

*Unapologetically*  
**BL****CK**

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**NOW** *and* **FOREVER**

The Learning Community ♦ Loyola Marymount University  
2020–2021

# Mission

The Learning Community (TLC) is committed to the success of first-year students of African descent at Loyola Marymount University. The goals of this year-long program are to cultivate leaders, instill community consciousness, and promote academic and co-curricular success.

# TLC Class Profile

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

30

## GENDER

FEMALE: 80%

MALE: 17%

GENDER

NON-CONFORMING: 3%

## COLLEGE REPRESENTATION

BCLA: 47%

SCE: 23%

SFTV: 13%

CFA: 10%

CBA: 7%

## IN-STATE VS. OUT-OF-STATE

IN-STATE: 60%

OUT-OF-STATE: 40%

## AVERAGE GPA

3.7

## HONORS

17%

## FIRST GENERATION

23%

# Aker Ajak



## **HOMETOWN**

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

MARIAN HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

POLITICAL SCIENCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

ATTORNEY & ELECTED OFFICIAL

## **HOBBIES**

WRITING, BIKING, LEARNING  
ABOUT POLITICS

# Olayinka Akinlade



## **HOMETOWN**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL OF CHICAGO

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

FILM & TV PRODUCTION

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

FILM DIRECTOR

## **HOBBIES**

BAKING, DANCING, BIKING

# Kelvin Akinyemi



## **HOMETOWN**

ORANGE, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

SERVITE HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

BIOCHEMISTRY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTITIONER

## **HOBBIES**

SWIMMING, READING,  
HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS

# Gabriella Alleyne



## **HOMETOWN**

ST. ALBANS, NEW YORK

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

THE CHAPIN SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

DANCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

DANCER & SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE

## **HOBBIES**

WRITING, FILMING, TRAVELING

# Cade Ford



## **HOMETOWN**

NIPOMO, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

DUNN SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

UNDECLARED - LIBERAL ARTS

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

ENTREPRENEUR

## **HOBBIES**

BIKING, PLAYING SPORTS,  
PLAYING PIANO



# Jasmine Franklin



## **HOMETOWN**

HALF MOON BAY, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

LICK-WILMERDING HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

UNDECLARED - ENGINEERING

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

ENGINEER & FILM EDITOR

## **HOBBIES**

PAINTING, TRAVELING,  
WALKING ON THE BEACH

# Brandon Frith



## **HOMETOWN**

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

BISHOP O'DOWD HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

FINANCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

INVESTMENT BANKER

## **HOBBIES**

COOKING, SWIMMING, YOGA

# Aria Fulton



## **HOMETOWN**

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

BIOLOGY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

LAWYER & DOCTOR

## **HOBBIES**

ACTING, DANCING, CHEERLEADING

# Lauren Goode



## **HOMETOWN**

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

POLITICAL SCIENCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

JUDGE

## **HOBBIES**

KAYAKING, WALKING, WORKING  
WITH CHILDREN

# Simret Habte



## **HOMETOWN**

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

OMAHA CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

PSYCHOLOGY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

CLINICAL PSYCHIATRIST

## **HOBBIES**

READING, WALKING, KNITTING

# Margaret Elizabeth Joiner



## **HOMETOWN**

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

GREATER ATLANTA CHRISTIAN  
SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

INTERNATIONAL LAWYER

## **HOBBIES**

READING, SINGING,  
GOING TO CHURCH

# Monalisa Kearns



## **HOMETOWN**

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

SAN LUIS OBISPO HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
EXECUTIVE  
& NEWS BROADCASTER

## **HOBBIES**

TRAVELING, PLAYING GUITAR,  
READING

# Sydney Kelley



## **HOMETOWN**

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

LOS ALAMITOS HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

WILDLIFE CONSERVATIONIST

## **HOBBIES**

DRAWING, DANCING,  
WATCHING MOVIES



# Shane Lacour



## **HOMETOWN**

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

RANCHO BERNARDO HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

POLITICAL SCIENCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

CORPORATE ATTORNEY

## **HOBBIES**

CONNECTING WITH OTHERS,  
PLAYING LACROSSE

# Betram Lalusha



## **HOMETOWN**

COPPERBELT, ZAMBIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

MELEMBE SECONDARY SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

MATHEMATICS

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

BUSINESSMAN &  
PRESIDENT OF ZAMBIA

## **HOBBIES**

SINGING, EXERCISING,  
WRITING POETRY

# Jayla Lowery



## **HOMETOWN**

HILLSBORO, OREGON

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

LIBERAL STUDIES - ELEMENTARY  
EDUCATION

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

## **HOBBIES**

READING, HIKING,  
PLAYING GUITAR

# Gabrielle McPherson



## **HOMETOWN**

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

ST. ANTHONY'S HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

BIOLOGY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

OBSTETRICIAN & GYNECOLOGIST

## **HOBBIES**

READING, LISTENING TO MUSIC

# Megan Mingo



## **HOMETOWN**

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

ALEXANDER HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

SOCIOLOGY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

CRIMINAL PSYCHOLOGIST &  
ATTORNEY

## **HOBBIES**

PLAYING SOCCER, READING,  
SHOPPING

# Aubrey Mitschang



## **HOMETOWN**

LAKE ELSINORE, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

SANTA ROSA ACADEMY

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

UNDECLARED - LIBERAL ARTS

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

LAWYER & SOCIAL WORKER

## **HOBBIES**

BAKING, PAINTING, PLAYING PIANO

# Nia Nama



## **HOMETOWN**

ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

SEQUOYAH HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

PHILOSOPHY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

EDUCATOR

## **HOBBIES**

READING, WRITING, CREATING ART

# Odoba Okwuosa



## **HOMETOWN**

STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

ACADEMY OF INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY  
& ENGINEERING

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

BIOLOGY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

CARDIOLOGIST

## **HOBBIES**

SEWING, COOKING,  
MENTORING CHILDREN



# Ashley Parkes



## **HOMETOWN**

MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

PINE BUSH HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

THEATRE ARTS

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

PROFESSIONAL ACTOR

## **HOBBIES**

READING, PERFORMING CREATIVE WORKS, SKATEBOARDING

# Domineque Radcliff



## **HOMETOWN**

BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

LOS ALAMITOS HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

LAWYER

## **HOBBIES**

DANCING, ADVOCATING FOR THE UNDERREPRESENTED

# Alyssa Simmons



## **HOMETOWN**

ALISO VIEJO, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

LAGUNA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

SOCIOLOGY

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY

## **HOBBIES**

READING, PAINTING, WRITING

# Amanda Sissac



## **HOMETOWN**

SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

## **HOBBIES**

POLITICAL SCIENCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

LAWYER

## **HOBBIES**

COOKING, DANCING, READING

# Monet Thompson



## **HOMETOWN**

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

BISHOP O'DOWD HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

SCREENWRITING

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCATE

## **HOBBIES**

WRITING, PLAYING BASS,  
EATING

# Drew Townsel



## **HOMETOWN**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

WHITNEY M. YOUNG  
MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

FINANCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

ENTERTAINMENT LAWYER

## **HOBBIES**

WRITING, SHOPPING, WALKING

# Abeni Wade



## **HOMETOWN**

MATTESON, ILLINOIS

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

RICH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

SCREENWRITING

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

CINEMATOGRAPHER

## **HOBBIES**

CHEERLEADING, WRITING,  
WATCHING ANIME

# Abbey Wineglass



## **HOMETOWN**

MARINA, CALIFORNIA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

STEVENSON HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

ANIMATION

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

PHILANTHROPIST & ARTIST

## **HOBBIES**

PAINTING, SKATEBOARDING,  
TRAVELING



# Troy Womack-Henderson



## **HOMETOWN**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

## **HIGH SCHOOL**

ODYSSEY CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

## **INTENDED MAJOR**

COMPUTER SCIENCE

## **CAREER ASPIRATIONS**

SYSTEMS ENGINEER & ASTRONAUT

## **HOBBIES**

COOKING, TRAVELING,  
PROGRAMMING

# Meet the Staff



**ANALEXICIS BRIDEWELL**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
FOR THE LEARNING  
COMMUNITY



**HENRY WARD**  
SENIOR DIRECTOR  
OF ETHNIC AND  
INTERCULTURAL SERVICES



**RYAN HOPKINS**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
FOR ETHNIC AND  
INTERCULTURAL INITIATIVES



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