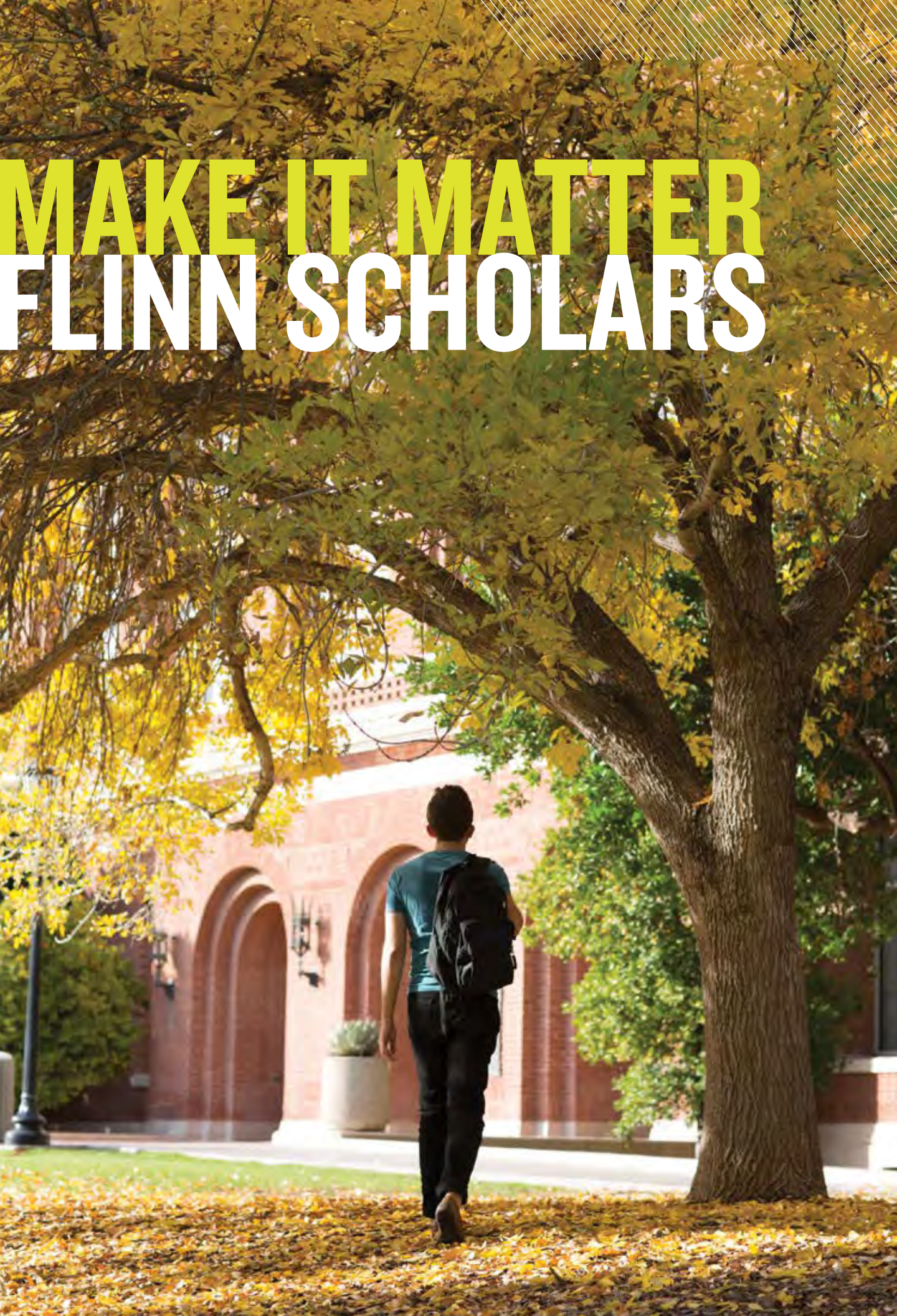


# MAKE IT MATTER FLINN SCHOLARS



**E**ACH SPRING, THE FLINN SCHOLARS PROGRAM offers Arizona's 20 most accomplished and promising high-school seniors an education distinguished by exceptional resources, flexibility, and opportunity—without a dime of debt. But here's the truth: the Flinn Scholarship isn't about what you get. It's about who you become and **the impact you make**. It's a grand experiment by the Flinn Foundation

to prove that giving you a **world-class education** at an Arizona public university will help us fulfill our mission, *to improve the quality of life in Arizona to benefit future generations*. It's a grand experiment that has proven true: With that world-class education made possible by the Flinn Scholarship, you can become an agent of discovery, creativity, and leadership who will **make a difference**.

# MAKE YOUR FUTURE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



← Annie Carson's interests range widely, from philosophy to creative writing to Chinese. But since high school, one subject has engaged her most: maternal health care. Through local internships and her studies as a global-health major, she prepared for an extraordinary summer that took her to six nations on five continents researching the role of midwifery in reducing maternal mortality.

→ PURSUE YOUR PASSIONS. ALL OF THEM

# THE ACADEMICS



← Flinn Scholars often describe the community they form as the most meaningful aspect of the Scholars Program. Within that community, Scholars learn from one another continuously, the product of a shared sense of curiosity and eclectic academic interests. Ian Barton (left) chose to study economics and sports business management; Cooper Temple was drawn to economics, too, alongside Arabic.

**F**OR THE HIGHEST-PERFORMING and highest-potential students, to choose Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, or the University of Arizona is to choose a flexible, intensely **rigorous academic experience**. The size of these universities is an asset, enabling them to offer strong programs in almost any discipline imaginable. It's a rare Flinn Scholar who doesn't change majors, and it's not unusual for a Scholar to graduate in three or even four fields of study—an outcome made possible by the ease with which college credits earned in high school transfer to the university. Meanwhile, Honors students have **experiences one would expect at a top liberal-arts college**: small seminar courses, research-intensive thesis projects, and personal guidance from professors who are international experts in their fields.



→ In her pursuit of a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance, Allyson Yoder dedicated dozens of hours each week to rehearsal and performance—and to studying socially engaged artistic practice. A leader in the dance-as-service organization Movement Exchange, she taught dance at both a Phoenix shelter for domestic-violence victims and an orphanage in Panama.

→ FIND AN EXPERT GUIDE. OR TWO

**T**HROUGH HONORS COURSES AND RESEARCH opportunities, top students at Arizona's universities routinely build **meaningful relationships** with their professors, a key to a successful undergraduate experience. Recognizing the importance of such connections, the Flinn Scholars Program provides even more support: Every Flinn Scholar is matched with a **faculty mentor**, a professor who can serve as a career-development guide, a troubleshooter, a friendly face in difficult times. And to help Scholars build their networks beyond campus, the Scholars Program regularly helps Scholars connect with dynamic companies and nonprofit organizations in the community for **professional-development experiences**. These organizations often have leaders who are closely connected to the Flinn Foundation—and sometimes are themselves Flinn Scholar alumni.

# THE CONNECTIONS



← When she arrived on campus as a freshman, Tristen Vaughn thought that neuroscience might be the right major for her. Who would be an ideal faculty mentor for a young scientist in training? For Tristen, the answer was Dr. Gail Burd, a respected researcher in molecular and cellular biology, who was also her university's senior vice provost for academic affairs.



↑ Lizzie Hannah, with support and connections from the Flinn Scholars Program, secured a ten-week internship at the Critical Path Institute in Tucson, where she worked on a project to validate safety biomarkers in pharmaceutical development. By summer's end, her supervisor, Dr. Amanda Baker—also a university professor—had offered Lizzie a continuing position in an on-campus research lab.

→ LEARN FROM THE BEST: EACH OTHER

→ An incisive writer with particular interest in politics and international affairs, Jacquelyn Oesterblad (center) became her university newspaper's opinions editor and subsequently its features editor. Maddie Pickens (left) and Hailey Dickson were two of five more Flinn Scholars that Jacquelyn encouraged to join the newspaper staff as columnists.

# THE RELATIONSHIPS



→ Jon Zia (left), Lekha Anantuni, and Ajay Karpur secured research positions in a top engineering lab by virtue of their own excellence. But it didn't hurt to have another Flinn Scholar vouching for them: Shantanu Bala, whose work on a device to improve communication for the hearing- and visually impaired helped him earn the prestigious Thiel Fellowship by the time he completed college.

**T**HE COMPETITION TO EARN the Flinn Scholarship is intense; out of hundreds of gifted, accomplished applicants, just 20 become Flinn Scholars each year. But that's where the competition stops. Perhaps the most striking characteristic of the Flinn Scholars community is its decades-long **tradition of mutual support**. When one Scholar learns about a research opportunity, she shares the news with her peers. When another Scholar defends his honors thesis, the presentation room is crowded with fellow Scholars. Several times a year, Scholars from one university will caravan to another to catch up in person. And from across Arizona and around the country, alumni Scholars counsel current Scholars, send job-opening announcements, and cheer on one another as they reach career milestones.

# THE TRAVEL

→ THE WORLD IS YOUR CAMPUS



← Amy Umaretiya, a double-major in civil engineering and political science, interned at the Arizona Legislature and in Washington, D.C., and back on her home campus, she worked in an environmental-biotechnology lab. These experiences made her a strong candidate for the National Security Education Program Scholarship, an award she used for a fully funded year of studying engineering in Turkey.




↓ Year after year, Scholars return from the group seminar especially grateful for their rural homestay experiences, which test their problem-solving skills and enable them to demonstrate the capacity to communicate across linguistic and cultural barriers.



ONE OF THE HALLMARKS OF the Flinn Scholars Program is scholarship-funded study abroad. The Scholars Program supports at least two travel experiences for Flinn Scholars, the first an **international seminar**, currently offered in China, for each class of Scholars after the first year of undergraduate study. The seminar strengthens community among the Scholars while helping them build skills and preparing them to travel confidently and wisely in more independent settings. For subsequent travel, Scholars choose programs—including **semester exchanges, language study, and volunteer opportunities**—that will enrich and complement their academic programs while helping them gain the perspective they will need as future leaders in a wide range of fields within Arizona, nationally, and even globally.

# THE OUTCOME



← While a student at the University of Arizona College of Medicine, Flinn Scholar alumnus Adeel Yang developed with a classmate an idea for a new tool to study medical concepts and terminology. That idea became a startup firm based in Tempe that in its first four years raised nearly \$5 million and grew to 30 employees—while its founder completed his medical degree.

→ **THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING**

→ As high-school classmates, Nikil Selvam (left) and Ryan Lane were already inclined toward technology-based problem-solving, using the micro-funding initiative Kiva to support developing-world entrepreneurs. Nikil's first stop as a Flinn Scholar alum: a business-consulting position at McKinsey & Company. For Ryan: a software-development job at a firm in Budapest, Hungary, where he studied as an undergraduate.



**A**S ALUMNI, FLINN SCHOLARS PROCEED to a dazzling array of **graduate schools and careers**, with their rich undergraduate experiences making them highly competitive for their top choices. More than 80 percent of Scholars ultimately pursue graduate school, often at **the best universities** in their fields, whether that be medicine at Mayo, engineering at Stanford, law at Harvard, or fiction writing at Iowa. (Some detour to England first as Rhodes, Marshall, or Gates Cambridge Scholars). Alumni serve in the State Department and Teach for America, are professors at some 20 universities, run units of major corporations, run tiny firms they founded, manage nonprofits, pursue public office, and care for their families. Many alumni find enriching, impactful opportunities in their home state.

→ BENEFITS AND QUALIFICATIONS

# THE PATH FORWARD



**T**HE FLINN SCHOLARSHIP IS A PARTNERSHIP between the Flinn Foundation Scholarship Program LLC and Arizona's public universities: Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Arizona. The Scholarship provides the cost of **tuition and mandatory fees, plus room and board, for eight semesters; and an allowance for two study-abroad experiences.** Flinn Scholarship applicants must be Arizona residents for two years and must secure U.S. citizenship or legal permanent residency by the time of entry to the university. Requirements regarding grade-point average, class rank, and test scores are available on the Flinn Scholars website. Strong candidates for the Scholarship will demonstrate academic and extracurricular excellence and leadership focused on strengthening their community—whether at the local or broader level.

→ [FLINNSCHOLARS.ORG](https://flinnscholars.org)



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