

Atlanta Ceremony Honors 40 New Scholars



Posse Atlanta 2010 Scholarship recipients.

In December 2010, Posse Atlanta selected four new Posses, comprising 40 Scholars. Boston University (BU) and The College of Wooster selected their fourth Posses, Bard College selected its third and Brandeis University, our newest partner, its first.

POSSE SCHOLARS ARE VALEDICTORIANS, THEY HAVE WON ACADEMIC AWARDS AND ARE LEADERS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES

Chosen from a pool of 730 students nominated by metro Atlanta public schools and a diverse mix of community-based organizations, these talented young leaders have been awarded more than \$5 million in scholarships from Posse Atlanta's partner institutions.

The new Scholars were honored at an Awards Ceremony held on December 16 at an auditorium donated by Georgia-Pacific Corporation. At the ceremony, attended by more than 200 members of the Atlanta community, Scholars and parents shared inspiring and moving words about what the scholarship means to them and their families.

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Infor Global Solutions Chairman Jim Schaper.

2010 AWARDS CEREMONY SPONSORS



2010 POSSE ATLANTA SCHOLARS

BARD COLLEGE

Bria Bacon, Mays HS; Shelby Garcia, Grady HS; Brandon Lee, Chamblee Charter HS; Paisley Maxwell, Chamblee Charter HS; Alexander Page, Grady HS; Jalen Robinson, Riverwood International Charter School; Adelaide Ruff, Grady HS; Karimah Shabazz, South West DeKalb HS; Christeina Wade, Carver School of the Arts; and Nigel Washington, Chamblee Charter HS.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Jenna Bhaloo, North Atlanta HS; Asha Haki-Taylor, Grady HS; Kelly-Ann Kirkpatrick, Tri-Cities HS; Marina Mehrtens, DeKalb School of the Arts; Rashid Nelson, Norcross HS; James Russell, North Atlanta HS; Kevin Smith, Redan HS; Taylor Walker, Grady HS; David Whatley, North Clayton HS; Elise Yancey, Grady HS.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

Karina Ayala-Casanova, North Springs HS; Stacy Finley, Washington Senior Academy; Zion Griffin, Dutchtown HS; Kofi Hodge, Washington Senior Academy; Jessica Hood, Tech HS; Jemesh Hunter, Mays HS; Saramaat Imhotep, Paideia School; Jill Martin, Lovejoy HS; Ajai Scott, Hutchinson HS; David Wheaton, Pebblebrook HS; D'Andre Young, Tucker HS.

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

Amadou Bah, McNair HS; Brittany-Dawn Baker, Douglass HS; Adam Brinson, Therrell School of Technology, Engineering, Math & Science; Shauntia Cobb, Carver Early College; Jenae Herrington, Tri-Cities HS; Aki'a Hodges, Towers HS; Sydney Jones, North Atlanta HS; Terry Mathis, Therrell School of Health Science & Research; Najiyah McKinney, Washington Senior Academy.

Posse Atlanta to Honor Ann Cramer at Power of 10

This year's Power of 10, Posse Atlanta's signature fundraising event, will honor IBM Corporation Director Ann Cramer, a champion of educational causes in both the corporate and nonprofit sectors.

ANN'S ENDLESS ENTHUSIASM HAS CHANGED THE LANDSCAPE OF CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY IN ATLANTA

Each year, leaders from top Atlanta companies, major philanthropists, prominent community leaders, educators and Posse Alumni attend the Power of 10, which honors a leader in the Atlanta community who is committed to diversity and educational equity.

Posse Atlanta is pleased to recognize Ann for her dedication to young people and her exemplary professional achievements. She has worked closely with Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education and Communities in Schools to offer educational opportunities for all of Atlanta's youth. Her endless enthusiasm has changed the landscape of corporate philanthropy in Atlanta and dramatically



Ann Wilson Cramer, director at IBM North America.

increased opportunities for the next generation of leaders.

"I've always been involved in education, dropout prevention, and child advocacy," Cramer says. "But what impresses me about Posse is their graduation rate of 90 percent. They have not only cracked the code on keeping kids in school, but they are also helping

them flourish on campus and succeed in the workforce. There is a lot Atlanta can learn from Posse's approach to college readiness."

WHAT IMPRESSES ME ABOUT POSSE IS THEIR GRADUATION RATE OF 90 PERCENT

The Power of 10 will be held on October 6 at The Capital City Club-Brookhaven. For information about corporate sponsorship opportunities, please contact Veronica Squires at veronicas@possefoundation.org ✨

save the date

Posse Atlanta
Power of 10 Fundraiser

October 6, 2011
6:30–8:30 p.m.

Capital City Club - Brookhaven
53 W. Brookhaven Drive, NE
Atlanta, GA 30319

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Jim Schaper, chairman of three-time Awards Ceremony sponsor Infor, was in attendance to share encouraging words with the Scholars.

"Infor supports and partners with Posse based on a shared vision of our future leaders," says Jim. "Our future rests in the hands of young people who are motivated, focused and committed to bettering themselves and our long term future. The Awards Ceremony was an inspiration and an opportunity to witness the talent and poise of the new Scholars. It is clear why they were chosen and clear that they will succeed."

The Awards Ceremony marks the beginning of new Scholars' lifelong relationship with The Posse Foundation. The Scholars are recognized for their accomplishments and their potential as leaders in our communities.

Faculty and administrators from Bard, Brandeis, BU and Wooster were in attendance to present gifts to the new



Brandeis Posse 1 Scholars and Kim Godsoe, Brandeis University dean of academic services and Posse liaison.

Scholars. "Posse Scholars are already very prepared for college. They are often valedictorian or salutatorian of their class, have won many academic awards and community awards, and are recognized leaders in their schools and communities," says Kim Godsoe, Brandeis University dean of academic services and Posse Foundation liaison. "The newest Posse

Scholars from Atlanta are absolutely fantastic."

Several Scholars who are currently on campus also attended the ceremony and expressed their excitement to welcome the new Posses to campus.

See more pictures of the Posse Atlanta Awards Ceremony on Page iv. ✨

High School Senior Focuses on Success at Brandeis

Stacy Finley, a senior at Booker T. Washington High School, is one of the 11 new Scholars from Atlanta who will attend Brandeis University this fall. His initiative, charisma and natural leadership ability was evident as he progressed through the Posse recruitment process.

scholar highlight

Stacy Finley
Brandeis University Posse 1

Stacy faced numerous challenges growing up, including an unstable home life and limited resources, but he says that he's not simply a product of his environment. "I know there is a bigger world out there," Stacy says.

In spite of attending multiple high schools, Stacy has remained focused and gone above and beyond to succeed. He maintains an impressive grade point



Stacy Finley, Brandeis Posse 1 Scholar.

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average and carries two book bags daily—one containing all his books for class and another filled with the books he reads for his own interest.

In 2010, Stacy was named Youth

of the Year by the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Atlanta. He also holds multiple leadership roles at school, including serving as president of the Keystone Leadership Program.

STACY WAS NAMED YOUTH OF THE YEAR BY THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF METRO ATLANTA

Stacy was drawn to Brandeis because of the small class sizes, proximity to Boston and leading professors in the history department. He knows that Brandeis' great history program and campus environment, combined with his strong work ethic, will help him achieve his dream to become a high school history teacher and follow in the footsteps of the many teachers who have inspired and motivated him.*

Conference Prepares Scholars for Workforce Leadership Roles

On December 21, Posse Atlanta hosted its first Winter Career Conference entitled, "Beyond College: What Real Leaders Need to Know." Forty-five Scholars and 22 guests attended the event, which was held at Ernst & Young's Atlanta office.

WORKSHOP FACILITATORS HELPED SCHOLARS THINK ABOUT CRAFTING THEIR FUTURE CAREERS

The conference began with opening remarks from Susan Bell, managing director at Ernst & Young, and a short speech by Joe Clemente, an Emmy-nominated senior director of marketing at Turner Sports. Joe told an amazing story of going from a college student on a tennis scholarship to becoming one of three students nationwide selected to work for Turner Sports.

Scholars attended rotating workshops including Acing the Interview, Google Me: The Art of Personal Branding and Summer 2.0: The Summer Experience. Each workshop was facilitated by expert professionals who have practical experience working with young adults



Posse Scholars at Ernst & Young for Winter Career Conference.

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and provided useful information to our Scholars as they begin to craft their careers.

Workshop facilitators represented Duke Realty, Ernst & Young, Goldman Sachs & Co., Management Leadership for Tomorrow and The City of McDonough.

The event was a tremendous success, concluding with a dessert reception for Scholars and Career partners and prospects. Posse Atlanta is grateful to Ernst & Young, particularly Angela Vaughn, Southeast area campus recruiter, for being such gracious hosts.*



POSSE ATLANTA 2010 AWARDS CEREMONY (top to bottom from left)

Boston University representatives Phebe Robinson, assistant director of admissions, Kelly Walters, executive director of admissions, Dr. Hardin Coleman, dean of the School of Education, and Posse liaison Laurie Pohl, vice president for enrollment and student affairs.

Brandeis Posse 1 Scholar Ajai Scott.

Bard College Posse 3 Scholar Jalen Robinson, Wooster Posse 4 Scholar Jenae Herrington, and Boston University Posse 4 Scholar Kelly-Ann Kirkpatrick.



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posse atlanta partner colleges & universities

- Bard College
- Boston University
- Brandeis University
- The College of Wooster
- Syracuse University

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Charisse M. Williams, Director
 101 Marietta Street, N.W., Suite 1040
 Atlanta, GA 30303
 Phone: (404) 751-3340
 Fax: (404) 751-1691
atlanta@possefoundation.org

national office

14 Wall Street, Suite 8A-60
 New York, NY 10005
 Phone: (212) 405-1691
 Fax: (212) 405-1697
info@possefoundation.org

visit posse on the web at:
www.possefoundation.org