

# 2024 SUSMAN GODFREY PRIZE WINNERS

The Susman Godfrey Prize is an honor awarded annually to up to 20 students of color who are finishing their first or second year of law school. The Prize is part of the firm's ongoing commitment to celebrate and promote diversity among civil trial lawyers.



**SEAN ARRIETA-KENNA** 2L, STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

Sean Arrieta-Kenna is a member of the Juelsgaard Intellectual Property and Innovation Clinic and on the Articles Committee for the *Stanford Technology Law Review*. He was awarded the John Hart Ely Prize for Outstanding Performance in Intellectual Property and Antitrust Law. He has worked on the Social Security Disability Pro Bono Project, serves as Vice-President of Academic Affairs for the Stanford Latinx Law Students Association, and sits on the board for Stanford's Plaintiffs' Lawyers Association. Sean earned a B.A. in Political Science from Brown University and an M.A. in International Economic Policy from the Paris School of International Affairs.



**KUVIMBANASHE EDWIN CHIKUKWA** 2L, UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Edwin Chikukwa is an Achievement Fellow at UCLA Law and received the California Change Lawyer Scholarship. He made the finals of the Skye Donald Moot Court Competition during his 1L year. During his 2L year, he was named Best Advocate in the 2024 Online National Trial Competition, Champion of the 2023 Mock Trial Premiere Tournament, and Champion of the 2024 National Ethics Trial Competition. He serves as Co-President of the UCLA Trial Team and Alumni Chair for the Black Law Students Association. Edwin earned his B.A. from University of California, Santa Barbara and delivered the student commencement address at his graduation.



**SABRINA HUANG** 1L, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL

Sabrina Huang serves as a mentor with Chicago Law's Careers in Law program. She is also a 1L Representative for Impact Initiative, a student organization which builds relationships between UChicago Law Students and Chicago's South Side communities. Sabrina graduated *summa cum laude* from UCLA with a B.A. in Public Affairs and a minor in Society and Genetics. Sabrina previously worked as a JusticeCorps Graduate Fellow at the Los Angeles County Self-Help Center where she assisted 1,100+ self-represented litigants with starting or responding to family law cases, restraining orders, and unlawful detainers.



**KELSEA JEON** 2L, STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

Kelsea Jeon is on the *Stanford Law Review* and a member of Stanford's Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. She also serves as a Civil Justice Fellow at the Deborah L. Rhode Center on the Legal Profession. Kelsea earned a Master's degree in Socio-Legal Research at the University of Oxford on a Rotary Global Grant Scholarship. Before that, she graduated from Yale University *magna cum laude* with a B.A. in History.



**SAMUEL KIM** 2L, COLUMBIA SCHOOL OF LAW

Sam Kim has been recognized with Don H. Liu Scholarship and the New York State Bar Association's Miriam Maccoby Netter Scholarship. He is on the Editorial Staff of the *Science & Technology Law Review* and serves as a Teaching Fellow and a Research Assistant. Sam earned a Master's and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from MIT, where he investigated the role of genetic variants in human diseases. Sam earned his B.E.E. from Auburn University. He has secured clerkship with Hon. Raymond Chen on the Federal Circuit.



**JONATHAN LADD** 2L, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW

Jonathan Ladd serves as the Managing Online Content Editor of *Texas Law Review* and Articles Editor for *Texas Review of Law & Politics*. He twice received the Dean's Achievement Award for both Outstanding Student in Constitutional Law and Outstanding Student in Legal Analysis and Communication. Jonathan received his Master's and B.A. from Abilene Christian University, earning both with a 4.0 GPA. He has secured clerkships with Hon. Jerry Smith on the Fifth Circuit and Hon. David R. Stras on the Eighth Circuit.



**NICOLE ALEXANDRA LEON-ELVIR** 2L, UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Nicole Leon-Elvir serves as Conference Co-Editor of the *Berkeley Journal of Entertainment and Sports Law* and the Colloquium Editor of the *Berkeley Latine Journal of Law and Policy*. She received the Pat Tillman Scholarship, the La Alianza Alumni Scholarship, the Homer Mason Scholarship, and the Berkeley CLAA Joe Kapp Scholarship for her outstanding academic performance. Nicole also is Co-President of the Sports & Entertainment Law Society. Nicole earned her B.A. from Columbia University where she founded the Women of Color Pre-Law Society.



**MALIK MARSHALL** 1L, UCLA LAW SCHOOL

Malik Marshall is a member of UCLA's David J. Epstein Program in Public Interest Law & Policy and serves as the Political Activism Chair of the Black Law Students Association. He is also a recipient of the Masin Family Academic Excellence Gold Award. This summer, Malik will be working at Legal Aid at Work in San Francisco in the Racial Economic Justice program. Malik previously worked as a community organizer in his hometown of Little Rock, AR and earned a B.F.A in Drama and a B.A. in Politics from NYU, where he received the Martin Luther King Scholarship.



**DEJA MOREHEAD** 2L, YALE LAW SCHOOL

Deja Morehead is the Managing Editor of the *Yale Law Journal*. She is a Chae Fellow of the Chae Initiative in Private Sector Leadership. She served as a student intern in the Veterans Legal Services Clinic and as a Survey Design & Data Analysis Chair on the Yale Law Women+ Top Firms Committee. Deja earned her A.B. in Economics from Harvard University where she graduated *magna cum laude* and was a John Harvard Scholar. She also received the Joseph L. Barrett Award and Paul Revere Frothingham Scholarship for service to her peers and the University. She spent Summer of 2023 as a 1L Fellow at Susman Godfrey.



**SHARON NUNN** 2L, YALE LAW SCHOOL

Sharon is a Features and Book Reviews Editor on the *Yale Law Journal* and Lead Editor on the *Yale Journal on Regulation*. She has served as both a Teaching and Research Assistant and is a high school tutor for the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project. Prior to law school, she was a journalist. Sharon graduated from UNC at Chapel Hill with a B.A. in Media and Journalism. During college, she came in First Place in the category of In-Depth Reporting by the Society of Professional Journalists, was a Hearst Hard News Finalist, and won the Bittner Award for top broadcast student.



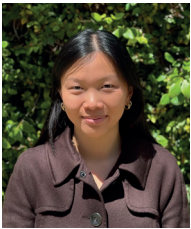
**SAHAR OMER** 2L, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL

Sahar Omer is the Executive Articles Editor for the Chicago Journal of International Law. She is also President of the International Law Society, the Muslim Law Students Association, and the Southwest Asian and North African Law Students Association. Additionally, she is an Illinois Judicial Scholarship Awardee and Tony Patiño Fellowship Fellow-Elect. Sahar earned an A.B. in Government & Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University and graduated with Honors. She won the Harvard University Pforzheimer House Public Service Award and the Harvard University Muslim Alumni Martin Nguyen Community Service Award for Excellence in Service of the Muslim Community.



**SEGUN OMOLE** 1L, HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

Segun Omo is on Harvard's AI Safety Student Team, a chaired Harvard Black Law Students Association and Harvard Africa Law Association member, and a Subciter on the *Harvard Business Law Review*. Segun earned an M.S. in Management and Global Affairs from Tsinghua University in Beijing as a Schwarzman Scholar and graduated *summa cum laude* with a B.A. in Legal Studies and Political Science from NYU Abu Dhabi.



**LISA QIAN** 1L, STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

At Stanford Law, Lisa Qian serves as the 1L Representative for the Plaintiff's Law Association and is a member of both the Title IX Pro Bono Project and Health Equity Pro Bono Project. Lisa earned her B.A. in Economics from Yale University where she graduated *summa cum laude* (and Phi Beta Kappa). She also earned an Interdisciplinary Certificate in Human Rights as a scholar in the Schell Center's undergraduate program and was named a Tobin Scholar for outstanding performance in the core economic theory courses. She will be a 1L Diversity Fellow in Susman Godfrey's Houston office this summer.



**MEGHANA RAVIKUMAR** 1L, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, SCHOOL OF LAW

Meghana Ravikumar received the Public Interest Scholar Award and is a member of *Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law, & Justice*, the Consumer Protection Public Policy Order and the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. Meghana graduated *magna cum laude* from Scripps College where she received the Best History Senior Thesis Award, was on the Dean's List seven of eight semesters, and secured the Mellon Foundation Thesis Research Grant to conduct thesis research at the Tamil Nadu State Archives and Madurai Archives in India.



**ASTONIQUE ROBINSON** 2L, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA CAREY LAW SCHOOL

Astonique is an Executive Editor on the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* and a Toll Public Interest Scholar, a highly selective scholarship awarded based on a demonstrated commitment to public service, a strong academic record, and potential for leadership in the legal community. She is on the board of the Black Law Students Association, has served as a Civil Procedure Teaching Assistant, and as a Research Assistant. Astonique earned her B.A. in Political Science from American University where she graduated *magna cum laude*.



**AILA RODRIGUEZ** 1L, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, SCHOOL OF LAW

Aila serves on both the *Berkeley Journal of Entertainment and Sports Law* and the *Berkeley Asian American Law Journal*. She is a member of the California Asylum Representation Clinic, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, First Generation Professionals, and the Pilipinx American Law Society. At Berkeley, she was awarded the Jurisprudence Award in Civil Procedure and named a Henderson Center Scholar. Born in the Philippines and raised in Guam, Aila earned her B.A. from Brown University where she graduated *magna cum laude* with a 4.0 GPA. Before law school, she was a Research Intern at the Brookings Institution and an SEO Law Fellow at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP.



**DESTINY SPRUILL** 1L, COLUMBIA SCHOOL OF LAW

Destiny Spruill is a JD/PhD in History candidate at Columbia University, where she serves as a Staff Editor on the *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law* and is a member of both the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Team and the Black Law Students Association. Destiny received her B.A. from Columbia University, where she majored in Political Science and was a Tamer Center for Social Enterprise Fellow. Before law school, Destiny worked at the African American Policy Forum and as an archivist for the Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.



**JEREMY THOMAS** 1L, YALE LAW SCHOOL

Jeremy Thomas serves as Lead Editor for the Yale Law and Policy Review, Academic Co-Chair for the Black Law Students Association, a Research Assistant, and a volunteer with New Haven Reads. Previously, Jeremy received a B.A. in English & Jurisprudence from Amherst College, where he graduated *magna cum laude* with distinction, and two Master's degrees in English & U.S. History from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar.



**RUTH TOMLIN** 1L, YALE LAW SCHOOL

Ruth Tomlin is an Editor of the *Yale Journal on Regulation*, a member of the Black Law Students Association, and a member of the Mental Health Justice Clinic. Ruth graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with highest distinction from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill with a B.A. in Philosophy and Economics. At UNC, Ruth was a Morehead-Cain Scholar, a Buckley Public Service Scholar, and received the Worth Award for Excellent Senior in the Philosophy Department.



**VEDA TSAI** 2L, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW

Veda Tsai is Chief Articles Editor of the *Texas Law Review* and came in second place in the 1L Hutcheson Moot Court Competition. She served as Summer Staff Editor on the *Texas International Law Journal*, is President of the Women's Law Caucus, and participates in the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, the Texas Business Law Society, and the Mithoff Pro Bono Program. She also founded a consulting company advocating for patients with rare diseases in East Asia and assists them in enrolling for compassionate use and cutting-edge medical treatments. Veda earned her B.A. at the University of Texas at Dallas, where she was a Bill Archer Fellow working in Congress, a Student Director of the National Merit Scholars Program, and a Work Elections Fellow for the Campus Vote Project.