

**ScholarCHIPS, Inc.**  
2017 Scholarship Recipients  
(\$2,500 Award)

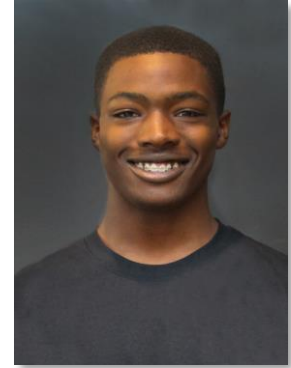
**Imani Bell** graduated from Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria, Virginia. She is strong in mathematics and science and is very talented in the area of computer technology. She has engaged in many programming projects, including building robots, and likes to study various areas of technology, such as the operation of space shuttles and aerodynamics. Imani's goal is to receive a Bachelor's degree in Business with a minor in Computer Science to prepare her for a career in business technology. She plans to become an entrepreneur who designs, manufactures and sells innovation technological products for the average consumer. Imani attends North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.



**Noah Dyson** is a graduate of the School Without Walls in Washington, DC. He is very passionate about social justice and activism, and we were impressed that through LearnServe, a local social entrepreneurship program, Noah founded The Love Catalyst, a nonprofit organization that supports youth with mental illnesses in the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area and creates awareness about the mistreatment of youth in mental health facilities. Noah is also a good athlete and was the captain of his high school's lacrosse team. He wants to major in political science or business marketing with a minor in psychology. Noah attends Elon University.

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**Jermekkio Holliway** graduated from KIPP DC: College Prep in Washington, DC. He is very ambitious and proactive, and he plans to obtain a degree in education with a minor in psychology to enable him to teach at or serve as the principal of a southern public high school. Jermekkio also cares about the well-being of those around him, and he wants to give back to the community by starting a nonprofit called “REACH” to promote scholarship, service and nutrition for many children. He has the admirable goal of stopping homelessness and reducing the poverty rate. Jermekkio attends Southern University and A&M College.



**Jeremy Little** is a graduate of Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville, Maryland. He is very passionate about pursuing a career in music and is proud of the hard work, skills and personal development that he has been able to experience in that field. Jeremy plans to attend college as a music major to prepare for a career as a songwriting producer and music engineer who advances in other fields of the industry, such as performing. In fact, we were excited to learn that on the day of the 2017 ScholarCHIPS Annual Awards Ceremony, Jeremy performed in two sold-out performances at the Warner Theater in Washington, DC. He attends the University of the Arts in Pennsylvania.

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**Amari McDuffie** graduated from Benjamin Banneker Academic High School in Washington, DC. She bravely overcame many health challenges, and we were impressed by her drive and determination to be successful, in spite of many setbacks. Amari has been described as a persistent, brave, ambitious and optimistic young woman. In October 2016 during his visit to her high school, President Barack Obama commended her on her strong work ethic during extended hospital visits due to a serious illness. Amari plans to major in biology and says that she anticipates becoming more open-minded, outspoken and objective through the well-balanced education that she will receive. She attends Pennsylvania State University.



**Taija McRae** graduated from Bladensburg High School in Bladensburg, Maryland. She views college as an opportunity for a better life, and she wants to be the first in her immediate family to graduate from college. Taija is gifted academically as well as athletically. She demonstrates perseverance, natural ability, and determination, whether she is competing athletically at the highest level or striving for academic success. Her high school counselor noted her problem-solving and leadership skills and stated that she models kindness, strength and genuineness. Taija aspires to be a civil rights attorney. She attends Eastern University in Pennsylvania.

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**Jala Turner** is a graduate of Friendship Technology Preparatory Academy Public Charter School in Washington, DC. She has been described by her references as “a determined and persistent scholar” with admirable perseverance and confidence who has grown tremendously from the obstacles in her life. She was a dedicated Girl Scout for five years and a “standout volleyball player” for her high school team. Jala will be the first in her family to attend college, and she aspires to become a social worker because she wants to support children who experience traumatic situations in life and teach them to never give up! She attends Virginia State University.



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**Kara Chamberlaine** graduated from McKinley Technology High School in Washington, DC. We were very excited to learn about her endeavor with five other McKinley students to create Tech Innovations Team, a club with a vision to create safe play areas for children who lack the resources, space or time to fully engage in play. Kara is intrigued with science and the field of medicine and was inspired by the Biotechnology program at her high school, where she broadened her knowledge of prominent diseases and medical practices. She has participated in community service, science and social justice programs as a participant and as a leader, and she wants to attend an institution

that emphasizes academic exploration through international learning and community involvement. Kara attends Dartmouth College.

**Sydnee Davis** is a graduate of Elizabeth Seton High School in Bladensburg, Maryland. She took on a challenging print journalism class, where she learn many skills related to editing and eventually became Sports Editor and then Editor-in-Chief of her school magazine, “The Roadrunner”. After Sydnee pressed through an ACL tear that she sustained while playing volleyball, she discovered her love for track and field sports as a thrower in shot put, weight throw and discus. She aspires to become the first healthcare professional in her family – a doctor who practices physical therapy or orthopedics, which will allow her to assist individuals who are in need of rehabilitation from injuries such as the one that she experienced. Sydnee attends Hampton University.



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**Xavier Hare** is a graduate of Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville, Maryland. He has been described by his references as a caring and compassionate individual, a team player, a great athlete, and a very ambitious student, with the ability to offer amazing things to the world. Xavier is a three-sport athlete in football, lacrosse and wrestling. He has also faithfully volunteered his time to brighten the lives of residents at a local health and rehabilitation center. He is looking forward to a college experience that will expose him to a diverse group of colleagues, teach him necessary skills toward adult independence, and memories that will last a lifetime. Xavier attends Lincoln University.

**Gabriel Moreno** graduated from Wheaton High School in Wheaton, Maryland. He is a scholar and a dependable member of his high school football team. He was highly motivated member of the school drama club, where he learned the different roles and responsibilities of the performing arts. Gabriel enjoyed starring in school plays, where his natural talent for comedy and improvisation immediately stood out, as he analyzed scripts, took on challenging monologues, co-choreographed stage routines, mentored his peers, and even helped with building and decorating sets. He is very proud of his YouTube channel, and has a passion for computer science, web design and computer gaming, which he plans to pursue in college. Gabriel attends Full Sail University in Florida.





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**Justine Sampson** graduated from DuVal High School in Lanham, Maryland. She is very proud of making the honor roll in high school, which showed her that despite having to face some very difficult challenges at a young age, her hard work paid off, and she will never stop living her dreams. She aspires to become a nurse with a focus on pediatric care. She wants to provide care to people who cannot always afford medical care, and she also plans to advocate for children's health and wellness. Justine is proud of getting accepted into Allegany College of Maryland, where she just completed her freshman year. Justine

has enjoyed her transition into college life, which has included a new, independent lifestyle, meeting students from many cultures and ethnicities, and becoming a more social and independent person.

**Jermaine Swanson** is a graduate of Frank W. Ballou High School in Washington, DC. He is very proud that he was able to finish high school in Southeast Washington, DC, which has a very high drop-out rate, and where he ranked in the top 10% of his class. Jermaine is also a proud recipient of the DC College Success Foundation's prestigious ACHIEVERS scholarship. He has been described by his references as a highly intelligent, charismatic, articulate leader who will be an asset to the collegiate world. He faces each day with a smile and has every intention of taking the opportunity to not only attend college, but to graduate from college! Jermaine attends Pennsylvania State University.

