CAMP Guide Biographies  
Updated 4/19/2023

**Shannon Clare (she/her)**
Shannon is an M1 from Rutherford, NJ who’s been having an identity crisis trying to transform into a mid-westerner this past year. When she’s not trying to remember the steps of the Neuro physical exam, Shannon can be found playing with her cat Sir Edward, watching too much Survivor (so many seasons on Hulu), or painting decorations for her apartment. She’s trying to keep a balanced life in med school as a participant in clubs such as the M1 book club, Enriching Stitching, and the MedART E-board. Just before med school Shannon went on a 3-week cross-country trip and has been exploring the Ann Arbor parks seeking to stay connected with nature.

**Evan Beck (he/him)**
A proud 2009 graduate of Parkside Elementary in Goshen, IN, Evan grew up cruising around town in his green ’98 Pontiac Montana minivan and eating pork tenderloin sandwiches. Given his lifelong Ohio State Buckeyes fandom, he is still confused about how he ended up at the University of Michigan. These days, Evan enjoys beating senior citizens in pickleball, skipping leg day at the gym, and imagining he is chasing gazelles on the Serengeti during long runs around Washtenaw County. He looks forward to playing lots of euchre, sharing good conversation, and discussing recent developments in turbo encabulators during CAMP this summer.

**Emily Balczewski (she/her)**
Emily is an M3/G2 MD/PhD student from Lafayette, CA currently watching her medical knowledge peace out of her brain during her PhD training. She once ate a cheese stick that had been lost in the bottom of her hiking pack for at least 6 weeks while hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. When she isn’t cat-napping with her two insanely fluffy felines, she can be found doing pilates, playing piano, or finishing her kitchen remodel that has taken WAY too long.
Philip Barrison (he/him)
Phil is a M3/G1 MD/PhD student from Tampa, Florida currently embracing the constant existentialism of his doctoral studies in healthcare infrastructure. His florida man energy peaked while thru hiking the Eastern Continental Trail, where a concerning amount of time was spent waist-deep in the swamp, once stepping on an alligator, and somehow becoming sensitized to mosquito bites. In his free time, Phil is an active free-lance bassoonist in South-East Michigan and a proud fish dad.

Keoni Bailey (M3.5/Master Student)
Keoni is an M3.5 (finishing up a masters year) from Oshkosh, WI. When he’s not outside, Keoni is often found sampling his favorite Trader Joe’s snacks, watching the premier league (soccer, go Chelsea!), or tending to his houseplants. Thankfully his gardening has improved recently - he is no longer watering the fake plant he’s tried to grow since M1 year.

Kaavya S Puttagunta (she/her)
Kaavya is an M3.5 (returning from her extra year) who grew up mostly in Ann Arbor, MI. When she’s not toeing the line between outdoorsy-runner-girl and possibly-getting-heat-stroke-on-a-solo-Grand-Canyon-hike, she can be found around town listening to live music, valiantly searching for the best happy hour, or carrying small trees home from the Farmer’s Market.
Cameron Pawlik (he/him)
Cameron (or Cam, either way he doesn’t care) is an M3 from Clarkston, MI who attended UM for undergrad and is a wolverine through-n-through. When he is not in the hospital (hopefully in the ED) he is at a Crossfit class, playing volleyball, exploring a new place outside, or at home with his family. On a rainy day you’ll find him playing Switch or enjoying a good horror movie (or a terrible one, still fun tbh).

Andrea McGowan (she/Her)
Andrea is an M1 from Connecticut who loves peanut butter M&Ms, walking her dog, talking about her dog, and buying things for her dog. In her spare time she brags about how she got recruited to be on the lifetime network version of the reality TV show, “Love is Blind” via Instagram DM, but turned it down to pursue her career as a physician (ask her if she regrets this). She enjoys running, karaoke, and being a Trader Joe’s micro-influencer amongst her friends.

Nico Robinson (he/him)
My name is Nico Robinson, an M1 originally from Stanford, CA who is trying to reinvent himself as a Midwesterner! I graduated from Dartmouth (GBG) in 2017 and I love the outdoors (obviously), running, basketball, swedish fish, and the Emperor’s New Groove - no seriously. I have been told I am the reincarnation of Kronk. And for all you Bachelor fans out there, hit me up! I was thoroughly converted during the pandemic.
Jeremy Shapiro (he/him)
Jeremy is an M3.5 from Atlanta, GA on a research year who’s favorite things include wrestling with his dog Izzy, stargazing, lake days, and belting bad 80s music while doing the dishes. His favorite national parks are Canyonlands, Great Sand Dunes, and the Smoky Mountains (where the pic was taken!). He’s stoked to rejoin the CAMP team this year after guiding during his M1 year. Ask him about his new fish tank, CAMP leadership, and eyeballs! He likes those too.

Ava Harb (she/hers)
Ava is an M1 from Bloomfield Hills, MI who is a proud U of M lifer, rom-com enthusiast, bookworm, experimental baker, travel lover, tennis player and runner. Despite appearing girly on the surface, she loves to explore the outdoors and really be at one with nature - Ava has hilarious memories bivouacking through the Smokey’s, trekking through Iceland (as pictured here), and adventuring through Pictured Rocks in Up North, MI. Ava has nothing but hilarious, fond memories of her CAMP trip, and is so glad she went as it was such a great way to make friends before M1 year. She can’t wait to bring the same positive energy and hilarious vibes to her CAMP group this summer 2023!

Piroz Bahar (he/him)
Piroz is an M1 from Kent Island, Maryland who’s greatest life achievement is playing semi-professional soccer in the summer between transferring colleges from the United States Naval Academy to Harvard College. When his semi professional soccer career ended, Piroz didn’t know what to do with his free time and decided to lead outdoor trips for incoming first-year college students, where he was first exposed to the magic that is putting bandaids on blistered toes. With this inspiration, Piroz started taking pre-medical courses and moved to Michigan for medical school, where he has become a University of Michigan sports fan, wannabe urologist, and member of MANCE.
Jessica Cristiu (she/her)
Jessica is an M3 from Canton, MI. In her free time, she loves to read, drink dangerous amounts of coffee, and watch every trashy reality TV show that has ever existed. She’s only truly been camping one time but is really excited to become more “outdoorsy” and spend time with her classmates and the new M1s! Fingers crossed she will have room in her pack to bring ingredients for campfire cookies.

Noreen Khan (she/her)
Noreen is an M1 from Bloomfield Hills, MI, proud Michigander and wolverine (go blue). Her passions include matcha lattes, buying books even though her to-read list is piling up (add her on Goodreads), practicing handstands, and photosynthesizing in the sun. She is ecstatic to be at CAMP again this year and bring a more appropriately sized bag than the 100 L one she brought last year. Ask her what LaCroix flavor describes your personality and have her teach you how to play Euchre.

Rose-Carmel Goddard (she/her)
Rose-Carmel is an M1 from Rochester, MI. Her favorite places to be outside are on the Great Lakes and hiking along the coast in the Bay Area. On a typical day in Ann Arbor, you can find her making homemade pasta for her local acquaintances, going on flower walks to keep tabs on what’s in bloom, and foraging for herbs in obscure places. Currently, she is perfecting her marmot whistle to keep everyone safe from eagles on the trails.
Emily Vogt (she/her)
Emily is an M3.5 from Washington, DC who is currently on a research year. In her free time, she loves running, cycling, being horizontal in front of the television after working out : ), and baking fun treats. Emily’s most memorable recent trip was to New Zealand after taking Step 1 and included some incredible hikes through Mount Aspiring National Park and catching her first fish (pictured above). Her not-so-fun facts include that she’s pretty afraid of birds and squirrels and can’t wink or whistle. She’s excited to be rejoining the CAMP squad after guiding as an M1, and will undoubtedly force her whole group to play Kemps and Euchre with her while on the trip.

Daria Stelmak (she/her)
Daria Stelmak is an M3.5 on a research year from Ann Arbor, Michigan. Her interests include laying on the floor, stealing raw cookie dough when friends are trying to bake, bachata and salsa dancing, and also salsa the food. Daria is hoping to redeem herself in nature as a CAMP guide, as she used to go camping with her family every summer as a kid, but would usually end up crying due to rain in the tent – she’s looking forward to keeping the tears inside and the rain outside this time around!

Brianna VanderWindt (she/her)
Brianna is an M3 originally from New Jersey but now considers herself a proud Michigander. Her hobbies include trying new Smitten Kitchen recipes, redesigning her flower garden every year, and convincing her New Jersey family to move to Michigan (4 of her six siblings have decided to “follow” her to the state!) She looks forward to so many campfires, waking up to the sounds of nature, and having lots of conversations on the trail this summer on the CAMP trip.
Julia Loula (she/her)
Julia Loula is an M1 from Bolingbrook, IL who is not usually a procrastinator, but here we are, day of the due date asking her future brother-in-law with a Communications major to help her with her "funny bio." She has two older siblings, and her favorite is her future brother-in-law (debatable). When she is procrastinating, she is usually going for cold Michigan walks/runs, cooking with friends, or showing off pictures of her adorable nephews (not biased at all). She also never leaves the house without saying, "Bye buddy, hope you find your dad!" to each of her many houseplants (She loves a well-placed Elf quote). Her CAMP trip was one of her favorite memories of M1 year even though her group became known as the one who got a little lost and hiked a half marathon on the first day. She promises to try her best with navigation, but no guarantees! ;)

Mitra Maz (she/her)
Mitra is starting her 7th year in the MD/PhD program, and she regularly struggles to remember what year of med/grad school that means. She’s lived in 7 states but spent most of her upbringing in southeastern Minnesota before moving to Phoenix, AZ for middle and high school. Her family now calls Kansas City, KS home (go Chiefs!). She’s currently elbow-deep in a PhD in immunology studying mechanisms of ultraviolet light-mediated skin injury, so you can rest assured she will be forcibly applying sunscreen to her CAMP group q2 hours. When she’s not sunburning mice or actively forgetting medicine, she loves running in Gallup park, sneaking table food to her chocolate labradoodle Clover, and consuming an embarrassing amount of trashy reality dating TV (as her about her new favorite, Farmer Wants a Wife).
Hannah Xu (she/her)
Hannah is an M1 from Northville, Michigan who spent half of her life in Connecticut and is so happy to be back in the mitten. In her free time, she loves playing beach volleyball, climbing, and being out in nature. She also found a knack for creating eclectic food combos during her CAMP trip. Lo and behold, she’s in charge of all things food this year—catch her cooking up a storm at base camp.

Jacob Edelson (he/him)
Jacob is an M1 from Farmington Hills, MI. He attended U of M for undergrad. He loves to camp, travel, play pickleball, jump out of planes, and be an absolute nerd (by playing DnD and watching chess videos on YouTube). He often takes pictures where he doesn’t know what to do with his arms. He also has an extremely cute dog who he will absolutely show you pictures of. CAMP was one of his favorite experiences from M1 year and he’s very much looking forward to the bonfires, euchre games, and silly moments with you!

Cal Ernst (he/him)
Howdy folx, Cal (m1) is an August Leo and certified townie from a little place called Ann Arbor, Michigan. His PR team would like him to be perceived as a french toast aficionado, hobbyist painter, passionate but average dancer, aspiring chess grandmaster, level 3 Dragonborn sorcerer, youth lacrosse coach, and generally decent friend. He peaked at age 22 as a ski patroller in Oregon and will be chasing that high the rest of his life. If you ask his mom, he has three tattoos that she does not approve of (but he actually has four [shhhhh]). He is very excited to get out there and touch grass with y’all because camping is not only cool but also fun.
**Haley White (she/her)**
Haley is an M1 from Albuquerque, NM who, contrary to popular belief, is not in fact related to Walter White. She is known for her profound love of NPR, a desire to be outside as much as possible, and an inability to fry an egg without breaking the yolk. Her last professional guiding experience resulted in 3 days spent vomiting in a tent in Switzerland after which she was diagnosed with celiac disease (reach out for all A2 gluten free recs!). While she enjoys being a new midwesterner, her heart lies in the Southwest, which happily coincides with her lifelong goal to see as many javelinas in the wild as possible.

**Jess Yen**
Jess “The Mess” is an M1 from Okemos, Michigan who spends her free time feeding blueberry pancakes to River House trash pandas that live in the sewer. She has a dog named Louie that is the light of her life and despite being allergic to basically all the furry things she is always down to sacrifice it all for any animal cuddles. She loves being active and in the outdoors and will drag you into joining her at Strongman classes or playing Spikeball if she hears you are even the slightest bit interested.

**Keerthi Burgi (she/her)**
Keerthi is an M1 from Canada who refuses to pronounce comb, womb, bomb or anything that ends in -mb like a proper human. She moonlights as a green witch who has transformed her apartment into a live-in jungle. Her sidekick is her trusty pooch Nala who she fondly refers to as “Madam.” One of her strangest habits is perhaps her absolute refusal to peel oranges (she will eat them if her friends peel them for her like the queen that she is). On an average morning, you will find her in the Matthaei Botanical Gardens coexisting happily with the plants as she Anki’s. In the evenings, she is knee deep in mucking horse stalls and covered in horse slobber. Until this year, she refused to eat salads for fear of looking like a turtle while eating.
**Kevin Kucharski (he/him)**

Kevin wanted very badly to write something witty or insightful about himself for this bio, but he ran way over deadline and now is scrambling to get this submitted. Making this situation even more ironic, Kevin is responsible for training all the CAMP guides and sent several reminders to everyone else to complete their bios on time. Kevin is normally very punctual and responsible, and if he is your guide you should not let this incident cause you any concerns about getting lost, running out of food or having any other mishaps on the trail. Since this is still technically a bio, here are some fun facts about Kevin: he was born and raised in upstate New York, his favorite foods are buffalo wings and cereal and in his spare time he enjoys trail running, seeing live music and reading biographies.