

Atlanta Ceremony Honors 31 New Scholars



Bard Posse 1 Scholars receive awards at the Roberto C. Goizueta Auditorium.

Congratulations Posse Atlanta Class of 2013

Bard Posse 1

Cara Chalk, Grayson Gibbs, Miriam Huppert, Léna James, Brandon LaBord, Hannah Mitchell, Barbara Reynolds, Alexis Roe, Angela Skarpelis, Sierra Swann

BU Posse 2

Matthew Campbell, Stephanie Derrick, Kasey Elliott, Danielle Galloway, Daniel Lievens, Vanja Pantic, Aretha Pinkney, Marque Sterling, Demarius Walker, Bryan Wright

Wooster Posse 2

Marcel Baugh, Erica Bryant, Darius Dixon, Robert Fleming, Laura Haldane, Kenneth Perry, Jr., Malcolm Perry, Jessica Pringle, Julian Rainwater, Jasmine Verreen, Alexia Wynn

In December 2008, Posse Atlanta selected three new Posses, comprising 31 Scholars. Boston University (BU) and The College of Wooster selected their second Posses and Bard College selected its first. Chosen from a pool of 643 students nominated by Atlanta Public Schools and a diverse mix of community-based organizations, these talented young people have been awarded more than \$3 million in scholarships from Posse Atlanta's partner institutions.

The Posse Scholarship recognizes and rewards leadership, commitment to academic excellence and persistence.

Posse Atlanta's new Scholars were honored at an Awards Ceremony held on December 18, 2008, in a beautiful auditorium donated by The Coca-Cola Company. At the ceremony, attended by more than 150 members of the Atlanta

community, Scholars and parents shared moving words about what the scholarship means to them and their families.

During the ceremony, Posse Atlanta Advisory Board Chair Phil Pead made remarks and Nilda Bueno, DePauw Posse 1 Alumna, gave Scholars advice on how best to take advantage of the opportunities that lie ahead. "There were many things I learned from being a Posse Scholar," Nilda said. "I learned perseverance. I learned tenacity. But most important, I learned to challenge myself outside of my comfort zone."

Representatives from Bard, BU and Wooster were in attendance to present gifts to their new Scholars. Several Scholars who are currently on campus at BU and Wooster also attended the ceremony and expressed their excitement to welcome the new Posses to campus.*

Scholar Shares Dance Talent at Wooster

Brandelle Knights completed her first semester at The College of Wooster with an impressive 3.8 grade point average. She has already become a leader on campus as a dancer and choreographer for The College of Wooster's Dance Company. Last fall, Brandelle's piece entitled, "Til It's Gone," was selected for the finale of the fall dance concert, a rare honor for a freshman choreographer.

Brandelle's dance was inspired by

the role that her Posse has played in her life. "My experience here has been phenomenal," says Brandelle. "I have friends from Bosnia, Botswana, England and China ... it's crazy. I feel so much more educated and worldly having been exposed to so many different cultures." Brandelle was nominated by the Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, a performing arts nonprofit that has successfully nominated three Scholars.*



Brandelle Knights, Wooster Posse 1.

VIP Reception Acknowledges Posse Atlanta Donors

Before the December 2008 Awards Ceremony, which honored the newest Posse Scholars, Posse Atlanta held its first VIP reception to recognize its donors, sponsors and advisory board members. David Taggart, VP and Treasurer of The Coca-Cola Company, welcomed guests and explained how Posse's mission closely aligns with Coca-Cola's values. Posse Atlanta's Advisory Board Chair Phil Pead and Director Charisse Williams thanked sponsors and advisory board members and presented them with framed photos of Posse Scholars.

Among the many VIPs in attendance at the reception were Posse Atlanta Advisory Board members; Charlie Ogburn, Executive Director & Global Head of Corporate Investment, Arcapita; Jennifer Levine Hartz, President, Corporate Hartz LLC; Lisa Britt, Sr. Director of Corporate Communications, Turner Broadcasting System (TBS); Kristina Christy, Manager of Corporate Contributions, TBS; Susan Bell, Office Managing Partner, Ernst & Young; Carl Peoples, VP Private Wealth Management,



Atlanta Advisory Board Chair Phil Pead (second from right), Board member Jim Price (right) and guests at the Awards Ceremony VIP reception.

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 Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Danny Shoy, Program Officer, The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation; and John Grant, CEO of 100 Black Men of Atlanta.

Posse Atlanta had an outstanding response in our first year of soliciting sponsorships for the Awards Ceremony. In addition to receiving an in-kind donation of space and catering from The Coca-Cola Company for the ceremony and VIP reception, we secured corporate sponsorships from Infor Global Solutions, Equifax Foundation, Ernst & Young and Turner Broadcasting System.*

Thank you 2008 Awards Ceremony Sponsors

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posse atlanta partner colleges & universities

Bard College
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posse atlanta

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