

» Lee B. Thomas, Jr. 50 Years of Service

On May 20, 1957, Lee B. Thomas, Jr. became a member of the Lincoln Foundation's Board of Trustees. On May 16, 2007, the Lincoln Foundation Board of Trustees, family, and friends held a celebration luncheon in honor of his 50 years of service. The event was held at the University Club located at the University of Louisville. During the event, Lee was presented with a piece of original artwork and roasted by fellow Trustees Dr. Samuel Robinson, President Emeritus, and Joseph Wimsatt, Trustee Emeritus. Throughout a period of social unrest and racial tension, Lee remained a constant supporter of the Lincoln Foundation and its mission to provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged youth. Lee's dear friend, colleague, and former Trustee, Ruth Clemmens said, "Lee's heart for black and underprivileged students is never ending and inspirational!" Larry McDonald stated Lee is a man who has consistently "walked the talk" relative to character and business ethics. McDonald also announced the establishment of a Lee Thomas scholarship and that the Lincoln Foundation office will be renamed the Lee B. Thomas, Jr. Education Center in his honor. The Lincoln Foundation dedicates this issue of the LINC to Lee and thanks him for his leadership, wisdom, and caring for the welfare of young people in our community.



Dr. Samuel Robinson, Larry McDonald, and Lee Thomas with original artwork.



Joseph Wimsatt, Trustee Emeritus



Mrs. Elmer Lucielle Allen (left) and Ruth Clemmens share greetings.



Left to right: Alonzo Crumes, Glenn Thomas, Margaret Redmon, Larry McDonald, Lee Thomas and Ann Thomas.



Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars, left to right, standing, Robert Buckner, Kevin Yu, Patrick Bryant; seated, LaVon Clark III, Kelnesha Durrett, and Jeremy Wright.

Dear Friend,



It has been an outstanding academic year for the Lincoln Foundation's educational programs. Our programs are truly having a positive and profound impact on the lives of youth in our

community. You will find evidence of a few of our successes throughout this issue of the LINC. I am extremely proud of our Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars graduate class of 2007. They are an impressive and deserving group of talented young adults with unlimited potential. I am pleased to welcome three outstanding professionals to the Lincoln Foundation's Board of Trustees: Philip Buckman, retired news broadcasting executive; Andrew Baskin, associate professor of general and African-American studies, Berea College; and Alyce French Johnson, assistant executive director, Transit Authority of the River City. They are dedicated community leaders with genuine concern for young people. I am very appreciative of their time and commitment to the Lincoln Foundation and the youth that we serve. I ask you to please mark your calendars for our annual Evening of Jazz fundraiser. The event will be held on Saturday, August 25th at The Kentucky Center's Bomhard Theater at 7:00 p.m. Once again, we are counting on your support to benefit the exceptional youth in our Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program®. Last but not least, I wish to congratulate our Trustee Emeritus, Lee B. Thomas, Jr., on 50 years of service to the Board of Trustees. His dedication, loyalty, and insight are invaluable.

Larry M. McDonald
President

Scholar Highlights



Meet Reverend Bryant

Patrick Bryant accepted the call into the ministry in April, 2004 at the Highland Park Missionary Baptist church during his senior year of high school at duPont Manual. He is currently a third year honor student at Benedict College in Columbia, SC majoring in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. Patrick maintains a 3.5 GPA and was recently inducted into Delta Mu Delta, an international honor society for Business Administration students. Recently Patrick was asked to be a part of the Dwight D. Eisenhower fellowship program, which is extended to undergraduate students

who have exemplified academic excellence. This summer, he will be working as an intern with the U.S. Department of Transportation in Denver, Colorado. Bryant understands the importance of volunteerism and is actively involved in the community as a spiritual leader. He serves as the Youth Minister of two churches in the Columbia, SC area. Patrick attributes all his success to the grace and mercy of God; however, he states that it was programs like the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program® that prepared him. During a recent visit to the Lincoln Foundation, Bryant shared, "the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program® consistently taught me the importance of hard work, diligence, and faithfulness in striving to achieve academic excellence. It is an honor and a blessing to be a part of such a well respected program that commits to the empowerment of young people." Patrick also stated that "Mr. McDonald and the staff of the Lincoln Foundation will forever be considered my family, mentors, and guiding lights toward high achievement and success." Patrick is the recipient of a full academic scholarship from Bettie and Charlie Johnson, former Lincoln Foundation Trustees. He is the son of Latonya Yarbor and Vernon Bryant. He has two sisters, Kayla and Alexis Bryant.



William Payne

The Lincoln Foundation's educational programs continue to have a profound impact on youth. For a recent Educational Clinic assignment, William Payne shared his thoughts.

The Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program® (WYSP) Mission Statement consists of the following: "to prepare students for high school graduation and successful matriculation into postsecondary educational institutions by enhancing cultural awareness, enhancing the Scholar's self-esteem, and developing the Scholar's values, character, and ethics." Thus, WYSP has made a significant impact

upon my life by helping to mold me into a successful African-American male Scholar and to realize that I can achieve anything that I can perceive.

Throughout the program's biweekly lessons and class sessions, I have been exposed to many aspects of professionalism and entrepreneurship, as well as a very diverse and enriching range of student experiences. Interacting with goal-oriented students my age, and with the same priorities, has uplifted me and made me more culturally aware of our responsibilities as role models in our community. I better understand my obligation to build upon the progress of those who have come before my peers and me.

WYSP has also meant a great deal to me when it comes to enhancing my self-esteem. Every two weeks I am witnessing a successfully managed African-American think-tank. Additionally, the regular meetings have encouraged me to pursue my future goals and ambitions. In terms of developing character and ethics, the program has also been of value. Responsibility is a key factor in making the program work. It has challenged every student to develop strong character by making him/her more reliable, dependable and trustworthy—all qualities needed to attain future success.

In conclusion, WYSP means many positive things to me. Through its initiatives, it has directed me down the road of success. Because of the WYSP, I have become better prepared to assume the mantle of community leadership to which I aspire. I know that I will be somebody; a role model for younger students, and a future member of W.E.B. DuBois' "Talented Tenth." Therefore, there are no words that can explain my deep feelings of gratitude toward this program. Simply put, text books \$100, Summer Institute \$500, becoming a future successful Scholar, PRICELESS!

William Payne is a senior at duPont Manual Magnet High School. His extracurricular activities include Sinfonia Orchestra, YMCA Black Achievers, varsity football, Civil Air Patrol, varsity track and field, W.E.B. DuBois Scholar Program (Princeton University), Mayor's Youth Council President, and the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed to assist with our annual fundraiser and educational program activities. Please contact our office for details.

» Scholar Honors

Burdine Awarded McElvaney Memorial Scholarship

The Lincoln Foundation is pleased to announce that the first recipient of the David C. & Emma W. Miles McElvaney Memorial Scholarship offered through the Community Foundation of Louisville is senior Whitney M. YOUNG Scholar, Dominique Burdine. The scholarship was established by writer and author Emma McElvaney Talbott and family. Dominique will receive \$2,000 to help defray the cost of her college expenses. Selection for the scholarship was based on grade point average, financial need, and the requirement that the recipient will be the first in his

or her family to attend college. There were many outstanding applicants for the scholarship; however, Dominique's passion for writing and her leadership potential made her a standout. She is an extraordinary young woman who has overcome many obstacles in her life.

Burdine's birth mother was a substance abuser and she grew up in a neighborhood filled with violence and drug activity. Dominique chose not to be a statistic or to fit the stereotype of a teenager raised in an inner city crime-ridden area. She applied for and received a scholarship to Sacred Heart Academy through

the King Foundation for Social Justice. Dominique has excelled beyond expectations at Sacred Heart. Katie Lowen, Sacred Heart's director of admissions, wrote, "Dominique has grown into a strong, determined, well-respected leader. She has always demonstrated a high level of integrity and has a strong sense of self. To my knowledge, she has always made the right decision in difficult situations." At Sacred Heart, Dominique created a step team during her freshman year that has flourished over the years and performs at local pep rallies and basketball games. She has also been instrumental in recruiting minority students to Sacred Heart.

When asked about her passion for writing, Dominique replied, "writing comes naturally to me. My passion is writing poetry. Whenever I write, I feel as though I am in a world of my own. Sometimes I even turn to my writing as therapy, to release tension and to vent."

Because of her hard work, focus, diligence, and participation in the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program®, Dominique has received a scholarship from Murray State University. She is also a recipient of a scholarship from the Horatio Alger Association. Burdine plans to study communications and become a broadcast journalist who keeps people informed as well as entertained.



» Evening of Jazz



The Lincoln Foundation is pleased to host its annual Evening of Jazz at 7 p.m. on Saturday, August 25, 2007 at The Kentucky Center, Bomhard Theater, starring Bobby Broom's Deep Blue Organ Trio featuring Chris Forman.

Jazz guitarist Bobby Broom has performed with jazz greats Miles Davis, Stanley Turrentine, Charles Earland, and Kenny Burrell to name a few. His recently released CD, "Song and Dance" is currently on The Jazz Week Charts. This event is designed to provide an evening of great entertainment, but most importantly to raise funds for the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program®. Please save this date on your calendar. We are counting on your support to benefit a very deserving group of talented young people. Tickets are \$35 and will be available soon at The Kentucky Center.

Congratulations

Governor's Scholars

- Sindhiya Nimina
- Deborah Olayemi
- William Payne
- Monrise Wilson
- Jessica Yu

Chase Sanders

Courier-Journal High School Round Table

Chanise Shepherd

Perfect attendance in grades kindergarten – 12

Robert Buckner

2007 Eastern College Athletic Conference Division II Men's Basketball All-Stars Rookie of the Year

» Did You Know...

Ms. Jessie Reason Zander was the first African American to graduate from Berea College after the Day Law was overturned. The 1954 United States Supreme Court *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision allowed black and white students to be educated together. Mrs. Zander paid a visit to the former Lincoln Institute campus on May 1, 2007. During her visit, she met with Ms. Vivian Overall, Human Resources Coordinator, Shelby County Public Schools. This was a very historic and emotional meeting as Ms. Overall is the only person to graduate from Lincoln Institute and Berea College. Ms. Zander and Ms. Overall are very gracious and accomplished women and enjoyed sharing their memories and experiences during their visit to the historic Lincoln Institute campus in Simpsonville, KY.

» Our Mission

To positively impact, encourage, and support youth, particularly youth of color and the socioeconomically disadvantaged, through effective and sustainable educational, social and cultural programs, academic research, advocacy, and the promotion of historic legacy.

» Summer 2007 Calendar of Events

- June 4 - June 29** **Math & Science Program**
University of Louisville
Monday - Friday 1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Registration Fee - \$75
- June 4 - June 15** **Computer Camp**
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Lincoln Foundation - Computer Lab
- June 4 - June 29** **Project BUILD**
University of Louisville
College of Business
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
- July 23 - August 4** **Hands On/Minds On**
University of Louisville
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
- Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program® Opening Registration 2007-2008 academic year** **August 18**
Jefferson Community & Technical College
Hartford Building
8:45 a.m.- 12:00 noon
- Evening of Jazz Fundraiser** **August 25**
The Kentucky Center - Bomhard Theater
7:00 p.m. Tickets - \$35

Please call the Lincoln Foundation for additional information.

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» Seeking Educational Program Alumni

If you are a past participant or graduate of the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program®, Project BUILD, or Math & Science Program, we want to hear from you. Please call Dana Lynn at the Lincoln Foundation.