



Oklahoma | **Campus Compact**

2018 Newman Civic Fellows

Twelve Oklahoma students were named 2018 Newman Civic Fellows by Campus Compact as part of a group of 268 students honored, representing Campus Compact member institutions from 40 states, Washington, D.C., Mexico, and Greece.

The Newman Civic Fellowship is a one-year fellowship for community-committed college students from Campus Compact member institutions. The fellowship honors the late Frank Newman, one of Campus Compact's founders and a tireless advocate for civic engagement in higher education. In the spirit of Dr. Newman's leadership, Campus Compact member presidents and chancellors are annually invited to nominate one community-committed student from their institution for the fellowship. These nominees are individuals who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country and abroad. Through the fellowship, Campus Compact provides a variety of learning and networking opportunities, including a national conference of Newman Civic Fellows in partnership with the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.

Each Oklahoma Newman Civic Fellow will receive a \$500 monetary scholarship award from Oklahoma Campus Compact and be invited to be recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education at a monthly meeting. The Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellows program is supported by the KPMG Foundation and the Newman's Own Foundation.

Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 1,000 colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. Campus Compact supports institutions in fulfilling their public purposes by deepening their ability to improve community life and to educate students for civic and social responsibility. Visit www.compact.org.

Oklahoma Campus Compact is excited to congratulate the following public problem solvers:

Matthew Staples
Connors State College



A second year student at Connors State College, Matt Staples held numerous significant leadership roles in FFA at the local, district and state levels in high school in Florida. At Connors, Matt has held several positions of responsibility in student organizations, culminating last fall with leadership of the Agriculture Ambassadors food drive, which collected about 1,700 food items. Additionally, in his position as a College Student Adult Leader in his church Matt has been able to

share his passion for service with high school and middle school students by spearheading a collection of daily living household items in backpacks for the homeless in Warner. Matt is seeking a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Communications.

Raegan Mach
Northern Oklahoma College



Raegan is an International Studies major currently at Northern Oklahoma College who has worked as many as four jobs at one time to fund study abroad travels where she can learn more about the global environment and her role in it. She follows the golden rule of her faith, and lives the philosophy to "think globally and act locally" by giving her time to numerous community service projects which help those disadvantaged by poverty and limited educational opportunities, including: sustaining Arts Education through a scholarship fundraiser for rural communities with limited budgets; delivering meals to those unable to prepare them for themselves; and, serving as an active ambassador for the college campus. Raegan feels that participating in and giving back to one's community is personally rewarding, and she leads by example.



Riley Pearce
Northwestern Oklahoma State University



Riley Pearce, a senior at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, has a passion for public service and intends to follow a career path in social sciences with a focus on political science. In May she will complete her second internship at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Her many volunteer activities include Feed the Children, Back-A-Youth, Food for Thought, and March of Dimes. Riley has already considered the possibility of seeking public office, and after law school plans to practice family law while researching and participating in governmental protection of freedoms and rights for those who cannot fight for it themselves, such as the use of illegal substances by pregnant women and its effect on their children born with these substances in their systems.

Turner Smith
Oklahoma Christian University

OC University A history and pre-law major at Oklahoma Christian University, Turner Smith is already showing great promise as a social change agent. Turner says that the George Zimmerman case, and subsequent cases of police brutality, racism, and institutionalized injustice that followed, raised his awareness of inequality and injustice. He is leading efforts to create a Mock Trial program at Oklahoma Christian University, to raise awareness of institutionalized legal discrimination due to race and class, and to encourage students from privileged segments of society to promote social justice in our judicial systems. Turner has applied for a summer internship with Legal Services for Prisoners with Children, an association that helps those imprisoned due to institutionalized discrimination, and plans to attend law school.



Katie Hardin
Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology



**INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY**

A pre-education major, Katie Hardin has volunteered over 750 hours in Oklahoma, working with the Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology Service Learning program and the Oklahoma Blood Bank, and raising money for high school students to attend pageants for scholarships throughout the year. Katie says she works hard for everything she wants to achieve. She hopes to continue to help fellow students and younger students to develop a sense of community, and to create a community where they can help others and become strong leaders.

Quinn McCormick
Rogers State University



A sophomore at Rogers State University majoring in communications, Quinn McCormick has exhibited tremendous social engagement and involvement in student government. Quinn is also an outstanding member of the President's Leadership Class, and was named Freshman of the Year in PLC in recognition of her diligence and commitment to community service and continual campus involvement. She is involved in multiples volunteer projects, most notably serving the homeless community in the Tulsa area through Night Light. She has advanced political participation and civic engagement by helping register hundreds of students to vote and engage in meaningful political discussions. Quinn knows that involvement in the political process is imperative to a well-functioning society and she finds that college is a crucial time to build those values.



Alexis Harris
Rose State College



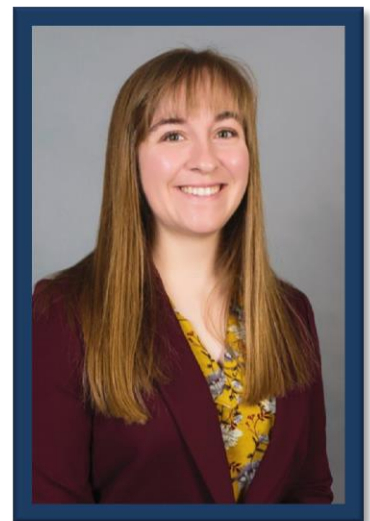
**ROSE
STATE
COLLEGE**

Alexis Harris, a second year student at Rose State College interested in mass communication, is a student leader who is passionate about supporting minority youth in her community. She started a chapter of an organization called Women of Purpose on campus, and works tirelessly in the area to contribute to issues directly related to poverty and empowerment of others. Alexis says that she strives to be the person that she needed when she was younger. She has a heart for service and makes meaningful connections and contributions to every community of which she is a part, inspiring others to lead purpose-driven lives.

Tiler Rose
Southwestern Oklahoma State University



A double major in Engineering Technology and Computer Science at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Tiler Rose is committed to pursuing a goal of involving more women in the STEM fields. Through volunteering and active participation in the Society of Women Engineers and the First Tech Challenge High School Robotics Competition, Tiler has provided opportunities for many younger women to build interest in a career in a male-dominated field. Tiler's work is helping to address the imbalance in fields in which she knows women can perform well, and she plans to continue this work after her collegiate career.



Joseph Mason
Tulsa Community College



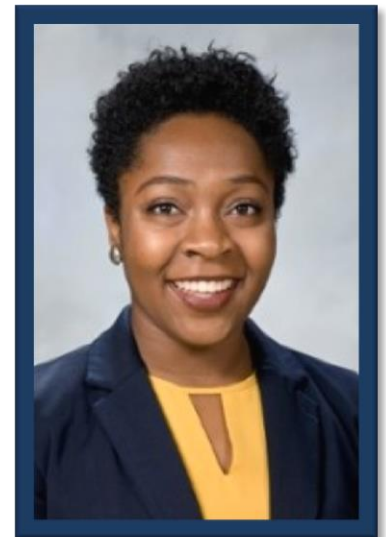
As an environmental science major at Tulsa Community College, Joseph actively works to improve communities through the growth and distribution of food. In a recent service-learning course, Joseph helped to establish a campus food pantry for students at Tulsa Community College, and continues his involvement with the project to ensure that access to adequate food isn't a barrier to student success. Joseph has also taken on the volunteer role of garden coordinator at the Tipton Community Garden where he instructs local resident on how to grow their own produce.

Sensitive to issues of social justice, he is currently working on a plan that will provide pay-as-you-can produce at a local farmer's market. Joseph understands that access to a nutritious diet can have a large impact on an individual's ability to be successful, and he has been extremely active in unifying both campus and local communities by working to reduce food insecurity.

Kalen Russell
University of Central Oklahoma



Kalen Russell, a strategic communication major at the University of Central Oklahoma, has been actively engaged in civic activities and service to her community through multiple avenues and projects. Kalen feels that most biases and injustices derive from being unaware of different perspectives. Working as an event strategist for uSpeak, a campaign seeking to reduce extremist action through dialogue and understanding, she has encouraged dialogue and policy examination among police services, civil rights professionals, and students on campus. As a result of Kalen's efforts, significant progress has been made in opening communication channels between these groups to create a deeper understanding of the work and challenges which each experience. She has also engaged in significant research projects that focus on black students' experiences with campus law enforcement and how strong relationships can better be developed between the two.



Matthew McClure
University of Oklahoma



Matt McClure is a first-year master of regional and city planning candidate at the University of Oklahoma interested in alleviating food insecurity for underserved and underrepresented communities. His commitment to social change and building equitable communities is apparent through his work in Africa, where he helped establish safe and reliable water and power for a village in Uganda, as well as his ongoing commitment to promoting healthy, local, sustainable food options for residents of his home state. He is currently working on a research project to explore the availability of healthy food options among schools in Oklahoma City to develop public policy solutions for improving community food access, food awareness, and empowering future generations to support local and urban production. In the coming year he will begin a project to formulate a food system plan for the City of Oklahoma City as means of improving fresh food access for all, but especially vulnerable and low-income populations. Matt is innovative in his approach to solving problems, thinking beyond the constraints of current practices to consider how advances in the way we grow, harvest, and utilize food will adapt to changes in climate and technology.

Sabine Brown
University of Oklahoma, Tulsa



Sabine Brown, a first-year master of public affairs student at the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa, is an outstanding example of community and civic engagement on her campus. After one semester, Sabine was selected to serve as Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator for the Oklahoma Policy Institute, a non-partisan, Tulsa-based research and policy think tank that promotes equal opportunity for all Oklahomans. In addition, inspired in the wake of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School, she started an Oklahoma chapter, and serves as the state chapter leader, for Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, work which dovetails with her previous work in health care. In addition to gun violence prevention, Sabine also serves as an active volunteer with the Bixby Parent Legislative Active Committee, which advocates for better state funding of public education, and the Bixby Outreach Center, which serves underprivileged people in her community.

