

Kayla Burt Named as PGA REACH WNY Fairway Future Trustee *Burt Makes Two Year Commitment to Youth, Military, and Diverse Populations through PGA REACH WNY*



EAST AMHERST, NY (August 16, 2024) – Kayla Burt (KB) is a Data Research Analyst at the MIT Sloan School of Management and a PhD student in the Information Science program at the University at Buffalo, where she explores how people gather and utilize information to make critical decisions in education. Originally from Buffalo, NY, and now residing in Boston, MA, she is committed to ensuring that voices in educational spaces are heard and that students, staff, and faculty have the resources they need to thrive. Her dedication is demonstrated by her involvement with the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME), Minds Matter Boston, and the Le Moyne College Alumni Board. A former college golfer, Kayla is passionate about promoting golf and breaking down barriers for those who have historically lacked opportunities to participate, as evidenced by her work with First Tee of Massachusetts and Fairways to Leadership.

"I encountered golf by chance, and while its physical benefits were apparent, I never could have imagined the mental and emotional growth it fostered. It also opened the door to lasting connections with amazing people from a wide range of backgrounds. Although I now live in Boston, MA, my heart remains in Western New York, and I'm passionate about advancing golf's transformative influence through my involvement with the PGA REACH WNY Foundation. A heartfelt thanks goes out to those in WNY already making strides to remove obstacles for those interested in golf and raising awareness among those who may not have considered golf as an option. It's an honor to be part of this incredible community of inspiring people."

The mission of PGA REACH WNY is to positively impact the lives of youth, military, and diverse populations through the game of golf. PGA REACH WNY was created with a goal of providing support to various organizations within the boundaries of the Western New York PGA Section. Through the game of golf, the Foundation will work to fund and conduct programs supporting its mission, including the Western New York Section PGA Junior Golf initiatives and various other underprivileged youth golf programs. The Foundation will also conduct and/or support a variety of initiatives that serve the founding pillars: youth, military, and diversity in golf.

PGA Jr. League, the flagship youth program of PGA REACH WNY, is a game-changing opportunity to bring family and friends together around fun team golf experiences. PGA HOPE (Helping Our Patriots Everywhere) introduces golf to Veterans with disabilities to enhance their physical, mental, social and emotional well-being. The PGA WORKS Fellowship aspires to be the most valuable entry-level employment opportunity for individuals from diverse backgrounds to gain experience in all facets of the golf industry.

"Our Foundation is so excited to have Kayla join our highly diverse group of Foundation Trustees," said Director of Development, John Osberg. "With Kayla's awesome experience in playing the game as a decorated high school and collegiate golfer, and her amazing past work with The First Tee of WNY, we knew that Kayla would be a major addition to REACH. Her desire to serve and passion and commitment to driving accessibility in the game of golf will ensure that PGA REACH WNY exceeds its mission driven expectations. Kayla's joining showcases yet another crucial player in our planning/execution process as PGA REACH WNY grows its commitment to Positively Impacting Lives Through the Game of Golf!"

About Kayla Burt

Kayla is a Data Research Analyst at MIT Sloan School of Management and a PhD student in Information Science at the University at Buffalo, focusing on how information influences decision-making in education. Originally from Buffalo, NY, now based in Boston, MA, she advocates for inclusivity in educational settings, ensuring people have necessary support. She is active on numerous boards for education and in the golf industry.

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