

Let's Meet the 2022-2023 LEND Trainees!



Michaela Keller



I was born and raised in KC, and then went on to receive my Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science with a Minor in Psychology. I am currently a 2nd year DPT student at KUMC. In my free time I love going on long walks, working out, reading true crime books, and playing with my dogs Reign and Ayla! When I am not in school, I love exploring KC and traveling to new places. In the future I would like to practice as a pediatric PT and continue my passion of working with children with disabilities.

Brittney grew up in a small town in southeast Kansas on a cattle ranch. She received her undergraduate degree from Newman University in Wichita, KS in 2016. She worked as a registered nurse for 5 years prior to returning to graduate school to pursue a career in occupational therapy.

During her time working as a nurse she specialized in providing in home care to children. Through this experience she was able to learn more about occupational therapy and felt a calling to pursue a new career path. She is passionate about helping children flourish no matter their situation!

Outside of her career, Brittney loves spending quality time with friends and family, running, baking, and spending as much time as possible outdoors.



**Brittney
Huntington**

Occupational Therapy
Student

Hello Everyone! I am **Maddie Cannon**. I am originally from Greensburg, a small town in western Kansas and I have now lived in Kansas City for 3 years! I love traveling, hanging out with my friends and going to all the different dog parks with my golden retriever, Jade and Labrador Retriever, Emma. I am a Masters of Social Work student at KU and got my undergrad in Human Development and Family Studies at K-State. My biggest passion is kids and I look forward to expanding my knowledge even further!



Emma Watson

Emma is originally from Vermont, but has been in Lawrence, Kansas for 5 years now with her husband, 4 dogs, and 2 cats. She is a 4th year PhD student at KU in the School Psychology program and works as a Graduate Research Assistant and Project Coordinator for several grants at the Juniper Gardens Children's Project in Kansas City, KS. When not working or completing school tasks, Emma enjoys spending time with her friends, her pets (including her paraplegic dachshund), and reading. She will be welcoming her first child, a daughter, with her husband this Fall and looks forward to all that this life transition will bring.



Alexandra Dahlgren

Alexandra is a graduate student in the department of occupational therapy at the University of Kansas Medical Center. She came back to school after working for several years in the research industry after an OT helped her be able to feed her twins while they were in the NICU. She has chosen to pursue occupational therapy because she believes that people of all ages and abilities should be able to do the things they want and need to do during the day.

She is a KC native and now lives in Prairie Village with her husband, four kids – Emmett (5), Carson and Graham (3), and Elle (1) - and a very large dog named Winnie. All four of her children have a rare disease called Tuberous Sclerosis Complex, which they were diagnosed with after her youngest was born. They are her favorite people in the world.

Most of the time you can find her outdoors with her kids, be it at their favorite park or the zoo. When she gets a rare moment away from her kids that isn't spent working or cleaning, you can find her baking, reading a good book, or starting a new DIY house project.

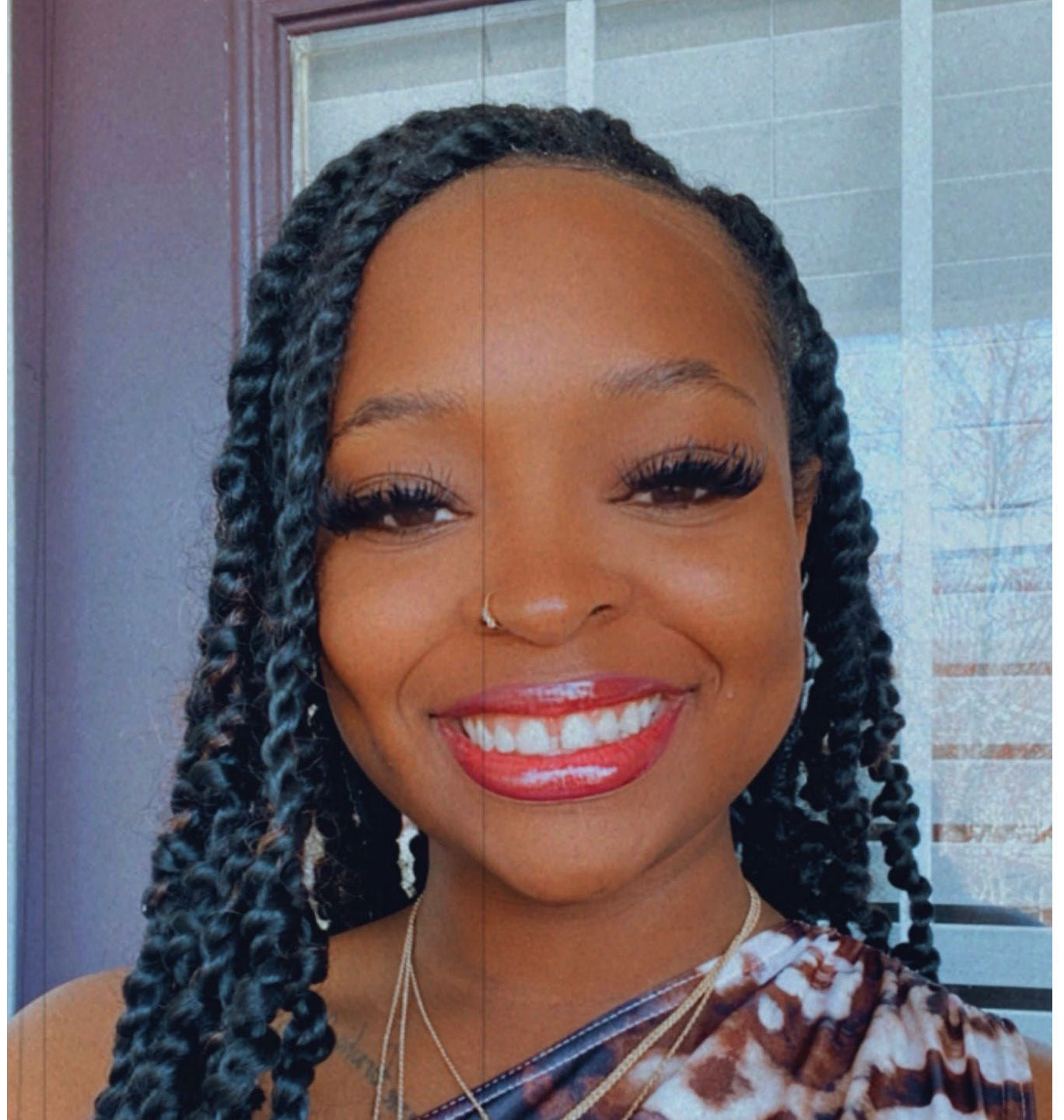


Hi y'all, my name is **Hannah Brown** and I am a third-year student in the Audiology program at KUMC. I was born with a severe to profound hearing loss so my parents quickly agreed to me getting Cochlear Implants. Childhood memories of receiving my Cochlear Implant fueled my drive and passion towards the healthcare profession; the kindness of my Audiologists who gave me the ability to hear sparked a desire to contribute my services in Pediatric Audiology to ensure that children are getting the best care possible. Some of my hobbies include going to concerts, trying out new recipes, and playing games.



Maxine McCray

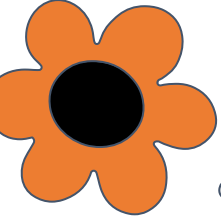
I am from Wichita, Ks graduated 2020 from KU as a biology major. I am currently working on taking the Mcat soon to get into med school. I am currently working as procedure scheduler for a specialty clinic. I want to become a anesthesiologist that is my ultimate career goal. I have a puppy name Penelope she keeps me busy and my hobbies I have beside working is cooking I love to cook I cook new stuff for friends and family all the time. I also make crafts and like to travel when I do have time. Favorite food I would say is sea food.





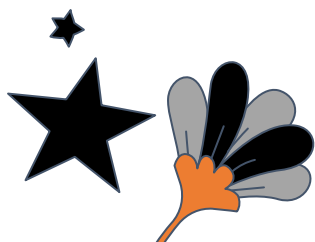
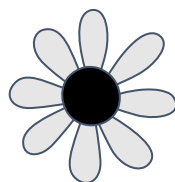
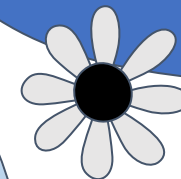
VENKATA VASAVI VADDURI

Vasavi is from India, currently residing in the Kansas City area. She is an international medical graduate looking to pursue MD pediatrics in the US. She enjoys cooking Indian cuisine and gardening. Studying in India strongly impacted her in knowing the health care disparities and cultural differences. She actively participates in social media content creation for the propagation of mental health and helps fellow USMLE aspirants as a member of Project IMG.



Regan Schultz

Regan Schultz is from St. Joseph Missouri. She currently lives in Kansas City in the Brookside area and likes to take advantage of the local running trails and local coffee shops. She's a morning person who loves music, concerts, and traveling. Regan got her Bachelors from Missouri State University in Special Education. As a elementary special education teacher she found a passion in working with children and families.



Camryn Bockelmann

I am originally from Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, and later attended Iowa State University to get my undergraduate degree in Linguistics and Psychology. Now I am so excited to be starting my second and final year in the Speech-Language Pathology program here at KU! In my free time, I love exploring new places to eat and experience as I bounce back and forth between KUMC and the Lawrence campus. I am immensely interested in working with children and adults with developmental disabilities. Augmentative and alternative communication is a particular passion of mine, as well as working with individuals who are non-speaking. I cannot wait to begin the LEND experience to grow in my knowledge and advocacy skills!



Ashlynn Marx

Hi everyone! My name is Ashlynn Marx I am currently a second year DPT student at KUMC. I am originally from a small town in northeast Nebraska and attended The University of Nebraska at Kearney for undergrad where I earned my bachelor's degree in Health Science with a minor in Psychology.

After completing my DPT I plan to specialize in Pediatric Physical Therapy.

In my free time I love going on walks with my dog Emma, going on runs, hanging out with my friends, enjoying the outdoors, and traveling every chance I get!





Grace, Karen, & Bryanna

Fitz the Sheltie Doodle



Karen Cross, PhD

Karen Cross was inspired to pursue her PhD in school psychology from the University of Connecticut by her three children (Grace and Bryanna pictured) who experienced a variety of disabilities (e.g., high-functioning autism, ADHD, and dyslexia). After graduating she worked as an Assistant Professor of School Psychology at CBU in So Cal & then as a school Psychologist in San Francisco Public Schools. Karen is very excited to be focusing her training on developmental disabilities and is looking forward to participating in the LEND program at KUMC! Karen, her husband, Mark, and their dog, Fitz (pictured) are excited to be moving to Kansas City.

Crystal Danko

Crystal is a Johnson County resident, a “Garmin wife” and mother of two active boys. She graduated from Washburn University with a BS in Criminal Justice. Crystal has worked in various legal, management, and law enforcement support positions. She’s an active leader in her church and the Good Faith Network. Crystal is passionate about making a positive impact on others. She enjoys a good workout, good food and wine, and time spent with friends and family. She also might be a closet SIFI/fantasy nerd.



Erin Cangelose (she/her/hers)

- ★ Erin is a KC native who loves all things KC (Rock Chalk)!
- ★ Erin has a B.A in Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences and Sociology from the University of Kansas (2021).
- ★ Erin is currently working toward her Masters in Speech Language Pathology. Erin has a special interest in studying Autism Spectrum Disorder and adult cognitive communication disorders.
- ★ Erin's hobbies include buying books despite her long list of unread books, making others watch musicals with her, and eating at the same 3 restaurants :)





Abbie Rehurek

I am a second-year graduate student studying Speech-Language Pathology. I am from Yankton, South Dakota and completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I have special interests in early intervention, feeding, and autism spectrum disorder. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, doing anything outside, and trying new spots in Kansas City.



Nicole Noblet

Born in Burlington Iowa, raised in the Midwest. I am a visual artist and published author. An article I helped co-author was recently published in the journal of Occupational Therapy in Health Care. I compete in Special Olympics bowling, bocce ball, track, and swimming. I am a disability advocate with a focus on voting rights and access to quality health care. I am a Partners in Policymaking graduate. I live with 7 animals. One of my life goals is to visit every National Park in the U.S.





- **Kourtney Christopher** is a doctoral candidate in the UCLA Human Development and Psychology program under the mentorship of Dr. Catherine Lord. During her time at UCLA, she completed two externships focused on the assessment of autism at the UCLA Child and Adults Neurodevelopmental Clinic and the Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior. She conducted additional assessments for multiple research studies, including Boosting Language Outcomes of Minimally Verbal Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (BLOOM), Supported Play Research Outcomes Understanding Treatments (SPROUT), Longitudinal Studies of Autism Spectrum Disorders, and Autism Biomarkers Consortium for Clinical Trials (ABC-CT).
- Before her time at UCLA, Kourtney graduated from Avila University with her bachelor's degree and from the University of Missouri (MU) with her master's in education. After receiving her degree, she worked in various capacities at MU's Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders for nearly ten years.
- A Kansas City native, Kourtney is excited to be back in the area, near family and friends, and looks forward to the upcoming year at KU!

Name is **Daniel Owen**

I am an uncle of 3 two nephews and Niece I was born in North Kansas City
From Merriam Kansas

Things I like to do are:

Painting, Songwriting & spoken word ,Singing, Photography, Baking cookies,
Cooking, as well Podcasting, Interviewing bands and Musicians, Catting with
Dads, Book Authors ,mindset coaches, Networking with Musicians,
Recording music, Local concerts in KC, Promoting showcase, Benefits
concerts, Traveling to see family in the east coast or somewhere nice, I love
being with family and friends .

I love chatting with friends on the phone or on Facebook or instagram

Social Media:

Instagram @twoguysoundsystem

Instagram @unclesandfatherhood

Instagram @ownsovenco

Instagram @bestbuddiescitizenschaperkc

Instagram, @Danielowenproject

Cookies business Owensoven.co

Music have been on Radio show in KC and College Radio in east coast

<https://soundcloud.com/danielowenmusic>

