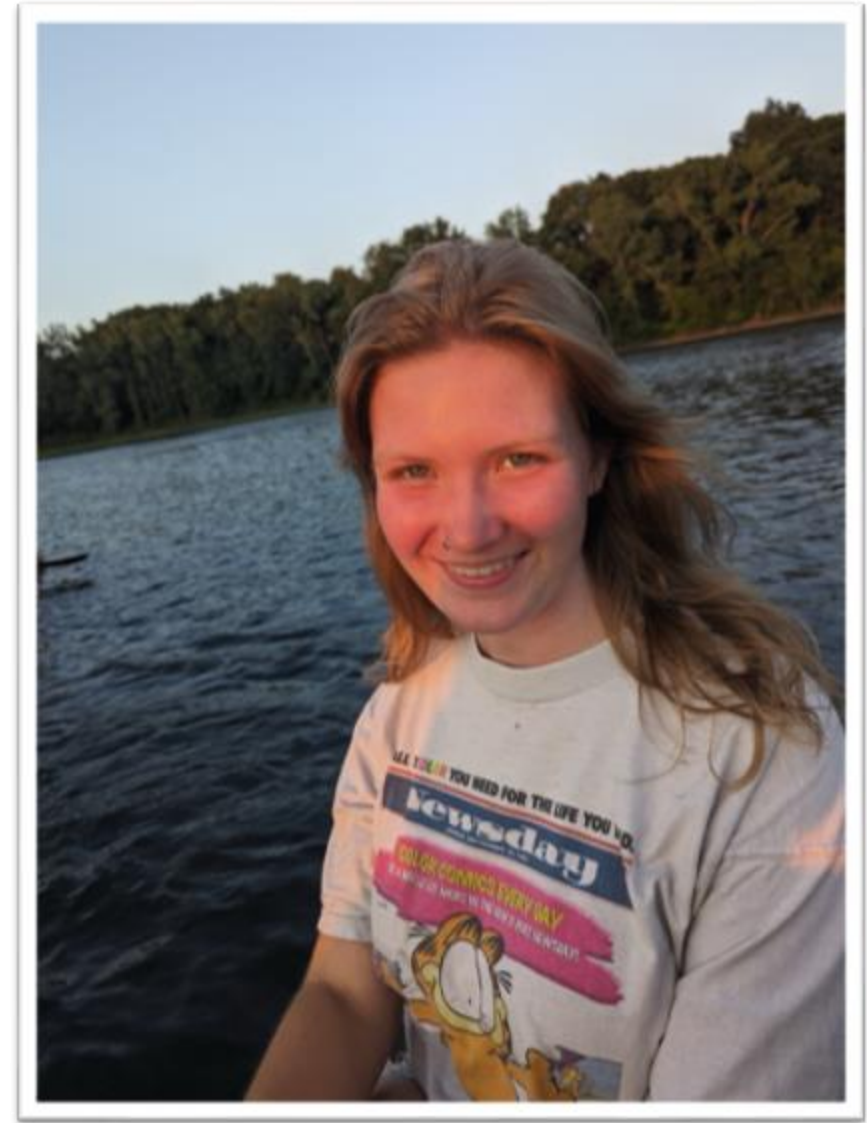
Ella Lado

Affiliation: Umich Campus Farm

Hometown: Grand Rapids, MI

Plans after graduation: Join the Peace Corps in Nepal with a focus on Agriculture

Special thanks: Thank you to everyone who has encouraged me to be here and has been a constant source of support and inspiration! Truthfully, I wouldn't be here without you!!



Kate Lawson

Bridget Lee

Emma Marks

Gabrielle Marsh

Hometown: Grand Rapids, MI

Plans after graduation: Going to get my PhD at UC San Diego, working with Dr. Paul Goldstein

Special thanks: Thanks to the incredible faculty in Anthropology, my mom, sisters, grandmas, and my partner, Matt!



Gabrielle Marsh



Jared Mercieca

Ella Moomey

Sub-Major: Medical Anthropology

Other programs: Minor in Gender and Health

Hometown: Dorr, MI

Plans after graduation: Job Hunting

Special thanks: Thank you to my dad, who is my biggest supporter and a Michigan Wolverine in every way that counts, and to my mom, who is my best friend and has always been who I want to be when I grow up.



ANTHROPOLOGY MAJOR

Ella Moomey



William Morrison

Other programs: Minor in Computer Science

Hometown: Holland, MI

Plans after graduation: Become a Border Patrol Agent

Special thanks: Big thank you to my parents for making my college experience possible



Elena Nestale

Amya Paul

Vee Polderman

Other programs: Minor in Museum Studies

Hometown: Mattawan, Michigan

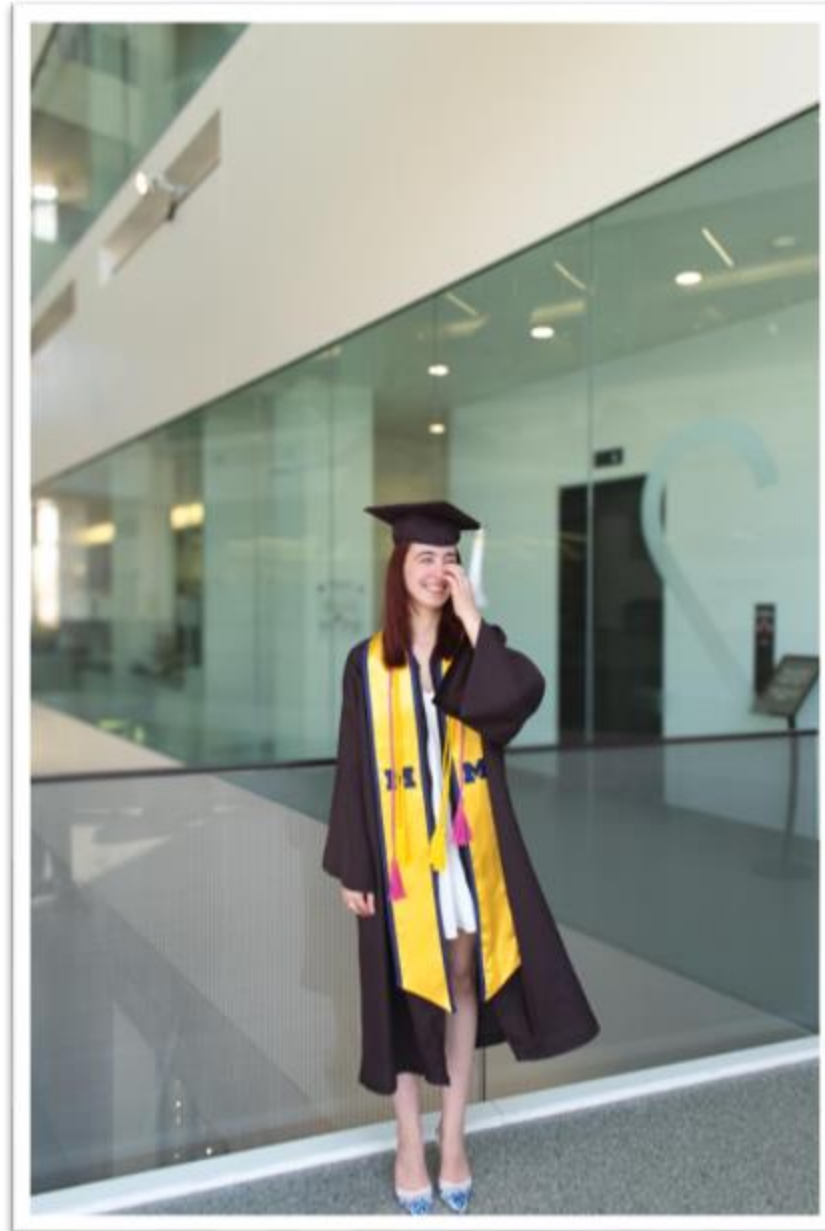
Plans after graduation: I'm planning on pursuing a career in Museum Education

Special thanks: Thank you so much to my Mom, Dad, Drew, Henry, Violet, and Mim for being such amazing support and for always believing in me.



ANTHROPOLOGY MAJOR

Vee Polderman



India Pruette

Hometown: Saline, MI

Plans after graduation: PhD in Anthropology at UC Berkeley

Special thanks: Thank you to my parents and grandparents for being here today



India Pruette



Sammer Saeed

Other programs: Double major with Computer Science

Hometown: Dearborn, MI

Plans after graduation: I plan to work in web development after graduation

Special thanks: I share this celebration with my dad, my little brother, and my amazing friends. Thank you for being my constant source of strength, laughter, and motivation. I'm forever grateful.

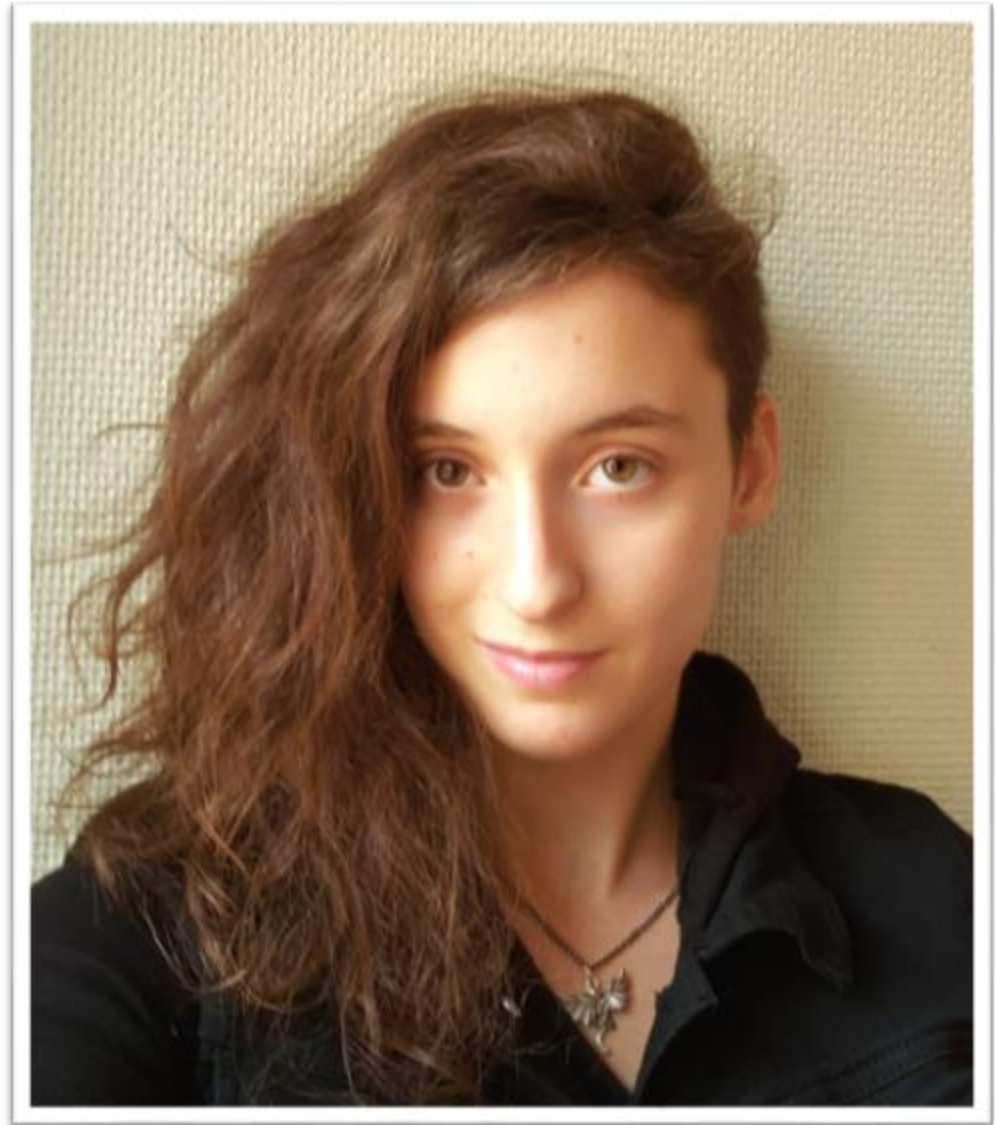


Mara Sagan

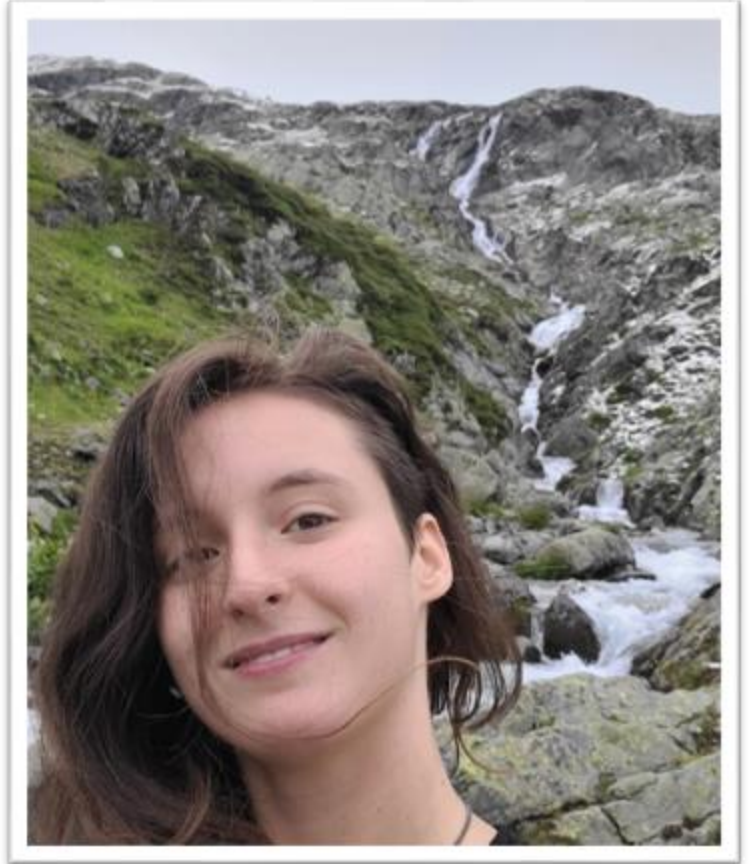
Hometown: Bloomfield Hills, MI

Plans after graduation: Over the summer, I plan on obtaining my paramedic license while continuing to work as an EMT. Afterwards, I will matriculate at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.

Special thanks: I would like to thank the brilliant faculty in the department who have supported me throughout my academic career, as well as my friends and family for making it all possible. Additionally, I wanted to specially thank my *Homo neanderthalensis* ancestors, whose expanded cranial capacity I have strived to live up to, even if I have not always succeeded.



Mara Sagan



Carly Salazar

Other programs: Minors: A/PIA Studies, Gender and Health Studies, Museum Studies

Affiliations: Oceania Student Association, Native Student Association

Hometown: Sinajana, Guam

Plans after graduation: Pursuing my PhD in Archaeology at the University of Washington -- Seattle

Special thanks: Saina ma'åse', gracias, thank you to my family, community, and all the wonderful people I've met along the way.



ANTHROPOLOGY MAJOR

Carly Salazar

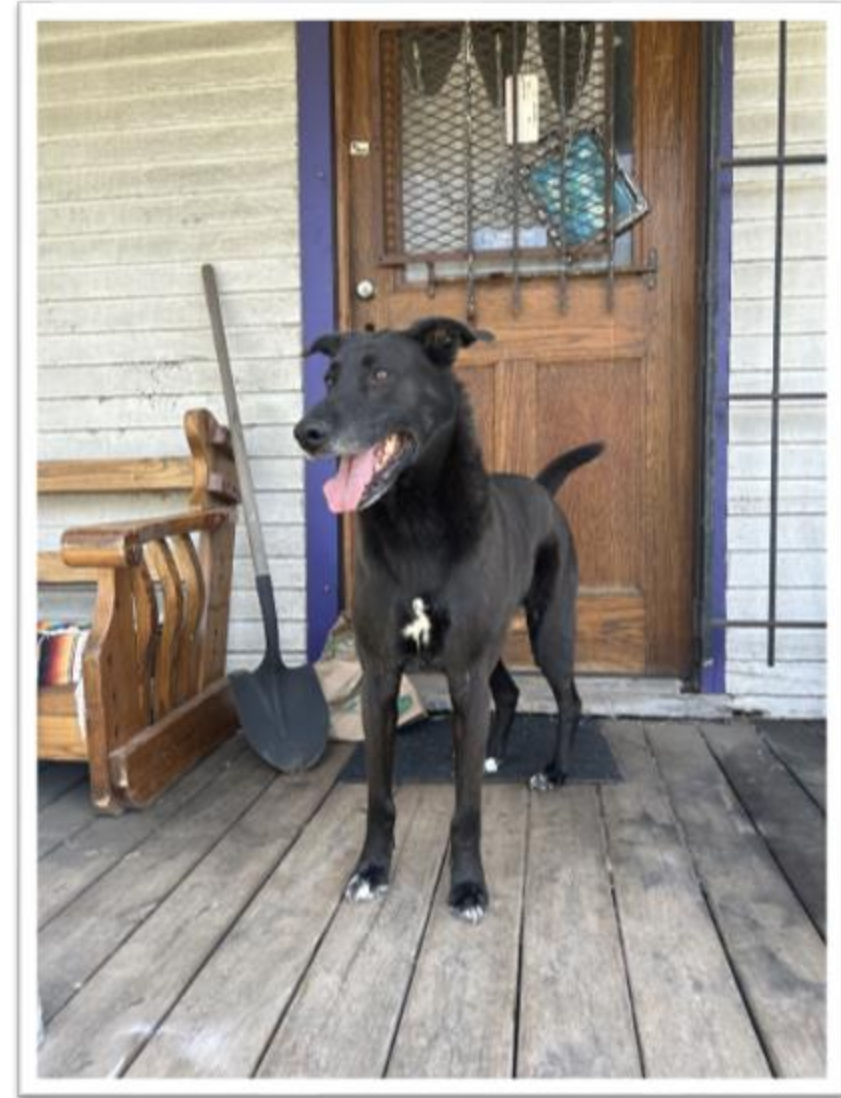


Terra Schneider

Other programs: Minors in Computer Science and STS

Hometown: Detroit, MI

Plans after graduation: Long term is TBD, short term: hang out with my dog and read books for fun!



Simon – my dog!

Emma Scznsny

Other programs: Minors: Museum Studies and Statistics

Hometown: Monroe, MI

Plans after graduation: Attend NYU's Master of Arts in Museum Studies Program

Special thanks: Thank you to everyone who has supported me throughout these last four years! I am especially grateful to the people who have been supporting me for all the years before that.



Emma Scznsny



Prajval Singh

Other programs: Double major in Computer Science

Hometown: Battle Creek, Michigan

Plans after graduation: I plan to pursue a career in computer science that is informed by anthropological theory and methods.

Special thanks: I would like to thank my parents for all their support and my wonderful friends for all the memories we've shared at this school.



Daniel Strong

Sub-Major: Archaeology

Other programs: Minor in Statistics

Hometown: Jackson, MI

Plans after graduation: CRM
Archaeology

Special thanks: I would like to thank my parents Holly and Glenn Strong for their constant support, care, and (occasional) patience over the last four-ish years. I love you both very much!



Ava Tackabury

Sub-Major: Environment and Conservation

Shalma Torres

Sub-Major: Medical Anthropology

Lydia Ulfig

Benjamin Vanderhyde

Anya Coffeen Vandeven

Emma Weinberger

Hometown: Berkeley, California

Plans after graduation: I am going on a dig in Peru this summer and am hoping to eventually work at a park.

Special thanks: I want to thank my mom, dad, Allie, Harry, Nana, and Matt for all their support over these past few years.



Addison Yerks

Sub-Major: Environment and Conservation

Shay Xianyang Zhang

*Evolutionary
Anthropology*
MAJORS

Maya Dunn

Adam Law

Daphne Matter

Annie Wang

Maya Dunn

Adam Law

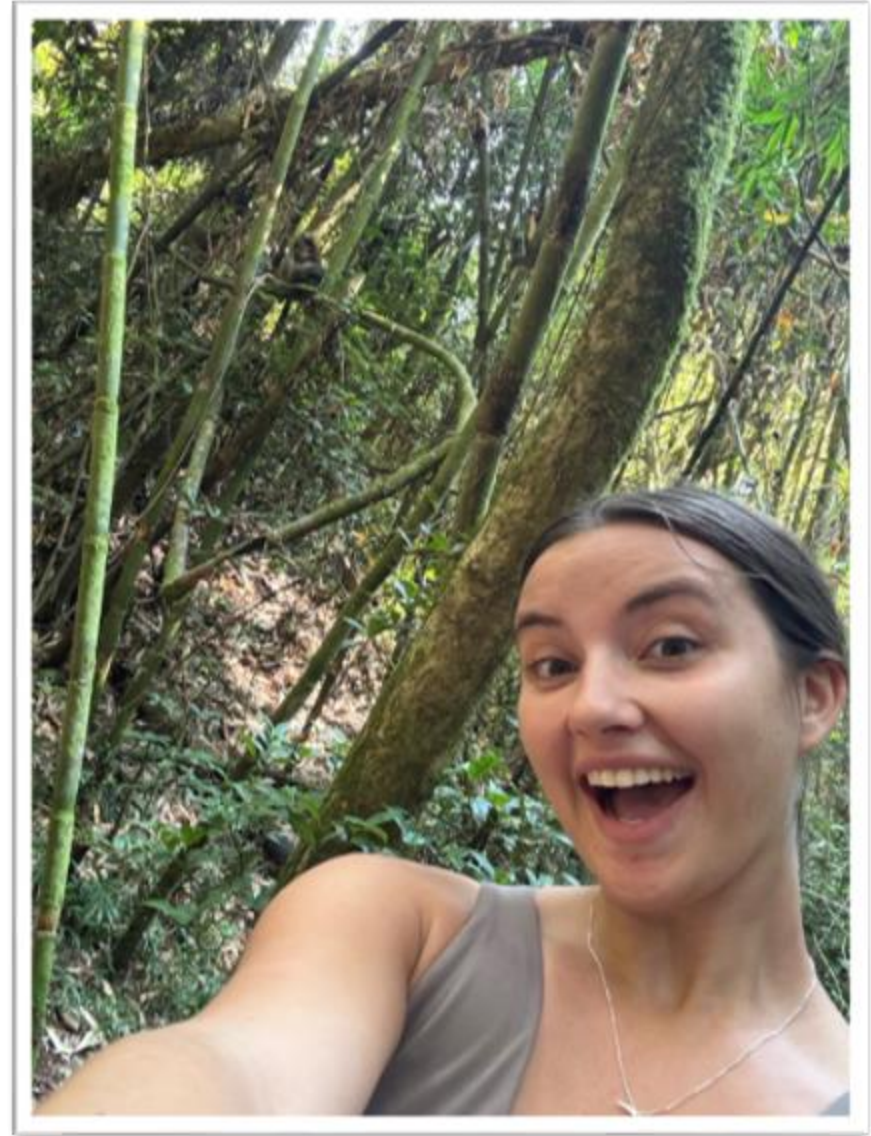
Daphne Matter

Other programs: PitE and VIP's Fund

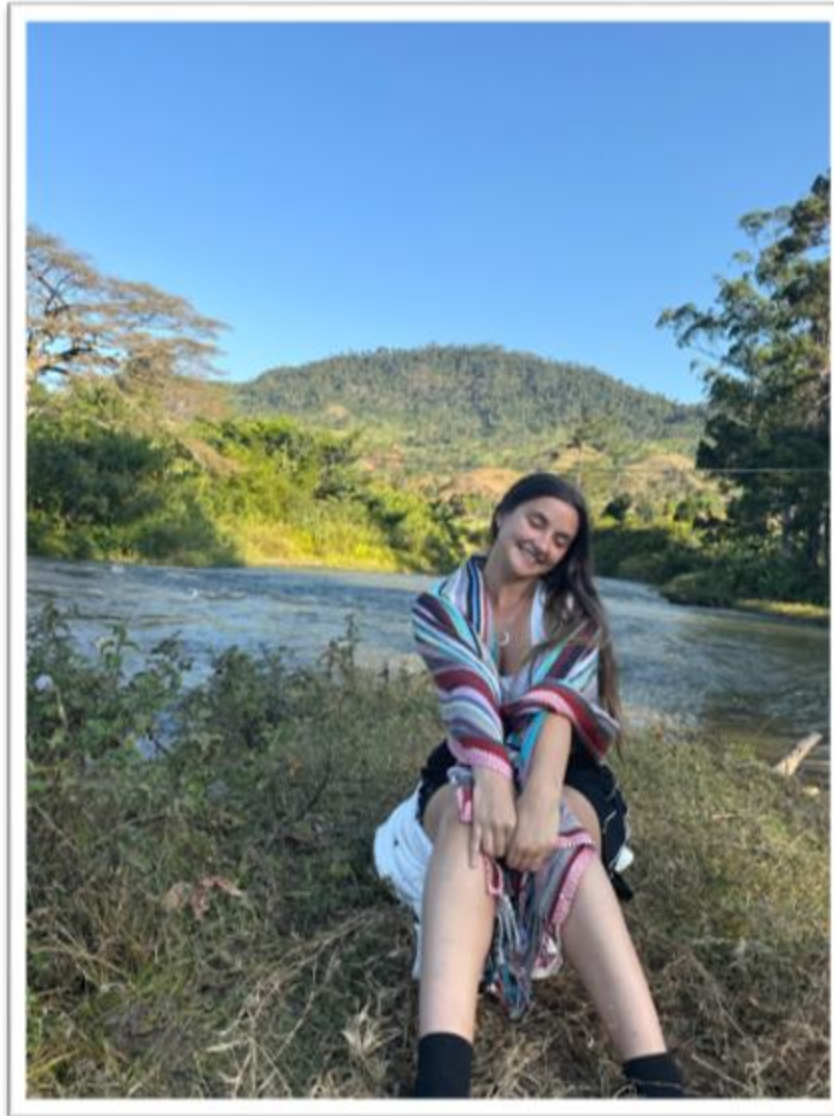
Hometown: Seattle, WA

Plans after graduation: I'll be working at Ocean Rider Seahorse Farm in Kona, HI. And I'll keep working with the Very Important Primates Fund here and in Madagascar!! (duh)

Special thanks: Thank you times a billion to my whole family; mom, dad, adele (kinda), gma and gpa, nana and pop pop, aunt Julie, aunt Debi, etc!) for supporting me getting a degree in cool monkey facts and for trusting the process. And thank you to my friends, peers, and incredible professors for making my time here truly unforgettable <3



Daphne Matter



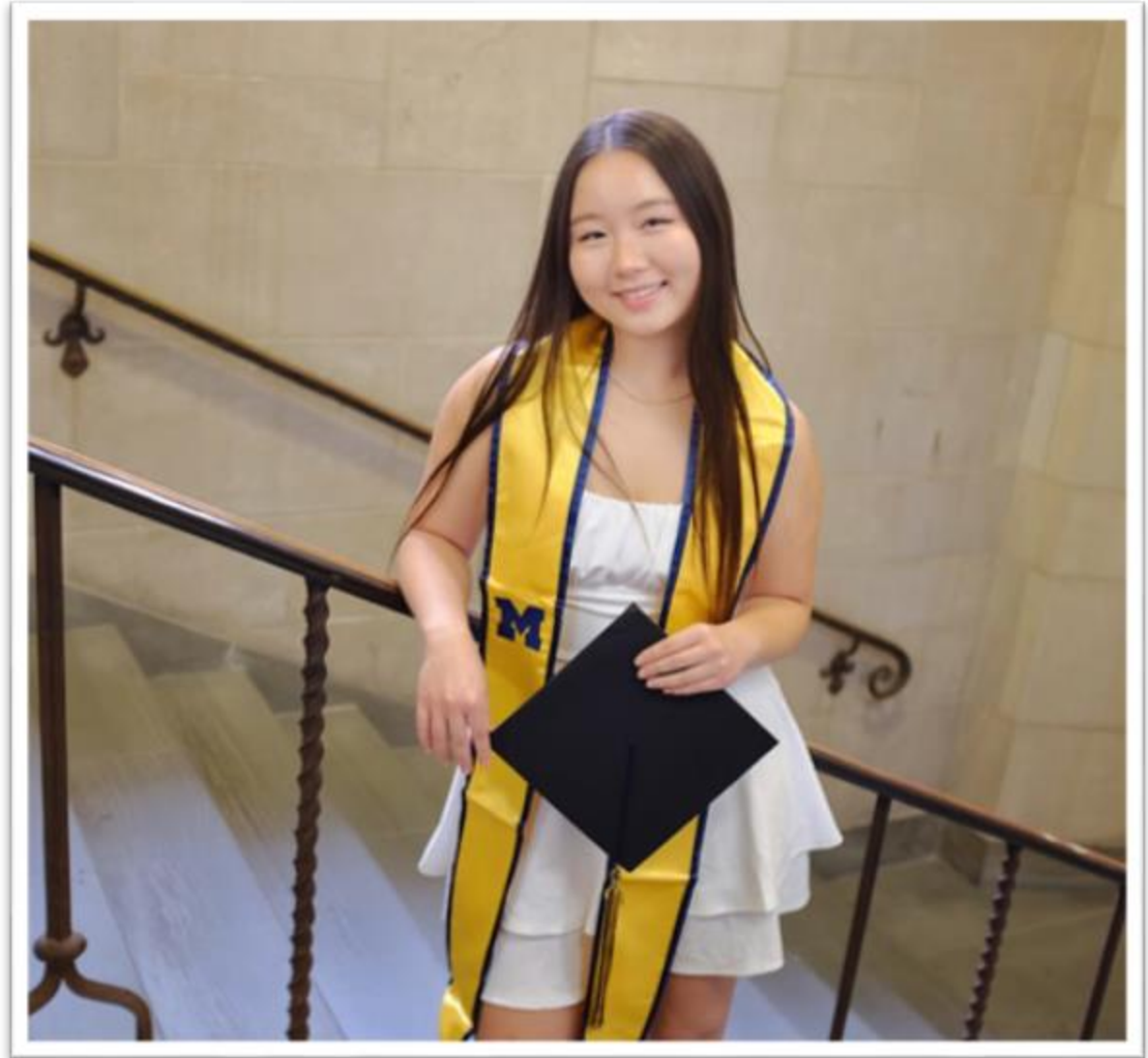
Annie Wang

Other programs: Double major with Neuroscience

Hometown: Ann Arbor, MI

Plans after graduation: Working as a Medical Assistant in Chicago while applying to medical school.

Special thanks: Thanks mom, dad, and Jonathan for all your support! Love you!



Human Origins, Biology & Behavior

MAJORS

Anna Grundt

Isla Roy

Sarah-Marie Jabre

Sydney Stephens

Sabina Li

Linda Sun

Chloe Obrien

Wenyi Ye

Anna Grundt

Other programs: Double major with Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity

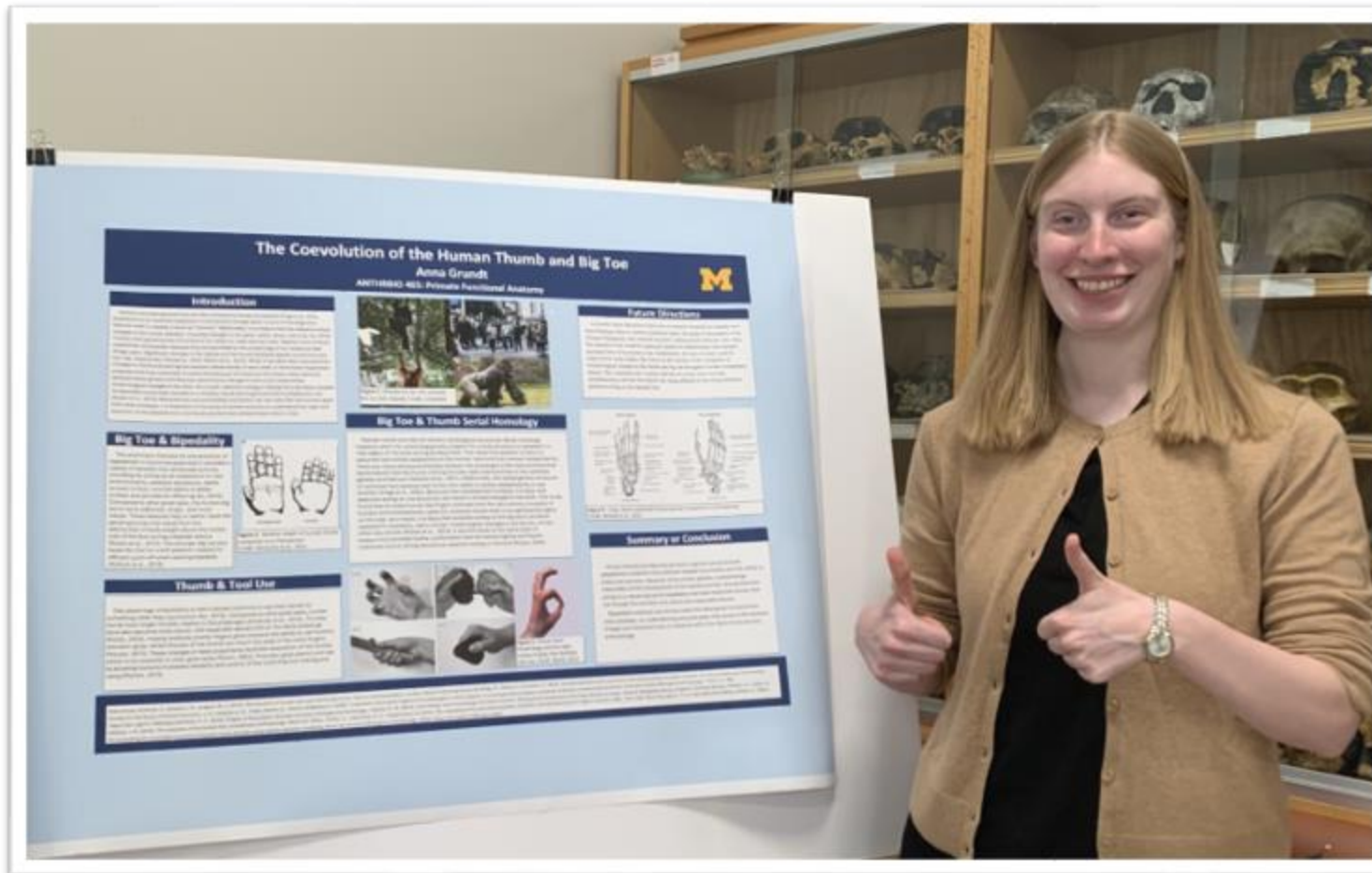
Hometown: Chicago, IL

Plans after graduation: I plan to continue working as a docent at UM's Museum of Natural History over the summer and after that I plan to pursue a career related to museums and science communication.

Special thanks: Thank you to my family, especially my parents. This would not have been possible without your love, guidance, and encouragement. I am forever grateful for your belief in me, it means the world!



Anna Grundt



Sarah-Marie Jabre

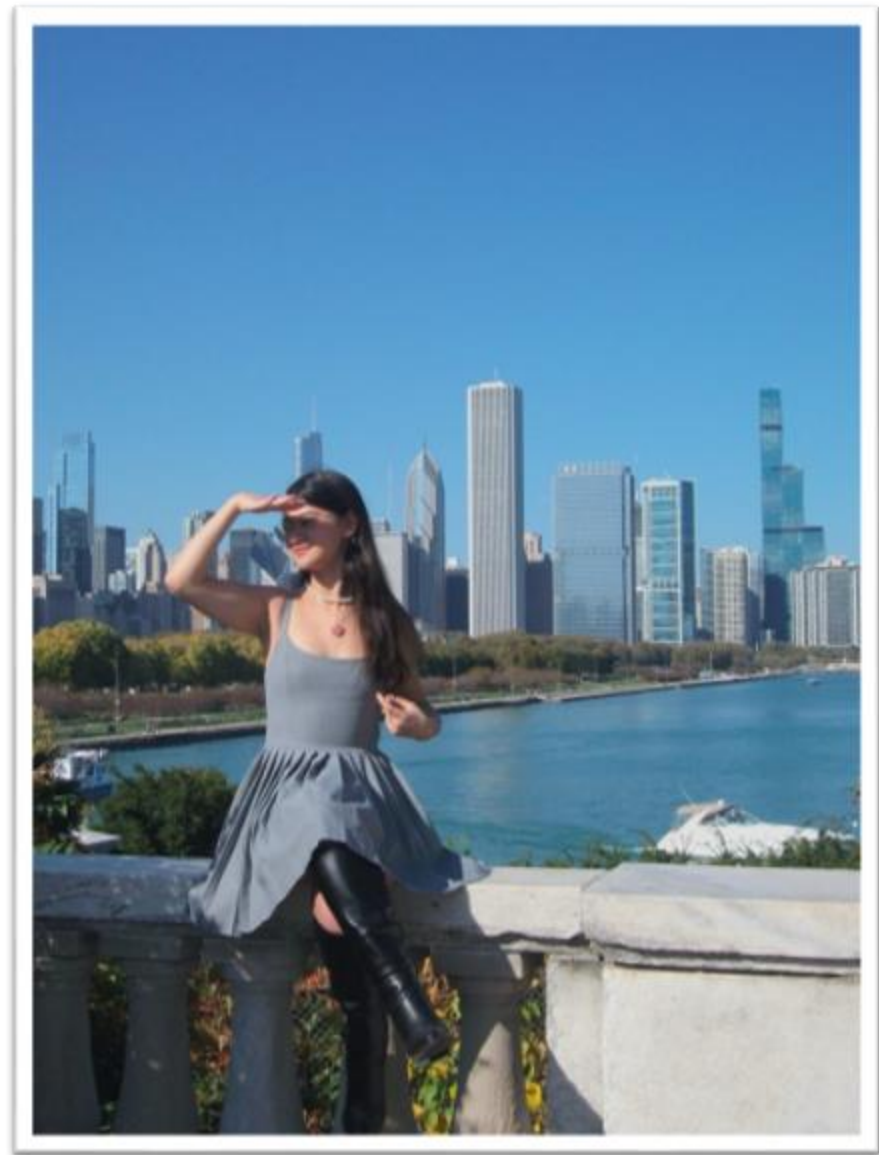
Hometown: Sioux City, Iowa

Plans after graduation: Apply to medical school

Special thanks: To my parents Fady Jabre and Ifan Chen, my sister Kayla-Marie Jabre, my grandparents, my closest friends, and my professors--I attribute so much of my success to your help and support, and I thank you with all my heart <3 Thank you so much for believing in me, and I hope to continue making you proud!



Sarah-Marie Jabre



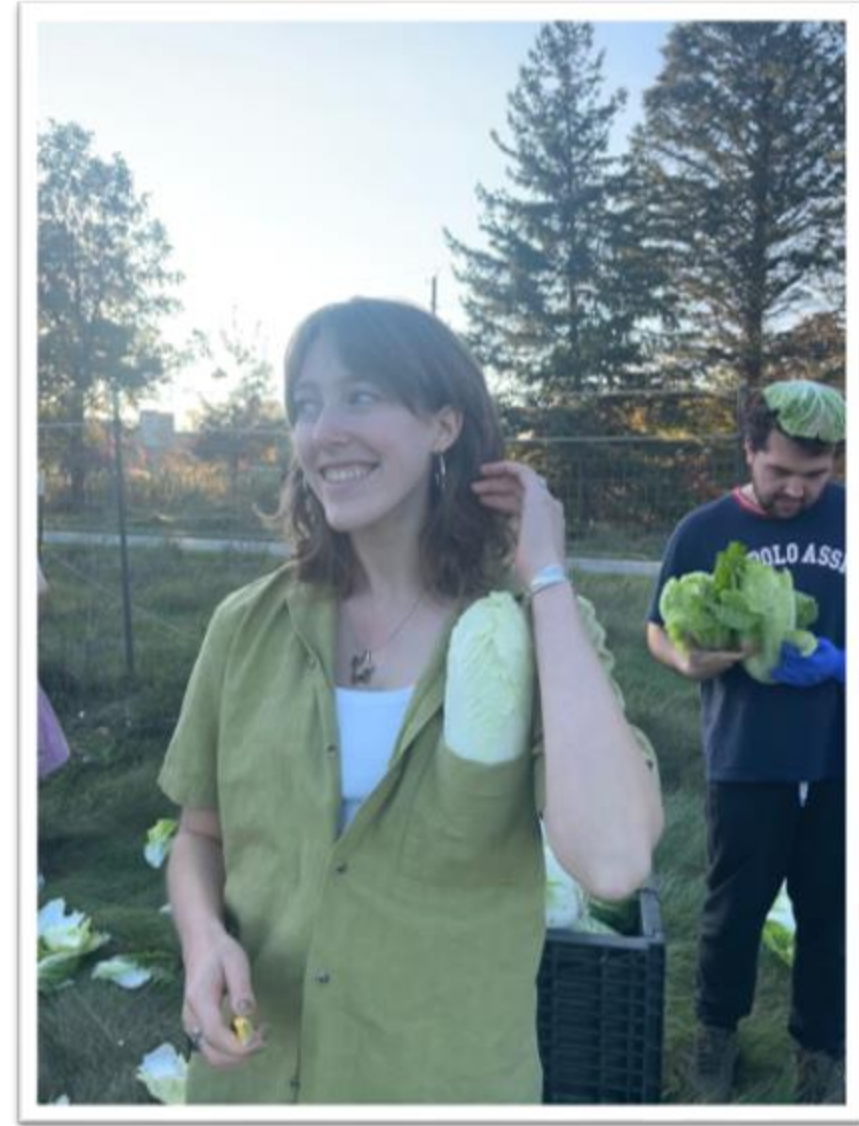
Sabina Li

Chloe Obrien

Hometown: St. Louis MO

Plans after graduation: After graduation I plan to go to medical illustration grad school

Special thanks: Thank you to my mom for always believing in me <3



Isla Roy

Sydney Stephens

Linda Sun

Hometown: Shanghai

Plans after graduation: Another 2 years at SEAS Master's Umich

Special thanks: Linda would like to thank her parents and all her friends who supported her throughout the years. She would also like to give a special Thank you to all her professors and GSIs who have been her guiding light during her undergraduate career.



Wenyi Ye

Other programs: Double Major with Mathematics, Minor in Data Science

Hometown: Beijing, China

Plans after graduation: I plan to attend graduate school to earn a master's degree.

Special thanks: I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my family for their support and encouragement. I couldn't have reached this milestone without them.



Anthropology PhD

ARCHAEOLOGY

Hannah Hoover

Lauren Pratt

BIOLOGICAL

Gene Estrada

Elliot Greiner

Alexandra Norwood

Taylor Spencer

LINGUISTIC

Yeon-Ju Bae

Anthropology & History PhD

Kristen Connor

Richard Reinhardt

Reuben Riggs-Bookman

Anthropology & Social Work PhD

Kathryn Berringer

Vitalis Im

Ronke Olawale

Hannah Hoover

Dissertation title: *Rooting Power and Place in the Native South: Yamasee Towns in Archaeological Perspective*

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Plans after graduation: Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Tennessee

Special thanks: To my parents, Julia and Larry Hoover, my advisor Rob Beck, and other committee members, Tiffany Fryer, Joyce Marcus, Denise Bossy, and Grey Dowd; in addition to many archaeologists and friends in South Carolina



Lauren Pratt

Dissertation title: *Human Ecology in the Early Prehistory of the Eastern Andes, Peru*

Gene Estrada

Dissertation title: *Environmental Drivers
of Terrestriality in Primates*

Elliot Greiner

Dissertation title: *Mammalian Paleoecology of the Tugen Hills Succession, Baringo Basin, Kenya*

Alexandra Norwood

Dissertation title: *Novel approaches to ungulate enamel isotope analysis for the reconstruction of human paleoenvironments*

Taylor Spencer

Dissertation title: *Exploring Stress, Allostatic Load, and Disparities in Black Womxn's Reproductive Health*

Yeon-Ju Bae

Dissertation title: *Better Life, Better Nature:
The Politics of Ethical Interaction in a Korean
Buddhist Return-to-the-Farm Village*

Kristen Connor

Dissertation title: *States of the Sky: Meteorology and Rainmaking in Uganda, 1860-Present*

Richard Reinhardt

Dissertation title: *'Subject in All Things': Scenes of Conversion in the Capuchin-Franciscan Atlantic*

Reuben Riggs-Bookman

Dissertation title: *Before, During, and After Emergency Management: Undemocratic Urban Governance and Fiscal Responsibility in Post-industrial Interracial Suburbs, 1971-2023*

Kathryn Berringer

Dissertation title: *Scales of Care: Reproducing LGBTQ+ Safety, Knowledge & Practice in Detroit*

Hometown: New York City, NY

Plans after graduation: Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas, School of Social Welfare

Special thanks: To my committee members, Damani Partridge, Karen Staller, Liz Roberts, Andrew Shryock, Berit Ingersoll-Dayton, and Katie Richards-Schuster



Vitalis Im

Dissertation title: *The Art of Negotiation: How Artmaking Practices Mediate Experiences of Violence in Michigan Prisons*

Ronke Olawale

Dissertation title: *Ebola in Liberia: The Intersection of Culture, Care and Infectious Disease*

Hometown: Nigeria

Plans after graduation: Assistant Professor of Social Work (Tenure Track) at Grand Valley State University

Special thanks: To my Dissertation Committee members, (Professor Kelly M. Askew, Co-Chair; Professor Lorraine M. Gutierrez, Chair; Professor Emerita Gillian Feeley-Harnik; Professor Erik Mueggler; Professor Karen M. Staller) for their guidance through the years. And my teachers and staff in the Anthropology Program. And to Rackham Graduate School, and all UM School funding sources, and of course, our benefactors. and my family and friends, God bless you all.





M | ANTHROPOLOGY

Congratulations!

CLASS OF 2025