



EvanstonScholars





EVANSTON SCHOLARS

EVANSTON SCHOLARS IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT HELPS AMBITIOUS EVANSTON STUDENTS REALIZE THEIR DREAM OF GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE.



DEAR FRIENDS,

March 17, 2017 was the sixth anniversary of the founding of Evanston Scholars. We have come so far since our first class of 10 Scholars in 2011. Since then, we've served over 200 students; we grew nearly 20% just in the last year. We've celebrated 14 college graduates and look forward to honoring

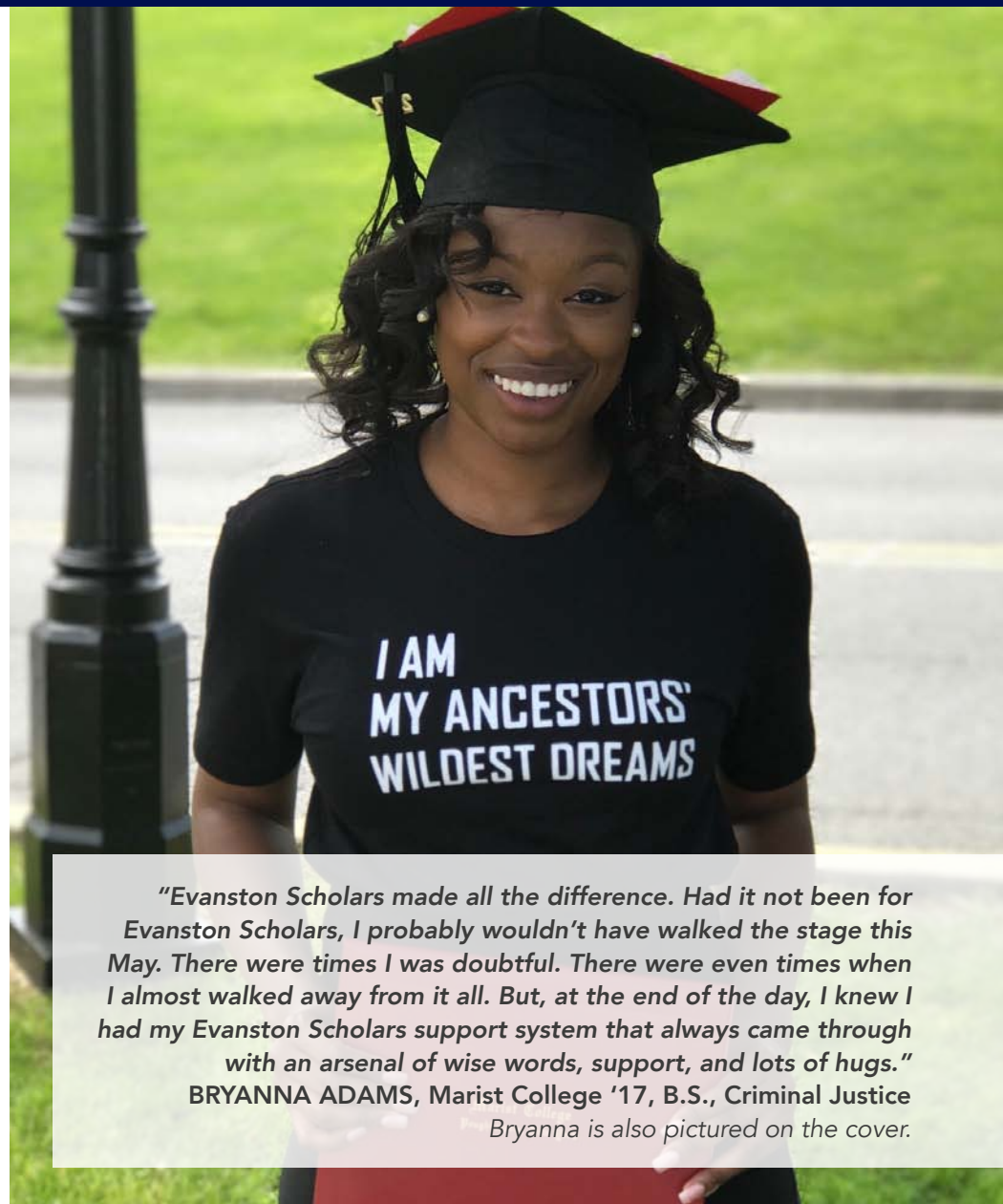
many more. Our **college persistence rate of 96%** greatly exceeds the national average. Our Scholars are not only persisting and graduating from college, but they are also **giving back to the Evanston community**:

- **Leslie Coronel**, Amherst College '16 serves on the Evanston Scholars Board of Directors
- **Khadijah Davis**, Manhattanville College '16 is mentor to a Class of 2018 Scholar and our first Scholar to attend graduate school (DePaul University)
- **Bryanna Adams**, Marist College '17 is a coveted speaker at Evanston Scholars program events and serves as a role model for younger Scholars. Bryanna recently advised high school Scholars to:

Be open to everything. College flies by much faster than you think it will. And...never hesitate to reach out. Your network of support is wider than you think it is.

YOU – our donors, volunteers, and community supporters – make up that network of support referred to by Bryanna. Your support this year made it possible for more Evanston students to succeed in college, an incredibly important step toward closing the opportunity gap for current and future generations of Evanston students.

Sincerely,
STEVE NEWMAN, Executive Director



"Evanston Scholars made all the difference. Had it not been for Evanston Scholars, I probably wouldn't have walked the stage this May. There were times I was doubtful. There were even times when I almost walked away from it all. But, at the end of the day, I knew I had my Evanston Scholars support system that always came through with an arsenal of wise words, support, and lots of hugs."
BRYANNA ADAMS, Marist College '17, B.S., Criminal Justice

Bryanna is also pictured on the cover.

OUR VISION

HELP MORE EVANSTON YOUTH EARN A COLLEGE DEGREE, EXPERIENCE ECONOMIC STABILITY, AND BECOME MENTORS TO THE NEXT GENERATION OF PROSPECTIVE COLLEGE STUDENTS.

WHAT WE DO

- Improve college access and success through evidence-based programming and support services:
- Connect students to colleges where they can succeed
 - Provide hands-on assistance with the college application process and financial aid
 - Reduce inequality in testing by providing high quality SAT and ACT test preparation by a reputable tutoring firm
 - Provide mentoring and coaching throughout college to increase persistence and completion

WHO WE SERVE

ETHS (Evanston Township High School) sophomores through college seniors with:

- Academic potential: B average (minimum 2.7 GPA)
- Demonstrated need (free/reduced lunch)
- First generation in their families to go to college
- Demonstrated character and ambition



MAKE AN IMPACT



Average increase in ACT score following the ACT Preparation Course for Class of 2017



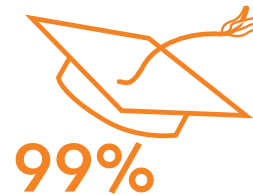
Average number of college applications submitted by Evanston Scholars seniors (national average is 3)



Average debt-free scholarship and aid per student over 4 years of college



2017 graduates receiving full-tuition scholarships



Graduating high school scholars who matriculate into college the following fall



Evanston Scholars who started college are still enrolled (nationally, the graduation rate for first-generation & low-income students is 11%)

EVANSTON SCHOLARS ARE CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT

Amherst College
 Augustana College (3)
 Baldwin Wallace University
 Ball State University
 Barry University
 Boston College
 Bowling Green State University
 Bradley University (3)
 Carleton College
 Colgate University
 Colorado College
 Denison University

DePaul University (2)
 Dominican University (4)
 Eastern Illinois University
 Elon University
 Grinnell College
 Hampton University
 Hope College
 Howard University
 Illinois State University
 Illinois Wesleyan University
 Kent State University (3)
 Knox College (2)

Lake Forest College (4)
 Lawrence University (2)
 Lewis University
 Marist College
 Milliken University
 Morgan State University
 Northern Illinois University (4)
 Northwestern University (3)
 Oakton Community College (4)
 Ohio Wesleyan University
 Purdue University Calumet
 Ripon College

Sewanee–The University of the South
 St. Louis University
 St. Olaf College
 University of Dayton
 University of Illinois Chicago (4)
 University of Illinois Springfield (3)
 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (21)
 University of Iowa
 University of Minnesota
 University of Missouri (3)
 University of Pennsylvania

University of Southern California
 University of Wisconsin–Madison (2)
 Valparaiso University (3)
 Vanderbilt University
 Washington University in St. Louis (3)
 Wellesley College
 Western Illinois University (2)
 Western Michigan University
 Wheaton College

MAKE IT TO COLLEGE COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM

FINDING A “GOOD FIT” SCHOOL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2016-2017

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS/ACCEPTANCES: The Class of 2017 completed 336 college applications in total. Scholars were **accepted to 7.3 out of 10 colleges** they applied to on average and have enrolled at 16 different colleges and universities across the country.

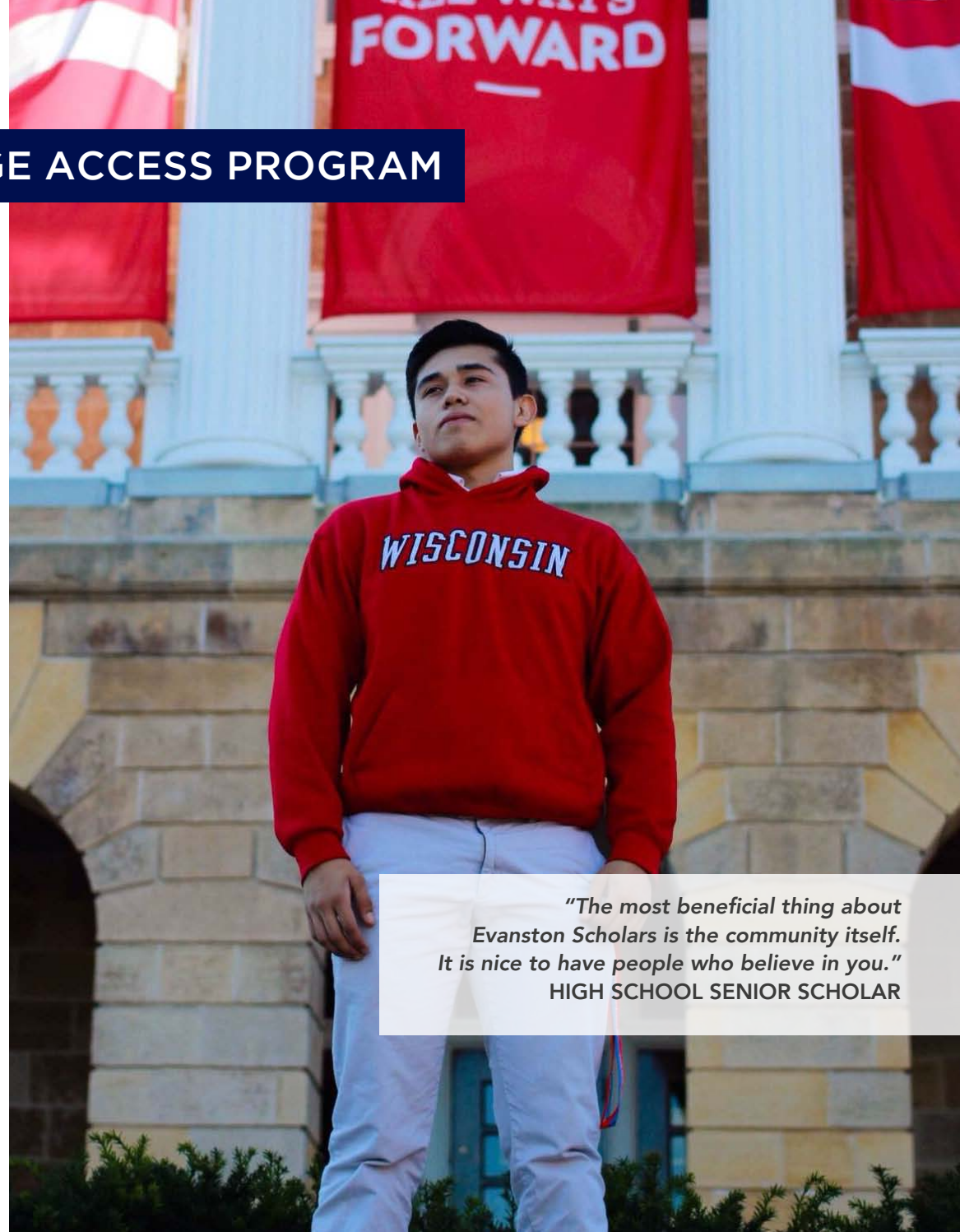
ACT PREPARATION: Juniors completed a nine-week ACT prep course and **realized gains of more than three points** on average.

DAY OF SERVICE: Juniors and seniors participated in a Day of Service **supporting local community organizations** including the Evanston School Children’s Clothing Association (ESCCA), the Ebenezer Baptist Soup Kitchen, Family Focus, the Rice Child + Family Center, and the Evanston Animal Shelter.

COLLEGE VISITS: Students went on college visits to schools representing a variety of campus experiences; this year we visited the **University of Wisconsin-Madison, Augustana College, Lawrence University,** and the **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.**

SUMMER COLLEGE PROGRAMS: 24 of 37 rising senior Scholars participated in **pre-college programs** at colleges and universities across the country and/or **cultural immersion programs** in the developing world. Campus-based programs included Brown University, Boston University, and the LEAD (LEADership, Education and Development) Program. Scholars traveled to Costa Rica and Guatemala with the Global Glimpse and Global Visionaries programs.

WORKSHOPS: Evanston Scholars held **18 workshops** on topics including pre-college programs, the power of the high school transcript, resume creation, self-assessment (including racial, cultural, and academic identity development), college essay writing, college affordability and financial aid, and preparing for college.



“The most beneficial thing about Evanston Scholars is the community itself. It is nice to have people who believe in you.”
HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SCHOLAR



"It's so great to have a team by your side willing to field any questions you may have. If Evanston Scholars cannot answer the question they will try their best to find you help. This is a result of their genuine intention to help Scholars on their journey to and through college."
COLLEGE SCHOLAR

SUPPORT THROUGH THE COLLEGE YEARS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2016-2017

COLLEGE SUCCESS GUIDANCE: Supported College Scholars by providing academic and financial advising as they persisted towards their undergraduate degrees.

PRE-ORIENTATION ADVISING: Assisted freshmen with completion of financial aid counseling, meeting campus deadlines, and selecting classes.

CAMPUS VISITS: Travelled to several campuses to visit with enrolled Scholars and meet with college staff.

TUESDAYS IN JULY: Connected College Scholars with experts in small group settings to discuss topics pertinent to campus life.

CIRCLE OF HONOR: Recognized a record number of College Scholars who earned a **GPA of 3.0 and higher**.

COLLEGE SCHOLAR PEER MENTORING: Upperclassmen helped freshmen make a smoother transition to college by serving as peer mentors.

COLLEGE POWER WORKSHOPS: Conducted workshops to provide high school seniors with information and tools to help them have a successful first semester in college.

WINTER BREAK REUNION: Provided an opportunity for College Scholars to reconnect with their peers and network with young professionals representing an array of careers.

NOTES AND GOODIES FROM HOME: Mailed care packages filled with cookies, candy, a few comfort items, and personal notes to each College Scholar.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

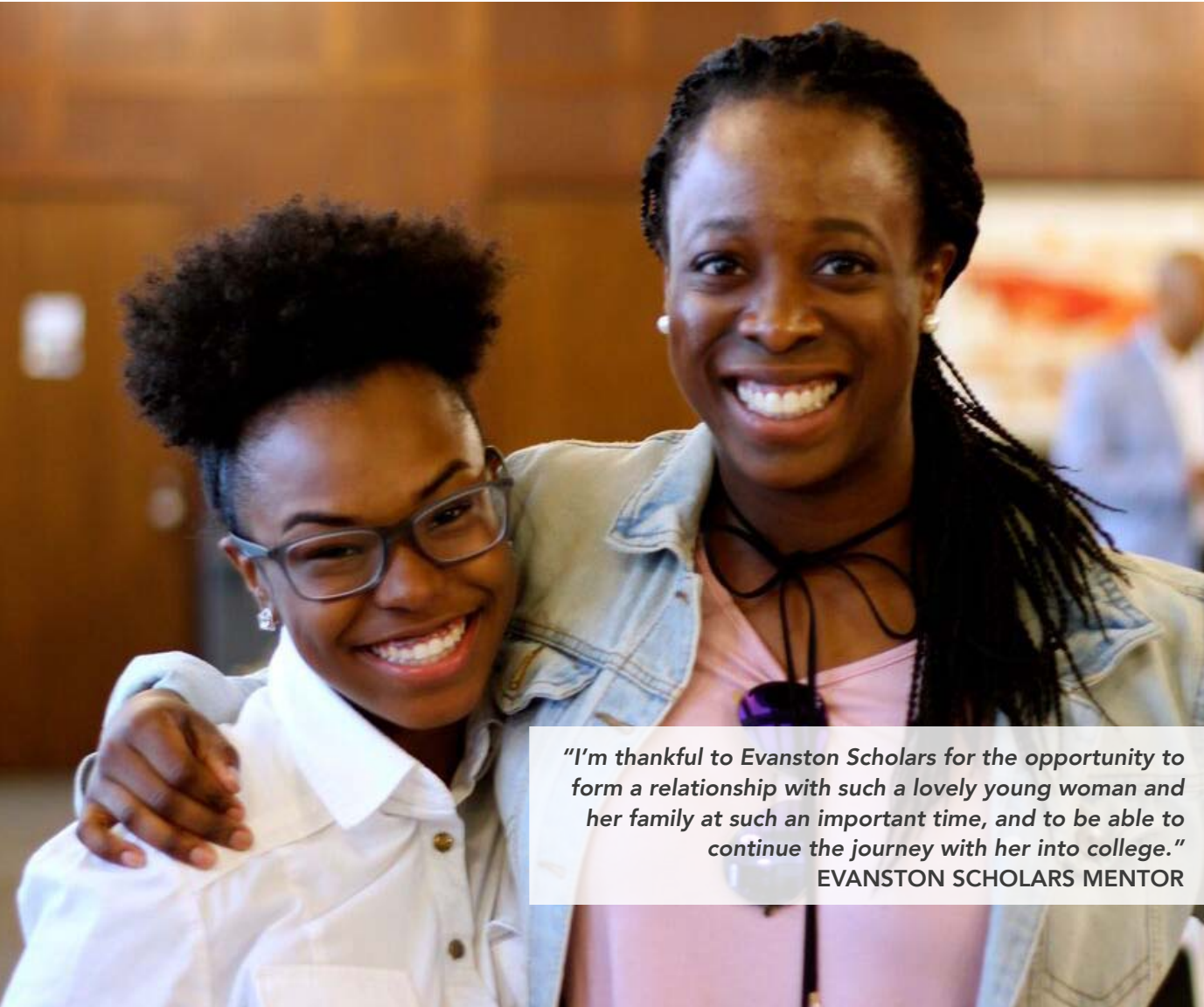
MENTORING PROGRAM

MENTORS FORM THE BACKBONE OF THE EVANSTON SCHOLARS SUPPORT SYSTEM



THANK YOU TO OUR MENTORS

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"I'm thankful to Evanston Scholars for the opportunity to form a relationship with such a lovely young woman and her family at such an important time, and to be able to continue the journey with her into college."

EVANSTON SCHOLARS MENTOR

The one-to-one Mentor relationship provides the guidance every Scholar needs throughout his or her college journey. Mentors work alongside staff and their mentee's family to help students apply to colleges, fill out the FAFSA financial aid forms, research scholarship opportunities, and evaluate offers. Once in college, Mentors provide emotional support to help Scholars make the transition to college life and overcome obstacles as they arise.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE

At Evanston Scholars, our goal is to see more students start AND finish college. Through Mentors, peer relationships, and learning opportunities, we seek to bolster our Scholars' support systems, thereby improving their chances of obtaining a college degree. Our Scholars are succeeding in college and mentoring their younger siblings and friends along the way. It truly does take a village.



"MY MENTOR HAS DEFINITELY BEEN A VALUABLE ASSET TO BOUNCE IDEAS OFF OF AND HAS ALWAYS SERVED AS AN UNBIASED VOICE THAT HOLDS MY BEST INTEREST AT HEART AT ALL TIMES"
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLAR



FINANCIAL DATA AUGUST 2016 – JULY 2017

INCOME	
Individual Donations	353,585
Events	204,143
Family Foundation Donations	135,000
Foundation Grants	27,289
Corporations	14,228
Other Income	15,043
TOTAL INCOME	\$749,288
EXPENSES	
Program Services and Scholarships	557,014
Management and General	79,869
Fundraising	35,110
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$671,993

Ellen Morgan and Sheldon Zenner, Ellen Muench, Brian Murphy, Andy Mynard, Kate Newman, Emily Nidenberg*, Ebele Onyema, Nicole Parker, Chaka Patterson, David Phillips, Julie Rapisarda, Joey Reiff, Robin Remich*+, Emily Render, Michele Rogers, Judy Royal, Blanca Ruiz, Paola Ruocco, Saralyn Sacks and Mike Klearman, Paola Sapienza+ and Salvatore Di Bernardo, Paul Selden, Mark Severin, Julie Shufro, Christopher Siebert, Jeff Simon, Sadia Sindhu, Adriane Slaton, Jennifer Steans and Jim Kastenzholz, Meredith Stevens, Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar, Erica Suennen, Pam Swales, David Taylor, Deborah Thorne, Marcy Toney, Kris Uhler, Cindy Ulrich*, George Varela, Anne Viner, Margarita Vizcarra, Sachin Waikar+, Chris Ward, Maudette Watley, Evan Westerfield, Nancy Williams, Gavin Wilson, Corey Winchester*, Chris Winslow, Andreas Winter, Carol Yohanen, Ann Zastrow, Reena Zigelman

WELCOME CLASS OF 2019 MENTORS

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*Has mentored more than one student
+Mentor Steering Committee Member

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

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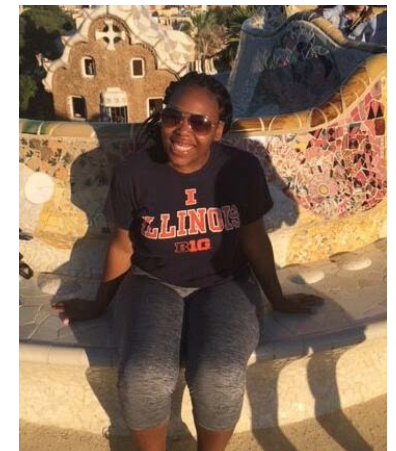
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