

SOUTH CENTRAL SCHOLARS

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

Our Circle Continues to Grow...

South Central Scholars congratulates its 45 2009 graduates and welcomes the 61 incoming 2009-2010 freshman scholars! Despite the changes in the economy that have so quickly impacted the development of many industries and the transition of eager, educated professionals into the workforce, the group of students that we proudly call our scholars have adapted, grown, and chosen paths enabling them to rise up (yet again!) from adversity.

In the first and second quarters of 2009, South Central Scholars' staff, partners, and board members have successfully connected students with networks and contacts that have provided opportunities for mentorship, jobs and internship placement this year.

We would like to thank the following partners for opening new doors to our students and giving them paths to professional success:

American Red Cross of Greater Los Angeles
Deloitte & Touche
KPMG Los Angeles Office
KPMG San Francisco Office
Northrop Grumman Space Technology
Office of Senator Feinstein
Tesoro Corporation
William Morris Endeavor Entertainment

To all our new and existing partners and volunteers, we thank you for your commitment to making a positive impact on young scholars' lives, and we applaud your contributions and successes!



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Onward and Upward!

To date, South Central Scholars (SCS) has officially awarded approximately **two million dollars (\$2,000,000) in scholarship monies** to bright, deserving scholars from all over South Central Los Angeles. We are serving **32 high school campuses** and now have a community of **470 scholars**. Our **Alumni Association is 166 strong** and working hard to provide additional programs and resources to current and incoming scholars. SCS continues to grow and prosper and we thank all of our supporters and volunteers for making it all possible.

Scholar Highlight: Christian Strong

Christian Strong, a South Central Scholar from Crenshaw High School, graduated from Harvard University on June 4, 2009. Christian skipped one year in high school, graduating at the age of 16.

His dedication to the field of economics motivated him to acquire an internship with JP Morgan Chase in the summer after his freshman year. His experience in their Supplier Diversity department focused on connecting minority- and women-owned companies with the illustrious banking organization.

His work in economics did not cease there. The summer after his sophomore year, he was a recipient of the Richard B. Fisher scholarship from Morgan Stanley. Because of this scholarship he was able to intern with Morgan Stanley in their Healthcare Banking, Real Estate Banking, and Global Capital Markets, working with Debt Coverage groups. Aside from his summer positions in the field of economics, and due to Harvard's vast resources, he has participated in research with the National Bureau of Economics and Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Christian had a passion for another field: Medicine. At Crenshaw High he volunteered with the Kedren Headstart program which worked to provide inoculations, as well as food, for under-privileged preschoolers. His interest in Medicine did not waver once he started Harvard. By his junior year, he began volunteering with the Harvard Medical School through the Martha Eliot Health Center, in which he mentors adolescents in an underserved area of Boston. He is the first undergrad-



uate mentor in Martha Eliot's program.

"He has had internships with multiple doctors in San Pedro, including Dr. Neil Chafetz (radiology), Dr. Nick Nabavi (neurosurgery), Dr. Maurice Gross (anesthesia), and with my office (orthopedic surgery)," comments Dr. James London.

South Central Scholars has stood next to him all the way and when the opportunity came, they connected him with another mentor, Dr. David Cannom. With Dr. Cannom, Christian was able to research with the help of LA Cardiology on projects dealing with heart failure and atherosclerosis. Christian has participated in writing projects involving cutting edge technology. Should the findings be published, it will be the first time data has

been seen on the use of a new orbital atherectomy device for the treatment of complex, calcified lower extremity arterial disease in patients at risk for limb loss.

As he balanced his academic, social and extracurricular lives, he kept in contact with the mentors that SCS had provided, once more taking advantage of the many resources presented to him. His access to the multiple internship opportunities shows how South Central Scholars' internship program supplements students' academic education.

"It is a thrill and an honor to work with students like Christian," comments Mr. Randy Winston, VP of Student Services. "We wish him all the best in medical school, but we know he will be successful."

Congratulations Graduates!

Stacey Ahaiwe
Berhane Azage
Ehte Bahiru
Claude Baldwin
Krista Brackin
Michael Brown
Ronika Brown
Felix Chinchilla
Donovan Cosby
Clifton Davis
Ricardo Elorza
Perla Flores-Luna
Karsina Gaither
Marisol Gonzalez
Ruby Gonzalez-Jimenez
Jamal Haskin
Ivan Haynes
Hector Hernandez
Chaunte Humes
Cindy Jaramillo
Demitrius Jones
Lauren Knight
Aleksey Lanis
Helen Lopez
Brian Martinez
Emmanuel Njoku
Bridgette Ortiz
Tranee Peevy
Maria-Natalia Pena
Roberto Ramirez
Sandra Robles
Jose Rodriguez

Enrique Rodriguez
Jennifer Rojas
Heriberto Rojas
Jesus Sandoval
David Smart
Jessica Sosa
Christian Strong
Daveon Swan
Luis Valdez
Vanessa Vargas
Karla Vasquez
Mari Ward
Rasheedah Woodard

We wish you luck in the upcoming months and remind you that we are here for you, whether the next step in your path is graduate school, professional school, or a career. Our growing Alumni Association will extend all of its resources and networks to support you in this transition. All of us at SCS are so proud of you for your accomplishments.

Congratulations!

Welcome 2009-2010 Scholars!

Elizabeth Adabale
Walter Amaya
Britney Armstrong
Abiola Ayanfalu
Teninlanimi Ayo-Ariyo
Melissa Bejarano
Asha Bell
Morgan Bell
Elisa Bravo
Selene Ceja
Ariel Crockam
Lamar Curry
Tajsheena Curtis
Brian De La Cruz
Opal Dillard
Pierre Dupree
Hansanii, Frazier
Alejandra Garcia
Irving Gomez
Noel Grigsby
Kristina Harris
Rachel Harris
Ariana Herrera
Ashanti Jackson
Danielle Johnson
Dominique Jordan
Richard Kizzee
Shauday Klaz
Montae Langston
Domineisha Lescaille
Luis Maldonado
Taylor Mason

Carlos Mercado
Douglas Mills
Olevia Mitchell
Laisha Mondesir
Isaiah Muhammad
Hyacinth Noble
Michael Osakwe
Emiko Owan-Dobson
Milagros Palacios
Nykeah Parham
Jinju Park
Daidreana Payton
Alejandra Perez
Marlene Ponce
Aurora Ponce
Hector Qahhaar
Miller Ramirez
Franz Wayne Rivera
Sara Rodriguez
Joseph Smith
Stephanie Valdez
Mark Vather
Valerie Vega
Julian White
Julia Williams
Khadijah Williams
Emily Yi
Fangheng Zhou

We look forward to serving you. Good luck to you all in the Fall!

Upcoming Events

Annual IPO Summer Business Conference
Saturday, July 25th from 8am-5pm
Sunday, July 26th from 9am-1pm
University of Southern California, Taper Hall
3551 Trousdale Parkway, Los Angeles, CA 90089

The Keynote speaker will be Mayor Richard Riordan. Event to include workshops and seminars on various topics, including:

- Financial Literacy
- How to be Successful in College
- Strategies for Job Placement
- Leadership and Ethics

Incoming, current, graduated scholars and HS students are invited!

Annual SCS Annual Summer Picnic
Sunday, July 26th from 1pm-5pm
University of Southern California, Founders Park
3551 Trousdale Parkway, Los Angeles, CA 90089

The Picnic will provide a venue for interaction and networking. We invite all current and potential mentors, volunteers, and partners to join us on this day.

Back to School! College Welcome Weeks
August - September
Various college and university sites

SCS Alumni will host "meet & greets" for current and incoming scholars before the start of Fall classes.

The South Central Scholars Mission

South Central Scholars is a group of volunteers, all professionals who work with disadvantaged, highly motivated, inner city high school students to help them succeed in college, graduate/professional school, and in life. Through education, mentorship and our jobs program, the students of South Central Scholars develop to their full potential and become future leaders, both within SCS and in the broader community.

SCS was founded in 2001 to support one student matriculating at the University of California, Berkeley. The next year, we grew to support 32 students. Today, approximately 470 students participate in our program as current undergraduate students or graduates.

The Schools We Currently Serve

Archer, Belmont, Franklin, Bishop, California Academy of Math & Science (CAMS), Centennial, Crenshaw, Dorsey, Downtown Magnets, Foshay Learning Center, Fremont, Gorman, Hamilton, Inglewood, Jefferson, Jordan, King Drew Magnet, Los Angeles Center for Enriched Studies (LACES), Leuzinger, Locke, Loyola, Manual Arts, Marshall, St. Bernard's, St. Mary's Academy, Trinity, Verbum Dei, View Park Prep, Washington Prep, West Adams Prep, and Westchester.

The Board of Directors

Dr. James London, Patricia London, Devon Baranski, Allison Gauthier, Sam Goldfeder, Gayle Holcomb, Eric Harrison, Joan Herman, David Hou, Evelyn Hou, Derrick Lee, Melvin Lindsey, Chrystal Lindsey, Stuart Liner, Daniel Milder, Masai Minters, Alexander Rubalcava, William Simpson, Laura Stein, Greg Wardle, Jeff Weiss

To get involved with scholars in your community, contact a Regional Director.

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