Avery Simpson

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Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI
Bachelor of Science Education: Elementary Education (GPA 3.668) May 2025
Minor: English Language Arts
Certificates: Educational Policy Studies

Professional Experience

Farm 42 **Brooklyn, WI**
Kitchen Manager August 2024-August 2025

- Ensure food and worker safety compliance
- Oversee the training of new staff members
- Manage inventory and general finances
- Operate all kitchen equipment with fluency

College for Rural Wisconsin **Madison, WI**
Rural Peer Advisor October 2022-August 2025

- Develop resources for students, families, and communities living in rural areas
- Create and deliver informational presentations to students and families on college and career readiness
- Communicate effectively in person and virtually with various educational staff members, university employees, and partnership representatives
- Advise high school students directly on finding the best pathway to postsecondary education for them

Wisconsin Union **Madison, WI**
Sett Pub Student Supervisor September 2022-November 2024

- Trained new staff members and new supervisors
- Ensured food and worker safety
- Operated all kitchen equipment with fluency
- Resolved conflicts between employees
- Ensured the satisfaction of all guests at the Wisconsin Union

Sunset Lounge Bartender May 2024-August 2024

- Tailored memorized drink recipes to fit customer preferences
- Ensured the satisfaction of all guests at the Wisconsin Union
- Informed guests of and enforced Union policies

WISCIENCE **Madison, WI**
Summer Collegiate Experience Peer Leader June 2023-August 2024

- Developed and delivered presentational spotlights of careers within the field of biology
- Developed and delivered informational presentations on college resources
- Created and distributed biology career resource sheets and other class materials
- Facilitated academic conversations amongst students
- Held hour-long office hour sessions once a week

McBurney Disability Resource Center **Madison, WI**

Notetaker September 2022-May 2024

- Scribed detailed notes for lecture and discussion in multiple courses, including C&1 550, C&I 506, C&I 318, C&I 406, C&I 319, C&I 320, Astro 301, ENGL 241

Vintage Birch Barn/Brooklyn Barn **Brooklyn, WI**
Sales Associate September 2017-September 2021

- Actively engaged with customers to provide excellent service
- Processed and stocked new items
- Maintained the cleanliness and presentability of the sales floor

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Honors and Awards

UW-Madison Dean's List Spring 2021-Spring 2024
Union Student Employee of the Month October 2023
Two-time honored dining hall employee 2021-2022
English Student of the Year Award 2017

Service

A Moment of Magic- Chapter at UW-Madison **Madison, WI**
Co-Training Coordinator & Magic Maker Coordinator September 2024-August 2025

- Train members in how to successfully fulfill their role as a character or magic maker
- Work one-on-one with members and provide constructive feedback to improve the quality of our services

Vice President and Secretary September 2024-August 2025

- Maintain a log of all current members' health records and volunteer status
- Keep detailed attendance records
- Record meeting minutes for all general body and executive board meetings
- Write and send out informational updates via email to over 500 subscribers once a month
- Write and send out informal updates to all active members once a week

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair September 2023-May 2024

- Created a lead one presentation a semester on the history and impact of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organization on a national and local scale
- Developed and shared resources for members to practice using Spanish and American Sign Language
- Supported efforts for increased inclusivity in materials and resources offered

Project 72 **Madison, WI**
Volunteer September 2023-November 2023

- Encouraged local college students to create a plan to vote in the 2023 election
- Informed local individuals of the importance of voting
- Gave instructions on how to register to vote

Leukemia and Lymphoma Society **Milwaukee, WI**
Student of the Year Candidate 2021

- Lead a team of high school students, family members, and school staff in raising funds for LLS
- Held virtual fundraisers and in-person merchandise sales

Student of the Year Team Member 2020

- Participated on a team of local students, family members, and school staff in raising money for another student's campaign
- Volunteered at a local restaurant's fundraiser

Educational Leadership

WISCIENCE **Madison, WI**

Senior Peer Leader September 2023-December 2023

- Supported a new peer leader in developing resources and giving presentations to a group of roughly 100 first-year undergraduate students
- Developed and presented academic and social resources for undergraduate STEM students
- Engaged with the teaching team in weekly meetings to review lesson plans, reflect on strengths and areas for growth, and preview ways to support students in the upcoming week
- Built close relationships with roughly 25 students in the class
- Supported students through fostering in-class engagement and discussion, holding frequent office hours, and meeting with a section of 25 students for one-on-one meetings

Peer Leader September 2022-December 2022

- Built a close connection with a smaller group of roughly 25 students in the class
- Developed and presented academic and social resources for undergraduate STEM students
- Engaged with the teaching team in weekly meetings to review lesson plans, reflect on strengths and areas for growth, and preview ways to support students in the upcoming week
- Supported students through fostering in-class engagement and discussion, holding frequent office hours, and meeting with a section of 25 students for one-on-one meetings

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Public Engagement

The Daily Cardinal October 15, 2024

"Students from rural areas feel isolated, struggle to adjust to college. A UW-Madison program eases the transition" by Zach Muchhala
https://www.dailycardinal.com/article/2024/10/students-from-rural-areas-feel-isolated-struggle-to-adjust-to-college-a-uw-madison-program-eases-the-transition?ct=content_open&cv=cbox_latest

- Student news article detailing challenges faced by rural students at UW-Madison and what College for Rural Wisconsin is doing to help rural students find belonging and succeed on campus.

Letter from State Senator, Mark Spreitzer September 18, 2024

- Physical letter sent by State Senator, Mark Spreitzer after the publication of Doug Erikson's article offering congratulations and thanks for helping to build community at UW-Madison and bridge a divide between rural and urban communities across the state.

Letter from 43rd Assembly District Representative, Jenna Jacobson September 4, 2024

- Physical letter for District Representative Jenna Jacobson in which she relates her educational journey to my own and offers congratulations of the work done by rural peer advisors at UW-Madison.

University of Wisconsin-Madison News August 27, 2024

"They love their small-town roots: These UW-Madison undergrads advise other rural students on higher ed" by Doug Erikson
https://news.wisc.edu/they-love-their-small-town-roots-these-uw-madison-undergrads-advise-other-rural-students-on-higher-ed/

- Article published on UW-Madison's various social media platforms and website detailing the idea behind College for Rural Wisconsin and giving insight to three of the rural peer advisors.

WEDC Office of Rural Prosperity August 5, 2024

Attracting and Retaining Young People in Rural Communities with Makayla Harris

- Virtual informational session and panel on attracting and retaining young people in rural areas across Wisconsin hosted by the Wisconsin Economic Development Office for Rural Prosperity and focusing on the areas of housing, inclusion and belonging, childcare, broadband, and quality of life.

EdSurge July 24, 2024

What Students from Rural Communities Think College Leaders Should Know by Rebecca Koenig
https://www.edsurge.com/news/2024-07-24-what-students-from-rural-communities-think-college-leaders-should-know

- Diversity and Equity article published by an educational focused website on STARS Networks efforts to increase access to higher education.

Wisconsin State Journal June 6, 2024

"In Wisconsin, college dreams grow dimmer for rural students" by Kimberly Wethal
https://madison.com/news/local/education/university/college-access-rural-wisconsin/article_f4b0d886-00f0-11ef-8cb2-97f7d38aabf9.html

- This article discusses the challenges faced by rural students in accessing higher education in light of UW system branch campuses closures.

Midwest Farm Report April 20, 2024

New College Offers Support for Rural Students with Pam Jahnke
https://www.midwestfarmreport.com/2024/04/20/new-college-offers-support-for-rural-students/

- Radio interview with the fabulous farm babe, Pam Jahnke, to discuss the new college access problem out of Madison Wisconsin, College for Rural Wisconsin