

FCBA Foundation Awards Record 23 College Scholarships

The FCBA Foundation, celebrating its 16th Anniversary, is pleased to announce that it has awarded a record 23 college scholarships to graduating seniors from seven District of Columbia high schools. The scholarships (funded over four years) will assist these students as they move forward in their educational careers. The Foundation also is giving the scholarship winners a laptop computer to assist with their studies.

Thanks to the generosity of FCBA member companies and law firms, as well as FCBA members, the Foundation is committing more than \$150,000 in funds to this year's scholarship program. In addition to direct donations, funds for the Scholarship Program also are raised through the annual Chairman's Dinner and Golf Tournament, and Raffle at the Annual Seminar.

The Foundation received 44 applications from students of diverse backgrounds from Anacostia, Bell Multicultural, Calvin Coolidge, Cardozo, McKinley Tech, Roosevelt, Spingarn, and Thurgood Marshall High Schools in the District of Columbia. 29 of these students were then selected for interviews. All of the applicants were deserving of assistance, which made the selection process particularly difficult despite the record number of scholarships awarded. Information about each of the scholarship recipients appears on the following pages.

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges the support of the following companies, law firms and individuals, who made significant contributions to this year's Scholarship Program: **AT&T, Michael Berg, Diane Burstein, Laura and Jonathan Carter, Cox Enterprises, CTIA - The Wireless Association, Seth and Diane Davidson, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, Earthlink, eBay, Fletcher Heald & Hildreth, P.L.C., Harold Furchtgott-Roth, Joseph Godles, Anna Gomez, Jack Goodman, Joyce Gwadz, J.G. Harrington, Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP, John Harwood II, Lawler, Metzger, Milkman & Keeney, LLC, Microsoft, Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky & Popeo, P.C., Lois and Larry Movshin, NBC Universal, Barry Ohlson, Laura Phillips, John Pomeroy, Qwest Communications, Jason Rademacher, Kevin Reed, William Richardson, Megan Anne Stull, Anne Swanson, T-Mobile USA, Inc., Time Warner, Verizon, Viacom Inc., Walter Kaitz Foundation, Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP, WilmerHale, and John Wilner.**

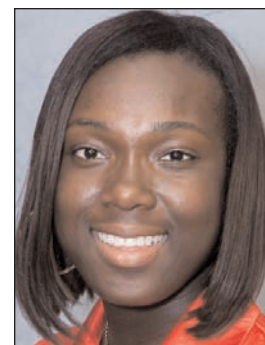
The Foundation thanks Board members Cara Voth, Loretta Polk, Laura Carter, Dee May, Jane Mago, Kathleen Abernathy, Larry Movshin, Joe Di Scipio, Lee G. Petro and non-Board members Karen Henein, Megan Stull, Jenice Goffe, Amy Mushahwar, Alonzo Barber, Parul Desai, Matthew Benz, Ron Whitworth, and Jared Weaver for reviewing the written

scholarship applications, and Board members Laura Holloway Carter, Cara Voth, Loretta Polk, Jane Mago, Larry Movshin, Joseph DiScipio, Lee Petro, and non-Board members Megan Stull, Raul Bhat, Jared Weaver, and Mark Van Bergh for participating in the applicant interviews. The Foundation also thanks Jack Goodman, Dee May, Kathleen Abernathy, and Jane Mago, who coordinated the Foundation's fundraising efforts this year. Thank you also to the National Association of Broadcasters for making its offices available over the April 20-22nd weekend for the applicant interviews.

Photos by Mark Van Bergh

NEDSHDMAH ARGYLE \$15,000 – AT&T

Despite the financial struggles of her family, which is led by her single father, Nedshdmah was determined to attend college. As she says, the financial troubles her family faces has not kept her from "striving to success." And succeed she has done. She has been a member of the honor roll and has achieved perfect attendance while participating in the Debate Team, Army JrROTC (where she has achieved numerous leadership positions, including Brigade Commander of all DC Public Schools), the United Planning Youth Organization and numerous community service projects too numerous to list out here. She has played on several sports teams including volleyball, basketball, softball and track, and Nedshdmah also has held internships at the World Bank and the DC Department of Transportation. Moreover, she has done all of this while holding down a job a Potbelly Sandwiches since 2005. As her list of activities and successes can attest, and as her JrROTC instructor has said, Nedshdmah is "an exceptional student with a strong will, and motivation to succeed."



FIKIRTE ASSEFA \$8,000 – Time Warner

An immigrant of Ethiopia, Fikirte is a self-starter and highly motivated young woman. She loves math and intends to study Electrical Engineering at Buffalo State University in the fall. She received honors in her Pre-calculus and Geometry classes. She is a Member of the Future Business Leaders of America, and the Robotics Club. She also is a member of her school's Tennis and Soccer teams, earning awards as the Most Improved Athlete her first year on the teams. Never missing a class, Ms. Assefa is a member of the National Honor Society, and her teachers refer to her "as an intelligent, respectful and determined young lady." In addition to supporting herself



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with a full-time job, she also recently completed an internship at Comcast Communications. In addition to receiving the FCBA Scholarship, Ms. Assefa was the winner of the Harvard Book Award Prize and the Wellesley College Book Award.

SHATOYA BROWN

\$10,000 – Viacom Inc.

An honor roll student, active community member, and budding diplomat, Shatoya is a diligent and hard-working scholar. She has received numerous academic and leadership awards, including the National Student Achievement Award for Academic Promise, Motivation, and Commitment, the Howard University National Summer Transportation Institute Director's Award for Outstanding Leadership, and the Principal's "All A's" Honor Roll. She was nominated and selected to participate in a US State Department exchange trip to Amman, Jordan as a student ambassador where, for three weeks, she stayed with a host family and attended class alongside Jordanian students. Despite the language barriers and vast cultural differences, Shatoya quickly adjusted to her new environment and effectively represented the U.S. She has a deep interest in world affairs, and aspires to become a diplomat and entrepreneur. She intends to earn a degree in International Business and minor in Accounting. She has furthered her interests through her work with the Urban Alliance/Work Bank internship program.



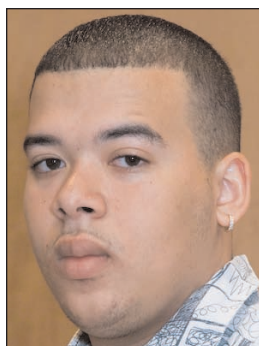
Shatoya is actively involved in several activities, including BrainFood, iEARN BRIDGE Project, Student Government Association, the D.C. Summer Urban Debate Institute, and the Young Women's Project. She has additionally given generously of her time as a volunteer at the Folk Life Festival, Share Our Strength, and the Cardozo Peace Garden Project. In the words of one of her teachers, "Shatoya exemplifies the qualities and attributes that we strive to instill in our students."

SIMON CARABALLO

\$6,000 –

Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP

Simon is not an ordinary senior high school student; he is a man with many interests and has big dreams for his future. He plans to get a degree in civil engineering, has interned at the engineering firm CH2Mhill, but also has aspirations of pursuing a film degree. To that end, he is very involved with the Art and Media House of the Latin American Youth Center and through the center created a 14 minute documentary detailing the stories of several Hurricane Katrina victims in Washington, DC and another documentary



about the growing HIV rate in Washington, DC. In making the Hurricane Katrina video, Simon raised \$10,000 from the Fannie Mae Foundation for a local youth shelter in Washington, DC. Additionally, he was able to show his documentary on the growing HIV problem to 300 of his fellow students creating awareness about this problem. Simon is also an athlete and was the starting defensive lineman for his football team. Due to a difficult family situation, Simon has been in the foster care system, and now lives in independent living program housing. Despite any personal difficulties Simon may have faced, he has been a top student at Bell Multicultural High School, an activist in his community, and is looking forward to starting college at the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore this fall. Simon is not at all concerned about the transition to college because he says that as a resident of a group home, he has already experienced what it is like to live with and successfully get along with a diverse group of individuals.

YAN YAN CHAN

\$10,000 – Google Inc.

Yan Yan is a young man who continually strives to expand his horizons and excel within a range of diverse endeavors. He has a strong interest in technology, and enjoys working with electronics and computers, and hopes to become a NASA engineer. He received the distinction of being one of the top ten scholastically outstanding students at his school and won first place in his school's science fair in engineering. In addition to being a top student, Yan Yan has participated on his school's football, basketball, and baseball teams. He also is co-captain of the school's chess team, and an accomplished poet, and was elected Homecoming King. As one of his teachers said, "he exhibit[s] all of the traits that separate the above average students from the exceptional ones". Yan Yan has also spent many hours volunteering in his neighborhood. He is a member of the community organization Horizons, where he works as a tutor and mentor for middle and elementary school students. Yan Yan's avid technical abilities have garnered praise from many faculty members.



RICARDO COOPER

\$4,000

Ricardo is a top student at Anacostia Senior High school and is interested in working in the entertainment industry. He is a man of many interests stating that he loves to make people laugh but also loves to work with and repair computers. Although Ricardo has no family support (he currently lives in an



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independent living situation), he has managed to achieve much academically, as a leader in the student body, and in his community. He has also completed an internship with the meetings department of the Corporate Executive Board. Ricardo is currently debating his options for college. He would like to go to Chicago State for its communications, arts and theater programs.

CHARDINEE CRUMLIN

\$6,000 –

Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP

A natural-born leader, Chardinee Crumlin is also a world traveler. She traveled to Great Britain as part of a exchange program to study British Art and History last summer. On this side of the pond, Ms. Crumlin is the President of her Senior Class at Springarn Senior High School, and participates in the National Cathedral Scholars Program. She is a top student, and is a member of the National Honor Society and the Key Club. She has been very active at her school, participating in Cheerleading, Track, Volleyball, student government, and the JROTC. In the first step towards her goal of a career in Social Work, Ms. Crumlin is also a member of the school's Nurses Club. In addition to her active participation at school, Ms. Crumlin has worked at the Washington National Cathedral, the District of Columbia's Superintendents' Office, and the Library of Congress.



NEBIAT FEKADE

\$10,000 – Verizon

Nebiat is a native of Ethiopia and will soon be a Freshman at Cleveland State University. Nebiat has achieved an excellent grade point average at Bell Multicultural High School while taking challenging AP courses. He also finds time to work in the Ethiopian Community Center. After two weeks of training with the Urban Alliance Foundation, Nebiat was hired by Fannie Mae as a paid intern for the summer of 2006. Nebiat wants to major in the field of bio-medicine but also has an interest in computer programming. Nebiat is the recipient of the \$10,000 Scholarship from Verizon.



XIAO MIN GAO

\$6,000

Xiao Min, a native of China, is a Senior at Bell Multicultural High School who will be attending Virginia Tech this fall and is the first in his family to attend college. He is incredibly motivated to get a college education, especially because he believes it will help his parents who work very hard to take

care of their family. Xiao Min has excelled in his classes at Bell, while managing to participate in a slate of extracurricular activities including, but not limited to Asian American Club, Math Club, Model United Nations, Hiking Club, Young Playwright Theater Program and the Robotic Club. Xiao Min mentions the latter, the Robotic Club as his favorite. Despite his busy schedule, Xiao Min works countless hours in a Chinese take-out restaurant, which has not been his favorite experience but he says has taught him some valuable lessons in patience, communication and hard work.



BERTA GONZALEZ

\$4,000

Berta, originally from El Salvador, is a top student at Bell Multicultural High School and is President of the school's National Honor Society. She has always dreamed of going to college and this fall will be attending Barry University with Business as her intended major. In addition to her many academic achievements, she has completed internships with the Greater Washington Chamber of Commerce where she worked with the Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and with Verizon where she assisted the External Affairs Manager in the Office of the President. In a letter of recommendation, one of Berta's teachers states that "Berta is the most all-around exceptional student I have ever had the pleasure of teaching."



XIAOMEI GUAN

\$8,000 - Microsoft

Immigrating with her family from China just a few years ago, Xiaomei attends Bell Multicultural High School in Washington DC. Despite having been in this country only a few years and holding jobs during the school year, Xiaomei will graduate near the top of her class at Bell and she has been a member of the honor roll consistently since 2003. Additionally, Xiaomei has been named the outstanding student in English (notable particularly since English is her second language), Spanish and Chemistry, among other classes. Her extracurricular activities include volunteering at the Chinese Community Church, participating in the Brainfood After School Program and the Robotics Club. Inspired and encouraged by her parents, who have stressed the importance of a college education and that it is the path to a better life, Xiaomei's



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long-term goals include earning a masters degree in business administration. Xiaomei will begin that quest this fall when she launches her college career.

KRITI PANDEY \$4,000

Originally from Nepal, Kriti is an enthusiastic and industrious student who has achieved academic excellence throughout her high school years. She is also very active in her community and has spent many hours volunteering. She is Co-President of the African and Caribbean Club, a National Honor Roll Student, a talented volleyball player, and is highly skilled at computer programming. As part of the Howard University TransTech Academy Summer Transportation Institute, Kriti was named Most Outstanding Female Participant. She is currently an intern at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.



Kriti has impressed many teachers with her unwavering focus and dedication to her goals. Her professional mission is to become a cardiologist, and she has already begun to pursue medical training while still in high school. She is certified as a nursing assistant, geriatric nursing assistant, and medical technician. She plans on continuing her commitment to her community by speaking to students about the importance of higher education, and helping them to complete all the paperwork and forms demanded by the college application process. She would also like to return to her high school alma mater and organize a club for students interested in medicine, so that they can an early start gaining knowledge and experience in the field.

LARMARA PERRY \$4,000

As a budding scientist, Lamara Perry has been described as “one of the most conscientious, diligent and academically talented students” by her counselor. A highly-motivated student, Ms. Perry has already studied science at Georgetown University, and has studied abroad in Sydney, Australia. Fully exploring her love of science, Ms. Perry is a member of the Biotechnology Program at McKinley Technology High School, and has participated in three Science Symposiums at Georgetown. Not only a motivated student, Ms. Perry is very active in her community by serving as a mentor for the Boys and Girls Club, and the AmeriCorp’s Camp, and volunteering for Clean Up Days and Feed the Homeless. She has also served as Vice President for the Model United Nations,



Student Government, and the Debate Team. An avid poet, Ms. Perry placed in the Writer’s Corp Poetry Slam.

XIN REN \$4,000

Xin has only been in the United States a few years, having immigrated here with her family. Ranked 9th among the 126 students in her graduating class, Xin has excelled in high school and is committed to working hard and excelling in college. With two sisters already attending four-year universities, Xin’s family is also committed to her higher education. Xin works during the school year to assist her family financially, but she also has found time to engage in extracurricular activities such as the Chinese Community Church, the Brainfood After School program, and the Asian Program. Described by one of her teachers as “a motivated, determined young lady who has been successful at achieving the goals she has set for herself,” Xin plans to go to college to become a nurse.



YASMINE SAIBOU \$10,000 – CTIA - The Wireless Association®

Ms. Saibou is not only an accomplished student, but also a student leader at McKinley Technology High School. With a daily schedule rivaling our chief executive, she serves as President of the Future Business Leaders of America, the Student Government, the Leaders of Tomorrow, and the National Honor Society. She also is an top Tennis player, and performs her poetry. Even while running these organizations, she is second in her class, maintaining top grades while taking several advanced placement courses. She already has taken university-level courses at two local colleges, and plans to focus on business studies at Florida A&M. She also volunteers at So Others Might Eat, the DC Central Kitchen, and the Capital Area Food Bank. She has also worked with the Metro Teen AIDS organization, meeting with area teens who have been infected with AIDS, and conducting HIV 101 seminars to educate her peers.



NOEMI SANCHEZ \$4,000

Second in her graduating class at Bell Multicultural High School, Noemi plans to go to college and study engineering. However, her academic plans do not stop there. After college graduation – a feat that will be there first among everyone in her family – Noemi plans to go either to law school or medical

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school as that will give her “the option of being chemist, lawyer, doctor, manager, designer, teacher and more.” In fact, Noemi has already started her college career while still in high school by taking a class at Northern Virginia Community College. Somehow, while taking both high school and college classes (and maintaining superior grades), Noemi also found time to play on the girls’ soccer team (which placed second in the City), serve a President of the Math, Business and Science cluster at Bell, and form a committee at Bell that raised money for school activities and student events. According to one of Noemi’s professors, she is “as bright and full of energy as they come” — just as her background and resume demonstrate.



make homeless guests feel secure and cared for. She has taken part in a large number of other community service activities, including volunteering with Focus on Kids, the African Immigrant & Refugee Foundation, Teen Women in Action, and in her school’s Peace Garden. Helene has received recognition for achievement in public speaking, social studies and AP psychology.

Helene plans on translating her strong desire to help others into a career in nursing. She is looking forward to attending college and gaining the opportunity to give back to her community by providing much-needed health services. She would also like to mentor students from her high school, particularly seniors who need help preparing for life beyond graduation.

LORENZO TUCKER \$4,000

Described as a “leader of the senior class,” and an “extremely hard working consistent student,” Lorenzo has taken great strides to rise above preconceived stereotypes, and break through societal confines. According to his teachers, Lorenzo distinguishes himself from his peers by his determination and steadfast motivation to succeed. In the face of formidable obstacles and hardships, he has excelled in school and at such activities as the National Maritime Heritage Foundation sailing program. Lorenzo has been on the honor roll and received recognition for achievement in Spanish and for perfect attendance. In his spare time, he has volunteered as a camp counselor for the non-profit organization, City Year, whose mission is to improve math and reading literacy among DC youth.



Lorenzo is a leader in class and takes the initiative to help others understand the assignments. Recognizing the important role that education plays in shaping one’s future, Lorenzo will be the first member of his family to attend college. He plans on earning a degree in Psychology, and intends to use it to “attain my long-term goal of providing youth counseling and giving back to my community.” After graduation, he has dreams of opening his own child psychology firm to provide affordable counseling and support to children in his Southeast neighborhood.

ELVIRA VARGAS \$8,000

With her firm belief that “education is the key to a better society,” Elvira intends not only to go to college but also to encourage others – particularly fellow students at Bell Multicultural High School – to go to college. Elvira has already begun the latter effort by participating in programs where she has mentored other students and encouraged them

SADÉ SEWARD \$6,000

Sadé is a Senior and top student at Anacostia Senior High School. She is currently planning to attend North Carolina Central University this fall. Sadé is involved in Junior ROTC, National Honor Society, has been President of the Student Government and Vice President for the Class of 2007. Sadé wrote her essay about the conversation she would have with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. if she could speak with him today. Although she informed us that her “life has been a breeze,” Sadé writes in her essay that if she could speak with Dr. King, they would “have a long and deep conversation on today’s society” and that she is “quite sure that he would agree [that] his dream turned to a nightmare.” Sadé wants to further her education to help make a difference and help her community.



HELENE TRAORE \$4,000

Helene is a highly motivated young woman, who is committed to not only strive for excellence in her own endeavors, but to improve the world and lives of those around her. Having fled from her native country of Guinea with her mother only 5 years ago, Helene has quickly become both an active member of her community and leader among her peers. She received a Certificate of Excellence for her stint with the Youth Service Opportunities Project, which gives students the opportunity to work with homeless residents in Washington, D.C. Helene went above and beyond her assigned tasks in an effort to



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to pursue higher education. In fact, Elvira states in her application that she would enjoy mentoring students “in her free time.” She plans to translate her desire to help others into a nursing career after college. While in high school, Elvira spent much of her free time participating in programs including the EnviroMentors Organization, the National Honor Society, the Bell Student-Parent Committee and the Writing Club, as well as volunteering at the Washington Free Clinic. Finally, it is important to note that Elvira only moved to the US a few years ago and has thus achieved all of her success while learning a new language and living in a new country. As one of her teachers said, Elvira is not only “one of the most impressive students [he has] ever had the pleasure of teaching, [but] she is also an outstanding human being.”



BIANCA WARREN \$6,000

An aspiring Journalist, Bianca Warren already has solid experience in both print and television reporting. As a staff writer for the school newspaper, she has published poetry, and delivered hard-hitting articles dealing with immigration, disabled students, and college life. Working for DSTV-99, Ms. Warren learned the behind-the-scenes operations of television programming and editing, and participated in an interview of the D.C. Public School Superintendent, Clifford B. Janey. Not only a budding journalist, Ms. Warren is also a top-notch student, and has been a member of the National Honor Society for the last two years, where she just finished serving as Secretary. She has also participated in the Howard University Upward Bound program for the past four years, where her counselor describes her as “a very focused, determined and hard-working scholar. Finally, whereas DC students are only required to volunteer 100 hours of their time in community organizations, Ms. Warren accumulated 500 community service hours.



TIFFANY WELCH \$6,000 – Cox Enterprises, Inc.

Tiffany is a highly driven and vibrant young person, who is committed to changing her life through education. Despite having to overcome many personal obstacles, Tiffany has achieved academically and been recognized for her accomplishments in AP Government and other subjects. She participated in several demanding extracurricular activities, including the Yearbook and Newspaper Club and DC Youth and Government organization. Tiffany is most proud of her work in her school's Community Service Club, where she tutored her classmates, coordinated food and clothing drives, and volunteered at homeless shelters. She also maintained a part-time job during the school year, successfully balancing it with her schoolwork. According to those who know her well, “Tiffany is a self-starter who sets her goals extremely high and then does everything in her power to achieve them.”



CHENG MEI ZHANG \$10,000 – Verizon

Cheng intends to achieve higher education not only so he can get a better job and improve his standard of living, but also because he believes higher education can improve the standard of living for everyone. As he put it, if everyone in the world could have higher education there would be no poverty. It is this understanding of education's importance and his sheer determination that has helped him overcome not knowing English just a mere three years ago when he arrived to the US with his family. In just three years, however, Cheng has practically mastered the English language, managed to make good grades (while also working 40 hours a week at a Chinese restaurant), intern at the World Bank for one semester, and participate in the Robotics Club, Asian Club and the Mouse Squad at Bell Multicultural High School. Cheng plans to take his determination and hard work to college where he will study computer engineering in hopes of obtaining a job in the computer engineering field.

