



asor



2025 Stevan B. Dana Fieldwork Scholarships

DONOR IMPACT REPORT



2025 Donor Impact Summary



\$10,000 awarded for fieldwork in 2025

5 Scholarships Awarded

Recipients:

Colleges and Universities:

Excavation/Fieldwork Sites:

Amelia Musser	Dickinson College	Tel Azekah, Israel
Juan Camillo Bonilla Hurtado	Universidad Francisco de Vitoria	Tel Hazor , Israel
JinRi Kim	Perkins School of Theology	Tel Hazor , Israel
Elizama Pereira Rezende	Institut Protestant de Théologie de Paris	Tel Hazor , Israel
Arie Torn Broers	N/A	Tel Hazor , Israel



Amiella Musser

Dickinson College
Tel Azekah, Israel

Amiella Musser is an undergraduate student double majoring in Archaeology and International Studies at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania. As much as she loves the “digging-in-the-dirt” aspect of archaeology, she hopes that as she builds her career she can make it more accessible to anyone who wants to learn more about our ancient pasts.



Though I often say I spent my summer “digging in the dirt” in a somewhat humorous way, the truth is I spent the summer learning that archaeology is more than a fascinating discipline to me—it is a lifestyle that I love. Waking up at 4:30 a.m. to be at the site by 5:00, we would get as much done as possible before our 7:30 “coffee pause,” a quick but necessary break. Afterward, we had a couple more hours of digging before breakfast, and then more digging until our day ended at 1:00 p.m. But that wasn’t really the end of the day, because then came pottery washing. Though tedious, it was an opportunity to hear from others about what was going on in their areas, what finds had been uncovered, and what they knew about the site—or others in the region.

I worked in what became known as “Gadi’s Pit,” named for the assistant supervisor who oversaw its excavation. The site is Tel Azekah in the heart of the Shephelah. It’s a large area with so much left to discover, even alongside everything already uncovered. I exposed the entrance to what we initially thought was a cistern, but as we dug deeper we realized it was more than that, despite the deceptively simple first week. The Tel has a water system that has not yet been excavated, but the area I was working in seems to have some connection to it. The work was addictive. Every morning I woke up looking forward to getting back into the pit, and even during breakfast you could hear me saying how much I wanted to return. Unfortunately, I wasn’t able to reach the bottom this season, but it was not for lack of effort. If you were to meet my field supervisors, they would probably tell you they were mildly concerned at times about me ever leaving the pit. Little did they know I was just avoiding the sun in the most effective way possible—being two meters underground.

Juan Camillo Bonilla Hurtado

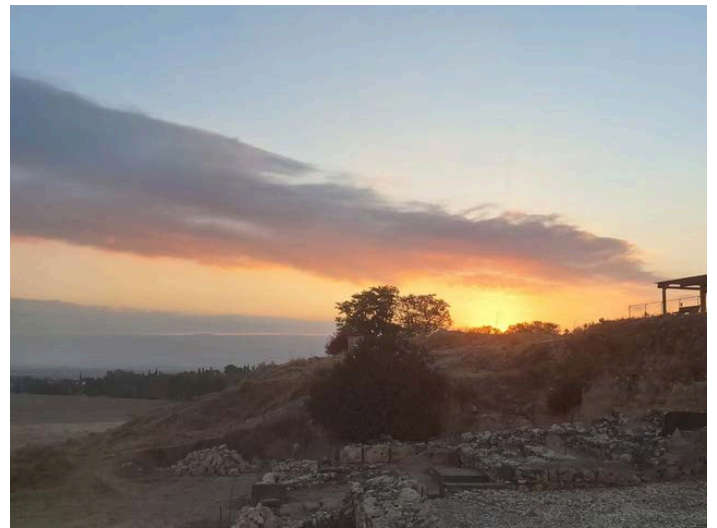
Universidad Francisco de Vitoria
Tel Hazor, Israel

This summer, I had the honor of participating, for the second time, in the excavation of Tel Hazor. As I mentioned before, this was my second time traveling to Israel to take part in an archaeological campaign, and although I already knew what to expect, I couldn't have been more excited.

Each day began at 4:30 in the morning. We would wake up and take a bus from the kibbutz to the archaeological park. That's where the action started. Tel Hazor is a stunning site, and watching the sunrise over the hills was truly moving.



At an archaeological site like Hazor, many cultures coexist — separated by hundreds of years — and the same happens in daily life across Israel: on buses, in supermarkets, or restaurants, where people of different nationalities and beliefs live side by side in harmony and peace. Without a doubt, participating in a dig is one of the best ways to truly experience the country. You don't just visit the most popular places — you also get to know the hidden spots only locals frequent.



Most of the work was not delicate or fine, but rather physically demanding. We used heavy tools and lifted large stones. As we dug, our area supervisors would explain the archaeological context and excavation techniques, so the learning process was hands-on and continuous.



Elizama Pereira Rezende

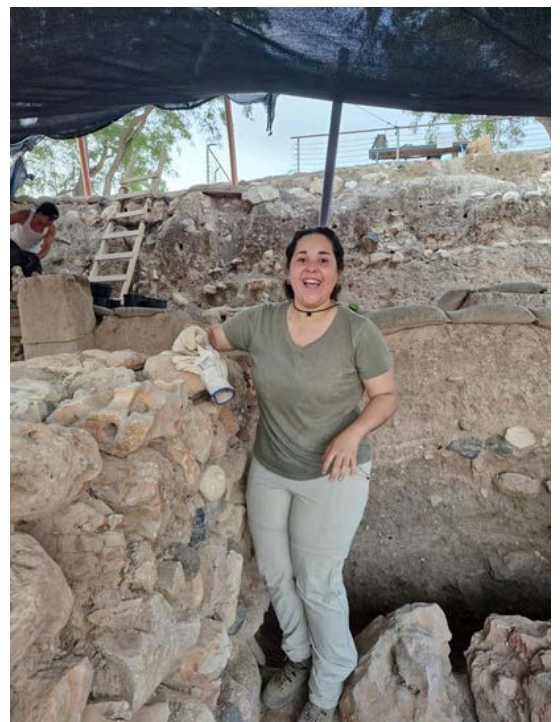
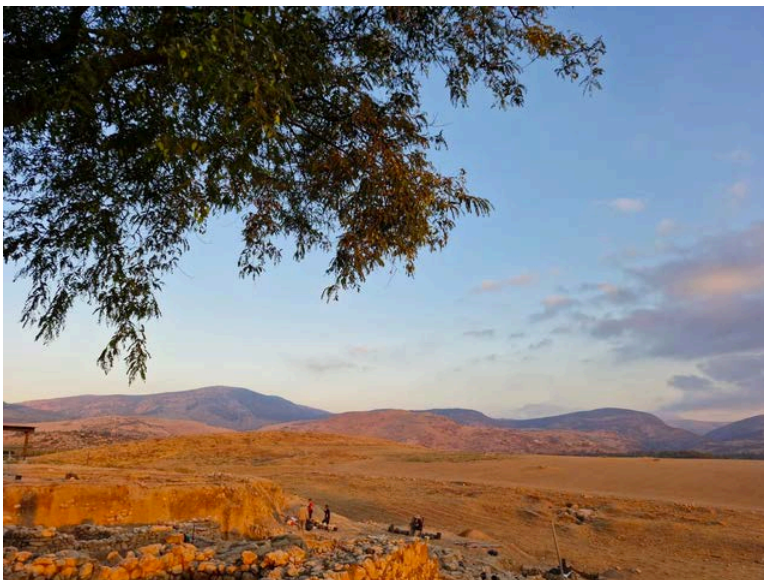
Institut Protestant de Théologie de Paris
Tel Hazor, Israel

Elizama Pereira Rezende is a theology student at the Institut Protestant de Théologie in Paris, France. This past summer, she was grateful to receive the Stevan B. Dana Fieldwork Scholarship through ASOR, which allowed her to participate in the excavation at Tel Hazor.



I learned so much during the three-week session at Tel Hazor—about archaeology, pottery reading, Tel Hazor itself, and Israeli culture, including living in a community, dealing with public transport not running during Shabbat, and enjoying Israeli salad three times a day. I also learned new Hebrew words, met new people, made friends, and, most importantly, discovered more about myself.

Even though participating in an archaeological excavation had been one of my dreams for years, I was not prepared for what awaited me when I arrived in Israel. In a way, I am grateful for that, because it allowed me to grow in unexpected ways. I gained confidence, self-esteem, and the realization that I am far stronger than I ever imagined. This experience has also opened my mind to the world of biblical archaeology—a field I hope to explore further in the coming years



Lifetime Donor Summary Impact



\$54,000

awarded in
scholarships for
fieldwork

27 students
awarded
scholarships

Year	Recipient	Country	Project	Universities of Recipients
2022	Pauline Allaire	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	Universite Paul Valery Montpellier
2022	Andrew Bock	Israel	Tel Dan	University of California, Los Angeles
2022	Erin Brantmayer	Israel	Birsama	University of Texas, Austin
2022	Marta Estero	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	University Francisco de Vitoria
2022	Emily Fehr	Israel	Hazor Lower City Excavations	Suffolk County Community College
2022	Marta Fernandez	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	University Francisco de Vitoria
2022	Cayden Griffith	Israel	Huqoq Excavations	Austin College
2022	Cayetana Johnson	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	San Damaso University
2022	Theo Kassebaum	Israel	Tel Abel Beth Maacah	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
2022	Benedict Lhoyer	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	Ecole du Louvre
2022	Tara Woodward	Israel	Tel Shimron	Princeton Theological Seminary
2023	Jack Farquhar	Israel	Hazor Lower City Excavations	University of Regina
2023	Taylor Grueser	Israel	Hazor Lower City Excavations	Ohio University
2023	Sarah Harrington	Israel	Tel Abel Beth Maacah	University of California, Los Angeles
2023	Amandiane Henrion	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	Ecole du Louvre
2023	Hania Kantzer	Israel	Huqoq Excavations	Univeristy of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Year	Recipient	Country	Project	Universities of Recipients
2023	Camille Koerin	Israel	Tel Lachish	University of Strasbourg
2023	Isaac Lang	Israel	Caesarea Coastal Project	Florida State University
2023	Daphne Lemaitre	Israel	Hazor Selz Foundations Excavations	Ecole du Louvre
2023	John Rinks	Israel	Hazor Lower City Excavations	N/A
2024	Gabbi Graber	Israel	Tel Burna	Jerusalem University College
2024	Bruno Soltic	Israel	Tel Burna	Lipscomb Univeristy
2025	Juan Camilo Bonilla Hurtado	Israel	Tel Hazor	Universidad Francisco de Vitoria
2025	Arie Torn Broers	Israel	Tel Hazor	N/A
2025	JinRi Kim	Israel	Tel Hazor	Perkins School of Theology
2025	Amelia Musser	Israel	Tel Azekah	Dickinson College
2025	Elizama Pereira Rezende	Israel	Tel Hazor	Institut Protestant de Théologie de Paris





**Thank you for your
continued support of
the next generation of
archaeologists!**

