



# GALLAGHER FOUNDATION

*Young Educated Leaders Will Bring Peace and Prosperity to the World*

MARCH 2019



## WHAT'S NEW AT THE GALLAGHER FOUNDATION?

**Congratulations to our recent ITESM Graduates:** José Kermith Morales Gómez, Iram Díaz Reyes, Ioanis Pablos Constantinou Castillo, María Fernanda Hernández Paredes, Valeria Gómez Rodríguez

**Congratulations to our recent UCT Graduates:** Jason Marco Papier, Amy Gennison, Ayanda Nyathi, Minenhle Sithole, Praise Ndebele, Cassandra Mokoto, Peter Wallace Mathebula

**Congratulations to our recent Boğaziçi Graduates:** Murat Kaan Velet, Özgür Togay, Hacer Kaya, Dilara Nur Dilmen

### We have Scholars in Mexico, South Africa, and Turkey

Total Scholars: 214

Current Scholars: 66

Graduated Scholars: 148

Current Scholars in Mexico: 21

Current Scholars in South Africa: 25

Current Scholars in Turkey: 20

## MEET A CURRENT SCHOLAR

### FIRAT CAN DIKME

**Firat Can Dikme (2015)** is a Civil Engineering major at Boğaziçi University in Turkey. Firat enjoys the many opportunities at Boğaziçi to connect with others and pursue his interests, as well as the beautiful view of the Bosphorus as he goes to and from his classes.

When not working on his classes, Firat works as a Process Development Engineer for a project management company and enjoys attending leadership, strategic management and technology workshops. Firat also enjoys cooking, travel and playing sports and finds his biggest challenge is managing his time. The most important lesson Firat has learned is that you can accomplish whatever you want but you may need to work more than others.

After graduating from Boğaziçi University, Firat plans to take an active role in global digitalization process and create added value to his country, eventually returning to academics for a masters degree in management.

Firat's hope is that Turkey will be able to provide a livable environment for all people in his country, in terms of education standards, business opportunities, clean air, and a sustainable world. To Firat, being a part of the Gallagher Scholar community means being a member of a family that works to make an impact for their countries and humanity thousands of miles away from each other, knowing that there are people who care about you and can help you anytime and anywhere you need them.



## MEET A GRADUATED SCHOLAR

### ALDO FAVIO

**Aldo Favio (2009)** studied Information Technology while he attended ITESM Monterrey. He started working at AutoZone as a Merchandising Analyst after graduation 5 years ago. He was promoted to Assortment Optimization Manager for Mexico two years ago. Aldo completed his Master's Degree in Business Management last year.

Aldo believes in the importance of having a balance between job, personal life, family, hobbies and rest. Three years ago, Aldo and three of his friends formed a Rock-Pop band called Pappagallo. Aldo plays lead guitar. They perform locally in Monterrey and are recording their first album which will be distributed in digital platforms.

Aldo serves as Lead Mentor for the Gallagher mentorship program in Mexico. He believes it is an honor being a Gallagher Scholar, but it is also a responsibility and all scholars need to commit to help others the same way in which they were helped by the Gallagher Foundation. Being a Gallagher Scholar has opened many doors for Aldo which would have been more difficult without the opportunity of being a part of the Gallagher Foundation.

Aldo would like to establish a foundation to provide free art and music education for children in Mexico, providing underprivileged children with motivation to overcome their current situation.

Aldo's advice for current scholars: Time goes fast and it is very important to make the most of it. We need to spend it wisely - do what you love, be with the ones you love, help others and be kind.





### A LETTER FROM THE GALLAGHER FOUNDATION

It has been four and half years since my father passed away. There are no longer scholars in the program who met him. I often have scholars ask me to tell them stories about him or share some words of his wisdom. I have asked a few family members to share a bit about him.

Sincerely, Megan Prindiville

When I was in high school, I was having a tough time with Geometry. One night when my Dad was helping me, he got a big smile on his face and he took me to our pool table. He lined up the balls in different positions like the equations. A light bulb went off in my head! By thinking outside the box, my Dad helped me understand something I was struggling with. He always found a way and encouraged us to think beyond traditional methods. The day I took my final, he was out of town on a business trip, so he called that evening to see how I did. I told him, "WE got a B!!!!" - **Ann Gallagher Diemer**

Dad was always a great source of advice and insight – whether it was job related, family or keeping everything in perspective. Not having the ability to call him up and get his thoughts on something is one of the things I miss most. At the same time, I realize how lucky I was to learn from his example. I credit Dad with giving me a strong moral compass and the confidence to know that things will work out if I do my best and always stick to my values. - **JP Gallagher**

Uncle Jerry talked to me about the importance of good leaders. He said, "No matter the field you're in, be a leader..." At the time I was too young to understand that message, but what I've learned since is that you can be a leader no matter your title, education, status or privilege. The spirit of a good leader is kindness tempered with expectation. I use this in my daily experience as a senior leader in my behavioral health care organization. - **Jennifer Mullane**

He felt that the most important decision a person makes in life is who he/she chooses as a spouse. - **Ellen Gallagher**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- **Zwelihle Mfundisi (2010)** was awarded a Stanford Graduate School of Business scholarship through the Stanford SEED program.
- **Fevzi Kalem (2012)** is working as a specialist in the Flight Training Directorate at Turkish Airlines, training pilot cadets and cabin crew.
- **Murat Kaan Velet (2008)** was married to Yeliz in November 2018.
- **Cwayita Kweyi (2017)** was featured in Cosmopolitan Magazine's "19 Under 19" for her work as deputy chairperson and co-founder of Amaqhawekazi, an organization that seeks to transform the lives of underprivileged teenagers in East London, South Africa.
- **Aalia Manie (2005)** has joined Snapt (a Silicon Valley headquartered tech company) as Chief Operating Officer. She is also enjoying her new role as a mother, welcoming her daughter Maya Horne in July of 2018.
- **Alejandra Lavín (2010)** announced her engagement to Gerardo Barrios. They will be married in Monterrey in October 2019.
- **Adriana Castro (2011)** completed her Masters in Management Program at ESCP Europe Paris, where she was selected to give the speech at graduation. She worked at both L'Oréal Paris Global HQ and Estée Lauder in the International Marketing departments.
- **Carlos Omar Ibarra (2010)** was selected as a Fulbright Scholar and is working on his Masters in Environmental Management with specialization in Clean Energy finance at Yale University in the U.S.
- **Paco Cervantes (2006)** was married to Regina in December 2018.
- **Safa Naraghi (2011)** is overseeing all projects in South Africa for Zenysis Technologies in his role as International Project and Product Manager.



Baby Maya – daughter of Aalia Manie



Alejandra Lavin and her fiancé Geraardo.



Murat Kaan Velet and his new wife Yeliz.



Adriana Castro giving the speech at her graduation ceremony.



Mexican Scholars at a Gathering



Paco Cervantes and his new wife, Regina



Scholars from Turkey enjoying a meal at their first Gathering together



Some South African Scholars at Camps Bay