



SUPPORTING HIGH ACHIEVEMENT OF PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

White-Williams Scholars

White-Williams Scholars Newsletter

Spring 2010

Issue: 8

Dear Friends,

Spring has been a busy time here at White-Williams Scholars. Between college tours, Job Shadowing Day, our Scavenger Hunt, and Graduation, we hardly noticed that the days became longer and the weather had gotten warmer!

At the end of March, our College Connection Scholars had the opportunity to work alongside a professional in their field of interest on **Job Shadowing Day**. In April, White-Williams Scholars hosted our first annual **Scavenger Hunt**, and our **7th Annual Graduation & Alumni Reunion** was just last week. Our College Connection 11th graders also had the opportunity to tour local colleges and universities, as they begin to map out their path to college. Keep reading to find out more about these exciting events!

Job Shadowing Day Pairs Scholars with Professionals

Job Shadowing Day is a signature, annual event that seeks to introduce students to the world of work through job shadowing experiences. This opportunity provides our Scholars with an up-close, hands-on look at how skills learned in school are put to use in the workplace.

On March 30, 2010, over 40 White-Williams Scholars in the College Connection program had the opportunity to shadow professionals in diverse fields, including: health and medicine, arts and design, media and journalism, legal services, human services, science, and business. Among many other experiences, Scholars had the opportunity to design clothing under the tutelage of a fashion designer, read the afternoon broadcast news script at ABC WPVI studios, and learn about forensic science at Drexel University School of Medicine.

For some of our Scholars, Job Shadowing Day confirmed their

In This Issue

[Job Shadowing Day 2010](#)

[First Annual Scavenger Hunt](#)

[Campus Discovery Days Connect Scholars and Alumni](#)

[Scholars Reach for Their Dreams at Graduation](#)

Quick Links

career interest and ignited a passion for a particular profession. For others, the experience provided them with the opportunity to realize that the reality of a profession does not always align with perceptions. All of our Scholars made contacts with professionals in their field of interest, and benefited from their wisdom and experiential knowledge.

During the wrap up ceremony at PNC Bank, each Scholar shared what he or she learned during the day. **George Lam had the opportunity to shadow Ms. Danielle Cucinotti, an International Banking Officer with Wells Fargo/Wachovia Bank.**

"Today I learned that international business is ever-changing. It takes a strong-minded and strong-willed person to succeed in this field," said George.



Patrice Forskin with her host, attorney Mr. Harry Moseley.

Ms. Cucinotti had a special message to share with our Scholars: **"Take every opportunity that comes your way, because not everyone gets these chances. Do what you're passionate about, and never forget that your life experiences influence and impact your choices."** Ms. Cucinotti also shared that Job Shadowing Day and internships are a perfect way to test drive a career. "After today, you might feel differently about the career in which you were interested, but that does not mean you failed, it means that you learned!" she said.

White-Williams Scholars would like to thank our Job Shadowing Day hosts for giving our Scholars the gift of your time and expertise! A special thanks to Alisha Berry, our College & Career Advisor, who coordinated this very successful and meaningful event!

To learn more about College Connection and our other programs, please visit our [website](#).

Scavenger Hunt: "I Can't Wait to Do it Next Year!"

On Saturday, April 17, 2010, over 35 current Scholars, alumni,

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and Citizens Bank employees teamed up to search Old City for clues. During the **first annual White-Williams Scholars Scavenger Hunt presented by Citizens Bank**, the participants enjoyed an exciting day of challenges, tasks, and mystery as they searched a 10-block radius of Old City for clues relating to White-Williams Scholars' rich history.

While it was a great team building and awareness raising event, the Scavenger Hunt also provided alumni and friends of the organization with an opportunity to connect with White-Williams Scholars, engage with current Scholars, and give back to the organization that has given so many so much.



Team with a Penn Quaker!

James McLaughlin, Senior Vice President of Retail Banking at Citizens Bank and a White-Williams Scholars Trustee, commented that for many people, interacting with current Scholars made tangible the work that White-Williams Scholars does for youth in the city of Philadelphia: "The Citizens colleagues were so impressed with White-Williams Scholars. As they walked around the floor the sense of history, impact, and pride really hit home for many folks."



A heavenly choir of teammates.

The event was hallmarked by a spirit of excitement that energized all participants as they worked together to create innovative solutions for the challenges. **"I can truly say the Scavenger Hunt ranked the top among other volunteer events which I have**

participated in throughout the years," said Leigh Picariello, a Citizens Bank volunteer.

Though there could be only one official winning team, everyone who participated in the event was a winner, and walked away with many memories. All participants shared an

echoing sentiment: they can't wait to do it again next year!

Campus Discovery Days Connect Scholars and Alumni

This spring, our College Connection 11th graders had the opportunity to visit local colleges and universities on a college tour. Students attended an information session, took a guided tour of the campus, and were able to ask questions about campus life, academics, and the college admissions process. Alumni helped to make these campus discovery days a success by volunteering their time to chaperone our students.

Andrea McCord (William Penn, '08) accompanied our students to Arcadia University on March 10, 2010. Andrea is a current student at Temple University, where she majors in biochemistry.

Q. What prompted you to accompany our Scholars on a college tour?

A. I know how crucial college tours can be as students make their college decisions. There are simply things you cannot learn from a college catalog or website, and it's helpful to hear first-hand from a current student what their experience has been. I hoped that my prior experience with the college admissions process would be helpful to current Scholars.



Andrea McCord (William Penn '08)

Q. How did the College Connection students respond to visiting a college campus?

A. The students were excited, and had lots of questions about my college experience. They also asked about the classes I take and my major. It was great to be able to help them by telling them about my experiences.

Q. What was the best part of the day?

A. Oh, it was definitely when we explored the Grey Towers Castle building on the campus. The Castle houses the administrative offices of the university. It's beautiful!

White-Williams Scholars would like to offer a special thanks to Elishia Peterson and Melanie Quackenbush, two alumni who gave their time to accompany our Scholars on college tours!



Scholars pose at the Castle at Arcadia University.

To find out more about alumni involvement or to join the Alumni Committee, please visit www.wwscholars.org/alumni.

Scholars Reach for Their Dreams at Graduation

On May 13, 2010, White-Williams Scholars honored our senior Scholars and reunited generations of alumni at the **7th Annual Graduation & Alumni Reunion at World Cafe Live.**

White-Williams Scholars alumna and current Budget Manager with the White House Service Center, **Angeline Washington-Clark (William Penn '90)**, was

presented with the 2010 Alumni Valedictorian Award for her dedication to serving others. Two seniors, **Grace Clarke (John**

Bartram '10) and **Arazi Pinhas (Central '10)**, were awarded the Reverend Olivia Stuard Henry Book Scholarship in honor and memory of our former oldest living alumna. **Erica Mendez (Creative & Performing Arts '10)** was awarded the Achieve Scholarship.



ChrisAnne Smith and Rafi Taylor present Angeline Washington-Clark with the 2010 Alumni Valedictorian Award.

Guests also enjoyed outstanding performances by **Rafi Taylor (William Penn '10)** and **Austin Lightfoot (Creative & Performing Arts '10)** and his four-piece string ensemble, including **Aphten Millburn-Dobson (Creative & Performing Arts '10)**.



Senior Scholars smile for the camera.

A record-breaking total of 325 graduating seniors, parents, alumni, trustees, and friends convened at World Cafe Live to celebrate the achievements of White-Williams Scholars, past and present, as they encouraged one another to reach for their dreams in the face of tremendous challenges.

We would like to thank the Alumni Committee - without your dedication and efforts; we would not have been able to plan so successful an event!



Alumni Committee members Wesley Proctor, ChrisAnne Smith, and Angeline Washington-Clark present Arazi Pinhas (Central '10) the Reverend Olivia Stuard Henry Book Scholarship.

To donate to White-Williams Scholars, please click [here](#).

The mission of White-Williams Scholars is to inspire and support high achieving Philadelphia public high school students of limited financial means to fulfill their potential. We provide monthly stipends, academic enrichment and college preparation to over 1,000 students each year.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).