



LEAP FORWARD INC.

ENCOURAGING YOUTH TO LEARN, EXCEL, ACHIEVE, PERFORM, EXPLORE AND RISE

2015 Scholarship Reception

Also Celebrating our Students Involved with the
NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS (NSBE) JR. CASH CHAPTER & Destined4Success.

"On The Right Path and Headed Towards My Destiny"

Guest Speaker, Mr. Harry Holt Jr., Vice President of Operations, Bithgroup Technologies

PRESENTING THE LEE, ADAMS/MORSELL, LEEPER, HARRIS, PARKER, AND PARRAN SCHOLARSHIPS.



July 19, 2015~4:00 pm
Calvert High School
600 Dares Beach Road
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

Entertainment!
Refreshments!
Celebration!

"Thank you for your support!"



Launching Educational Assistance Programs Forward - - 2015 Scholarship Program

“On the Right Path and Headed Towards My Destiny”

Welcome and the Occasion

Introduction of MCsRhonda Thomas, LEAP Forward Founder

Mistresses of Ceremony..... Dynika Gross, UMBC Grad

.....Keiva Cole, College of Notre Dame Grad

Invocation.....Rev. Darryl Godlock, Pastor, Calvert County Baptist Church

Musical Selection (Everyone Join In).....Lift Every Voice and Sing

..... Led by Mrs. Tonya Jackson

Tribute to Pioneer Harriett Brown.....Dia Brown, Huntingtown

Introduction of Guest Speaker..... Samariah Brown, Northern

Musical Selection..... Taylor Jackson, Patuxent

Guest Speaker..... Mr. Harry Holt, Jr. Vice President of Operations

.....Bithgroup Technologies—Baltimore, MD

Scholarship Presentation

Lee Family Scholarships.....\$1000.00 Awards

Adams –Morsell Family Scholarships.....\$600.00 Awards

Spoken Word Presentation..... Malcolm Jarell, Poet and Author

Scholarship Presentation

Parker Family Scholarship..... \$1000.00 Award

Harris Family Scholarships.....\$1000.00 Awards

Parran Family Scholarships.....\$500.00 Awards

Spoken Word Presentation..... Butterfly Free (Ahseniv Washington, Poet)

Scholarship Presentation

Leeper Scholarships.....\$600.00 Awards

Past Scholarship Recipient Acknowledgement

Musical Selection.....Dorien Minor and Joey Berry, Calvert

NSBE Jr. Presentation.....Henderson Benjamin and Henry Nicholes

NSBE Jr. Awards.....Tonya Wilkerson

Destined 4Success Presentation.....Cynthia Thorne Carter and Sheri Barber

Acknowledgements and Announcements

Closing Prayer and Blessing of the Food.....Rev. Darryl Godlock

Refreshments in the Cafeteria.....Enjoy!

LEAP Forward Scholarships are provided in memory of.....



Rev. Charles Lee, Sr. As a veteran of the Korean War, he demonstrated his leadership abilities which allowed him to advance from the enlisted ranks to becoming an officer, where he served as Chaplain. While a student, he took on leadership roles in the early stages of the modern day Civil Rights movement. He organized non-violent sit-ins and took on leadership responsibilities in the historic Selma-Montgomery March. In 1987, Rev. Lee was appointed District Superintendent for the Golden Gate District of California/Nevada Conference for the United Methodist Church. We, at **LEAP Forward**, would like to thank the philanthropic generosity made by his wife, the late Carol Carruthers Lee, and sons – Charles and William.



Mrs. Carol Lee, At 82, Mrs. Lee graced us with her presence at our scholarship program in July 2014. It was her pleasure to provide financial support to youth seeking a college education. She valued education and was the valedictorian of her class at Phyllis Wheatly High School in Houston. Mrs. Lee received a scholarship to Talladega College and graduated with her B.A. in Elementary Education. She received an M.A. in Early Childhood Development from Texas Southern University. She taught in Atlanta Schools and was a teacher and administrator for the San Francisco Unified School District for 21 years. We are grateful to have known and loved her and are appreciative of the students she helped to obtain a college education through her generous scholarships. Thank you Charles and William for starting this scholarship in your Mom's memory.



Clifton Morsell. A highly decorated veteran of World War II for his heroism, his leadership and his ability to motivate and to be able to make decisions under adverse conditions. In November 2010, he (along with other veterans from Calvert County and Washington DC) was honored by the Calvert County NAACP. Mr. Morsell, father of **LEAP Forward's** board member Tim Morsell, was a devout husband and exemplified the meaning of a **Strong Black Man**. He would not hesitate to 'drop what he was doing' to help his neighbors and friends. He stressed the importance of education but placed a heavy emphasis on Mathematics.



Randolph Adams. Son-in-law of Mr. Clifton Morsell. As with Mr. Morsell, Mr. Adams was that giant upon whose shoulders his children stood in order to pursue their dreams. He was a hard working, blue collar African-American who sensed the urgency of an education. He aspired to have his children to be the best at whatever endeavor they chose to pursue. Mr. Adams can look upon his two children with pride. Rantessa Adams is an educator in the Calvert County public school system. His youngest daughter, Marseta Dill (who was involved in **LEAP Forward's** community outreach) pursued a career in engineering. Currently, she is an electrical engineer with the Federal Aviation Administration. We, at **LEAP Forward**, would like to applaud the humanitarian action by both Marseta and Baron Dill for both establishing this scholarship, and in keeping their legacy of "giving back" with us. Thank you ,also, to Rantessa, Mae and Tim.



Violet Parker. The matriarch of the family. Her kind, wise yet stern demeanor helped to lead and navigate her family through life's endless adversities. She led by example and expected only the best from 'her children'. Mrs. Parker celebrated and boasted in overcoming challenges, strides made and academic advances met by each of 'her children'. Mrs. Parker saw the value of education, along with her unwavering lifetime commitment of helping others; gave freely. Contributions from the Parker Family make this scholarship possible.



Raymond Harris. A consummate businessman used his assets to quietly bring about change in his community. He always encouraged others to be the best they can be. A Brooks HS graduate, he also completed one year of college at the UMES. He honorably served his country in the U.S. Army from 1960 to 1962 and was a member of the American Legion Gray-Ray Post #220. Despite operating his successful business, he always found time to devote to youth, as he helped with the start-up of a baseball team and provided the uniforms and transportation. **LEAP Forward** celebrates and thanks his daughter Rose Bourne and his wife, Rosalie Harris for continuing to give, to inspire and to encourage youth.



Hamilton Maurice Parran, Sr. and Alice Annie (Jones) Parran, both Calvert County natives, were committed to the academic excellence of not only their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, but to all who knew them. Mr. and Mrs. Parran, known affectionately as “Big Daddy” and Big Momma,” were very active in Plum Point United Methodist Church and their community and were fervent supporters of various Parent Teacher Associations. They cheerfully provided spiritual and financial support to anyone in need. They consistently motivated the youth in their family, church and community to continue their education and to reach their fullest potential. After the death of Mr. Parran, Mrs. Parran continued their ministry through her prayers, encouraging words, and “giving a little piece of change” to youth as she encountered them. **LEAP Forward** thanks Tonya and Kevin Wilkerson and the Parran Brothers for their willingness to start this scholarship.



Wallace Lorenzo Leeper. With his insight and his involvement in his student's preparedness to face the ever changing global challenges, **LEAP Forward**, with great adulation, establishes and administers this scholarship in honor of the man who 'started it all'. He helped to eradicate pre-existing barriers which prevented many academically gifted minority students from utilizing their fullest potential. A high school guidance counselor by profession, a Godsend to many families and current minority professionals, he directed many students into college. His involvement with the Pax-Tenn Navy Co-Op program was instrumental in producing many of the **LEAP Forward** Board Members and **LEAP Forward** itself.



Fernande Personna. A native of Jacmel, Haiti. She migrated to the U.S. in 1971 and worked as an Assistant Nurse in Thiells, NY. After retiring from the healthcare industry, Mrs. Personna became a well-respected business owner in Haiti. She was a driven and hard-working woman who was a role model to her family and her community in the U.S. and in Haiti. It is with great pleasure that **LEAP Forward** sponsors this scholarship and that her daughter, Yamilee Dambreville’s efforts allow the spirit and legacy of Mrs. Fernande Personna to continue to bless and uplift others. She gave a lot of herself to the world.

Hebrews 13:16 And Don't forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Launching Educational Assistance Program Forward Inc.
2015 CHARLES H. LEE, SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Sydney Buckmire
Calvert High School
College of Southern Maryland
Nutrition and Dietetics

"It was at one of my mom's PT visits where my desire to become a physical therapist was fueled... I decided this type of field is what I really want to do for my career because I can visualize myself excelling in this career and enjoying it"



Breona Buck
Calvert High School
Lycoming College
Criminal Justice (Forensic Chemistry)

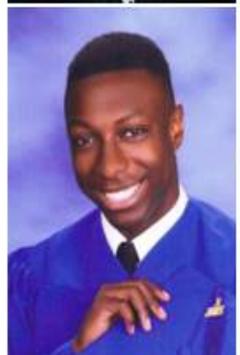
"I see a challenging situation not as a problem, but rather as an opportunity to learn. This philosophy keeps me focused and motivated."

2015 ADAMS-MORSELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Ryan Adams
Northern High School
Accounting
Loyola University - Maryland

"Why Not?" "These two simple words for a question that resound in and motivate me daily. My mind is my most valued asset. I will establish my own accounting firm."



Joseph Berry III
Calvert High School
Computer Science
Coastal Carolina University

"My career choice is a computer scientist with emphasis on cyber security. I know that my education and skills will be a help to our country and I want to help and protect others."



Shala Thomas
Northern High School
Communications
Hampton University

"I have earned the privilege of attending college; I intend to make an impact academically as well as in outreach. College will continue to broaden my views politically, socially, culturally as well as open doors of opportunity."

2015 ADAMS-MORSELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Erik Haskell
Daniel Webster College
Aviation Management/Air Traffic Management
"I would like my contribution to society to be my leadership and service to the community. I will be a positive role model and mentor students."

2015 VIOLET PARKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Monae Mackall
Calvert High School
Towson University
Nursing
"By attending college and becoming a nurse I will contribute to my society immensely. Becoming a nurse isn't just a desire that I have for myself but an objective that I have set to benefit others around me every day of their lives."

2015 RAYMOND HARRIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Autumn James
Huntingtown High School
Spelman College
Political Science
"For as long as I can remember, I have dreamed of becoming an attorney. I will do everything I can to make sure I become an attorney and eventually own my own law firm... I am excited to begin my studies."



Chardae Gross
Huntingtown High School
Stevenson University
Biology
"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. I hope to one day be an Anesthesiologist... With my experiences to date it has helped me to believe that anything is possible; no matter how hard it will be to achieve my goals I know I can not give up."

2015 HAMILTON & ALICE PARRAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Joshua Bell
Calvert High School
University of Maryland Baltimore County
Biochemistry

"I plan to go through medical school, a residency and a fellowship in order to hold a career as a pediatric endocrinologist. I am self motivated. I hope that I will continue to change the lives of those around me far into the future."



Moriah Avery
Calvert High School
Temple University
Journalism

"As a journalism major, I want to become an author and write for public media. I believe that I am confident and able to achieve my goals that I set out to accomplish."

2015 WALLACE LEEPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Karissa Fenwick
Patuxent High School
University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
Nursing

"I realized my education is very valuable path to achieve success and happiness for me, and more importantly others. My aspirations are to become a nurse and do mission trips to improve the quality of life for people in need."



Brianna Mason
Calvert High School
College of Southern Maryland
General Studies

"Education is extremely vital to me. Life gets tough but you have the control to not let it defeat you. You should never give up on education no matter how tough it gets."



Madison Tonic
Calvert High School
University of Florida
Animal Science

"I hope that, after my years of higher education study, I will be an accomplished veterinary orthopedic surgeon. I am hopeful, optimistic, and extremely excited. I believe that I am well prepared to face whatever it has in store for me.."

2015 WALLACE LEEPER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS (continued)



Kailyn Hutchins
Calvert High School
College of Southern Maryland
Political Science

"A college education will assist me in attaining my goal of becoming a criminal prosecuting attorney, because of the proper knowledge and education I will obtain. I am very determined. Whenever I want something, I am determined to get it."



Raesha Estep
Calvert High School
Spelman College
Women Studies

"I want to create a safe place for women that includes more opportunities than the ones we are given... I want to insure the opportunities given to the fortunate are also given to the less fortunate... I have always been motivated to strive for success."

On April 2, 2015 ***in Memory of Fernande Personna***, 7 scholarships totaling \$3500 were awarded to students attending the State University of New York Albany: Tre Branch, Jordania Deshamps, Dejanique Grant, Petrina Kidd, Brittany Roberts-Blake, Tamara Walker and Ijala Wilson.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all who attended and celebrated with us today. Thank you current and past donors and contributors. Thank you to the families (Parker, Harris, Adams, Morsell, Lee, Leeper, Parran and Dambreville) who provided scholarships. Thank you LEAP Forward board members and volunteers. Thank you Maurice Irvine for donating to and for preparing the reception. Thank you NSBE Jr. CASH members and advisors and parents. Thank you Southern Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce. Thank you past scholarship recipients for returning to share with others. Thank you to all parents. Thank you all performers and participants on the program. Thank you Bithgroup Technologies for sending us Mr. Holt and for the financial donation. Thank you to our MCs and student performers. Thank you to Del Boyd. Thank you young ladies and advisors to Destined4 Success. Thank you scholarship recipients for making us proud. Thank you Pastor Godlock. Thank you to all of you who supported our fundraisers. Thank you the Dominion Foundation, BestBuy, Walmart, and SMECO for your financial support for our NSBE Jr, Destined4Success and Your Education Serves Tutoring and Mentoring Programs. Thank you Butch for photography services. Thank you to those we may have forgotten ☺ Thank you ALL!

Bio for Mr. Harry Holt, Jr



Mr. Harry Holt, Jr. is the Vice President of Bithgroup Technologies. Bithgroup Technologies focuses on Enterprise Information Technology, Health and Human Services, Identity Services and Energy Information Systems. He is responsible for serving clients in Baltimore City, Washington, DC, Virginia, Delaware and many of the surrounding counties in Maryland. He also provides services to client in New York State, Georgia, and other states in the United States.

Mr. Holt is a proponent of education and is a lifelong learner and an educator. He has college degrees from two Ivy League schools which include a Bachelors of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Brown University and a MBA from Dartmouth College. He also holds a degree in Human Resource Management from George Washington University. As an educator, Mr. Holt serves as an Adjunct Professor of Business Management teaching Business Leadership courses to undergraduate students at Morgan State University.

His career journey has included service as a Special Projects Manager where he managed the \$10 million dollars' worth of Race to the Top Information Technology projects for Maryland State Department of Education. He also managed Data Entry Services for Maryland State Department of Education and developed and implemented software training for the Department of Community and Housing Development. Mr. Holt established an Energy Technical Training Program designed to instruct participants on conducting detailed energy audits. His career journey has also allowed him to serve as a Principal Consultant for Price Waterhouse, Systems Engineer for IBM, Process Engineer for Calgon Corporation, and Math Teacher at Dunbar High School in Baltimore, MD. Mr. Holt is also an entrepreneur and is the President of HOLT Enterprises which provides customized training courses to a variety of clients.

His service to others includes serving as the Regional Director of INROADS Mid-Atlantic Region. He coached and advised 300 interns and recruited 500 intern candidates from colleges and universities nationally on an annual basis. Recently, he managed a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math program for high school males focused on teaching them about emerging technologies, alternative energies and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Holt is a wonderful husband and father and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Lift Every Voice and Sing by James Weldon Johnson

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
let our rejoicing rise,
high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea
sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us,
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of a
new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the day when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet,
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
we have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might,
led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray
lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee,
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee,
shadowed beneath the hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God,
True to our native land.