

Hi! My name is Nicolas Keshishian, and I am thrilled to be fortunate enough to further my research endeavors through the NVSGC. I am a biology major at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and one of my biggest goals is to attend the UNLV School of Dental Medicine after my undergraduate studies. In my free time, I like to build DIY projects and watch history documentaries. My research looks at biofilms, which are bacterial cells surrounded by a self-produced protective matrix. More specifically, I am working with the opportunistic pathogen *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and the effects of increased nitric oxide on biofilm formation. This research is important to understand how decreased concentrations of oxygen may affect the phenotype and pathogenicity of biofilms in confined systems.