

**Yale
College**

**STARS II
Class of
2022**



Marina Carlson

STARS II Graduate Coordinator

Marina is from Manteca, CA and completed her Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry at CSU Fresno. She came to Yale for her PhD and is currently a second year student in the Interdepartmental Neuroscience Program. She loves working with Zebrafish in the lab studying the neurodevelopmental impacts of high-confidence Autism risk genes. She plans to teach and run her own lab at a small university where she can provide mentorship and the same undergraduate research opportunities to students that was so impactful for her.

Fun Fact: Marina has been to Japan twice and even touched a live dolphin while she was there!



Carli Roush

Carli is a junior in Timothy Dwight college studying Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She is from Richmond, Kentucky. When not studying, she enjoys knitting, managing the Timothy Dwight buttery (during normal semesters!), and serving as president for New Haven REACH, a student organization providing high school students with personalized college application mentorship. Carli works in the Turner lab studying the evolutionary tradeoffs between bacteriophage resistance and antibiotic resistance in bacteria. In the future, she plans to obtain a Ph.D. in evolutionary biology and pursue a career in scientific research.

Fun fact: Carli's first pet was a chicken named Sweetie.



Hometown: Richmond, Kentucky
Major: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Residential College: Timothy Dwight

Maile Harris

Maile Harris is a junior in Pierson College studying Applied Physics. Her research focuses on preparing a hexacopter drone to calibrate novel radio telescopes. She is also passionate about the intersection of science and public policy, and is interested in pursuing a career that combines both scientific expertise and diplomacy. A shameless sci-fi nerd, Maile is always looking for opportunities to show off her Klingon language skills, and when she isn't doing radio astronomy research, she can be found ballroom dancing, or in a tree.

Fun fact: Maile is an internationally recognized chainmaille artisan. Check out some of her work in the Pierson butterfly!



Hometown: Thornton, Colorado

Major: Applied Physics

Residential College: Pierson College

Marcus Shallow

Marcus Shallow is a FGLI pre-med student in the Global Health Scholars Program through the Jackson Institute for Global Affairs. He has worked in the Chun Lab at the Yale Cardiovascular Research Center studying gene signaling processes and pathways contributing to cardiovascular disease. He currently studies long term immunological changes from COVID-19 infection. Outside research, Marcus is very interested in studying health access and care quality relating to disparities in health outcomes, especially for marginalized populations and rural communities like his hometown. He is also involved with Academic Strategies Peer Mentor Team, Yale Genetics Club, and the student led policy research group Yale Roosevelt Institute.

Fun fact: Marcus love watching cinematic travel videos on YouTube in his free time!



Hometown: Elton, Louisiana

Major: Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Residential College: Sillman College

Jose Key

Jose is a junior in Trumbull College pursuing a Bachelor's of Science in Biomedical Engineering. Originally from Caracas, Venezuela, he currently lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His previous experience includes research on kappa opioid receptor occupancy with alcoholism medication, under Dr. Evan Morris, and a data analyst internship at Immunogenetics (North California Cancer Centers). Currently, Jose is continuing his research with the Morris lab, working on a joint venture with Dr. Sule Tinaz, investigating the effects of exercise on the progression of Parkinson's disease.

Fun Fact: Outside of academia, Jose plays the saxophone in multiple ensembles and frequented the NY Jazz scene for jams under normal circumstances.



Hometown: Caracas, Venezuela

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Residential College: Trumbull College

Mary Chen

Mary Chen is majoring in Political Science and Earth & Planetary Sciences with a certificate in Energy Studies. The major combination highlights her desire for an interdisciplinary approach to climate change policy with an emphasis on racial justice and energy equity in vulnerable populations. Indeed, her research project for the STARS II Program takes on a scientific approach in evaluating the risk of an oil spill in the Arctic Refuge with a policy focus of its impact on the surrounding ecosystems and communities. She is currently working to map the Mohorovičić discontinuity using earthquake data sets around the Yellowstone hotspot region. On campus, Mary is a student associate at the Yale Center for Climate Change and Health. She is also an editor for the Yale Daily News and the president for the New Haven Urban Debate League, where she coaches parliament debate to New Haven public school students.

Fun Fact: Although controversial, Mary pours her milk in first before her cereal.



Hometown: Columbus, Georgia

Major: Political Science & Earth and Planetary Sciences

Residential College: Branford College

Amber Braker

Amber Braker is a junior in Pauli Murray College. She is a pre-med neuroscience major from Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan. Her research interests include neurodegenerative diseases and dementias. Her current work is in the Grutzendler lab exploring the proteomics of amyloid- β plaque associated axonal spheroids in Alzheimer's Disease. On campus she is also involved in New Haven Reads, the Yale Undergraduate Prison Project, and the You Can Too mentoring program. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, reading, and perfecting her recipe for macarons.

Fun Fact: She once gift wrapped her brother's entire room as a prank. It was hilarious until she had to take it all down.



Hometown: Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan
Major: Neuroscience
Residential College: Pauli Murray College

Oscar Garcia

Oscar Garcia is from Queens, New York and is a junior in Davenport College. He is currently majoring in Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology on the pre-med track. His research interests include the medical applications of chemical biology, especially in the context of synthesizing/optimizing effective small molecules for the treatment of various diseases. In his free time, he likes to read sci-fi novels, watch Netflix, read manga, go biking, and hang out with friends.

Fun Fact: Oscar had a chance to go snorkeling in the Belize Barrier Reef where he got to swim with sharks, sting rays, manatees, turtles, and other amazing aquatic wildlife.



Hometown: Queens, New York
Major: Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology
Residential College: Davenport College

Amma Kankam

Amma Kankam is a junior in Silliman College from Accra, Ghana. She's majoring in Chemical Engineering. Her research interests are in sustainability and energy, and her current research focuses on discovering more environmentally friendly alternatives to current energy sources. In her free time, she enjoys singing and playing guitar, and watching horror films!

Fun fact: She speaks 5 languages and is working on a 6th.



Hometown: Accra, Ghana
Major: Chemical Engineering
Residential College: Silliman College

Bairon Reyes Luna

Bairon Reyes Luna was born in Honduras but moved to Long Island, New York when he was only five years old. He is a product of the Hempstead Union Free School District where he also developed his love for the sciences. Now at Yale, he is in Trumbull College and is looking to double-major in Theater and Performance Studies along with Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. His research interests include working to develop phage therapy treatments and qualifying phage natural processes in response to changing environments.

Fun Fact: Bairon can play the guitar and piano and he is thinking about releasing some of his new songs on the major music streaming platforms!



Hometown: Long Island, New York

Major: Theater and Performance & Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Residential College: Trumbull College

Victoria Stevens

Victoria was born in Mexico City and she moved to the USA when she was young and grew up in Salt Lake City, Utah. Previously, she worked in the Swoboda Lab at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston researching potential clinical markers for Spinal Muscular Atrophy. This year, she joined the Baker Lab in the High Energy Physics Department to develop a technique for converting open source medical data to be read by high-speed quantum Grover's algorithm. This project intersects her focus on programming and interest in medicine. On campus, she is a head teaching assistant for an introductory programming course, CS50, and works as a Spanish translator for the HAVEN Free Clinic.

Fun fact: In her free time, Victoria loves to go on runs to East Rock and to prepare traditional Mexican cuisine for her friends.



Hometown: Salt Lake City, Utah

Major: Computer Science

Residential College: Benjamin Franklin College

Josh Yan

Joshua Yan is in Saybrook College and currently pursuing a B.S. in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. Josh is originally from Los Angeles, California. His research interests are in immunobiology, leukemia, and hematology. Outside of lab, he also volunteers Echo Hose Ambulance Services as an EMT.

Fun Fact: He's a fanatic of films, basketball, music (ranging from Coldplay to Frank Sinatra), and fashion.



Hometown: Los Angeles, California

Major: Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology

Residential College: Saybrook College

Carlos Carillo-Gallegos

Carlos Carrillo-Gallegos is a junior in Trumbull majoring in Astrophysics. He is from San Gabriel, CA, just outside of Los Angeles. His current research deals with star formation in HII regions and stellar feedback, particularly in the Orion A Molecular Cloud. He is also interested in other topics in Astrophysics, including exoplanets, and planetary science in general. Outside of research, Carlos is an Academic Strategies Mentor and has been involved with community outreach on campus.

Fun Fact: He has lived in 4 different cities, including Mexico City!



Hometown: San Gabriel, California

Major: Astrophysics

Residential College: Trumbull College

Anna Rullan Buxo

Anna Rullán Buxó is a junior in Ezra Stiles College from San Juan, Puerto Rico. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, and her interests include physical chemistry and photochemistry. Her research in the Johnson Lab focuses on the photoreactivity of sea-spray aerosols at the air-water interface, with a particular focus on the system of calcium and pyruvate, as solvated in acetonitrile. The analyses she carries out focus on creating simulations and computations, performing mass spectrometry with collision induced dissociation, and observing UV-Visible photodissociation. Outside of her research, she is also a peer tutor, a peer liaison for international students.

Fun Fact: She is an active member of Danceworks!



Hometown: San Juan, Puerto Rico

Major: Chemistry

Residential College: Ezra Stiles College