

# 2021

## Jane M. Klausman **WOMEN IN BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP**

### Expanding opportunities for women in business



**ZONTA**  
INTERNATIONAL



To encourage more women to pursue education and careers in business, Zonta International established the Jane M. Klausman (JMK) Women in Business Scholarship.

The JMK Women in Business Scholarship was established in 1998 from a generous bequest by Jane M. Klausman, a member of the Zonta Club of Syracuse, New York, USA, and the 1990-1995 Zonta International Parliamentarian.

**In 2021, Zonta International 31 district/region scholarships of US\$2,000 each and six international scholarships of US\$8,000 each.** Read to learn about this year's six international scholarship recipients.



## 2021 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar

# Ngozi Udeh



**District 3**

**Citizenship: USA**

**Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, USA**

**Holds bachelor's degree in geography (with a focus in international development), Dartmouth College, USA**

In the first year of her MBA program, Ngozi Udeh joined the Wharton Impact Investing Partners on the energy and sustainability team, where she learned to source and conduct diligence on early-stage social impact companies with venture-grade growth potential. At the beginning of this school year, she began her joint program at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, where she took the opportunity to explore policy and development interests.

After receiving her bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College, Ngozi became a tri-sector professional working in local government, the private sector and collaborating with nonprofits. She worked as a community partnership manager at Zenith Insurance, where she headed the company's corporate social responsibility initiatives and led the company to its inaugural social impact campaign raising US\$78,000 for several organizations.

Raised in a Nigerian American community, Ngozi grew up with a profound sense of community engagement and a desire to make a positive social impact. She aspires to be a leader that helps to bring about inclusive economic and social change in emerging markets, especially as it pertains to women's empowerment. Inspired by Zontians, she will use her skills to uplift and open the doors for women whenever and wherever she can.



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Women in Business Scholar

# Courtney Jentz



**District 6**

**Citizenship: USA**

**Pursuing bachelor's degree in accounting and finance, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, USA**

Courtney Jentz is a senior studying accounting and finance at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater's College of Business and Economics. She has always found joy in helping other women succeed in business. As a KPMG campus ambassador and volunteer at UW-Whitewater's Women in Business Day, she has had the opportunity to interact daily with other women in business and motivate them toward success. A founder of two small businesses, Courtney discovered her passion in business lies in finance and investing.

Through the Applied Investment Program at her school, she is one of a select group of finance students managing a \$US1.1 million portfolio for the university. She is excited to use the skills she learned in the program to help others manage their own money and stand out as a woman leader in a male-dominated field. As vice president and service event coordinator of Beta Alpha Psi at her university, Courtney helped organize various events for her chapter to give back to the community. In the past year, she worked with a local senior living center, homeless shelter, and a veteran's organization to bring joy during holiday seasons where many did not have the luxury of seeing their families.

Courtney's goals include becoming a certified public accountant (CPA) and working as a manager for a large accounting firm. She hopes to make a substantial impact in the business field by empowering women through her successes and showing them that they can also be successful.



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# Chido Shamuyarira



**District 7**

**Citizenship: Zimbabwe**

**Pursuing master's degree in business analytics, University of Maryland-College Park, USA**

**Holds bachelor's degree in international business, Cottey College, USA**

Chido Shamuyarira's interest in business management stems from growing up with her grandmother, who ran a lucrative small business to support her family. She is in her first year of pursuing her master's degree in business analytics at the Smith Business School at the University of Maryland. Chido's degree will empower her with the education, training and network to influence the future of healthcare as it continues to be driven by digital transformation and data analysis. It will also strengthen her knowledge on deriving business value from big data, modeling and forecasting impacts to businesses and patients alike, as well as contribute to data-driven improvements to insurance business operations.

Chido is from Zimbabwe, where health insurance companies are not equipped to withstand the ever-changing economic environment. Watching the health insurance market in her home country collapse due to poor business planning inspired her to want to be part of the planning that goes into utilizing big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning to make sound business decisions to help businesses withstand ever-changing economic environments and better serve patients.

Upon graduation, Chido is looking forward to joining a technology and consulting firm with a major interest in healthcare. She plans to work as a business consultant in the healthcare insurance industry.



## 2021 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar

# Linh Tran



**District 20**

**Citizenship: Vietnam and Finland**

**Pursuing master's degree in management and international business, Aalto University, Finland**

**Holds bachelor's degree in international business, Lahti University of Applied Sciences, Finland**

Linh Tran is pursuing a master's degree in management and international business and a CEMS Master's in International Management (CEMS MIM) at Aalto University. Having experienced different work environments and cultures, she believes that when people have the right environment and a chance to do what they enjoy, there will be significant positive outcomes.

Despite being told it was difficult for foreigners to find a job in Finland, Linh got a job as a project manager at an international event company after graduation. However, she quickly realized it was not the right environment and left to find something else. She took a job as a house cleaner for an innovative home cleaning platform startup as a temporary way to earn income, but she was impressed by their business model and made a proposal to the CEO. Two weeks later, she joined the company's recruitment team, where she greatly contributed to their expansion.

Passionate about people management, Linh wishes to help international talents in Finland integrate into the local work life and build fulfilling careers, providing them the support and guidance she was craving when she was struggling to find her direction.





## 2021 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar

# Ruby Shah



**District 25**

**Citizenship: Nepal**

**Pursuing bachelor's degree in business administration, The British College, Nepal**

Ruby Shah is in her final year of pursuing her bachelor's degree in business administration, concentrating in finance and accounting. Her mother, a successful entrepreneur, inspired her to start researching, studying and working in the field of economic empowerment.

Since she was 19, Ruby has worked with startups in different domains such as business incubation, content creation, marketing and consulting services. She was previously chief operating officer for Udhyami Nepali, where she supervised the company team and was involved in curating strategies to create insightful content and events for aspiring entrepreneurs. She also leads the Rotaract Club of Kirtipur as its charter president, working with more than 40 local youths to initiate various capacity development programs and community projects like supporting underprivileged students with educational materials, donating essential food and sanitation supplies and feeding the families of slum areas during the pandemic.

After completing her degree, Ruby plans to pursue a master's in finance and investment. She knows many promising women are rejected for funding to run their businesses because of gender inequality and aspires to be the first female founder in the investment space in Nepal, focusing primarily on gender-smart investing.



## 2021 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar

# Laura Ufer



**District 28**

**Citizenship: Germany**

**Pursuing master's degree in entrepreneurship, WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management, Germany**

**Holds bachelor's degree in business administration, TH Köln, Germany**

Laura Ufer has always been interested in starting her own venture—from selling vegetables around her neighborhood as a child to producing short films for international retailers in high school. She is now in her first year of her master's degree in entrepreneurship. During her time in the program, she hopes to improve on three core competencies as a female founder: knowledge in the areas of international business and software development; deeper insights into the funding process of venture capital firms; and developing a close network of like-minded business women.

While in her undergraduate studies at TH Cologne and her study abroad semester at Harvard University, Laura became particularly interested in the fast-paced, innovative environment of e-commerce. She immersed herself in several direct-to-customer online stores and earned internships in the e-commerce field at *OTTO* Group, Hive Technologies and Google. From these experiences, Laura realized that she wants to build her own company at the cross-sections of media and online retail, with a focus on sustainable business practices.

After graduation, Laura wants to not only develop a successful startup but also mentor women entering underrepresented fields like entrepreneurship. Laura plans to eventually become a business professor and play a part in realizing Jane M. Klausman's goal to overcome gender barriers from the classroom to the boardroom.