BLACK COLLEGE INSTITUTE
SUMMER PROGRAM
JUNIORS
**SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY - JUNE 28**
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM  Opening Ceremony - Family night

**MONDAY - JUNE 29**
1:00 PM - 1:30 PM  Welcome back and Student Staff Leaders Introductions
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM  Breakout into groups
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM  Social Justice Presentation
3:00 PM - 3:10 PM  Break
3:10 PM - 4:00 PM  College Student Panel
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  Group time

**TUESDAY - JUNE 30**
1:00 PM - 1:15 PM  Welcome and fun fact about Virginia Tech
1:15 PM - 1:45 PM  Undergraduate Admissions Presentation
1:45 PM - 2:15 PM  Group time
2:15 PM - 2:25 PM  Break
2:25 PM - 3:30 PM  Academic Colleges Rotations (3)
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM  Group time

**WEDNESDAY - JULY 1**
1:00 PM - 1:15 PM  Welcome and fun fact about Virginia Tech
1:15 PM - 2:45 PM  Academic Colleges Rotations (4)
2:45 PM - 2:55 PM  Break
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM  Group time: closing remarks
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  Closing Ceremony - Social justice projects presentation
**LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**Menah Pratt-Clarke, J.D., Ph.D.**

Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for nine years. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa with a major in English and minors in Philosophy and African-American Studies. She received her master's degree in Literary Studies from the University of Iowa and a master's degree in Sociology from Vanderbilt University. In addition, she earned her PhD and JD from Vanderbilt University. Her research interests include transdisciplinary analysis of diversity issues in higher education. In 2018, A Black Woman's Journey from Cotton Picking to College Professor: Lessons about race, gender, and class in America was awarded the American Education Studies Association Critics' Choice Award for scholarship deemed to be outstanding in its field. Additional books include Journeys of Social Justice: Women of Color Presidents in the Academy (Peter Lang, 2017) and Reflections on Race, Gender, and Culture in Cuba (Peter Lang, 2017). From Black Girlhood to Black Womanhood: A Wild Womanist Journey is forthcoming. She is also a trained classical pianist and violinist, and former athlete on the professional tennis circuit.

**Dr. Crasha V. Townsend**

has held national leadership roles with her work in diversity and inclusion, and was the Co-Founder and Director of the Ujima Institute for Black Professionals in Higher Education. Townsend brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and energy in promoting social justice and leadership development throughout higher education and within her local community. Her research is on Black women in leadership, and she enjoys identifying promising practices and policies that recruit, retain, and lead to the increased representation of people from marginalized communities.

**Dannette Gomez Beane, Ph.D.**

Dannette grew up in South Texas and went to an AAAAA (GA) public school. She left Texas to attend Hollins University - a small, women's, liberal arts school in Virginia. It was there that she learned she wanted a career in higher education. After graduation, Dannette joined AmeriCorps in an assignment with College Summit where she helped low income, inner-city youth apply for college. This work led her to pursue a Masters in Counseling Education and secure a job in college admissions. After completing her Masters degree, she became an academic advisor at Virginia Tech’s College of Architecture and Urban Studies. The academic work led her to pursue a doctorate and to work with graduate students. Dannette served as the Director of Graduate Recruitment and Diversity Initiatives for seven years and completed her Ph.D. part time. Today, she serves as the Director of Recruitment and Operations for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Virginia Tech.

**Andrew Alston**

He later worked within large scale conference planning with Continuing and Professional Education at Virginia Tech, as a Conference Registrar, serving on a team that managed nearly 400 programs per year, serving 35,000+ participants. In his current role as Program Assistant, Andrew strives to provide leadership on InclusiveVT, Virginia Tech’s institutional and individual commitment to Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence.

**Chatrice Barnes**

Chatrice Barnes currently serves as the Associate Director for Diversity Programs within the Office of Inclusion and Diversity. Prior to that she served as the Assistant Director for Student Organizations and Leadership Development in Student Engagement and Campus Life. Before coming to Virginia Tech she earned her Master’s Degree in Higher Education at Miami University, in Oxford, Ohio where she concentrated on the intersection of student development theory and social identity development. Chatrice is excited for all of the 2020 participants because BCI offers the wonderful opportunity to center Black voices and lived experiences. She wishes everyone the best of luck as they continue their journey of self-understanding.

**Ellington Graves, Ph.D.**

Ellington Graves is an Associate Vice Provost for Inclusion and Diversity and the Director of the Africana Studies Program in the Department of Sociology. He has been a faculty member at Virginia Tech for 19 years, teaching courses ranging from Sociological Theory and Social Inequity to African American Identity and Leadership for Change. He received his B.A. in Sociology from the The Johns Hopkins University, his M.S. in Sociology from Virginia Tech, and his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Hometown: Ivor, VA.
Tyler Brentley is the Director of the Black Cultural Center. A Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania native, he received his Bachelors in Pre-Law from Youngstown State University, where he also earned his M.S.Ed in Counseling. He joins the Virginia Tech team from Erie, Pennsylvania, where he previously served as the Multicultural & Inclusion Coordinator at Mercyhurst University. In his current role, he supports the university’s diversity and inclusion efforts by developing events, programs, and services that facilitate the academic, social, and cultural well-being of Black and African American students.

Tyler Brentley

Luisa Burgos earned her Bachelors from James Madison University in Political Science. Then worked for a white collar crime law firm for a year before starting her Masters in Higher Education at Virginia Tech. She has served in several roles at Virginia Tech including working for Student Success Center, Cultural and Community Centers, The Graduate School Office of Recruitment, Diversity, and Inclusion; and The Provost Office of Inclusion and Diversity. Today, Luisa serves as Assistant Director for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. She is very excited to bring her experiences to help underserved and marginalized populations thrive at Virginia Tech.

Luisa Burgos

Dalayna Gardner is a San Diego, California native. She earned her undergraduate degree in Cultural Anthropology at the University of California, Riverside, followed by a Master of Science in Counseling and Human Development at the University of Rochester. Her specialty is cultivating innovative programs and opportunities in order to create a greater sense of community for students of color. Here at Virginia Tech Dalayna intends to implement programs that address the academic, cultural, and social needs of the Ujima Living-Learning Community. In her spare time, she enjoys collecting Lepidopterans, photography, and painting.

Dalayna Gardner

Lee Hawkins has worked for Virginia Tech for many years and has been the full-time developer for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions – and by extension, the larger Virginia Tech community – for the last six years. His additional skills include multiple dynamic programming languages, web-accessible technologies, and search engine optimization (SEO) and he is an aspiring photographer. Lee believes in the mission of enabling young people to pursue higher education and the development of resources geared towards those ends. He first took part in BCI in 2018 as a photographer and auxiliary support and is excited to help in a larger capacity for the 2020 program.

Lee Hawkins

Tiffany Jordan holds an undergraduate degree in Sociology with a minor in Women and Gender Studies and American Ethnic Studies from Wake Forest University. After college, she joined Teach for America, an organization dedicated to improving the education of children from low-income communities, where she taught high school history in Charlotte, NC. In 2014, she began the pursuit of her graduate degree at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, where she focused on the pipeline from schools to prisons and efforts to decrease the mass incarceration of African-Americans in the United States. During her time at Cornell, she took a sabbatical to work at D.C. Public Schools and the White House under President Barack Obama. In 2016, she returned to Ithaca and graduated from Cornell University with a Master of Public Administration degree. In August of that year, she became a 2016 Teach for America Capitol Hill Fellow where she worked for Congresswoman Niki Tsongas (D-MA) on education policy, healthcare, criminal justice reform and civil rights issues, while also serving as her Press Assistant. Since returning to Virginia in 2017, she has served as the Recruitment and Retention Coordinator for Roanoke City Public Schools, working to increase the diversity of their teaching and administrative staff. Most recently, she served as the Assistant Director of the Talent Search Program with the Virginia Tech TRIO Office.

Tiffany Jordan

Liana Lewis is currently enrolled in the Higher Education Masters program at Virginia Tech and serves as a Graduate Assistant with the Cultural and Community Centers. She has an interest in student engagement and social justice education and her goal post-grad is to work towards increasing retention of minority students at higher education institutions.

Liana Lewis

John Marshal is a doctoral student in Sociology. He brings to BCI a passion to help youth cultivate skills for academic success and leadership effectiveness. John also holds a master’s degree in Public Administration from the University of Oregon and a bachelor’s degree in Communications from Linfield College (McMinnville, Oregon). He John is happily married and is father to a two-year old princess.

John Marshal

Benito Nieves serves as the Associate Director of Cultural and Community Centers. He comes to VT from Georgia Institute of Technology, where he served as a Residence Hall Director for Graduate and Family Housing. His additional experiences extend to Princeton University, Emory University, and Kean University. The New Jersey native earned his Master of Education in College Student Affairs from Rutgers University. His passions include tabletop and board gaming communities, geocaching, loose leaf tea, and writing for the student affairs field. Strengths: Communication/Strategic/Activator/Woo/Maximizer

Benito Nieves
Joining us from the City of Hampton, Mr. Duston Scarborough is an alumni of Virginia Tech by way of the Pamplin College of Business. After completing his undergraduate experience in 2013 with a degree in Marketing Management, Mr. Scarborough began his career with Ferguson Enterprise as a sales trainee at their corporate offices in Newport News, VA. After a short time with the company, Duston switched directions and took on a new industry: urban retail. Beginning as a sales associate with industry leader DTLR Inc. (Now DTLRVILLA with a recent acquisition), he quickly ascended the ranks, landing the role of Corporate Community Outreach Coordinator at the company’s headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland. Also in his time away from Tech, Mr. Scarborough has been an active part of alumni efforts, having served three years on the Black Alumni Reunion Committee and two with the Black College Institute, the latter paving the way for his return to campus! Duston is excited to be home here in Blacksburg and to contribute to the rapidly improving climate for diversity in his new role as the Associate Director of Student Opportunities and Achievement Resources (SOAR) in the Office of Inclusion and Diversity (OID).

Stacey Wilkerson is a doctoral candidate in Higher Education Administration at Virginia Tech. Her research interests include access, retention, and degree attainment for underrepresented minoritized students and first-generation students. She is also especially interested in the history of higher education in the United States. Stacey has experiences working with first-year initiatives, Title IX, crisis management, retention, student success, and large scale programming. Stacey currently serves as the Chief of Staff within the Office for Inclusion and Diversity.

Hailing from the Southside of Chicago, Donnell serves as an Admissions Counselor in Office of Undergraduate Admissions with a passion for accessibility and affordability for underrepresented youths. Donnell earned his Bachelors Degree at the University of Virginia and continued his service in the Virginia College Advising Corps as a College Advisor at Armstrong High School in Richmond, VA. Some of his hobbies/interest are African American History, movies (action/comedy) and music. You can always catch Donnell saying Pop instead of soda and hanging out with friends.
My name is Kojo Akrong, and I'm a rising junior from Richmond, Virginia. I'm majoring in electrical engineering with a minor in business leadership. Some activities I enjoy include photography, hanging out with some friends, and playing soccer. On campus, I'm involved with a couple of organizations including National Society of Black Engineers, African Student Association and others.

I am a rising sophomore from Woodbridge, Virginia. I plan to major in Business Information Technology and hope to minor in Computer Science. In my spare time I like to take professional photos, watch netflix, try new things and explore. I'm involved in multiple campus organizations like BSA, ASA, PUMP, etc and am also a Freshman Merit Scholar. My favorite sport is lacrosse and I hope to join the club team here at Virginia Tech. It's my first year as a Student Leader and I'm very excited to work with and meet you all!!

My name is Isabel Baba and I am a rising senior at Virginia Tech. I am a double-major in Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Technology Management, and Digital Marketing Strategy. I am from NOVA and I aspire to turn any one of my hobbies into a career. I enjoy writing, fitness and health, modeling, watching tv, etc. A fun fact about me is that my favorite anime is Naruto. Throughout my years at Tech, I have been apart of many organizations such as the African Student Association, Student African American Sisterhood, Student Opportunities Achievement Resources (S2AR), and the Wahala Dance Team. Currently, I am in the American Marketing Association.

My name is Courtney and I am a rising sophomore from Richmond, Virginia. I am majoring in Creative Technologies with hopes to become a 2D animator post-graduation. In my spare time, I prefer to draw, read web-comics, and watch anime. I have always been inspired by the immense world of fiction, and my dream is to contribute back to that field in the best way that I can. At Virginia Tech, I have been heavily involved in theatre workshops with the School of Performing Arts, and I am currently residing in a Living Learning Community for the Arts, Studio 72.

My name is Tayah Andrews. I am a recent graduate with a major in Biochemistry and a minor in Chemistry. I intend to go to graduate school to obtain a Masters of Management in Science and then a Masters of Business Administration. I served as the president of Surge Campus Ministries which helps foster a safe community for college students and young professionals to explore the gospel of Jesus Christ. I also served as a Howard Hughes Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion at Virginia Tech. My hobbies include singing, napping, cooking, and working out.

Elysia Budu is a recent alum of Virginia Tech from Chesterfield, Virginia. She received her degrees History and Political Science. Her many activities on campus include the Marching Virginian's, Tau Beta Sigma; a music service sorority, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., ambassador for the History Department, president of the History Honors Society and Cultural Dance Crew. Upon taking a gap year she plans to get her masters and later her PhD in History and become a professor. While on campus you most likely would find me in the History Department. Fun fact: I am the first person in my family to graduate from college and I won’t be the last.

My name is Courtney Bailey. I am a rising sophomore from Woodbridge, Virginia. I plan to major in Business Information Technology and hope to minor in Computer Science. In my spare time I like to take professional photos, watch netflix, try new things and explore. I'm involved in multiple campus organizations like BSA, ASA, PUMP, etc and am also a Freshman Merit Scholar. My favorite sport is lacrosse and I hope to join the club team here at Virginia Tech. It's my first year as a Student Leader and I'm very excited to work with and meet you all!!

My name is Sydney Brobbey. I am a rising sophomore in English and Communications major with a Spanish and Visual Arts minor. From Centreville, VA. Wants to become a 12th grade english teacher or communications specialist. Likes reading and walking. Fun fact: Ghanaian. Campus involvement: Chi Alpha Ministries and Aspiring Journalists.

Angel Bynum-Hardy is a rising junior majoring in Clinical Neuroscience with a minor in Spanish from Chesapeake, Va. On campus I serve as the Vice President of Student African American Sisterhood (SAAS), the exiting President of Minorities in Agriculture Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS) and a member of the Black Student Alliance (BSA). After graduation, I plan on going to medical school. In my free time, I love watching Netflix, reading a book, hanging out with friends or trying new recipes in the kitchen.
Hi there! My name is Lauren Dessaure and I’m a rising Junior majoring in Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise and minoring in Africana Studies! I’m from Alexandria, Virginia and love to cook and bake (I work in a bakery downtown Blacksburg!). I’m currently serving as the President of the Student African American Sisterhood at VT and am a representative in the Student Government Association. In my free time I love taking naps, watching TED talks, and relaxing with friends and family.

I am a rising senior from Fairfax, VA studying Political Science with a focus on National Security. I would like to pursue a career in Federal Emergency Management. During my first year at Virginia Tech, I held the position of co-chair for the VT Transfer Leadership Council and I am currently the Secretary for the Black Organizations Council of Virginia Tech. When I’m not doing school work, my hobbies include: hiking, hanging out with friends, and listening to music.

Hi! I am a recent Virginia Tech graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science - Legal Studies and a minor in International Business. I am originally from Greensboro, NC and will be living there for my academic gap year before attending Law School to pursue a career in corporate law. While at Virginia Tech, I was Secretary for the Theta Phi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and a member of various other social and service based organizations. Currently, I enjoy reading, watching Netflix, or spending time with my friends. I look forward to being a Student Staff Leader to work with and mentor others while giving back to my community for the next generation.

My name is Diamond Gilliam. I’m a junior senior I’m graduating a semester early to take a gap semester before law school. My major is History. I have a double minor in International Studies and Africana Studies. I am from North Carolina but I live in Norfolk, Va. I want to be a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union or a Jag Officer. My hobbies include writing poetry and being apart of NAACP at VT. My passion is to fight for those who don’t have the voice to do so. For a fun fact, I have 17 siblings in total.

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I am a rising junior majoring in applied economic management with a minor in science, technology and law. In my free time I like to cook, listen to music and watch anime. My future career goal is to become a consultant and work in the renewable energy industry. My future life goal is to start a charity and give back to those in need.

I am a rising sophomore from Mechanicsville, VA. I am a double major in English and Public Relations as well as a double minor in Spanish and Entrepreneurship. Last year, I graduated from a dual enrollment program and earned my associate's from Reynolds Community College. I plan to focus on securing externship opportunities focusing on consulting in the private sector.

I am a rising sophomore from Chesapeake, Virginia, I am majoring in Business Information Technology with a concentration in Decision Support Systems. During my freshman year I enjoyed eating, hanging out with my friends, and going out on the weekends. At Virginia Tech I am involved in Yates Society, Pamplin Leadership Development Team, and a New Horizons scholar. Going into my sophomore year I plan to focus on securing externship and internship opportunities focusing on consulting in the private sector.

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I am Jewel Mayo, I am a rising sophomore from Chesterfield, Va. I major in Human Nutrition Food, and Exercise. Upon completion of my undergraduate career, I plan on attending Physician Assistant school. I actively participate in a few clubs and organizations at Virginia Tech. From being a Yates Scholar and a member of the LLC (living and learning community. I love interacting with new people and staying busy. For fun I love to shop, play with my dog, spending time with my family, and write. Before graduating I hope to study abroad to either Europe or South America.

My name is Justin Penn, I am a rising junior majoring in Architecture with minors in both Housing and Property Management. I was born and raised in Richmond, VA and I have lived in the same house my entire life. I am very passionate about the ability that design and architecture have to personally affect and influence everyday life. I hope to use this immense power to aid those that need help the most, including individuals with lower-incomes and those that are discriminated against.

My name is Matias Montenegro Sandoval, and i am a junior majoring in Architecture. I was born in Lima, Peru but have lived in Fairfax, Virginia for the majority of life. Opening up my own design firm would be amazing, but who knows what life has to offer? Catch me going on jogs or in studio. Did you know I can speak Spanish fluently? Yo puedo. My hair is very curly. If you get involved with campus, catch me at Latin Link or FASA (Filipino American Student Association) general body meetings.

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Hello, my name is Jeriyah Savage. I am from Hampton, Virginia. I am entering into my sophomore year this fall. I currently double major in Political Science and Criminology, in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. Politics and the fundamental understanding of the functions of the government are passions of mine. Upon graduation, I intend on applying to law school to pursue my career goal of becoming a Criminal Defense Attorney. In my free time, I enjoy reading, watching movies, and spending time with my family. This will be my first summer as a Student Staff Leader. I am truly elated to meet you all and to gain new experiences. Hope to see you soon!

Hi everyone, my name is Isabella Schwartz and I am a graduated senior who majored in Psychology! I am passionate about education and will be pursuing my masters in education so that I can become a teacher in the future. I mostly spend my time learning new recipes and painting the things I love. I got back into those hobbies when I got into VT because they are activities that are comforting to me!

My name is Classy Shepherd and I am from Alexandria, VA. I am a sophomore majoring in Clinical Neuroscience. My goal in life is to go to medical school and become a Forensic Pathologist. I like to hang out with my friends and listen to music. At Virginia Tech, I am involved in Black Student Alliance and A.W.A.R.E.

I am a rising Sophomore at Virginia Tech pursuing two majors, one in the Russian language and the other in History. Russian history has been my passion since the young age of 10 and I have dedicated myself to pursuing a career in education teaching Russian. After Virginia Tech I plan to receive my master’s Degree and PhD at a university in the Russian Federation and become a professor of Russian history and the Russian language. I am dedicated to encouraging youth, specifically black youth to pursue their dreams despite the enormous culture, financial, and personal obstacles in their lives.

My name is Taylor Whitehurst and I am a rising sophomore from Virginia Beach, Virginia. Currently, I am majoring in Political Science with a concentration in Legal Studies. I one day hope to be a lawyer, judge, and then ultimately become a justice on the Supreme Court. This past year, I lived and actively participated in the Ujima Living Learning Community on campus. I also worked at the Print Center at Newman Library. During my free time, you will catch me watching the Real Housewives of Atlanta, doing nails, or on the phone with my cousin who encouraged me to apply to BCI during my junior year of high school. Participating in BCI was an integral part of my decision to choose Virginia Tech, and I hope it is for you too!