





2024 Boston University American Heart Association Supporting Undergraduate Research Experiences Scholars

Headshot	Name	Mentor(s)	Undergrad	Email	Bio
	Andrea Tall	Sherral Devine & Rhoda Au	Tougaloo College	drea03@bu.edu	<p>Andrea Tall is an upcoming senior at Tougaloo College pursuing a bachelor's degree in Biology. In the fall of 2025, she will be attending Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She will be pursuing an MD while attaining her PhD in neurosciences. Andrea plans to become a Neurologist and a Neuroscientist. She is passionate about equal access to healthcare and establishing a standard of fairness and compassion in the medical arena. She enjoys research and believes it's a crucial element in bettering our world and expanding our knowledge about a plethora of topics. Working in medicine as a physician has the potential to directly impact the lives of patients and advocate for their well-being and health.</p> <p>Andrea aims to combine both so that she can treat patients while conducting groundbreaking research. Some of the research topics that she's worked on before include investigating the maternal mortality disparity, facial recognition, preeclampsia and eclampsia, and drug investigation. She also had the opportunity to intern at the local clinic in her area. Having the experience of personally seeing patients and helping design their care has only strengthened her plight in becoming a physician. Andrea is excited for her future and all of the opportunities that have been offered to the pursuit of her career and professional goals. Due to opportunities such as the AHA Sure Program, she is more certain in her capabilities as a future Physician-Scientist and in the contributions she will contribute to her field.</p>

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	Kayla Brown	Naomi Hamburg	Spelman College	Kaylab25@bu.edu	<p>Kayla Brown is a rising senior at Spelman College majoring in Biology on the pre-medicine track. She is a proud product of Greenwood, MS, the heart of the Mississippi Delta. She aspires to become the nation's top cardiac surgeon while tackling health disparities within the African American Community. In her pursuit of academic, moral, social, and civic excellence as a black woman, Kayla is invested in intellectual work because she understands that, at its core, intellectual work will empower her to grow in her awareness of the world around her and in how she responds to it. Living in the Mississippi Delta has allowed Kayla to witness health disparities within the African American community firsthand. The effects of racial discrimination within healthcare in the Delta have plagued her family for years. Because of this, she has developed a passion for addressing and mending healthcare issues and health disparities within African American and other minority communities. Ensuring that rural and underserved areas have adequate, effective, and accessible healthcare is her main mission and motivation. Becoming an African American female physician would allow her to give back to her community and other communities that suffer from health inequity. The blessing of becoming an AHA SURE scholar will allow Kayla to complete her mission as she works toward her career goals; goals that include graduating from Spelman College and furthering her education at the medical school of her choice as she works to give back to the “village” that has given so much to her.</p>

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	Makayla Hamilton	Vipul Chitalia & Katya Ravid	Tougaloo College	mhamil24@bou.edu	<p>Makayla Hamilton is a junior pre-med chemistry major at the illustrious Tougaloo College. She is from Memphis, TN, and attended and graduated from Bartlett High School. Within the next several years, she plans on working towards her goal of becoming a physician. Ever since she was little her eyes were set early in life on becoming a doctor. She chose this career path because she want to make a difference in the world. Makayla believes medicine is a service, not an occupation. From joining HOSA in high school, shadowing doctors across the Memphis area, and becoming a Jackson Heart scholar here at Tougaloo she knows that one day she will fulfill her dream. Makayla wants to inspire little black girls and let them know they can do it too. She honestly believes children are the future. So, to make the future great we must inspire and connect with the next generation. She knows one day in the future she will say, "Hello, my name is Makayla Hamilton and I'm an educated doctor." She is a bit of a novice when it comes to research, however she understands the importance of doing it. She knows that doing research will instill in new skills and knowledge about the world that can elevate her journey as a future medical professional.</p>
	Qai Hinds	Mara Murray Horwitz	Spelman College	gaihinds@bu.edu	<p>Qai Hinds (she/her) was born in New York and raised in Malden, Massachusetts. As a first-generation American with roots in Trinidad and Tobago, she is proud to be the first in my family on her father's side to attend college. Qai is a rising second-year Health Science major on the Pre-Med track, with a strong focus on women's health, specifically OBGYN at Spelman College. Before starting college, she was actively involved in advocacy work for young Black women and girls. Qai participated in a research study and served on an advisory board, where they compiled a report sent to government officials. Her commitment to community service continues as she volunteers at student learning centers and work in aquatics, where she is a lifeguard and manages the department. Qai is passionate about positively impacting my community and advancing women's health.</p>