# **Student Testimonials**

#### Raghvendra Yadav - Case Western Reserve University

SOTC is the best way to spend your summer. I never imagined I'd be kayaking with friends from other schools, editing resumes, cooking together, singing together, and networking with professionals all in one place. I'm so grateful for a summer that has allowed me to develop into a better human being.

#### Victoria Adair - Oberlin College

SOTC was a really wonderful experience that allowed me to grow in my personal and professional life. We got to see and be apart of so much of what Cleveland has to offer through many different events, my favorite being exploring several nature preserves. I also learned more about and expanded my professional world through networking events as well as my internship at The Haven Home. I was immersed into the small nonprofit world and was able to apply my passion for social justice, change, and equity while getting to help the Cleveland community. SOTC has provided me with lifelong connections that I'm excited to continue!

#### Steph (Stephanie) Syl-Akinwale - Colgate University

My experience this summer doing SOTC was rejuvenating! Having the independence and guided freedom to explore and work in a new city for 9 weeks was so exciting and gave me an optimistic outlook on life post-grad. Outside of the important skills I learned through my internship, every-day tasks like going grocery shopping, commuting to work, and living/socializing with new people taught me more that I could've anticipated. I also enjoyed the many events SOTC hosted for us and it grew my love for the city of Cleveland. Overall, I truly enjoyed my summer and I hope to possibly return!

### Kelsi DeSimone - Case Western Reserve University

Summer on the Cuyahoga is this awesome summer program where you get to live with a bunch of other kids from all over the country, explore Cleveland together, and work as an intern for 2 months in the city! I had such a great experience learning from my mentors, colleagues, and friends! Free housing, tons of fun activities every week, and loads of networking opportunities, what's not to like?? Highlight of the summer was definitely watching live music at the rock and roll hall of fame, that was such a blast!!

## Mark Kamulegeya - University of Chicago

I have met so many incredible people, found new mentors at work, in the UChicago alumni club, and I am leaving having learned what it might mean for me to be a working musician. The events SOTC put on have allowed me to fully immerse myself in the greater Cleveland area. SOTC has stretched my network and introduced me to so many individuals and organizations and I'm immensely grateful for that.