



## **NEW LEADER SCHOLAR BIOS 2005**

**LANICE AVERY**, See 2008 entry (awarded a third New Leader Scholarship)

**HONG CAO**, See 2007 entry (awarded a second New Leader Scholarship)

**ASHLEY DUNN** graduated from U.C., Berkeley, having majored in History and Molecular and Cell Biology. She is the first in her family to attend college, coming from a single parent, economically disadvantaged background. Due to a severe cranio-facial birth defect, Ashley has undergone many painful surgeries, leading to a lifelong interest in helping medically indigent youngsters with surgically correctible deformities. Her interests in public health and public policy led to a six week internship in three European countries, studying the impact of the AIDS epidemic. Ashley chose to write an honors thesis in her junior year on the history of genetics at Berkeley, for which she received high honors. Additionally, she was elected to be the Premedical Liaison to the National Health Policy Action Committee while at UCB... While working in the Surgical Research Department of UCSF, she studied the potential for embryonic stem cells to improve rates of wound healing in diabetic patients. This fall, Ashley started her second year in Medical School at the University of Southern California and is already engaged in meaningful research. She is a two time recipient of the New Leader Scholarship.

**ARMANDO LARA** completed his Master's Program in Educational Leadership and Preliminary Administrator Credential Program at San Jose State University. He is a graduate of San Jose State University with a major in child and adolescent development. As an adolescent, who emigrated from Mexico, he is devoted to working with low income Latino youngsters. He completed his multiple subject BCLAD-Spanish teaching credential and has been working as an educator in a low income school in San Jose. Following in the footsteps of an early mentor of his, Armando is passionate about his work with the families of low income Hispanic immigrants and is engaged in a variety of outreach projects. This past year he began a special assignment as a Literacy Teacher for grades 3-6 in an Intervention Program at his school. In his ninth year of teaching, he hopes that his background will lead to becoming a school administrator. Armando is the first in his family to attend college and has received two New Leader Scholarships.

**FELICIA MOORE-JORDAN**, See 2007 entry (awarded a fourth New Leader Scholarship)

**MELISSA LAURA SAN MIGUEL** graduated from U.C. Berkeley, with a degree in Political Science. In 2008, she gave the valedictory address to political science majors. In 2009 she was awarded an education fellowship by the state of California and worked for the Department of Education in Sacramento for two years. Through both her work and volunteer activities with nonprofits, such as Hispanics in Philanthropy, she has gained a great deal of experience in the non-profit sector. In 2007, Melissa was awarded a summer fellowship at Berkeley's Goldman Institute in Public Policy and International Affairs. Currently, Melissa is working for an educational nonprofit organization, the organization, "Education Trust", advocates for changes in legislation that will close the achievement gap for low-income students and students of color. Melissa is part of the external relations team which meets with legislators in Sacramento hoping to effect changes in legislation. She plans to continue her studies and earn a JD and an MBA. after acquiring more work experience at her nonprofit. She is fluent in several languages, speaking Spanish at home with her Peruvian parents, and hopes ultimately to master seven languages with fluency. As an avid musician, she spends her free time playing the piano, guitar and violin.

**CHRISTYNA SERRANO**, (See 2012 entry, awarded a sixth New Leader Scholarship)

**SAMORN SELIM**, See 2008 entry (awarded a fourth New Leader Scholarship).

**SARAH THIBAUT**, See 2009 entry (awarded a third New Leader Scholarship)

**AMIA TRIGG** graduated from U.C., Berkeley with a double major in Psychology and African American Studies. Experiencing the early loss of both parents and being raised by her grandparents in Las Vegas, has deeply shaped her concept of how to help others. Her grandfather became heroic in her eyes through his capacity to overcome great poverty and discrimination while encouraging her to pursue her dreams. She was the president of the Black Pre-Law Society on campus and volunteered for Alameda County Pre-Trial Services. Her emphasis is on remedying inherent discriminatory practices within the legal system. Amia has completed both her J.D. at Harvard Law School and her Master's of Public Policy Program at Harvard's Kennedy School. While at Harvard, she was the co-chair of the Black Law Student's Mentorship Program which encourages high school students to continue their education. Currently, Amia is clerking for U.S. District Judge of the Southern District of New York, the Honorable George B. Daniel.

**AREZO YAZD** See 2008 entry (awarded a fifth New Leader Scholarship)