



Thurgood Marshall Academy ALUMNI eNEWSLETTER

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

- 3: Murchison King
- 4: Michael Robinson
- 6: Lorenzo Tucker
- 9: Melissa Price
- 15: Godtheson Thomas
- 16: Derrek Edwards
Gabrielle Barnes
- 21: Lucinda Greene
- 22: Nick Barnes
- 28: Sylvester Garris
- 27: Lashae Green
Darryl Tibbs

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

- 1: Kimberly Jones
- 2: Arthur Smith
- 13: Eugene Bender
- 18: Kennika Jones
- 26: Alecia Mease
- 27: Rashida Ross

WELCOME!

Dear Alumni:

Happy New Year! I hope that you are all well rested and starting the new year off with high spirits!!

I was so glad to see so many of you at the 3rd annual alumni dinner and hear your fantastic college success stories. 48 alumni attended the evening events, which included not only an amazing dinner but also a spectacular winter performance by our current TMA student groups. Performances included the first appearance of TMA's go-go band, poem interpretations, dances by the Dance Team and Cheerleading Squad, and a sneak peek of the Drama Club's spring presentation of *Romeo and Juliet*. Special thanks to those who helped spread the word, submitted photos for the slideshow, and/or shared favorite high school memories. Pictures from the event have been uploaded on Facebook (Tma Alum). If you have additional photos to share, please e-mail them to me so that they could be included as well.

As always, I am here to help you succeed in college. If you need assistance, please contact me via phone or e-mail (scroll down for my contact info).

I hope to see you again soon!

Peace and Best Wishes,
Ms. Walker
Alumni Affairs Coordinator

P.S. Review your financial aid award letter and your latest student bill to confirm that you have sufficient funding for the spring semester. If you do not have enough aid, please contact your Financial Aid Office or me immediately.

NEED HELP REGISTERING FOR SPRING CLASSES?

Start by looking over your graduation requirements.

- **Meet with your advisor** to discuss your academic and career interests. Your advisor will be able to help you select the right courses.
- Research your school's website or talk with your advisor about **core, major, and elective requirements**. Make sure that your courses will help you fulfill these requirements.
- **Register early** to get the classes and times that you want. If a section has closed, keep trying and/or ask the instructor if there is a waitlist.
- **Finalize your schedule** before the end of the Add/Drop period.
- Take a **full course load (at least 12 credits)**. In order to graduate on time and keep your financial aid, you must take a full course load every semester. *If you dropped a course during the previous semester, you may be required to take more credits next semester. Please visit your Financial Aid Office to confirm.*

FAFSA RENEWAL

You **MUST** re-apply for financial aid each year that you enroll in school.

1) Be aware of deadlines! Check with your Financial Aid Office for your school's deadline. Remember, you need to file your FAFSA in order to apply for DC-TAG and DC-LEAP. For best results, file your FAFSA by February 15th.

2) Find your PIN. You must use the same PIN each year. If you have forgotten your PIN, go to www.pin.ed.gov to have it re-sent to your inbox.

3) Gather all the required documents. If you are filing a renewal application, all the personal data such as home address and social security number will already be stored. However, you still need the 2008 federal tax return, records of untaxed income such as SSI or TANF, and information on savings and investments for yourself (if applicable) and your parent/guardian.

4) Use the *FAFSA on the Web Worksheet*. This worksheet can help you collect the information you need to fill out your FAFSA. Visit your Financial Aid Office for a paper copy or download an electronic version at www.fafsa.ed.gov

5) Complete your application. Enter all necessary information at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Make sure to include your current e-mail address so that you can receive your Student Air Report (SAR) electronically. Finally, keep the confirmation number for your records.

6) Check for accuracy. Review your Student Aid Report (SAR) carefully. If you need to make corrections or updates, visit www.fafsa.ed.gov

DC ONEAPP RENEWAL

DC OneApp allows DC residents to apply for DC-TAG and DC-LEAP. You MUST re-submit DC OneApp each year that you enroll in school.

DC-TAG will . . .

- fund the difference (up to \$10,000) between in-state and out-of-state tuition for DC residents **OR**
- provide a grant up to \$2,500 for any college in the D.C. metropolitan area, any HBCU, and any two-year community college

DC-LEAP will . . .

- provide a need-based grant of up to \$1,500 for any college

To apply:

1) Complete the online application at www.osse.dc.gov

2) Submit the following supporting documents to the State Education Office (441 4th Street, NW, Suite 350N at Judiciary Square)

Domicile Verification (submit one)

- Certified D-40 tax return
- Notarized Letter
- OTR Authorization Form
- 12-month history of Retirement/Annuity Document
- 12-month history of Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) Document
- 12-month history of Social Security Income Document
- 12-month history of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Document
- 12-month history of Unemployment Benefits Document
- Ward of Court Letter
- 12-month history of Worker's Compensation Disability Document
- Veterans Administration

Application Forms (submit all with original signatures)

- DC OneApp Supporting Documents Checklist and Agreement
- Affirmation Statement
- Legal Disclaimer/Privacy of Student Records

Current Utility Bill (submit one that is less than 45 days old)

- Bank Statement
- Mortgage Statement
- Pay Stub
- Utility Bill
- Official Utility Letter stating utilities are included in rent

Proof of College Enrollment

- College Transcript

Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA

- PDF Version of SAR (sent to you via e-mail from the U.S. Department of Education)

SUMMER INTERNSHIP FAQs

Q: Why should I find an internship?

A: 1) It can help you decide whether or not a particular industry or job function is suitable for you.
2) It can help you gain valuable hands-on experience. 3) It can help you establish a network.

Q: How can I find an internship?

A: Be proactive! 1) Check with your Career Center for on-campus resources. These may include on-campus recruiting opportunities, summer internship fairs, resume workshops, and alumni contacts. 2) Network with professionals in your field of interest. Ask your professors, advisors, coaches, and anyone else you know for contacts. 3) Research specific internship programs. Websites such as www.uncf.org and www.seo-usa.org has several programs for college students.

Q: When is the best time to find an internship?

A: Start early! Many competitive summer internships have deadlines as early as December. Generally, employers will start posting summer internships in late winter or early spring.

Q: Will I get paid?

A: It depends. Even if you take an unpaid internship, think of it as a career investment--the experience and contacts you gain will help you secure a paying job in the future.

Q: What if I can't afford to take an unpaid internship?

A: If you are interested in an unpaid internship but need to earn money, find out if you can work part-time. This will leave you time for a paying position as well. In addition, if you take an unpaid internship with a nonprofit or a government agency, you may be able to earn a Work Study subsidy. Check with your Financial Aid Office for more information.

FEATURE INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Smithsonian Institute

Minority Fellowship

The Office of Fellowships offers a number of opportunities to increase participation of minority groups who are underrepresented in Smithsonian scholarly programs, in the disciplines of research conducted at the Institution, and in the museum field. Stipend awards are available for interns through the Minority Student Awards Program to participate in supervised ongoing research, or museum-related activities for periods of ten weeks. Minority undergraduate and beginning graduate students are encouraged to apply. Students should contact the Office of Fellowships for application information.

Term: 10 weeks

Deadlines: February 1 (postmark) for Summer (starting June 1) or for Fall (starting October 1) and October 1 (postmark) for Spring (starting February 1)

Stipend: \$500 per week

Apply: <http://www.si.edu/ofg/fgapp.htm>

THINKING ABOUT (RE-)ENROLLING IN COLLEGE?

TMA can help you with the application and financial aid process.

Did you know that individuals with a bachelor's degree annually earn an average of \$23,000 more than those with a high school diploma? If you took some time off after high school to work, it's not too late to go back to school. Please contact me (scroll down for my contact info) to schedule a college counseling appointment.

CLASS NOTES

2008: Shauntice Gray is a member of the concert choir at Lincoln University

2008: Christol Flowers is a member of the black student alliance and leadership program at George Mason University

2008: Darrion Willis is a member of the football team at Vermont and is ready for spring training!!

2007: Melissa Price has joined the Air Force

Send me your exciting news and updates on life. Join us on facebook if you have not done so already. The TMA alumni username is: alumni@tmapchs.org

HAVE A COMMENT OR SUGGESTION?

Let me know! E-mail bwalker@tmapchs.org or call 202-563-6862 ext. 171 (work)

