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# BEST OF THE BLOG CONTRIBUTORS

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**Caroline Wendzel** is a first-year Master of Public Policy student at the Trachtenberg school. She graduated from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, in 2020, earning degrees in Psychology and English/Creative Writing. From 2020-2023, she worked on the intake team at a domestic violence shelter in South Carolina. In her free time, she enjoys reading, spending time with her dog, and searching for the best vegan food in DC.

**Kate Braddom** is a first year Master of Public Policy student concentrating in gender policy. She received her bachelor's degree in Political Science and Sociology from Johns Hopkins and currently works for the Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations as a Membership Coordinator. In her free time, Kate enjoys reading, knitting, and baking.

**Sophia Alejandro** is a first year Master of Public Administration student at the Trachtenberg School. She is also working as a Leadership for Educational Equity (LEE) Public Policy Fellow at UnidosUS in Washington, D.C. Growing up, she worked alongside her family in their generational business: flower shops. Being up close and personal to the running of a family business allowed her to learn the value of community over money. She served as a Teach for America corps member in her hometown of San Antonio to gain experience in the education sphere. After her years in the classroom, she decided to make the transition into policy and advocacy.

**Julia Mattingly** is a first year Ph.D. student at the Trachtenberg School. She recently graduated from the University of Louisville in Kentucky, with B.A.'s in Rural Health and Political Science. Her research interests include rural & underserved healthcare workforce development, healthcare program evaluation, direct democracy, and the U.S. Congress.