

# THE ALUMNI

## NEWSLETTER

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### WELCOME!

We are proud to introduce the FIRST College Bound Opportunities Alumni Newsletter! You will be provided with an exclusive look into the Alumni life and stay up to date on the latest CBO news. You can learn about our upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and even find a job.

This newsletter and all that follow are dedicated to the CBO Alumni who continue to work hard and allow nothing to get in the way of achieving their dreams.

This is an inclusive, diverse and national newsletter meant for the CBO community to learn more about each other, find support, and make great connections. Our goal is to help every CBO Alumni reach their full potential and to give back to an organization that gave so much to us!

For us to be able to provide you with the best and most up to date information please contact [cboalumni@gmail.com](mailto:cboalumni@gmail.com) with any feedback or any information you would like posted in the monthly newsletter.

We appreciate your involvement!



# WHAT TO EXPECT

Without the incredible CBO Alumni Association this newsletter would not exist. We will formally introduce you to each member on the Board along with opportunities on how to get involved.

We will also end each newsletter with a note from the editor because everyone on the board would like the alumni to know the amount of effort put into everything we do for you and this newsletter.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Cards for College**  
**February 26th**  
**10-3pm**  
**Ravinia Green**  
**Country Club**

Cards for College is a CBO hosted event, come play cards, mahjong, or any game of your choice! Visit the CBO website to pay for your seat or email [intern@cbo4success.org](mailto:intern@cbo4success.org) for more information.

**Alumni Class Reunion!**  
**More information**  
**to follow**  
**in an invitation**

Haven't seen other alumni from your year of CBO graduates? Want to meet the newest members of the CBO Alumni? Join us for drinks, food, and games!

# CORE TEAM

## BRITNEY WITTES

### Influence Lead, Class of 2019

Britney graduated in three years from Columbia College Chicago with a B.A. in Dance. She is currently working for College Bound Opportunities as a development intern. She decided to help form the Alumni Association as a way to help alumni create their own network while still being able to give back to CBO for all they do for their Scholars.



## AMY YI

### Give Back Lead, Class of 2017

Amy graduated from Northwestern University with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering and earned a Kellogg Certificate Program for Undergraduates in Managerial Analytics. She is currently working at a consulting firm called Roland Berger. Amy wanted to help form the Alumni Association because she wants to show her appreciation in some way, shape or form, and believes there are many other alumni who feel the same way.

## NIC ROTI

### Network Lead, Class of 2019

Nic graduated from Illinois State University with a degree in General Marketing. Nic is currently working at Medline as an Associate Marketing Manager. I wanted to help create the alumni association because of the impact CBO made me my whole life. I want to help raise the level of importance this program has on its scholars and that once you're in CBO, you're apart forever.



# INFLUENCE PILLAR

## MATEUSZ SKRZYNIECKI

### Class of 2018

Mateusz graduated from Columbia College Chicago with a degree in Graphic Design and Photography. He is currently working to achieve his masters degree in Applied Professional studies. Mateusz currently works at the Highland Park Public Library as a Media Assistant. He wants to give advice, answer questions and even told someone to join CBO as he was a great fit! Mateusz is happy to help out in anyway he can.



## BRITTANY LOWIS

### Class of 2017

Brittany graduated from DePaul University with a double major in Business Administration and Marketing with a concentration in Sales Leadership. She also received a double minor in Management and Economics. Currently, she is a 2L at DePaul University - College of Law. Without CBO's help through law school, she realized just how much CBO actually did help her. This realization is the reason she would like to give back to CBO and allow future scholars to get the best help/experience they can!

# GIVE BACK PILLAR

## ZARI DOBREV

### Class of 2017

Zari graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a degree in Technical Systems Management. He is currently working at Spraying Systems Co. as a Technical Support Specialist. Zari feels that an alumni community has been missing from CBO and there is a lot of room to get involved and give back in the way that CBO has given to us.



## FRANKIE CHARLES

### Class of 2018

Frankie graduated from DePaul University with a degree in Theatre Technology. He currently lives in Minneapolis working as a Resident Artist Assistant Technical Director at the Minnesota Opera. Frankie wasn't sure how best to give back to the community that has given him so much, but he thought this would be a great place to start.

## JOHN MANNEBACH

### Class of 2015

John graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a BBA in Finance and Information Systems. He currently works at Kaufman Hall as a Corporate Financial Analyst. Giving back is something that John has always tried to do but he also wants to be able to show appreciation, get involved, and give advice to Scholars as to what he knows now that he wishes he knew before.



# NETWORK PILLAR

## LUPITA GARCIA

### Class of 2015

Lupita graduated from Elmhurst College with a degree in Secondary Education and ESL. She currently works at the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. She feels there is so much that goes on after college that no one shares with young professionals. Lupita would like to connect with others to help each other navigate through their careers.



## ANNA AGUILAR

### Class of 2011

Anna graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a degree in Political Science. She is currently working as a Family Law Attorney in Chicago. CBO is near and dear to Anna, and she has watched it grow into what it is today. She still feels there is more that can be done and give back not just to CBO but the community that gave so much to her.

## LESLY BARRERA

### Class of 2017

Lesly graduated from Lake Forest College with a Bachelor of Arts in Business and Spanish. She is currently working at Blue Cross Blue Shield as a senior Market Analyst. She felt she was grounded through CBO but, no one mentions how difficult it can be to be a young adult. She thinks this is a great opportunity to get together with other young professionals to share and grow.



# WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

**Volunteer:** Join the Gala or Golf committee to plan the events! Attend the Internship Fair, help out with Mock Interviews, or join community service hours!

**Become a Mentor:** Want to give back to the next generation of CBO Scholars? Become a mentor!

**Speak on a panel:** Want to tell current Scholars what you wish you knew before college? Email [zaridobrev@gmail.com](mailto:zaridobrev@gmail.com).

**Host a workshop:** Want to inform our current Scholars on something you're passionate about? Email [cboalumni@gmail.com](mailto:cboalumni@gmail.com) for more information!



# DON'T LIVE HERE?

Make sure you are apart of the Facebook/LinkedIn groups to help alumni no matter where they are! Facebook @CBOAlumni  
Linkedin @CollegeBoundOpportunitiesAlumni

Interested in doing more with current Scholars?  
Do a Q & A with students via videochat!

Are there Scholars or alumni in your area?  
Facilitate a group get together for coffee, dinner, or a fun activity while also being a resource!

Are Scholars visiting a college near you?  
Get coffee with them and their parents to answer any questions about college life or the general area they may have.

**One or many of these spark your interest?** Have an idea that isn't on here? Email [cboalumni@gmail.com](mailto:cboalumni@gmail.com) for more information!

# NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Having this as a first issue to introduce The Alumni Association and all we hope to accomplish is very exciting. CBO has had an interest in creating this association for the alumni for a few years now and are thrilled this is now a reality.

In December of 2019, Amy Yi, Nic Roti, and myself, Britney Wittes, created The Alumni Association as a way give back to CBO and to provide the alumni a place to feel connected, appreciated and supported. We understand that life is not easy and we want to provide the support and encouragement that every person deserves and needs. Each member of the association was specifically chosen because they are very dedicated to seeing a positive change in this community.

As an association, we are committed to hosting events specifically for the Alumni to connect with one another, as well as communicate with alumni who are no longer in the Chicagoland area. We also want to engage the graduating class about to become alumni to make sure they feel welcomed and apart of this community.

CBO was always committed to us being our best selves and putting our best foot forward, and we want to be able to help the Scholars as well as all the alumni to do just that.

Thank you for joining us for our first issue! If there are any events, ideas, or something going on in your life that you would like to share with us, please let me know!



**Britney Wittes**  
Influence Pillar Lead  
Core Member  
Class of 2019  
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