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Author Biographies

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Author Biographies

Authors' Biographies

Cade Herrmann: Cade Herrmann is a senior Political Science major. He is from Bloomington, Illinois, and is involved in a few student organizations on campus. He is a member of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity where he formerly served in executive positions as both the secretary and the alumni relations chair. He also served on the Interfraternity Council for a year as the Vice President of Health & Safety. Lastly, Cade is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science honor society. Upon graduation in May he plans to pursue his Juris Doctor degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law beginning in the fall.

Itzel Mendoza: Itzel Mendoza is a senior majoring in Political Science and Hispanic Studies. Throughout her time at Illinois Wesleyan University she has been involved with Women In Politics (IWIP), Amnesty International, and Pi Sigma Alpha. Her post graduation plans consist of working at the Immigration Project and pursuing law school in either immigration law or international law.

Zoe Hovde: Zoe Hovde is a senior from Sidney, Illinois. She is double majoring in International and Global Studies and Political Science, and minoring in Hispanic Studies. Additionally, Zoe is involved in Peace Fellows and Amnesty International, where she exercises her passion for human rights advocacy. She has reinforced this passion through her internship and academic experiences abroad in Hiroshima, Japan, and Santiago, Chile. She has held an interest in U.S. foreign policy and Latin American politics for several years. Cuba has been one of her top interests as it has become clear that the decades-long U.S. embargo has further exacerbated the economic and social conditions of the country. Her interest in the embargo inspired her research on the exceptionalism of Cuban expatriates in the United States. After graduation, she plans to work for a couple of years before pursuing a higher degree in International Studies and ultimately, a career in NGO work.

Maya Patterson: Maya Patterson is a senior Political Science major with a double minor in Sociology and Advocacy with a concentration in Non-Profit from Morton Grove, IL. Throughout her time at Illinois Wesleyan, she had two internships. Her internship experience includes time at the Multicultural Leadership Program in Bloomington since July 2023. In the spring of 2023, she helped coordinate a Get-Out-the-Vote campaign for the Westside of Bloomington, IL to promote civic participation in an upcoming municipal election. Post-graduation, she plans to work and gain experience before attending graduate school.