



Class of 2015

Lindsay Adkin

Lindsay graduated from Duke University, where she had her hand in numerous facets of public interest work. She was Co-President of the Duke Human Rights Coalition, which serves to raise awareness of human rights issues on campus. At the Maya Ministry in Lake Worth, Florida, where she tutored young children in English and Spanish, Lindsay was able to see the difficult conditions and obstacles that South Florida immigrant populations face. This experience, combined with her time working in the Immigration Domestic Violence unit of the Legal Aid Society, sparked her ambition to attend law school. At Miami Law, Lindsay has dedicated herself to pursuing a career in public interest law.

Alexis Alvarez

In her senior year at Florida State University, Alexis served as a legal intern for the Innocence Project of Florida, helping attorneys build cases for those convicted of crimes eligible for exoneration based on DNA testing. Additionally, Alexis was a member of *Anselmo, Change for Children*, a philanthropy dedicated to orphaned children in Tallahassee's Boys and Girls Club. Alexis's legal motivations stem from her time at the Innocence Project of Florida, and her experience of watching her grandfather struggle to migrate from Cuba to the US. A Miami Scholar, Alexis is focused on working with University of Miami's Innocence Project to continue focusing on eradicating and preventing wrongful incarceration.

Nejla Calvo

Growing up in New England with a Turkish mother and a Bolivian father, Nejla acquired a multi-dimensional perspective on global and domestic issues of politics, ethnicity, and identity. After returning to Bolivia for a family visit, Nejla became uneasy in regards to the interactions between members of the white upper class and their indigenous servants. She conducted an independent study on the practice of community justice, a legal structure that dates back to pre-colonial times. Her experience in Bolivia taught her that the notion of "justice" is complex

and challenging. At Miami Law, Nejla is able to use her Spanish language skills and diverse cultural empathy to understand the plight of others and to assist them through the legal process. Nejla is appreciative of the University's global perspective and eager to explore the exciting courses and clinical opportunities available at Miami Law.

Katie Clemente

Katie earned a Bachelor of Science in Media, Culture, and Communication, and graduated *magna cum laude* from New York University. Her interest in helping others propelled her to develop a multimedia "Know-Your-Rights" campaign for middle and high school students dealing with gender-based violence and harassment. This project allowed her to use her media background while helping others, and allowed her to realize her desire to become an attorney aiding victims of sexual assault and intimate partner violence. As a Legal Assistant for the American Civil Liberties Union Women's Rights Project, one of her duties was to conduct intake. This work showed Katie the crippling inequalities that sexual and domestic violence survivors face on a daily basis. Katie has gotten involved with Miami Law's Human Rights Clinic because she believes communicating with victims firsthand will only make her a stronger and more compassionate legal advocate in the future.

Trey Dahl

As both a Division 1 NCAA baseball player and an Honors College Scholar at the University of South Florida, Trey has brought a wide-range of accomplishments to the Miami Scholars program. His work experience at Marshall Thomas Burnett Law Firm, where he assisted lawyers and paralegals in compiling, organizing, and drafting case files, helped him gain an insider's view of the litigation process. Additionally, it allowed him to hone in on his desire to spend his time at Miami Law working towards a career that benefits those less privileged. In pursuing a legal education, Trey has made it a focus of his to continue acting on the inequalities and exploitative institutions that do not represent people, especially minorities, fairly.

Jenna Feldman

Throughout Jenna's undergraduate experience at Tulane University, she kept in mind her goal of graduating in three years so she could spend her fourth year working for positive social change. So after graduating *Cum Laude* with a Bachelor of Science and Public Health and a minor in Spanish, she dove headfirst into Teach for America, where she was responsible for the education of 20 low-income pre-kindergarten students. Teaching in a FEMA trailer, she fought through the difficulties of educating children in the bleak Hurricane Katrina aftermath. Jenna also held an internship at the Summit Health Institute for Research and Education, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advocating for the health of the poorest residents of Washington DC. At Miami Law, Jenna continues her advocacy work in urban food justice. Jenna's proficiency in Spanish has allowed her to take full advantage of Miami's opportunities for service and advocacy in public health and civil rights.

Erin Fitzgerald

Studying Childhood and Special Education at New York University, Erin worked at 3 different New York Public Schools in both general education and in self-contained classrooms. Teaching

children of all learning capacities, Erin's motivation to attend law school stemmed from seeing that all students have an equal opportunity to learn and advance in the classroom, regardless of their current placement. Her desire to pursue a career in juvenile justice propelled her to an internship at Harris, Cutler and Houghteling, a small litigation firm in New York City that specializes in commercial and securities litigation and criminal defense. Through the daily responsibilities assigned to her, such as managing thirty state and federal case dockets, she acquired knowledge relating to her new pursuit. Erin wants to represent children that are disadvantaged in protecting their interests, rights and freedoms. At Miami Law, she has become involved in Legal Up!, Books & Buddies, and the Community Partnership for the Homeless.

Alex Flint

Born in Colombia and raised in Miami, Alex decided to move to Israel at the age of 18. The international atmosphere he encountered provided him with a challenging academic environment. By the time he completed his Bachelor's Degree in Government, Diplomacy, and Strategy at the Interdisciplinary Centre in Herzliya, Israel, Alex had experienced the devastating impact of the 2006 Lebanon war on Israeli society. He became a soldier in the Israeli Defense Forces, and stationed in Ramallah, he worked in coordination with Palestinian and International Organizations. In Ramallah, he saw firsthand the immorality and injustice surrounding the conflict. Upon his completion of duties with the IDF, Alex worked as a legal assistant to the general counsel at Zumba Fitness. It was there that he picked up on aspects of the law that he felt could help him continue his search for responsible ways to improve the world. In his time at Miami Law, Alex looks forward to bridging his personal and academic experiences into a dedicated public service career.

Amelia Gerson

Amelia's desire to attend law school stems from her time as both a Child Care Specialist for Kids in Distress and a researcher for the Texas After Violence Project. At Kids in Distress, Amelia quickly observed that the kids she was around, many who had been sexually abused as early as age 4, were not getting the help they needed. With short staffs and layoffs, not enough was being done. Her desire for change propelled her to the Miami Scholars Program at the University Of Miami School Of Law. Her extensive work experience with children and non-profits illustrates her interest in public service, and her time in Miami has furthered her ambitions to effectuate systemic change through her legal career.

Hayley Glennie

After graduating from Davidson College, Hayley headed to Central America to begin work with Red de Empresas Inclusivas (Network of Inclusive Companies), Sistema de Gestión de Igualdad y Equidad de Genero (Management System of Gender Equality and Equity), and the Alianza de Empresas sin Pobreza Extrema (Alliance of Companies without Extreme Poverty). She came to understand that local companies were perplexed by how to integrate differently abled individuals into the workplace. As she headed to Miami Law, Hayley became devoted to this worldwide problem which she now had a personal connection to. She has selected courses at Miami with the aim of employing a theoretical and practical approach to problem-solving with regard to social development. She is anxious to tackle further issues of social development from

a legal standpoint, and to help companies better integrate differently abled individuals into the workplace.

Caitlin Griffin

In obtaining her law degree, Caitlin believes she will make a true contribution through public service. Her background in Human Development and Family Studies instilled in her a habit of analyzing the root causes of dysfunction in an individual or family unit in efforts to isolate areas for intervention. Going further, as a Teach For America mathematics instructor in Philadelphia, she was able to apply her lessons to a bureaucracy like public education, and thus bring a wide range of experience to Miami Law. Caitlin is using her time in Miami to continue to gain knowledge and experience in her niche of the law.

Adam Hoock

When Adam studied abroad in Chile, he was exposed firsthand to the problems of economic disparity and social inequality in Latin America. Upon returning to the University of Notre Dame, where he majored in Spanish, Philosophy, and Theology, Adam strengthened his commitment to fight for equal justice and defend fundamental rights. He immediately started teaching English to Latino immigrants in the community, and he wanted to go further in translating his academic education into practical service. After receiving a Master's Degree in Spanish Literature, he was propelled to volunteer through AmeriCorps. In his second year of service, Adam worked full-time as a paralegal with the nonprofit immigration firm Americans for Immigrant Justice. Adam is striving to eventually use his law degree to serve the public interest of youths and other vulnerable members of society who lack adequate representation in our justice system.

Trinity Jordan

After graduating in 2001 from Evangel University with degrees in Legal Studies and Biblical Studies, Trinity went on to become the Lead Pastor at Elevation Church in Layton, Utah. He founded and managed operations for the Church organization and managed ten employees with hundreds of Church volunteers under his wing. In 2006, Trinity became the President of Elevation Studios, a full-line design studio, and built national connections to establish the firm as the go-to studio for non-profits looking to make a splash. Additionally, Trinity worked as a Consultant for Assemblies of God, a global organization overseeing more than 382,000 churches worldwide. Trinity researched and developed missions programs and was accountable for strategic planning and execution. Trinity's desire to attend law school came from a trip to an orphanage in Cambodia. Upon seeing the poor conditions the kids were living in, he realized his desire moving forward was to be a voice for underprivileged kids. Trinity has interned at a Prosecutor's Office and is spending his time at Miami Law exploring criminal and constitutional law.

Justin Matarrese

His journey started in high school, when, Justin saw firsthand how mock trial could impact a young person. He was captain of his high-school's team, but he wanted to go further and make sure that kids from all backgrounds could be exposed to mock-trial programs. Thus, after

working with students from his alma-mater high-school, and while majoring in history at New York University, Justin founded Empire Mock Trial. The organization has thrived, as it hosts online trial advocacy classes in 22 states and 6 countries. While mock-trial has been his focus for years, Justin is working towards a career as a trial lawyer. He has honed in on using his experiences as a springboard towards a career in education and service to the international community.

Hellen Perez

Teaching mathematics to third and fourth graders in the Miami-Dade County school system, some of whom had been in the United States for less than a year, Hellen saw firsthand the problems that stem from judging the success and failure of students solely on their FCAT (Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test) performance. Hellen is spending her time at Miami Law working to be a force of change for all the problems she encountered in the school system, both inside and outside of the classroom. Hellen is motivated to seek change in education, to where a student who does not pass a standardized test will not be written off.

Rachel Roebuck

Working at the Refuge House in Tallahassee, Florida, Rachel was responsible for counseling and informing victims of sexual assault about their options regarding law enforcement and medical treatment. Now a Miami Scholar, Miami Law has offered her the opportunity to merge her study of law with the passions she has already developed in both women's issues and broader human rights. Rachel is motivated to explore the many course offerings and clinical programs to develop her advocacy skills and looks forward to working with local agencies to promote empowerment and access to justice for women.

Elizabeth Trenary

After founding several non-profit corporations at Furman University, including *Remembering Hope*, a project that aims to administer aid to those recently diagnosed with Alzheimer's, Elizabeth served as one of five US delegates at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings in Yokohama, Japan. Meeting with world-renown economists and heads of world-leading corporations, her confidence grew and she was motivated to apply to law school. Elizabeth has brought a wide array of experiences to the University Of Miami School Of Law, where will apply the lessons she learned at APEC to public interest initiatives.