



Leadership INITIATIVES

Board of Directors

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am Marshall Bailly II, Executive Director of Leadership Initiatives, and I am writing to offer my highest endorsement for Samantha Williams. Samantha is a dedicated and passionate young woman who has taken the initiative to improve not only herself but also the lives of those around her. I am consistently impressed by her work ethic, dependability, creativity, and remarkable dedication.

I met Samantha in the summer of 2022 at our Advanced Medical Neuroscience Internship, held in collaboration with Georgetown University's Neuroscience team. The program, sponsored by the Future First Foundation, Microsoft Youthspark, GlobalGiving, the International Youth Foundation, the Starbucks Foundation, and Impact Education, challenges young men and women to engage with cutting-edge neuroscience experiments. At the summit, interns explore the biological foundations of the brain, from the cellular makeup of neurons to understanding sensory systems, and culminating in studies of higher-order cognitive functions such as memory, emotion, and morality.

Samantha participated in MRI, EEG, and Neural Interface experiments, as well as the dissection of a human brain. Throughout the program, she distinguished herself as an outstanding student. Her keen attention to the complexity and diversity of neuroscience was evident, as was her eagerness to ask thoughtful questions to deepen her understanding of the human mind. In addition to her intellectual abilities and attention to detail, Samantha is a warm, engaging individual with strong emotional intelligence, an essential trait for any future leader.

For her final project, Samantha designed a neuro-research study exploring how social identity influences decision-making in the human brain. She presented her findings to Dr. Giordano, Chief of Georgetown University's Neuroethics Studies Program, Dr. Wurzman, Director of Science at SeekHealing, and Dr. Laura-Ann Petitto, Science Director at Gallaudet University's Science of Learning Center. Her team's experiment proposal received second place out of the top forty neuroscience students nationwide, a testament to the caliber of her work and ideas.

What sets Samantha apart is her unique combination of tenacity, collaboration, and effective communication. She excels at every task she is given, and I have no doubt she will change lives on a grand scale. As a member of my community development organization, she has far exceeded my expectations. I believe she is an exceptional candidate for any university and will make a significant impact on whatever academic

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and professional path she pursues.

Sincerely,

Marshall J. Bailly II

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Leadership Initiatives is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping leaders in developing communities start and expand local development projects based on the community's needs as they define them. LI works with aspiring community leaders to obtain local funding and provides skills training and continued support for businesses, hospitals, and human rights organizations.

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