

## 2018 Diversity in Arts Leadership Interns



**Alexis Simmons** is interning with **The Classical Theater of Harlem** this summer. She is a rising senior, double majoring in Theatre and Communication Studies at the University of Alabama. She found a passion for theatre at the age of six and hasn't stopped performing. She now competes for her University's speech team where she travels around the country giving performances and advocating for minority issues. She is currently ranked the 20th Best Individual Speaker in the nation. Additionally, she is the President of her historically black sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, where she uses her communication skills to lead on a predominately white campus. Alexis has always used theatre as a creative outlet to not only advocate for the voiceless,

but to heal as well. Alexis hopes to one day start an arts nonprofit that will bring drama therapy to youth. She is more than grateful to have been chosen as a DIAL intern, and is excited to gain valuable skills that will help her make the arts a more inclusive space for everyone.



**Ami Scherson** is interning with **Kaufman Music Center** this summer. She is a rising senior at Ohio University studying Music through the Honors Tutorial College. She is an education intern for the Stuart's Opera House, a local arts organization that provides free arts programming for the surrounding community members. In addition, Ami is a mentor for the Young Women Leaders Program, which uses arts-based practices to teach middle school girls about leadership, identity, and girlhood. Her passion for using the arts to create change in communities has inspired her senior thesis research on the impacts of the arts and creative place-making in rural Appalachia. She is thrilled to be able to learn more about nonprofit arts leadership, and is

excited explore New York City through her internship with DIAL.

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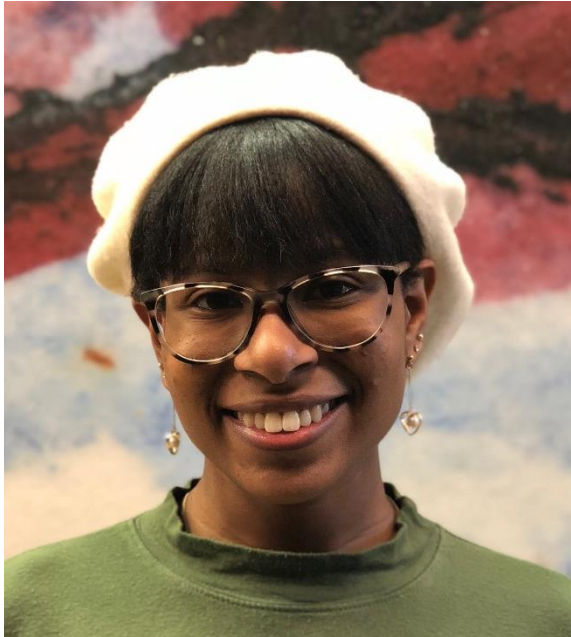
**Christian Trey Burke** is interning at **Sing for Hope** this summer. Trey is a rising senior at Michigan State University from Grosse Pointe Woods, MI. He is a music major studying clarinet performance and is interested in pursuing arts management as well as performing. This past semester, he worked as a musician and teaching artist for the Musical Memories Residency. During the residency, Trey and his quintet worked with an assisted living facility to musically engage residents that suffered from dementia and other cognitive disorders. He believes that musicians should build bridges to community by making live music more accessible. He plans to become a professor of clarinet and hopes to diversify the clarinet repertoire to include influences of African music. He is super excited to be a DIAL intern and hopes that the experience

further develops his leadership and ability to increase access to the arts.



**Citlali Pizarro** is interning with **Opening Act** this summer. She is a rising junior at Swarthmore College and is pursuing a double major in Theater in addition to a special major she created, called Race and Gender in Education and Society. She believes in the transformative power of art as a valid form of social activism and aims to pursue a career in social justice theater, ultimately owning a non-profit theater company one day. She manages a publication called Voices, which is dedicated to reflecting the perspectives of marginalized people on Swarthmore's campus and beyond. Her passions include acting and writing.

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**Hillary Karl-Otto** is interning with **ABC/NY** this summer. She is a rising sophomore at the University of Connecticut and is intending to major in Business marketing with a minor in Art History. Her passion for the arts started at a young age as she looked up to her father who created oil paintings as a hobby. Working as an Activities Specialist at Beacon 109 Goodwill Summer Camp Hillary started the camps first ever photography club, where her student's enthusiastic reactions for art ignited her passion for improving art education to spark that excitement in other children. Other than drawing and painting, Hillary loves watching movies and listening to BTS. She is very excited to participate in the DIAL internship and is looking forward to gaining more knowledge about the non-profit

side of the art world.



**Karen Navarrete** is interning at **The Bronx Museum** this summer. She is a rising junior at Trinity College majoring in International Studies, with a concentration in African Studies and the Caribbean and Latin American Studies, and a minor in Studio Art. She was originally born in Mexico, and raised in Arkansas where she first developed her interest in film photography. On campus, she is the vice-president of La Voz Latina, a Latinx cultural organization, and a member of the graffiti committee for Temple of Hip-Hop. She is also an organizer for Connecticut Students for a Dream, an organization that focuses on the rights of undocumented youth and their families. Her passion for art and activism has impelled her to

critically explore topics of race, gender, sexuality, and culture in her photo projects.



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**Kaylee Ma** is interning with **MoMA PS1** this summer. She is a rising senior at Reed College, where she is majoring in Classics with a concentration in Greek and Latin. During her three semesters on student government as a senator and then student body president, she helped to implement a funding pool specifically for student groups serving marginalized identities, a community food pantry, and the passing of a new school constitution. Off campus, she has worked as a Development Assistant with Color Me Empowered, an Outreach Assistant with Operation Nightwatch, and currently serves as program support at Write Around Portland. When she's not at work or in class translating Homer, she is cooking Chinese food and joking around with her friends in the Students of Color dorm.



**London Carlisle** is interning with **FreeArtsNYC** this summer. He is a student, actor and burgeoning arts leader from Lineville, AL. He currently studies Acting in the BFA Performance program at Auburn University. Additionally, he is pursuing a minor in Philanthropy & Nonprofit Studies. London has spent his time outside of the classroom in many student-run organizations including Black Student Union, Student Government Association, Student Philanthropy Board and as a brother of Phi Delta Theta fraternity. His passions include theatre, music, food, and Knicks basketball. London plans to relocate to the New York City area after graduating in May of 2019.

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**Rachel Kim** is interning at **American Federation of Arts** this summer. She is a rising sophomore at Mount Holyoke College and is from New Hyde Park, NY. She is a prospective major in History with a minor in Critical Social Thought. At Mount Holyoke, Rachel is a Student Guide at the Art Museum and Media Chair of Asian American Students in Action. In high school, she interned at the New-York Historical Society where her cohort curated and facilitated "Battle for the Ballot," a satellite exhibition to commemorate the centennial of women's suffrage in New York. Every day Rachel is inspired by her women's college experience as she advocates for increased equity

and accessibility in museum spaces. In her free time, Rachel practices freelance graphic design and writes creative nonfiction. Through DIAL, Rachel seeks to grow as both a professional and an activist.



**Rosa Araceli Torres** is interning with **New York Public Radio/WNYC** this summer. Araceli is an adoptee with indigenous roots. They are completing their associates degree in sociology and art history as a CAMP Scholar through the University of Colorado, Boulder's BUENO Center and aspire to continue their education under media and information studies. As an interdisciplinary artist, archivist, and activist having done extensive training in restorative justice as well as in theater of the oppressed, they believe in documenting spaces that are underrepresented. In addition, they regularly work with the Denver Zine Library and Arthyve, an archivist lead art collective to preserve and disseminate Denver's independent

culture, and volunteers as a digital strategist for the National Emerging Museum Professionals Network. When not working, Araceli holds space with other latinx individuals in the Queermunidad, and studies ancestral skills.

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**Sruti Suryanarayanan** is interning with **Dance/NYC** this summer. She is a rising senior at the Rhode Island School of Design studying Furniture Design and concentrating in Regional Studies of South and Southeast Asia. She is a critical speculator and maker based in Providence, Rhode Island, making work regarding global sociopolitics and higher education policy. Working through the disciplines of furniture and object making, in combination with satirical performance and curricular reform, she examines and reacts to the realities of colonial mindsets in contemporary academia and creative processes. Sruti believes in empowerment and community, viewing both as tools and media for equity.



**Tatiana Rivera** is interning with **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** this summer. She is a freshman majoring in Finance and Management Information Systems at Binghamton University. She was born in Colombia and grew up in New Rochelle, NY. She currently holds a co-chair position for the Women in Business organization, where she assists the Executive Vice President with outreach and event planning. Continuing her lifelong passion for dance, she is a dedicated member of International Flag Dancers, a dance team on her college campus. She is also a Student Philanthropy Committee member and creates awareness of what donors have made possible at Binghamton University.



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**Tiana Raimist-Carter** is interning at **The Moth** this summer. She has recently completed a Bachelor's of Arts in Music Management, Visual Arts, and Activism with a minor in Public Relations following the Sports & Entertainment Management track at the University of Alabama. As a Los Angeles native, arts and entertainment are at the core of everything Tiana does and she has a passion for empowering youth of color. When she isn't working a film festival, you can find Tiana exploring contemporary art museums or creating soundscapes and visual ethnographies of countries she traveled while on Semester at Sea a few months ago. While she hasn't been to New York since she lived there at age 3, she is excited to

take on the big city and get lost in matcha cafes and restored movie theaters.