



MERRELL COLLEGE AMBASSADORS

2017 Profiles

powered by

MERRELL 
OUT.PERFORM.™



Uyen-Phuong Nguyen

Brown University

Uyen-Phuong Nguyen is a sophomore at Brown University studying computer science and economics. Growing up in New Mexico with a traditional Vietnamese family, Uyen-Phuong was often encouraged to stay indoors. In 9th grade, however, she finally convinced her parents to let her go on a backpacking trip. It was a transformative experience that left her with a few scars (that she now wears as badges of honor) and a life-long love of the outdoors. Uyen-Phuong is passionate about outdoor adventure and about sharing outdoor opportunities with others. As a Merrell College Ambassador, she hopes to provide opportunities for people of all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to enjoy the outdoors.

 [uyenphuong.ng](#)  [@up_nguyen22](#)  [@UP_Nguyen22](#)



Andrew Sampson

Colorado State University

Andrew Sampson is an Eagle Scout from Austin, Texas with a passion for the outdoors. Andrew's goal is to protect outdoor spaces so that America's next generation can have the same wonderful outdoor experiences that he has had. Andrew hopes to instill the ideals of servant leadership in young people while teaching outdoor skills. Since starting school at Colorado State University, he has worked at the university's outdoor program renting out gear and leading student outings. Through the Merrell College Ambassador program, he hopes to help others learn to love the outdoors.

 [@bandrewcampson](#)  [aksiology](#)

CSU's Warner College of Natural Resources:  [WarnerCollegeofNaturalResources](#)

 [@csuwarnercollege](#)  [@warnercollege](#)



Raina S. Aide

George Mason University

Raina Aide is an adventurer, traveler, environmentalist, animal lover, future National Park Service Ranger and Merrell College Ambassador from George Mason University. Raina is majoring in parks and outdoor recreation and minoring in sustainability. During her college career, she has worked as an obstacle course facilitator, gone on a 20-national park road trip and solo hiked 300 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail in the California wilderness. When she's not off adventuring, Raina is the resident advisor for the outdoor adventure-themed dorm floor of 42 students and the president of Rho Phi Lambda, which is the Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Services National Honor fraternity. Through these two positions Raina has been able to share her passion for the outdoors with many of her peers. She is extremely excited to be a Merrell College Ambassador because it will give her the ability to positively impact even more lives by spreading her love for the outdoors.

f raina.aide **ig** @rainaaide **tw** @rainaaide

GMU Recreation: **ig** @georgemasonrec **tw** @GeorgeMasonRec



Jordan Johnson

Humboldt State University

Jordan Johnson is third year student at Humboldt State University where he is majoring in outdoor recreation administration and minoring in environmental management and protection. Jordan found his love for the outdoors while spending summers with his family in Washington. There the evergreens stood tall and he could see Mt. Rainier from his window. Coming from a small agricultural town, this was an adventurer's paradise. Jordan is now excited to have the opportunity to be a Merrell College Ambassador, and he intends to use this position to connect communities — and people from all walks of life — to the great outdoors.

t campshredleton



Brennan Lee Jones

Miami University Oxford

Brennan Jones is a junior at Miami University Oxford majoring in kinesiology. Brennan has always been passionate about the outdoors and loves being outside with those he cares about most. He fell in love with the outdoors for the first time during a week-long trip to the incredible national parks in Wyoming and Yellowstone with his dad. Since then, he has never lost his passion for the great outdoors. Brennan works at the Outdoor Pursuit Center at Miami University where he is a team builder, clerk at the retail store and instructor at the rock wall gym. He is thrilled to bring Merrell, as a brand and a mission, into his community to help spread outdoor engagement through positive incentives and unique opportunities.

 [brennanj1](#)

 [@Kylo_b_ren7](#)

 [@B_ren7](#)

 [B_ren](#)



Emma Delmontagne

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Emma Delmontagne is a graduate student at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. She has always enjoyed being outdoors and active, and she is excited to share her outdoor passion by planning and leading outdoor trips! Emma's favorite outdoor activities are hiking, walking her dogs and paddle boarding. As an Merrell College Ambassador, she hopes to not only expand her outdoor horizons, but also introduce inclusive and diverse outdoor activities to students and community members. Being a marketing student, she plans to implement creative social media campaigns to share the amazing outings with a wide audience.

 [delmonem](#)

 [@emmadelmontagne](#)

 [@EmmaDelmontagne](#)

 [monkeyseemonkeydiy](#)



Racheal Rafols

Texas Woman's University

Racheal Rafols is a student at Texas Woman's University and is crazy about the outdoors. During the week, Racheal works toward earning a nutrition degree, but on the weekends, she is a dedicated adventurer. She loves camping, hiking, outdoor climbing, running and taking on just about any challenge. Racheal works at her school's outdoor adventure center as a student supervisor where her mission is to get as many people as possible introduced to and involved with the outdoors. Racheal uses outdoor recreation to discover herself, find her true passions and spend quality time with the people she cares about. Since outdoor experiences have impacted her life so positively, she is excited to be a Merrell College Ambassador so that she can provide awesome outdoor opportunities for her peers.

Texas Women's University Fit and Rec: [twufitandrec](#) [twufitandrec](#) [@TWU_FitandRec](#)

Texas Women's University Outdoor Adventure: [TwuOutdoorAdventure](#) [twuoutdooradventure](#)



Tobey Schmidt

The University of Arizona

Tobey Schmidt studies journalism, photography, outdoor leadership and German at the University of Arizona. As an aspiring photojournalist, Tobey hopes to make a career out of her love for nature, photography and story-telling. Tobey's favorite outdoor pursuits include rock climbing, cycling, paddling, surfing and skiing. She works for her school's outdoor program, called Outdoor Recreation, where she is a trip leader and the marketing student coordinator. As a trip lead, she oversees student trips where participants surf, rock climb, backpack, mountain bike and more. She is excited to be a Merrell College Ambassador. Through her work, Tobey aims to inspire others to get outside and enjoy the world just as much as she does.

[tobey.schmidt](#) [@tobeyschmidt](#) [@tobeyschmidt](#)



Lauren "Elsie" Clute
University of Alabama

Elsie grew up in Indiana and is a junior at the University of Alabama studying international outdoor recreation and therapy. Elsie started climbing her freshman year of college and found her inner self through her outdoor adventures. She also studied abroad in Tanzania, where she experienced the outdoors in a completely new way. She hiked part of Mt. Kilimanjaro, climbed the tallest waterfall in Tanzania and found climbing routes on untouched rock. While abroad, Elsie realized that she wanted to change lives through outdoor experiences. She now works at University of Alabama's outdoor recreation center as the trip manager, which gives her the opportunity to spread her love of the outdoors to her peers. She hopes to light an outdoor spark in others' hearts and someday work for an organization that uses outdoor opportunities as a platform for change.

f lauren.clute **ig** @clutiepatootie



Rachel Skeen
University of Central Florida

Rachel is a senior at the University of Central Florida where she works as an outdoor adventure trip leader. She also writes for a blog, the Sisterhood of the Travelers, which encourages others to step out of their comfort zones and get outdoors. She loves just about all outdoor recreation, but hiking, backpacking, kayaking and paddle boarding rank as her favorites. Rachel hopes to work in the outdoor industry one day, and she is over the moon to be a Merrell College Ambassador. She looks forward to using her platform as an Ambassador to encourage outdoor recreation, and she can barely wait to show people that Florida is more than just theme parks and beaches.

f rachel.skeen1 **ig** rachelfelicity **tw** Rachelfelicity5

Sisterhood of the Travelers: **f** thesisterhoodofthetravelers **ig** sisterhoodofthetravelers

tw travelers_4 **web** thesisterhoodofthetravelers.com



Grant Sachs

University of Wisconsin - LaCrosse

Grant Sachs is a nomadic photographer, artist, wilderness guide and a senior outdoor recreation student at the University of Wisconsin – LaCrosse. When deciding on where to attend college, Grant knew that he had to do something relating to the outdoors, something where he could pursue a unique and adventuresome career while developing long lasting relationships. As a child, Grant attended a summer camp in the Northwoods where he learned fundamental camping and expedition skills. More recently, he returned from a life-changing semester abroad in New Zealand and Australia. The time overseas inspired him to see even more of this amazing planet. Grant's passion for the creative arts allows him to capture and document his unique experiences in a compelling way. He is excited to be part of the Merrell College Ambassador program so that he can inspire and educate even more people to get outdoors and active.

f grant.sachs3 **ig** @grantsachsventure **web** grantsachsphoto.com

UWL Outdoor Connection: **f** uwloc



Charlotte Simons

Whitman College

Charlotte Simons is from Sandy Springs, Georgia. Despite being a southerner at heart, she is studying at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington. Charlotte loves to climb — either on rock or ice — and is the captain of her school's climbing team. She recently discovered a love for hiking, as well as a love for bringing her cat along for the adventure. In fact, Charlotte's cat has his own adventure Instagram: @mckinleythecat. Charlotte has always valued her time in the wilderness and fully embraces the world's natural beauty. She is excited to be a Merrell College Ambassador and hopes to inspire people to recognize that the outdoors are not limited to anyone, or any cat!

f charlotte.simons.3 **ig** _charlotte.sometimes._; artistcharlottesimons; mckinleythecat