

**NIKKI SMITHERS, *President*, The Christopher Smithers' Foundation**



Mrs. Nikki Smithers is President of The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation. She was elected a Board member of the Foundation in August 2013. She is co-founder of the Smithers Center at Columbia University Medical Center, and a United Nations Representative from OCCAM (Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication in the Mediterranean and the World) dealing with economic and social issues in Africa.

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**BRINKLEY SMITHERS, *Vice-President*, The Christopher Smithers' Foundation**



Brinkley Smithers, daughter of Christopher B. and Nikki Smithers, was elected Vice President of the Smithers Foundation at its Annual Meeting in 2022. She served as Secretary from 2019-2022. Brinkley Smithers is attending NYU's Tisch School of the Arts for film.

While volunteering at the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD), when she was a high school senior, Brinkley zeroed in on an idea of writing a script for a PSA video on the opioid crisis, titled "Hey Charlie." The project came to life. The impactful film, "Hey Charlie" is also the centerpiece of a broader effort, titled #StoptheSpiral. LICADD honored Brinkley Smithers with the Community Champions Award for the creation of "Hey Charlie" PSA video at the 2018 Annual Adele C. Smithers Angel Ball. The award reads, "In grateful appreciation of your creativity, vision, and dedication to recovery." She also received the "Suffolk County Citation of Achievement" from the Suffolk County, New York, Legislature and the District Attorney's office for her vision and motivation to combat the substance abuse crisis on Long Island. "Hey Charlie" was nominated at the Cannes Lions International Film Festival and received a Clio Health Award in 2018. Brinkley Smithers is a youth designated representative of OCCAM (Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication in the Mediterranean and in the World) to the United Nations Department of Global Communications.

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**NICHOLAS SMITHERS, *Director*, The Christopher Smithers' Foundation**



Nicholas is a sophomore at NYU studying psychology. During high school, Nicholas was an intern at LICADD, where he created a PSA demonstrating the effects of the pandemic & quarantine on young adults and their alcohol and drug use. It was showcased at five NY state and local conferences, as well as over 100 public schools on Long Island, NY. Nicholas was also an intern at NIH for a statewide study on the opioid epidemic. More recently, Nicholas was a research assistant at Columbia University Medical Center in the Sultan Lab for mental health informatics.

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**CHRISTOPHER B. SMITHERS, Jr.**, *Secretary*, The Christopher Smithers' Foundation



He was elected Secretary of the Smithers Foundation at its Annual Meeting in October 2022. He is attending Cornell University, studying at the School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

A former intern at the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (LICADD), he has conducted thorough research on the opioid epidemic. Under the mentorship of Columbia University's Dr. Milton Wainberg, he created a first-of-its-kind prototype system to track prescription pills through an implementation of blockchain technology into the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Through this research he was able to conclude that the PDMP is flawed and a blockchain based system can be used to detect hotspots where opioids are being overprescribed in real time. In May 2019 Christopher presented his research at the Global Mental Health Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa. While at this conference, he connected with researchers at the Foundation for Professional Development where he accepted a summer internship in East London, South Africa. During this internship he collected data on HIV Vulnerable women and their willingness to take Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis to prevent them from an HIV infection. Christopher has a deep interest in Astronomy and Astrophysics, having taken many related courses back in high school at Stanford Online High School as well as in college at Cornell University. While having finished calculus and advanced physics mechanics by his sophomore year of high school, he conducted research at California Institute of Technology under the mentorship of Dr. Anton Kapustin. While here Christopher, co-ran simulations in C# and Python on a problem in statistical physics involving an Ising Model.