

2011 Greenlining Institute's Summer Associates



Abdullah Hassan

Abdullah is from Concord, California and currently attends the University of California, Santa Cruz where he is pursuing a PhD in Politics. Abdullah earned a BA in Political Science from UC Berkeley and an MPA from the School of Policy Planning and Development at the University of Southern California. Abdullah has worked as a government relations intern at Progressives for Immigration Reform and served as a Legislative Aide to Assembly Member Jose Solorio during his tenure as an Unruh Fellow. Much of Abdullah's work has focused on welfare reform, the foster care system and homelessness. He plans to write his dissertation on poverty issues within California.



Ashley Arax

Ashley is originally from Fresno, California and earned a BS in Molecular and Environment Biology from the University of California, Berkeley. She currently attends University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) where she is expected to receive a MPH in Environmental Health Sciences in June of 2012. Ashley has demonstrated her leadership as a teaching assistant at UCLA and a health service intern for the Health and Medical Apprenticeship Program (HMAP). She has also worked for the California Public Interest Group educating community members about recycling and composting services. Ashley is very committed to the Fresno community and plans to return after completing her studies.



Avis Atkins

Avis is from Long Beach, California and currently attends California State University, Long Beach where she will receive a BA in Human Development, Psychology, and Sociology. Avis has served as a student representative on various university committees and a member of the Board of Directors for the Associated Students. She has also been an Academic Advisor at the Bickerstaff Center for Student Athletes, Young Black Scholars, Inc. and the SOAR Program at CSU Long Beach. Avis is a committed campus leader and has been awarded the Excellence in Service Award, Rotary Millennium Scholarship and Excellence in Leadership Award.



Sydney Baloue

Sydney is from Walnut Creek, California and attends the University of Pennsylvania where she will receive a BA in Political Science in May 2011. Sydney is currently a communications intern at the Pennsylvania Environment Council where she writes articles promoting sustainable urban planning. She recently completed an internship through the Black Congressional Caucus Foundation with Senator Roland Burris in Washington, DC. In 2010, Sydney worked as a policy research fellow at Americans for Energy Leadership and a research assistant for the Foreign Policy Research Institute.



Chris Brown

Chris currently lives in Albany, California and is a JD candidate at UC Berkeley's Boalt School of Law. Chris earned his BA in Political Science from University of Tampa where he was a Collegiate All American Scholar, the President of the College Democrats and Head Delegate at the Harvard National Model United Nations for three years. Chris has studied abroad in Oxford, England, Iceland, Denmark, Thailand and Myanmar. In addition to attending law school, Chris is currently working as a Corporate Negotiations Instructor with StreetLaw/NALP Diversity Pipeline Program, where he teaches corporate negotiations to low-income students of color in San Francisco.



Isabel Duron

Isabel is from Montebello, California and is a student at Santa Clara University where she will receive a BA in Political Science and Ethnic Studies in June 2011. Isabel is a committed campus leader and serves as the Director of the Multicultural Center at Santa Clara University where she works to foster an honest dialogue about student experiences with racism. She gained exposure to public policy while working for the San Jose based Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition and the Feminist Majority Foundation in Washington, DC. Isabel describes herself as an activist scholar and hopes to pursue her PhD.



Lisa Giamo

Lisa is from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and is currently a PhD candidate at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. Lisa received her BA in Psychology from Pennsylvania State University in 2006. She has authored and co-authored nearly a dozen articles and has been a teaching assistant for the Department of Psychology over the past 5 years. Lisa's dissertation focuses on how discrimination influences multiracial identification. She is a member of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology and the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues.



Raul Macias

Raul is from the Bay Area and is currently attending the University of San Diego where he will receive his JD degree in 2013. Raul is also expected to earn a Master's in Public Policy and Administration at California State University, Sacramento next year and has a BA in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles. Raul has already established himself as a health policy advocate in Sacramento working with organizations such as Legal Services of Northern California and California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform. He hopes to pursue a career in public policy and public interest law after he graduates.



Brandon McCall

Brandon is from Los Angeles, California and is currently completing his MPA with an emphasis on Community and Economic Development at the University of Southern California (USC). Brandon earned his BA in English from Dickinson College in 2010 and serves on the board of directors for My Friends House which distributes food to over 300 low income families in South Los Angeles. Brandon has had the opportunity to work with a number of organizations advocating for sound community, economic and environmental policies. His accomplishments have been recognized by USC's School of Policy, Planning and Development, the Millennium Momentum Foundation and the Knight Foundation.



Tuan Ngo

Tuan is from Fremont, California and currently attends the University of California, Hastings where he will receive his JD in 2013. Tuan earned his BA in Diplomacy and World Affairs from Occidental College and has worked for the Tides Foundation in San Francisco. In 2003, Tuan founded a Leprosy English Camp that benefited over 100 youth whose family members were affected by leprosy in the Surin Province of Thailand. He is also an advocate stateside as the Chair of the Queer-Straight Alliance and the Asian Pacific Island Association. Tuan is also a Board Member of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California.



Annie Kim Noguchi

Annie is from Sacramento, California and is currently attending the University of California, Berkeley where she will receive a BA in Ethnic Studies and Asian American Studies in May 2011. Annie has been a long time advocate for the Asian American community through her work at the Asian Law Caucus and the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies. She has been a regular contributor at the Nichi Bei Times Newspaper as a youth columnist and currently serves as the External Managing Editor at Hardboiled Asian American Newsmagazine.



Vianey Nunez

Vianey is from Oroquieta, California and is currently pursuing her MPP at UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy. Vianey received a BA in Women's Studies from the California State University, Fresno where she received numerous honors and awards including the Women's Studies Program Outstanding Student of the Year. Vianey has advocated for migrant workers and environmental protections through her work as a Legislative Aide to Senator Gloria Romero and as an Assembly Fellow working with Assembly Majority Leader Karen Bass.



Sedora Tantraphol

Sedora is from Sunnyvale, California and is currently a student at UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy where she will receive her MPP in May 2012. Sedora received a BA in Sociology with a minor in Asian American Studies from the University of California, Irvine. After college, she gained experience managing programs at both Asian Americans for Community Involvement and Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc. Sedora is committed to serving communities of color through her work and volunteerism.



Deanna Chea

Deanna is from San Francisco, California and has a BS in finance and a certificate in legal studies from the University of San Francisco. Deanna was a very active campus leader in school, a dean's list honoree and the winner of the HCP Business Marketing Plan Competition. Deanna recently worked as the redistricting outreach coordinator and as a consumer protection intern at the Greenlining Institute. In these positions, she provided research and logistical support to the legal and redistricting teams. Deanna plans to attend law school after completing the summer associate program.