

2021-2022 Alex Parker

Alex, a NC native, is a rising Junior at UNCA majoring in Atmospheric Sciences with a concentration in Weather Forecasting and is minoring in Astronomy. Outside of the classroom she is President of UNCA's American Meteorological Society student chapter, Treasurer of the Keytones A Capella group, and a tutor at UNCA's writing center. Alex's passion for astronomy began with her father taking her out to see the solar eclipse in 2017.

She is hoping to combine her work studying the Earth's atmosphere with her interest in astronomy – "I'm particularly interested in stars and how they interact with the planets orbiting them, such as how solar winds affect the composition of terrestrial planets' atmospheres. I would love to conduct undergraduate research on this topic."

Alex says her long-term career goal is "to be a well-informed and well-rounded Meteorologist, as well as use my consequentially greater understanding of physics to learn as much as I can about astronomy. It was my dad who initially got me interested in astronomy, but the universe never fails to keep me enticed with its beauty and wonder."