

Springing Forward

AnBryce Scholars Initiative Staff

Happy Easter from the Notre Dame AnBryce family! We are so grateful for spring. The weather is growing more temperate on campus and the fresh air brings a renewed feeling of hope. We continue to count our blessings, not least of which is a soon to be Covid vaccinated campus! On that note, we appreciate the assistance our supporters, campus partners, and colleagues provided placing students in winter and summer internships, classes, and experiences, especially after the recent announcement that summer study abroad adventures are again cancelled for the second consecutive summer. We are also grateful for our scholars, who keep showing up and supporting each other. We loved seeing new faces during our Lessons in Leadership and Health and Wellness series this Spring. And you won't be surprised to hear that even with all of the changes Covid has wrought, some things like feeding students (with handy to-go boxes!) stay the same.

In this newsletter, we reacquaint you with two of our graduating seniors. You will also read about our wonderful partnership with the Flatley Center for Undergraduate Engagement (CUSE) on campus. We have some good news (and photos!) to share about our scholars and we'll close with links to the upcoming Notre Dame Day fundraiser.

We wish you and your families a joy filled and hopeful Easter season!



Rafa Banuelos, San Francisco Network Immersion

Scholar Spotlight: Raphael Banuelos '21

Raphael Banuelos's ND story started with a sign about blueberries and this chapter ends with a fellowship acceptance for Venture for America. This surprises no one who knows Rafa as he is forever venturing out of his comfort zone and developing opportunities for himself and others. Before we say, "good-bye" this spring, we want to take a look back on four amazing years of Rafa Banuelos.

[Read more about Rafa here...](#)

Scholar Spotlight: Isel Otero Torres '21

Isel Otero Torres' '21 trip to college three and a half years ago was a short one. A graduate of South Bend's Adams High School, she appreciated that Notre Dame would challenge her but also allow her to stay close to her family. Isel is the first to admit that when she arrived at ND she did not have a specific plan for her business degree, but she hoped, by graduation, to be prepared for several jobs in that sector. Open attitudes like this are perfect for AnBryce's networks at Notre Dame and beyond.



Isel Otero Torres '21

[Read more about Isel's journey here...](#)



Elise Rudt, National Fellows Coordinator, CUSE

Partner Spotlight: Elise Rudt, CUSE

The Flatley Center for Undergraduate Scholarship Engagement (CUSE) a campus resource gem. We shared our original digs in Brownson Hall for many years with them. But even as our programs changed homes, CUSE to Bond Hall and AnBryce to Hagggar Hall, our relationship strengthened, thanks to a shared commitment of assisting scholars with acquiring valuable tools to enrich their time at the University and beyond. AnBryce constantly seeks out experts in their fields to provide support and networks for our scholars. CUSE is one such resource, with its commitment to scholarly discernment as it relates to experiential learning, research planning and funding, and application support for national and international fellowships. Recently, we sat down

with Elise Rudt, National Fellows Coordinator at CUSE, to talk about our long-standing partnership.

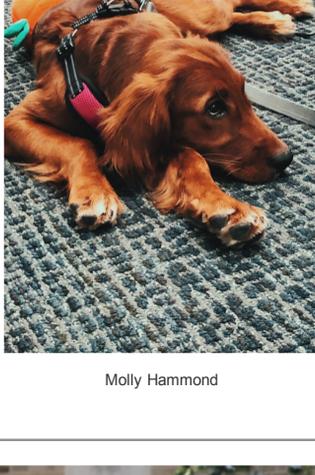
[Read about our conversation, and why connections like this are so important to first-generation scholars and leaders, here.](#)

A Day in the Life:

Amanda Hammond

Ask anyone who knows about AnBryce at Notre Dame and they'll tell you the heart of the program is Program Manager Amanda Hammond. With the program from its inception, she holds the collective memory but also the collective soul of AnBryce. We wanted to check in with her to see what a day in the life looks like in COVID times.

[Read about her busy day here.](#)



Molly Hammond



Aiden Robertson, photo credit, Matt Cashore



Meet-Up on Library Quad



Silly Junior Girls



Winter Fun!

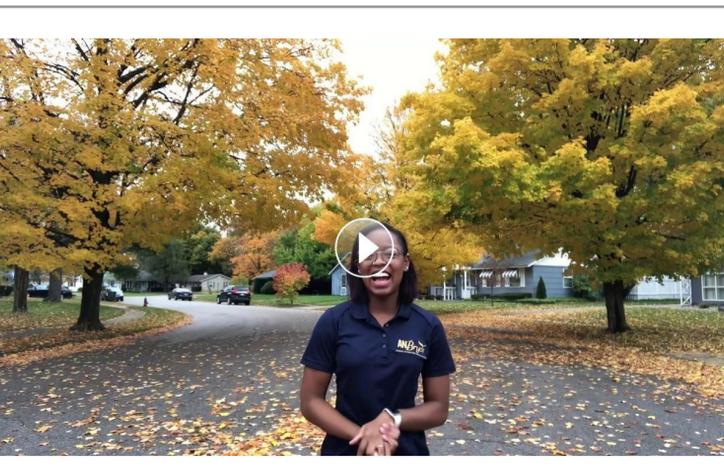
Good News from our Scholars:

+ Miguel Coste '23 will be at MIT this summer for their Summer Research Program in Biology and Neuroscience.

+ Pam Alvarado-Alfaro '23 accepted a virtual Legal Compliance and Ethics internship with Seagate (team based in Ireland!)

+ Rachel Dinh '23 will be a counselor at Camp Sweeney, a camp for children with Type 1 Diabetes in Texas (Jahlecia Gregory '20 was a past counselor)

+ Several scholars were accepted into summer study abroad programs. Unfortunately, the programs cannot occur, but we still want to congratulate them *Congratulate Ida, Lesli, Bryan, Fredy, Aaron and Rafa! Also a big hat tip to Marilyn Zizumbo '23, part of this year's ND-SEED team. They will not be able to complete their engineering project abroad, but she and her team have done amazing work to prepare for this opportunity.*



ND Day is Coming!

Richard Pierce, Co-Faculty Director

Notre Dame Day, the event where over 800 campus causes raise money to further the work they do, returns April 18-19. The AnBryce Scholars Initiative is among those humbly asking for your support. If you are receiving this note, you are likely familiar with the work that we do in support of a highly capable group of first generation student leaders. As I don't want to brag on our kids, I'll just point you to our [website](#), where you can learn all about our students' exploits.

During this Easter season, as we continue battling the Covid-19 induced pandemic, I'm reveling in a feeling of gratitude. Our young people have endured much, but thanks to generous support from benefactors none of our students have had to cease or curtail their studies. Thank you for caring for our students and trusting in our stewardship. Please remember us on Notre Dame Day(s) as we continue to flourish..

Visit the AnBryce donation page [here](#).



With love from all of us at AnBryce!

