



Welcome to the September 2025 Issue of *Make It Happen!*

This issue of *Make It Happen!* has been designed and edited by Haylyn Hiles '26, a senior English major of Marietta College.

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Congratulations to Ricci Bailey

A Word from Senior Director

Welcome to the 2025–26 academic year!

We're starting strong: our mentorship network has grown to **100+ active mentors** across a wide range of industries. Mentors are the backbone of our work. After all, preparing students for life after college takes real-world guidance from people who've been there. In this issue of Make It Happen!, you'll meet our newest mentors.

In this issue, you'll also find:

- **Fall 2025 Events:** Explore the lineup and feel free to join us. Your presence makes a difference.
- **Meet the Advisory Board:** Get to know the leaders who help shape our programs and priorities.
- **Internship Highlights:** This past summer, **90+ students** completed for-credit internships; see a sample of their experiences.
- **Experiential Education Award Spotlights:** Celebrate a few of our summer award recipients and the impact of their projects.

Save the date: Experiential Education Day — Monday, November 17

On this day, regular classes are paused so we can celebrate the many experiential learning activities our students pursue inside and outside the classroom. We invite you to spend part (or all) of the day with us to see hands-on learning in action. As part of the celebration, we're hosting **Opportunity Connect**, where organizations can **reserve a free table** to share **internships, part-time and full-time careers, graduate programs, and study abroad opportunities** with our students.

Thanks for being part of the community that helps Pioneers make it happen every day. For more information about any of the opportunities above (including mentoring or reserving a table for Opportunity Connect), please email me at khorassj@marietta.edu.

Jacqueline Khorassani, Ph.D., Senior Director

Center for Entrepreneurship and Career Development, Marietta College

Welcome New Mentors!



Robin Ambrozy

CERTIFIED BUSINESS ADVISOR,
OHIO SMALL BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT CENTER - OHIO
UNIVERSITY



Shawn Khorassani

FOUNDER OF PRESTIGE
NETWORK, PN INCLUSION, PN
TECHNOLOGY, CORAS, ANIS, SMK,
APIO, AND PN COWORKING



Aaron Kirby

SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER, SOCIAL
ENTERPRISE ECOSYSTEM, VOINOVICH
SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP
AND PUBLIC SERVICE AT OHIO
UNIVERSITY



Jessica Kopelwitz

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
TECHGROWTH OHIO



Amanda Sutphin

REGIONAL TALENT COORDINATOR AT
OHIO SOUTHEAST ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



Will Wedig

DIRECTOR/PRODUCER, 2W
PRODUCTIONS, INC.



Brett M. Burns '15

CPA, CGFM

DIRECTOR OF ASSURANCE
PERRY & ASSOCIATES CPAS, A.C.



Dana Hermann

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
APPALACHIAN OHIO
MANUFACTURING COALITION (AOMC)



Lyrie Roman

FOUNDER & CREATIVE DIRECTOR
SOCIAL MAVEN
FREELANCE HOSPITALITY
RECRUITER & CONSULTANT



Emily Sams

CO-OWNER, BIZTECH



Leah Seaman '21

FOUNDER & OWNER
ARTABELLA GALLERY

MARIETTA COLLEGE ENTREPRENEURSHIP & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

20
25

Professional Development Events and Workshops

Open to all Students

**SEP
4**

KICKSTART CONNECTIONS

Connect with peers and pros — build your network
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm • Andrews Great Room

**SEP
30**

**JOB SEARCH & INTERVIEW
PREP LAB**

Master your search and pitch — ace the interview.
12:20 pm – 12:50 pm • Thomas 327

**SEP
10**

UNLOCK CECD

Discover the resources and opportunities waiting for you.
12:10 pm – 12:50 pm • Thomas 327

**OCT
29**

BUDGETING BASICS

Manage your money — ease financial stress and thrive as a student.
12:10 pm – 12:50 pm • Thomas 327

**SEP
16**

RESUME REVAMP

Turn your experience into impact and land more interviews.
12:20 pm – 12:50 pm • Thomas 327

**NOV
12**

COMMUNICATION EXCELLENCE

Polish email etiquette — and sharpen all your professional communications.
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm • Thomas 327

**SEP
18**

**PIOBIZ WORKSHOP: FROM
PROBLEM TO SOLUTION**

Spot challenges and design solutions—get ready to win cash prizes.
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm • Thomas 327

**NOV
17**

GET LINKED

Optimize your profile — grow your professional brand.
8:00 pm – 8:50 pm • Virtual

**SEP
23**

COVER LETTER CLINIC

Craft your story—make recruiters stop and read.
12:20 pm – 12:50 pm • Thomas 327

**DEC
4**

**PIOBIZ COMPETITION:
PROBLEM/SOLUTION**

Pitch solutions—Compete to win cash prizes.
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm • Thomas 124



Marietta College

CECD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

PURPOSE

The Entrepreneurship and Career Development (CECD) Advisory Board at Marietta College consists of an external group of professionals with a diverse range of knowledge, skills, and abilities that guide the Senior Director of CECDE in creating and maintaining timely and relevant curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs that aim to accelerate entrepreneurship education and professional development at Marietta College and facilitate the development of an entrepreneurial mindset among all students.



NATHANIEL BERGER,
VICE CHAIR, FIRST TERM
ENDS 2025-26

KRISTIN MEEKS '04,
CHAIR, SECOND TERM
ENDS 2026-27



ROBIN AMBROZY,
FIRST TERM ENDS
2027-28

ALEX HOGAN '18,
FIRST TERM ENDS
2027-28





JEREMY MAY, FACULTY
MEMBER, TERM ENDS 2025-26

CHRIS PFEIFFER,
SECOND TERM ENDS
2027-28



TRES ROSS '97,
FIRST TERM ENDS
2026-27

JESSE C. ROUSH,
FIRST TERM
ENDS 2026-27



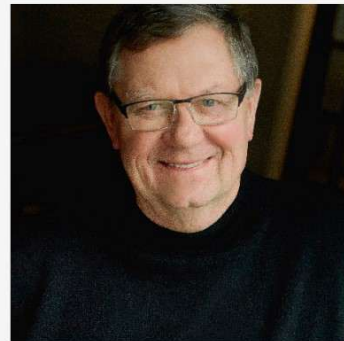
JUSTIN SHANKLIN '25,
STUDENT MEMBER,
TERM ENDS 2025

AMANDA SUTPHIN,
FIRST TERM ENDS
2027-28



BILL WILKINSON,
FIRST TERM ENDS
2027-28

MIKE WORKMAN,
SECOND TERM
ENDS 2027-28



LINN YOST, FIRST
TERM ENDS
2025-26



SUMMER INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

In the 2025 Summer semester, nearly 100 Marietta College students completed credit-bearing internships. From Ohio to Pennsylvania, Texas to Tennessee, and even as far as Japan, Italy, and Brazil, our students gained valuable experience across the country and around the world.

Here are just a few highlights from our students' internship experiences.



CHARLEE JO BREECE '26
BIOCHEMISTRY
INVESTIGATIVE STUDIES SUMMER
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP



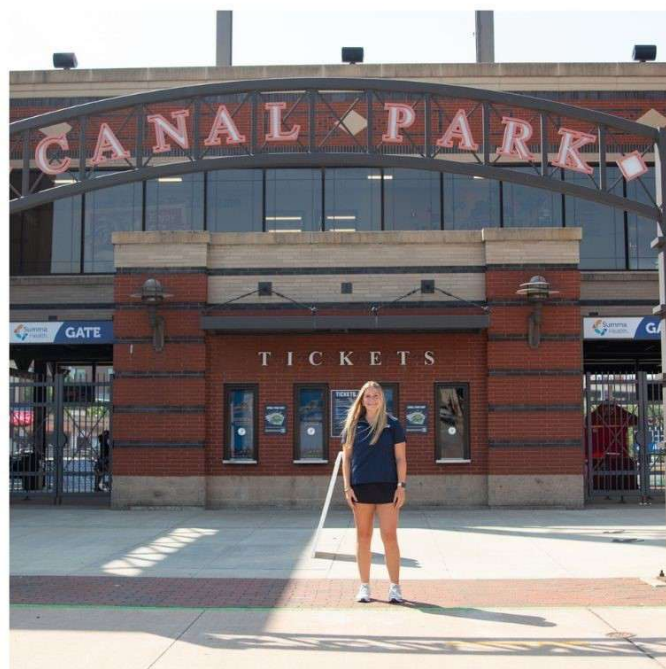
UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF DR. PARSONS, I RESEARCHED THE EFFECT ISOCORYDINE, A POPPY FLOWER DERIVED COMPOUND, HAD ON MELANOMA (M624) AND NORMAL SKIN CELLS (HACAT). I FOUND THAT TREATMENT WITH ISOCORYDINE CAN BE USED AS A NON-TARGETED TREATMENT.

I developed independence in the lab... gaining even more critical thinking and problem solving skills.



THIS SUMMER I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A PART OF THE AKRON RUBBER DUCKS IN-GAME PROMOTIONS TEAM. I ATTENDED EVERY HOMEGAME AND WAS AT THE CENTER OF THE RUBBER DUCKS FANS EXPERIENCE.

As an intern with the Rubber Ducks I have had the opportunity to have a huge impact on their fan's experience as well as learn from some great industry professionals.



EMILY GRANT '27
SPORTS MANAGEMENT/MARKETING
AKRON RUBBER DUCKS



BRENDON THOMPSON '26
THEATRE TECH
CUMBERLAND COUNTY PLAYHOUSE

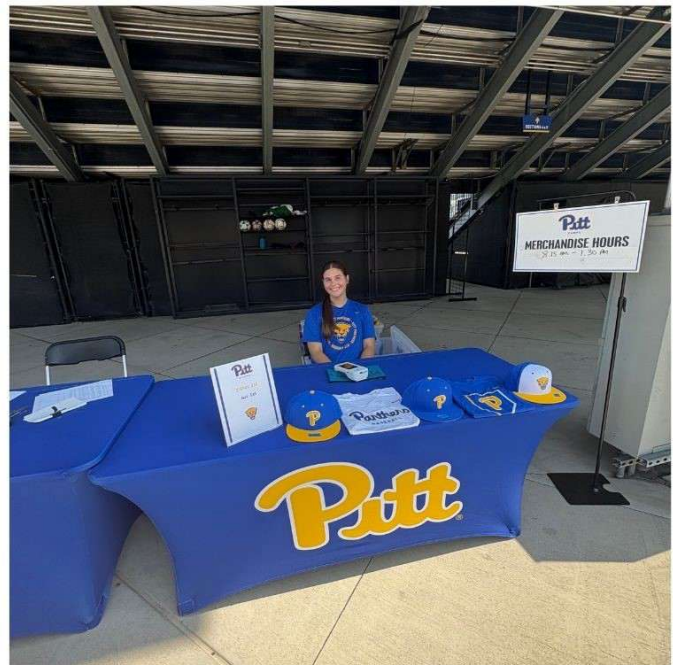


I BUILT SETS FOR FOUR DIFFERENT SHOWS AND GOT TO EXPERIENCE WHAT IT WAS LIKE IN A REAL-WORLD THEATRE JOB. I WAS ABLE TO LEARN TO BE MORE EFFICIENT, CREATIVE, AND KNOWLEDGEABLE WITH THE SKILLS I NEED TO FURTHER MY THEATRICAL CAPABILITIES ON THE TECHNICAL SIDE.

The most beneficial learning experience I gained was being able to more efficiently build sets and communicate plans and ideas with how to achieve the build.



I HELPED OVERSEE THE SALE AND ORGANIZATION OF CAMP MERCHANDISE, MAINTAINING ACCURATE INVENTORY RECORDS AND SUPPORTING RETAIL OPERATIONS. ADDITIONALLY, I COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED DETAILED BANKING DOCUMENTATION TO THE BUSINESS OFFICE. I developed strong organizational and multitasking skills by managing registration, inventory, and financial documentation.



CARLY LUTZ '26
FIN & MKTG/SMGT & LEADERSHIP
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH ATHLETICS



I HELPED COACH THE BISHOP
READY HIGH SCHOOL
FOOTBALL TEAM.

The most beneficial learning I gained
was from seeing how coaches work
behind the scenes rather than just on
the field.

DALTON MILLER '28

**SPORT MANAGEMENT & COACHING
BISHOP READY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**



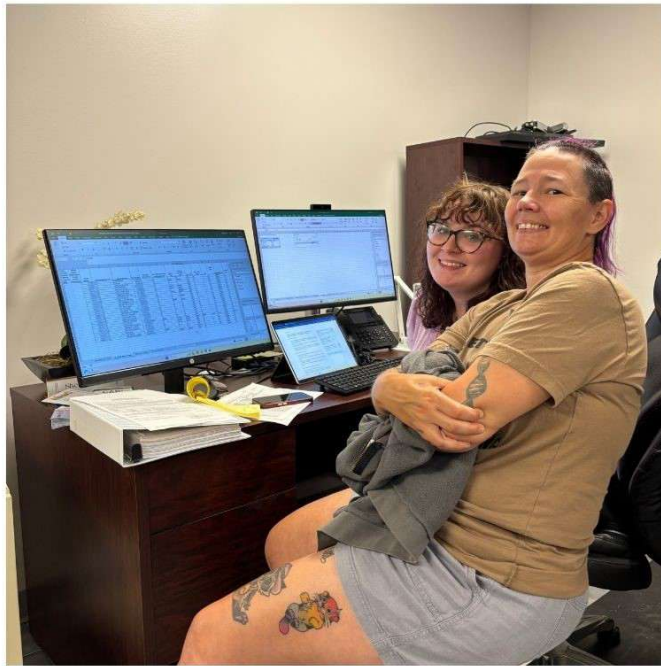
TICKET SALES

- Being my own boss and
prioritizing stuff
- Doing stuff I'm not use to, so
getting out of my comfort zone
- Doing something new

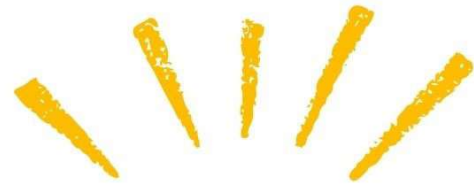


DARIUS CARDEN '26

**SPORT MANAGEMENT & COACHING
CHATTANOOGA RED WOLVES**



GABBY DAVISON '26
COMPUTER SCIENCE
WASHINGTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPT



ASSISTING THE VARIOUS
 DEPARTMENTS WITH IT
 RELATED ISSUES

I learned a lot about how things function in a government system. A lot of it is outdated, and many people still rely on paper for their daily tasks. There were many opportunities to automate tasks and make things more efficient for users. I also learned a lot about Ohio Revised Code and how to make sure that the Health Departments policies complied with any updates.



I EMBRACED MULTIPLE
 ROLES: DANCE AND THEATRE
 INSTRUCTOR, EVENT
 PRODUCER, ARTS
 ADMINISTRATOR, AND PUBLIC
 IMAGE. I TAUGHT A WIDE
 RANGE OF STUDENTS FROM 8-
 YEAR-OLDS DISCOVERING THE
 STAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME
 TO 87-YEAR-OLDS —LEADING
 BOTH REGULAR CLASSES AND
 MASTERCLASSES

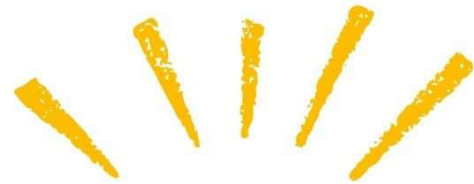
I learned that teaching the performing arts is as much about empathy and communication as it is about technique.



GABRIELA FLORES '26
MUSICAL THEATRE
LIFE GROUP PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL



GAVIN HEIGHBERGER '27
SMGT AND ACCOUNTING
CLEVELAND SOCCER CLUB



I WAS IN CHARGE OF MANAGING COMMUNITY RELATIONS BETWEEN CLEVELAND SC AND THE CITY OF CLEVELAND. I WAS ALSO IN CHARGE OF GAME DAY OPERATIONS AND ENSURING THAT ESSENTIAL TASKS WERE COMPLETED

I was able to experience the real relationships between businesses and sport organizations looking to gain sponsorship.



I AM WORKING ON SURFACE RIGHT CONTRACTS. I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON DIFFERENT PROJECTS WITH OUR TEAM AND MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMPANY. I HAVE DONE PROJECTS RELATED TO WATER LINE, PAD MAINTENANCE, AND LANDOWNER RELATIONS. Experience in negotiations, lease review, experience with different land software, document management, and team coordination.



GUNNER FOX '27
LAND & ENERGY MANAGEMENT
GULFPORT ENERGY



HINATA SOTSUDA '25
MANAGEMENT
THE TOKYO BRANCH OF A GLOBAL
BUSINESS CONSULTING COMPANY



I COLLABORATED WITH OTHER INTERNS TO CONSULT FOR A CLIENT AND PRESENTED OUR SOLUTIONS TO PROTIVITI'S MANAGERS AT THE END OF THE PROGRAM. IN ADDITION, I LEARNED ABOUT EACH DEPARTMENT WITHIN PROTIVITI AND THE WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES THAT THEY OFFER TO THEIR CLIENTS.

The most valuable thing I learned from my internship was how challenging it is to successfully move a company project forward.



I WORKED WITH MY TEAM TO MAKE SURE TAX DOCUMENTS WERE CORRECT, AND PROVIDED LEGAL DOCUMENTS TO OUR CLIENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDED AND REQUIRED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS PUT IN PLACE BY GAAP AND THE IRS.

The biggest beneficial learning experience was seeing tax documents for Fortune 500 companies first hand, and was taught how they interwork with each other.



IAN WOHNHAS '25
ACCOUNTING
PWC



JACK NEAL '27
MANAGEMENT
LOUISVILLE WATER COMPANY



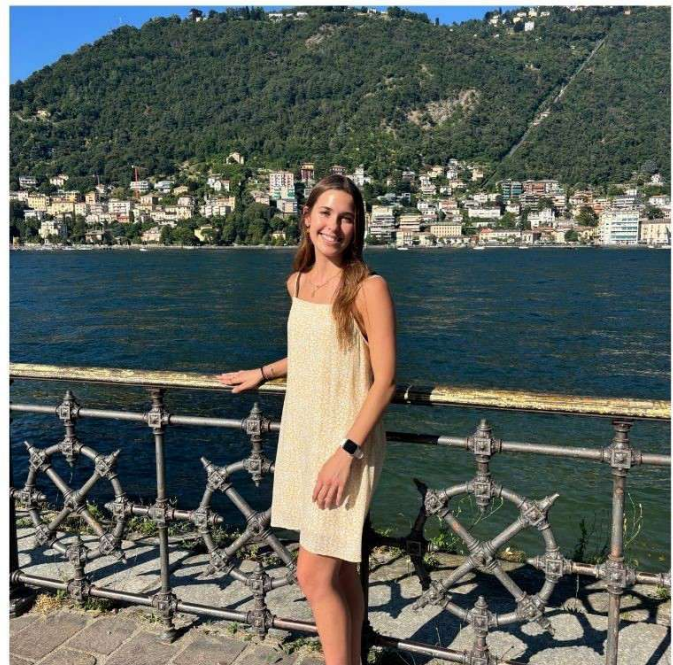
I WAS ABLE TO SIT IN AND TAKE PART IN WEEKLY MEETINGS, HOW EMPLOYEES COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER AND OTHER PARTNERING COMPANIES, AND LASTLY I WAS ABLE TO TAKE MY OWN INITIATIVE BY WORKING ON MY OWN TASKS WHICH INCLUDED RENAMING/SCANNING FILES AND OTHER VARIOUS SMALL PROJECTS.

The most beneficial learning I attained was witnessing how each person in the communications department plays a different role.



I COMPLETED A SIX WEEK INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MARKETS COURSE THROUGH IES STUDY ABROAD MILAN. THE COURSE CONSISTED OF LECTURES 4 DAYS A WEEK AND CONCLUDED WITH A FINAL EXAM AND A BUSINESS PROJECT PRACTICUM THROUGH A LOCAL ITALIAN COMPANY.

From my experience abroad, I learned more about other cultures, specifically Italian culture. I also gained more knowledge about international business and financial markets.



KAMRYN HAYNES '27
FINANCE/LEADERSHIP
IES STUDY ABROAD, MILAN



KEIRA SHANNON '26
BIOLOGY/CHEMISTRY
GROOM N ZOOM



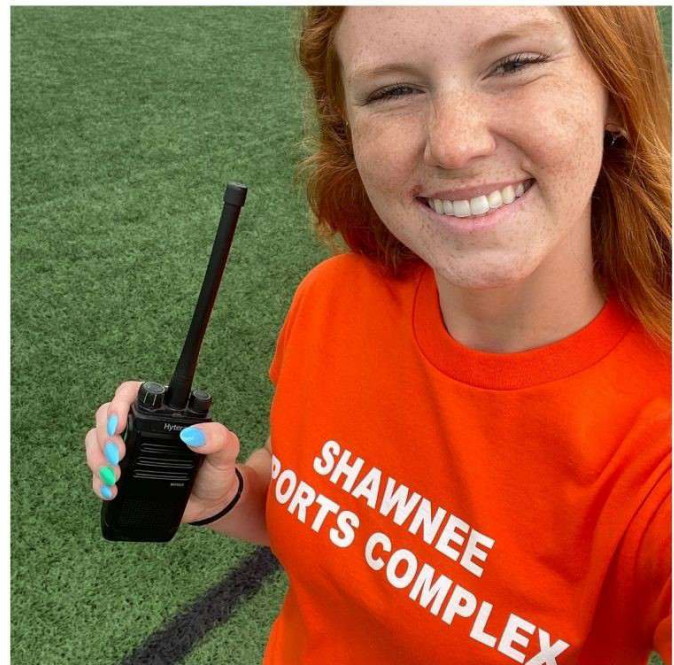
OVER THE SUMMER I INTERNEED WITH NIKKI LEE, THE OWNER OF GROOM N ZOOM. GROOM N ZOOM IS A MOBILE GROOMING SERVICE FOR DOGS AND CATS OF ANY SIZE AND BREED. DURING MY INTERNSHIP, I WORKED ALONGSIDE NIKKI IN BOTH OBSERVATION AND HANDS-ON TO BATHE, DRY, BRUSH, TRIM NAILS, AND CUT HAIR FOR EACH ANIMAL.

I learned how to physically handle animals... the business changed my outlook on grooming while enhancing my passion to help animals.



I SHADOWED/ WORKED WITH THE MASTERMINDS BEHIND SHAWNEE SPORTS COMPLEX WHILE ALSO GETTING HANDS ON EXPERIENCE WORKING IN GAME DAY SETTINGS.

I learned how to be quick on my feet when it comes to working with the public in game day settings.



MADELYN CALL '27
SPORT MANAGEMENT
SHAWNEE SPORTS COMPLEX



MAGGIE DOWNARD '26

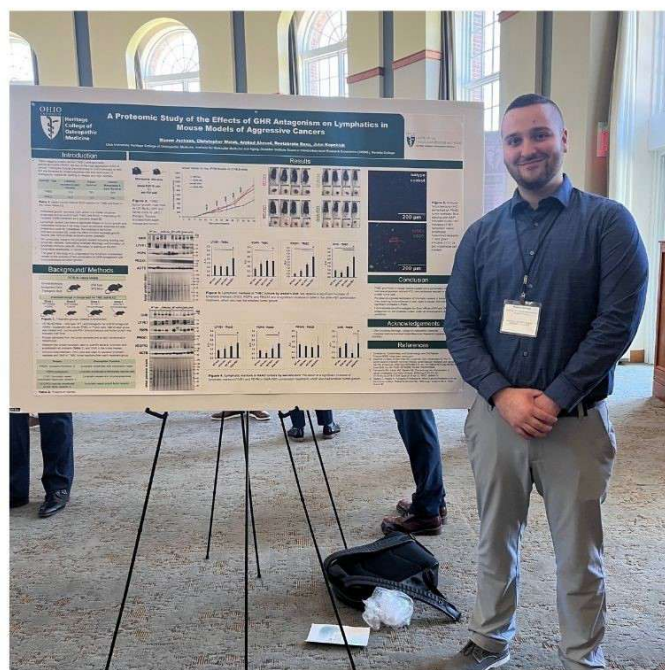
**EARLY CHILDHOOD SPEC.
EDU./COACHING
ATHENA LACROSSE**

I WAS THE ASSISTANT COACH OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL TRAVEL TEAM. LED OFFENSIVE DRILLS, COACHED PRACTICES AND TRAVELED WITH GIRLS TO CHICAGO. I WAS DIRECTOR OF OUR SUMMER LEAGUE, WHICH RANGED FROM YOUTH GIRLS TO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS. THIS HELPED TO BUILD GIRLS FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS. PUT TOGETHER PRACTICE PLANS AND HELPED COACHES WITH EACH GROUP.

Working with other coaches helped me a lot in adjusting my coaching style and learning how I like to direct when coaching.

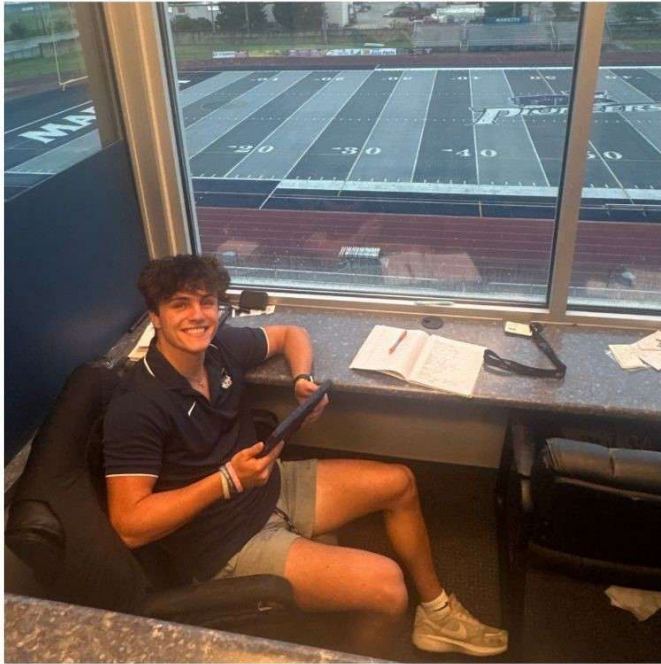
I WORKED IN A LAB IN THE INSTITUTE FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE AND AGING... I STUDIED COMBINATION TREATMENTS FOR AGGRESSIVE CANCERS IN MOUSE MODELS. I ANALYZED LYMPHATIC MARKERS IN THE TUMORS COLLECTED FROM THE VARIOUS TREATMENT GROUPS AND PRESENTED A POSTER AT THE OHIO UNIVERSITY SUMMER RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM.

I learned many valuable research skills working in the lab and about the process of developing a drug or treatment.



MASON JACKSON '26

**BIOCHEMISTRY
OHIO UNIVERSITY HERITAGE COLLEGE
OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE**



ZANDER STROUP '26
MANAGEMENT
MARIETTA COLLEGE FOOTBALL

I WATCHED FILMS AND SORTED CLIPS SO THAT THESE CLIPS COULD GET BROKEN DOWN BASED ON POSITION OR TYPE OF PLAY. ANOTHER BIG PART OF MY JOB WAS HELPING WITH RECRUITING BY CHECKING THEIR HUFL HIGHLIGHTS, HELPING COACHES ORGANIZE THEIR INFORMATION, WRITING AND SENDING LETTERS, AND EVEN REACHING OUT AND SETTING UP DATES THAT PLAYERS CAN COME VISIT.

Doing all this behind the scenes work gave me a better idea on how much time and work goes into building a successful collegiate football program.

- PIPELINE PIGGING
- CRITICAL MATERIAL STORAGE
- SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT
- DEAD LEGS DATA LINK

SUPPORTED PIPELINE CLEANING OPERATIONS, RAN AND MONITORED PIGS, ANALYZED STORAGE STRATEGY FOR ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE MATERIALS, STREAMLINED PROCUREMENT AND LOGISTICS, IDENTIFIED AND DIGITALLY MAPPED STAGNANT PIPELINE SECTIONS

I worked primarily on a project-based rotation that included both field and office experience.



BEN PETRIE '28
PETROLEUM ENGINEERING
HARVEST MIDSTREAM

Summer 2025 Experiential Education Award Winners

One of the qualities that makes Marietta College students stand out is the experiential learning component they have as undergraduates. It is our honor to provide awards for these students, who may need assistance covering transportation, housing, and equipment expenses. These awards have been made possible through the generosity of our dedicated alumni and friends.

Robert E. Evans Internship Award



Hinata Sotsuda

Hinata Sotsuda was awarded the Robert E. Evans Internship Award to partially cover the cost of her internship at Protiviti's Tokyo office. This award is highly competitive, but her outstanding qualifications set her apart from the rest, awarding her \$5,000 worth of reimbursement for internship-related expenses.

"The internship experience became a wonderful opportunity to build professional networks, to gain hands-on consulting experience, and to reflect on my future. Throughout the internship, I had many conversations with consultants, and I was able to think more deeply about what I really want to pursue beyond just my major, job conditions, or stability. The best part of the internship was inspiring and learning from other interns. Their passion and determination motivated me to keep improving and made the internship truly meaningful. Moreover, I am very grateful for the internship award, which made this happen and allowed me to immerse myself in learning and gaining experience without any financial concerns. I will continue to build on this experience to grow and contribute to others."

Thrash-Henderson Experiential Education Award

Colin Walters

Colin Walters was awarded the Thrash-Henderson Experiential Education Award to partially cover the cost of his participation in the Instrumentation and Laboratory Training Program at the Ohio State University. This award is highly competitive, but his outstanding qualifications set him apart from the rest, awarding her \$1,500 worth of reimbursement for participation-related expenses.

“The Thrash-Henderson award kickstarted my path toward a doctoral degree in Materials Science and Engineering by allowing me to move to Columbus right after graduation and immediately get started in the lab. I began by working on sample preparation and learning the basics of my new project that uses electron microscopy to study how materials form on the atomic scale, and how those tiny structures determine the strength and performance of materials used in jet turbines and engines. This scholarship not only helped me adjust to life in a new research field, but also gave me the support I needed to get comfortable with a bigger campus, downtown Columbus, and a whole new chapter of learning.”



Howsmon-Keyes Experiential Education Award

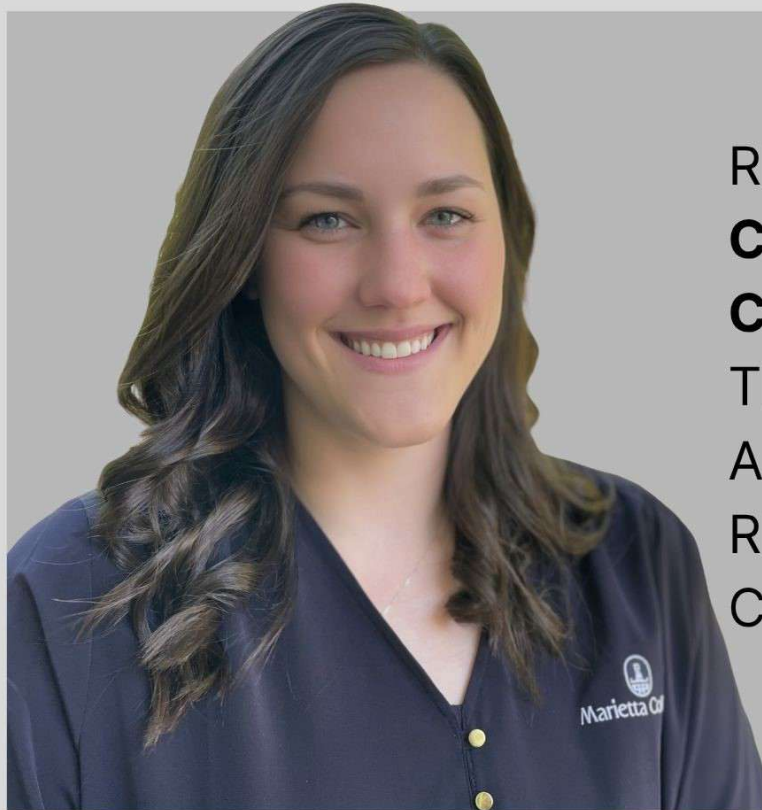
Ava Huebner

Ava Huebner was awarded the Howsmon-Keyes Experiential Education Award to partially cover the cost of her study abroad at the University of Westminster in the UK. This award is highly competitive, but her outstanding qualifications set her apart from the rest, awarding her \$3,000 worth of reimbursement for study abroad-related expenses.

“I had such a wonderful time studying abroad at the University of Westminster in London! In my program, I was able to study the history of Victorian London focusing on the culture surrounding the Jack the Ripper murders. Outside of class, I was able to explore the city both independently as well as with my friends within my program. Being able to travel independently with the help of the amazing donors at Marietta College has been such an incredible experience!”



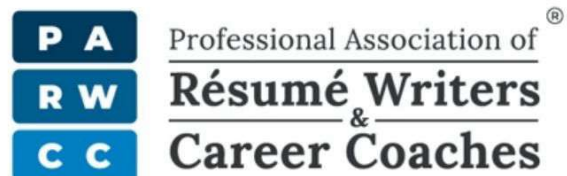
CONGRATULATIONS RICCI BAILEY!



RECOGNIZED AS A
**CERTIFIED STUDENT
CAREER COACH** BY
THE PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
RÉSUMÉ WRITERS &
CAREER COACHES

This certification highlights Ricci's dedication to guiding students toward achieving their career goals and preparing them for success beyond the classroom.

We can't wait to see the positive impact Ricci will continue to make in the lives of students.



It is, in part, due to the generosity of our sponsors that we can offer our cocurricular and extracurricular events and workshops to the community either free of charge or at a discount. We do this because our goal is to build a network of young and seasoned entrepreneurs that together create economic, social, and environmental values through collaboration and cooperation. The Center for Entrepreneurship and Career Development (CECD) at Marietta College is proud to launch its 2025–26 sponsorship tiers, featuring opportunities from **Innovator** (\$2,500) to **Friend** (\$500), each offering increasing visibility through articles, event speaking spots, branding, and digital recognition. [Read More.](#)

We're especially grateful to **TechGrowth Ohio** and **Morrison** for renewing their sponsorships —your continued commitment makes a meaningful difference.

Thank you to our
Builder,

TECHGROWTH *ohio*

Thank you to our
Friend,



*A Huge
Thank You to*



The CECD would like to extend our deepest gratitude to QDOBA Mexican Eats for generously providing food and supporting our events. Your contributions help make our events not only successful, but also deliciously memorable! Your support means so much to our community, and we are grateful to partner with an organization that shares our commitment to fostering the growth of our students.

Thank you for fueling our events with flavor and generosity!