



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

College of Education

**Welcome to the
College of Education
2017 – 2018
Scholarship Banquet**

#InnovateEducateElevate

Mitchell Atencio

Joseph & Evelyn B. Rosenblatt Scholarship



Academically I am working to complete my honors degree in musical education following the completion of my bachelors degree. I intend to pursue a master's in a related area in order to be better prepared for a career in education. For years I have wanted to teach music at the high school level. I am excited to get closer to achieving this goal every day.

Program

Instrumental Music Education

Madison Baker



Geneve C. Nelson Memorial Scholarship
Melba G. Arnesen Memorial Scholarship

I grew up in Cottonwood Heights/Sandy area and would love to teach elementary school in that area in the future. I have enjoyed attending the University of Utah and plan to finish my degree at the end of Spring 2018 semester. I enjoy cooking, dogs, and traveling. I am looking forward to student teaching, graduating, and getting married next year (2018).

Program
Elementary Education

McKenna Bakker



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I have always had the desire to obtain a master's degree and could not be happier to be in the school counseling program at the University of Utah. My goal is to make my education my main focus and graduate with honors. After graduating, I would like to work in a high school as a School Counselor and eventually work in a middle school as well. My goal is to help as many adolescents as I can throughout my career.

Program

School Counseling

Mary Barlow



Paulette O. Poudras Scholarship

I am a first generation college student. I have had so much fun. My favorite class was ASL! I loved learning sign language and learning about deaf culture. It has influenced some of my research projects in other classes and helped me teach other future educators about something hearing people forget to think about. It has made me aware of a culture that is not focused on in any other class I have taken to prepare me to be an educator.

Program
Elementary Education

Colin Ben

J. George Jones Jr. & Velma Rife Jones Memorial Scholarship



Colin Ben is a citizen of the Navajo Nation and was raised in Shiprock, New Mexico. He is a Ph.D. candidate in the Educational Leadership and Policy program at the University of Utah. His career goals include joining the professoriate, earning tenure in the education field, and becoming an administrator.

Program

Educational Leadership and Policy

Tommy Burnett

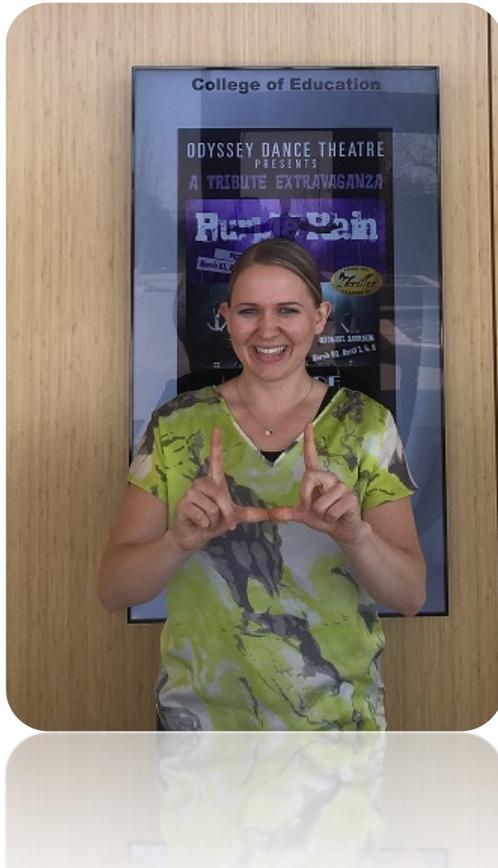


Math/Science/Foreign Language Scholarship

After graduating with a degree in fine arts from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, I found myself looking for a deeper purpose in my life. While teaching inmates at the county jail, I discovered my love for education. My career interests are very simple. I want to put myself in the best position to help as many people as I can receive a better life through science education. As for my academic pursuits, I want to learn as much as I can to make the learning process engaging and life changing for a diverse population of students.

Program
Science Education

Jennifer Call



Molly Lawson Research Fellowship

I graduated from BYU-Idaho with a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Special Education and began my teaching career in Boise, Idaho. I became interested in working with families during this time as I taught preschool students with special needs and worked closely with their families. I continued my schooling at Boise State University and graduated with a master's degree in Early Childhood Education. I taught first and second grade in Idaho and Utah before beginning the PhD program in special education at the University of Utah. My overarching research goal is to examine the relationship between special education teachers' collaboration with diverse families and any related student outcomes.

Program

Special Education

Chad Campbell

Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship



Being an educator has been very rewarding. I am starting my 14th year as an educator. My current assignment as a 7th grade College and Career Awareness teacher has been a highlight of my career. It has afforded me the chance to witness and be a part of an amazing time in so many individuals' lives. Self-awareness is developing and it is fragile and resilient at the same time. The question, "How do you work with this age group?" has been posed to me many times. My response sounds something like, "It is a gift that I feel fortunate to be a part of." My inspiration for being a better person and for seeking this opportunity is directly linked to the students that have been a part of my life and career.

Program

School Counseling

Liliana E. Castrellón



Steffensen Cannon Scholarship

As the first in my family to attend and graduate college, I have a sincere commitment to educational equity and the retention and persistence of students of color in higher education. Since my undergraduate work at California State University, Monterey Bay until now, as a PhD candidate in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy (ELP), I have dedicated my work to understanding the educational and political contexts for undocumented students and Latina/o/x students in p-16. After beginning the program here at The University of Utah and a graduate assistantship working directly with first generation college students of color, I knew I was where I needed to be and I could not stop at a masters degree. Through my lived experiences as a first generation Latina college student, and the experiences of the undergraduate students I work with, I am continuously reminded of the changes that need to happen in higher education for more equitable educational outcomes for historically marginalized students. It is for these reasons that I am pursuing entering the professoriate and educational research fields. My hope is to teach and conduct research in the field of education, with an emphasis on critical policy analysis, examining how policies effect undocumented students and students of color, as well as influence critical service-learning.

Program

Educational Leadership and Policy

Kahea Clark



Edith E. Myers Endowed Scholarship

I am from a small town in the middle of Oahu, Hawaii called Wahiawa. I am the youngest of 8 children which includes 5 older sisters and 2 older brothers. Being the youngest of a family of ten, I grew up a people person. I loved building relationships, making new friends, and getting to know others of different cultures and beliefs. My academic interests include becoming an effective advocate for empowering multicultural and other group minorities within the school system. My immediate career interests include working as a school counselor in the public sector with ambitions of one day, highly contribute in a university setting.

Program

School Counseling

Brittany Cochrane



William M. Stewart School Graduate Scholarship

I enjoy traveling and partaking in the wide variety of activities Utah has to offer. Reading, spending time with family and friends, and education are some of my other interests. I was born and raised in Utah and was fortunate to receive an education through Utah's public school system. I was blessed to learn from incredible, dedicated teachers who taught me the value of education. I knew from a young age that the profession of educator was in my future. After completing high school, I enrolled at Southern Utah University and then transferred to the University of Utah a year later where I graduated in 2003 with a BS degree in Elementary Education. I have been working in the Alpine School District for the last 14 years. I am currently working as a University Supervisor for the Brigham Young University/Alpine School District Partnership.

Program

Elementary Education

Michelle Cook



Math/Science/Foreign Language Scholarship
Milan S. Papulak Memorial Scholarship

I am a native of Utah. I love the diversity of Utah's landscape and it's people. I am keenly interested in sharing all things nature with Utah's future scientists, naturalists, and explorers. I enjoy backpacking, camping, hiking and being outdoors. My undergrad training is in horticulture. One thing I enjoyed about horticulture is teaching people how to care for their plants. It is time to bring everything plants into the classroom. I am ready to take my passion of teaching students and helping teachers bring more science into their classrooms.

Program

Educational Leadership and Policy

Jacob Corbett



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I graduated from Delta High School. I graduated from Utah Valley University with a degree in Earth Science Education.

I have been a science teacher for 12 years at Payson Junior High School.

I am currently enrolled at the University of Utah in the school counseling program.

I look forward to being a school counselor in the future.

Program

School Counseling

Samantha Cowan

Urban Institute for Teacher Education Scholarship



I am studying to be an elementary teacher, and I hope to teach kindergarten or first grade. I love working with the little ones! I also plan on getting my Masters Degree in Mild/Moderate Special Education shortly after graduating. I love working with kids and watching them learn and have fun while doing it. My ultimate goal for my classroom is to have everyone excited to be there.

Program

Elementary Education

Sonja Davidson

Winifred H. Dyer Memorial Endowed Scholarship



I have been employed by Ogden School District for the past 13 years. I now work as an administrative intern at two elementary schools. My academic and career interests are primarily focused on improving academic and social outcomes for students, who come from socioeconomically diverse backgrounds. I have a strong interest in promoting social justice and equity in instructional leadership, and I feel that my graduate studies at the University of Utah have built my capacity to lead this meaningful work as a future school administrator.

Program

K-12 School Administration

Deanna Domire



Dr. D.H. Christensen & Catherine Dean Christensen Memorial Scholarship

I am a native of Salt Lake City, Utah. I am the mother of one inquisitive, humorous and brilliant six-year-old boy, who is the light of my life. I was previously working as a nursing assistant in a home care setting. That is when I started working with children with disabilities. When I returned to school, I had already decided that I was going to complete my degree in education. I realized while trying to decide between elementary and secondary education that special education was where I wanted to be. In teaching children with disabilities, I hope to fill a spot in my heart that has been empty since I stopped working in homecare.

Program
Special Education

Kristi Frischknecht

Urban Institute for Teacher Education Scholarship



I plan to dedicate my life's work to the cause of education. I believe that educating our children is a noble and worthy profession. My education at the University of Utah has opened my mind and pushed me to grow as a student and as a future educator. I have learned about the importance of dedication to learning and new and best practices. I plan to integrate the arts into my teaching as much as possible. As I teach the curriculum, I will work to find the best practices and strategies for my class and my individual students. I will seek professional development opportunities throughout my career in order to give my students the best education I possibly can.

Program

Elementary Education

Trish Fullmer



Dr. D.H. Christensen & Catherine Dean Christensen Memorial Scholarship

I was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. I am a first generation college student, and the mother of two children, Maya (14) and Zayah (19). For the past 19 years, I have had the opportunity to work within non-profit and educational settings with adults and children with exceptionalities. In 2008, I began working as a para educator in public education settings with students with exceptionalities. I gained an immense interest in special education after witnessing positive progressive changes in students with exceptionalities, when education was delivered in appropriate models that accommodated their unique needs.

Program

Special Education – Severe Disabilities

Juan García



Shirley L. & Kathelyne Oswald Evans
Endowed Scholarship

I am a Ph.D. student in the department of Education, Culture and Society. I plan to graduate in spring of 2018.

Program
Social Foundations of Education

Kassidy Leigh Giggey



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I recently moved from Maine to Utah to attend the University of Utah. I have always known that I wanted to work in the education field and school counseling profession. I am specifically interested in career counseling, and working with high schoolers to figure out what the next step is. Leaving high school is so scary, and most students really have the world at their finger tips. It is an equally confusing and exciting time in their lives. I am excited to help them through that process, as well as provide emotional, academic, and family support to students.

Program

School Counseling

Brianne Gleason



Ada Roper Memorial Scholarship

I am married to my wonderful husband who also happens to be the boy I had a crush on in elementary school. I love reading, dancing randomly, exploring the outdoors, new adventures and finally Coca-Cola cake from Cracker Barrel. I started my college career at BYU-IDAHO and obtained my Associates of Science. I transferred to the University of Utah and decided to pursue a career in education because of my passion for learning and wanting to create an inclusive environment for my students through the use of creativity and the arts. I will be Student teaching a 3rd grade classroom in Granite District and I could not be more excited for this new adventure. After graduating, I plan on becoming a teacher for a K-6 classroom in the state of Utah. I am excited to bring enthusiasm for learning and fun to the classroom.

Program

Elementary Education

Madison Gregrich

Lydia Anna Soeffner Memorial Scholarship



I am a senior at the University of Utah majoring in Elementary Education. I am from Heber City, Utah. I have loved my time here at the U and will be student teaching in second grade this year. I also love the arts and feel a strong connection to dance. I have been dancing since I was three and it is a passion of mine. In my future classroom I hope to integrate the arts into my curriculum because I think it helps students connect to content in relevant and authentic ways. I am excited for a career in education and the many amazing kids I will get to work with!

Program

Elementary Education

Valerie Guerrero



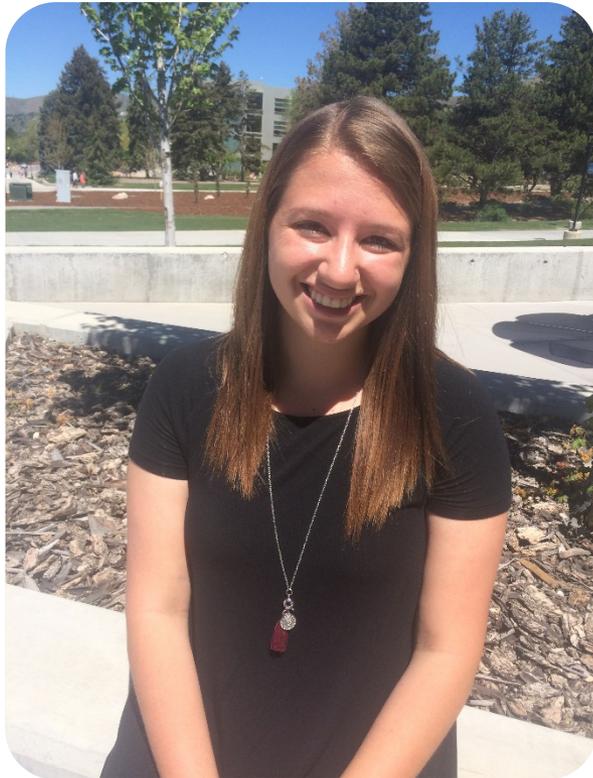
Elmo R. & Frances Bennion Morgan Endowed Fellowship

Valerie Guerrero has held a lifelong interest in understanding and disrupting educational inequities and experiences. She has spent the last 15 years engaged in issues of equity and social justice as related to the college environment. Valerie has led hundreds of workshops and trainings on college campuses primarily focused on issues of power, privilege, diversity, social justice, and social identities. Valerie moved to Meadville, Pennsylvania to become the Associate Director in the Center for Intercultural Development and Student Success at Allegheny College. Valerie is currently a doctoral student in the department of Educational Leadership and Policy at the University of Utah. Her research interests within education include critical pedagogies, structural oppression, developing critical praxis, faculty teaching preparation, intersectionality, campus climate, social justice education and cultivating a more equitable system of postsecondary education.

Program

Educational Leadership and Policy

Carlie Haacke



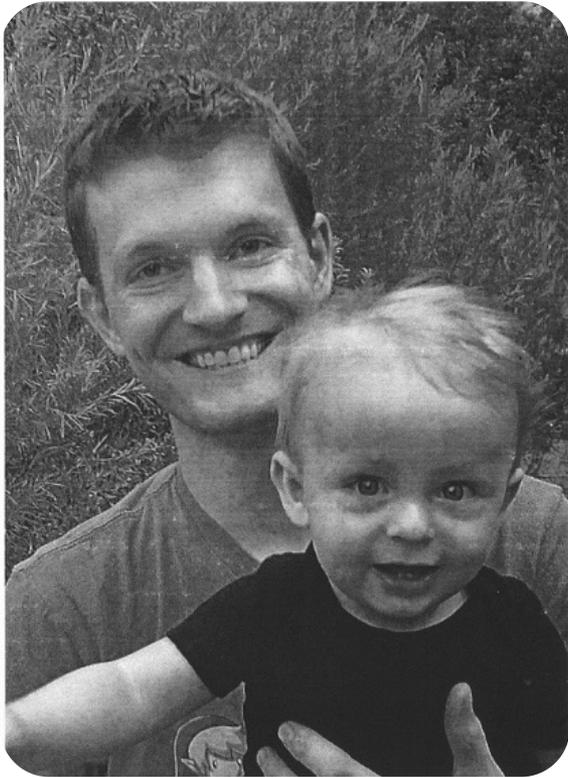
Mary Elizabeth Baum Hanks Endowed Scholarship

I started out my college experience here at the University of Utah excited to become a teacher and my passion has grown in my time here. I came to the University of Utah to pursue a degree in Elementary Education through the Honors College and I have been extremely happy with my choice in this institution. I have enjoyed my time here and gained more knowledge than I could have imagined, both in the classroom and out of the classroom. I have enjoyed the many opportunities I have had to engage in the community through this program. Upon graduating, I intend to teach at a Title I school in Salt Lake City while I pursue a Master's of Education in Reading and Literacy.

Program

Elementary Education

Zachary Horner



Zua Neff Endowed Scholarship

I just received my bachelors in Art Teaching this spring and I am currently enrolled in the masters of teaching program. I am very interested in helping people find ways to express themselves in a positive and creative environment. I believe that art classes can provide a safe and fun place to help students become more comfortable with who they are. I would like to teach ceramics in a high school setting. I am also versed in many other mediums including: painting, drawing, printmaking, calligraphy, Adobe imaging software, graphic design, 3-D design, and sculpting .

Program

Masters of Education, Art Teaching

Rochelle Horrocks



Paulette O. Poudras Scholarship

I received my undergraduate degree in elementary education from the University of Utah in 2005. I taught first and second grade for nine years. More recently, I worked in a self-contained behavior unit with many amazing kids and teachers. I decided to pursue my Master's Degree in Special Education. I would like to teach students with disabilities in an inclusive classroom at the elementary level.

Program

Elementary Education

Faith Jackson

Dianne Asmus Bettis and Norman & Blanche Asmus Scholarship



I am so excited to be attending the University of Utah this coming Fall. Ever since I was a little girl I have dreamed of being an elementary school teacher and I am ready to begin this journey. My elementary school teachers were all great examples to me and gave me a love for learning which inspired me to want to become a teacher myself. I hope to bring excitement for learning into my students' lives and I hope to inspire them to enjoy and learn about all the amazing things in this world just like my teachers did for me.

Program

Elementary Education

Laura Jacobsen



Council for Investments in Education Scholarship
Robert Sevy Scholarship for Math and Science Majors

Growing up I always loved science. Whether it was doing homemade experiments or being a part of TARC and the science Olympiad team; I always had a passion for the sciences. After I served a mission in Puerto Rico, I found that I also had a passion for teaching. Once I returned to school, I decided to change from pre-nursing to biology teaching B.S. I am also pursuing a minor in chemistry and Spanish teaching. I hope to be the secondary education teacher that helps my students fall in love with science and see the beauty of the earth.

Program

Biology Teaching/Secondary Education

Zoe Jefferies



Mary Elizabeth Baum Hanks Endowed Scholarship

I am a senior at the University of Utah pursuing a BS in Elementary Education. Throughout my time at the university, I have enjoyed serving as the president of both "Coins for Cancer" and "Red Readers" student groups. In my free time, I enjoy running and mountain biking. I also love art, especially ceramics. I have a strong background in science and hope to be able to use that background to strengthen students' excitement and interest in science. In these coming years, I hope to better learn how to create a classroom that is inclusive to the whole student, where students feel they are a vital part to our classroom and where they feel they can thrive in their education.

Program
Elementary Education

Jessika Jeppson



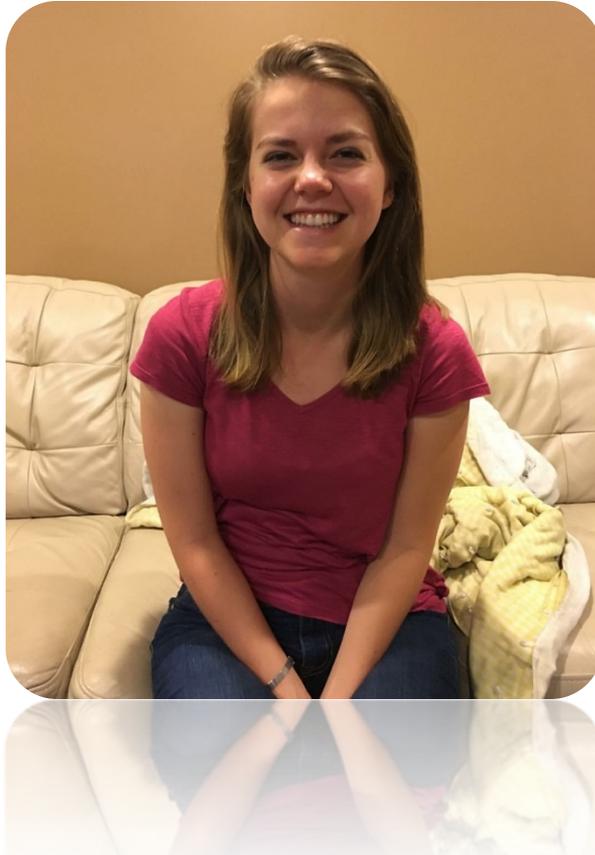
Zua Neff Endowed Scholarship

I grew up in Heber City, Utah and attended Wasatch High School. I have had a love for art since I was about 5 years old and it was in high school that I decided that I wanted to become a high school art teacher. Throughout my high school years I had a great mentor who inspired me to share my love of art with others. After I graduated from high school, I attended Dixie State University for one academic year and then came to the University of Utah, where I have been attending for the last 5 years.

Program
Art Teaching

Brooke Jones

Urban Institute for Teacher Education Scholarship



I am majoring in Elementary Education and am especially interested in teaching 4th to 6th grade. I have learned so much from my classes at the University and I'm excited to apply theories in an actual classroom. Some aspects of teaching which I am especially enthusiastic about, are teaching through real-world experiences, encouraging collaboration between students, and helping students to build their problem-solving skills and confidence in their ability to learn.

Program
Elementary Education

Alexandra Kolaski



Dr. Cecelia H. Foxley Endowed Scholarship

I graduated from Princeton University in 2013 with a bachelors degree in English Literature and Environmental Studies. After leaving college, I packed up and moved out to Utah, where I worked with at-risk teens and young adults as a field guide in a wilderness therapy program. During this time, I became increasingly interested in pursuing a graduate degree in psychology. I continued working in wilderness therapy as a clinical assistant, family therapist, and researcher before beginning the PhD program in Counseling Psychology at the University of Utah. A passion of mine is working with young adults during their progression to a college community and also working with senior high school students as they determine college and university placements. As a clinician, I hope to continue to serve this population and assist in the moment of identity formation that accompanies these key transitions.

Program

Counseling Psychology

Isabella Lillie



Ada Roper Memorial Scholarship

My name is Isabella, but most people call me Bella. I am prepping to become an elementary school teacher. I would love to teach kindergarten, as little kids are my favorite to work with. I plan to graduate in 2019 and start teaching as soon as possible.

Program

Elementary Education

Megan Long

Mark & Connie Woodland Scholarship



I am currently an English teaching major at the University of Utah. I have been a student at the U since Fall 2015, moving to Salt Lake from Provo after marrying my husband in June of 2015. In addition to my Bachelor's degree and Utah teaching license, I will graduate in 2019 with a minor in geography teaching and a minor in Russian. Of all the English and education courses I've taken at the U, I have most enjoyed the focus on multiculturalism and social justice education. I believe there is strength in diversity, and I believe that all students deserve a quality education that enables them to seize every opportunity. Language is power, and literature is a timeless method of expression and empathy, and it is my hope that as a teacher, I will be able to use these as tools to teach my students the skills they need for success in their current communities and their future endeavors.

Program

English Secondary Education

Cameron Martz



Thomas D. Dee III & Candace Cartwright Dee Endowed Teaching Assistantship

I graduated from BYU with a bachelor's degree in psychology. After graduation I began working at the Utah State Hospital as a psychiatric technician on the Children's Unit, where I am currently still employed. As part of my duties there, I would take the children, ages usually ranging from six to twelve, to school on weekdays. It was while working there that I discovered the school psychologist profession and decided that I wanted to pursue that in my education and as my career. I am currently pursuing an EdS degree in School Psychology. I know that the program at the University of Utah will prepare me to be a skilled and proficient school psychologist. My goal is to have a fulfilling career where I can help teachers and parents work with their students to achieve their potential and where I can help students know and play to their strengths.

Program
School Psychology

Ashlie McDonald

Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship



I have lived in Utah for almost 24 years. My parents were both in the U.S. Air Force, so I moved around a lot as a child and got to experience a lot of diversity and culture. I believe these experiences impacted my love and passion for people and serving professions. I had always wanted to be an educator and was able to make that dream come true for several years. I received my Bachelor of Arts from the University of Utah with a major in Secondary English Teaching and a minor in Secondary ESL Teaching and have held a Utah Educator's License since. As an educator, I also ended up teaching a leadership class to middle school students for three years. This class sparked my interest to be a school counselor. I look forward to helping teenagers along their journey of life!

Program
School Counseling

Anjane Merida



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

My greatest desire in my professional life has always been to help and encourage youth through life's challenges and support them with their goals so they can recognize their potential and become contributors to our community. I have worked in the field of social work for the past eight years. I am currently employed as a case manager for a research study called ASPIRE. I have the pleasure of working with youth of all abilities and backgrounds. We discuss and create together their educational, vocational, and independent living goals. This job was what helped me come to the decision of become a school counselor. I know School Counseling is the path I need to be on in order to pursue my passion of helping youth see their value and follow their dreams.

Program
School Counseling

Zeke Michel

C. Verl Benzley Jr. Endowed Teaching Scholarship



I am a student at the University of Utah. I will be graduating in the summer of 2017. I plan to start teaching in the Canyons School District during the 2017-2018 school year. I love educating students with disabilities. I am extremely excited to begin my teaching career.

Program

Special Education, BCBA

Caitlin Miller



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I was born in Canada and emigrated to the United States so my dad could complete his graduate training at the University of Southern California. My family eventually made their way to Utah, and with the exception of about 5 years away between then and now, I have called Utah my home. Graduate school has been a goal of mine for a long time. I really love working in education and with children, but wanted to do something, rather than teach in a classroom all day. School counseling seemed to be a perfect combination of things I am interested in.

I hope to be a school counselor for a long while, and may eventually move into administration or some sort of school leadership. The education, training, and experience I have received and continue to complete would make me a well-rounded team member in leadership, whether it be in the school counseling department or elsewhere in public education.

Program

School Counseling

Madelyn Millet



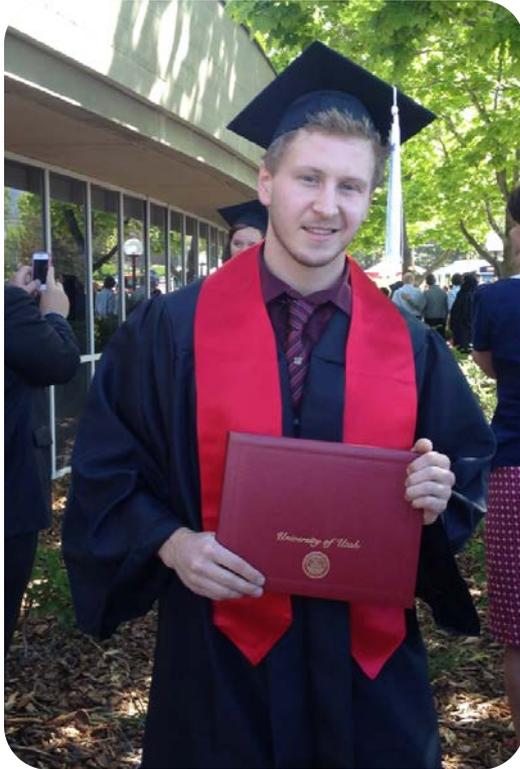
Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship
Etta Lou Cowles Rose Scholarship

I am a graduate student at the University of Utah studying school counseling. I plan to graduate in May of 2019 and then my goal is to use my degree and the skills that I have learned to help students to make a plan for their lives after high school, whether that will include a university education, technical training or internship opportunities.

Program
School Counseling

Christopher Montague

Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship



I was born and raised right here in Salt Lake City! Growing up, my father was a long time educator for the Jordan School District and thus, instilled in me, a great respect for education. After receiving my Associates degree from Salt Lake Community College, I transferred to the University of Utah to complete my Bachelors of Psychology in 2014. At the time, I thought I wanted to pursue a career in the clinical field, but after learning how crucial childhood development was, I knew that education was a much better route for me. During my work as a youth mentor and instruction aide, I have seen that one positive influence in a child's life can make all the difference. With a degree in Education Psychology, I hope to become a school counselor and to hopefully be that positive influence in my students lives!

Program
School Counseling

Monica Moynihan

Urban Institute for Teacher Education Scholarship



I am currently a junior at the University of Utah. I am studying math teaching and hope to end up teaching math in a high school. I am from Draper, Utah and have lived in Utah my entire life. I enjoy hiking, boating, traveling, spending time with friends and family, serving in my community, and dancing. I have been dancing my entire life, and I am currently the ballet director and a teacher at American Expression of Dance.

Program

Math Teaching, Secondary Education

Tammy Nguyen



Roald F. & Della J. Campbell Fellowship

Living in Salt Lake City most of my life, I have attended the University of Utah for my undergraduate, and now graduate, college career. Living in Utah allows me to complete my studies, but also allows me to pursue my hobbies such as hiking, camping, and everything outdoors.

While in my doctoral studies, I have been exposed to many opportunities that I never thought I would be a part of. I have taught different lectures, prepared and conducted research, and now currently working with New Student and Family Programs on transfer programs. My career interests are working within student affairs to help students transition into 4-year colleges. Having been a transfer student myself, I understand how difficult it can be for students and want to be the positive contact to aid them in their college transition.

Program

Educational Leadership & Policy

Jamie Paul

Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship



From the time I graduated high school, I wanted to pursue a career that would allow me to work with children – so I began studying Elementary Education. I stumbled upon the counseling world through some electives I took as a sophomore, which was so fascinating to me and even led me to change my major. I graduated with my Bachelor’s Degree in Family Life and Human Development from Southern Utah University with hopes to become a counselor in some sort of capacity. I then applied to the School Counseling Master’s Program from the University of Utah, and I am so excited to be pursuing my dream career!

Program
School Counseling

Adriana Pinto



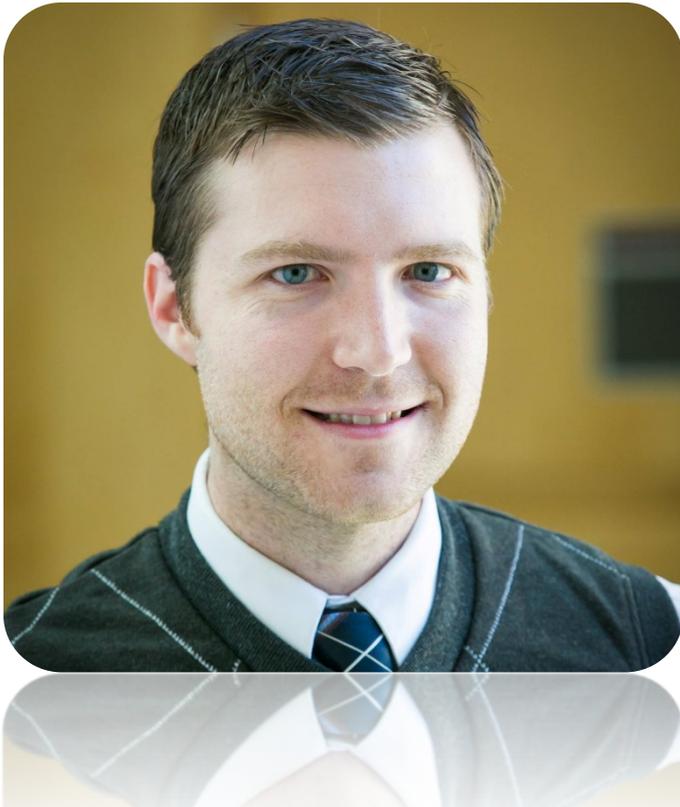
Winifred H. Dyer Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Growing up in small American mountain towns, it was surprising to me how quickly I fell in love with the big city at the bottom of a valley. Salt Lake City has been my home for almost 15 years, and I have enjoyed being a part of a city with such vibrant people and experiences. Academically and career wise, the field of public education has always been my area of interest. I have had the opportunity to study for work as a special educator, academic coach, and reading interventionist so far in my career.

Program

Educational Leadership and Policy

Matthew Plooster



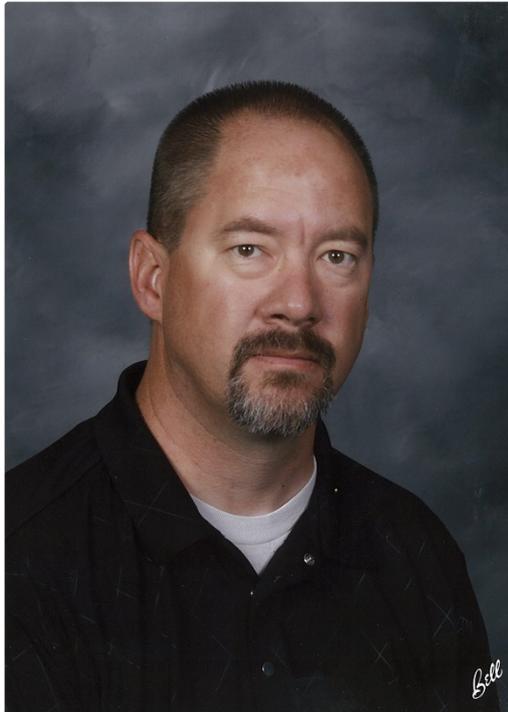
George C. Bolon Committee Scholarship

I've served the last five years at the University of Utah, in various college and administrative divisions. Currently, I am the Stewardship Officer in the University Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid, where I manage donor relations, coordinate campus-wide projects, and lead scholar programs. Since fall 2016, I have studied in the ELP Ed.D. program, which has been a phenomenal experience to study with superb cohorts and tremendously wonderful faculty. My current research interests are focused on scholar programs – such as honors colleges and discipline-specific scholar initiatives – and their accessibility to socioeconomically disadvantaged students. Looking to the future, I see my career growing to create and lead such programs and, in due course, assume a leadership post, such as a deanship or a vice presidency.

Program

Doctor of Education, Higher Education Administration

Kenny Pollock



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I have been involved with, and worked various jobs that have worked with, helping youth in some way. I have worked with troubled youth through juvenile justice systems/probation. I have worked with youth in youth outdoor mentoring programs. I have always enjoyed working with youth and with the advice/direction of one of my mentors I chose to pursue Education. I have been teaching now for just over 10 years. Due to many experiences I have had in teaching and coaching, I have developed the desire to help students through School Counseling.

Program

School Counseling

Paige Redford



Mary Elizabeth Baum Hanks Endowed Scholarship

I was born and raised in Provo, Utah and am the youngest of four children. Growing up, my family always stressed the importance of getting a good education. While growing up, I was heavily involved and competed in both piano and dance. I trained in ballet, jazz, contemporary, and ballroom dance. During my high school years I participated in student government, cheerleading, dance company and was a member of the National Honor Society. I've been recognized on the Dean's list for 3 years. I love the field of education and am excited to become an elementary school teacher.

Program

Elementary Education

Lillian Reninger



Urban Institute for Teacher Education Scholarship

I am a senior student in the College of Education. I'm from Colorado Springs, Colorado originally, but have since travelled all over the United States as well as overseas. I am pursuing a degree in Elementary Education, I am also working toward a minor in FCS, and my Art Integration Endorsement. I love art and being able to efficiently integrate that into my curriculum would make such a difference for the students who learn best through artistic methods. I have now attended the University of Utah for 3 years. With my background incorporating so much travel and overseas experience, I am looking to graduate and teach abroad. I want to make a difference as well as continue to shape and build upon my educational beliefs and practices, especially since teaching is all about changing with, and for the children you teach, to meet them where they are and push them to achieve and do amazing things. Starting college, I would tell myself that I am best suited in the lower grades, kindergarten through third grade, but now after receiving so much support from my professors I have gained the confidence to imagine myself teaching 4th through 6th grade as well. I want to inspire youth in every school I find myself to be an educator.

Program

Elementary Education

Veronica Riker

Math/Science/Foreign Language Scholarship
Milan S. Papulak Memorial Scholarship



I am a math major turned math education major. I love math and have loved being a teaching assistant. I really look forward to becoming a high school math teacher.

Program
Math Education

Mariah Rivera

Faye and Charlotte Bryner Scholarship Fund



Only 0.4% of Native American students graduate from a 4-year university. I am one of the 0.4% and my goal is to contribute to the increase of future Native American college graduates, as well as other underrepresented populations, including low income and first generation students. I am planning a professional career on the university level. In such a position, I plan to advise underrepresented students, ensuring they can enroll in a college by using all resources that are available to them and eventually graduate. I also plan to continue working with high school students, for these are the students who can make a major difference. From my experience, many students in high school need a positive support system, and others mainly need to be guided down a path leading to college. I believe this is an achievable goal available to every student, no matter his or her background.

Program

School Counseling

Math/Science/Foreign Language Scholarship

Rebeca Gonzalez-Rocha



Rebeca, currently manages the Park City Bright Futures program which aims to help first-generation students thrive academically and socially to ultimately graduate college. Her goal is to make high school and college graduation a reality for all students, as she understands the challenges they confront. She teaches students “college knowledge” followed by year-round programming at the high school preparing them with life skills and leadership development. Rebeca’s professional goal is to be a lifetime educator that is connected with the community and strive to create positive social change.

Program

Spanish Teaching

Kadysha Reyes



The Family of Mary Jane Bosley Endowed Scholarship

I grew up in a Mexican American culture with my parents and three siblings in a small town in Oregon. I always dreamed of attending college as my parents were unable to. I have worked very hard in school and enjoy volunteering. I switched to an Elementary Education major this past spring semester and have truly enjoyed my classes. I have learned a lot in how to teach and help students grow. I am fluent in Spanish and hope to one day teach at a Title1 dual immersion school.

Program

Elementary Education

Joshua Robinson

Math/Science/Foreign Language Scholarship



I have many things that keep me occupied. I am a father of two beautiful girls, Rose & Jazmyn. I have worked in the hospitality/restaurant industry for going on ten years. I am fluent in Spanish and have a strong desire to share my love for the language with today's youth. I did not go to college right out of high school, but I feel that I have a greater desire and passion to learn and succeed. I can't wait to have my own classroom someday and work as a high school Spanish teacher.

Program
Spanish Teaching

David Rockwood



Milton Bennion Scholarship

My father is a professor of chemistry and my mother is a French immigrant. If there was a theme to my childhood that theme was curiosity. My days were filled with books, science projects, museums, and trips to the library. Currently, my own family is the joy of my life, where I have tried to pass on my love of learning. I have been teaching various courses at Payson High School for the last 14 years including psychology, sport psychology, geometry, world religions, philosophy, and Spanish. I am also an adjunct psychology instructor at Utah Valley University. I am pursuing a doctorate in Educational Leadership to prepare myself to render even greater service to my community in school administration. My capstone project will be a mixed methods study looking at how principals use the authentic leadership model to build teacher-principal trust.

Program

Educational Leadership & Policy

Erica Rojas



George C. Bolon Committee Scholarship

I grew up in a small village in Mexico where obtaining an elementary education was considered an enormous accomplishment, and those whose parents could afford to send their children to school continued onto junior high and high school. Unfortunately, my parents did not have the monetary means to send me to school. In 1998 we immigrated to the United States in search of a better life. I was confronted with many challenges. These challenges were the fundamental motivating factors for me to pursue a doctoral degree and be a role model to other students who wish to pursue a higher education. I am certain that my future experiences as a professional will be in a higher education setting. I will work to continue creating access for minority students and working on policies and programs that support their academic and developmental success.

Program
English Teaching

Julie Schraufnagel

Marjean Larson Ballard Scholarship



Little did I know that my 2003 summer employment would lead to a career path, however it did. I have worked in the early childhood field for over a decade, which leads me here, to the University of Utah. After working with infants to preschool aged students I decided it was time to advance my career and become an elementary school teacher. After over a decade out of school, I embarked on this journey of returning to school as an adult learner and as a single mother. Though full of challenges, this journey has also been rewarding. My own two children see the importance of an education and how hard work can pay off. In addition, I value their teachers that impacted their lives so much more, knowing that one day I too will make a positive difference in a child's life.

Program
Elementary Education

Lauren Schriner

Shirley L. & Kathelyne Oswald Evans Endowed Scholarship



I am from a small town in central Nebraska. I quickly realized I wanted to make an impact in the fields of physical education and special education. I graduated with an undergraduate degree in K-12 physical education and 7-12 health education. I gained more experience by being a long-term special education substitute. My post baccalaureate teaching experiences drove me to relocate to Utah and pursue a graduate degree in K-22 adapted physical education and a certificate in K-22 severe education. After completing my graduate programs, I plan to enter either the teaching or the administrative planning field. My goal is to further enrich and empower the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families through success in special education and physical activity.

Program

Special Education

Jessica Scott



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I graduated from Utah Valley University with an endorsement to teach both English and Spanish, but chose to focus primarily on English. I was hired on to teach at Willowcreek Middle School before my student teaching internship had been completed. My first year I took on the exact same courses which I had taught during my student teaching: Regular 7th English, Advanced GT 7th English, and 9th English. With my second year of teaching, some rearrangements in the grade levels replaced my 9th grade classes with several elective classes in creative writing. Since then, I have continued to teach the regular and advanced 7th grade English classes, as well as creative writing electives with all three grade levels mixed.

Program

School Counseling

Michelle Shimmin



Milton Bennion Scholarship

I am a second year graduate student in the Educational Leadership Program. I earned my BA and teaching license at Weber State University in 1992. I left the classroom, as an English teacher, after 23 years and became an Education Technology Specialist for Canyons School District. I work with teachers and their students to effectively incorporate technology into their curriculum and studies. I enjoy working with students and teachers to make learning engaging and effective. I appreciate the education in the Educational Leadership Program and hope to use it extensively in my future endeavors.

Program

Educational Leadership & Policy

Elizabeth Silva



Dr. Suzanne Wade Scholarship

My general intellectual interests include analysis of generational, educational achievement among students of color, specifically regarding the emerging complex “Latina/o/x” identity and its racial implications in contemporary United States. In my work I identify places where the relationship between racialized bodies and the evolvment of social structural hierarchies of race are evident specifically, how colonialism and “colorism” work to frame the identity constructions of Latinidades. My work was inspired in Latinidades, and the prospects of the United States as a new “Latino Majority” country, with the potential for political identity construction that works to destabilize the racial colonial project. To be clear, this is not an illusory imagining in terms of creating colorblindness, rather – it is an attempt to portray the ways that we weave notions of self within this (coming) space and time that moves the brave work of antiracist articulations.

Program

Education, Culture, and Society

Sarah Simpson



William C. Nutting Scholarship

I was born and raised here in Utah with my family. I have always loved going to school. In fact, learning is something that I have always found to be exciting. From a very young age, I claimed to want to be a teacher and it has never changed. I love working with children and helping them to find the same love of learning I possess. I love creating exciting ways to learn new things and help children to see how much fun learning can really be. I recently returned from serving a full time mission where teaching was a daily task. I loved every minute of it. I currently work in a school and teach the ESL students. I still love school and learning, so I am enjoying my time at the University of Utah. It has been exciting to take education classes and I have seen a lot of success. I am excited to continue to work towards, and eventually reach, my life-long dream of being a teacher.

Program

Elementary Education

Graham Slater



Edith E. Myers Endowed Scholarship

I am a doctoral candidate in Education, Culture, and Society. My research focuses on critical theory, education policy, and the politics of education. In my dissertation, I examine the relationship between neoliberalism and educational reform in the United States. Prior to studying at the University of Utah, I received an M.A. in Educational Foundations, Policy, and Practice at the University of Colorado Boulder, and a B.A. in History at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where I was trained as a secondary social studies teacher. My work has been published in the Journal of Education Policy; Educational Studies; and The Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies; and is also forthcoming in Policy Futures in Education and the Handbook of Global Educational Reform. I also co-edited Educational Commons in Theory and Practice: Global Pedagogy and Politics, which was released by Palgrave Macmillan in March 2017.

Program

Educational, Culture, & Society

Silvia Solis



J. George Jones Jr. & Velma Rife Jones Scholarship

I am a 6th year Education, Culture and Society doctoral student. I was born in Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico, a border city neighboring Brownsville, Texas, the southernmost tip of the United States. I received my BA in Anthropology and MA in Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in Anthropology at the University of Texas, Pan American. In 2009, I moved with my partner to Utah in hopes of attending ECS. We were both accepted and began our doctorate in 2010. Since then, our family has grown. I have a 5 year old daughter - Anja Mayahuel - and a 2 year old son - Draco Uxmal and our dog Che. My areas of research include: Decolonial Feminisms, Familia and Comunidad-based Saberes, Place and Land Education, Indigenous Epistemologies, Environmental Justice, Borders and Violence. I am interested in the complexities around the ways in which Indigenous women living along the U.S./Mexico border learn and practice healing. My interest stems in large part from all the teachers I have encountered in my life, including those that were not directly linked to my formal schooling, such as family and community members.

Program

Education, Culture, & Society

Christina Soma



Steffensen Cannon Scholarship

I am originally from Denver, CO and graduated Gettysburg College in PA magna cum laude with a degree in Psychology and Mathematics. I was originally interested in pursuing a career in counseling, as well as integrating my psychological and mathematics research interests. I moved from PA to attend the University of Utah in the fall of 2014. I have been a counselor at the University of Utah Counseling Center, the Department of Veteran Affairs, and the Center for Human Potential. I hope to find a career that merges counseling and research with the ultimate goal of providing mental health care to those in need. This might include training future counselors, teaching statistics, or mentoring students. In conjunction with being a graduate student I am an avid Ultimate Frisbee player, telemark skier, backpacker, friend and general outdoor enthusiast.

Program

Counseling Psychology

Trevan Thomas



Robert Sevy Scholarship for Math and Science Majors

I am a Masters candidate in the Education, Culture, and Society department. I want to teach high school biology, chemistry, and physics, focusing on the inequality found in the hard sciences. With my ESL endorsement, I hope to encourage students from diverse backgrounds to pursue a career in science and technology.

Program

Masters of Education

BreaAnna Torres

Dianne Asmus Bettis and Norman & Blanche Asmus Scholarship



I was born and raised in Pocatello, Idaho. I moved to Utah after meeting the love of my life at Camp Kostopulos; a non-profit summer camp for people with disabilities. I intend to become a well informed educator that effectively presents material to students in a diverse and enjoyable way. By taking classes and spending time out in schools before I graduate, I know that I will attain the skills to become a positive and encouraging force that assists in building a growth mindset in students and their parents. I will become a role model and provide students and parents with a safe, inclusive classroom environment that promotes failures as learning opportunities. I can't wait to make my mark as an Elementary Educator in Utah.

Program
Elementary Education

Erica Toscano

The Maestros Para Los Niños Endowed Scholarship



I am pursuing a career in education. I am transferring from Salt Lake Community College to the University of Utah's Education Program Fall 2017 and hope to receive my bachelors in elementary education. After I receive my bachelor's degree, I want to teach in the Salt Lake City School District in a Title I school. Working in a Title I school is something I would love to do, because as someone who comes from a Title I school, it would be rewarding to help children who need it the most. I then hope to return to the University of Utah to receive my masters.

Program

Elementary Education

Glenda Palomino Ventura



Dr. Nancy Winitzky Social Justice Scholarship
Steffensen Cannon Scholarship

I am a first generation college student and identify as a Peruvian indigenous woman. My academic and career aspirations are to become a licensed classroom teacher in the state of Utah. After I graduate, I plan on teaching for a few years and then applying to a masters program in education. My ultimate goal is to become a school administrator that helps foster critical multicultural education in order for it to present in the whole school.

Program

Elementary Education

Idamae Wallace



Math/Science/Foreign Language Scholarship

I am a senior majoring in Spanish Teaching. I served in the Army National Guard from 2000-2009 and also served an LDS mission to Asunción, Paraguay from 2001-2003. It was in Paraguay that I grew to love the Spanish language and its many cultures. I have been tutoring Spanish for the past six years at the Waterford School in Sandy, Utah where I developed a love for teaching. I have been married for the past fourteen years and have three children ages twelve, nine, and five. I am so excited to graduate and start teaching Spanish in my own classroom.

Program

Spanish Language

Steven Welsh



John Vernon Harry & Shizuko Nakagawa Harry Scholarship
Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

I am originally from Roosevelt, Utah. I started my collegiate career at Southern Utah University, and made the decision to transfer after my first year. The University of Utah has been home since then and I recently graduated with my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology with a Leadership Studies minor. My career goal is to become a high school counselor. I was recently accepted into the University of Utah's Educational Psychology program and will be chasing a Master's Degree in School Counseling. I am so thankful to be a recipient of the John Vernon Harry and Shizuko Nakagawa Harry Scholarship! Go Utes!

Program
School Counseling

Jasmihn Williams



M. Lynn and Katherine S. Bennion Scholarship

I am studying elementary education here at the University of Utah. I have plans to stay and teach here on the Wasatch front. I absolutely love this program and can't see myself being anything but a teacher. I love learning and the idea of helping kids find their love in learning.

Program
Elementary Education

Cari Winger



Rulon M. & Golda L. Richards Endowed Scholarship

I am majoring in Math Teaching with a chemistry minor, and someday hope to teach at a junior high or high school. When I was in high school, I had the opportunity to become a math tutor and fell in love with teaching. Some of my hobbies include reading, running, playing ping-pong, and swing dancing with my husband.

Program
Math Teaching

Nancy Wood



Phyllis Allen Jex Memorial Scholarship

My first career interest was of becoming a nurse. I began my college career with this in mind. After I had my first child, I decided to defer my college education for a later date. I returned to college about 18 years later and had a new interest in psychology. I obtained a Bachelor's degree and decided to pursue a career in school counseling. I am currently enrolled in a Master's degree program at the University of Utah in School Counseling. I am looking forward to working with children and youth to help them succeed in their academic and career endeavors.

Program

School Counseling

Kathy Youngberg



Ruth H. Lundgren Endowed Scholarship
Mark & Connie Woodland Scholarship

Having finished most of my general education requirements at another university years ago, I'm attending the University of Utah to finish my degree in Early Childhood Education. I have worked in several business offices, but felt a pull towards my first love of working with children. I now work as a special needs para-educator with preschool-aged children. It's been my favorite job so far.

I'm currently a senior in Early Childhood Special Education and look forward to the day when I'll be able to help give the most vulnerable among us a good foundation for learning, as a certified special education teacher. It's my goal to become a well-qualified teacher

Program

Early Childhood Special Education

Wei Wei



Steffensen Cannon Graduate Scholarship

I received my B.A. in English and M.A. in English Linguistics from Guangxi University in China and my M.S. in Educational Psychology from the University of Utah. I am currently an advanced doctoral student in the Department of Educational Psychology. My research has focused on the cognitive processes of processing syntactic or semantic information during reading. I am primarily interested in researching how readers activate, integrate, and validate information when reading narratives and how the syntactic or semantic information interacts with context in the processes of activation, integration, and validation.

Program
Learning Sciences