



**Kara Kundert, The 2016-2017
Carl and Betty Helmholtz Gateway Fellow
at International House, UC Berkeley**



Kara Kundert is an incoming American graduate student in astrophysics with an interest in low-frequency radio cosmology and instrumentation. Over the course of her undergraduate career, she spent time living in California, Ohio, New Mexico, and Michigan and working for many esteemed research institutions, including NASA and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory.

Kara began her undergraduate education at Oberlin College, where she majored in Physics with a concentration in Astrophysics, carrying a high GPA. After five semesters, Kara transferred to the University of Michigan, where she graduated with honors in Physics and Astronomy. Through the course of her career at Berkeley and beyond, she hopes to both drive the frontiers of humanity's understanding of the early universe and to make the sciences and academia more inclusive to people of all backgrounds, particularly trauma survivors. She is particularly looking forward to joining the inclusive and supportive community of scholars at the International House, and is grateful to the donors for providing her with this incredible opportunity.



The Carl and Betty Helmholtz Gateway Fellowship was initiated by Professor of Biophysics, Emeritus, Howard Mel. After Carl Helmholtz passed away in 2004, this endowed fund began accepting donations from various friends of the family to honor Carl and Betty for their many contributions, and was later established as a fellowship in 2007. Carl served as Chair of the Physics Department and Betty, who recently passed away, served on the International House Board of Directors for nine years.