Cagney Coomer is a Kentucky native, born in Lexington but grew up in Louisville. She received her bachelor’s degree from Virginia State University before returning to Kentucky. Upon moving back to Kentucky she attended Bluegrass Community and Technical College where she received associates in science and applied science. While at BCTC she began working at the UK core sequencing facility (AGTC) and where she began her science outreach work. She founded NERD SQUAD in 2012 and became deeply engaged in her science outreach work. Currently a third year graduate student in the department of biology at the University of Kentucky, Cagney uses NERD SQUAD to create to change the way people think about education. Creating a bridge that provides positive influences and role models from the university to youth in the community.