2022 DC Immersion Experience Alumni Bios



Kaitlin Brennan '09: Kaitlin Brennan is a nonprofit leader with 12+ years of experience in nonprofit management, operations, and community outreach. As the Director of Operations for Leveling the Playing Field (LPF), Kaitlin oversees the day-to-day operations and strategy of all LPF locations and is working to bring LPF to even more communities across the country. Kaitlin holds a BA from Syracuse University and an MPA from the University of Baltimore.



Ajay Chawan '96: Ajay Chawan is a Director in Guidehouse's Global Energy, Sustainability, and Infrastructure (ES&I) Practice where he is a member of the firm's Mobility Solutions Team. On this team, Ajay serves as the voice of the mobility sector to clients and stakeholders across the energy, transportation, industrial, and government sectors. Ajay holds a BS in Aerospace Engineering from Syracuse University, an MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan, an MS in Engineering Management from Northwestern University, and an MBA

from the Kellogg School of Management.



Rochelle Coleman '05: Rochelle Coleman is an Associate Director at Arabella Advisors and manages a portfolio of nonprofit projects to ensure the operational success of their programmatic goals. Before joining the Arabella team, Rochelle worked at PeacePlayers International, a sports-based youth development peacebuilding organization as the Director of Global Programs. In this role, she provided leadership and oversight to global program initiatives and cultivated an atmosphere of collaboration and accountability across five program sites in South Africa, Northern

Ireland, the Middle East, Cyprus, and the United States. Her other experience at PeacePlayers included supporting expansion into the United States, building and managing three of the five cities: Baltimore, MD; Chicago, IL; and Los Angeles, CA. Before PeacePlayers, she was the owner of RAC Basketball, a training company conducting camps, clinics, and individual training in the Washington, DC, area. Rochelle earned a BA in history at Syracuse University and an MS in sport management at Slippery Rock University.



Adelle Dantzler G'93: Adelle J. Dantzler, MS Ed., has advanced from a GS-3 student worker to a GS-15 Human Resources Specialist in the federal government. She has used her master's degree and experience in instructional design to create innovative, customized virtual and instructor-led courses and curriculums at the high potential, team leader, GS-15, and senior executive levels at five federal agencies. As a Federal Job Search Trainer/Career Coach, she has successfully coached hundreds on the job search, private industry and federal resumes and applications,

and facilitated career assessments, career management, and interview coaching.



Kwame DeRoche '95: Kwame DeRoche has over two decades of experience in branding, strategic advertising, direct response, and interactive creative. His main responsibilities include leading strategy, concept and copy development for multimedia advertising and marketing campaigns, including broadcast, print, digital, social media, outdoor, promotions, and collateral. Account experience ranges from non-profit, sports marketing, technology and real estate to pharmaceutical, automotive, and consumer packaged goods. Kwame holds both a BS in

Marketing and a BA in Advertising from Syracuse University.



Greg Haledjian '90: Greg Haledjian is a versatile and creative attorney who leads outreach, regulatory, legislative, and compliance initiatives to their successful conclusion. He currently serves as a Legal Advisor to the Chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, DC. Greg is a 1990 graduate of Syracuse University who jointly studied Political Philosophy in the College of Arts and Sciences and in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. During college, Greg served as Speaker of

the SGA, played on the SU Club Soccer team, and was a member of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. Greg graduated in 2002 from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law in Washington, DC where he also earned a Post-Graduate Certificate from the law school's Institute for Communications Law Studies. Greg has two teenagers (a college freshman and a high school junior) and he lives in Rockville, MD.



<u>Jacqueline Harris '11</u>: Jacqueline joined the International Rescue Committee in 2021 as Senior Officer for Advocacy Partnerships on the Global Policy and Advocacy team. In her position, Jacqueline advances state and federal policies that support refugees and asylum seekers in the United States by engaging and mobilizing partners and stakeholders.

Previously, Jacqueline worked at the American Council of Young Political Leaders, a State Department funded nonprofit organization that advances diplomacy through international exchange programs. Additionally, she worked at the ONE Campaign, an advocacy organization dedicated to ending extreme poverty and preventable

ONE Campaign, an advocacy organization dedicated to ending extreme poverty and preventable diseases, and she served in President Obama's Administration where she worked in the White House Office of Legislative Affairs, Presidential Correspondence, and the First Lady.

Jacqueline received her BA from Syracuse University, where she double majored in political science and international relations with a concentration in international security, diplomacy, and Middle Eastern studies.



Phim Her '13: Phim Her is the founder of HAWJ Studio, a multidisciplinary design, strategy and career coaching studio. She was formerly a senior product marketing manager at The Washington Post, where she leveraged her strategic marketing and creative storytelling expertise to support democracy and the free press. Prior to working at The Post, Phim was a senior designer at POLITICO. There, she worked on the innovation studio team, with a focus on prototyping and exploring new media storytelling formats. She is proudest of helping set up her team's

UX practice during her time at POLITICO. When she is not writing and designing, Phim is leading workshops, mentoring and connecting creatives in the DC scene. You can often find her working on leadership empowerment initiatives for organizations such as LeadIN. Phim also consults with clients through her Oasis studio work, which is focused on holistic healing and burnout prevention coaching.



Matt Levine '99: Matt Levine is a communications expert, bringing over 10 years of experience in non-profit and association management. Matt is the President of National Foundation to End Senior Hunger and the Vice President of Operations for the American Subcontractors Association. Before joining NFESH, Matt was the Assistant Vice President, Development and Business services at the Meals On Wheels Association of America. Prior to his non-profit work, Matt spent 10 years doing marketing and public relations for Washington, DC, area consulting, real

estate and real estate finance firms. He received his BS in Public Relations from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.



two energetic boys.

Matt McKnight G'17: Matt McKnight works as an analyst at the U.S. Government Accountability Office. He has evaluated various government programs, ranging from fraud risks in school meals to recent efforts by the Department of Defense to develop hypersonic weapons. He received an MPA from the Maxwell School at Syracuse in 2017. Before then, he conducted research in community sociology. When he is not chasing down the federal dollar, Matt enjoys getting outdoors, serving in the interfaith community where he lives, and spending time with his wife and



Allison Patrick '91, G'94: Allison Patrick is the Vice President and Account Manager for SAIC's U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) portfolio, anchored by the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Targeting and Analysis Systems Program and the Integrated Traveler Initiatives Program, in addition to various other programs at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the DHS Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction (CWMD) Office, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). Allison has over 25 years of experience as a Government IT services industry leader with expertise across the Federal, State and Local Government markets. Over the course of Allison's career, she has competed for and

delivered on very large-scale IT enterprise contracts, business process outsourcing contracts, citizen centric service delivery and cyber security contracts. In the cyber security domain specifically, Allison has led the solution development and delivery of cyber related contracts at the Departments of Energy and Transportation. Allison earned a BA in political science and an MPA from the Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs at Syracuse University. She resides in Severna Park, Maryland.



Andrew Regalado '20: Andrew Regalado is currently based in Washington, D.C. serving as a Congressional Staffer in the U.S. House of Representatives. A native of Southern California, Andrew is eager to gain a stronger perspective through his career, traveling, and learning about others' backgrounds and upbringings. A Ronald Reagan Scholar, he remains committed to a career in public service and policy having served in the N.Y. State Assembly, U.S. House of Representatives, and U.S. Senate. Andrew also served as a junior diplomat and economic intern in

Madrid, Spain for the U.S. Department of State. Andrew graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University with a BA in Political Science and Policy Studies. At Syracuse, he remained active in various student organizations including, serving as the president of the Student Alumni Association, combatting pediatric illness with the university's dance marathon, and being a Founding Father of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity. Andrew spent his final semester at Syracuse as a research analyst for the Maxwell School's Department of Public Affairs, focusing on innovation and business policy. Lastly, he directed the Syracuse University Tees sales team to become the #1 campus out of 300 universities — selling nearly half of one million dollars in merchandise despite the coronavirus pandemic — and ranked #2 out of 800 campus managers.



Brandon Ross G'18: Brandon Ross is currently a Communications Specialist with GAP Solutions, supporting the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). His background revolves around communications strategy, social media in the nonprofit sector, and journalism, where he was recognized by the Virginia Press Association with first place distinction of Data Journalism during his time as a Digital Editor with The Roanoke Times in Roanoke, VA. Brandon graduated from Syracuse University in

December 2018 with an MS in Communications, having studied journalism innovation through the Communications@Syracuse graduate program. He graduated Cum Laude from California State University, Fullerton, in 2017, where he obtained a BA in Communications, and was the Managing Editor at the school's daily newspaper, The Daily Titan.



Ghufran Salih '20: During her time at Syracuse University, Ghufran was part of the School of Information Studies and involved in many organizations including Orientation Leaders, First Year Players, Student Association, SCPS, and took part in immersion programs (including DC Immersion Week). After graduating from SU in 2020, Ghufran joined Thermo Fisher Scientific as an IT Leadership Development Program Analyst. While at Thermo Fisher, Ghufran worked extensively on IT

projects ranging from data privacy, risk management, and process improvement. In 2022, Ghufran joined Deloitte as a Senior Privacy Analyst on the Global Privacy team.



Kevyn Scott '10, G'12: Kevyn Scott is a Cyber Security Executive and current Senior Manager of Information Security at Accenture Federal Services. Kevyn's background involves the intricacies of ongoing assessment, authorization management, FISMA compliance, information security monitoring, and enjoys leveraging that dynamicity to continuously raise the standards bar across the ever-evolving cyber security industry. At Syracuse, Kevyn was a four-year letterman, team captain, and Academic All-American in football, and later earned his

Master's degree in Information Management. Though he signed with the Miami Dolphins in 2012, he quickly redirected his focus to the business world to join Accenture as a Security Analyst. When he is not working, you can often find him running his two quick service restaurants, as well as planning additional expansions, volunteering as a Little League coach, actively donating to Charleys Kids Foundation, traveling, and spending time with his wife and two children.



Jack Woltman '18: A 2018 graduate with a degree from Arts and Sciences and Maxwell in International Relations, Jack spent the first 3.5 years of his career at Atlantic Media, selling premium research and reporting on policy and politics. In December 2021, Jack joined former colleagues at a News and Research startup, The Block, the largest media group focused on digital assets and cryptocurrency.