Join us on **Wednesday, August 26th** for the College of Education Virtual Welcome Fair!

Rebecca Barker grew up in Dover, DE and earned her BS in elementary education from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. Following graduation, she taught first grade and kindergarten. She is currently a full-time student at UMD pursuing her interests in social justice mathematics and mathematical identity development. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, kayaking, trying new foods, and being with her dog, Maeby.

Tessa Johnson is a PhD student in the EDMS program with a methods background in latent variable models and an applied background in prevention science. Her statistical research is focused on the development of methodologies used in the social, behavioral, and health sciences, especially in the areas of longitudinal processes, unobserved population heterogeneity, and social networks. She is the current Chair of the AERA Graduate Student Council.

Originally from Rochester, NY Shannon Martin is a 2nd year PhD student in the School Psychology program, under the advisement of Dr. Colleen O'Neal. Shannon has more than seven years of experience as a school psychologist in elementary and secondary public-school settings. That experience has informed her research interests which broadly include healing-centered approaches and resilience-building processes in K-12 settings for students with marginalized identities. Outside of the University of Maryland, Shannon is also a yoga practitioner and teacher, and lives in Prince George's County with her partner and their hilarious toddler.

Jalah Townsend received her BA in history from George Mason University in May of 2019. She then began her graduate degree in Student Affairs at the University of Maryland where she is now a second year MA student. Since arriving at UMD, she has had the opportunity to serve the community in various capacities including through the College of Education's Center for Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education and as an academic advisor to undeclared and undecided students. Her experiences within the College of Education have aided in her understanding of higher education and upon graduation, Jalah hopes to continue to provide equitable support to students attending colleges and universities.

Alexis M. Young is a PhD student at UMD where she studies Minority and Urban Education. She holds a BA in Elementary Education and a MA in Teaching and Curriculum, both from Michigan State University. Alexis’ scholarship centers and maps the lived experiences of academically resilient Black girls in elementary and middle schools. Specifically, she seeks to illuminate the ways that young Black girls enact joy-seeking, resistance, and resilience practices while confronting antiblackness in education arenas. Her research speaks to the importance of seeing Black girls as whole, imaginative, beings who are not passive actors in their education or in society as a whole. Above all, Alexis’ work challenges us to reimagine a world where Black girls are seen as experts and change-agents toward their individual liberations.

Our Graduate Student Panel will begin at 3 PM on Zoom!

Our panelists include:
- 2 CHSE students
- 1 HDQM student
- 2 TLPL students
- 2 Masters students
- 3 PhD students

Read about them here!