

CME GROUP FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

2023-24 School Year

Nube Aguilar

Nube Aguilar will be a junior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Finance. She grew up in Chicago and graduated from Von Steuben Metropolitan High School. Her interests include dance, cooking, budgeting, reading, and travelling. Her career goal is to work in a Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT).



Azizat Balogun

Azizat Balogun will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Finance. She plans to pair her finance background with her future pursuit of a JD degree, with the intent to practice international finance law.



Johnny Barrios

Johnny Barrios will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting and Finance. He grew up in Cicero and graduated from J. Sterling Morton East High School. His interests include real estate. His career goal is to innovate the financial services industry to create a world of prosperity for all.



Mya Bragg

Mya Bragg will be a junior at DePaul University, majoring in Computer Science. She grew up in Chicago and graduated from Christ the King College Prep. Her interests include drawing, writing, and music. Her career goal is to become a Software Engineer specializing in Artificial Intelligence.



Emmanuel Buabeng

Emmanuel Buabeng will be a junior at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, majoring in Computer Science.



Rakayla Campbell

Rakayla Campbell will be a senior at Loyola University Chicago, majoring in finance and marketing. She grew up in Chicago and graduated from Lincoln Park High School. Her interests include 90s hip hop, cooking, and sci fi novels. Her career goal is to work at a VC firm.



Aiko Castrejon

Aiko Castrejon will be a graduate student in the Masters of Finance program at the University of Illinois Chicago. She grew up in Chicago and graduated from Northside College Prep High School and University of Illinois Chicago undergrad. Her interests include baking, spending time with her two dogs, and hiking. Her career goal is to work in Asset Management.



Francisco Chavez

Francisco Chavez will be a senior at Illinois Institute of Technology, majoring in Computer Science. He grew up in Joliet and graduated from Joliet Central High School. His interests include fishing and movies. His career goal is to become a software engineer specializing in artificial intelligence.



Camila Crespo

Camila Crespo will be a sophomore at Stevens Institute of Technology, majoring in Business & Technology. She grew up in North Bergen, NJ and graduated from Paramus Catholic High School. Her interests include bowling, traveling, and learning new languages. Her career goal is to be able to become a consultant and work abroad.



Issac Deleon

Issac Deleon will be a junior at DePaul University, majoring in Finance. He grew up in Chicago and graduated from Lincoln Park High School. His interests include basketball, football, biking, and running. His career goal is to become a personal financial advisor.



Ebuka Egbunam

Ebuka Egbunam will be a junior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, majoring in computer science. He grew up in Lagos and graduated from City Pride School. His interests include HIIT workouts, teaching and coding. His career goal is to eventually be a leading computer scientist and an educator.



Moses Garcia

Moses Garcia will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Information and Decision Sciences (IDS). He grew up in Glenwood and graduated from Homewood-Flossmoor. His interests include going to the gym, reading books, and spending time with his family. His career goal is to one day have a data analytics role where he could not only make a positive impact in a business, but also make a positive impact in others to help them grow and succeed.



Leslie Gonzalez

Leslie Gonzalez will be a sophomore at Northern Illinois University, majoring in Computer Science. She grew up in Montgomery, IL and graduated from Oswego High School. Her interests include running, gaming, and reading. Her career goal is to become a software developer.



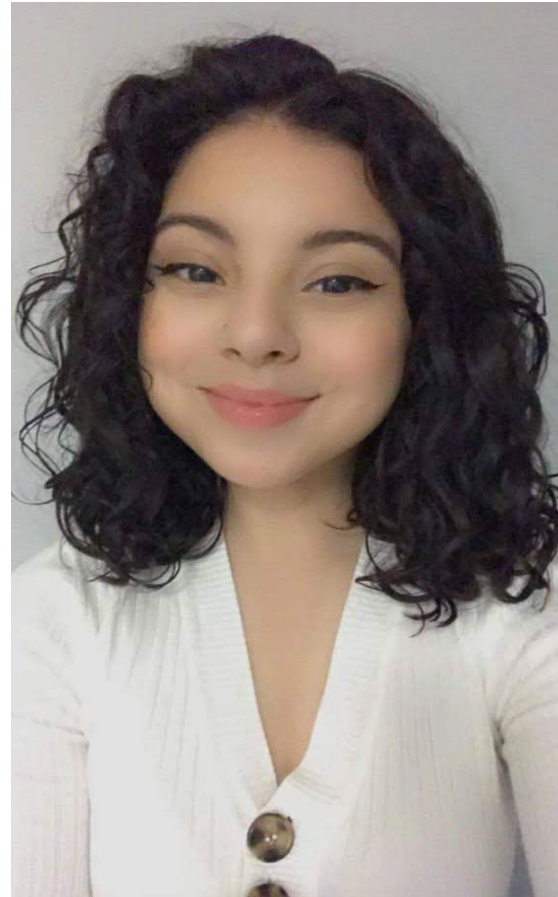
Michael Gonzalez

Michael Gonzalez will be a junior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Finance and Business Analytics. He grew up in Orland Park, IL, and graduated from Carl Sandburg High School. His interests include working out, watching sports, and spending time with friends and family. His career goal is to work as a banker.



Monica Guzman

Monica Guzman will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting and Finance. She grew up in Chicago and graduated from John Hancock College Preparatory High School. Her interests include being active and spending time with her family and friends. Her career goal is to work towards personal development and to be an inspiration to other first-generation Latino students.



Feisal Hassan

Feisal Hassan will be a senior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, majoring in Computer Science. He graduated from Innovations High School in Chicago. His interests include software engineering, economics, and sports. His career goal is to solve problems as a software engineer.



William Ileka

William Ileka will be a sophomore at DePaul University, majoring in Computer Science. He grew up in Lynwood, Illinois and graduated from T.F South High School. His interests include programming, robotics, and gaming. His career goal is to become a software engineer.



Klever Inga

Klever Inga will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, double majoring in Accounting and Finance. He grew up in Chicago and graduated from Northside College Preparatory High School. His interests include playing soccer, playing the saxophone, and the piano. His career goal is to open up his own tax practice and provide tax preparation services to underrepresented communities.



Nataly Jimenez-Cruz

Nataly Jimenez-Cruz will be a sophomore at Stevens Institute of Technology, majoring in computer science. She grew up in Lodi, New Jersey and graduated from Lodi High School. Her interests include programming, listening to music, crafting and working out. Her career goal is to become a machine learning engineer.



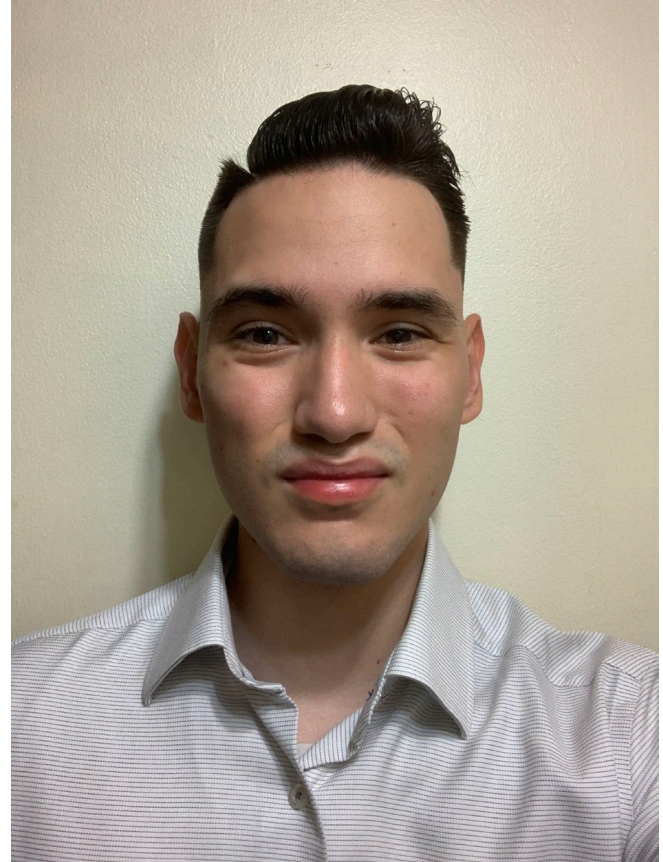
Michael King

Michael King will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting. He grew up in the East Garfield Park neighborhood and was homeschooled through high school. His interests include music, reading, exercising, and studying the Japanese language. His career goal is to work as an audit accountant and eventually to transition to financial consulting for small businesses.



Daniel Martinez

Daniel Martinez will be a junior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Finance. He grew up in Chicago's Belmont Cragin neighborhood and graduated from Noble ITW David Speer Academy. His interests include bowling, running, traveling, and spending time with friends and family. His career goals are to explore paths in consulting or finance to help serve clients in a growing business world.



Jari De Jesus Mejia

Jari De Jesus Mejia will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting and Finance. He grew up in South Chicago and graduated from Carver Military Academy. His interests include exploring new places to eat around Chicago and being a practicing nail artist. His career goal is to work at one of the big four accounting firms, pass the CPA exam, and work his way up to becoming a partner in the future.



Na'im Muhammad

Na'im Muhammad will be a fifth-year student at the Illinois Institute of Technology, majoring in Computer Science and Information Technology Management with a specialization in Computer & Information Security. He grew up in Chicago and graduated from Gwendolyn Brooks College Preparatory Academy. His interests include tinkering with technology hardware and educating others on how best to utilize new technologies in their daily and professional lives. His career goal is to help revolutionize diversity and representation in technology-related fields, setting the standard for how to best include more underrepresented gender and racial identities in the conversations surrounding our technological advancements.



Noah Munoz

Noah Munoz will be a junior at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, majoring in finance and information systems. He grew up in Streamwood, IL and graduated from Elgin High School. His interests include going to the gym. His career goal is to find fulfillment somewhere within the finance field working with technology.



Brianna Negrón

Brianna Negrón will be a junior at University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Information Decision Sciences with a concentration in Business Analytics. She is also pursuing a minor in Economics and a minor in Math. She grew up on the southwest side of Chicago and graduated from John Hancock High School. Her interests include writing, traveling, and all things film industry related. Her career goals are to use her data analytics and research skills to measure mental health patterns in hopes of finding the most effective treatments for patients and to run her own business one day.



Anthony Olavarria

Anthony Olavarria will be a graduate student in Finance at the University of Illinois Chicago. He grew up on the northwest side of Chicago and attended Lane Tech College Prep. He is a part of the UIC Business Scholars Program and Honors College and is currently working as a Financial Reporting and Analysis Intern at the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago.



Sandra Opakunle

Sandra Opakunle will be a senior at Loyola University Chicago, majoring in Computer Science. She grew up in Chicago, born in Nigeria, and graduated from Whitney Young. Her interests include reading, working out, and anime. Her career goal is to be an application/software developer.



Natalie Ramirez

Natalie Ramirez will be a junior at University of Illinois Chicago, double majoring in Accounting and Finance. She grew up in Chicago and graduated from Thomas Kelly College Prep. Her interests include photography and spending time with friends and family. Her career goal is to become a CPA and work at a Big Four public accounting firm.



Juan Rodriguez

Juan Rodriguez will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting and Finance. He grew up in Streamwood and graduated from Streamwood High School. His interests include soccer, running, and film. His career goal is to become a CPA and work for one of the big 4 accounting firms and hopefully move up in the company over the years. Additionally, he would also like to start his own businesses in order to have more financial freedom.



Joshua Sanchez

Joshua Sanchez will be a senior at University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting. He grew up in Cicero, Illinois and graduated from J. Sterling Morton East High School. His interests include running, swimming, biking, dogs, dancing, soccer, American football, and playing chess. His career goal is to become a CPA to work at a firm and/or create his own business afterwards.



Jackie Santiago

Jackie Santiago will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, double majoring in Information Decisions Sciences and Management. She grew up in Mexico but came back to the States in 2016 and graduated from Farragut Career Academy High School. Her interests include exploring new places and tasting new foods. Her career goal is to work for a big tech company as a product manager or a business analyst.



Emmanuel Thompson

Emmanuel Thompson will be a junior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Computer Science.

Gretel Trejo

Gretel Trejo will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in Accounting and Finance. She grew up in Mexico and graduated from Morton East High School. Her interests include traveling and running. Her career goal is to become a CPA and in the long run have her own business.

