

Sophia Singh

2025 CARTHA Fellow (Communicating Across Memories Program)

During her sophomore year at West High School in Iowa City, Sophia became familiar with some of CARTHA's work after a discussion with CARTHA Founder Usha Balakrishnan (along with her friends Aanya Reddy and Thara Rajagopal who lived on the same street in Coralville, Iowa).

In Summer 2025, with Usha's encouragement, Sophia did a project to survey family and friends with the query: "What are your coping skills?" Usha told her about modeling her questions in a way to gain additional intergenerational perspectives and family stories as described in the book titled "Essential Questions" written by linguistic anthropologist Elizabeth Keating.

Sophia has been playing the cello and piano from a young age. Along with her love for music, Sophia plays tennis, likes to journal, read, and spend her free time watching movies with friends, and trying out new recipes.

By understanding the intergenerational perspectives of people's lives, as well as recognizing how memories of music and food can connect people from diverse backgrounds, Sophia aspires to serve the larger community and spread the unique stories of others through her writing and editing skills. Sophia plans on helping record and edit short films as part of CARTHA's Singing-Memories, Food-Memories and other related programs to capture the sentimental feeling people experience as they relive their most impactful memories.

Sophia hopes to cultivate new friendships and collaborate with people of different backgrounds and ages to better humanity.