



## Research and Environmental Educators Interns Thomas More University Biology Field Station



THOMAS MORE  
UNIVERSITY

### I. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS CREW

#### **JONATHAN FROMMEYER (AmeriCorps Lead Environmental Educator)**

*Graduate, BIO Major—Ecology Conc, Marine Biology Track, ES Minor (Thomas More University)*

Jonathan is a recent graduate with a Biology major on the Marine Biology track and an Environmental Science minor, a concentration in Ecology at Thomas More University. He will be attending University of Louisville for a Ph.D. in Aquatic Biology in the fall. He will be an EELCorps and AmeriCorps member for the station. He was most recently a work-study for the Biology Department on campus and president of the Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society. This will be his fourth summer at the Thomas More University Biology Field Station and his second as a member of EELCorps and Americorps. He has great passion for the station and is excited to continue the work that he has conducted and strived for during his undergraduate career and into his graduate career.



#### **ALEXIS BRANDENBURG**

*Junior, BIO Major, Spanish Minor, Eco Conc, M.B. Track (Thomas More University)*

Alexis will be a junior at Thomas More University in the fall and is majoring in Biology and minoring in Spanish. She is a member of the Biology, Blue and Green, and Chemistry clubs. After growing up on a lake and frequently traveling, she gained interest in aquatic and marine conservation. In her free time, she enjoys being outdoors, painting, traveling, spending time with animals (especially her dogs), and drinking coffee with her friends. She is excited to gain hands-on experience in her environmental educator and work study position. Although she is unsure of a career path, she has interests in conservation, animal husbandry, and teaching others.



#### **DAPHNE SCHAAF**

*Junior, BIO Major, Conc. in Ecology, Marine Biology Track (Thomas More University)*

Daphne will be a junior at Thomas More University in the fall of 2020 where she is majoring in biology with a concentration in ecology. She is a part of Biology, Marine Biology, and Chemistry clubs. Her interests include marine animals, oceanography, conservation, and ecology. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, listening/playing music, spending time with animals, and enjoying coffee. Daphne plans to attend graduate school and eventually become a field biologist, specializing in marine conservation. She is thrilled to gain experience as an environmental educator and work-study.



## II. AQUACULTURE & ANIMAL HUSBANDRY LAB CREW

### ANDREW SEILER (Lab Technician)

#### *Graduate, BIO Major, Ecology Conc, minor in Chemistry (Thomas More University)*

Andrew is a recent graduate of Thomas More University with his Bachelor of Science in Biology, an Associate Chemistry degree, and a concentration in Ecology. Andrew has been very involved with the Thomas More community, having been President and Secretary of the Biology Club, a Student Government Associate, Treasurer of the Blue & Green Club, a member of Chemistry Club, President of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, and Vice President of the BBB Biological Honor Society, among engagement in other organizations. He will be on the Laboratory Crew, after which he will continue his academic career in a PhD program at University of Louisville studying Entomology. He is excited to chase his passion for insects and other invertebrates and apply what he learns for education to the public.



### AMANDA CRESPO-GOMEZ

#### *Junior, General Natural Sciences Major (Universidad del Sagrado Corazón)*

Amanda Crespo-Gómez is a General Natural Sciences junior student at the Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. During her student years, she has participated in extracurricular activities that help to develop her personal and professional profile. She was part of “La Red”, a drug-prevention youth group that helps children pursue a healthy lifestyle. She has also worked at the Chemistry Laboratory, where she gained theoretical and practical knowledge, and now works as a tutor at the Title V Program. Currently, she is working on a renewable energy research project with Dr. Rolando Guzmán. Crespo-Gómez is also president of the Women in Science Student Association. Recently, she has been invited, by the Commission for Environmental Corporation (CEC), to participate in the Youth EcoInnovation Challenge as an evaluator. In all of her activities, she strives for excellence in order to develop as a professional and help others. Along with these experiences, she hopes to pursue a career as a pediatrician and medical researcher.



### YARA R. ESCALONA PASTOR

#### *Graduate, Biology Major (Universidad del Sagrado Corazón)*

Yara is a recent graduate from Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, Puerto Rico with a Bio major. She was the treasurer of the Society for Student Oriented Academic Research (SSOAR) and an active member of the Mu Alpha Phi sorority. Her future aspirations are to complete a Ph.D. in Marine Biology to further understand and help endangered species. Yara is very passionate about marine life, conservancy, and all issues pertaining to the environment. She is very excited to be part of the Animal Husbandry team and looks forward to new experiences at the Thomas More Biology Field Station.



### OLIVIA SPICER

#### *Junior, Double Major in Biology and Environmental Studies (Eckerd College)*

Olivia will be a junior at Eckerd College this fall and is double majoring in Biology and Environmental Studies. She is in the Honors Program and was selected to participate in the First Year Research Associateship Program where she researched and monitored osprey nests on campus. Last summer she was an On-Grounds Interpretation Intern for the Indianapolis Zoo educating guests about animals and conservation. Her hobbies include scuba diving, hiking, tennis, visiting National Parks, writing, and spending time with friends and family. Olivia is extremely passionate about wildlife biology and conservation and is wanting to pursue a career as a college professor where she can conduct her own research along with educating and inspiring future generations. This summer, she will be joining the Animal Husbandry Team and is ecstatic to work in the aquaculture labs and to gain valuable hands-on research experience.



### III. ENVIRONMENTAL ACADEMY—STREAM TEAM

#### MICHAEL BRETT

*Junior, Biology Major (Thomas More University)*

Michael Brett will be a Junior in the fall at Thomas More University and is majoring in Biology. He will be a part of the Stream Team, alongside Hannah and the biologists at SD1. His hobbies include fishing, hiking, biking, and playing tennis. After graduation, he aspires to work on environmental field research to study human impact on air and water quality. He is excited about the summer and looks forward to working with a new group of peers, and learning from professional Biologist at the Field Station.



#### HANNAH GILL

*Sophomore, Environmental and Field Biology Major (Ohio Northern University)*

Hannah will be a sophomore in the fall at Ohio Northern University where she is majoring in environmental and field biology. She is a part of the Honors program, the Biology Student Association and a new member of the ONU religious life staff. After graduation, she plans to continue seasonal field work with fish, her favorite animals, and help with conservation efforts to preserve and protect freshwater biodiversity. She is very excited to be a part of the stream assesment crew and gain more experience with field work.



**\* The Stream Team is part of the Environmental Academy,  
a collaboration with SD1  
and the Boone County Conservation District.**



## IV. OHIO RIVER BIOASSESSMENT CREW

### IGNACIO GOTELLI GERSTNER

*Junior, General Natural Sciences Major (Universidad del Sagrado Corazón)*

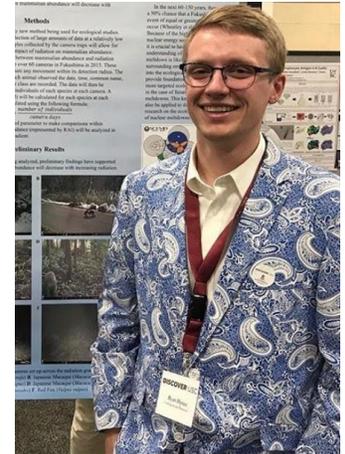
Ignacio Gotelli Gerstner will be a junior in the fall semester at Sacred Heart University where he is pursuing a major in Natural Sciences. At his university, he participates of the Title V organization where he services as a tutor, and the Society of Student Oriented Academic Research organization. His long-term plan is to go to med school and follow a health-related career. Apart from his studies he enjoys being around the ocean or any water bodies: going surfing, paddle boarding, and any aquatic sports involve his weekly routine. He is passionate in conservation and purification of water bodies, and ocean lover, he is excited and proud to be a member of the River Bioassessment team and hopes to learn and apply the knowledge gained in his community.



### RYAN HYNES

*Senior, Marine Science Major with Biological Emphasis (University of South Carolina)*

Ryan is a senior Marine Science major at the University of South Carolina. He is the president of the marine science club at U of SC (SEAS) and is heavily involved in undergraduate research. Ryan is thrilled to be a part of the Ohio River Bioassessment Crew. In his free time, Ryan enjoys reading comic books, collecting vintage clothing, playing basketball, and spending time with his friends and family. After college, Ryan plans to go to grad school and work his way towards a Ph.D. He wants to be able to share his passion for ichthyology with students.



### SAWYER LORENTZ

*Sophomore, Biology and Environmental Science Major (Thomas More University)*

Sawyer is a sophomore Biology major with an Environmental Science minor at Thomas More University. She will be on the Ohio River Bioassessment Crew as a part time intern. Sawyer is involved around Thomas More's campus with the Blue & Green and Biology clubs. She is also a member of the women's volleyball and swim team at Thomas More. She enjoys hiking, swimming, kayaking, and playing with her dog in her free time. In the future Sawyer, hopes to attend graduate school and eventually become a field biologist, specializing in aquatic conservation and ecology. She is excited for the summer and all the new experiences!



### MAGGIE VOYLES

*Senior, Biology Major (University of Sioux Falls)*

Maggie Voyles will be a senior Biology major next fall at the University of Sioux Falls (USF). She is a member of the USF prayer and worship teams and is excited to serve as a residence hall chaplain next year. Maggie loves being outside and exploring the nature of southeast Iowa, any and every form of art, learning and trying new things, and spending quality time with friends and family. She is passionate about the environment and sustainability, and hopes to work in a career in which she can integrate that passion in the future. After graduating, she plans on taking seasonal jobs and traveling before going to graduate school in an undecided field, but she is strongly interested in Aquatic and Marine Biology at this time. Maggie is excited to be a part of the Ohio River Bioassessment Crew and is looking forward to gaining valuable field experience and making new friendships through this opportunity.

