

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

📅 05/2024 - 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 200+ participants, raised \$30K+, 20+ sponsors and oversee 200+ teenage volunteers.
- Established 14 chapters in 11 states, with tournaments in multiple states in the US and digital outreach to 31 countries with 6K+ digital users.

President

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 (**Executive VP- 11th grade & Director of Fundraising-10th grade**).

- 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

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.

Executive VP-12th grade & National Competitor-10th-12th grade.

- Coordinate logistics & communication for international conferences.

Founder & President

AVUS Connect (American Heritage School Chapter)

📅 08/2023 - 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.

Vice President of Fundraising

Pre-Business Society

📅 08/2022 - Present 📍 Planation, FL

- Manage fundraising & relationships with 330+ dedicated business members, such as handling \$10K+ in dues and hosting various society fundraisers. **Entrepreneurship Mentor-12th grade.**

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+

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

DECA 2025 States Conference 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.

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

Received award from United HomeCare for dedicated service helping seniors and disabled adults stay connected.

FLORIDA COUNCIL ON AGING PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD (2025)

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

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)

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY & NATIONAL BUSINESS HONOR SOCIETY

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

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.
- Coordinated volunteer letter writing campaigns.

Director of Sales

Junior Achievement USA Fellows Program

📅 08/2022 - 05/2023 📍 Planation, 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.

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).

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.

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.