

2016-2017 Boston QVS Fellows



Ian Bartimole was raised in Shaker Heights, Ohio. During his time at Shaker Heights High School, he became a part of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. He then attended Earlham College, earning his undergraduate degree in Philosophy. In the beginning of his experience at Earlham, first-year seminars centered on the question: How shall we live? Since then, much of Ian's own journey has been lived out in relation and response to this question. For him, it prompts

a constant attentiveness to our individual and communal ways of life, and an engagement in a search for more fruitful, just, and compassionate relations with the individuals around us. Ian studied abroad in Dharamshala, India, for a semester taking courses on Tibetan Buddhism and the Tibetan struggle for autonomy. He conducted his senior capstone research on the work of Spinoza, asking questions about the way to 'Freedom,' here a kind of Enlightenment which is at once spiritual, intellectual, and emotional. Ian loves to read, write, and dialogue with his peers, always in the hope of learning together and relating authentically to one another. His all-time favorite work has been serving as a counselor for 6th grade campers for 3 of the past 4 years, teaching them how to canoe, and pushing them to understand the impacts (both positive and negative) they might have on one another. He is excited to be serving with QVS at Cambridge Friends School.



Cristina Eraso Cordoba grew up in Pasto, Colombia. She graduated from Mariana University, a Catholic school in the same city in 2016 with degree in Law. She worked at a Quaker summer camp for 3 years in Vermont, which was where she found out about Quaker community. Coming from a traditional Colombian family and being interested in human rights and social justice, she decided to write her thesis about Indigenous Communities, which led her to

learn lots of different and amazing things about these groups. She will be serving at Metrowest Worker Center-CASA, where she is going to learn and help in a meaningful way. She is also really excited to work in a multilingual and multiracial workplace. Also, her first language is Spanish and her year with QVS will be the first time that she spends more than three months away from home. She is very hopeful and happy for this year.



Lily Hayward grew up in the Boston area and is very excited for the opportunity to live and work within this community after being away from home for the past few years. Lily was introduced to Quakerism while attending Guilford College, where she studied Sociology/ Anthropology, Environmental Studies and Ceramics. At Guilford she explored courses focused on experiential learning where she developed a passion for finding connections between human health and environmental health while critically thinking about society. This led her to study

abroad for a January term in Rwanda centered on social and environmental justice. She participated in peace and community building workshops at the Quaker Peace House in

Kigali and worked with local university students to generate a long term relationship between the two schools. In her down time she loves cooking, playing ultimate frisbee, and being outdoors. She looks forward to intentional community living with the QVS fellows and is ready to start working with Boston Health Care for the Homeless.



Sarah Levy grew up in Maryland just outside of Washington DC, and attended a small Quaker school from age 5 to 18. Although she was a member of a Presbyterian church with her family, she came to deeply value the Quaker practice of meeting for worship, as well as the community's focus on pursuing social and environmental justice.

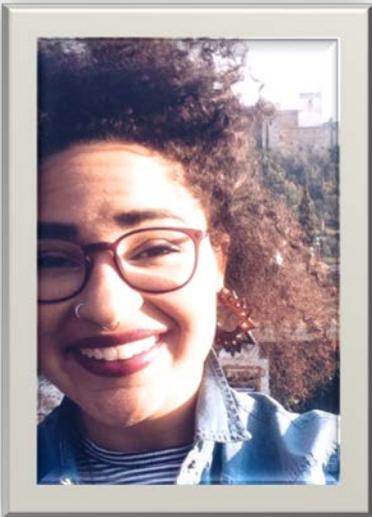
After high school, Sarah headed off to Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, where she majored in Latin American Studies with a focus on the intersections of race and gender. The summer after her sophomore year, she participated in an Anthropological field school program in Shiripuno, Ecuador, where she began to learn the indigenous language of the region, Kichwa, and interviewed the women of the community about the tourism business they had started. This experience inspired her to return the following summer to live in Shiripuno for a month in order to continue exploring the ways in which the women's business had impacted gender roles in the community.

While in college, Sarah was also heavily involved with the McKeen Center for the Common Good, engaging in leadership training, ESL tutoring and just hanging out and chatting with all of the thoughtful people there, reflecting on privilege and the problematic aspects of service work. Sarah's other interests include cooking, eating, riding her bike, listening to music, and singing. Sarah will be serving with the Community Action Agency of Somerville this year.



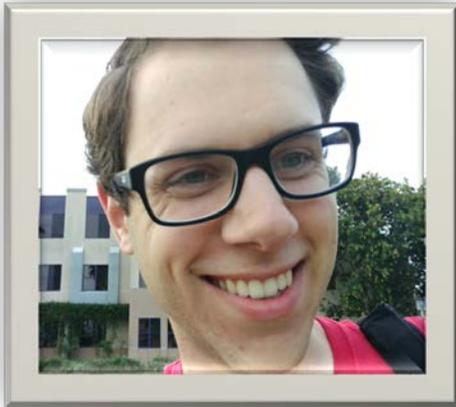
Libby Stillwell graduated from Guilford College in May 2016 with a BA in Psychology and Peace and Conflict Studies. Growing up, Libby attended New England Yearly Meeting, and Friends Camp. Throughout college, Libby served as the Conflict Resolution Resource Center Coordinator, a Teacher's Assistant, a Resident Advisor, and a Tour Guide. During her time at Guilford, Libby also worked as an Assistant Archivist in the Friend's

Historical Collection, provided childcare to Friendship Friends Meeting, and was a Quaker Leadership Scholars Recipient. As an alumnus of The Meeting School, Westtown, and Guilford College, Libby values of the kind of transformative learning that a Quaker education supports and is extremely excited to join Cambridge Friends' School for their 2016-17 academic year.



Zenaida Peterson is a queer, poet of color from Atlanta, Georgia who was raised Unitarian Universalist. She is the daughter of activists and the granddaughter of a Quaker. She graduated from Simmons College in May of 2015 with a majors in Political Science and Sociology and a minor in Public Policy. Since graduation she has been living in Madrid, Spain teaching English to hooligans whom she grew to love and traveling through parts of the world she never thought she would see. When people ask Zenaida why she is leaving the sunny,

"no pasa nada" world of Spain, she tells them that she wants to stay but her life work is in the United States. She says that she needs to be dealing with issues of oppression with her feet in the soil of the country that has so much work to do. She is ecstatic about working towards anti-oppression and mindfulness with VISIONS Inc. this year.



Derek Blankenship is a native Californian and an aspiring renaissance man. He graduated from Whittier College in May 2016 with a B.A. in English literature and minors in Computer Science and Mandarin Chinese. He's spent 3 months in a Chinese language immersion program in Beijing, 3 weeks at a youth technology camp at UCLA, 7 days at a Buddhist temple, and a few hours harvesting

vegetables at an Eco-village in Southern Arizona. Derek appreciates the opportunity to have many diverse experiences such as these in order to expand his knowledge and understanding as much as possible. He first discovered Quakerism through the Journal of John Woolman, which he read from in a Whittier College course called Philosophy of Simplicity. He deeply admires this Quaker value, and strives to embody it as Woolman did. As part of that mission, Derek regularly attends Quaker meetings for worship at First Friends Church in Whittier, CA, and is always looking for ways to find the Spirit in everyday life. That search has led him to pursue service work, and he is much looking forward to working with the Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program in the coming year.
