



# GALLAGHER FOUNDATION

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

MARCH 2022



## WHAT'S NEW AT THE GALLAGHER FOUNDATION?

**Special Note:** This will be the last edition of the GF newsletter. Watch for the yearly GF Impact Report coming out at the end of 2022.

### Congratulations to our Graduates!

- **ITESM:** Moisés Alejandro Leyva Sanjuan, Cecil David López Barrera, Delia Itzel López Dueñas
- **UCT:** Blessings Dinake, Monalisa Johnson, Don Tanisen Maisels, Mmberegeni Justice Mapholi, Mongatane Prudence Shaku
- **Boğaziçi:** İlknur Çilingir, Meryem Gedemenli, Berkay Gümüş (pictured at left), Ege Kingir

### Gallagher Foundation Scholars:

Total Scholars: 250

Current Scholars: 64

Graduated Scholars: 186

Current Scholars in Mexico: 23

Current Scholars in South Africa: 28

Current Scholars in Turkey: 13

## MEET A CURRENT SCHOLAR

### Nur Ceren Aydınoğlu

**Nur Ceren Aydınoğlu** joined the Turkish Gallagher community in 2019. Nur is continuing her degree in Western Languages and Literature during her exchange semester at the University of Amsterdam. At Boğaziçi, Nur loves to research complex topics and participate in classroom debates on diverse issues. She is grateful for the liberating and empowering student community on campus. Breaking out of her comfort zone and meeting new people who strive for their ideals despite the current conditions gives Nur hope. She has realized how creativity is interwoven with freedom and her thinking has been transformed by professors, courses and fellow students. "I am inspired by challenging questions that require collaborative effort and I have come to question many things I took for granted."

Outside of class, Nur is taking classes from the conservatory on musicology. She volunteers at music festivals and writes articles on the local music scene in Istanbul. While overseas this semester, she is volunteering as a cultural ambassador on campus at the University of Amsterdam. She enjoys sailing, art exhibitions and watching independent movies with friends.

After graduating, Nur plans to stay in academia, continuing her research in social sciences and working on creative media production projects. "My hopes for Turkey are to face our past and break taboos about many topics that need to be talked about." Being a Gallagher Scholar has changed Nur's life for the better through the development of friendships within the community and the financial support to accomplish her goals. "My vision for the world thrived after meeting fellow accomplished Scholars."



## MEET A GRADUATED SCHOLAR

### José Martín Tapia García

**Martín Tapia** graduated from ITESM in Mexico in 2016 with a degree in Physics Engineering. Martín works as a master scheduler and planner for Wabtec, a company that manufactures locomotives and mining equipment. Having previously served as an operations leader for more than 70 employees around the world as part of the General Electric leadership program, Martín believes people to be the most important asset a company has. "There is nothing more important than people. Working closely with employees, developing a career path for them and taking care of them are important for great leaders."

Martín believes that Mexico needs young leaders who push for change. "We need to keep improving our communities, jobs and processes." Martín's advice for current Scholars is to study abroad in order to gain global perspective, meet people from around the world and learn about different cultures, traditions and values, as well as learning "different ways of thinking and the beauty of diversity through architecture, cultures, food, language, etc."

Being a Gallagher Scholar changed Martín's life, allowing him to study what he really loves. Through the Gallagher Foundation, Martín met talented people with a common goal to serve our society and contribute to Mexico's development. "I've always felt safe and welcomed by every member of the Foundation. Gallagher means my family."





### A LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

It's hard to believe the Gallagher Foundation is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year! Little did we know that an idea from a golf game in South Africa would develop into what the Foundation is today, with 250 Gallagher Scholars worldwide.

Our mission is "peace and prosperity through education." The Scholars are selected based on financial need, academic achievements, ethical values and leadership qualities. We wanted each Scholar to feel connected to a community and to be a real part of our family by giving them our name. The Scholars have the support and friendship of each other, as well as the support of the Foundation team.

Megan, Amy and Heidi are at the helm doing a great job fulfilling Jerry's legacy. I wish he were here to witness the Gallagher Foundation today but I really think he knows.

Kind regards - Ellen Gallagher

P.S.—Watch for more information on a virtual celebration of the Foundation's 20th anniversary later this year!

### SCHOLAR NEWS:

Beginning later this year, we will be posting Scholar updates on a quarterly basis on the GSGN platform and in the GSGN newsletter. Please send any updates (education, career, or family news) to the Foundation at [heidi@gallagherfoundation.org](mailto:heidi@gallagherfoundation.org)

- **Burak Turk (2006)** graduated from Georgia Institute of Technology with a Masters of Science in Computer Science degree in 2021.
- **Nkosiphile Ndlovu (2006)** welcomed a baby girl to her family late in 2020.
- **Pelin Pinar (2007)** welcomed her son, Atlas, to her family in April 2021.
- **Miguel Chávez (2009)** completed his PhD in Chemical engineering in November 2021 at Iowa State University. His wife, Carmen López, also completed her PhD at Iowa State at the same time. Miguel is now in Boston, working on a postdoc at Harvard University.
- **Carlos Omar Ibarra (2010)** is engaged to Maggie Ferrato—congratulations on your upcoming wedding!
- **Umut Ünal (2011)** shared a photo of his family, including his wife, Sibel, and daughter, Ayla (2 years old), on the Boğaziçi campus.
- **Naadiya Waggiel (2012)** was married to Dr. Amith Partab in November 2021.
- **Daniel Hernández (2012)** was married to Daniela Bonill on February 18, 2022 surrounded by many Gallagher graduated Scholars.
- **Lukhanyiso Ndevu (2013)** was hired to work at Zenysis by Safa Naraghi (2011). Safa says it's the best hire he ever made!
- **Refik Yıldız (2013)** recently became a self-employed translator. "This was a dream of mine when I started my undergraduate degree, to make an impact in the Turkish translation industry and the Gallagher Foundation had a clear effect on my vision."
- **Arlen Salazar (2013)** was married to Eduardo Perez on February 19, 2022. Gallagher graduated Scholars joined the celebration.
- **Enes Koşar (2015)** founded a start-up company, Wyseye, focusing on computer vision and sports technologies in 2022.



Burak Turk



Nkosiphile



Pelin and Atlas



Dr. Miguel and Dr. Carmen



Carlos Omar and Maggie—engaged!



Umut, Sibel and Ayla at Boğaziçi



Daniel and Daniela's wedding



Arlen & Eduardo and their Gallagher family

