



## Connecting Columbus to the World



### 2018 Hefei Sister City Marathon Participants



**Rachel Beery**, The Ohio State University

Rachel Beery is a Chillicothe, Ohio native and graduated from Huntington High School in Chillicothe, Ohio. This May, Rachel graduated with dual degrees in Geography and International Studies with minors in Geographic Information Science (GIS) and Spanish. Rachel was an active member in Global Leadership Initiative (GLI) and led in the position of VP of Membership Development for two years. While creating an event to bring awareness to the culture of Hefei in Columbus, Rachel met Tim Sword and started interning with GCSCI to manage their databases and conduct research.

Rachel has also worked at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium for four years and interned with Community Refugee and Immigration Services, Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland and National Geographic. In January, Rachel will be traveling to Malaysia as an English Teaching Assistant with the Fulbright program. Rachel is thrilled to run in the Hefei Marathon, experience the culture and celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Columbus-Hefei sister city relationship



**Claire Navarre**, Nationwide Children's Hospital

Claire came to Columbus in 2009 as an undergraduate student at The Ohio State University to study nursing. Claire ran her first half marathon in Columbus in 2013 and has participated in the Columbus Marathon/ Half Marathon event every year since. She completed the full marathon in 2016 and 2017 and it has been her favorite event. When not working as a nurse at Nationwide Children's Hospital, she loves to travel and is thrilled to have the opportunity to represent Columbus in Hefei and hopes to form lasting relationships. She is excited to learn about Hefei while also sharing some of

the city she lives in and loves.



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**David Spurlock**, Hilton Columbus Downtown

David Spurlock is a Columbus native and graduate of The Ohio State University. He owes his introduction to and love of running to his First Grade P.E. Teacher, who would later become his High School Cross Country Coach. David ran his first marathon length event as a High School Junior and has since completed 10 marathons.

With a career start as a Social Studies Teacher, David eventually entered the Hospitality Industry and is today, a proud Founding Team Member of the Hilton Columbus Downtown. He enjoys the opportunity the hotel gives to

introduce Columbus to the World. David appreciates the honor of representing Columbus as a Marathon Exchange Ambassador and if he has a running issue during the marathon, promises not to walk while in public view.



**Danny Webb**, Syscom Advanced Materials Inc.

Danny Webb is a 40-year-old Columbus native. He graduated from Newark Catholic High School in 1996 where he was a two-time state champion and state record holder in the 800M run. He also ran for Ashland University in Ashland, Ohio. Danny currently works in Occupation manufacturing and materials engineering at Syscom Advanced Materials, Inc. in Columbus, Ohio.



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**Nazar Zhdan**, Van Meter Ashbrook & Associates

Nazar is a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio. Upon graduating, he became actively involved in local and state politics, philanthropic and service community, and has been an advocate and supporter of a vibrant and diverse art scene in Columbus. Nazar is a native of Ukraine. Growing up and playing soccer in Ukraine since a young age, he traveled all over Europe participating in international soccer tournaments. These early experiences shaped his understanding of the importance of representing his city

and country abroad and what it means to be an athlete ambassador.