Dana Mineart, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, for her project: Constraining continental emerges: Proterozoic ocean crust as a record of seawater isotopes.

I am a M.S. student in the Department of Geological and Atmospheric Sciences at Iowa State University, working with Dr. Benjamin Johnson. My M.S. thesis is focused on constraining continental emergence by using the oxygen isotope composition of seawater. With the samples we recently collected from Jones Hill, New Mexico and future site Jerome Mining District in Arizona, we will implement a microfluorination technique to measure oxygen isotopes from Proterozoic sections. We predict that by the Proterozoic, there was widespread emergence and modern-like oxygen isotope composition of seawater. Funding from the Lipman Research Award from the Howard and Jean Lipman Foundation allowed me to leave Iowa and travel to New Mexico to collect my first batch of samples. The experience was exciting and reminded me of why I love geology.

I grew up in Marion, IA and have always enjoyed the outdoors, like most of my fellow colleagues. I enjoy painting with watercolors of scenery I have either seen or have been inspired by. I received my B.S. in Geology and Anthropology from Iowa State University. I work with my department to incorporate more inclusion and diversity and hope I can inspire other minorities, LGBTQ+, and women to join the geology field. I love canoeing and taking nature walks with friends, who are sometimes annoyed by my frequent stopping to explain a random outcrop we stumble across.