Meet the START Leaders

Alexus Austin
Hillsboro, OR
Junior, Digital Communication Arts
“Being yourself may not always bring you the most accolades or cool points, but you will never regret pursuing your passions and dedicating yourself to hard work.”

Ray Baldwin
Portland, OR
Sophomore, Pre-Business
“To be successful in your first term at OSU, you have to be organized! Plan out your time and allow yourself to have fun.”

Nathan Blades
St. Louis, MO
Junior, BioResource Research
“Push yourself, but don’t sacrifice your health and sanity for the perfect grade your first term. Your study habits and grades will greatly improve as you get used to the new class styles.”

Nick Carleson
Hillsboro, OR
Senior, BioResource Research
“My favorite activity is riding my bicycle around Corvallis. It’s helped me feel a sense of belonging in the community, anchoring me outside of just school.”

Eric Cole
Vancouver, WA
Sophomore, Marine Biology, Pre-Vet
“I chose my major because I love working with animals, and I love tide pool ecosystems. I feel that I can apply both of these fields to do something truly amazing.”

Quinn DeYoung
Weiser, ID
Senior, Biology
“Throughout college, I’ve learned a lot about what a community really means. OSU isn’t just your run-of-the-mill, generic science institution, but rather a community that strongly values understanding, growth, and opportunity.”

Quinn Ewanchyna
Corvallis, OR
Sophomore, Public Health
“My favorite event at OSU is definitely Dam Jam. There’s no better feeling than dancing in a crowd with hundreds of other students, listening to great music, and having an even better time.”

Hanna Hagler
Belmont, CA
Sophomore, Fisheries & Wildlife
“During my START experience, I remember the icebreakers. During those, I discovered someone else who was in my residence hall and in the marching band with me, and I’ve been friends with them to this day.”

Cassie Hayes
Corvallis, OR
Sophomore, Human Development and Family Sciences & Education
“I chose my major because I’ve always loved working with children. I love the fact I can impact their minds at such a young age and instill a love for school that will guide them to their future.”

Shelby Holteen
Pleasant Hill, OR
Junior, Graphic Design
“The most significant experience I’ve had at OSU is living in the residence hall. It helped me meet new people, get a job on campus, and get involved. It also helped me grow up and learn to fend for myself.”

Kenneth Htet
Yangon, Myanmar
Junior, Civil Engineering
“Throughout college, I’ve learned more about diversity and how to respect other people’s cultures/opinions/beliefs, etc.”

Sean Kounovsky
Creswell, OR
Sophomore, Ecological Engineering
“My favorite activity at OSU is playing as many intramural sports as I can and going to Dixon to play ball and workout.”

Quinn Ewanchyna
Corvallis, OR
Sophomore, Public Health
“My favorite event at OSU is definitely Dam Jam. There’s no better feeling than dancing in a crowd with hundreds of other students, listening to great music, and having an even better time.”
Lily Lack
Los Angeles, CA
Junior, Interior Design
“My overnight experience in Finley at START was amazing because I was able to hang out with random people at the moment that are now some of my best friends at Oregon State.”

Amy Ma
Brooklyn, NY
Junior, Pre-Business
“College isn’t going to be easy. Having that said, it’s okay to have times where everything is going completely wrong. That’s why there are resources on campus to help you out.”

Carol Moreno
Harrisburg, OR
Sophomore, Psychology
“Living in the residence halls has been quite the experience. There were several things that I did not know about myself until I was put into a room with two strangers who later became my best friends.”

Jennifer Rodriguez
Coos Bay, OR
Junior, Child Development & Education
“I love all of the cultural events on campus, but one of my favorites is the Ettihad cultural event during spring term because of all of the amazing performances, activities and food.”

Lexi Schlosser
Scappoose, OR
Junior, Human Development and Family Sciences & Education
“Finding friendships that will last a lifetime in the residence halls, classes and through clubs/organizations has been significant in giving me a well-rounded OSU experience.”

William Selbie
Portland, OR
Junior, Computer Science
“The recreation nights that happened at Dixon were easily my favourite event on campus because the combination of free food and dodgeball was fantastic.”

Trinity Shodin
Sherwood, OR
Junior, Agricultural Sciences
“My most significant experience at OSU has been joining Greek life; I have made some of my best friends through my sorority and it has guided me to be more involved in OSU as a whole.”

Zack Simmons
Redmond, OR
Junior, English & Education
“My advice to new students is to explore OSU campus & Corvallis. It may seem like a huge new place at first, but the more you get out, the less intimidating it will be.”

Indica Stephenson
Stayton, OR
Sophomore, Public Health Promotion
“I chose my major because my career goal is to be a registered nurse. There are a few paths, and my advisor helped me find one that fit my interests and education goals.”

Anna Weeks
West Linn, OR
Junior, Digital Communication Art
“My favorite activity at OSU is Dam Jam, which is a huge concert at the end of spring term. Last year we had T-Pain perform!”

Megan Wing
San Diego, CA
Senior, Sociology
“At START, I was nervous at first, but then quickly got excited about Oregon State and my new experience ahead! My START leaders did an awesome job of getting me comfortable and looking forward to the next four years!”

Cory Zimmerman
San Diego, CA
Junior, Interior Design
“My advice to new students is don’t forget to have fun! Focus on school and get the grades to succeed, but make sure you take time to step back and do something fun!”