

CAP FOUNDATION SUPPORTS SCHOLARS' WORK FOR NONPROFITS

Adozen nonprofit organizations and governmental agencies hosted Ron Brown Scholar interns this summer as part of an initiative by the CAP Charitable Foundation to support students interested in career opportunities in the nonprofit and public sectors. The Foundation authorized the Ron Brown Scholar Program to award stipends to Scholars working for organizations such as Human Rights Watch, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the National and Community Service Coalition.

"The initiative was a response to the desire of certain Scholars to work for nonprofit agencies that welcome interns but lack the resources to pay them," said Linda Monahan, associate director of the Ron Brown Scholar Program, who coordinated the summer stipend program. All of the Scholars are expected to participate in at least one pre-professional internship in

college. "The stipends made it possible," she said, "for students to undertake internships in fields that truly interest them."

Six of the students worked in Washington, D.C., a city that Deborah Stine, vice-president for development at Work, Achievement, Values, and Education (WAVE), says "offers a wealth of opportunity, information, and con-



Damian Williams ('98), far left, and Ronald H. Brown Foundation Fellows talk with former President Bill Clinton in Washington, D.C.

tacts for students. The District is an ideal place to get a political education, but it can be cost-prohibitive to live here." WAVE, a curriculum-based national and local partnership that helps schools, juvenile courts, governmental agencies, and community organizations and businesses develop youth programs, is able to offer its interns some remuneration, but it cannot compete with for-profit companies. Stipend programs like the one initiated by the CAP Charitable Foundation, Stine believes, enable nonprofit organizations to attract students of the caliber of Dorothy Smith, the 1999 Ron Brown Scholar and rising Harvard junior who interned at WAVE this summer.

Dorothy performed substantive work for WAVE, researching funding sources, writing grant proposals, preparing reports for providers, and assisting with preparations for a conference on drug and alcohol prevention for public school students. She helped to map youth resources in the Dis-

trict for a high school collaborative that is seeking more effective ways to reach and serve students.

The internships acquainted Scholars with the realities of working for nonprofits. "I learned about team building in small settings and working when resources are tight," says Dorothy, "and I've seen the dedication of the staff. My boss never misses an opportunity to talk about WAVE and its mission to help children lead successful lives."

Other Scholars observed how independent groups work together towards the common goal of shaping public policy. The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) lobbies the federal government for favorable student aid programs and tax policies that will broaden access to higher education. Intern Melanie Forbes ('98) shadowed members of NAICU's Governmental Relations staff and observed the lobbyists' activities. She met college presidents and

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THEODORE W. SMALL, JR., APPOINTED TO COUNCIL

Anthony M. Pilaro, Chairman of the Board of the new Council on African-American Affairs (CAAA), announced the appointment of Theodore W. Small, Jr. as executive director. CAAA will be a core activity of the Ron Brown Scholar Alumni Association.

Small, a partner at Holland & Knight LLP, the nation's fifth largest law firm, has served on the Ron Brown Scholar Program Selection Committee for the past three years. A graduate of Harvard University and the University of Virginia Law School, he was the recipient of a CAP Foundation Dillard Scholarship as a law student and later served on the Dillard Scholar Selection Committee.



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As the Ron Brown Scholar Program Office intern this summer, **Travis Gayles** ('97) divided his time between Program activities and the new Council on African-American Affairs. He took the lead in researching potential speakers for the Aspen 2002 Leadership Conference and sought input from Scholars and Alumni about the agenda, and social and recreational activities. A member of the Council's Board of Directors, Travis held long-distance brainstorming sessions with Director Ted Small over the future directions of the Council. He will be missed in the Program office.

Anahad O'Connor ('99) covered the science and technology beat for the *Yale Daily News* last year and is moving up to an editorial position this year. He also volunteered as a peer health educator and tutored high school students twice a week as part of his involvement with the Urban Improvement Corps.

Joni Stuart ('00) is a member of the chemistry and history clubs at Xavier University, volunteers with Habitat for Humanity, and is continuing her rescue work as a certified fire responder with the American Red Cross.

Assuming responsibilities as community service coordinator for two honor societies at the University of Texas, **Gwen Jones** ('99) was busy this summer finding placements and organizing volunteer activities for the upcoming year. **Morgan Dooley** ('99) volunteered last year as a "Baby Buddy" in the neonatal intensive care ward of an Atlanta hospital, and as a mentor in the Hughes Science Initiative, a program

designed to increase the presence of underrepresented minorities in the sciences. Morgan was inducted into Alpha Epsilon Delta, the national pre-med honor society, and was elected treasurer of the Black Student Alliance.

A scholar-athlete at Brown University, **Julian Jordan** ('00) played on the varsity soccer team and made the NCAA tournament roster as a freshman. He also made the dean's list. Julian found time to tutor elementary students, and he plans to TA in an introductory business class in the fall. Despite working 15 to 20 hours a week at the Harvard Box Office last year, **Angela Smedley** ('00) played JV basketball and was a member of the '04 Step Team, the Black Students' Association, and the Freshman Black Table.

Summer ended early for **Eddie Martin** ('00) who, after studying in Mexico for a month, returned to Mississippi State University on August 3 for training as a resident assistant. He will serve as director of minority student affairs on campus. **Kyla Dotson** ('99) will spend her junior year in London, studying anthropology and Arabic at the School of Oriental and African Studies.

Working in Financial Advisory Services, a division of PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP in Los Angeles, **Jason Young** ('00) assumed major responsibility for the creation of a powerpoint presentation on class action suits. Jason flew to Chicago for the presentation to the American Bar Association. **Traci Burch** ('98) will present her research from the Bunche Institute at a meeting of the American

Political Science Association in San Francisco. **Tomeka Suber** ('98), who researched the structure of proteins involved in cancer, has been invited to the spring 2002 meeting of the World Federation of Scientists in Erice, Italy.

Matthew Espy ('99) was elected president of the Harvard Investor Association and secretary of the Financial Analyst Club. He was awarded the Boston Consulting Group Scholarship.

Carmelle Norice ('97) helped to plan and host the visit of a group of junior high school students from low-income families to the UCLA campus. The Center for Academic Research and Excellence program introduces students to college academics and student life and encourages them to pursue their education beyond high school. Carmelle also taught in "Citylab," a science education program that acquaints high school students with molecular biology research techniques through hands-on experiments.

Scholars in the News: The 1997 Ron Brown Scholars were featured in the summer issue of *The Black Perspective*. The magazine can be accessed online at www.blackperspective.com. An article by Maria Velazquez ('00) about student life at Smith College appeared in *Ms Magazine's* August/September issue. *Teen People* (September) published a four-page report with memorable photographs of 1999 Scholar Gerald (Jay) Williams' rescue mission to the Sudan. ■



Leadership Conference

The Ron Brown Scholar
Program's
Second Leadership
Conference
Will Be Held in
Aspen, Colorado
August 10-14, 2002.

Scholars Meet With Founder and Friends of Program

Program founder Anthony Pilaro invited Ron Brown Scholars on two coasts to join him and Friends of the Program for dinner and discussion about the Council on African-American Affairs. The first event was held in San Francisco on May 1, and the second in New York City on June 21. Approximately thirty Scholars attended at least one of the dinners and were pleased to have the opportunity to help define the mission of the Council.

Mr. Pilaro, Selection Committee member Dennis Hightower, and Executive Director Michael Mallory introduced the Ron Brown Scholars to Friends of the Program, including Paolo Columbo, Curator, Centre d'Art Contemporain; Paul Dawson and Linda Oubre of BriteSmile International; Dr. Coyness Ennix; Conrad Harper, former Deputy Council to the State Depart-

ment and partner at Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett; Ivan Hopkins of Dresdner Kleinwort Wasserstein; Nancy Lane, former Vice-President of Johnson and Johnson, Inc.; Dr. Edgar Mandeville, Director, Arthur Ashe Medical Foundation; Noel Pearson, Academy Award winning producer; and Mona Sutphen, Vice-President, Stonebridge International.

The Friends offered both insight into their respective careers and suggestions on cultivating mentors and contacts.

The Scholars reflected on what the Program has meant to them; graduating seniors provided perspective on their college experiences and some words of advice for the younger Scholars. "The dinner gave us a chance to explore the power of keeping in touch, and to understand how huge the potential of the Program really is," said Shirley Delaleu ('99).

Travis Gayles ('97)



Ron Brown Scholars Travis Gayles ('97), Jennifer Banner ('98), and John Burton ('97) were Anthony Pilaro's dinner guests at New York's Plaza Hotel.

Officers Chosen for Alumni Association and Council on African-American Affairs

The 1997 Ron Brown Scholars have elected the following individuals to the Alumni Association Executive Board:

President—Diarra Lamar

Vice-President—Kelly Cross

Secretary—Marco Ellis

Treasurer—Michelle Robinson

Alumni have an interactive website which they helped to design and which they are using to communicate with each other. The site includes a calendar of events, chatrooms, and instant messenger. The Alumni will play an active role in planning the 2002 Leadership Conference in Aspen.

Travis Gayles and Carmelle Norice were chosen to represent the Ron Brown Scholar Alumni on the Board of Directors of the Council on African-American Affairs. They will work closely with Chairman Anthony Pilaro and Executive Director Theodore Small to identify issues of critical importance to African Americans, to chart a course for the new Council, and to communicate with Ron Brown Scholars and Alumni about the work of the Council. ■

WE'VE MOVED!

The Ron Brown Scholar Program has moved. Please note the new suite number and area code.

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financial aid officers and attended meetings on Capitol Hill with staff members from key Congressional committees. Sarah Flanagan, head of Governmental Relations for NAICU, valued Melanie's contribution. "She jumped right in and worked with the regular staff," Flanagan said, "and helped to put us two months ahead of schedule." The internship changed Melanie's views about special interest groups in Washington. "Not all lobbyists are working for the 'bad guys,'" she says. "It has been heartening to see how many people are going before our nation's decision-makers to explain the importance of programs such as Pell Grants and Perkins Loans for students like me."

Other Scholars lobbying in the District this summer included Jamaal Young ('99) and Gerald (Jay) Williams ('99) who interned at the National and Community Service Coalition (NCSC) and the Sudan Campaign, respectively. The NCSC is comprised of dozens of organizations that see the service movement as a vital partner in solving societal problems. Jamaal used his considerable powers of persuasion educating policymakers, opinion leaders, and the public about the benefits of service.

Last summer, Jay Williams volunteered with the American Anti-Slavery Group and flew on a rescue mission to the Sudan. There, he recorded the testimonies of several of the slaves he helped to free. This year Jay interned at the Sudan Campaign, which works with a diverse group of human rights, political, and service organizations to bring about the end of modern-day slavery through lobbying, nonviolent protest, and strategic boycotting. "I was able to share the stories of suffering that were imparted to me with governmental leaders, policymakers, and grassroots activists," Jay says. "The internship allowed me to learn how the support of these leaders can be transformed into legislation, divestment campaigns, and other forms of activism."

Damian Williams ('98) was also in Washington, D.C. interning at the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) as a Fellow at the Ronald H. Brown Center for Politics and Commercial Diplomacy. The IEDC gave Damian the freedom to explore areas within urban economic development that intrigue him, allowing him to focus on successful revitalization strategies for distressed communities and the conditions necessary for economic developers to employ those strategies. At the Ronald H. Brown Center, proceeding from the principle that "passion without direction cannot produce

powerful change," the Fellows were trained in coalition building, political strategy, and commercial diplomacy.

Far from the hustle and bustle of Washington, D.C., Jonathan Piper ('98) quietly worked at home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, writing an intricate computer program that will enable PLAN Haiti, a child-focused international humanitarian organization, to monitor the health indices of more than 48,000 sponsored children. In Texas, Nakiya Jones interned in the courtroom of United States District Court Justice William Justice, assisting with the court's administrative paperwork and helping law clerks research and analyze cases. Nakiya studied federal immigration law and accompanied the judge when he presided as a visiting justice in other districts.

Sara Whetstone ('98), who plans to attend medical school, collaborated with an obstetrician at Massachusetts General Hospital on a clinical study of HIV testing rates among pregnant women. The purpose of the study is to identify the patient, provider, and site characteristics that influence acceptance of HIV testing. Once these are known, educational materials and interventions will be designed to increase the percentage of prenatal patients who agree to be tested. Sara's involvement in the study encouraged her to consider a career in academic medicine, an area in which minorities are seriously under-represented. "Physicians on faculty take on multiple roles as educators, practitioners, and researchers, influencing medicine in several ways," she writes. "I have been inspired by the opportunities open to doctors who are involved in academic medicine."

The positive effects of the stipend program extended to the underprivileged children at Camp Sussex, New Jersey, where Fatime Kaba ('98) served as a head counselor, mentor, and teacher. The camp provides enrichment opportunities and encourages children to develop their full potential. "I spent a summer at Camp Sussex as a young child and never forgot the experience," Fatime wrote in her application for the stipend. "I vowed to return as a counselor and give back some of the guidance and inspiration that was afforded me." She did just that, according to Camp Director Gary Cardamone. "Fatime was always upbeat and

vivacious," he said, "and so good with the kids—a Mom and Dad to them twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week."

When the summer stipend program was in the planning stages, it was anticipated that the Ron Brown Scholars and the nonprofit and governmental agencies hosting them would benefit. "It's been rewarding," Monahan says, "to hear from the Scholars and their supervisors that the interns' activities benefitted so many other individuals as well."

See page 5 for internship reports by Amanda Alexander and Maria Velazquez. ■

Theodore W. Small, Jr., Appointed to Council

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"Ted was the ideal candidate for the position," says Pilaro. "He is passionate about the issues facing African-Americans, and that passion, combined with a clarity of thought that has impressed everyone with whom he has worked, was what we were seeking in a director." As a member of the Ron Brown Scholar Program Selection Committee, Small is well acquainted with the Scholars and with the mission of the Program.

"One of the awesome challenges of my new job," Small wrote to the Alumni on his appointment, "is to establish CAAA as an institutional forum for both discussion and action on our shared notions of giving back while, at the same time, giving you the freedom to pursue your chosen career path." Aware of how easily career demands can crowd out community service activities, he looks forward to helping the Alumni reconcile their career ambitions with their desire to give back to the communities that nurtured them.

Small and Alumni Travis Gayles ('97) and Carmelle Norice ('97), who serve on the Board of Directors, are planning an organizational meeting this fall in Washington, D.C. where the CAAA will be based. "Our first task," Small says, "will be to set up a structure that will enable the Scholars and Alumni to survey critical needs in the African-American community and to identify policy issues that, given an intense push by CAAA, can be successfully addressed." ■

Computers Awarded

The CAP Charitable Foundation has awarded Dell Desktop computers, Lexmark color printers, and software to fifty high school seniors. The recipients were selected for their superior academic achievement and commitment to school and community activities. This was the third year that the Foundation offered the computer package to students who participated in the Ron Brown Scholarship competition.

Amanda S. Alexander and Maria I. Velazquez, recipients of summer stipends from the CAP Charitable Foundation, interned at nonprofit organizations.

Amanda Alexander Sees the Power of Words at Human Rights Watch

Interning in the Africa Division of Human Rights Watch was an amazing experience. I was drawn to this organization because of its ability to effect change in horrifying situations of abuse through a reliance upon the truth and power of words. Human Rights Watch is able to apply pressure within the international community because its reports are the product of thorough field research and interviews conducted with people on all sides of human rights violations – perpetrators as well as victims. As a writer, I found it heartening to witness words and passion combining to change the lives of many who would otherwise suffer in silence.



I was assigned to work with Mr. Suliman Baldo, the division's senior researcher on the Great Lakes region of Central Africa, particularly the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Eritrea. He was introduced to me as the man responsible for covering "the world's worst human rights crisis area, the size of western Europe, completely on his own." Suliman is a remarkable human rights advocate. He comes from a life of activism in his home of the Sudan and is one of the few employees at Human Rights Watch without a law background. While it is possible to enter the human rights field from many disciplines, I have come to realize that it is best to do what inspires you at each step. Though many of the staff are lawyers, I also worked with professional writers, journalists, public health specialists, and philosophers.

Most of my time was spent researching the role of business interests in fueling the ethnic conflict in the Congo. As a result of the war that broke out in 1998, over 2.5 million Congolese civilians have died, largely from forced displacement and the resulting lack of food, water, and medical aid. Recently it has become increasingly difficult to ignore the role of economic interests in the perpetuation of the conflict. The natural resources that abound in the soil (gold and other precious minerals, diamonds, and timber) have never been a blessing for the Congolese people, as they are victims of abuse by those who would loot these riches. Such economic abuses are drawing international attention because one of the resources being looted is coltan (colombium tantalite), a mineral that is in demand for use in cell phones, computers, and other high-tech equipment.

One particularly exciting week during my internship Suliman was called back early from his mission in the Congo in order to testify before the UN Security Council as an expert from a non-governmental organization. Since my research was pertinent, I frantically produced an internal report for Suliman a week ahead of schedule so that he would have the information for his testimony.

There were, of course, the more mundane moments of stuffing reports into envelopes, but it was still satisfying to know what effect those words would have once they reached their destinations. Some of the packets would be taken into regions of Africa at no small risk to the lives of those who carried them. I am so grateful to the Ron Brown Scholar Program for allowing me to take this opportunity to work in New York with an organization that desperately needs help but cannot conceivably pay for a staff of interns. ■

Amanda S. Alexander ('00)

Magic and Patriotism at the NEA Inspire Maria Velazquez

*i had forgotten —
there are still unicorns in
the world who wait for*

*the night with her gifts...
she descends so that they can
reach to touch the stars.*

The ability to create is a triumph, not merely for the individual but for society as a whole. That's really what success is. King David was not creating an empire so his son Solomon could be another warrior. My parents weren't active in the civil rights movement so that the world could go on, unchanged—what they wanted was to create a world where their daughters could be artistic and creative, and not be hemmed in by the need to fight.

That idea of triumph is what the NEA represents for me. I interned there this summer and lived in Washington, DC. While there, I assisted a graduate student from Japan in her research, designed two multimedia Power Point presentations, worked on the grand index for the defunct



Art in Public Places program, and observed the grant allotment process. At first glance, it seems that I spent my working days doing a fair amount of secretarial work; this is true. Everyone knows that an intern's job involves a lot of typing and research, taking care of those tasks necessary to the function of any office.

The National Endowment for the Arts is, however, special. It is one of those governmental organizations where the rewards are not tangible. The people who work there are educated, qualified professionals. They know their own worth and work at the NEA because they choose to. They are not looking for glory. Senators can rely on their names being linked to a bill or an amendment, but the panelists who decide to allot ten thousand dollars to an inner city art program will not get their names or pictures in the newspaper. Yet, the sense of patriotism, of dedication, is palpable. I remember sitting and listening to a recent retiree from my department. He reminisced about the heady days of the Endowment's past when it funded the Viet Nam Memorial, and how young Maya Lin, the designer, was. "She's grown now," he says. "Nearing forty." The conversation shifts and he's telling me about Serrano and Mapleshorpe, the NEA's brilliant problem children who nearly destroyed it. The pride and the nostalgia in his voice do not waver, even as he discusses the crippling budget cuts that almost destroyed the only federal agency that supports the arts.

We as Americans are citizens of a country built on the ideals of freedom. We like to believe that the wars we fight are not solely about profit and dollar bills; we want them to be about freedom, about painting, about art, about the ability to be creative without fear. I think that's what civil rights and human rights are about: creating a safe haven where creative thought is not only allowed but also actively encouraged. That's what the NEA tries to do . . . a few thousand dollars here, an ARTSreach program there, and someone has been inspired. ■

Maria I. Velazquez, ('00)

Sheila R. Adams, Bronx, New York



The third of six children, Sheila Adams attributes much of her academic success to her family, who taught her the value of education at an early age. She took the lessons about hard work and perseverance with her when, in ninth grade, she left to attend Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut.

There, Sheila excelled academically, earning a place on the Dean's List every term. It was in student government that she found her niche, however. She served on Student Council from freshman year, holding the office of class president for two terms and vice-president for one. Her teachers describe her as an accessible leader and an assertive but diplomatic advocate for her classmates. As dorm prefect, Sheila served as peer counselor to upperclassmen and mentor to underclassmen. Other leadership positions included vice-president of the Afro-Latino Student Alliance, captain of varsity track and field, and captain of the step squad. She was awarded the Principal's Leadership Award for her contributions to the school.

Sheila worked for two summers at the Henry Street Settlement Parents' Resource Center, tutoring for the GED exams and providing childcare while parents attended classes. The job enabled her to contribute to the support of her family. Sheila will attend Harvard. ■

Eleanor W. Branch, Sacramento, California

Eleanor Branch spent her sophomore year in Japan on a Tsuzuki International Scholarship living with local and international students. "Studying in Japan allowed me to fully appreciate a foreign culture," she says, "and my experiences there continue to influence my choices in life." Living apart from her family fostered an independent spirit while teaching her the importance of developing a community within which she can pursue her personal goals.



One of Eleanor's goals is to help cure diabetes, Down's syndrome and other genetically linked diseases. She plans to major in genetic engineering at Stanford and to wrestle with the ethical issues raised by scientific advances in this area. Because of her interest in foreign cultures, she is also concerned about the unequal distribution of medicines in developed and third world countries.

As a representative of the Sacramento Youth Commission, Eleanor has volunteered at food banks, restored parks for Habitat for Humanity, painted houses for the elderly, and tutored schoolchildren. She has also assumed leadership positions and performed community service in her nine years as a Girl Scout. Despite the demands on her time, Eleanor maintained an A average in honors and Advanced Placement classes at St. Francis High School. ■

Robert L. Brutus III, Shreveport, Louisiana



Robert Brutus is passionate about math. A member of Mu Alpha Theta, the national mathematics honor society, he tutored students at Caddo Parish Magnet School on a regular basis. His other academic interests include English, music, and German, in which he is fluent. Because of his high achievement on the National German Examination, he received the Langenscheidt Award from the American Association for Teachers of German and studied in Germany for four weeks.

A talented writer whose poetry has been published in two student literary magazines, Robert achieved a perfect score of 36 on the English

ACT. He is an accomplished pianist who will attend Princeton University in the fall.

Robert worked to foster multicultural understanding and unity in his hometown of Shreveport. In the summer after tenth grade, he attended Camp Anytown, a program which brings together students from different backgrounds for discussions about diversity. Later Robert became a member of the Greater Shreveport Human Relations Committee's Youth Council and served as chairman of the Martin Luther King Young Musician's Award Committee, promoting the ideas expressed in the civil rights leader's "I Have a Dream" speech. ■

William S. Chichester, III, Warrenton, Virginia

Born into an environment pregnant with the hostilities of poverty, William Chichester recognizes that he could easily have become another statistic. With the support of a loving family and an influential church, however, and spurred by his seventh grade English teacher's challenge to "Transcend Mediocrity," William triumphed over many obstacles.



He earned annual honor roll recognition and numerous academic awards at Fauquier High School, was president of the National Honor Society and a member of the Spanish National Honor Society, the Academic Team, and Future Business Leaders of America. Taking advantage of summer enrichment opportunities, he attended Virginia Governor's School for the Humanities and the American Legion's Boys' State of Virginia.

William's dedication to improving the life of his community is noteworthy. He initiated a Big Brothers and Big Sisters Mentorship Program, which pairs students from his high school with elementary school students. He tutored ESL students and served as a youth minister in his church. For his academic achievements and efforts to improve his community, McDonald's selected William as a Black History Maker of Tomorrow, and the Optimist Club honored him as Student of the Month.

William plans to major in Foreign Relations and Business Administration at the University of Virginia. One of his goals is to achieve a level of financial security that will enable him not only to assist his family, but also to establish his own scholarship for low-income minority students. ■

Victor A. Davis, Washington, D.C.

Victor Davis was the first senior in the history of Benjamin Banneker High School to enroll in six Advanced Placement courses, among them calculus, biology, and physics. He ranked in the top 3% of his class, earned the Dartmouth Book Award and the Discover Card Tribute Award, and was elected to the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha



Theta, the national mathematics honor society. Victor was named a McDonald's Black History Maker of Tomorrow and a Commended Student in the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

Victor's goal is to become a counselor who works with at-risk youth. "As a member of an urban community, I am all too aware of the danger facing young African-Americans," he says. "We lack responsible role models who look like us, who believe in us." His interest in youth work began in tenth grade when he participated in Project Bridge, a year-long cultural exchange program, and served as youth ambassador to Korea. "It was so gratifying being surrounded by people who helped elevate each other," he remembers.

Since then Victor has worked as a counselor for Teens Against the Spread of AIDS and for Teens with Negative HIV Test Results. He co-founded and led the Peer Mediation Club at Bancker and served as youth president of the Mid-Atlantic Region of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution. He also became head volunteer at Children's Hospital's Department of Infectious Diseases and created a mentoring program for elementary school children. Victor will enroll at Princeton. ■

Caleb I. Franklin, Los Angeles, California



Raised in South Central Los Angeles, Caleb Franklin became an ABC (A Better Chance) Scholar in sixth grade. The program prepared him for admission to the Brentwood School where he excelled academically and participated in multi-cultural discussion and Christian awareness groups, becoming vice-president of both. He was one of only two student members

on Brentwood's Committee on Diversity.

According to his guidance counselors, Caleb demonstrates "positive leadership, maturity, a sense of perspective, and infectious spirit," qualities which got him elected Student Body President his senior year. He was a significant contributor in varsity track and field but readily admits to "warming the junior varsity basketball bench for two years before moving up to varsity."

A violin student since third grade, Caleb became concertmaster of Brentwood's orchestra. He was also first violinist in the Pasadena Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, which received a Congressional Proclamation for its award-winning performance in a nation-wide competition.

Caleb steers a steady course toward self-improvement. As a Riordan Scholar, he participated in an outreach program that introduces minority students from Los Angeles to the business world. He spent a month at the University of Arizona through the LEAD Program. A community service project on a Native American Reservation in New Mexico presented him with the opportunity, he says, "not only to help fellow human beings, but also to better myself." Caleb will attend Harvard in the fall. ■

Karla J. Hardy, Tyler, Texas

Karla Hardy has been a leader since fifth grade when she was elected student council president. At John Tyler High School, she was elected student council representative in ninth grade and class president every year after that. Karla participated in the Junior Statesmen of America, a national student government organization that allowed her to share her passion for government and politics with others. She was twice elected graduation speaker at the Texas Symposium on Leadership and Government.

Karla served as president of the Debate Team, earning "Best Speaker" ratings in cross-examination debate and awards in persuasive extemporaneous speaking. She volunteered as an on-screen personality for Homework Hotline, a live television tutoring program, and served as prosecutor and defense attorney for Tyler Teen Court.



The a cappella gospel quartet that Karla and her three sisters formed in 1986 has brought great joy to the Hardy family. The group has made four recordings, toured the western states, and performed in Haiti during the family's medical missionary sojourn there. Karla is also a talented cellist in the John Tyler Varsity Orchestra, and the Tyler, Texas Youth Orchestra.

Despite these commitments, Karla completed the International Baccalaureate program and ranked second in a class of 369 students. She will major in business and minor in television broadcasting at Iowa State University, after which she plans to attend law school. ■

Morgan G. Harper, Columbus, Ohio

Growing up in a single-parent home, Morgan Harper learned the importance of being responsible and independent. As a student at The Columbus Academy in Gahanna, Ohio, she balanced her extra-curricular and community service involvement with a challenging academic program. She maintained a 4.0 GPA in the most rigorous courses available and was inducted into the Cum Laude Society as a junior. She was named a National Merit and National Achievement Scholar, and an AP Scholar with Distinction. News editor of the school paper, Morgan was a three-year letter winner and senior captain of her school's cross-country team and a member of her state championship-winning lacrosse team.



Although she enjoyed all of her activities, Morgan most valued the time she dedicated to her school's community service organization, first as class representative for three years, then as vice-president and leader of the financial board. In addition to providing capable leadership and direction to fund-raising projects, Morgan found community service placements for her peers and demonstrated initiative and creativity in supporting their efforts. For example, she encouraged students to record books on tape for ESL students who were being tutored in English.

Morgan's work as a camp counselor for physically and mentally handicapped teenagers had a profound effect on her, and a summer research program at Ohio State University introduced her to the impact the medical field has on humanity. Through these experiences, Morgan realized that a career in medicine would allow her to combine her passions for public service and science. She will study at Tufts University. ■

Brennan D. Johnson, Des Moines, Iowa



Brennan Johnson, the third of four bi-racial children, grew up in an all-white farming community in Iowa. She and her siblings knew prejudice, low expectations, and isolation, a condition that was exacerbated by their parents' divorce. Brennan survived these negative experiences and fought to make herself credible in the adult realm. When she enrolls at Columbia

University in the fall, she can take pride in the mature and independent person she has become.

Ranked first in her class at Theodore Roosevelt High School, Brennan is a National Achievement Scholar and AP Scholar with Distinction. She is a gifted writer who crafts "flawless, logical, reasoned, and visionary essays," according to her English teacher at Central Academy, a half-day resource center for academically talented students. As a "Women in Science and Engineering" intern at Iowa State University the summer after junior year, Brennan studied the DNA of the western hognose snake in the Zoology/Genetics Department and identified what appears to be a new species.

Brennan's achievements are more remarkable in the context of her after-school employment of 15 to 32 hours per week. Despite her tight schedule and rigorous curriculum, Brennan found time to give back to her community. Recalling her own sense of isolation as a child, she created Project Phoenix, a mentoring program that pairs high school students with young children from an economically depressed area of Des Moines. She recruits and trains mentors who encourage the children

to overcome personal and social obstacles in order to achieve their full academic potential. ■

Maris S. Jones, El Cerrito, California



Maris Jones took the most rigorous courses offered at El Cerrito High School and graduated at the top of her class. During her last year she enrolled in classes at the University of California at Berkeley through the University's High School Honors Program. She is the recipient of a Brown University Book Award and a National Achievement Scholarship.

Maris participated in the USDA Agricultural Sciences Academic Workshop at the Regional Research Center in Albany, California where she learned applied research techniques from USDA scientists. The experience prompted her to write a research paper on current issues in myelin regeneration research and heightened her interest in the life sciences.

Having attended both public and private schools in the San Francisco Bay Area, Maris is sensitive to the needs of all kinds of students, especially those who are usually left to fend for themselves. "I am disturbed by the fact that society expects less of some students and for this reason, they don't fulfill their potential," she says. This awareness led her to tutor middle school students and to create a website that offers free homework assistance and SAT preparation for high school students.

A President's Scholar at Stanford University, Maris plans to major in Human Biology. Her goal is to become a medical doctor. ■

Christopher C. Khan, Silver Spring, Maryland

Christopher Khan's energy, zest, and love for life established him as a leader at Gonzaga College High School and inspired others. Named a "Top Achiever" by *The Washington Post* for three consecutive years, Chris took a challenging program, enrolling in six AP courses his senior year. He says he relishes "the immense personal growth that knowledge brings."

Chris honed his leadership skills in the Gonzaga Theater where he served as Technical Manager and Chairman of the Board of the Gonzaga Dramatic Association. Music is another of his passions. He was principal trumpet player in Gonzaga's Symphonic Band and principal soloist in the Jazz Band, and was invited to play in the Youth Symphony Consortium Festival Orchestra, a select group coached by members of the National Symphony Orchestra.



Chris brings the same enthusiasm to his community service projects. He founded an HTML program for inner city youths in a community center in Washington, D.C. that will bring Internet proficiency to students who lack the necessary resources. "Working alongside members of an impoverished rural community in the Dominican Republic and in a Haitian refugee camp on the Haitian/Dominican border, and staying with a host family in Spain on a scholarship from the Experiment in International Living gave me a global perspective," says Chris, "and opened my eyes to the true beauty of cultural diversity." He will study at Northwestern University. ■

Nneka C. Madu, Dumfries, Virginia

Nneka Madu was born in Okigwe, Nigeria, the daughter of Florence and Ralph Madu. The family immigrated to the United States, and Nneka grew up in Washington, West Virginia, and Virginia. In West Virginia, she wrote on her school paper, worked as a candy striper in the local hospital, and participated in basketball and track.



At Gar-Field High School in Dumfries, Virginia, Nneka compiled a distinguished academic record, ranking in the top 1% of Gar-Field's graduating class of over 600 students. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar, National Achievement Semi-Finalist, and Ventures Scholar. Outside of the classroom, she continued her participation in track and field and became vice-president of the school's Leo Club and Key Club, two service organizations.

Nneka volunteered as an HIV/AIDS peer educator in the Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry and worked at a pharmacy. During the summer after her junior year, she attended the Virginia Governor's School as an intern in the Medical Mentor Program. Nneka will attend Yale where she plans to prepare for a career in medicine. She hopes one day to return to Nigeria as a doctor and provide urgently needed medical services to remote villages. ■

Khalia V. Mounsey, Baltimore, Maryland



Khalia Mounsey distinguished herself in the International Baccalaureate Program at Kenwood High School, taking a full schedule of classes, maintaining a 4.0 GPA and ranking first in her class. She is a National Ventures Scholar and a United States Achievement Academy All-American Scholar.

Her commitment to excellence extends to the leadership roles she assumes. Khalia was Senior Class President and Treasurer of the National Honor Society at Kenwood. An accomplished musician, she played the flute and piccolo in the school's marching band, concert band, and orchestra. Khalia was a member of the varsity girls' soccer team and managed the girls' varsity basketball team.

In her volunteer activities she has served the elderly, organizing activities at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and serving meals to frail elderly residents at a subsidized living facility. Khalia hopes to pursue a career in science and medicine. She will attend Duke University in the fall. ■

Misha M. Mutizwa, Rocky River, Ohio

The son of a Russian mother and Zimbabwean father, Misha Mutizwa grew up appreciating diversity. Throughout high school he attempted to foster multicultural awareness among his peers in a culturally homogeneous community, serving as a three-year officer in Rocky River High School's American Field Service chapter and volunteering at Ten Thousand Villages, stores that provide vital income to artisans in third world countries by marketing their handicrafts in North America. Last year he organized a tutoring program for students new to the United States. The program presented opportunities for the students to make friends and to share their cultures with their peers.



Misha attended a Wittenberg University psychology program through the Ohio Governor's Summer Honors Institute. He edited *Driftwood*, a literary magazine, and lettered in tennis. He was one of two student representatives on the district's curriculum advisory

committee and participated in a countywide leadership program. For his contributions to the extra-curricular life of the school, he received the Williams College Book Award

Misha will attend Duke University as a National Achievement Scholar and work toward a degree in public policy and psychology. ■

Brandon Nicholson, Oakland, California



“In many ways, Brandon Nicholson is my partner in school leadership,” wrote the head of Marin Academy, “He actually gives more than he takes from this place.” Brandon was president of student government, co-editor-in-chief of the student newspaper, and co-captain and MVP of the varsity basketball team. He managed the varsity soccer team, served as school admissions

ambassador and role model to the younger students, and co-founded a mentoring program for boys

Brandon successfully balanced his leadership roles with his academic responsibilities. An excellent student and gifted writer, he was inducted into the Cum Laude Society as a junior. He is particularly interested in English and history and has impressed teachers and peers with his ability to critically analyze complex literary texts and social issues. He plans to study political science and economics at Princeton University.

For the past six years Brandon has played trumpet in the San Francisco New Century Brass Band. The young musicians belong to a Buddhist organization in which he practices. The band, therefore, serves as a support for his faith as well as an artistic outlet. Brandon’s accomplishments have been achieved in the face of serious family and financial difficulties. He credits his and his mother’s survival to “a lot of help from family friends and a lot of faith.” The obstacles he has overcome have shaped his character, prompting teachers to praise him not only as a consummate scholar, leader, and athlete, but also as a brave human being. ■

Sandra S. Quinlan, Laurelton, New York

A ride on a roller coaster when she was eleven transformed Sandra Quinlan’s life. The thrill of the moment was supplanted by a fascination with physics and mechanical design, and a career in engineering was born. Her love of science and math prompted Sandra to undertake an arduous daily commute from her home in Queens to the Bronx High School of Science, where she ranked in the top 10% of her class and was active in student government and athletics.

At the age of 16, Sandra was admitted to MIT’s summer enrichment program in science, engineering, and entrepreneurship (MITE^2S). In this intensive and competitive program, she was the top physics student in her class and received the award for the “most outstanding female.” She accepted the school’s early offer of admission.

President of student government in high school, Sandra was able to see the big picture while simultaneously attending to details, according to her leadership teacher. She served on the Bronx Superintendent of Education’s Advisory Council and the Chancellor’s Student Advisory Council for New York City High Schools. Last year, desiring to play a positive



role in her community, Sandra volunteered as an Auxiliary Police Officer in the New York City Police Department. “I hope that my participation will contribute to restoring the faith my community and my peers have in the NYPD,” she says. “Perhaps, if the neighbors see me in uniform, a young woman who does not fit their stereotype of a police officer, they will think twice about their preconceptions.” ■

Dylan L. Solomon, San Diego, California

One of the most important experiences in Dylan Solomon’s life has been his participation in the Elementary Institute of Science, a non-profit organization aimed at students who are underrepresented in the sciences. As youth chairman and board member, he worked tirelessly to raise money for a science building that will be located in a low-income community because, he says, “I feel responsible for providing for the children who will come after me.”



His involvement with this organization motivated Dylan to participate in the NASA SHARP Plus Program through which he spent a summer interning in the Mechanical/Civil Engineering Department at the University of New Mexico. This experience, which cemented his desire to become an engineer, in turn led to his admission to MIT’s Minority Introduction to Engineering, Entrepreneurship, and Science Program where he enjoyed the late night political discussions as much as the engineering classes. Being among intellectually curious students willing to question and challenge the status quo is what he most looks forward to at Stanford University.

President of University City High School’s Science Olympiad and captain of its Academic League Teams, Dylan was also a member of the math club and webmaster of his school’s web site. His interests are not limited to science and technology, however. A published poet, he won an award from the National Council Of Teachers of English Writing. Dylan is a two-sport athlete. ■

Michael Thompson, Bronx, New York



Michael Thompson took a rigorous curriculum of AP and honors courses at Riverdale Country School. He initiated two independent study projects, one in Latin American literature, and the other in applications of calculus to economics. Michael has been named a National Achievement Scholar, National Hispanic Recognition Program Scholar and AP Scholar. He is a Xerox Award recipient and Presidential Classroom Scholar who will attend Harvard.

Michael’s passion for learning led him to become involved in teaching others. He worked in the Summerbridge Program and has tutored seventh and eighth graders from underprivileged neighborhoods to prepare them for admission to competitive high schools. His interest in education led the Manhattan chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority to invite him to speak about the importance of education at a Black History Month celebration.

Principal percussionist and keyboard instrumentalist in the Riverdale Orchestra, Michael attributes some of his most valuable skills to his involvement in music. “Through solo performance and ensemble playing,” he says, “I have acquired important interpretive skills, allowing me to analyze art, literature, and music with precision and accuracy.”

Michael will study political science and law and hone his debate and public speaking skills at Harvard. “My lifetime goal is to help lift people up,” he says, “and I feel I can more adequately do this in government.” ■

Veronica H. Threadgill, Brooklyn, New York

Veronica Threadgill appreciated the wealth of opportunities available to her at Hunter College High School, a school for intellectually gifted students in New York City. She joined the Chinese chess club, heard the Polish Festival Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, and learned about Jewish holidays. She took up fencing, a sport that requires speed, agility, strength, and finesse. By her own account, and that of her teachers, she became a “mildly obsessed but fearless fencer.”



In the classroom, Veronica excelled in the all-honors curriculum and developed her talent as a writer of poetry and science fiction stories. Her work has appeared in Hunter publications and in anthologies of the Poetry Guild and the International Library of Poetry. She served as a staff writer and managing editor of her school’s culture magazine.

Veronica is keenly aware that the opportunities she has been offered in New York are enjoyed by a small fraction of the people who live there. “The sad fact,” she says, “is that, in a city so diverse, so full of culture, far too many children lead insular lives.” Her community service and employment activities have revolved around children. She has volunteered in day care centers and summer camps where she holds six-year-olds spellbound with her inspired readings of Shel Silverstein’s poetry.

Veronica hopes someday to bring children of diverse backgrounds together to share their cultural heritage and to experience some of New York’s cultural riches. She believes that the project would reduce the insularity and ignorance that leads to intolerance. Veronica plans to major in accounting or finance at Roger Williams University. ■

Koryse Woodrooffe, Brooklyn, New York

Koryse Woodrooffe has wanted to be a doctor since kindergarten, and it seems to her that the significant events in her life have all reinforced this desire. The most influential of these events has been the passing of her mother. As a result of her mother’s death, Koryse became even more determined to turn her dream of studying medicine into a reality. “There have been many obstacles and setbacks,” she says, “but I will not let anything keep me from my goal. I always strive for excellence.”



With her determination and work ethic, Koryse rose to the top of her class at Benjamin Banneker Academy. She served as vice-president of student government and editor-in-chief of the yearbook and nurtured a talent for public speaking. Outside of school she became president of her youth ministry group and executive director of her teen choir and volunteered in a neonatal intensive care unit.

Working as a teacher’s aide in a child development center, Koryse noticed a lack of interest in reading among the six- and seven-year-old children at the center. To foster a love of books, she created the “Learning to Love Literature” program, recruiting other high school students to volunteer to read books to the children and to lead discussions and activities on monthly themes.

Koryse will study a pre-medicine curriculum at Vanderbilt University. Her ultimate goal is to practice medicine in her Brooklyn neighborhood. ■

DeLeon J. Wright, Long Island City, New York

When DeLeon Wright entered first grade in his neighborhood public school in Queens, New York, he and many other minority children were assigned to a low level English class without the aid of a placement test. His mother sprang into action, and after reading a poster for the principal in the school hallway, DeLeon was placed in the top reading group and remained in advanced classes throughout elementary school. He credits his first experiences with “tracking” for his interest in public schooling.



In fifth grade, DeLeon was admitted to Prep for Prep and worked diligently through two summers to prepare for his entrance to The Dalton School. “There,” he says, “I was thrilled to be learning in classrooms with other motivated students and interacting with teachers who related to me as mentors rather than as generals.” His individuality encouraged rather than repressed, he discovered an interest in theater, which he studied for four years.

DeLeon’s association with Prep for Prep continued through his high school years. He participated in its Leadership Development Summer Institute and volunteered for Students Advocating for Young Children (SAYC), Prep for Prep’s community service organization. Head of SAYC for the past three years, DeLeon advocates for New York City’s children, ages 0-6, on issues that affect their welfare, such as housing and health care.

He will attend Amherst College where he hopes to find the same kind of educational discourse with professors and students that he enjoyed at the Dalton School. ■



May Lugemwa ('00), left, operated a lift during alternative spring break as she and twenty-five other Harvard students helped to rebuild a church that had burned down in Hinesville, Georgia.

Ron Brown Scholars' Summer Activities

Amanda Alexander	Human Rights Watch	Eddie Martin, Jr.	Educational Summer Abroad Program in Mexico
Elizabeth Alicea	SEO Corporate Law; Debevoise & Plimpton	Kiku McMahan	University of North Carolina Health Careers Access Program
Mike Anderson	Travel in Budapest, other European cities, with Flinn Foundation Scholars	Donielle Newell	Leadership Alliance Summer Research Institute: Biomedical Engineering Department at Stanford
Kolade Apata	Coca-Cola, Business Systems Division; summer session at Emory	Sean Nolan	Behr in Stuttgart, Germany
Jennifer Banner	SEO Corporate Law Program; Debevoise & Plimpton	Anahad O'Connor	Summer Session at New York University; <i>New York Times</i> intern
T.J. Berrings	Construction company and food service	Jonathan Piper	Computer programming, PLAN International Haiti
Traci Burch	Ralph Bunche Institute in Political Science	Marques Redd	Constituent Services Dept., Governor's Office, Atlanta; research assistant for Harvard professor; freelance reporter, africana.com
Jamar Campbell	Office of the Mayor, Aurora CO	Petra Sander	Tri-Institutional (Cornell, Sloan-Kettering, Rockefeller Institute) MD-PhD Gateways to the Laboratory Program
Martine Caverl	Leadership Alliance International Research for Minority Scholars Program; University of Ghana, Language and Gender Project	Ernest Scott	SEO Program in Investment Banking; Merrill Lynch
Shirley Delaleu	MCATS preparation; research	Angela Smedley	Working on boardwalk in Santa Cruz CA
Maleka Donaldson	SEO Program in Management Consulting; Boston Consulting Group	Dorothy Smith	Work, Achievement, Values and Education (W.A.V.E.); Sagner Fellow, 2001 Century Institute in public policy at Williams College
Morgan Dooley	Stanford Health Careers and Opportunities Program	Ryan Stewart	Stanford Presidential Scholar; research project on government support of the arts and athletics in Cuba
Kyla Dotson	Central Intelligence Agency	Joni Stuart	University of Pittsburgh Premedical Enrichment Program
Matthew Espy	Fletcher Asset Management	Tomeka Suber	Summer Honors Undergraduate Research Program in biomedical sciences at Harvard; Project Uplift, program to recruit minority students to University of North Carolina
Melanie Forbes	National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities	Maria Velazquez	National Endowment for the Arts
Lauren Goins	Stanford Summer Research Program in Biomedical Sciences	Sara Whetstone	Massachusetts General Hospital Summer Research Training Program
Tiffany Griswell	Summer Business Analyst at McKinsey & Co.; travel to Europe	Aaliyah Williams	Health care & education financial advising, Public Financial Management; Harvard U. Minority Recruitment Program; travel to Amsterdam
Derick Gross	YMCA Camp Counselor	Damian Williams	Fellow, Ronald H. Brown Foundation Center for Politics and Commercial Diplomacy; Intern, National Council for Urban Economic Development
Katori Hall	The Boston Globe	Gerald Williams	Lobbying, fundraising, public relations for Sudan Campaign
Kara Hamilton	Christian Heritage Academy	Nneka Williams	Geology Expedition in Iceland
Antonia Henry	BioSTEP Program at Yale	Courtney Wooten	Co-Part Company
Leah Hodge	SEO-International Program, J.P. Morgan Chase in London	Tracy Wynter	Counselor, computer camp; LSAT and GMAT preparation
Christopher Hunter	MITTE2S Program Writing Instructor	Allen Yancy	Thesis research
Tristan Ivory	Quest Program	Jamaal Young	National and Community Service Coalition
Tiffany Jackson	Avon Research Program at Cornell Graduate School of Medical Science	Jason Young	Price Waterhouse Coopers
Charly Jeune	SBC/Pacific Bell Engineering Dept.		
Ilisten Jones	Minorities in Medical Education Program, Columbia University		
Nakiya Jones	U.S. District Court, Western District, Texas; University of Texas Summer Session		
Tiombe Jones	Pomona Undergraduate Research Program		
Gwen Jones-Tyler	University of Texas Summer Session		
Julian Jordan	Lincoln Life Insurance, Reinsurance Division		
Fatime Kaba	Head Counselor, Camp Sussex		
Marc Knight	SEO - Management Consulting		
Kara Lee	Harvard summer session		
May Lugemwa	Web design, kiNETic communications		



Nneka Williams Climbs Mountains in Argentina, Traverses Glacial Lagoons in Iceland

For the past two summers Nneka Williams, 1999 Scholar, has joined geologic expeditions into remote areas of Argentina and Iceland.



Nneka Williams tries to keep warm on Vatnajokull, the largest glacier in Europe.

My curiosity about the earth has taken me to places of awe-inspiring beauty. On my first geological expedition in the summer of 2000, I traveled to Argentina to study and map the geology of the Andes Mountains with a small group of students from Cornell University and the University of Buenos Aires. In class we practiced surface and subsurface mapping techniques and learned about the regional geology of western Argentina. Then we set out for the Andes. After a twenty-two hour bus ride across the Pampas, we arrived at the Andean foothills, set up camp, and began to apply what we had learned.

For the next three and a half weeks, we traveled west along narrow (and sometimes snowy) desert mountain roads in a flatbed truck, stopping every few miles to sketch interesting rock structures, to hike up cactus-covered hillsides to add information to our maps, or simply to admire the breathtaking views. After studying the foothills, we packed up camp and traveled west again to the Argentine-Chilean border and the mountains of the Main Cordillera, or main mountain ranges of the Andes. Our mapping projects completed, we hiked through thigh-high snow

to see Aconcagua, the highest mountain in South America and the highest in the world outside of the Himalayas.

I went to Argentina not just to experience the beauty of the Andes, but also to gain valuable field research experience for my Earth and Planetary Sciences concentration at Harvard. As a result of the course, I decided to specialize in structural geology and geophysics. I joined the Structural Geology and Tectonics Research Group, which is comprised of professors and graduate students who conduct research in natural resources and active tectonics. The group is compiling and analyzing data needed to produce a detailed earthquake hazard map for the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

This past summer, I spent six weeks studying geology at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik with Denmark's International Study Program. I chose Iceland because it is located on and was created by the mid-ocean ridge, a submarine volcanic mountain range that encircles the earth and marks the boundaries between the crustal plates that compose the surface of the earth. While at the university I studied the exciting and unique

geologic features that result from Iceland's position on the ridge.

After studying volcanology, seismology, glaciology, petrology, and geothermal energy in class, I was able to apply and enrich my knowledge by going on day trips and week-long study tours to different parts of the country. Collecting rock, sand, and water samples, and taking temperature measurements on our first study tour to the southeast of the country, we hiked behind waterfalls and onto snow-dusted stacked lava mountains, walked through geothermal fields dotted with pits of boiling water and yellow sulfur, hiked dormant and active volcanic craters, sat on mountain tops and looked down at clouds, drank water straight from mountain streams, waded through freezing glacial rivers barefoot, floated among huge blue icebergs in a glacial lagoon, climbed up—and occasionally slipped down—Vatnajokull, the largest glacier in Europe.

A few labs and classes later, we set out on another study tour, this time to the Vestmann Islands, a volcanic island chain off the coast of Iceland. Working in small groups, we collected ash samples from two different volcanoes off beaches, cliffs and recently cooled lava flows. Back in the lab, we analyzed the properties of our samples and used the data to compare and contrast the mechanisms of the different eruptions. We presented a formal research paper in a symposium at the university.

My trips to Argentina and Iceland helped me to focus my career interests. I know now that although I enjoy scientific research, I probably will not make a career of it. Currently, my goal is to attend law school and to study environmental law so I can combine my interests in law and geology. I may work with oil companies to make certain that their exploration methods comply with the laws and regulations that protect the environment, or I may work for the government to enforce compliance with these laws. Wherever my career takes me, the breathtaking beauty of places like the Andes Mountains and the fjords of Iceland will always beckon. ■

Nneka Williams ('99)

TO: Stone Printing—Tom Williams
From: Veronica Tang
Subject: Ron Brown Scholar Program Newsletter

As we discussed last week concerning tints. Since I do not have one of those PMS tint books, I was not sure of the tints against black type or reverse type. So, check to make sure the tints look okay. You may change percentages a little.

This is an 8-page newsletter. Your contact in Charlottesville for billing and blueline is Linda Monahan (804) 964-1588.

Use PMS 072 and Black throughout. There are 15%, 25%, 30% tints.

Fonts: Times and Helvetica.

The Macintosh PageMaker 6.5 file for newsletter is “RonBrn NL 5/01.”

Photos will be submitted by Linda. They will be marked as per page and in alphabetic order. Names assigned to photos are included at back of photos. Also, in file marked “Scan folder” is Mallory photo)- on p1 . Banner file is in photo folder, and Digital Art file are included in RonBrown folder.

PLEASE SCAN AND CROP photos to fit black boxes. Linda will give quantity info.

Call me, if need be. RETURN DISK to me when completed.

THANK YOU!!