

AVA WEISSMAN

High school student passionate about business, community service, & public policy

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EDUCATION

American Heritage Schools, Plantation, FL

Graduation date: May 2026 GPA: 5.7 / AP Scholar with Distinction

LEADERSHIP & CLUBS

Founder & President

Pickleball 4 A Purpose, a 501(c)(3) organization

📅 02/2024 - Present 📍 Parkland, FL

Founded non-profit fostering connections between older adults and teens via pickleball, raising funds for senior and youth groups: pickleball4apurpose.com

- Executing pickleball tournaments with over 300+ participants, raised \$50K+, 35+ sponsors and oversee 200+ teenage volunteers.
- Established 15 chapters in 11 states, with tournaments in multiple states in the US and digital outreach to 31 countries with 6K+ digital users.

President (25-26), Executive Vice President (24-25),
Director of Fundraising (23-24)

DECA

📅 08/2022 - Present 📍 Plantation, FL

Lead and manage a student organization of 300+ members focused on marketing, finance, hospitality, and business management. Held positions since sophomore year.

- Delegate tasks to the 20+ student-led officer team and oversee successful execution of chapter projects and initiatives.
- Served as a leader for over 300 DECA competitors and managed \$90K for competitor fees and membership dues, directly handling and assisting all cash flows.
- Spearheaded DECA Boot Camps with over 150 participants for competition practice.
- Executed fundraising events with outside retail stores to give back a percentage of sales to our DECA chapter, raising over \$2K for the chapter.

Executive Vice President (25-26), International Competitor (23-26)

Model United Nations

📅 08/2023 - Present 📍 Plantation, FL

Selected on the travel team (1 of 35) with the Top 5 Model UN team in the US.

- Mentor 30+ students on public policy, global research and public speaking.
- Coordinate logistics & communication for international conferences.

Founder & President

AVUS Connect (American Heritage School Chapter)

📅 08/2022 - Present 📍 Plantation, FL

- Created and leads the AVUS Connect chapter in high school, with 100+ members. Regularly volunteer to teach technology skills at senior centers.
- Organize monthly volunteer opportunities for 100+ students to help elderly and disabled adults living in isolation through visits at senior facilities.

Entrepreneurship Mentor (25-26) Vice President of
Fundraising (23-25), Founder & Chair, Sports &
Entertainment Special Interest Group (22-23)

Pre-Business Society

📅 08/2022 - Present 📍 Plantation, FL

- Manage fundraising & relationships with 330+ dedicated business members, such as handling \$10K+ in dues and hosting various society fundraisers.

AWARDS & HONORS

DECA ICDC 4TH PLACE IN THE WORLD 2025

4th place in Business Growth Plan event at the DECA International Career Development Conference for Pickleball 4 A Purpose. 4/250+

**COCA-COLA SCHOLARS PROGRAM
SEMIFINALIST 2026**

Selected as one of the 1,230 Semifinalists out of 107,000 applications. Finalists chosen in January.

**2x DECA INTERNATIONAL CAREER
DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE QUALIFIER & 3x
STATE QUALIFIER**

DECA 2025 States 2nd place award for Business Growth Plan. DECA 2024 States Conference 4th place award for the Career Development Project.

**AWARD OF DISTINCTION-NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2025**

First place delegate in the prestigious and largest high school tournament in NYC. 1/100+

**BEST DELEGATE AWARDS-NORTH ATLANTIC
INVITATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS AT
GEORGETOWN 2025 & WILLIAM & MARY 2024**

1/150+ in the Forum for East Asia-Latin American Cooperation. 1/50+ in the Small Island Committee.

**VERBAL COMMENDATION AWARD AT THE 2025
IVY LEAGUE MODEL UNITED NATIONS
CONFERENCE AT UPENN**

4th place delegate in the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization committee. 4/110+

**PRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER SERVICE GOLD
MEDAL (2025) (500+ HRS)**

Award issued by The Office of the U.S. President for dedicated service helping seniors stay connected.

**FLORIDA COUNCIL ON AGING PUBLIC SERVICE
AWARD (2025)**

Received due to efforts to improve quality of older Floridians' lives.

FBLA 4TH PLACE STATE COMPETITION 2024

4th out of 100 competitors in the Sports & Entertainment Management event.

**NATIONAL TOP SCHOOL RECOGNITION AWARD
2025**

Recognized by the College Board for academic excellence within the school community.

**FEATURED TEEN ENTREPRENEUR GUEST,
WHARTON GLOBAL YOUTH FUTURE OF THE
BUSINESS WORLD PODCAST (2025)**

<https://globalyouth.wharton.upenn.edu/articles/future-of-the-business-world-podcast/move-over-golf-relationships-are-thriving-on-the-pickleball-court/>

**NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY & NATIONAL
BUSINESS HONOR SOCIETY**

LEADERSHIP & CLUBS

Vice President

March For Our Lives (American Heritage School Chapter)

📅 08/2022 - 05/2024 📍 Plantation, FL

- Led a school gun safety movement while organizing speaker and mental health programs, growing membership from 10 to over 50 students.
- Increased student engagement by coordinating letter writing campaigns with 50+ volunteers.

Director of Sales

Junior Achievement USA Fellows Program

📅 08/2022 - 05/2023 📍 Plantation, FL

14-week entrepreneurial experience. Developed a start-up shoelace company with capital funding, liquidation of the company and culminated with a JA competition.

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING

Broward County Youth Advisor

AVUS Connect

📅 05/2023 - Present

- Worked with national AVUS to help secure over \$100K in government grants for senior tablet access and to lobby for passage of two Florida House Bills to source senior health aids.

Co-President & Advocate

Florida House of Representatives Marie Woodson District 105 Youth Council

📅 05/2025 - Present 📍 Miramar, FL

Oversee youth board of six teens and represents 40K teenagers.

- Advocated for and co-created a bill that lowers teen volunteer age for seniors from 18 to 16. Bill goes to Florida House floor in November 2025.

Youth Director of Fundraising

March For Our Lives Parkland

📅 05/2022 - 05/2025

- Led initiative to secure \$20K+ for community march of 2000+ attendees. Featured on CNN & MSNBC.

Co-Founder & President

Heal Together

📅 06/2022 - 05/2024

Co-Founder of non-profit organization <https://www.helphealtogether.com> which provides peer support for teens affected by gun violence.

- Raised \$5K annually to fund five scholarships for gun violence survivors.

Volunteer

Kids In Distress

📅 08/2022 - Present

- Organize and collect holiday donations for kids in need (90 hours to date).

WORK EXPERIENCE & RESEARCH

The Maurice A. Ferre Institute for Civic Leadership at Florida International University, Research Assistant

📅 05/2025 - Present 📍 Miami, FL

Conduct research with Professor Agatha Caraballo on philanthropy solutions to increase funding sources and promote civic engagement for issues like voting rights and legislative process.

Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development, Research Intern for the Governor's Office

📅 03/2025 - Present

Assisted the Commissioner of Economic Development, Dan O'Keefe, with an analysis of economic incentives programs including their reach and frequency.

Happy Recap Productions, Junior Producer

📅 06/2024 - Present

Provide creative input to generate funding for Broadway plays like *Sunset Blvd* and *Gypsy*. Chosen to attend 2025 Tony Awards to represent the company.

Roundview Capital, Summer Analyst

📅 07/2024 - 08/2024 📍 Princeton, NJ

Selected as one of the first high school students to intern at the prestigious wealth management firm, with a 15% acceptance rate.

- Created and presented a stock pitch for publicly traded securities to the Partners/Principals of Roundview Capital.
- Achieved 'Best Presentation' award among {20} interns, improving overall perception by elevating engagement strategies.
- Developed qualitative analysis skills, including interviewing consumers and employees of publicly traded companies.

Grouped, Inc., Business Intern

📅 06/2023 - 08/2023 📍 Nashville, TN

Participated in marketing brainstorming sessions, supported campaign planning and execution.

COURSES

Wharton Global Youth: Leadership in the Business World (Summer 2025)

Entrepreneurship & New Venture Creation, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Summer 2024)

University of Florida Young Leaders Conference 2025

Kelley Women's Leadership Institute, Indiana University 2024

Coursera Wharton course: Introduction to Marketing

Coursera course: Excel Fundamentals for Data Analysis 2024