

Drs. Ashley Kuntz and Cristin Gavin have announced that three UAB students have been selected for the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, the most prestigious math and science award for undergraduates.

**Baraa Hijaz** is a neuroscience and philosophy major working in the lab of Dr. Laura Volpicelli-Daley. He aims to pursue an MD/PhD and develop new drug and genetic therapies for Parkinson's Disease. Baraa has already co-authored two peer-reviewed publications and has a third under review. Additionally, he participated in the Amgen Scholars Program at Stanford University, and completed the UAB Surgery Undergraduate Research Experience. Baraa is a member of the UAB Honors College's Science and Technology Honors Program.

**Garrett Sager** is a neuroscience and physics major working in the labs of Dr. Elizabeth Sztul and Dr. Ryoichi Kawai. He plans to obtain a PhD in biophysics and study the neurophysics of learning and memory. He is first author of a publication in *Viruses* and contributing author to a publication in the *American Journal of Physiology-Cell Physiology*. Garrett is a member of the Science and Technology Honors Program.

**Holly Robinson** is a neuroscience major with a minor in music. She works in the lab of Dr. Lucas Pozzo-Miller and has already earned authorship on a publication and presented her work at national conferences. Holly plans to pursue a PhD in neuroscience and conduct research on the circuitry underlying social communication behaviors. She is pursuing a Personalized Path in the UAB Honors College.

Baraa, Garrett, and Holly's successes are evidence of the exceptional mentoring they have received as undergraduate researchers.

Congratulations to these students and to their mentors on this much-deserved recognition!