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Westchester/Greater
Connecticut Chapter
2007 & 2008 Chapter of the Year

THE NATIONAL BLACK MBA ASSOCIATION, INC.
WESTCHESTER/GREATER CONNECTICUT CHAPTER PRESENTS

THE THIRD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS & NETWORKING RECEPTION

CELEBRATING CHANGE FULFILLING THE DREAM



A MARDI GRAS EXPERIENCE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2009
THE INN AT LONGSHORE WESTPORT, CT

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NBMBAA PEOPLE

THE 2009 THIRD ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair

Tanya Mahan

Carolyn Baxter
Toni Bush-Allen
Nicole Campbell
Deborah Delany
Tina Davis
Yvette Eskridge
Sheila Foster
Kim Holder
Kerri Holloway
Todd Hood

Ben Jackson
Carlene Laing
Lidj Lewis
Devita McNeil
Michael McNeil
Cynthia R. Mullins
Arthy Oparaji
Denise Rawles-Smith
Anjie Ridley
Kim Smith
Leonora Thompson
Erin Walker
Craig Woodward

NBMBAA-WGC OFFICERS & CHAIRS

President

Michael McNeil

VP Administration

Renee Pierre-Louis

VP Operations

Desmond Scott

VP Finance

Arthy Oparaji

VP Communications

Lidj Lewis

Immediate Past President

D. Dayneen Preston

Programs Committee

Tanya Mahan

Leaders of Tomorrow

Kim Holder
Benjamin Jackson

Employment Committee

Tamara Thomas
Victor Essoka

Scholarship Committee

Craig Woodward

Entrepreneur Committee

George Boyce

Grant/Fund Development

Todd Hood

Membership

Andrea Carter

Marketing Services

Deborah Delany

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THE THIRD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS & NETWORKING RECEPTION

WELCOME MESSAGE

*from the
National President*



Barbara L. Thomas
President and CEO
312-580-8085 ph
312-419-9501 fax
barbara.thomas@nmbaa.org

February 28, 2009

Greetings!

It is indeed my pleasure to welcome you to the Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter's Annual Awards Reception. Although, I am unable to be with you this evening I know that tonight's event will provide a great opportunity to thank our corporate partners, business leaders, entrepreneurs, scholarship winners and the corporate partner of the year for another year of phenomenal achievement.

Tonight we recognize those who have contributed so much to the success and effectiveness of this dynamic chapter. Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter's leadership has played a significant role in the successful impact on the community and set an excellent standard in membership growth. We continue to applaud our corporate partners for their loyalty and commitment to our vision and mission and look forward to continuing in a rewarding relationship. The outstanding achievements attained in the business community by business leaders and entrepreneurs who are associated with the NMBAA is awe inspiring and deserve a 'shout out'. The students who will be recognized this evening are to be commended for their accomplishments thus far and for preparing themselves for the challenges that lie ahead.

We salute this chapter for its outstanding accomplishments as it Connects and Reconnects with our partners and scholarship recipients. Congratulations to all of the award recipients.

Please enjoy the evening!

Barbara L. Thomas
President and CEO

CELEBRATING CHANGE, FULFILLING THE DREAM
THE THIRD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS & NETWORKING RECEPTION



**WELCOME
MESSAGE**

from the
NMBAA–WGC President



Michael C. McNeil
President
President@nmbaa-wgc.org

As President of the National Black MBA Association – Westchester / Greater Connecticut (WGC) Chapter, I would like to welcome you to our 3rd Annual Scholarship Awards Program.

The journey of the WGC officially began over 20 years ago. In our most recent history we have set the bar high and established premiere programming for our members, corporate partners, and the community we serve. Our signature initiatives will always include programs targeted at strengthening the basics: membership growth and retention, collaborative relationships with our Corporate and Community Partners, increased financial stability, and giving back to the community through programming that support our youth.

In 2008 we, as well as our nation, faced tough and challenging times, but the WGC continued to lead by example and once again captured its second consecutive national recognition of Chapter of the Year.

So at this time, I would personally like to thank the entire leadership team for their hard work and dedication, and for continuing to take the WGC to new heights. In addition I thank each and every member for being a part of the organization and placing your trust and faith in our leadership. I thank our Corporate and Community Partners for their participation and support during a very challenging year. We appreciate your courage and leadership, as we all strive to make change happen in our community.

In typical WGC style, we always celebrate and recognize our accomplishments. In 2007, we “Celebrated Ordinary People Making Extraordinary Differences”, 2008 we honored “Yesterday’s Legacy, Tomorrow’s Promise” and in 2009, we are “Celebrating Change, Fulfilling the Dream”.

I hope you enjoy the Mardi Gras festivities the WGC has planned for you this evening, as we celebrate a new nation of Change and Hope.

With your continued support, the WGC will continue to set the bar high in 2009 as we go for the “Three-Peat”.

Sincerely,

Michael C. McNeil
President
National Black MBA Association
Westchester / Greater Connecticut Chapter Inc.



CELEBRATING CHANGE, FULFILLING THE DREAM
THE THIRD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS & NETWORKING RECEPTION

WELCOME MESSAGE

from the Selectman of Westport



WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT

GORDON F. JOSELOFF
First Selectman

February 28, 2009

On behalf of the Town of Westport, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our community and the 3rd Annual Scholarship Awards Program of the National Black MBA Association.

This year's theme of the NBMBA reception - "Celebrating Change, Fulfilling the Dream" - recognizes area college and high school students for their outstanding academic achievement, and honors corporate and civic leaders for supporting their local communities.

Congratulations to all recipients of this year's NBMBA awards, and best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Gordon F. Joseloff
First Selectman

GF/ps

CELEBRATING CHANGE, FULFILLING THE DREAM
THE THIRD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS & NETWORKING RECEPTION



**WELCOME
MESSAGE**

*from the
Awards Program Chair*



Tanya Mahan
Chair, Programs
Committee
programs@nmbaa-wgc.org

Greetings to all NMBAA-WGC Members, Supporters, and Friends,

I am very excited to be chairing the 3rd Annual Scholarship Awards Program for the Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter of the National Black MBA Association. This Chapter is pretty extraordinary. At the national conference in September, 2008, the WGC was recognized as Chapter of the Year for the second year in a row. This recognition is attributed to the dedication, perseverance and creativity of all the leadership, members, and Corporate and Community Partners. Let's not forget the family members who allow each of us to participate in the meetings, events, and programs. It is a testament to last year's theme, "Yesterday's Legacy, Tomorrow's Promise" that the Chapter continues to achieve new heights and push through old boundaries.

Two thousand-nine is a historic year in that we have witnessed the inauguration of the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama. That brings us to our theme this evening: "Celebrating Change, Fulfilling the Dream". The WGC strives to be a premier source of African American talent in the communities it serves. We look for opportunities to make a positive impact for our Corporate and Community Partners by creating professional programs that are educational, inspirational, and that provide tools of empowerment for our constituents. Dr. Martin Luther King "Had a Dream". The WGC embraces that vision, and incorporates it in its mission and practices.

Tonight you will witness the recognition of all the individuals and partners who have contributed to the success of this magnificent Chapter. Then you will be inspired by Dr. Randal Pinkett, the first African American winner on the US version of the "The Apprentice". Dr. Pinkett is the founder, president and CEO of BCT Partners, a multi-million dollar management, technology and policy consulting firm. He will share some thoughts with you about how you can be a participant in, if not an agent of, the changes we are facing today. Following the program, please join us for our Mardi Gras Experience, as we bring New Orleans to you. And please visit and support the Silent Auction, and bid on the wonderful products and services donated by the NMBAA-WGC's Corporate and Marketing Partners.

In closing, I would like to extend my greatest appreciation to the planning committee members for their perseverance in coordinating and executing this event.

On behalf of the 3rd Annual Scholarship Awards Program Committee, a warm and gratuitous "thank you".

Sincerely,

Tanya Mahan
Chair, Programs Committee and Awards Program Committee
National Black MBA Association
Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter



CELEBRATING CHANGE, FULFILLING THE DREAM

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2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

MBA OF THE YEAR

This award recognizes an MBA member's long-standing commitment and who embodies the values of the organization and who has significantly advanced the NBMBA Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter's goals and mission. This member has demonstrated outstanding contributions by raising visibility, public awareness, and appreciation of the Chapter. This award recognizes an individual's hard work and talent that have far exceeded expectations. This is the Chapters' marquee award and highest individual honor



Craig Woodward

CRAIG WOODWARD

Craig Woodward's experience spans the area of marketing with specialization in the areas of advertising, promotion, new product development and marketing strategy. His decade of experience includes working for companies such as Capitol Records, Tommy Hilfiger, BellSouth Advertising and Publishing, and Consumers Energy.

He was the former Graduate Marketing Manager for Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions. He was solely responsible for the outreach and advisement of Kaplan's programs and services to colleges and universities amongst a five-county territory. Craig grew the business by 14% over a two-year period bringing in revenues of \$1.38M and \$1.5M respectively. In addition, he was awarded with the "Biggest of The Best Award" in October 2007 for having the greatest percentage increase in graduate business throughout the whole Tri-State Region.

Craig is a native of White Plains, New York. His education includes a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from SUNY Buffalo, and an MBA in Marketing from Clark Atlanta University. He is a member of the National Black MBA Association where he chairs the Scholarship Committee. In this role, Craig works to establish relationships with community organizations and educational institutions to promote scholarships on the high school, undergraduate and MBA level.

Currently, Craig advises undergraduate business and accounting students at Monroe College on curriculum, employment and career options.



2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

This award is presented to a leader in a minority-owned business that has demonstrated a commitment to supplier development and has fostered relationships with the NMBAA and with the local/corporate community. The award honors a leader that has inspired others with his/her vision, leadership, and achievement. This individual has volunteered time to the NMBAA to further the mission of the Chapter.



Michael Carter

MICHAEL CARTER

Professional Background

As a Financial Advisor with Charter Oak, Michael Carter focuses his practice on the “entire person” with emphasis on estate and business planning for high net worth individuals. Michael’s signature concentration is on helping his clients “protect those that matter most.” Using a consultative approach, he takes the time to understand what his clients seek to accomplish, assesses their needs, and then delivers a targeted list of value-added recommendations.

Prior to launching his practice in 2004, Michael spent over 20 years consulting and providing information management strategies to Fortune 500 companies in insurance, banking, telecommunications, media, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals and consumer packaged goods. Clients who have benefited from his expertise include GE Capital, Pepsi Cola, Procter & Gamble, and Amica Insurance. He has also held corporate management positions with AXA Financial and KPMG Consulting (now BearingPoint).

Michael enjoys running, tennis, golf and jazz music. He resides in Connecticut and has two young daughters.

Areas of Practice

Estate Planning
Business Planning

Business/Civic Activities

Member, National Black MBA Association
Entrepreneur Committee, National Black MBA Association
Member, Kappa Alpha Psi Alumni Chapter, Stamford, CT
National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, NAIFA
Norwalk Jazz Festival, Norwalk, CT

Education and Professional Designations

B.S., Management, Purdue University – Krannert School of Management



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2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

CORPORATE PARTNER OF THE YEAR

This award will be presented to a corporation which has gone above and beyond the call of duty to support the needs of the NBMBA Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter. This support has been shown in the form of corporate sponsorship, relationship management, thought leadership, and in-kind donations.



PRAXAIR

With 27,000 employees and operations in more than 30 countries, Praxair is focused on helping our customers become more profitable, efficient and environmentally friendly.

A Fortune 500 company with 2008 sales of \$10.8 billion, Praxair supplies atmospheric, process and specialty gases, high-performance coatings, and related services and technologies.

For more than 100 years, Praxair has taken something as fundamental as air and turned it into ways to make food taste better, plants operate more cleanly and efficiently, breathing easier – in short, to make all our lives better. Using our expertise as one of the leading industrial gases companies in the world, we're developing ever more inventive ways to meet the demands of today's complex world, while preserving the promise of the future. Thanks to products, technologies and services that help customers all around the globe succeed in becoming more profitable, efficient and environmentally friendly.

By applying innovative thinking and diverse points of view to pressing, real-world problems, our employees are creating the technology, products and services that make a difference to the lives of people everywhere. Just as Praxair serves diverse customers around the world, we work hard to identify, attract, develop and retain qualified individuals from a diversity of backgrounds, cultures and perspectives.



2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR

This award recognizes an educational institution for its successful efforts in encouraging the advancement of African American students. The institution has distinguished itself in the areas of educational innovation, professional development for its students, and in life-long learning applications.



*Dr. Roberta Harris
Associate Dean of the
King Graduate
School of Business at
Monroe College*



MONROE COLLEGE, NEW ROCHELLE, NY

Monroe College's mission is to "provide professional, career-oriented higher education to students from diverse backgrounds. This institution proudly offers access and opportunity to motivated students who desire to enrich their lives in a personalized and supportive environment. Monroe provides caring and effective teaching and sustain faculty who are passionate, knowledgeable, and dedicated to student success and builds on these strengths to prepare graduates for successful careers." As it celebrates its 75th anniversary, Monroe College is a family of more than 7,000 students, 320 faculty, 410 staff, and thousands of alumni who are in business government, and a host of other endeavors across the nation and around the world.

When Dr. Roberta Harris, Associate Dean of the King Graduate School of Business at Monroe College, joined the institution 5 years ago, she was immediately captured by the strong sense of commitment to student success at Monroe. As Dr. Harris notes, at King, we understand that with the increasing complexity, pace and globalization of the economy, the need for a solid business education is more necessary than ever. As a result, today's business managers must be able to lead multi-functional teams effectively and decisively. Dr. Harris is not only committed to imparting the critical skills to be necessary for her students to be creative problem solvers and socially responsible business leaders, she also believes in "keeping it real" by giving King MBA students the opportunity to study real business case studies, learn from faculty who have dealt with and understand the realities of the workplace, and interact with a diverse groups of fellow students who will challenge and contribute to their personal growth and knowledge. She also recognizes that one of the main reasons that students pursue their MBA is to take their careers to the next level—increase their professional opportunities and earning potential. As such, one of the primary goals at King is to seek out and establish lasting partnerships with organizations and associations that are committed to providing a network of business professionals with a commitment to education, career development and promoting the economic wealth for King MBA students.

Dr. Harris is a Sam Walton Fellow for Students in Free Enterprise (S.I.F.E.), an international organization that gives students the opportunity to apply what they've learned in their classes to public service by creating and implementing programs that create real economic opportunities for their communities. She is also a faculty member of the Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society. Prior to joining Monroe College, Roberta Harris spent many years as a practitioner in the fields of marketing, global management, and strategic planning working for such firms such as Reader's Digest, Coach, J. Crew and Time Warner. Her most recent position was with Time Inc. where she served as Marketing Director for New Business Development.

Dr. Harris holds a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Pace University, as well as M.B.A. and Doctorate degrees in Marketing and International Business from Pace University. She has earned certificates in Marketing and Project Management from the Harvard Business School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Harris lives in Scarsdale, New York with her husband, Jacob Harris and their three children—Kiersten, Jacob II and Ethan.



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2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

This award recognizes businesses and organizations that demonstrate a commitment to the local African American community. It is given to those who have demonstrated exceptional and sustained leadership, and who have contributed significant time and talent to the NMBAA Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter and the communities it serves.



The African American Forum (AAF)

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FORUM (AAF)

The General Electric Company

GE Capital

GE is one of the world's most diversified corporations with 2008 earnings of \$18B. From jet engines to power generation, financial services to water processing, and medical imaging to media and film, GE employees worldwide are dedicated to turn imaginative ideas into leading products and services that help solve some of the world's toughest problems. GE serves customers in over 100 countries and employs over 300,000 employees worldwide. GE Capital, based in Norwalk, CT is the financial services arm of the General Electric (GE) Company. GE Capital provides lending and leasing opportunities in a variety of areas from aviation to real estate.

As GE's growth continues to expand, the company is focused on engaging diverse talent globally. The company has five affinity and employee resource groups as well as a commitment to military recruitment. The African American Forum is the oldest affinity network in GE, having launched in 1991.

The African American Forum's mission is to provide a support system through coaching, mentoring, role modelling, and recruiting that will accelerate the professional, personal, and cultural development of the African American employees at GE. To strengthen linkages with the African American community in neighbourhoods where our employees live and work, improving GE's competitiveness in the marketplace and our position as a Global employer of choice. A few years ago the AAF expanded its' mission to Europe and the continent of Africa through the launch of the African Affinity Network in London and Paris and the GE Africa Project in Ghana.

In Fairfield County, the GE AAF has partnered with several African American organizations including the 100 Black Men of Stamford, the Southwestern Connecticut Urban League, the Links Inc, the Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta sororities to implement quality programming and community service projects. The partnership of the GE Capital AAF and the NMBAA-WGC includes a variety of activities including participation in diversity summits and sponsorship of the Leaders of Tomorrow program where several GE AAF volunteers serve as mentors and instructors.





2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has aided the success of the NMBAA Westchester/Greater Connecticut Chapter through his or her outstanding contributions. The award recognizes superior performance in emerging and dynamic leadership, teamwork, extraordinary initiative and overall excellence.



Tanya Mahan

TANYA MAHAN
CHAIR, PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Tanya Mahan is currently a Senior Project Manager in the Document Management Solutions organization at Pitney Bowes Management Services. In this role she manages large customer implementations of document and records management solutions.

Tanya has worked for Pitney Bowes since 1994. The first two years were as an Inroads Intern working in the Contracts Administration group and then for the Information Systems division. After accepting a full time position after graduation, Tanya held a number of positions with Pitney Bowes including E-mail Administrator, PBMS Y2K Coordinator, Quality Assurance Engineer, IT Project Manager where she managed projects spanning from implementation of new Pitney Bowes service offerings to significant cost reduction projects and Engineering Project Manager where she managed the software development activities of an internal, inbound tacking solution.

In 2007, Tanya joined the National Black MBA Association's Westchester/Greater CT Chapter where she has been managing the Programs Committee. In this role, she is responsible for the design, implementation and execution of the professional development, corporate partnership and entrepreneur programs and events that are hosted by the chapter.

Tanya graduated from Kolbe Cathedral High School in Bridgeport, CT and achieved a Bachelors degree in Sociology from Franklin & Marshall College. She has a certification in Software Engineering Management and is finishing an MBA in Global Management from the University of Phoenix.

Tanya is the proud and busy mother of a beautiful 11 year-old daughter and resides in Stratford, CT. She is active in her daughter's PTA and dance school parent committee.



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PAST AWARD WINNERS

MBA OF THE YEAR

2007 - TODD HOOD

2008 - VALERIE COOPER

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

2007 - DENISE LAWSON

2008 - GEORGE BOYCE

CORPORATE PARTNER OF THE YEAR

2007 - DIAGEO

2008 - UBS

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF THE YEAR

2007 - NORWALK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2008 - NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUNITY PARTNER OF THE YEAR

2007 - WESTCHESTER BLACK EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION OF PEPSICO

2008 - THE AFRICAN HERITAGE BUSINESS
RESOURCE GROUP OF BOEHRINGER
INGELHEIM

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

2007 - DIANE WINSTON

2008 - ARTHY OPARAJI

2009 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM SPONSORS

SPONSORS

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM

DIAGEO

PITNEY BOWES

PRAXAIR

STARWOOD HOTELS AND RESORTS

CO-SPONSOR

GENERAL ELECTRIC

STATE FARM

UBS



2009 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2009 UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP HONOREES:



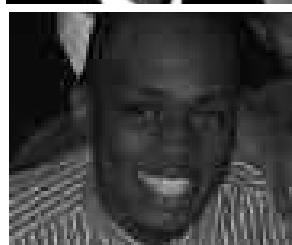
ALISHA CLARK is a sophomore attending Monroe College, majoring in Accounting and has a 3.9 GPA. This summer she will be interning at KPMG, working in its Metro Audit Division.



LOUIS BANSKTON is a junior at Purchase College, majoring in Economics with a 3.3 GPA. He enjoys fund-raising activities for charitable causes. Louis raised \$1,500 for the Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center, and over \$1,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.



GREG BURNETT is a 2008 graduate of Norwalk High School and is currently in his freshman year at Quinnipiac University, majoring in Psychology. He has been a member of the Norwalk NAACP Youth Division for the past two years. Greg is a recipient of the Praxair Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship.



ASHEKE CULZAC is a senior attending The University of Bridgeport, majoring in Accounting/Finance with a 3.4 GPA. His on-campus activities include being a Senior Resident Advisor and a Business School Senator for UB's Student Government Association. In addition, Asheke is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, and serves as chapter president.



NDOME ESSOKA is a 2008 graduate of Archbishop Molloy High School. During her time there, she consistently made the honor roll with a 90+ average. Currently, she is in her freshman year at SUNY Stony Brook, majoring in Pre-Med/Biological Sciences. Her career aspiration is to become a pediatrician.



NICOLE FREEMAN is a sophomore attending Pace University, majoring in Accounting and has a 3.4 GPA. Her on-campus activities include Pace University's Recruitment Team, Accounting Society, Resident Assistant and Coordinator for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Nicole's career aspirations include obtaining her CPA and JD degree.



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2009 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



2009 UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP HONOREES:

MESSAN GREAVES is a junior attending IONA College, majoring in Accounting. He has a 3.8 GPA and has been on the Dean's List for six consecutive semesters. Last summer Messan interned with the City of Mt. Vernon in the Comptroller's Office and assisted with the city's 2009 budget.



RUTH HUBBARD is a 2008 graduate of King & Low-Heywood Thomas School. She graduated with a 4.0 GPA and is currently in her freshman year at The University of Pennsylvania, majoring in Business Management/Marketing. Ruth is a recipient of the Praxair Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship.



MAKEDA LEWIS is a sophomore at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst, majoring in marketing and has a 3.7 GPA. She hopes to be the CEO of her own company one day.



ANDRE PENNICOKE is a junior at IONA College, majoring in marketing and has a 3.37 GPA. He is a member of the Alpha Beta Gamma National Honor Society and serves as the recruiting chair for the IONA College Student Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA).



CARLO SAMUELS is a junior attending Monroe College, majoring in Accounting and has a 3.9 GPA. Currently, he is interning in KPMG's Federal and Financial Services Business Unit - Real Estate Tax Practice. In addition, Carlo serves as treasurer for the Monroe College student chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA).



HENRY TACHIE-MENSON is a senior at IONA College, majoring in finance and has a 3.75 GPA. Henry participates in many on-campus activities. He serves as the Vice President of the student chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA). In addition he is a member of the Finance Club, International Business Club, and the Council of Multicultural Leaders. Upon graduation he plans to pursue a joint degree (JD/MBA) and ultimately, would like to work with organizations and give back to his homeland of Ghana. Henry is a recipient of the Praxair Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship.



2009 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



2009 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP HONOREES:

KAMEIL BENNETT is a 1st year MBA student attending Monroe College's King Graduate School of Business. She is majoring in Finance and has a 4.0 GPA. Her on-campus activities include Graduate Coordinator for SIFE (Students In Free Enterprise) and she was a presenter at the Regional Competition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Also, she serves as the Graduate Coordinator for the Human Resource Club at Monroe College. Kameil's career aspiration is to be a successful entrepreneur in the educational field.



MERCEDES FORREST is a 1st year MBA student attending Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. She is majoring in Consulting/Social Entrepreneurship and has a 3.3 GPA. Her organizational work includes being Co-Chair of Mentorship for the Black and Latino MBA Association at Fuqua, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, and Local Director of Student Membership Services for the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA).



IAN RUDDOCK is a 1st year MBA student attending Monroe College's King Graduate School of Business. He is majoring in Finance and currently has a 3.85 GPA. Ian serves as the Vice President of the National Association of Black Accountants' (NABA) Monroe College Student Chapter.



CRAIG ZOLTWSKI is a 1st year MBA student attending NYU's Stern School of Business. He has a concentration in Entrepreneurship/Economics and has a 3.57 GPA. When he completes his MBA, Craig plans to start his own rock climbing gym business. Craig is a recipient of the Praxair Foundation Graduate Scholarship.



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THE EMERGING SCHOLARS/ LEADERS OF TOMORROW PROGRAM®

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2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING & ENTREPRENEUR
ROUNDTABLE - "PROMOTING YOUR BRAND"

MARCH 19

WGC EXECUTIVE COACHING/MEMBERSHIP
MENTORING PROGRAM KICKOFF

APRIL 9

ERG BEST PRACTICES SEMINAR

APRIL 23

ENTREPRENEUR SUMMIT AND CAREER FAIR

MAY 14

QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MAY 21

CEO ROUNDTABLE

MAY 27

WGC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

JUNE 18

"LEADING IN DIVERSE ENVIRONMENTS"

JULY 16

WGC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

AUGUST 19

COMMUNITY PARTNERS GOLF OUTING

AUGUST 29

PRE-CONFERENCE HAPPY HOUR

SEPTEMBER 17

"EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS"

OCTOBER 15

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT & CAREER FAIR

OCTOBER 22

CEO ROUNDTABLE

NOVEMBER 4

QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

NOVEMBER 12

WGC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

NOVEMBER 18

2009 WGC HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

DECEMBER 17

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**GUEST
SPEAKER
DR. RANDAL
PINKETT**

Dr. Randal D. Pinkett
*Founder, Chairman
and CEO,
BCT Partners*

*Season 4 Winner of
"The Apprentice"*





DR. RANDAL PINKETT BIO

Dr. Randal Pinkett has established himself as an entrepreneur, speaker, author and community servant. He is the founder, chairman and CEO of BCT Partners, a multimillion dollar consulting firm based in Newark, NJ, that specializes in information technology, organizational development, and public policy. Dr. Pinkett was also named the winner of NBC's hit reality television show, *The Apprentice*, with Donald Trump. He emerged as one of 18 candidates chosen from among 1 million applicants to compete for the opportunity to run one of Donald Trump's companies. He was responsible overseeing both renovation and information technology projects for Trump Entertainment Resorts in Atlantic City, NJ. Since then, Dr. Pinkett has maintained a role with the Trump Organization as a boardroom advisor on *The Apprentice*, national spokesperson for the Trump Institute and faculty member for Trump University.

Prior to founding BCT Partners, Dr. Pinkett gained corporate experience as a Member of Technical Staff at General Electric, AT&T Bell Laboratories, and Lucent Technologies. Dr. Pinkett holds five degrees including: a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Rutgers University, that he completed while serving as captain of the men's track and field team as a high jumper and long jumper; a Master of Science in Computer Science from the University of Oxford in England; and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, MBA, and Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Dr. Pinkett has received numerous awards including the following: National Society of Black Engineers–Entrepreneur of the Year Award, National Urban League–Business Excellence Award, and he has been recognized by USA TODAY newspaper as one of the top 20 scholars in the country. Also, Dr. Pinkett has been featured on nationally televised programs such as *The Today Show*, *Live with Regis and Kelly*, *Nightline* and *Larry King Live*. He is a brand ambassador for Verizon Communications and Outback Steakhouse, and a spokesperson for Autism Speaks, National Black MBA Association, Miller Urban Entrepreneurs Series, New Jersey Reads and Junior Achievement of New York. Most notably, Dr. Pinkett is a Rhodes Scholar, and was the first and only African-American ever to receive this prestigious award at Rutgers University.

Dr. Pinkett is a highly sought-after speaker for various corporations, colleges and universities, government agencies and community organizations. He is the author of *Campus CEO: The Student Entrepreneur's Guide to Launching a Multimillion-Dollar Business* and *No-Money Down CEO: How to Start Your Dream Business with Little or No Cash*. He is the co-author of the forthcoming, *Black Faces in White Places*, to be released in 2009. Dr. Pinkett is a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., as well as a member of the board of directors for the New Jersey Public Policy Research Institute and the Nonprofit Technology Enterprise Network.

Born in Philadelphia and raised in New Jersey, Dr. Pinkett attends First Baptist Church in Somerset, NJ. He is happily married to his wife, Zahara, and they are proud parents of their daughter, Amira Leslie. Dr. Pinkett firmly believes that “for those to whom much is given, much is expected,” and therefore places great emphasis on his desire to give back to the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: <http://www.randalpinkett.com>

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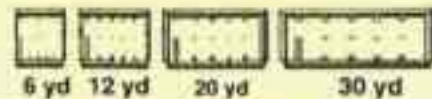
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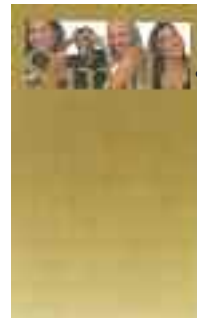
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