

GMAT Talent & Opportunity Scholarship

Award winners and runners-up 2025



Welcome

GMAC™ is delighted to share the stories of the ten outstanding recipients of the GMAT™ Talent and Opportunity Scholarship 2025 (Europe).

Selected from over **200 applicants across 23 countries**, the winners share one defining trait: they are global problem solvers. Each of them has committed to addressing a significant challenge, whether that challenge affects their own community or us all worldwide.

The deserving winners will be awarded a scholarship that includes a voucher to cover the full cost of the GMAT Exam; a GMAT Official Practice Exam package; and a meditation application subscription. In addition, thanks to the generosity of our industry partners, winners will receive a GMAT preparation course with a GMAT instructor, access to a GMAT prep app, an on-demand GMAT preparation program, a dedicated application program, personalised sessions with a professional admissions consultant, and an online cultural course for applicants planning to study abroad. The total value of the scholarship is close to €5,400.

With such a strong field this year, GMAC is rewarding ten runners up with a GMAT Official Guide to help with their exam preparation.

Scholarship purpose

Launched in 2022, the annual GMAT Talent and Opportunity Scholarship aims to promote inclusivity within graduate management education and reduce barriers for underrepresented groups. The scholarship is open to all, but we strongly encouraged applications from women, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities, socio-economically diverse, LGBTQ+ and non-binary candidates.



“Inequalities and underrepresentation in business and business schools is a profound challenge that hinders innovation and reinforces systemic inequalities. When diverse voices are excluded, we all lose out on the breadth of ideas and leadership needed to drive progress. This scholarship is our commitment to changing that—by opening doors for underrepresented talent, we aim to cultivate a more inclusive business landscape that not only reflects the richness of our society but also strengthens it for the better.”

Nalisha Patel

Regional Director, Americas & Europe, GMAC



Where ambition and talent meet inclusivity

The 2025 GMAT scholarship winners represent a diverse group of global problem solvers committed to making a meaningful impact in areas like healthcare, finance, diversity, and environmental sustainability. These exceptional individuals have been awarded comprehensive support to pursue their educational goals, reflecting their dedication to using business education as a tool for positive change.

The scholarship is made possible in part by our generous sponsors: 700+ Club, CoVent Prep, Dia Gerontoudi Prep Center, English Business Services (EBS), GMAT Amsterdam, Your GMAT Coach, GMAT Zurich, Fortuna Admissions, Forte Foundation, Kaplan, and CulturaGo



We thank our industry partners for their valuable contribution.



“We want to thank each of our sponsors for their valuable contribution to making this scholarship possible. Scholarships like this help to address the disparities that exist within business schools today, however, the work doesn’t stop here. More must be done to create inclusive environments where all talented individuals have the opportunity to thrive, ensuring a brighter and more equitable future for the entire business community.”

Nalisha Patel

Regional Director, Americas & Europe, GMAC

2025 GMAT Scholarship Winners



Sofiia Gryn



Tarik



Anh Ngyuen



Faustyna Galeziowska



Thomas Jung



Tijmen Duivenvoorden



Jesse Schumacher



Julia Moe Chan



Héloïse Rivet-Picolet

Anh Nguyen

Nationality & Residence

Vietnamese, living in the UK

Program

MBA

Expertise

Healthcare and clinical leadership

Ambition

Bridge medicine and business to improve healthcare globally



My story

I am originally from Vietnam, and studied Medicine in New Zealand before moving to London in 2019 to train as an orthopaedic surgeon. While I enjoyed surgery and the patient interaction, I realised that my career gradually follows a narrow expert track and my impact limited to one patient at a time. This led me to broaden my experience by leading hospital service redesign projects and volunteering abroad on surgical missions. Through this work, I discovered a passion for building solutions that improve access, efficiency, and patient experience at scale. However I realise that the execution of many impactful projects at large scale requires a good understanding of how business works. I now plan to pursue an MBA to bridge this gap and later transition into healthcare private equity, where I can drive investments in innovations that deliver improvements at scale to patient outcomes and healthcare systems

Judges' comments

"Anh has demonstrated outstanding leadership as a neurosurgeon across global healthcare systems, combining clinical excellence with innovation and inclusion. From developing NHS digital tools to championing women in surgery and training doctors in Vietnam, she embodies impactful, equity-driven change."

Faustyna Galeziowska



Nationality & Residence

Polish, living in the UK

Program

Masters in Finance

Expertise

International business, leadership and advocacy

Ambition

Drive for impact through inclusive leadership

My story



Raised across contrasting cultures and economies, I deeply value diversity and inclusion. Working with diverse teams, bringing a diversity of ideas and perspectives to facilitate global collaboration, I led 20 students to create 80+ Mary's Meals Project backpacks for underprivileged children, and volunteered in a 10-week UN Refugee Agency Programme helping thousands in Zambia. During my International Business bachelor's, I made a meaningful contribution, recognised as the sole recipient of the Adrian Woods Memorial Prize for exceptional academic and extracurricular achievements. Twice elected student representative, I facilitated an inclusive environment and communicated peers' suggestions in Staff-Student Liaison meetings. As Chair of Bright Futures Society, I led 100+ members, winning Society of the Year and Best Inter-Society Collaboration awards among 100+ societies.

I plan to contribute to the diverse business school environment by becoming a student representative and society Chair again, enriching my peers' learning experience through bringing diverse perspectives to classroom discussions and promoting inclusive thinking.

Judges' comments

66

"Faustyna demonstrated leadership, community engagement, and advocacy skills throughout her application. Her consistent commitment to service, coupled with academic recognition and desire to contribute meaningfully to both classroom and campus life, reflects a mature and values-driven approach."

Jesse Schumacher



Nationality & Residence

German, living in Germany

Program

M.Sc. in Financial Economics

Expertise

Finance

Ambition

Drive change in finance by championing diversity and inclusion

My story



I completed my B.Sc. in Business Administration at the University of Cologne in September 2024, focusing on Corporate and Sustainable Finance. Alongside my studies, I gained practical experience through internships and academic research, culminating in a first-class thesis exploring ESG integration in capital markets. Growing up with a rare immune disorder, I spent years in treatment before fully recovering through a stem cell transplant in October 2024. This experience instilled resilience, discipline, and a forward-looking mindset that continue to shape my academic and professional journey.

This autumn, I will join KPMG for a five-month internship in Audit, aiming to transition into Deal Advisory. I aspire to pursue a Master's in Finance, where I can build on my analytical foundation and engage with a diverse, international cohort. Over the long term, I hope to contribute to financial strategies that reconcile performance with purpose — advancing solutions attuned to broader sustainability imperatives.

Judges' comments

66

“Jesse has shown extraordinary resilience, turning life-threatening medical adversity into strength. With a background in finance and leadership, he brings a unique perspective on risk, discipline, and performance, shaped by years of overcoming extreme personal challenges.”

Julia Moe Chan



Nationality & Residence

Bermese, living in the UK

Program

Master in Management or
Mphil in Management

Expertise

Biochemistry and entrepreneurship

Ambition

Promote equity and inclusion; drive change through
socially responsible business

My story



I am a Biochemistry undergraduate at UCL with a deep curiosity for how science and business intersect to create meaningful impact. While I enjoy the rigour of molecular biology, I am equally drawn to the problem-solving and strategic thinking that drive innovation beyond the lab. My experiences from leading society initiatives to consulting for social enterprises have sparked a strong interest in entrepreneurship.

I aspire to build ventures that address critical needs, particularly in education and healthcare, starting in my home country, Myanmar. To gain the commercial acumen and global perspective needed to scale impactful ideas, I plan to pursue a top business school in the UK. I am excited to immerse myself in business education, develop a strong entrepreneurial toolkit, and connect with inspiring mentors and peers. My long-term vision is to be a founder who bridges science, business, and social change.

Judges' comments

66

“Julia has shown remarkable resilience and dedication to social equity, from founding education and sustainability initiatives to supporting refugees and underserved students. Her lived experience and inclusive leadership reflect a powerful commitment to uplifting marginalized communities.”

Sofiia Gryn

Nationality & Residence

Ukrainian, living in France

Program

Master in Innovation
or Management

Expertise

Economics and AI

Ambition

Connect cultures and disciplines to foster
inclusive innovation, diversity and inclusion



My story



Growing up, I struggled to choose just one subject to focus on — the idea of specialising in several areas always felt far more exciting and enriching. When life took an unexpected turn and I moved to Paris at 17, I realised that the solution for me isn't mastering a single discipline, but weaving together knowledge from different fields and learning to apply it effectively.

Now in my final year of a double bachelor's degree in AI and Economics, I have also adapted to a new language and culture, enhancing my ability to think across disciplines and perspectives.

Building on this foundation, at business school, I aim to deepen my understanding of building and sustaining a company, as well as developing strong leadership skills, to help drive the intersection of Economics and AI on a broader scale.

Judges' comments

66

"Sofiia has demonstrated outstanding resilience and intellectual versatility, overcoming displacement and academic challenges with determination. Her interdisciplinary background and global perspective reflect a strong commitment to bridging cultures, ideas, and technology through business."

Tarik

Nationality & Residence

German, living in Switzerland

Program

Master's

Expertise

Strategic Leadership, International Business,
and Management Consulting

Ambition

Connect cultures and drive change through strategic
vision, sustainable impact, and global collaboration



My story



“Connecting cultures, driving change” reflects my approach to business and leadership. With a multilingual background and academic training across Law, Business, and Management, I have built a strong foundation in strategic thinking, problem-solving, and innovation. My academic and professional experiences across multiple countries and diverse international settings have strengthened my intercultural competence, commitment to equal opportunity, and ability to work effectively in complex, fast-changing environments.

I am passionate about inclusive leadership and representation as catalysts for growth – in people, organisations, and society. Through volunteer work, mentoring, and cross-border collaboration, I have seen how empowering individuals can spark innovation, strengthen communities, and deliver lasting results. At business school, I look forward to engaging with exceptional peers from around the world, exchanging bold ideas, and further developing the skills to lead initiatives that combine strategic vision, sustainable impact, and global collaboration.

66

Judges' comments

“Tarik demonstrates leadership, collaboration, and innovation, with a clear commitment to inclusive leadership. He sees business school as a platform to empower underrepresented voices, champion diversity, and create lasting social impact through mentoring.”

Thomas Jung

Nationality & Residence

Chilean/French, living in Sweden

Program

Environmental Policy and Finance, or other similar dual degree, and Finance Master's

Expertise

Finance and sustainability

Ambition

Redefine the role of business in driving environmental and social change



My story



I am a French-Chilean graduate with a BSc in Business, Ethics and Sustainability from Stockholm University. Growing up in Chile, a country full of diverse and beautiful landscapes, I grew early aware of the negative impacts of human activity on the environment. My academic and professional journeys reflect a drive to develop and bridge a systemic understanding with business practices.

Professionally, I have gained experience across startups and NGOs, contributing to sustainability related communication strategies in both Europe and Latin America. Fluent in Spanish, French, and English, and shaped by a multicultural upbringing, I aim to further develop and apply analytical skills in business school once I've finished my MSc in Transdisciplinary Environmental Sciences.

My next ambition is to ideally pursue a dual degree in Environmental Policy and Finance, gaining tools to design systems where profit and purpose reinforce one another, beyond business as usual.

Judges' comments

66

"Thomas brings a powerful blend of lived experience and purpose, shaped by his upbringing in Chile and his advocacy for inclusion, sustainability, and economic reform. His global perspective and values-driven leadership set him apart."

Tijmen Duivenvoorden

Nationality & Residence

Dutch, living in Sweden

Program

Master of Business
Administration

Expertise

Healthcare, strategy and data

Ambition

Connect data, biotech, and strategy for
healthcare impact



My story



I'm a Dutch undergraduate at the Stockholm School of Economics with a strong academic interest in healthcare, strategy, and data. My professional experience includes working on a cost-saving healthcare project at the Boston Consulting Group and contributing to business development at IONLACE, a biotech startup applying machine learning to antibody design. These experiences have deepened my interest in how technology and strategy can solve complex problems in life sciences. At SSE, I've also been involved in student leadership and research-oriented extracurriculars.

Judges' comments

66

"Tijmen shows maturity shaped by early independence, steady routines, and inclusive leadership. Through student initiatives and professional experience, he's learned empathy and authenticity, seeing business school as a place to mentor peers, strengthen inclusion, and foster supportive community."

Héloïse Rivet-Picolet

Nationality & Residence

French, living in the UK

Program

Master's in Management,
Master's in Analytics and
Management, Masters in Data
Science and Business Analytics

Expertise

Policy, strategy and ethics

Ambition

Lead transformative strategies uniting
innovation and ethics



My story

Originally from the South of France, I recently graduated from the University of Oxford with a BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. My studies explored ethical and policy challenges in technology and economics, from the disparate impact of AI to sustainable support mechanisms. Alongside academics, I deepened my business acumen through student consulting projects, an internship advising on tax policy debated in Parliament, and work with a social-impact hospitality startup. I now work in the Talent team at a leading European tech firm, balancing bias-free recruitment with strategic organisational design.

My goal is to pursue a Master's in Management at a top European business school to strengthen my skills in business strategy and analytics. I aim to combine this expertise with my political and ethical insights to drive transformative strategies for global organisations, particularly in sectors where innovation and social responsibility intersect.

Judges' comments

"Héloïse combines academic excellence with a commitment to ethics, inclusion, and social impact. From humble beginnings to Oxford, she now sees business school as a platform to mentor underrepresented peers and integrate responsible innovation with public good."

The Runners Up

Constantin Weihs
Germany

Expertise & ambition
International business and corporate strategy, ambition to champion diversity and foster inclusion in global business

Elena Durrans
Germany

Expertise & ambition
International relations and global policy, ambition to drive inclusion and connect communities across borders

Jasmin Rauscher
Austria

Expertise & ambition
International finance and cultural intelligence, ambition to foster inclusion and expand representation in global business

Julia Just
Germany

Expertise & ambition
International business and strategy, ambition to champion diverse thinking and drive inclusion across global business

Cristina Huergo
Spain

Expertise & ambition
Technology and HR, ambition to build inclusive systems and elevate underrepresented voices

Jarrold Chisholm
United Kingdom

Expertise & ambition
Equity research and leadership, ambition to expand access and drive social mobility through business

Jesse Okoye
United Kingdom

Expertise & ambition
Engineering and finance, ambition to bridge cultures and drive inclusive global collaboration

Laurita Kunickaite
United Kingdom

Expertise & ambition
Healthcare and data science, ambition to empower women and lead in tech-driven business environments

Philipp Rams
Germany

Expertise & ambition
Real estate and international business, ambition to champion potential and inspire meaningful growth

Pratik Ramesh
United Kingdom

Expertise & ambition
Consulting and finance, ambition to expand access and build belonging for underrepresented voices in business

Salvador Santos
Spain

Expertise & ambition
Entrepreneurship and management, ambition to lead with purpose and empower others

Talent Dzviti
United Kingdom

Expertise & ambition
Management engineering and high-performance sport, ambition to inspire growth through discipline and global perspective





Applications for the **2026 Scholarship** will open in **March 2026**. Scan the QR code for more info

