

Betsy and Jesse Fink Career Development Program *ESF Career Fellows – 2024*

These fellowships are made possible through donors to the ESF College Foundation, specifically The Fink Family Foundation (Betsy '79 and Jesse '79 Fink), ESF Alumni Association in memory of Robert M. Sand '50, Clara and Wilton B. Griffiths '51, and Douglas and Susan Cotton. Student awards ranged from \$325 to \$6,000.

- **Jenelle Booker (MS in Environmental Science: Policy, Planning, Communication and Society '25)**: Jenelle will complete a summer of professional development that will expose them to the techniques that biosphere reserves employ to effectively engage young people in their communities by attending the Youth EuroMAB Conference, hosted by the Elbe River Biosphere in Lutherstadt Wittenberg, Germany and observing best practices for youth outreach and participation North American BRs, particularly Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve (Ontario), Champlain Adirondack Biosphere Region (New York), and Obtawaing Biosphere Region (Michigan).
- **Andrew Gill (BS in Environmental Biology '25)**: Andrew will work with the Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA) with its mission by compiling data regarding municipal solid waste and aid in community outreach, while also learning about the recycling process and the legal and societal aspects involved. In addition, Andrew will also be able to expand the community's understanding of recycling and reuse.
- **Matthew Norvilitis (BS in Aquatic and Fisheries Science '25)**: Matthew will conduct research investigating reproductive behavior in Adirondack brook trout, including sampling 6 remote air-stocked Adirondack ponds in the Five Ponds Wilderness and Cranberry Wild Forest. Matthew will learn how to gather, execute and analyze their own data and be able to present it at one of the American Fisheries Society conferences. In addition, Matthew also hopes to make a report based on some of the findings and give it to the NYSDEC fisheries managers in regions 5 and 6 in order to allow them to stock more accurately, based on the rates of emigration detected in the ponds.
- **Kathryn Resanovich (BS in Environmental Education and Interpretation '25)**: Kathryn will be working with NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in Central New York, assisting with planning and leading environmental education programs for the region, perform roving interpretation throughout the parks, and assist with Ladders to the Outdoors programming. The responsibilities of this internship include creating, preparing for, and leading educational programs throughout parks in the Central region. The educational programs will include formal programs for the public, camp groups, and guided hikes, informal roving around the park, and education for the Ladders to the Outdoors program. The Ladders to the Outdoors program was designed to remove financial barriers and allow people in underserved communities to experience their local state parks.
- **Diana Stone (BS in Environmental Studies: Policy, Planning, and Law '24)**: Diana will be working for the Alliance for a Sustainable Amazon, a non-profit focused on conserving biodiversity and natural resources in the Peruvian Amazon Rainforest. Alliance for a Sustainable Amazon works to find solutions to environmental issues like these through research. Under the supervision of the Alliance for a Sustainable Amazon staff, Diana will be performing an independent research project on the use of biochar to enhance tropical soils. Diana will be working on creating an optimal biochar "recipe" to maximize yields of certain local crops, spending eight weeks at the field station in Peru performing the fieldwork, collecting data, analyzing this data, and finally presenting findings in a final report

- **Places Linking All Communities Equally (P.L.A.C.E.) Research Group (Logan Lukonaitis, BLA in Landscape Architecture '26 and Zahra Perkins, BLA in Landscape Architecture '26)**: The group will be conducting research on the third place, which is a space that strengthens communities by not adhering to the fabricated social and cultural expectations of societal norms, joining the community and creating foundational stewardship. The first place is defined as “Home”, the second place is defined as “work or school”. The third place would be a place separate from home, work or school open to the public, essential for community health and well-being (Oldenburg, 2023). Their interest as students is to improve existing and establish new third places in the study communities of the Southside Neighborhood and the Westcott Neighborhood of Syracuse.