

August 2023

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Participating Districts:

- Brighton
- Brockport
- East Irondequoit
- East Rochester
- Fairport
- Hilton
- Honeoye Falls-Lima
- Penfield
- Pittsford
- Rochester
- Rush-Henrietta
- Spencerport
- Webster
- West Irondequoit
- Wheatland-Chili

From the Director's Desk

As we close the chapter on another successful school year, I would like to thank our program staff, parents, students, school and community partners for their remarkable work and collaborations!

I am humbled to lead Monroe One BOCES' Urban-Suburban Interdistrict Transfer Program, the First and the Oldest Voluntary Desegregation Program in the United States. We began in 1965 as one of the components of "Project Unique" and the mission to Reduce Racial Isolation (deconcentrate poverty) and enhance opportunities for students in the Rochester City School District and in the suburban districts of the Greater Rochester Area" is steadfast and still being achieved today.

It has been a year of diligent labor, filled with success and accomplishments!

Within the pages of this newsletter, you will find shining examples of these accomplishments and ways to get involved!

We acknowledge the incredible journey our students have undertaken, and the significant milestones they have reached throughout their Urban-Suburban experience.

As we move into the upcoming school year, we want to continue highlighting the successes of all our students. Please continue to contact us with your student's accomplishments so we can continue to recognize and celebrate them.

Let us also take a moment to recognize the incredible family commitment of our Urban-Suburban families. As we embrace our historical legacy, we look forward to continuing to elevate our work together to create a promising future for each and every one of our students.

Sincerely,

Felicia A. Smith
Program Director



Let's Get Together!

Urban-Suburban Parent Advisory Council is hosting a **Back-to-School Bar-b-que!**

When: Saturday, August 26, 2023

Where: Dogwood Shelter in
Genesee Valley Park

Time: 11am–3pm

Stay Posted for More Details!

Volunteers are needed!

We'd love for you to help!

Email: USPACteam@gmail.com



Urban-Suburban Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

The Urban-Suburban Parent Advisor Council (PAC) is seeking dedicated parent representatives to join from the following Urban-Suburban Districts:

- Brighton
- Fairport
- East Irondequoit
- Hilton
- Pittsford
- West Irondequoit
- Wheatland-Chili

The Council is composed of parent volunteers with at least one from each district.

The role of the Council is to support the program by advocating for students and other parents.

Council members meet the first Thursday of each month, 6:00–7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise indicated).

Interested?

Email USPACteam@gmail.com and Felicia_smith@boces.monroe.edu

Student Spotlights

Brighton High School award winners

During June's BHS Awards Ceremony, Chad Asante won the Urban-Suburban Principal's Award and Michael Chestnut was awarded the Urban-Suburban Scholarship.



Chad Asante



Michael Chestnut

Educational Foundation Scholarship

Penfield student T'Keira Mack and Wheatland Chili student Giovanni Ramirez have earned the Monroe One Educational Foundation's scholarship!

T'Keira has plans to attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she will study accounting and political science. Giovanni will attend RIT where he will study Civil Engineering.

The Monroe One Educational Foundation's scholarship is for graduates focusing on post-high school education and workskills to prepare them for competitive employment. The Foundation was established to foster, encourage, and enrich academic programs for Monroe One students. The Foundation works collaboratively with educational and business leaders to raise funds and award grants to staff and students.

US students receive full ride to RIT

The first Urban-Suburban students to be awarded the Destler/Johnson Rochester City Scholars program have been named!

RIT offers the program to graduates of the Rochester City School District and approved charter schools, which for the first time now includes Urban-Suburban students.

The scholarship program covers full tuition at RIT. Scholars are expected to participate in an on-campus enrichment program this summer, prior to their freshman year. Throughout the academic year, scholars will participate in individual weekly meetings with a Multicultural Center for Academic Success coach and will receive support, guidance, and access to the campus resources available.

The following Urban-Suburban students have been accepted into the program:

- Taylor Drummond
- Jaycen Mitchel
- Giovanni Ramirez
- Philiastophia Wood

Congratulations!

44th Annual Black Scholars Ceremony

On June 5, the Urban League of Rochester hosted its yearly Black Scholars Ceremony. A number of Urban-Suburban students were honored at the event, being recognized for their commitment to their education.

By visiting UrbanLeagueRoc.org and clicking on 'Black Scholars' you can visit the entire list of scholars recognized and view photos taken at the event.

Urban-Suburban Black Scholars 2023

Brockport High School

- Philiassophia Wood

East Rochester High School

- Dajania James
- Jacen Mitchell
- Kiara Coleman

Fairport High School

- Giovanna Steiner
- Jeffrey Craddock
- Taliah Santiago,
- Wallace Rahmaan Jr.
- Zealus Bruce Jr.

Irondequoit High School

- Thierry Kirui
- Tyleea Panye-Harley

Penfield High School

- A'zhyia Clemons
- T'keira Mack

Pittsford Mendon High School

- Brianna Walker
- Koury Anderson
- Nicolas Wilson

Pittsford Sutherland High School

- Cassidy Sayres
- Keturah Lockett

Rush-Henrietta High School

- Bre-Ashia Brinkley

Spencerport High School

- Macaria Johnson

Wheatland-Chili High School

- Carly Beckford
- Priscilla Kiptoo
- Taylor Drummond



Congratulations to the Urban-Suburban 2023 graduating class!

The 2023 graduating class will soon begin the next phase of a magnificent journey. Many will pursue a post-secondary education, while others will go into the military or enter the workforce. Whatever path is chosen, we wish them nothing but success.

Brighton High School



Chad Asante



Michael Chestnut*
SUNY Brockport or
Nazareth
Major: Library Science



Navier Lenear
Entering the Workforce



Jaylen Nieves
Alfred University
Major: Actuarial Science
Football Scholarship



Jordana Rivera-Roldan



Erik Tinoglio-Bookhart

Brockport High School



D'Mari Rainey
Roberts Wesleyan College
Major: English Adolescent
Education



Timothy Reed



Erika Vargas*
Major: Diagnostic Medical
Sonography



Philiasophia Wood*
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Music and Biology
Collegiate level tennis

East Rochester High School



Jeremy Blanchard



Kiara Coleman*
Russell Sage College
Major: Interior Design and
Graphic Engineering



Michael Daniels
Plans to attend a D1 College
Goal: Become an NFL player
Major: Sports Economics



Janessa Gallina



Tia'Jinae Gray



Lebria Hickman



Dajania "Daja" James*
University of Alabama
Major: Bachelor of Fine Arts
with concentration in Acting



Jaycen Mitchell
College Undecided
Plans: BS/Doctorate in Physical
Therapy and Exercise Science



Beralis Rodriguez



Zachariah Thomas



Angelo Walton
Trade School/
Entering the Workforce

Eastridge High School



Arthur Holloway



Tristan Salters
Major: Chemistry:
Pre-Medical for
Undergraduates



Jasmyn Tolleson*
Monroe Community College 2+2
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Mechanical Engineering

Fairport High School



Zealus "Zeke" Bruce*
Utica University
Major: Finance



Jeffrey Craddock
Picking up Trades in Carpentry
Considering College, Major:
Engineering or Architecture



Isaiah Davis



Fabian Hernandez



Wallace Rahmaan*
SUNY Geneseo
Major: Accounting



Taliah Santiago*
Monroe Community College
Major: Nursing



Laylhona Sims-Rodriguez
Brockport College
Major: Community Justice
Minor: African American Studies



Nevaeh Smith
SUNY Canton
Major: Crime Analysis



Giovanna Steiner
Nazareth College
Major: Nursing



Natalie Torres
Monroe Community College
Major: Psychology

Penfield High School



A'zhya Clemons
North Carolina Central
University
Major: Political Science



Lillianne Gonzalez
Monroe Community College
Major: Nursing



Kera Jones



T'Keira Mack
University of North Carolina
at Chapel Hill
Major: Accounting



Javier Melton

Mendon High School



Koury Anderson*



Yashira Brown



Jahvion Griner-Owens



Leilaini Hernandez*
Nazareth
Major: Physical Therapy



Brianna Walker*
Hampton University
Major: Psychology



Nicolas Wilson*
St. Bonaventure University
Major: Psychology

Sutherland High School



Lauryn Dukes*
Buffalo State University
Major: Art



Keturah Lockett*
Hampton University
Major: Criminal Justice



Leilani Santiago
Monroe Community College
for 2 years, then Culinary
Institute of America
Major: Culinary Arts

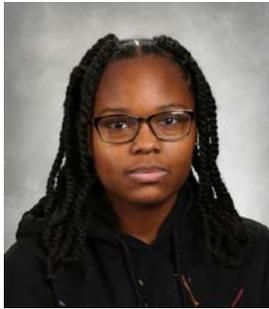


Cassidy Sayres*
University of North Texas
Major: Acting and Theater



Anaya Whitfield*
Bryant & Stratton College
Major: Nursing

Rush-Henrietta High School



Bre-Ashia Brinkley



Synai Chung
North Carolina Central
University
Major: Social Work



Ky'Ana Reeves
College: REOC
Major: Nursing



Yelizah Rodriguez

Irondequoit High School



Joelle Boland*
Nazareth College
Major: Special Education K-6
Minor: Dance



Jade Johnson
St. John's University
Major: Criminal Justice



Thierry Kirui*
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Marketing



Marc-Jacob Lopez
Entering the workforce to
pursue a position as a
City of Rochester Firefighter



Kenyen Lovett
Tompkins Cortland
Community College
Registered Nurse Program



Lelani Marshall
Major: Business/Accounting
Goal: open salon, formulate
own hair, skin & nail products



Tyleea Panye-Harley
Spelman College
Major: Political Science



Rajae Salmon
University of Hartford
Major: Business Advertising
Minor: Communications



Leah Smith

Spencerport High School



Jahliza Diaz



Dahnae Gano
Rochester Institute of
Technology



Macaria Johnson
University at Buffalo
Major: Business
Administration



Cheyanne Mason
Joining the
United States Air Force
and will study Nursing

Wheatland-Chili High School



Carly Beckford
SUNY Brockport
Major: Business



Keiara Dejesus*
Wells College
Major: Nursing



Taylor Drummond*
University of Buffalo
Major: Business/Marketing



Priscilla Kiptoo
Farmingdale State College
Major: Aeronautical Science
Plans to become a
professional Pilot



Giovanni Ramirez
Rochester Institute of
Technology
Major: Civil Engineering



Demetrius Singletary



Shawn Swank*
Monroe Community College
2+2 Program
Major: Computer Science
Plans to pursue career in
Cyber Security

Thank you to our Scholarship Committee!



Back row,
left to right:
Samuel Oliver,
Stephanie Miner,
Monifa Batiste,
and Tanya Powell.

Front row,
left to right:
Nikki
Gissendanner,
Karen Bloss, and
Andrea Mann.

A group of parents, high school administrators, and counselors volunteered their time to serve on our committee this year.

Thank You!

Parents:

- **Monifa Batiste**, *Penfield*
- **Karen Bloss**, *Spencerport*
- **Nikki Gissendanner**, *Penfield*
- **Andrea Mann**, *Rush-Henrietta*
- **Samuel Oliver**, *Honeoye Falls-Lima*
- **Tanya Powell**, *Penfield*

High School Assistant Principal:

- **Stephanie Miner**, *Fairport*

They dedicated their time to review all of the criteria and allocate the funds raised.

Through money provided from voluntary contributions, annual family dues, and program fundraisers, Urban-Suburban was able to raise \$14,500 for our students!

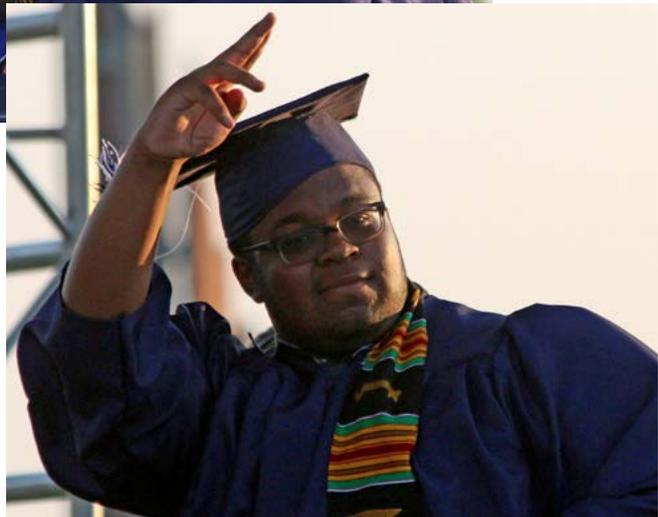
The scholarship was established in 1985, building off a \$3,000 grant donated by the Reidman Coportation of Rochester. Through a commitment by the Urban-Suburban staff and families, program parents have awarded nearly \$340,000 to 566 program graduates.

Interested in serving on next year's committee?

We welcome volunteers from each district to join us on the first Saturday in May to serve on the committee. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Please contact Program Director Felicia Smith if you are interested in participating by emailing Felicia_Smith@boces.monroe.edu.

Congratulations to the following students who earned an Urban-Suburban Scholarship this year!

- **Koury Anderson**, *Pittsford Mendon HS*
- **Joelle Boland**, *Irondequoit HS*
- **Zealus "Zeke" Bruce**, *Fairport HS*
- **Michael Chestnut**, *Brighton HS*
- **Kiara Coleman**, *East Rochester Senior HS*
- **Keiara Dejesus**, *Wheatland-Chili HS*
- **Taylor Drummond**, *Wheatland-Chili HS*
- **Lauryn Dukes**, *Pittsford Sutherland HS*
- **Leilani Hernandez**, *Pittsford Mendon HS*
- **Daja James**, *East Rochester Senior HS*
- **Thierry Kirui**, *Irondequoit HS*
- **Keturah Lockette**, *Pittsford Sutherland HS*
- **Wallace Rahmaan**, *Fairport HS*
- **Taliah Santiago**, *Fairport HS*
- **Kassidy Sayres**, *Pittsford Sutherland HS*
- **Shawn Swank**, *Wheatland-Chili HS*
- **Jasmyn Tolleson**, *Eastridge HS*
- **Erika Vargas**, *Brockport HS*
- **Brianna Walker**, *Pittsford Mendon HS*
- **Anaya Whitfield**, *Pittsford Sutherland HS*
- **Nicolas Wilson**, *Pittsford Mendon HS*
- **Philiastophia Wood**, *Brockport HS*



Visit the Urban-Suburban Program website at:

www.monroe.edu/US

A program of

