

Meet Our Spring 2016 Promise Scholars



Tariq Carrington earned a 4.43 GPA while enrolling in Honors, AP, and Dual Enrollment classes at CHS, and he's planning a career in medicine—a decision he made after his infant cousin, Arianna, was diagnosed with lymphoblastic leukemia. His high school guidance counselor describes Tariq as an extremely focused student. Accepted to VCU, he doesn't avoid challenges in academics or sports. Tariq is a leader, an award-winner on the CHS Track Team, and he has many friends.



Kunga Deyang—born in India to Tibetan parents—aims to become a nurse. Kunga's parents moved to America because they wanted a brighter future for her. After a difficult move, they learned English, found work, and made new friends. Kunga graduated from CHS with a GPA over 4.0 while taking Honors, AP, and DE classes. A member of the soccer, international, and Chinese clubs, one of Kunga's teachers described her as "someone I will never forget—sincere, strong, and organized."



Justice Howard credits her mother—a single parent—with providing for her and her brother "whether she had the means or not." Throughout her life, Justice has learned to be independent, which she thinks will help her in college. Interested in pursuing a degree in psychology, Justice took all Dual Enrollment classes this year. At CHS she took many Honors and AP classes, and she graduated with a 4.6 GPA.



Grace Gilbert will pursue a degree in the sciences at the College of William and Mary. Her final GPA—over 4.7—is impressive, given the rigor of her coursework. Also a passionate photographer, Grace took numerous photography courses at CHS, while developing individual projects to challenge herself to improve. Grace was active in various clubs at CHS, participated in Concert Choir, and she currently volunteers at the Virginia Discovery Museum.



Valeria Gutierrez-Cruz plans to study physical therapy and ultrasound technology in college. To provide her children with a better future, Valeria's mother emigrated from Mexico, leaving behind family. Now Valeria is a CHS graduate (with a 3.3 GPA), and her coursework included Honors, AP, and DE classes. She participated in AVID and Computers4Kids, has worked at a local day care center, and her references note her self-direction and work ethic as qualities that will lead to her success in college.



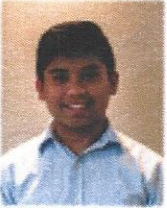
Robin Hightman graduated from CHS while overcoming significant personal challenges. Robin started her high school career in Fluvanna County, where she was an excellent student, but circumstances brought her to Charlottesville for grades 11 and 12. The move was difficult, and her grades plunged, but her passion for the fine and performing arts, and her willingness to contribute, were key to her success. Robin's school counselor described her as "resilient, strong-willed, and intelligent."



Tanner Largent is a sports lover. "Not only has softball made me who I am today, it has also taught me many life lessons like hard work, dedication and communication," Tanner said. Tanner also played volleyball, and she works part-time at a local restaurant. Her AVID teacher at CHS praised her ability to juggle school, sports, and work, and credits Tanner's "organizational skills and her drive to succeed." Tanner is interested in studying physical therapy.



Lakiera Mills plans to pursue studies in biology and chemistry, and she hopes to enter the medical field. The first person in her family to attend college, Lakiera credits her mother for teaching her to "take school seriously and do well." Beyond attending and graduating from college, Lakiera wants "to find out who I am as an educated person and someone who thinks critically and independently." In addition to graduating from CHS with a 3.5 GPA, Lakiera works during breaks and holidays.



Wendell Santiago plans to study nursing and physical therapy. Financing his education is important to him, as much of he and his parents' resources support family who reside in the Philippines. Wendell graduated from CHS with a 4.0 GPA, receiving A's and B's in his AP, Honors, and DE classes. He is well-liked by his teachers and peers, was involved in a number of activities, and balanced these interests and academics with considerable responsibility at home.



Janaya Mott graduated from Albemarle High School and received the first annual Preston Coiner Scholarship—an award given to a promising student who values local history. Throughout her high school career, she challenged herself to participate in Honors, AP, and DE courses at PVCC, and graduated with a 3.3 GPA. Motivated by the loss of two close family members, Janaya plans to study and work in the field of Biomedical Engineering.

Zarny Hein, along with his brother and parents, overcame many challenges after moving to America. After leaving friends and family, starting school in a new culture, and learning English, Zarny challenged himself with rigorous coursework at CHS, and now plans to study engineering. This year, Zarny has begun saving for college expenses while providing support to his family.

CSP Holds First Donor Reception May 2

The Charlottesville Scholarship Program Board of Directors had an opportunity to thank some of our donors at a reception held the afternoon of May 2.

Many of the donors who attended the reception also attended the May 2 dinner, where we introduced our recent class of promise scholars.

The cost of the reception was covered by our generous business sponsors, including: **Bank of the James; City of Charlottesville; Klöeckner Pentaplast; Woodard Properties; and York Property.**

The Charlottesville Scholarship Program wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to our kind supporters, and congratulations to our promising young scholars.



Did You Know?

\$365,000+

The amount of assistance we have awarded since 2004, when we began making gifts

118

The number of scholarships we have awarded to date

\$9,000

How much a student can receive during a typical four-year undergraduate program

50

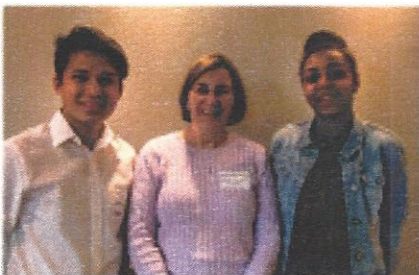
The number of young scholars currently supported

About the Charlottesville Scholarship Program

Established in 2001 with a \$250,000 gift from Charlottesville City Council, the Charlottesville Scholarship Program provides college scholarships to low- and moderate income graduates of Charlottesville City Schools, and to City employees. We support students through the completion of their course of study, and we support adults who are furthering their education. Scholarships increase each year, which encourages students to complete school, and lessens overall student debt. To-date, we have helped 118 students pursue higher education.

Scholarship Navigators

What makes the Charlottesville Scholarship Program different? Navigators! Scholarship winners are often the first in their families to attend college, and their families aren't always able to provide help in understanding college expectations and ways to deal with the college experience. Navigators develop effective relationships with their scholars in order to ensure that they are successful in their chosen course of study. Thank you to all of our generous navigators. Visit www.cvillescholarship.com to learn more about volunteering.



Charlottesville Scholarship Program

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*Fulfilling our community's promise by
helping scholars reach their educational goals*



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With the 2016 class, the Charlottesville Scholarship Program has helped 118 students pursue higher education. We congratulate our students, and thank you for your support.