Allison Huisa, Northern Arizona University, for her project: Understanding High Silicic Rhyolite Storage and Duration in a Dominantly Mafic Intracontinental Volcanic Setting

Allison Huisa is a second-year Master’s student at Northern Arizona University working with Dr. Mary Reid. Her research focuses on investigating crystallization ages and compositional evolution of co-crystallizing accessory minerals (zircon, allanite, and chevkinite) from a high silica rhyolite that forms Sugarloaf Mountain in Northern Arizona. A combination of these methods will allow her to have a better understanding of Sugarloaf Mountain’s magmatic storage conditions by helping her differentiate between two general possibilities: periodic episodes of thermal inputs and cooling before eruption or if the rhyolite evolved immediately before eruption. Her work will provide a better understanding of silicic volcanic rocks on a larger scale.

Allison is originally from Miami, FL and received her bachelor’s degree in geology at Florida International University. Her interest in magmatic evolution sprouted from her pursuit to contribute to natural hazard mitigation work in the future. In her spare time, Allison enjoys painting, cooking and working on bettering her green thumb. She would like to thank GSA Lipman Research Award and the MGPV division for awarding her both grants and supporting her research."