



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COLLEGE ACCESS ORGANIZATION AWARDS 42 SCHOLARSHIPS TO VIRGINIA COLLEGE STUDENTS

RICHMOND, VA GGreat Aspirations Scholarship Program, Inc. (GRASP), a non-profit, education organization, headquartered in Glen Allen, recently awarded 42 College Success scholarships totaling \$60,970.00 to Virginia students currently attending college who have participated in the GRASP College Success program.

“We had significantly more scholarship applicants this year and almost double the amount of dollars to award for this year’s scholarships. College students participating in the GRASP College Success program see the value in the assistance provided and are eager to participate because of the available scholarship opportunities,” said Betsy Heggie, GRASP CEO. “The GRASP mission is to help students with the financial aid process, but it is our supporters and donors who make it possible to provide scholarships to students, making GRASP’s role even more valuable.”

GRASP is dedicated to helping students overcome financial and social barriers to attending college or vocational education after high school. Supported by individual, foundation, and business donations, GRASP has advisors in 75 high schools/venues throughout Virginia and provides services and scholarship assistance, free of charge, to students and their families. College Success is the GRASP program for students from GRASP participating high schools who continue to post-secondary education. GRASP's College Success Program seeks to increase the college graduation rate for GRASP students and scholarship recipients by: 1) helping them re-file financial aid and scholarship forms each year, 2) providing valuable tips regarding internships and summer jobs, 3) acting as a liaison between the college financial aid offices and the students, should a problem arise, and 4) awarding scholarships for students with unmet financial need.

In the most recent school year, the GRASP College Success advisor assisted 409 students with a variety of college financial aid and transitioning issues. Students who participated in College Success monthly email programs were eligible to apply for the GRASP College Success scholarships. For many students, finding scholarships after the first year of college is sometimes challenging, so the GRASP College Success scholarships help students meet the financial requirements for their subsequent college years.

GRASP salutes the 2014 College Success scholarship winners. Many of this year’s College Success scholarship winners are the first members of their families to attend post-secondary

education. All have learned about the importance of continuing their education as the next step for their future success. The 2014 GRASP College Success scholarship winners are, as follows:

Augusta County

Shannon Ashby, Blue Ridge Community College, Buffalo Gap High School
Cassidy Coffey, Bridgewater College, Wilson Memorial High School
Allie Casto, James Madison University, Riverheads High School
Morgan Kellison, Mary Baldwin College, Buffalo Gap High School

Chesterfield County

Amanda Nolan, John Tyler Community College, Clover Hill High School
Alexus Johnson, Longwood University, James River High School
Olivia Morrissette, Longwood University, Chesterfield Technical Center
Christina Spruill, Old Dominion University, LC Bird High School
Breanna Dufour, University of Virginia, Manchester High School
Arshelle Carter, Virginia Commonwealth University, Matoaca High School
Morsal Sayar, Virginia Commonwealth University, Cosby High School

Goochland County

Quinton Pace, Christopher Newport University, Goochland High School
Kendra Waddy, George Mason University, Goochland High School
Taylor Scruggs, Longwood University, Goochland High School
Milton Smith, North Carolina State University, Goochland High School

Hanover County

Cody Bowles, George Mason University, Lee Davis High School
Rachel Doggett, Longwood University, Atlee High School
Brittany Robinson, Virginia Commonwealth University, Hanover High School
Sarah Toney, Virginia Commonwealth University, Patrick Henry High School

Henrico County

Cierra Bracey, Christopher Newport University, Hermitage High School
Carter Lyon, College of William and Mary, Freeman High School
Sage Janulis, George Mason University, Freeman High School
Sarah Elionai, Norfolk State University, Varina High School
Matthew Kubota, North Carolina State University, Godwin High School
Brian Hairston, Jr., Old Dominion University, Hermitage High School
Daniel Buth, Virginia Commonwealth University, Freeman High School
Armin Muhic, Virginia Commonwealth University, Tucker High School

Hopewell City

Allishia Sewell, Old Dominion University, Hopewell High School

Nelson County

Rachael Shepard, University of Virginia, Nelson County High School

Petersburg City

Kenneisha Edmonds, Old Dominion University, Petersburg High School
Jennifer Perez, Southside Regional Professional Schools, Petersburg High School

Richmond City

Akiyah Brown, George Mason University, Community High School
Gina Catlin, Hampton University, Armstrong High School
Shauneal Bobb, J Sargeant Reynolds CC, Huguenot High School
Diamond Blathers, James Madison University, Franklin Military School
Lanexa Neal, North Carolina Central, Open High School
Frankenya Green, Old Dominion University, Community High School
Fatima Bangura, Syracuse University, Community High School
Hugh Crutchfield, Virginia Union University, Armstrong High School

Staunton City

Tiffany Taylor, George Mason University, Robert E. Lee High School

Sussex County

Morgan Forehand, Virginia Tech, Sussex High School

Waynesboro City

Jonelle Jones, Hampton University, Waynesboro High School

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