Jefferson Scholars Foundation  
2020 SELECTION OVERVIEW

PROFESSORSHIP PROGRAM

Brockman Foundation Jefferson Scholars Foundation Professor

B.A., University of Virginia  
Ph.D., University of Virginia

Christa Dierksheide joined the Corcoran Department of History in the College of Arts & Sciences as the Brockman Foundation Jefferson Scholars Foundation Professor. Professor Dierksheide's research focuses on the political thought of Thomas Jefferson, race and slavery, and the legacy of the Founding generation.

David C. Walentas Jefferson Scholars Foundation Professor

A.B., Harvard University  
M.B.A., Harvard Business School

Vivian Riefberg was selected to join the faculty at the Darden School of Business. She will begin teaching inside the classroom in the fall of 2020 after spending over three decades as a global thought leader in health care and women's leadership at McKinsey & Co.

$80 MILLION committed to help attract outstanding faculty to the University. The Foundation has established partnerships with 5 SCHOOLS across U.Va., and is attracting faculty to the College of Arts & Sciences, Curry School of Education and Human Development, Darden School of Business, Law School, and School of Medicine. **FOUR HOLDERS** of Jefferson Scholars Foundation Professorships will be in residence for the 2020-21 academic year.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>School/College</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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<tr>
<td>ANDREW ALEXIS</td>
<td>Harley School</td>
<td>Rochester, New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>JACKSON ARNBERG</td>
<td>American Heritage School Plantation</td>
<td>Plantation, Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELIZABETH BERMAN</td>
<td>Breck School</td>
<td>Golden Valley, Minnesota</td>
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<tr>
<td>KAYLA BLALACK</td>
<td>Mountain View High School</td>
<td>Mountain View, California</td>
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<tr>
<td>RYAN BRADY</td>
<td>Hathaway Brown School</td>
<td>Shaker Heights, Ohio</td>
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<td>CHARLIE BURTON</td>
<td>Winchester-Thurston School</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMILY CARDER</td>
<td>Douglas S. Freeman High School</td>
<td>Richmond, Virginia</td>
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<td>PIERCE CORSON</td>
<td>Ocean Lakes High School</td>
<td>Virginia Beach, Virginia</td>
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<td>REILLY DAVID</td>
<td>Hampton Roads Academy</td>
<td>Newport News, Virginia</td>
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<td>LOUIS DIMENT</td>
<td>The Harvey Grammar School</td>
<td>Kent, United Kingdom</td>
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<td>CHARLES ELLISON</td>
<td>Mills E. Godwin High School</td>
<td>Richmond, Virginia</td>
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<td>GRANT GIANGRASSO</td>
<td>Clarence High School</td>
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<td>MARY GRACE GILES</td>
<td>Patrick Henry High School</td>
<td>Roanoke, Virginia</td>
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<td>KENZIE GREEN</td>
<td>Fosco School</td>
<td>Middleburg, Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>MORGAN HUGHES</td>
<td>Captain Shreve High School</td>
<td>Shreveport, Louisiana</td>
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<td>LUKE LAMBERSON</td>
<td>James River High School</td>
<td>Midlothian, Virginia</td>
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<td>KASRA LEKAN</td>
<td>University High School</td>
<td>Irvine, California</td>
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<tr>
<td>SYDNEY LEVY</td>
<td>Boca Ratton Community High School</td>
<td>Boca Ratton, Florida</td>
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<td>ETHAN MARSH</td>
<td>Grimsley High School</td>
<td>Greensboro, North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAYES MILLER</td>
<td>Riverwood International Charter School</td>
<td>Atlanta, Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEAN MILLER</td>
<td>Norfolk Academy</td>
<td>Norfolk, Virginia</td>
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<td>KRISTIN O'DONOGHUE</td>
<td>Marymount School</td>
<td>New York, New York</td>
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<td>AVANEEN PINNINTI</td>
<td>Middlesex County Academy for Science, Mathematics and Engineering Technologies</td>
<td>Edison, New Jersey</td>
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<td>TESS ROBERTSON-NEEL</td>
<td>Flintridge Preparatory School</td>
<td>La Canada Flintridge, California</td>
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<td>DHRUV RUNGTA</td>
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<td>Cincinnati, Ohio</td>
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<td>ISABELLA SHERIDAN</td>
<td>Greenville Senior High School</td>
<td>Greenville, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>WILLIAM SMYTHE</td>
<td>Norfolk Academy</td>
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<td>MADDIE STOKES</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Academy</td>
<td>Louisville, Kentucky</td>
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<td>LUKE STONE</td>
<td>Woodberry Forest School</td>
<td>Woodberry Forest, Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>KAREN SUN</td>
<td>Phillips Academy</td>
<td>Andover, Massachusetts</td>
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<tr>
<td>ALYSSA UNDERWOOD</td>
<td>E.C. Glass High School</td>
<td>Lynchburg, Virginia</td>
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<tr>
<td>AMIT VALLABH</td>
<td>Newton North High School</td>
<td>Newtonville, Massachusetts</td>
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**JEFFERSON SCHOLARS CLASS OF 2024**

141 SCHOLARS will be in residence in the 2020-21 academic year. **OVER 4,900** secondary schools and **15,000 COUNSELORS** in **63 REGIONS** were invited to participate in our competition this year. **OVER 2,200 STUDENTS** were nominated to compete regionally, resulting in **119 FINALISTS** for the Jefferson Scholars Selection Weekend. **981** alumni, faculty, and friends of the University served on regional or national selection committees. **32 NEW SCHOLARS** will join us as members of the Class of 2024. **EVERY YEAR 8-9%** of the University’s incoming class is a Jefferson Scholarship Nominee. **$8,106,240 AWARDED** in support of undergraduate Scholars in fiscal year 2020.
This fall the Jefferson Scholars Foundation announced a $100 million gift from David Walentas (Engr ‘61, GSBA ‘64) and his wife, Jane. David, a visionary New York real estate developer and one of the nation’s most successful self-made entrepreneurs, was the first in his family to attend college. The extraordinary generosity of David and Jane will allow the Foundation to launch the Walentas Scholars Program, a brand new merit scholarship program that will identify and attract to the University exceptionally talented first generation students.

David Walentas  
B.A., University of Virginia  
G.S.B.A., University of Virginia

Jane Walentas  
B.F.A., Moore College of Art & Design  
M.F.A., New York University

After conducting an extensive national search, Sarah Elaine Hart (JS ‘10) was selected to be the first Director of the Walentas Scholars Program. Sarah Elaine will begin her new role in August 2020, bringing with her ten years of experience in the field of education. Under her leadership, the Foundation will initially seek to identify and attract first-generation undergraduate students from three regions. Secondary schools in the Commonwealth of Virginia, Rochester, New York, and New York City will be invited to nominate candidates beginning in the fall of 2021, and the Foundation expects to enroll 15 students in each entering class.
GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP RECIPIENTS

ROSS AKHMechet  
Dissertation Year Fellow  
Department of Mathematics  
B.S., State University of New York

Bench Ansfield  
National Fellowship Program  
Yale University  
B.A., Wesleyan University  
M.Phil., Yale University  
M.A., Yale University

Monica Blair  
National Fellowship Program  
University of Virginia  
B.A., University of Florida  
M.A., University of Georgia  
M.A., University of Virginia

Daniel Cumming  
National Fellowship Program  
New York University  
B.A., Western Washington University  
M.A.T., Johns Hopkins University  
M.A., The University of Chicago

Kelly Goodman  
National Fellowship Program  
Yale University  
B.A., University of Michigan  
M.Phil., Yale University  
M.A., Yale University

Jesse Grabman  
Department of Psychology  
B.A., University of Virginia  
M.A., University of Virginia

Lena Kuznetsova  
Darden School of Business  
B.A., Belarusian State University

Cherrie Kwok  
Department of English  
B.A., University of Exeter  
M.A., New York University

Kate Lecroy  
Dissertation Year Fellow  
Department of Environmental Sciences  
B.S., Birmingham-Southern College  
M.S., University of Pittsburgh

Daniel Lin  
Department of Astronomy  
B.S., Chung Cheng University

Crystal Luo  
Department of History  
B.F.A., Boston University  
M.A., University of Virginia

Scot Mcfarlane  
National Fellowship Program  
Columbia University  
B.A., Bowdoin College  
M.A.T., Tufts University  
M.A., Columbia University

Bri Mills  
Department of Astronomy  
B.S., University of Louisville

Sarah Nelson  
National Fellowship Program  
Vanderbilt University  
B.A., Belmont University  
M.A., Vanderbilt University

Paul Niedfeldt  
Darden School of Business  
B.S., Brigham Young University  
B.A., Brigham Young University  
M.S., Brigham Young University

Ac Obi  
Department of Chemistry  
B.S., Bates College  
M.S.Ed., University of Pennsylvania

Clay Olsen  
Darden School of Business  
B.A., University of Texas

Kelvin Parnell  
Department of Art History  
B.A., Duquesne University

Gertrude Pavur  
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology

Rod Perkins  
Darden School of Business  
B.S., University of Notre Dame

Natasha Rowland  
Department of History  
B.A., University of London  
M.A., Birkbeck, University of London  
M.A., University of Virginia

Sarah Sklaw  
National Fellowship Program  
New York University  
B.A., Bowdoin College  
M.M., New England Conservatory

Vasfiye Toprak  
Department of Sociology  
B.A., Hacettepe University (Turkey)  
M.A., Florida International University  
M.A., University of Virginia

Tara VallaDAres  
Department of Psychology  
B.A., University of Virginia  
M.A., University of Virginia

Will Whitehurst  
Darden School of Business  
B.A., University of North Carolina

68 FELLOWS will be supported during the 2020-21 academic year. 326 TOTAL APPLICANTS for Jefferson Scholars Foundation Fellowships: 112 DARDEN applicants, 93 GSAS applicants, 12 SEAS nominations, 109 NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP applicants. 48 UNIVERSITIES represented by the incoming 2020 Fellows. $2,196,418 AWARDED in support of graduate Fellows in fiscal year 2020. 24 JEFFERSON FELLOWS and 7 NATIONAL FELLOWS will join us in 2020.