

CESP

**20
25**



Community Engagement Scholars Program

Reception Program



Center for
Community-Engaged Learning

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

**Congratulations Scholars
class of 2024-2025!**

Wednesday, May 7, 2025
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



Reception Schedule

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement Statement

Laurel Hirt (she/her) | Director of Center for
Community-Engaged Learning

Introduction

Jessica Proskin (she/her) | Assistant Director
of Student Programs and Advising

Ethic of Engagement

Salwa Mohamud (she/her) | CESP Scholar

Sense of Self Keynote

Amber Jo Findlay (she/her) | CESP Scholar

Fall 2024 Recognition

Jessica Proskin

Collaboration & Community Building

Lilly Kuiken (she/her) | CESP Scholar

Identities, Power, and Privilege Keynote

Hanna Olson (she/her) | CESP Scholar

Spring 2025 Recognition (Monday & Wednesday Sections)

Jessica Proskin

Agency Keynote

Fyzeen Ahmad (he/him) | CESP Scholar

Integration and Contextualization Digital Story

Logan Aro (he/him) | CESP Scholar

Spring 2025 Recognition (Friday's Section)

Jessica Proskin

Special Recognition

Jessica Proskin & Laurel Hirt

Closing Remarks

David Weerts (he/him) | Associate Vice
Provost for Public Engagement



Visit the reception webpage at ccel.umn.edu/cesp2025.



What does it mean to be a Scholar?

The Community Engagement Scholars Program (CESP) is open to all undergraduate students at the University of Minnesota. It is a place for students to engage with other students who have made a commitment to social change and to reflect and grow in their community engagement together.

Students complete the following requirements:

- 400 Hours of Community Engagement.
- 8 Credits of Community-Engaged Learning coursework.
- 6 Reflection themes.
- An Integrative Community Engagement Project (ICEP).
- Senior Capstone Course - CESP 3901.



Learn more about the program by viewing scholar digital stories outlining their community engagement experiences CCEL's Youtube Channel:
[Youtube.com/@ccelumn](https://www.youtube.com/@ccelumn).

Ethic of Engagement Word Clouds

Scholars were asked to share three words to describe their ethic of engagement before and after joining the program.

Before:



After:



Integrative Community Engagement Projects

Scholars complete a capstone called the Integrative Community Engagement Project (ICEP) with a community partner of their choice to address a community identified need or priority. The goal of this project is to use the skills, knowledge, and experience students have gained through their academic training and community work to complete a project that benefits a community organization.

Abigail Norz | "Social Media Impact Report" with MyHealth

Amber Findlay | "Food Policy Council Website Accessibility" with West Central Minnesota Food Policy Council

Anna Johnson | "A Guide to Reading with Students to Promote Literacy Development" with Luxton Learners

Areej Suri | "Research on Quality Improvement" with Shifa Clinic

Ashley Daniels | "Infusion Suite Volunteer Guide" with M Health Fairview Clinics and Surgery Center

Echo Nelson | "Local Resource Guide in English and Spanish" with Phillips Neighborhood Clinic

Emily Lorge | "Behavior Management and Universal Design for Learning Training Modules" with America Reads

Fazila Mohamed Prem Navaz | "Collaborating for Change: Supporting Homeless Individuals through Partnerships with People Serving People" with Building Blocks of Islam

Fyzeen Ahmad | "Creating a Streamlined and Standardized Volunteer Onboarding Curriculum" with Project Blue Star

Gillian Pete | "Investigation Resolution Unit Complaint Data Model" with Metropolitan Council

Grace Goller | "The HOPE Act" with Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee

Haley Lewis | "Guiding Young Minds: Student Worker Handbook" with University of Minnesota Child Development Laboratory School

Hanna Olson | "Driveway Tour Archive" with Open Eye Theater

Joxery Mezen-Camacho | "Teaching Assistant Handbook" with Ballet Folklorico Mexico Azteca

Julie Lin | "Care in Collaboration: Exploring the Role of Volunteers Through the Eyes of Nurses" with Children's Minnesota

Kelli Kozlov | "Differences in Perceptions of Asian American and White American Sexual Assault Survivors" with The Aurora Center

Laichia Vang | "Toolkit for Reflection & Liberation" with StoryArk

Layaned Sanisaca Simbana | "Readers' Theater Literacy Curriculum" with Luxton Learners

Lilly Kuiken | "Curiosity Cabinets and Book Cradles: Exhibit Creation in Libraries" with the Andersen Horticultural Library, University of Minnesota Arboretum

Logan Aro | "Big Adventures" with Big Brothers Big Sisters

Maahiya Jain | "Developing a Volunteer Handbook" with The B.L.U.E. House

Mia VanDeurzen | "Creating a Sustainable and Accessible Registration Structure" with Bennington ACES

Rachel Sechter | "The Social Story Toolkit" with Children's Minnesota

Rahma Ali Ran | "Housing for Muslim Women" with Mohamud Noor, Minnesota House of Representatives

Reyhan Rahem | "Emergency Department Floor Guide" with M Health Fairview

Rhana Elhassan | "Engineering Outreach Project" with Sudanese Farming Group

Salwa Mohamud | "Pre-Health Success Guide for First-Generation PES Students" with President Emerging Scholars Program

Timberlyn Mazeikis | Students Demand Action



View ICEP project descriptions at: ccel.umn.edu/cesp2025



Community Engagement Scholars Program

Graduating Class of 2024-2025

Abigail Norz | Psychology (CLA)

Amber Findlay | Applied Economics (CFANS)

Anna Johnson | Elementary Education

Foundations and Special Education (CEHD)

Areej Suri | Biology, Society & Environment
(CLA)

Ashley Daniels | Health & Wellbeing
Sciences (CCAPS)

Echo Nelson | Mathematics, CSE and Human
Physiology, University Honors Program (CLA)

Emily Lorge | Elementary Education
Foundations (CEHD)

Fazila Mohamed Prem Navaz | Biochemistry,
and Genetics, Cell Biology & Developmental
Biology (CBS)

Fyzeen Ahmad | Neuroscience, University
Honors Program, (CBS)

Gillian Pete | Philosophy and Sociology (CLA)

Grace Goller | Developmental Psychology
and Political Science (CLA)

Haley Lewis | Elementary Education
Foundations (CEHD)

Hanna Olson | BFA Acting (CLA)

Joxery Mezen-Camacho | Psychology (CLA)

Julie Lin | Biology (CBS)

Kelli Kozlov | Psychology (CLA)

Laichia Vang | Individualized Studies: Political
Science, Sociology, & Racial Justice in Urban
Schooling (CLA)

Layaned Sanisaca Simbana | Elementary
Education Foundations (CEHD)

Lilly Kuiken | Product Design (CDES)

Logan Aro | History (CLA)

Maahiya Jain | Psychology (CLA)

Mia VanDeurzen | Speech, Language
Hearing Sciences (CLA)

Rachel Sechter | Genetics, Cell Biology &
Development (CBS)

Rahma Ali Ran | Biology, Society &
Environment (CLA)

Reyhan Rahem | Biochemistry (CBS)

Rhana Elhassan | Strategic Communication:
Advertising & Public Relations (CLA)

Salwa Mohamud | Biology, Society &
Environment (CLA)

Timberlyn Mazeikis | Spanish Studies (CLA)

ICEP Project Community Partners and Mentors

Thank you to the community partners and mentors who continually support our Scholars' growth and learning!

America Reads | Jennifer Kohler

Andersen Horticultural Library | Kristen Mastel

The Aurora Center | Katie Eichele, Dr. Patricia Frazier, Abby Person

Ballet Folklórico Mexico Azteca

Bennington ACES | Sandy Foster

Big Brothers Big Sisters | Chelsea Yigan-Kohoe

The B.L.U.E. House | Nyki McNamee

Building Blocks of Islam | Naser Nabi

Children's Minnesota | Annie Dressen, Melissa Reeves, and Emily Kraemer

Incarcerated Workers Organizing Committee | Danielle Dadras

Luxton Learners | Jean Emmons

M Health Fairview Clinics and Surgery Center | Jack Castiglione

M Health Fairview | Theresa Floer

Metropolitan Council | Kimberly Malone

Minnesota State Representative Mohamud Noor

MyHealth | Riley Pritchett and Gerilyn Hausback

Open Eye Theater | Joel Sass, and Andy Whitman

Phillips Neighborhood Clinic | Caitlyn Calso

President Emerging Scholars Program | Fadumo Haji-Aweis

Project Blue Star | Adhvaith Sridhar

Shifa Clinic | Abdullah Naser

StoryArk | Meghan Bridges

Sudanese Farming Group | Khalid Elhassan and Haythem Ibrahim

University of Minnesota Child Development Laboratory School | Marie Lister

West Central Minnesota Food Policy Council | Kate Mudge

Students Demand Action

CESP Leaders Board Recognition

The mission of the CESP Leaders Board is to recruit and foster a community of CESP scholars who are focused on engaging in meaningful and sustained community work, want to address broad and specific social inequities, and are dedicated to promoting inclusivity. The Board works to encourage community building between scholars through the facilitation of social events, information sessions, reflective sessions, recruitment events, etc. We would like to recognize and honor the 2024-2025 CESP Leaders Board Members for their service and dedication to the program.

Miftahul Jannat | President

Julie Lin | Vice President

Yukti Sah | Events

Haley Lewis | Marketing/Communications

Sai Peddainti | Marketing/Communications

Amber Findlay | Membership/Recruitment



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Community Engagement Scholars Program would like to thank the Office of Public Engagement, the Office for Student Affairs, and the Office for Undergraduate Education for their collective work to sponsor the creation of this public engagement program which recognizes undergraduate students for their deep commitment to community work throughout their undergraduate careers.

The Center for Community-Engaged Learning is a unit of the Office for Public Engagement within the Office for Executive Vice President and Provost.

CESP is a program of the Center for Community-Engaged Learning. For more information about the program visit ccel.umn.edu/cesp. For additional reception materials please visit: ccel.umn.edu/cesp2025.