



## Introducing the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Class of 2014

**Kayla Bryant** 

Central High School

University of Louisville



Ifeoluwa Akindele Louisville Male High School Murray State University



**Michelle Coleman** Moore Traditional High School Murray State University

**Cedric Ivy** 

Fern Creek Traditional

High School

Monterey Peninsula College

Toluwalope

Omotinugbon

Jeffersonville High School

University of Kentucky

**Jontane Smith** 

Louisville Male High School

University of Kentucky



**Tabitha Awoniyi Katelyn Bauer** duPont Manual High School Iroquois High School St. Louis Community University of Kentucky College





University of Kentucky







**Travis Reece** 



**Aaliyah Taylor** University of Kentucky



**Aaron Luster** 

Eastern High School

University of Louisville

**Evonnyia Rox** Butler Traditional High School University of Kentucky



**Ashley Wallace** duPont Manual High School University of Louisville



Le' Priece Burton Louisville Male High School University of Kentucky



**Alston Hammond** Central High School Jefferson Community & . Technical College



**Ahna Matthews** Louisville Male High School Bellarmine University

Logan Sanderson

North Oldham High School

University of Louisville



Lindsey Wilson College

**Reginald Hampton** 

Butler Traditional High School

Jefferson Community &

Technical College

**Austin Mitchell** 

Butler Traditional

High School

University of Kentucky



Kamaria Campbell Central High School University of Kentucky



**Kasandra Hodge** Central High School Howard University



**Gregory Mitchell** Louisville Male High School University of Kentucky



**Alexandria Smith** Central High School Murray State University



Peter Scott. Jr.

Louisville Male High School

University of Kentucky



Jordan Duff

Kentucky Country Day

School

Jin Soo Kim duPont Manual High School Purdue University

**Olivia Reece** 

Butler Traditional

High School

University of Louisville

Sharonda Stephens

Central High School

University of Kentucky





Jeffersontown High School Murray State University



Assumption High School



University

# Congratulations to our 2013 & 2014 College Graduates

#### Name

Michael Adevinka Yunina Barbour-Payne Delaney Bartlett Ciara Camp Quentin Childers Ana E. Garner Chasity Howard Marcus Kelly Dominique Luster Jade Lynn Avodele Osasona Thomas A. Packer, Jr. Andrew J. Reece **Josue Romero** Christien Russell Iosé Soto-Hernandez Matthew Wemes Chastity White Ke'Aira Wooden

#### Degree

| -  |
|--|
| B.S. Psychology                          |
| M.A. Performance Studies                 |
| B.S. Kinesiology                         |
| B.S. Family Sciences                     |
| Bachelor of Social Work, Magna Cum Laude |
| B.A. International Studies               |
| B.S. Sociology                           |
| B.A. Criminal Justice                    |
| B.A. Theater, Summa Cum Laude            |
| Master of Social Work                    |
| Doctor of Medicine                       |
| B.A. Biology                             |
| B.S. Biology, Cum Laude                  |
| B.S. Spanish                             |
| B.S. Community & Leadership Development  |
| B.S. Graphic Communications Management   |
| B.A. Political Science                   |
| B.A. Political Science                   |
| B.S. Business Administration             |
|  |

#### **College/University**

University of Kentucky Texas A&M University University of Kentucky University of Kentucky University of Louisville University of Kentucky University of Louisville **Ball State University** University of Kentucky Western Kentucky University University of Kentucky University of Louisville Murray State University Georgetown College University of Kentucky Eastern Kentucky University University of Louisville Fisk University University of Louisville

# From Adversity to Fulfilling a Dream

Fierce determination may be one way to describe Christien Russell, a member of the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup> Class of 2010. Her mother was an addict and suffered from bipolar and other mental health disorders. Her father was an absentee dad, making life as a child challenging. She realized early in life that she wanted a different outcome.

Thankfully, she had a caring grandmother and two loving aunts who provided the support and guidance she needed. One of her aunts learned about the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup> and pushed Christien to apply. Her older brother and cousin also participated in the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup> and demonstrated how the program can change a life for the better.

"I hated it at first," Christien admits. "Getting up early on a Saturday to attend the Educational Clinics was not my idea of fun."

Slowly, however, she realized that the program was one of the best things to happen to her. Becoming a Scholar provided the motivation she needed to excel academically and reach for opportunities she never thought possible.

for opportunities she never thought possible. "The teachers and educational program coordinators showed they really cared about my well-being. It became a true family environment for me," Christien says. "And there were other kids just like me in the program. It was truly a bonding experience. We all wanted to push and motivate each other to succeed."

Ms. Russell graduated in May 2014 with a degree in Community & Leadership Development from the University of Kentucky. She is now pursuing a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Rural Sociology at Auburn University with hopes of becoming a foreign diplomat.

She already has an impressive resumé to help her dream become a reality. Christien spent two months in South Africa as part of a study abroad program, and she traveled to Prague and the Czech Republic learning about different forms of leadership. She also had the opportunity to work on both the 2008 and 2012 campaigns of President Barack Obama. In the last presidential campaign, she served as a vetting intern at the campaign's headquarters in Chicago before being offered a position as a field organizer in Florida.

A successful college graduate pursuing a postgraduate degree, Christien now understands why it was good for her to participate in the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup>. "I have even gone back and thanked my aunt for signing me up," she laughs. "I really appreciate her making me do it."

The experience has helped open many doors. Lincoln Foundation President, Larry McDonald, introduced her to an internship opportunity with McCarthy Strategic Solutions. It was an opportunity she feels would not have occurred had it not been for the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup>. The firm was impressed with Christien's work ethic, and her interpersonal and communications skills. "Christien was a plus to our firm," says McCarthy Office Manager Jane Corder. "Her work during the 2013 Legislative Session helped McCarthy Strategic Solutions stay on target with their legislative agenda and to complete various assignments in a timely manner. She is someone who will do great things and would be a plus to any organization she is placed."

What's next for Christien? Besides completing her graduate degree, Christien plans to seek certification in election administration. She is also determined to travel to Ghana for her third international experience. "There are a lot of NGOs (Non-governmental Organizations) there that I would like to get involved with. My passion is active service and finding ways to give back."

No matter how high her dreams soar, Christien says she ultimately wants to get married, raise a family, and create the life she did not have growing up.

Similar to the sentiments in the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup> Scholar Oath, Christien says she stays grounded with the words from her favorite quote, "Always remember who you are and what you represent."



Christien Russell

# 2013 Annual Report

## **Financial Report**

Fiscal Year: January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

#### **REVENUES, GAINS AND SUPPORT**

| Contributions                           | \$310,943 |
|---|-----------|
| Rental Income                           | 467,930   |
| Grants                                  | 176,795   |
| Program Fees                            | 6,540     |
| In kind Contributions                   | 150,936   |
| Special Events, net                     | 12,006    |
| Investment Gains (Losses)               | 1,050,126 |
| Other                                   | 39,380    |
| Total Revenues, Gains and Other Support | 2,214,656 |

#### **EXPENSES**

| Program Expenses                | 867,494     |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Operating Expenses              | 185,169     |
| Fundraising Expenses            | 129,158     |
| Grants and Scholarships         | 60,200      |
| Total Expenses                  | 1,242,021   |
| Change in Net Assets            | 972,635     |
| Net Assets at Beginning of Year | 7,243,878   |
| Net Assets at End of Year       | \$8,216,513 |

## **Annual Statistics**

- Approximately 424 students served
- ▶ 64 elementary/middle/high schools served
- 1,863 volunteer hours

#### Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program®

- > 100% of the class of 2013 (37) graduated from high school
- 97% attended college
- \$1,250,891 in college scholarship awards
- > 272 total Scholars (grades 7-12)
- 5 years average time in program
- > 70% Black; 13% White; 10% Hispanic; 4% Asian; 3% Other
- 3.0 average senior G.P.A.
- 20 average senior ACT score
- 3 Beta Club
- 2 National Honor Society
- 1 Class Officer
- 1 Governor's Scholars Program

#### **College Scholars**

- ▶ \$60,200 in Lincoln Foundation scholarship awards
- 22 Scholars graduated from college in 2013 (19 Bachelors; 2 Masters; 1 Medical School)

#### **Educational Opportunity Scholarship Awards**

\$73,989

## Lincoln Foundation Board of Trustees

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Greater Louisville Inc.

### **Our Mission**

To provide educational enrichment programs that develop and support youth in overcoming barriers to achievement



## Dear Friend,



It is an honor to reflect back on the many successful careers and lives of the youth who have benefited from the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup>. The story of Christien Russell is just one of many inspiring stories Lincoln Foundation will be sharing over the course of the next year as we celebrate the program's 25th Anniversary.

In keeping with the anniversary, I am

delighted to share news of the emergence of the Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Alumni Association. Ms. Faye Owens established a steering committee of Scholar alumni to help formalize the group. They will officially kick-off a membership drive on December 20 at the annual Holiday Brunch. If you are a Scholar and are in town for the holidays, please save this date and make plans to join us.

The Whitney M. YOUNG Scholars Program<sup>®</sup> continues to show the transformational difference it makes in the lives of the very deserving young people we serve. The Class of 2014 has kept with tradition achieving a 100% high school graduation rate. The most impressive fact is that all 32 Scholars were accepted into an accredited college or university, collectively earning \$3.05 million in scholarship awards. This achievement reflects the impact of the Scholars program and speaks to what Lincoln Foundation aspires to do through all its educational programs – empower students to overcome barriers to achievement.

We cannot continue the great work without the generous support of our many donors, educational partners, and volunteers. We thank you for your gifts and support of our educational programs and the 19th Annual Evening of Jazz fundraiser.

Best regards,

Larry M. McDonald

President





**Donate Now** 



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