**Meagan Allen** is a senior at the College of Charleston from Aynor, SC. She plans to graduate in May as a political science major with a concentration in politics, philosophy and law, as well as a double minor in crime, law and society, and women’s and gender studies. Her interests include reading, traveling, music, and issues surrounding the rights of women and children. She became interested in the latter after interning in a solicitor’s office and witnessing firsthand the effects that crime and abuse have on women and children. She is currently interning at the Charleston County Public Defender and continues to work with women and children who have been victims of crime, abuse, and neglect. Meagan plans to attend law school and eventually work here in South Carolina to prosecute individuals who perpetrate crimes against women and children. She also hopes to help work towards more equal representation of women in government, particularly at the state and local level, where women are especially underrepresented. Meagan recognizes the importance of having women’s voices heard in government, as well as having them embraced and celebrated.

**Shayna Bannister** is now back in Charleston for her senior year after studying abroad in Estonia and traveling around Europe for six months. As a double major in women’s and gender studies and sociology and a minor in criminology, Shayna wants to address issues related to women’s reproductive health, inequalities in our institutions, addiction, and other systems of oppression. For her sociology Senior Seminar project, Shayna is studying the College of Charleston Rugby Football Club teams and how the dynamics of the game affect the relationships the male and female players have with each other off-field. In the past, Shayna has lived and worked in Austin, Texas. As a camp counselor in Austin, she worked with disadvantaged youth from difficult backgrounds such as poverty, foster care, and abuse. She has also interned with the South Carolina Contraceptive Access Campaign (SCCAC) as a Youth Activist educating young SC people on their contraceptive options and rights. After graduating in May 2015, Shayna hopes to return back to Europe for additional traveling before working with an international aid organization.
Cynthia “Nikki” Brown is from Mullins, South Carolina, where she attended Mullins High School and graduated salutatorian. Through her participation in Palmetto Girls State, Nikki discovered her love for teaching and being around high school students. Nikki, a first generation college student double-majoring in secondary education and history, had a lot of support from her high school mentors who encouraged her to attend college. As a result, she wants to give back and support future high school students. Nikki is an advocate for the LGBT community. She has participated in various pride and anti-bullying festivals and campaigns. Ultimately, Nikki would like to dedicate her life to helping those who are ignored and forgotten. She says, “The Ketner Scholarship has not only helped me achieve my goals, it has given me the opportunity to impact my future students’ lives, and for that I am extremely grateful.”

Meredith Jackson is a sophomore in the Honors College and currently maintains a 3.9 GPA. Meredith is a women’s and gender studies major and Spanish minor, though she is looking to pick up another major in the social sciences. She started her work in activism with a poster campaign around the College of Charleston campus aimed at beginning a dialogue on white privilege. The project received an enormous response, both positively and negatively, which has led Meredith to continue the campaign this fall semester. She also works closely with the Vegan Club on campus, educating others about the environmental and ethical benefits of a plant-based diet.

Melissa Jacobs is a senior at the College of Charleston majoring in women’s and gender studies. Melissa works with Dr. Kristi Brian in the Office of Institutional Diversity as a Diversity Advocate. She runs a Facebook page called Guerilla Feminism South Carolina (GF SC), which is a local branch of the largest intersectional feminist network Guerilla Feminism. Melissa is writing an article detailing why analyzing pop culture is important, and researching for her women’s and gender studies Capstone, which will focus on representation in movies based on Marvel comics versus the representation in the actual comics. When Melissa is not doing schoolwork she is studying for the GRE and researching graduate school programs. In her free time, she enjoys reading science fiction and fantasy novels.
Georgia Maynard is a graduating senior in the women’s and gender studies program, and during her final year in Charleston she intends to study, work and volunteer as much as possible. Throughout her college career, Georgia has worked for the Charleston Sports Network, and is now a freelance replay technician in the south east. While volunteering with a local retirement community, Georgia met a native Charlestanian by the name if Virginia. During their weekly visits, they discuss the history of Charleston, and in particular, the United Order of Tents (UOT), an organization that has been largely ignored by history thereby inspiring Georgia’s independent research. The UOT is an African American fraternal order exclusively for women that started as a station on the Underground Railroad in the last 1800s. Throughout history the UOT has been an advocate for democracy, civil rights and education, and continues to provide scholarships for young women. Additionally, she volunteers with the Feline Freedom Coalition, Cypress Gardens in the Butterfly House, and is applying to volunteer with My Sister’s House. Whenever she has spare time, Georgia likes to kayak.

Anjali Naik is a sophomore at the College of Charleston majoring in computing in the arts (with a concentration in visual art) and minoring in women’s and gender studies. On campus, she is currently an active member of the Bonner Leader Program, the College’s Vagina Monologues, the Office of Institutional Diversity, and Chuck de Raas, an Indian cultural folk-dance team that she helped found as an official CofC club in 2013. Anjali and her roommate also host a college radio show, Dark Slip, through CisternYard Radio. The show airs every Monday at 10pm playing music and discussing radical news/opinions. Currently, Anjali is volunteering a large portion of her time for Girls Rock Charleston. Anjali is a member of Southerners On New Ground, attending the Not One More protest in DC this summer. Anjali loves organizing and performing for rallies. In fact, her picture made it into the New York Times for one of the CofC protests this past spring. When she has free time, she enjoys playing her guitar and bass guitar, singing for open mics, and songwriting.

Maya Novak-Cogdell grew up in Charleston, about 10 blocks away from campus. She is a sophomore majoring in international studies, as well as Spanish, and currently completing coursework that focuses almost exclusively on enhancing awareness and understanding differences of others, while maintaining the importance of all varieties of experience. This past semester, Maya took Professor Sarah Holihan-Smith’s WGST 200 class and grew not only in her knowledge of feminist theory and practice, but also in her role as an activist. Maya has participated in the series of “Cut the Cuts” and “Rally for Our Stories” demonstrations that sought to protest the budget cuts the College sustained following their choice of Fun Home, by Alison Bechdel, as the 2013 College Reads book. Through a semester-long activism project, she collected materials and funds for the Florence Crittenden house. She is working as an intern for the C of C Global Awareness Forum helping to organize events like lectures and film screenings that can help to address ignorance and intolerance of foreign ideas and values.
Sarah Rivas, originally from Elk Grove, California, is a history major and religious studies minor. She is an active member of the Atheist Humanist Alliance and plays the position of beater on the College of Charleston Quidditch team. She has raised money for breast cancer research, RAINN and the governor campaign for Wendy Davis. As a result of an essay Sarah wrote about the feminist-like themes found in Joss Whedon’s television show Dollhouse, she was featured on the College of Charleston’s website. Sarah enjoys contributing to her blog, which focuses on women’s roles in sci-fi, fantasy and other similar topics.

Nely Rusher-Clark is a junior majoring in women and gender studies. Her interests include traveling, exercise, and issues concerning women and children. Nely grew up in a home that exposed her to activism around issues of equality and justice, attending her first rally when she was two-weeks old. Growing up around a union organizer mother and progressive feminist parents, Nely was strongly influenced by the political family discussions. At the College of Charleston she has attended vigils such as United Students Against Sweatshops standing up for workers rights and lectures discussing diversity and equality at the college and around the country. She also hopes to become more involved with increasing campus diversity through the Diversity Advocates program. Over the next two years Nely plans to find an internship that combines her interest in health and physical fitness with her passion for women’s equality. She is going abroad this Spring 2015 Semester to Seville, Spain in order to not only strengthen her Spanish-language skills but to also broaden her experience in other cultures.

Carley Stanley, a psychology major and women’s and gender studies minor, is from Conway, SC where she grew up on her family’s farm. Carley has always felt the need to help others, which, as a result, has manifested in a passion for volunteering. She has done work with malnourished and underprivileged children in Haiti, and tried to start an orphanage there, but did not have the funding. During her academic journey, Carley discovered her passion for helping victims of sexual assault. Her volunteering at People Against Rape really initiated her love for activism. Since volunteering with them, she has spoken to fraternities, individuals, and helped plan events on the topic of sexual assault and rape. She has written letters and spoken to many faculty members about how College of Charleston handles sexual assault and rape. Currently, Carley is working on a campaign to promote awareness of white privilege at the College.
April Sygam: Originally from Long Island, New York, April is in the process of becoming an elementary education major. Some of her interests include traveling and writing. She has raised money for the Polar Bear Plunge, breast cancer organizations and Habitat for Humanity by running in marathons, which she thoroughly enjoys. April has volunteered abroad in multiple countries, including Ghana, China, and Nicaragua (twice). With help of fellow Ketner Scholar, Sarah Rivas, she has held bake sales for both RAINN and Wendy Davis, helping with much-needed fundraising. She has attended various lectures and seminars on sexuality, homosexuality and diversity. Currently, April is on the Varsity Crew Team as head coxswain. She is involved with the Jewish Student Union, and takes part in volunteer work for several Greek philanthropies at the College. She also volunteers every week at a local school to work with children in the hopes to raise awareness of lost "playground" time throughout schools nationally. Post-graduation, April hopes to take a year off to travel and explore, join the Peace Corps for the assigned two years, and ultimately, teach abroad in poverty-stricken areas.