

ACTIVATE

An 8-week immersive learning experience with the goal of making entrepreneurship more inclusive and accessible to Black Northwestern students.

WINTER 2022 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



Braylon Gurnell, Kellogg '23 (MBA candidate)

A Houston native, Braylon completed his undergraduate education at the United States Air Force Academy, studying engineering and playing football. After commissioning, he served as a Developmental Engineer helping the Air Force establish relationships with commercial space partners and working to deliver targeting and intelligence software systems to warfighters across the globe. Braylon is passionate about youth mentorship and giving back to his community.



Cameron Freeman, Weinberg '24 (Undergraduate)

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Cameron is studying English, Entrepreneurship, and Design. With a passion for art and architecture, Cameron has spent much of her time working on creative projects in relation to Real Estate. She has embarked on multiple interior design projects and also has a love for fashion and design. Further, Cameron enjoys finding innovative solutions for a variety of problems. She hopes in her future to create her own business and be her own girl boss!



Carmen Del Valle, Kellogg '23 (MBA candidate)

Carmen is originally from New York City and launched her career in the social impact space. Prior to starting at Kellogg, she led DEI recruiting efforts for a line of business at a financial institution. At Kellogg, she is a first-year Director for the Women's Business Association and KSA Global Affairs Team. Additionally, she is a member of the Black Management Association and the Media & Entertainment Club.



Edwin Pokisa, SESP '25 (Undergraduate)

Edwin was born and raised in Kenya. He is in SESP studying Social Policy, but he is also interested in Computer Science. He is involved in several student organizations on campus such as International Students Association (ISA), African Students Association (ASA) and Black Mentorship Program (BMP). He works for Multicultural Student Affairs at the Black House. Coming from one of the indigenous, minority and marginalized communities in Kenya, which is called the Yaaku Tribe, he is passionate about representation of marginalized communities and helping their cultures and ideas be appreciated.



Garvey Burrows, Kellogg '23 (MBA candidate)

Prior to business school, Garvey worked in venture capital and led business development at an early-stage FinTech startup. At Kellogg, he serves on the executive boards of the Black Management Association and Entrepreneurship and Venture Capital Club. Garvey is currently exploring decentralized finance (DeFi) and the opportunity to create financial tools for communities historically excluded from the traditional financial system.



Keyaira Lock, Kellogg '23 (MBA candidate)

Keyaira is a Cultural Strategist who empowers brands to effectively reach their internal and external customers in nuanced, culturally intelligent ways. Considering a new racial majority is forming in America, Keyaira is currently developing her proprietary Cultural Intelligence Toolkit at Northwestern Kellogg School of Management to equip brands with the proper tools to effectively build culturally diverse teams, launch culture-first partnerships, and reach BIPOC communities in order to fulfill their brand's purpose from the inside-out.



Mbere Monjok, Kellogg '23 (MBA candidate)

Mbere was born and raised in Nigeria but spent most of her childhood across different countries within Southern Africa and the Middle East. Her dynamic childhood allowed her to embrace environments that presented constant cultural shifts, spending the last five years as a technology consultant serving clients across varying industries. Combining her passion and interests, she founded Tembe - a fitness brand that infuses cultural heritage into a dance cardio workout, a strategy that has proven to increase her consumer's commitment to their fitness journey.



Rahma Ndao, School of Communication '24 (Undergraduate)

Rahma, from Pickerington, Ohio, is majoring in communication studies. She is involved in numerous organizations across campus including Black Formal, FMO, ASA, and Pink Campus Team among others. Rahma also does work in athletic communications as she is very passionate about more black voices being involved in that industry. Another industry that Rahma is continuously inspired in is fashion. Rahma allows her passions and endeavors to be boundless by constantly exploring her multitude of interests. She is excited to be in an environment that not only supports this, but encourages it from her and her black peers.



Sean Dukes, Weinberg '24 (Undergraduate)

Born and raised on the South Side of Chicago, Sean Dukes is studying Global Health with a minor in Spanish. He is a member of the Campaigns committee in Northwestern's GlobeMed chapter, and a mentor in the Black Mentorship Program. His position in these programs, and his experience working with underprivileged communities and people with disabilities, has given him a desire to increase access to healthcare around the world. He is in the process of creating a nonprofit organization that will increase awareness around the disease Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy.