



## Thurgood Marshall Academy ALUMNI eNEWSLETTER

Volume 1, No. 7: March 2008

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### MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

- 13: Toya Ridout  
Lucreatia Williams
- 19: Danielle Saunders
- 21: Danyelle Ford
- 22: Corissa Johnson
- 24: Robert Veasley

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

- 1: Niyair Wilkinson
- 5: Deonte Lyles
- 16: Robyn Law
- 21: Justin Williams

## WELCOME!

Dear Alumni:

Are you coming home for spring break? If so, join us at one of our upcoming Alumni Chats (see below for date and time)! Our seniors would love to hear your experiences as they finalize their plans for the next year.

Next, please remember to complete the Spring Alumni Survey (see below for link) for a chance to win a \$100 gift card! Last semester, Justin Williams ('05) won a \$100 gift card to Borders. Don't miss your chance this time!

Best wishes,  
Ms. Jeng  
Alumni Affairs Coordinator

P.S. Remind your parent or guardian that taxes must be filed every year in order for you to apply for financial aid. Your family should not wait until April to file taxes. Submit your FAFSA and DC OneApp *early* to receive maximum federal and district aid for college.

## WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD!

**Fill out the Spring Alumni Survey by March 31<sup>st</sup> for a chance to win.**

Complete the survey at [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=3X9RVsgn1dGgVuRw4xGL6A\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=3X9RVsgn1dGgVuRw4xGL6A_3d_3d)  
This short but important survey will be used to collect your contact information, confirm your current school or work status, and find out which types of alumni event most interest you. It should take no longer than 10 – 15 minutes to complete.

## Alumni Chat

**Share your college experience with seniors to better prepare them for next year**

### Session I:

Date: Thursday, March 13

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Topics: Academics, Student Life, Financial Aid, and General Advice

### Session II:

Date: Tuesday, March 18

Time: 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Topics: Academics, Student Life, Financial Aid, and General Advice

Lunch will be provided at both sessions. *R.S.V.P. by Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>!*

## 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.

**2) Find your PIN.** You must use the same PIN each year. If you have forgotten your PIN, go to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) for immediate retrieval.

**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 2007 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](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

**5) Complete your application.** Enter all necessary information at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Make sure to include your current e-mail address so that you can receive your Student Aid 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](http://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](http://www.osse.dc.gov)**

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

### Domicile Verification (submit one)

- Certified D-40 tax return\*
- 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
- 12-month history of Worker's Compensation Disability Document
- Ward of Court Letter

### 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

### Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA

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

\* **Certified D-40:** A Certified D-40 bears a "Certified True Copy" stamp from the DC Office of Tax and Revenue (941 N. Capitol Street, NE, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor at Union Station). Your parent/guardian must bring the D-40 to the walk-in customer service center for a certification stamp.

## CHECK OUT THESE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

Name	Sponsor	Eligibility	Amount	Deadline	Web site
American Dream Scholarship	Sallie Mae Fund	College students	Up to \$5,000	Apr. 15	<a href="http://www.thesalliemaefund.org">www.thesalliemaefund.org</a>
Unmet Need Scholarship	Sallie Mae Fund	Family income under \$30,000	Up to \$3,800	May 31	<a href="http://www.thesalliemaefund.org">www.thesalliemaefund.org</a>
Writers of Passage Scholarship	Sallie Mae Fund	Must attend a HBCU	\$5,000	?	<a href="http://www.thesalliemaefund.org">www.thesalliemaefund.org</a>

## **FEATURE SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Greater Washington Urban League Urban Youth Empowerment Program**

The Greater Washington Urban League (GWUL) is currently recruiting youth ages 18-21, who reside in the District of Columbia, for its Urban Youth Empowerment Program. The program provides personal growth and development learning opportunities designed to assist youth in acquiring the educational and employability credentials needed for success. Seminars are offered on work ethics, personal finance, time management, computer basics and other practical life skills that encourage young adults to be self-sufficient. Other program services include workforce preparation, GED completion and academic enrichment and mentoring services.

To qualify for the program youth must present a birth certificate, social security card, adjudication status (if applicable), photo identification, proof of DC residency, and proof of US citizenship.

Participants receive a weekly stipend of \$50.

For more information about the program, contact Ursula Higgins at 202-265-8200 ext. 25.

### **The Breakthrough Collaborative**

Working with children from Wards 6, 7, and 8, Breakthrough DC seeks to increase educational opportunities for high potential, low-income middle school students by offering them exciting, rigorous, youth-led educational enrichment. We need demonstrated leaders to fill positions such as Dean of Students, Dean of Faculty, Team Leader, and Event Coordinator. Our eight-week summer program begins in late-June, culminating in our Celebration event on August 8, 2008.

Breakthrough DC offers a base stipend ranging from \$1000 to \$1750 based on financial aid needs. AmeriCorps education awards of \$1000 are available for students interested in leadership roles. For D.C. residents, we may be able to offer additional compensation through DOES summer employment.

Apply online at <http://www.breakthroughcollaborative.org/apply>

The deadline is **March 8, 2008**.

### **Federal Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP)**

The Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) is a flexible program that provides students with exposure to government service, enhances educational experience, and offers students an opportunity to earn money and continue their education at the same time.

Students are not required to have any specific major to participate in the STEP program. They must be 16 years of age; currently enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a degree seeking student with half-time or more academic course load at an accredited high school, college, university, technical, or vocational school; and must have a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA).

Mail or fax the following documents to Ms. Jacqueline Votel:

- 1) Form OF-612 (see attached)
- 2) College Transcript
- 3) STEP Questionnaire (see attached)

Mail:

Jacqueline Votel  
Internal Revenue Service  
Washington/Martinsburg Employment Branch  
OS:HC:THR:A:WAS:S3  
250 Murall Drive  
Mail Stop 3214  
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Fax:

1-304-264-7021

The deadline is **March 17, 2008**.

### **NAACP/AT&T INTERNSHIP**

The NAACP Youth & College Division has partnered with the AT&T Foundation to host a six-week internship program during the summer of 2008. The program will run from June 14th to July 25th, 2008. This program will provide undergrad students with the opportunity to work in the NAACP offices in Baltimore, New York City, or Washington, DC.

As an NAACP/AT&T Intern you will work with NAACP staff on relevant matters concerning organizational issues, education, health, civic engagement, juvenile justice and economic empowerment. Through this program you will gain valuable non-profit experience and networking opportunities, while increasing your knowledge about various aspects of the civil rights movement. As an Intern you will also have the opportunity to attend the Annual NAACP Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

All NAACP/AT&T Fellows and Interns will receive a stipend and lodging assistance may be available.

Please email [NATroutman@aol.com](mailto:NATroutman@aol.com) if you are interested in receiving the application.

The deadline is **March 18, 2008**.

### **Passport-to-Work Summer Youth Program**

The Department of Employment Services (DOES) is dedicated to helping District youths make a smooth transition into the workforce. The 2008 Passport-to-Work Summer Youth Program (SYP) offers 14,000 District youth, ages 14-21, with an opportunity to participate in a ten-week temporary job readiness and academic enrichment program.

Registration for the 2008 Summer Youth Employment Program will begin on February 2, 2008, for all youth participants. Interested youth must complete the 2008 Summer Application to register. Youth are required to bring proof of their District residency, date of birth, citizenship/permanent residency, and Social Security Number when registering for the program. College students must also bring a current resume and college transcript.

The ten-week summer program will begin on Monday, June 16, and end on Friday, August 22.

Please visit <http://www.does.dc.gov/does/cwp/view,a,1232,q,537757,doesNav,%7C32062%7C.asp> for more information.

The deadline is **April 26, 2008**.

### **WANT TO SHARE YOUR WISDOM?**

#### **Give back to the Thurgood Marshall Academy Community!**

There are many ways to stay involved, including serving on Mentor Days, speaking with students about your college experiences, volunteering at our Shining Star Gala, and recruiting seniors with an admissions representative. Please contact me for more information.

### **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**

- 2005: **Quanic Fullard**, a junior majoring in International Studies at the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, is studying abroad in Cuba.
- 2006: **Shanetra Harrison and Tierra Sherman (2007)** were accepted to Year Up, a one-year program that allows them to take college classes and intern at a company.
- 2007: **Idella Turkvan**, a freshman at Fort Valley State University, will perform with her university concert choir at the Kennedy Center on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Have exciting news that you would like to share with the Thurgood Marshall Academy Alumni Community in the next eNewsletter? Please contact me (see below).

### **HAVE A COMMENT OR SUGGESTION?**

Let me know! E-mail [kjeng@tmapchs.org](mailto:kjeng@tmapchs.org) or call (202) 563-6862 ext. 210 (work) or (301) 343-8980 (cell).