



INVEST in Baltimore

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40 Maryland Students Given a “Step Up” Through Baltimore Community Foundation Scholarship Awards

(Baltimore, Md. 06/24/08) – The Baltimore Community Foundation (BCF) recently awarded \$64,000 in college scholarships to 40 Maryland students. This year’s scholarships include a new award: a \$10,000 scholarship through the One Step Up Fund, recently created by a retired teacher to help young women who have overcome significant challenges in their lives.

The One Step Up Fund is a renewable scholarship established by Jonnie-Kay McLean, a life-long educator, and her husband, Norman Morrison. The Fund targets college-bound young women in Baltimore City public high schools who have overcome significant challenges and demonstrated leadership in non-traditional ways. McLean, a self-made woman who worked and saved to pay her way through college and then graduate school, notes generously that, “Kids deserve a break.” To that end, McLean and her husband created the scholarship in order to give dedicated young women “that one step up” they might need to make attending college possible.

Noted BCF President Tom Wilcox, “BCF’s mission is to support the philanthropic dreams of generous people, and we’re delighted to be able to help Jonnie-Kay McLean translate her lifetime experience as a classroom teacher into a scholarship fund that will benefit students for generations to come.”

Sherrone Ricks, a senior at Baltimore’s Western High School who will be attending Bowdoin College in the fall, received the One Step Up Fund’s inaugural scholarship, which provides \$10,000 for the first year, \$5,000 the second year, \$3,000 the third year, and \$1,500 the fourth year. Ricks, who aspires to become an attorney and judge, is an active leader in Western’s community service club and her church’s youth ministry program.

A second One Step Up scholarship of \$1,500 was awarded to Tiarra McLean (no relation to fund founder), a senior at Baltimore’s Edmondson-Westside High School. The second scholarship is awarded to young women who are seniors in Baltimore City public high schools and will be attending community college upon graduation. McLean, a leader in her church and her school’s Student Government Association, will attend Baltimore City Community College through the Morgan State Connect Program in the fall.

Awards from ten scholarship funds at BCF range from \$500 to \$10,000 each and go to students planning to pursue or currently pursuing higher education. In addition to the awards from the One Step Up Fund, **BCF’s 2008 scholarship recipients are:**

Artemis Scholarship (\$500) – Named for Artemis, the ancient Greek goddess of the moon and hunt, this scholarship is for young women graduating from a Baltimore City public high school who wish to pursue higher education. Recipients are:

- Dominique Duval – Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
- Ashley Waith – National Academy Foundation School

Mildred M. Coughlin Scholarship (\$500-1,000) – Named for a former principal of Western High School, this scholarship is for young women graduating from Western High School who intend to attend a four-year liberal arts college or university. Recipients are:

- Nkosazna Bambata
- Ellen Blonder
- Adrienne Gladden
- Jessica Williams
- Brittany Wilson

Digital Harbor High School Community Scholarship (\$2,000) – Established by residents of the Harborview and Key Highway neighborhoods, this scholarship is for students graduating from Baltimore's Digital Harbor High School who demonstrate both academic merit and financial need. Recipients are:

- Sarah Bradford
- Latasha Chase
- Victor Ekanem
- Ashley McClure

Walther H. Feldmann Scholarship in Honor of William R. King (\$1,500) – This scholarship is for students graduating from the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (BPI) who are in the top 25 percent of their graduating class and who have demonstrated leadership qualities as evidenced by their participation in extra-curricular activities including election to student government, student club office, captains of athletic teams, or appointment to leadership positions at BPI. Recipients are:

- Dominique Duval
- Lena Harris
- David Lai

Harry Z. Isaacs Scholarship (\$1,000) – Established by the late Harry Z. Isaacs, this scholarship is for the children of employees of I.C. Isaacs & Company, and for graduates of Baltimore City public high schools. Priority is given to applicants who have a parent or guardian currently employed by I.C. Isaacs & Company and its subsidiaries. Recipients are:

- Joseph Carey-Oduniyi – Baltimore Polytechnic Institute
- Victor Ekanem – Digital Harbor High School
- Joshua Gray – Delaware Technical and Community College
- Megan Green – University of Maryland College Park
- Hayley Keenan – Susquehanna University
- Wade Keenan – Villa Julie College

- Ashley Waith – National Academy Foundation School
- Jessica Williams – Western High School

Christa McAuliffe Scholarship (\$1,000) – Established to honor the ideals and memory of Christa McAuliffe, the teacher who perished in 1986 aboard the space shuttle Challenger, the scholarship is for aspiring teachers in the state of Maryland. It is open to high school seniors and college students from Maryland who attend college in Maryland and intend to teach school in Maryland. Recipients are:

- Jade Davis – Baltimore City College High School
- Jennifer Haymaker – James Hubert Blake High School
- Jay Karolenko – The John Carroll School
- Ashley Rexroth – Maurice J. McDonough High School

Al Sanders Foundation for Music Studies Scholarship (\$1,500) – Established to honor the memory of Al Sanders, celebrate his career with WJZ-TV, and share his love of music, this scholarship is for students who intend to major in music and pursue a career in music after graduation from college. Recipients are:

- Ellen Blonder – Western High School
- Alayna Morton – Maurice J. McDonough High School
- Kayla Shipley – Westminster Senior High School
- Britney Wharry – Baltimore School for the Arts

Eric and Cara Thorn Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000-2,000) – Established in memory of 16-year old Eric and 13-year old Cara Thorn who were killed in a car accident on their way to Calvert High School on November 17, 1998, this scholarship keeps alive the memory of these outstanding students. Their family and friends created the scholarship for students graduating from public high schools in Calvert County, Md. Applicants must have achieved academic excellence, been involved in sports and school activities, and participate in community service. Recipients are:

- Andria Arnold – Huntingtown High School
- Christopher Barton – Patuxent High School
- Amy DeTorres – Calvert High School
- Joseph Griffin – Huntingtown High School
- Laura Mechling – Patuxent High School
- Andrew Merewitz – Huntingtown High School
- Jennifer Smetana – Huntingtown High School
- Colleen Ursic – Patuxent High School
- Julie Walter – Calvert High School
- Jonas Williams – Huntingtown High School

WJZ-TV Jerry Turner Broadcast Scholarship (\$1,500) – Established to honor the memory of Jerry Turner and celebrate his career in broadcast journalism at WJZ-TV, this scholarship is for students who intend to major in and pursue a career in broadcast journalism after graduating from college. Recipients are:

- Emily Butzner – Eastern Technical High School
- Denesha Jones – New Era Academy

- Micarie Kemp – Baltimore City College High School
- Brittany Wilson – Western High School

ABOUT THE BALTIMORE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Baltimore Community Foundation distributed \$30 million in 2007 to hundreds of nonprofit organizations in the Baltimore region and beyond. With assets of \$194 million, BCF comprises more than 500 different charitable funds.

BCF invites donors to “*Invest in Baltimore*” through its civic agenda, which combines economic development with poverty reduction through strategic investments in the areas of human services, youth, education, transportation, neighborhoods, diversity, environment, arts and culture, and promoting Baltimore.

BCF helps individuals, families and organizations carry out their charitable plans, with the common goal of improving the quality of life in the greater Baltimore region, today and for generations to come. To donors, BCF offers a complete toolkit for charitable giving, expert assistance in learning more about the causes they care about, and the opportunity to join others with similar interests to learn and give together. To the community at large, BCF offers a permanent, growing source of grant monies, as well as a common meeting ground and leadership on important issues in our region.

In addition, BCF provides grantmaking oversight for two independent foundations, the William G. Baker Jr. Memorial Fund and the Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Charitable Foundation.

More information about *Invest in Baltimore*, support for individual donors’ philanthropy, BCF grantmaking programs and more can be found at www.bcf.org.

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