

Taryn Arbeiter

FOLLOWING HER PASSIONS

Rising third-year student Taryn L. Arbeiter works hard at what she's passionate about, whether it's playing the violin or working on international trade law.

Having learned to play the violin at age three, Arbeiter has loved classical music her whole life and always considered it "an honor" to perform. "My passions led me to pursue my role as assistant concert master for the orchestra at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota," she said.

Arbeiter, a South Dakota native, did not travel far from home to earn her undergraduate degree at St. Olaf. However, after she graduated college in 2012, she moved to Atlanta to work for Lutheran Services of Georgia, where she ran an employment program for newly arrived refugees and helped them find their first job in the United States.

"This [job] made me interested in law," she said. "Lawyers are some of the most appreciated staff members there, and one of the most meaningful services people access is getting their green card and then going to an attorney to apply for their immediate family members to join them [in the United States]. Seeing this firsthand motivated me to go to law school."

Arbeiter worked there for three years, established residency in Georgia and applied to Georgia Law.

"My job brought me to Atlanta, and I fell in love with the city," she said. "I know a degree from Georgia Law will help me to work in my new home."



After Arbeiter's first year at the School of Law, she was named a recipient of a Justice

John Paul Stevens

Fellowship that allowed her to work at The Door, an organization in New York City that serves at-risk youth.

"I was on the immigration team and helped unaccompanied youth apply for special programs," she said. "Working in immigration law is one of my passions, and working for youth is such a rewarding area. I saw the young people grow and change so much."

During her second year of law school, Arbeiter participated in the school's Washington, D.C. Semester in Practice program and interned in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. She then secured a summer internship at the U.S. Coast Guard headquarters working in the Office of Maritime and International Law.

"I have found success just following what I am really passionate about, and doing so in D.C. led me to my internship ... and I am so grateful for that," she said.

Arbeiter plans to continue pursuing her passion for international law, which will ideally result in a fulfilling career in civil service.

"Becoming an associate attorney in a government agency is the dream," she said. "But wherever I end up, I hope to gain more experience in international trade and administrative law."



Phillips Workman

SEEKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Rising second-year law student Phillips Stone Workman grew up in the close-knit community of Monticello, Georgia, and it was there he saw the impact that legal professionals could have in a small town.

"Growing up where there may have been five lawyers in the whole county really spoke to me," Workman said. "I saw the difference a lawyer can make in his or her free time, and it was powerful to witness how much someone with a legal education can do for their own community."

Despite his love for Monticello, Workman attended Clemson University for his undergraduate degree. After his freshman year, he interned in Washington, D.C., for U.S. Rep. Jack Kingston.

"That was a great experience – it was very fast-paced, and I met a lot of really neat people," he said.

During his senior year, the history and political science major landed a semester-long internship at the George W. Bush Institute in Dallas. Workman spent most of his time in the presidential library and gained high-level research skills.



Danielle Greenidge

A HEART DRAWN TO LAW

Recent graduate Danielle M. Greenidge knew at five years old that she wanted to become a lawyer.

“My heart has always been drawn to law, and I knew I would find myself in law school,” she said.

Greenidge, the first person in her family to attend college, immigrated from Barbados to the United States at 16 years old. She was already a high school graduate in her native country, so she applied to and was accepted into Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. She spent two years there and earned an associate degree before transferring to UGA.

In Athens, she double majored in political science and international affairs; and at 19 years old, she graduated with honors from UGA with two undergraduate degrees.

Post-graduation, she worked for an attorney in Tifton and decided to apply to the School of Law.

“I didn’t get to experience UGA the way I would have wanted to [the first time around], and I aspired to be a Double Dawg [with one of those degrees being a Juris Doctor],” Greenidge said. “There is so much pride associated with anything that is UGA.”

In Athens for a second time, Greenidge found the resources and programs she needed to follow her interest in criminal defense law. Through her participation in the school’s Family Violence Clinic, she

was able to offer help and legal services to women who are subject to domestic abuse.

“The clinic softened me in a way. It allowed me to display feelings for clients and reminded me that it’s OK to connect with them,” Greenidge said. “It allowed me to reintroduce myself to who I was before law school.”

While a student, Greenidge was also a member of Street Law, the Public Interest Law Council, the Davenport–Benham Black Law Student Association and the Family Law Society, which she presided over during her second year. She also participated in the Atlanta Semester in Practice program and the Criminal Defense Practicum.

“The Atlanta Semester in Practice program was a great experience for me because I had the opportunity to go to court every day. I was respected not only as a law student but also as an actual lawyer,” Greenidge said. “It was a nice dose of ‘adulting’ – trying to balance my personal life with my business life.”

Greenidge knows that with patience and perseverance, she will eventually achieve all of her goals and dreams.

“My motto is simply ‘keep going,’” she said. “In five years, I just hope that I am happy. As long as I am doing what I love and I am happy, I will be OK.”

Her goal is to pursue a career in a public defender’s office in South Georgia.

“I want to represent clients who cannot afford to represent themselves,” Greenidge said. “I have always been someone to fight for the underdog.”

—All profiles by Emily Johnson

“President Bush always called me ‘Clemson guy,’” Workman said. “I enjoyed the objective of what they are doing there because it is so unique – they conduct lots of research, focus on women’s issues in the developing world, take stances on education, study veterans’ issues and more. People are still really interested in President Bush.”

After graduating in 2015, Workman applied to law schools around the country.

“I chose UGA for law school after I met Dean [Peter B. “Bo”] Rutledge and [Associate Director of Law Admissions] Shannon S. Hinson (J.D.’06),” he said. “They portrayed UGA as a place where everyone could be happy in law school, and that’s what drove me here.”

When he’s not studying, Workman enjoys swing and shag dancing, playing piano at UGA’s Hodgson School of Music and playing basketball with his law school friends every Friday after classes are over.

While his first semester of law school was a time of adjustment, Workman said he still enjoyed the study of law.

“There’s no shortcut to succeeding in law school, and I think that may have been the hardest part,” he said. “You really have to embrace the grind.”

One aspect of his law school career of which he is proud is being named the recipient of the Gerald S. Tanenbaum Distinguished Law Scholarship.

“During winter break in 2016, Mr. Tanenbaum and his wife [Gretchen] invited me over to their house in Charleston for dinner,” he said. “I cannot express my gratitude for their generosity.”

Professionally, Workman aspires to influence the world around him, much like Tanenbaum (J.D.’70) and the lawyers he knew back home.

He also hopes to become the general counsel of a large university in the long term. “The benefits to this career are endless,” he said. “I would get to live in a college town, teach a little bit and solve a new problem every day, and that excites me.”