

EDUCATION

LEAP Forward awards scholarships

LEAP Forward Inc. administers the Wallace Lorenzo Leeper Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship honors the memory of one of the most outstanding counselors who served at Calvert Senior High School (CHS).

Eight \$500 scholarship awards were presented to students from CHS, Huntingtown High School (HHS), and Patuxent High School (PHS), as well as Baltimore Polytechnic Institute (BPI).

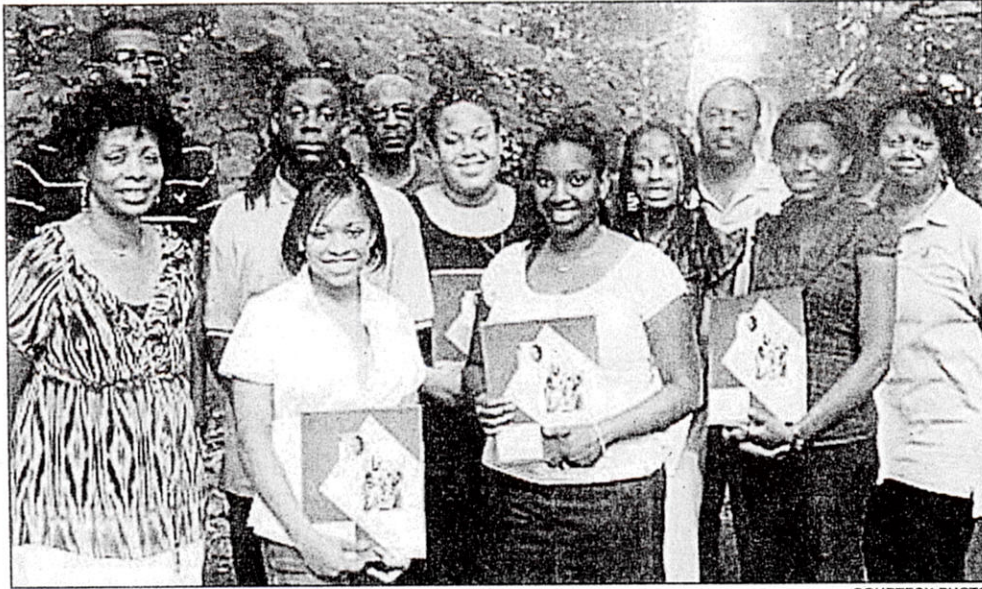
The scholarship reception was recently held at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick. The program included words of encouragement from the 2008 scholarship recipient, Dynika Brooks, a student at the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

The memorial acknowledgement of Rev. Charles Lee Sr. was made by his son, Charles Lee Jr. A \$1,000 scholarship in Rev. Lee's honor was presented to Michelle Brooks, a graduate of CHS, who is entering her senior year at Bowie State University.

Leeper Scholarship award presentations were made by LEAP President Rhonda Thomas. Remarks were then made by the 2009 scholarship recipients. A LEAP Forward poem was shared by fourth grader Dorien Minor. Students, board members, parents, friends and financial supporters then enjoyed good food and fellowship.

Awardees include:

- Jo'nel Roxanne Barnes, a graduate of CHS, who will attend Fayetteville State University and major in physical education with a minor in business and entrepreneurship
- Jasmine Nicole Brown, a graduate of CHS, who will attend the College of Southern Maryland (CSM) and major in broadcasting and communications
- Kelsey Edwards, a graduate of PHS, who will attend Washington College and major in behavioral neuroscience
- Michael Ellison, a graduate of BPI, who will attend Morgan State



COURTESY PHOTO

Recipients of LEAP Forward Inc. 2009 scholarships were recently recognized at a reception. First row, from left to right: Nalynn Holland and Kelsey Edwards. Second row, from left to right: Rhonda Thomas, LEAP founder; Jay Little Jr., Jo'nel Barnes, Jasmine Brown, Michelle Brooks, Lee Scholarship recipient and Wilhemina Greene, board member. Third row, from left to right: Michael Ellison, Maruice Irvine, board member; and Wilson Ennis, board member. Not pictured, Jameela Hendricks and Ameelah Isley.

University and major in electrical and computer engineering

- Jameela Hendricks, a graduate of BPI, who will attend Morgan State University and major in architecture
- Nalynn Y. Holland, a graduate of HHS, who will attend Salisbury University and major in Nursing
- Ameelah S. Isley, a graduate of CHS, who will attend CSM and major in nursing
- Jay Little Jr., a graduate of BPI, who will attend Pennsylvania State University and major in civil engineering

Wallace Lorenzo Leeper graduated from the Richmond, VA public schools and Virginia Union University with a bachelor of science degree in education.

He later received his masters degree in guidance from Indiana State University.

His teaching career started in Calvert County as a history and English teacher at Brooks High School. During the 1970s, he was heavily involved with the Patuxent Naval Air Station engineering cooperative education program. LEAP Forward's founder and

president Rhonda Thomas, established LEAP Forward, Inc. in Leeper's honor.

For more information visit their web site at www.leapforwardinc.org or contact Rhonda Thomas via e-mail at rthomas@leapforwardinc.org.