



SUPPORTING HIGH ACHIEVEMENT OF PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

White-Williams Scholars

White-Williams Scholars Newsletter

Summer 2009

Issue: 6

Dear Friends,

We're midway through the summer and things are as busy as ever at White-Williams Scholars. Please take a moment to read highlights of our activities.

C2 at ESU: Third Time's the Charm

Now in its third year, the College Connection Summer Program set out to East Stroudsburg University for three weeks. This year, three cohorts participated in the summer college experience, a total of 73 students from 29 high schools.

In preparation for their senior year, Cohort 1 spent three weeks working on their college essay, completing applications, and taking college level Philosophy and Math courses. The founding cohort received an exclusive three-part College Admissions seminar led by Peter Van Buskirk, former Dean of Admissions at Franklin & Marshall College and author of [The Admissions Game](#).



The rising juniors of Cohort 2 spent two weeks learning research methods and developing their presentation skills. Students received a jumpstart to the next school year by taking Calculus, and they learned the importance of taking care of themselves in a Health & Wellness course.

In the last week, Cohort 3 arrived for their first college immersion experience. The rising sophomores were exposed to a week of campus living, including sleeping in college dorms and sharing communal bathrooms. The newest additions to the College Connection program were introduced to the concepts of expanding their perspectives and creating a vision for their lives, as they prepared to become active lifetime learners.

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The College Connection Summer Program was featured on WBRE, the local NBC affiliate covering East Stroudsburg. Follow the link to watch the news report: [College Connection in East Stroudsburg News!](#)

Alumnus Giving Back

Olney High School 2005 White-Williams Scholars' alumnus **Othmane Bouyateb** experience as a scholar inspired him to support the organization as a college graduate. During this academic school year, Othmane volunteered as a mathematics tutor for *Back on Track*. This summer, he worked with the College Connection Summer Program at East Stroudsburg University. Otto spent three weeks living with and teaching Calculus to the College Connection students of Cohort 1. In May 2009, Otto graduated from Ursinus College with a Bachelor's of Science in Mathematics.



For more information about alumni involvement or to join the Alumni Committee visit wwwscholars.org/alumni or contact alumni@wwwscholars.org.

"Back on Track" a Success

Back on Track, the tutorial program launched as a pilot initiative in November 2008 wrapped up its first year in June 2009. We are proud to report that under the management of White-Williams Scholars alumna, **Shahidah Kalam Id-Din**, 22 out of 26 students have successfully completed tutoring sessions and regained academic eligibility status in the White-Williams Scholars stipend program.

To read more about *Back on Track* or for more information about White-Williams Scholars and our programs, please visit our website: www.wwscholars.org.

To donate, please visit our website: www.wwscholars.org and click on the Donate Now through Network for Good logo, on the left of our homepage.

WWS Employee Honored with Prestigious Award



For the past year **Tanequa Neale** has devoted herself to building a community of involved WWS alumni through community outreach and social networking in her work as a Philly Fellow. Philly Fellows is a year-long post-graduate fellowship program which offers opportunities to top graduates of Philadelphia-area colleges and universities to engage in the city's vibrant neighborhoods and diverse non-profit agencies.

As a result of her commitment and dedication, Tanequa recently received the 2009 Spirit of Service Award from the Corporation for National & Community Service at their annual conference San Francisco. She was one of four awardees selected from hundreds of nominations around the country.

First Lady Michelle Obama, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jon Bon Jovi and others were on hand to congratulate the recipients. We are proud of Tanequa's accomplishments and especially pleased that she has joined WWS as a Program Associate working with the College Connection program.

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 1,500 students each year.

For more information, please visit our [website](http://www.wwscholars.org).

