

## Dear MASP Family and Friends,

Happy Autumn!

MASP has had a great start to the new school year. Fall is an exciting time as we welcome the new cohort into the larger community, catch up with returning students on summer adventures, and prioritize our initiatives for the upcoming year. This year we are excited to announce that we will conduct a job search for an additional Assistant Director who will join the MASP faculty starting in the 2020-2021 academic year. We are also currently collaborating closely with the Office of Advancement on a sizeable fundraising initiative to increase funding for current MASP students, expand resources to a larger number of Arts & Sciences students, and generate support for an updated community space. Thank you for your continued support of MASP. Don't forget, we'd love to hear from you!

We appreciate your support and look forward to updating you on our efforts throughout this year! I encourage you to keep reading to hear more about current events at MASP.

Don't forget, we'd love to hear from you!



Sincerely,  
Celeste Montoya

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## PEAC 2019 Recap

This year we had around 150 applicants for PEAC and accepted a cohort of 40 students. The students came from 38 different high schools with an impressive average high school GPA of 3.8 (unweighted). About 60% of the students are first-generation college students and 95% are Colorado residents. Despite the intensity (and exhaustion) of the summer bridge, this cohort was certainly up to the challenge and truly impressed the directors, instructors, and student-staff alike. In terms of student-staff, this was the third year of the PEAC peer mentoring program. This newer model employs current MASP students to serve a hybrid-role as both residential advisors and learning assistants. Throughout the entire four weeks of PEAC, peer mentors live in the dorms, take classes alongside PEAC students, and, most importantly, help PEAC students build an inclusive community by learning to lead by example.

As always, PEAC stresses intentional community building inside and outside of the classroom. In addition to many on-campus community-building activities such as a scavenger hunt and field day, we provided the new cohort with a host of engaging programming including the CU Outdoor Challenge Course, the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, white water rafting in Idaho Springs, and hiking at Brainard Lake. These fun activities complemented our course programming to create the intense academic and social experience that makes PEAC so effective.

The current PEAC curriculum mirrors the general education requirements for all Arts & Sciences students regardless of major. This summer the courses were: *Statistical Methods* (Quantitative Reasoning), *Writing: Vision and Voice* (Written Communication), *Chemistry* (Natural Sciences), *Sacred Spaces* (Humanities), and *Sociological Perspectives on Race and Ethnicity in the U.S.* (Social Sciences). In addition to five formal classes, PEAC students also participated in several immersive enrichment activities. This year they participated in an interactive tour of Norlin Library, a guided buoyancy lab with the Astrophysics department, and a two-day ceramics workshop (facilitated by a current MFA student) where they explored the concept of community through art and handcrafted their own 'vessel of community' art pieces. Lastly, all PEAC students took a (non-graded) course called *CU 101: The Hidden Curriculum*. This class introduces students to the ins and outs of undergrad and guides students to success at CU.

Overall, it was an amazing and challenging month for all involved. As the Fall semester progresses, the new cohort has settled into their first year and transitioned from PEAC students to MASPIans. We are looking forward to guiding them throughout their journey at CU. And now MASP is off to plan PEAC 2020!



## Students Explore Community Archiving in New MASP Course

This year MASP is offering a new humanities research methods seminar that explores archival research methods in a community context. The course was developed and is taught by instructor Dr. Rebecca Schneider who recently graduated with her Ph.D. from CU's English Department. Dr. Schneider has worked with MASP throughout the past few years as a graduate instructor, writing tutor, and teaching assistant, and we are so excited to have her teach for MASP.

The course, *Archival Research Methods and Community Archiving*, draws on Dr. Schneider's dissertation research and introduces advanced archival research methods for the purpose of examining and analyzing the community impact of documentary resources, particularly for and among minoritized communities. The course includes field excursions to the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library in Denver and the CU Special Collections in Norlin Library. The course also features presentations by guests from various disciplines and institutions relating to archival study and/or community archiving, and culminates in a capstone project in which students will examine the community impact of an archival item or group of items. We are thrilled to offer this opportunity to MASP students and look forward to hearing student's feedback on the course at the end of the semester!



## Student Spotlights: MASPIans Around the World

### Our Study Abroad Students!



**Tiffani Brooks**

*Osaka, Japan*

“Vulnerability will lead into strength.”



**Gwendalynn Roebke**

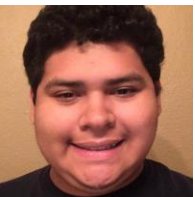
*Barranquilla, Colombia*

“Gwendalynn is currently conducting their first big research project which centers on power, death, and freedom as they relate to social identity. While in Colombia they've gotten to learn “costeñol” and engage with the different ideas their new peers have on politics in the Americas and race relations within Colombia.”



**Sadaf Ghiasy**

*Washington D.C., USA*



**Carlos Jr. Gomez**

*Italy*

### Student Recognition



**Anissa Lujan**, an English (Creative Writing) major with Ethnic Studies and Gender Studies minors, was featured by the [English Department!](#)



Miramontes Arts & Sciences Program

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER