



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ScholarCHIPS Grants College Scholarships and Awards to 13 DC-Area Students for Fall 2017**

*43 Local Scholars Have Been Awarded Since 2010*

(Washington, DC)— ScholarCHIPS, a DC-based non-profit that provides college scholarships and mentoring to children of incarcerated parents, recognizes and congratulates its newest cohort of scholars –13 of them – for a [total of 43 scholars](#) since the organization’s founding in 2010 by DC native Yasmine Arrington.

ScholarCHIPS awards renewable \$2,500 college scholarships, \$250 book awards and offers a strong support network, widely viewed as critical tools needed to graduate from college. By helping students attend college and attain their college degrees, ScholarCHIPS seeks to greatly reduce the chance of youth entering into the prison system and poverty. To date, over \$110,000 has been awarded to scholars. Nine ScholarCHIPS scholars have graduated from colleges and universities such as Bucknell University, Pennsylvania State University, Old Dominion University, North Carolina A&T University, Sewanee College of the South, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Bowie State University, and Montgomery College.

“As a child of an incarcerated parent, I know how important it is to have supporters in your corner rooting for you. That’s what we do at ScholarCHIPS,” said Executive Director of ScholarCHIPS Yasmine Arrington. “We are so proud of our 2017 scholars and look forward seeing what their futures hold.”

“I am thrilled and honored to work with these young people, who persist in attaining their life goals, despite tremendous challenges that some of them have experienced for almost their entire lives. They are remarkable individuals who make me proud!” said Board Chair, Vida Anderson.

### 2017 ScholarCHIPS recipients

**Imani Bell**, Mount Vernon High School, Alexandria, Virginia. She will attend North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

**Kara Chamberlaine**, McKinley Technology High School, Washington, DC. She will attend Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.

**Sydnee Davis**, Elizabeth Seton High School, Bladensburg, Maryland. She will attend Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia.

**Noah Dyson**, School Without Walls, Washington, DC. He will attend Elon University in Elon, North Carolina.

**Xavier Hare**, Bishop McNamara High School, Forestville, Maryland. He will attend Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

**Jermekkio Holliway**, KIPP DC: College Prep, Washington, DC. He will attend Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Jeremy Little**, Bishop McNamara High School, Forestville, Maryland. He will attend the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Amari McDuffie**, Benjamin Banneker Academic High School, Washington, DC. She will attend Pennsylvania State University in State College, Pennsylvania.

**Taija McRae**, Bladensburg High School, Bladensburg, Maryland. She will attend Eastern University in Saint Davids, Pennsylvania.

**Gabriel Moreno**, Wheaton High School, Wheaton, Maryland. He will attend Full Sail University in Winter Park, Florida.

**Justine Sampson**, DuVal High School, Lanham, Maryland. She attends Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland, Maryland.

**Jermaine Swanson**, Frank W. Ballou High School, Washington, DC. He will attend Pennsylvania State University in State College, Pennsylvania.

**Jala Turner**, Friendship Technology Preparatory Academy Public Charter School, Washington, DC. She will attend Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia.

ScholarCHIPS and its founder, 24-year-old Yasmine Arrington, have been nationally recognized by several [foundations](#) and [media outlets](#).

Founded in 2010, ScholarCHIPS is a DC-based non-profit organization that provides a pathway to college for children of incarcerated parents by offering scholarships and an essential support network – both by mentoring and a growing peer community – inspiring them to thrive on campus and to complete their college education, thereby helping them to defy the odds and to break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration. [www.scholarchipsfund.org](http://www.scholarchipsfund.org)

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:** ScholarCHIPS provides college scholarships, mentoring and a peer support network to children of incarcerated parents, inspiring them to complete their college education.

**OUR VISION STATEMENT:** A world where children of incarcerated parents are no longer marginalized and stigmatized by society, have equal access to higher education, and ultimately experience a future absent of poverty and incarceration.

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