



Nicol Varona is a 25 year old Dominican Republic native and a 2009 Reading High school Alumna. She currently works at SEI Investments in Oaks, PA as a SEI Wealth Platform Marketing Analyst. Nicol earned her bachelor's degree in Business with a concentration in Marketing and Management from Penn State University. During her first year attending Penn State Nicol co-founded the first Latino organization on campus along with her sister Cory Varona. The club was founded to help other Reading High School Students attend Berks. The club's mission is to fundraise to give incoming students scholarships for books still continues after 8 years. The club has grown to be one of the biggest organizations at Penn State Berks.

Nicol has always had a passion for giving back and volunteering. During her senior year at Penn State Berks she traveled to Punta Gorda, Belize during Spring

Break to help build a library for the local elementary school.

Her passion for involvement led to starting a movement in her community to embrace natural beauty. Nicol along with her three curly friends started the **@curlysisterhood** to bring awareness about natural hair. Natural hair has not been accepted in the Dominican community for many years and this brought us together to start a group that could help others embrace their hair and inner beauty. The curly sisterhood was born as a project meant to encourage woman to embrace their natural beauty by sharing tips, hair routine, experiences and products for curly hair through social media. The page has been very popular with a great response from the local community and abroad. Nicol is excited for the projects coming in 2018 for Curly sisterhood. She hopes with the help of social media her and her curly friends can spread confidence among the curly community and bring more positive events to the Reading area.

During her free time Nicol loves to travel, practice yoga and enjoy spending time with family and friends. If you would like to learn more about Nicol's curly journey be sure to follow on her on Instagram **@nicolvarona** and follow the curly sisters **@curlysisterhood**.