

Pénélope Fernandez-Busto

Summer Student

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Law School

McGill University

Pénélope is currently completing her Bachelor of Civil Law and her Juris Doctor at McGill University's Faculty of Law as the recipient of the prestigious Loran Award. Before law school, she completed a college diploma in humanities at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, where she notably presided the college's student association and co-founded a campaign to raise awareness about sexual violence.

During her law school studies, Pénélope has been involved in various projects and associations. She serves as a caseworker for Innocence McGill, a legal clinic investigating cases of wrongful conviction in Québec, and at Projet Genèse, where she assists the Montreal community with housing and social assistance issues. This year, Pénélope also participated in the Warren K. Winkler Class Actions Moot, where she and her team won the competition and the prize for best defendant factum.

Eager to explore various legal domains, Pénélope gained experience working for cybersecurity and pharmaceutical companies, as well as completing internships in community development and public policy. Among her notable experiences, she interned for the United Nations Refugee Agency in Guatemala, conducting research on the forced displacement of Guatemalans. Last summer, Pénélope also worked in Cambodia with the Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights. This experience allowed her to contribute to the coverage of high-profile trials of human rights defenders and draft legal reports for international organizations.

In addition to her many commitments, Pénélope is a passionate artist who has been drawing and painting since childhood. She is also an avid runner and amateur climber.