



2026 WLAM FOUNDATION SCHOLARS



2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Jean Ledwith King Scholar



Joscelin Stewart-Hughes

Joscelin Stewart-Hughes is a second-year law student at Michigan State University College of Law. During law school, Joscelin has gained practical experience through her work with Legal Aid of Western Michigan, where she has assisted underserved communities with a range of legal matters. She has also worked with the Ingham County Probate Court, where she participated in guardianship reviews, helping to ensure that vulnerable individuals receive appropriate care and that guardians fulfill their legal obligations. After graduation, she plans to pursue a career that allows her to advocate for clients while promoting fairness and transparency in the law.

Michigan State University College of Law

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Miller Canfield Scholar



Lilliana Vangelov



After graduating from Michigan State University, Lilliana Vangelov served as a legal intern at a probate and estate firm in Ann Arbor. During her undergraduate years, she served as Internal President of Empowering Women in Law. In this role, she led the organization's inaugural gala, which created a networking platform for pre-law students and supported the non-profit Vista Maria. Now a first-generation law student, Lilliana serves as a 1L Class Representative for the Women's Law Caucus and a member of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan. She also supports her former supervising attorney's campaign for Wayne County Probate Judge. Lilliana will serve as a Data Privacy and AI legal intern at Little Caesars Enterprises in the summer of 2026 and as a Summer Associate at Varnum LLP in the summer of 2027. She is dedicated to building her legal career in Michigan.

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Florence King Scholar



Maggie Simons

Maggie Simons is a Juris Doctor candidate at Wayne State University Law School, where she attends on a full tuition merit scholarship and focuses her studies on intellectual property law. She graduated from Kettering University with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering and minors in biochemistry and pre law, earning the university's Outstanding Thesis Award for her work on improving patent drafting efficiency using generative artificial intelligence. Before and during law school, she has developed substantial experience in the IP realm through a multi year Intellectual Property Co op and subsequent role as an Intellectual Property Intern with Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC, where she works on matters at the intersection of science, innovation, and patent practice. Maggie plans on continuing her groundbreaking work in intellectual property after graduation.

Wayne State University Law School



2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Dobrusin Law Scholar



Riley Fisher

After graduating from Michigan State University, Riley continued her education at the Michigan State University College of Law. After obtaining a degree in engineering, Riley continued to pursue a career in intellectual property law. Riley spent her first summer working as an IP law clerk for Harman International. Her second summer was spent as an IP summer associate. Riley has mentored incoming law students interested in intellectual property and helped them navigate the patent bar application process. She has also served as the Vice President of the Intellectual Property Law Society and as an Associate Editor for the Michigan State University College of Law Flagship Law Review Journal. She plans to do patent and trademark work after graduation.

Michigan State University College of Law

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Kimberly Cahill Scholar



Dana Craig

Dana is committed to a career in public interest law, with a particular focus on gender justice and freedom of/from religion. She spent last summer learning from the fantastic attorneys at the New York Civil Liberties Union and is excited to join the team at Americans United for Separation of Church and State in D.C. this summer. At the University of Michigan Law School, Dana serves as the co-chair of the Organization of Public Interest Students and the Book Review Editor for the Michigan Law Review. She is also excited to work as a student attorney in the Civil Rights Litigation Initiative clinic this coming fall. She hopes to pursue a clerkship after graduating with a long-term goal to join an impact litigation nonprofit.

University of Michigan Law School

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Dawn Van Hoek Scholar



Sandra Dunia AlAziz

After graduating from the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor, Dunia spent two years working as an elementary school teacher at Maples Elementary School in Dearborn. Since coming to Wayne State University Law School, she has continued her commitment to public interest law by volunteering with the Accounting Aid Society, supporting individuals and families with tax preparation services. She has also served as a representative for Wayne Law’s Women’s Law Caucus and Tax Law Society. After graduation, Dunia plans to pursue a career in education law, drawing on her experience in the classroom to advocate for students and strengthen educational equity across Metro Detroit.

Wayne State University Law School

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Dickinson Wright Scholar



Samantha Kowalczyk

After graduating from Michigan State University with a degree in Social Relations and Policy, Samantha spent almost two years working for the Michigan Secretary of the Senate's Office. Since returning to Michigan State University for law school, Samantha has demonstrated strong academic skills, earning the Jurisprudence Award in two classes and making the Dean's List each semester. She is also a member of Michigan State Law Review and will serve on the Editorial Board next year as a Managing Editor. Upon graduation, Samantha plans to pursue a career in education law.

Michigan State University Law School

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

General Motors Scholar



Sarah Bazzi

After graduating from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, Sarah spent a year working as a Constituent Liaison with the Michigan State Senate before pursuing her Juris Doctor at the University of Michigan Law School. Since coming to Michigan Law, she has continued her commitment to both entrepreneurship and access to justice, serving as a Student Attorney in the Immigration Clinic and the Zell Entrepreneurship Clinic. On campus, she serves as Managing Articles Editor of the Michigan Journal of International Law, President of the Middle Eastern and North African Law Student Association, and is a DOW Sustainability Fellow. This summer, Sarah will return to Miller Johnson as a Summer Associate, and upon graduation, she hopes to pursue a career in transactional law.

University of Michigan Law School

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

General Motors Scholar



Alexis Farmer



Alexis Farmer is a third-year student at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. Prior to law school, Alexis worked at the City of Detroit, managing two workforce programs to upskill Detroit residents. A Detroit native, Alexis's upbringing influenced her desire to expand economic opportunities to marginalized communities. She aspires to contribute to her city's growth through working in public finance and real estate law as an associate at Miller Canfield upon graduation.

In law school, Alexis had the opportunity to work for several public interest organizations, including the ACLU of Michigan and the Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice, tackling issues from immigration to housing and First Amendment rights. Alexis was a 2024 WLAM Leadership Class participant. She currently serves as a Senior Editor of the Detroit Mercy Law Review and a student liaison for the faculty hiring committee.

Alexis received a B.A. in Public Policy from the University of Michigan and an MPP degree from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. In her free time, Alexis enjoys teaching yoga in Detroit's parks and recreation centers.

University of Detroit Mercy Law School

2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Salvatore Prescott Porter & Porter Scholar



Zoe Hayes

After graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, Zoe completed a yearlong fellowship with the Bay Area JusticeCorps to improve access to justice for self-represented civil litigants. She then worked at a boutique transactional firm in San Francisco. Zoe is deeply committed to LGBTQ+ advocacy, having worked at California Rural Legal Assistance's LGBTQ+ program before law school. Their experience at the University of Michigan Law School has been no different. They served as President of OUTlaws, co-chair of OUTreach, Michigan Law's trans-serving pro bono program, and lead of the Michigan Law Transgender Justice Coalition through the American Civil Liberties Union @ Law. They have also served as Editor-in-Chief of the Michigan Journal of Gender & Law, where they plan to publish their scholarship on transgender women in prison. They are the law student representative on the State Bar of Michigan's LGBTQ+ Section Council, where they have published multiple articles focusing on DEI and same-sex marriage in Michigan. After law school, Zoe plans to do civil rights litigation focusing on gender and sexuality.

University of Michigan Law School



2026 WLAM Foundation Scholar

Zenell and James Brown Scholar



Sylvanna James

After graduating from Spelman College, Sylvanna obtained her paralegal certificate from Loyola University Chicago and worked as a paralegal for nearly 5 years at Ropes & Gray in Chicago. Outside of her paralegal duties, she gave back to the community through her meal prep business, TrulyHealthV, by catering and hosting a healthy lunch and informational session by an OBGYN for moms ages 18-24. She also served as a mentor to junior and senior high school students through iMentor Chicago for roughly 5 years. Since coming to Cooley Law School, she has continued her dedication to community service by serving as a judge in Teen Court held at the school. She also serves as a mentor with iMentor's program for college students - iMentor College - and she is a mentor with the United Mentoring Program in Lansing, where members serve as mentors in underprivileged schools in Lansing, and host mentor sessions at the Lansing Youth Center. Sylvanna hopes to work in different areas of law throughout her law career. However, during her law school journey, she plans to explore opportunities in the public interest sector.

Cooley Law School



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