



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Black Benefactors Announces 10th Anniversary Grant Awards

Funding will support civic engagement, education and youth development projects for DC youth

WASHINGTON, DC – In observance of its 10th anniversary, Black Benefactors has announced two grant awards totaling \$15,000 to nonprofits that promote civic engagement and support youth of incarcerated parents. “We received just over 100 applications this year, the most we’ve ever received. We’re proud to invest in and help to build the capacity of Black-led grassroots organizations that enhance the well-being of Black children, youth and families,” shared Tracey Webb, founder of Black Benefactors.

The 2017-18 grantee partners are:

The Black Swan Academy

Samantha Davis, Founder and Executive Director

\$10,000 for General operating support

The Black Swan Academy empowers Black youth in under-served communities through civic leadership and engagement, giving them a comprehensive set of tools needed to succeed in life and become active social catalysts in their communities. Activities include civic leadership out-of-school time programs, an annual youth civic leadership summit and community forums. “Thank you to the members of Black Benefactors for selecting The Black Swan Academy to receive this grant. This grant will support our three civic leadership out-of-school-time programs, serving 40 black youth. It will allow us to provide snacks, offer small stipends to our high school youth leaders, and transport our students to opportunities such as community forums, service events, and our advocacy week at the Wilson Building, and a day trip to tour the museums in Baltimore. We believe in the collective power of black leadership, and are thrilled to be in partnership with a black-led organization who shares our values of pride, purpose, and power.”

ScholarCHIPS, Inc.

Yasmine Arrington, Founder and Director

\$5,000 for General operating support

ScholarCHIPS, Inc. provides college scholarships and a support network for youth with incarcerated parents, empowering them to complete their college education. The organization serves graduating high school seniors and college-aged youth with parents in prison, many of whom are the first in their family to attend or complete college. ScholarCHIPS has three program components – Scholarship, Mentorship and Professional Development, and Advocacy and Outreach.

Yasmine Arrington, founder of ScholarCHIPS shared, “I am very grateful and excited for ScholarCHIPS to have received a \$5,000 grant from Black Benefactors on their 10th anniversary. It is so empowering and inspiring for community work to be supported by community leaders, investors and black business professionals. As new partners we will continue to make a positive impact in the lives of youth with incarcerated parents locally.”

In addition to a grant, both will receive in-kind support from Black Benefactors members.

Black Benefactors is a giving circle that was founded in 2007 to enhance the well-being of Black children, youth and families in the Washington, DC region by providing grants and in-kind support to local nonprofits, with a focus on grassroots black-led organizations.

For more information about Black Benefactors, visit www.blackbenefactors.org.

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