I have never been prouder of the Ron Brown Scholar family than I am today. For years I’ve been sharing details of the heartwarming acts of kindness and generosity which underlie all that we have accomplished over the past 24 years. In these pages you’ve read moving examples of determined Scholars overcoming adversity and achieving successes in every field of endeavor while remaining committed to helping others. These young people understand both the value of their individual successes and power of their collective impact. With the current health and financial crises, we’ve never needed each other more, so we’re dedicating this newsletter to the ways the Scholars have rushed to help one another, their communities, and future Scholars.

Over the years, RBSP has given out a whopping $19.5 million in scholarships. From day one, our goal has always been to nurture talented young people who are interested in giving back. Today, we see the value of that choice. Dr. Travis Gayles and Dr. Carmelle Norice-Tra, along with others, are now leading the fight against Covid-19. And they are far from alone—as you’ll read throughout this newsletter, from laboratory research, to patient care, to public health, Ron Brown Scholars are on the front lines of the biggest health crisis of our time. By helping these public-spirited young people when they were just starting out, you—our friends—have helped our communities, our nation, and our world.

The effects of this crisis have been felt on many scales. As school after school shut their doors and sent their students home, a number of Scholars suddenly found themselves facing housing and food insecurity. Our Alumni immediately formed an emergency fund to help those most impacted by college and university shutdowns. Our Advisors and Trustees even housed some Scholars until we could find more permanent arrangements. The whole Ron Brown community stepped up to help us resolve these pressing issues and—at least for now—I’m happy to report that everyone is safe and sound.

Even as these Scholars rise to meet the demands of today, we are also looking ahead to the needs of tomorrow. After winnowing over 4,000 talented applicants down to 24 finalists, our dedicated Selection Committee interviewed them all by phone. They were so impressed by the finalists’ intelligence and compassion they insisted on naming all 24 Ron Brown Scholars. The Scholars themselves are making this possible. In the wake of the Great Recession we had to shrink the sizes of our incoming classes. Today, after a decade of endowment-raising we hope to be able to ride out this economic downturn. Three Scholars from those lean years, Camille Everhart (RBS 2009), Kani Keita (RBS 2008) and Ethan Monreal-Jackson (RBS 2008), have committed to sponsoring full
Ron Brown Scholar Heroes

From pathbreaking research to clinical care to public health, Ron Brown Scholars are helping lead the fight against COVID-19. Recognizing the heroic work of our Alumni, we’re reminded how far the impact of this Program extends: RBS may support individuals, but those individuals can and do go on to change the world.

As Chief Health Officer for Montgomery County, Dr. Travis Gayles (RBS 1997) is on the front lines of the fight against the coronavirus. Dr. Gayles, a Duke graduate who earned his MD and Ph.D from the University of Illinois, is a pediatrician who previously served as Chief Medical Officer for the Washington DC Department of Health’s HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis, STDs, and TB Administration. Today, Dr. Gayles leads a team of over 500 employees, using his training and experience in community health and health policy to protect the welfare of the residents of his county. Dr. Gayles explains, “As the Health Officer for Montgomery County, my job has been to lead the County’s COVID-19 pandemic response. This involves overseeing all aspects of public health emergency preparedness including executing CDC, state and local disease control policies, developing and implementing COVID-related clinical policies throughout the county, distribution of protective resources, coordinating surge planning for hospitals and health systems, and informing/educating the public on pandemic progress.”

Now that coronavirus has made celebrities of public health officials, he has become a conspicuous figure in Southern Maryland and Washington, DC. Dr. Gayles not only directs and implements public policy for the county’s one million residents, he is also the face of public health in Southern Maryland, educating the public about risk mitigation on tv news, at press conferences, and via social media. As the calm and steady embodiment of reliable scientific information, Dr. Gayles is using public policy and public perception to keep people safe. Living up to the ethos of this Program, Dr. Gayles writes, “The support from the Ron Brown Scholar Program, including financial support and ongoing mentorship, have equipped me with the skillset to pursue this career path and have the confidence to execute these duties in a time of chaos and uncertainty.”

His advice to all of us: “Stay safe and continue to wash those hands!”

Sincerely,
Mike A. Mallory
President and CEO
The 2020 Ron Brown Leaders Summit is a coming to you virtually this year, June 26–27th. The annual Ron Brown Leaders Summit brings together the students and alumni of the Ron Brown Leaders Network, with Corporate Partners for networking and professional development. Partners share career advice with our young leaders while introducing them to professional opportunities within their organizations. You can follow updates and announcements at www.ronbrownleaderssummit.org.

Students are selected for the Ron Brown Leaders Network based on the application they submit to the Ron Brown Scholarship competition. Each year approximately 4,000 African American high school students compete for the prestigious Ron Brown Scholarship. Twenty or more are named scholarship. Twenty or more are named.

The Guided Pathway Support Program (GPS) is a free college access initiative open to African American high school juniors and seniors, along with their parents and counselors. GPS guides and empowers students through every stage of the college application process. With its high-tech and high-touch mentorship approach, GPS connects students to the information and inspiration they need to make college accessible. Launched in summer 2016, GPS uses Workplace by Facebook to create a virtual community dedicated to helping students select, apply to, and pay for college.

Now Accepting Applications
www.rbsgps.com

Ron Brown Scholars; the remaining top two to three percent of applicants are invited to join the Leaders Network as Captains. Ron Brown Captains have full access to the professional development services offered through the Leaders Network.

The Ron Brown Leaders Network comprises our Corporate Partners, Ron Brown Scholars, and Ron Brown Captains. Our Partners provide a trusted source of job and internship opportunities for Scholars and Captains, facilitated through networking and recruiting activities, including an annual conference. Participation in the Leaders Network is by invitation only.

Information on the Leaders Network may be found at www.ronbrown.org/ron-brown-leaders-network.

Ron Brown Scholars and Captains have access to jobs and internships with the following Leaders Network Partners:

- Facebook to create a virtual community dedicated to reliable information and countering misinformation
- Siemens Healthineers
- Capital One
- Latham & Watkins
- Deloitte
- Lockhead Martin
- vertizon
- VIACOMCBS
- Wave Forest
- TRAVELERS
- RTI International
- Dodge & Cox
- Daiichi Sankyo
- Siemens Healthineers
- Capital One
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- vertizon
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- Wave Forest
- TRAVELERS
- RTI International
- Dodge & Cox
- Daiichi Sankyo

Ron Brown Scholar Heroes
(continued from page 2)

Dr. Carmelle T. Norice-Trai (RBS 1997) is a Medical Officer of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health (NIH), in Bethesda, Maryland. She also provides infectious diseases specialty care to underserved patients at Community of Hope clinics in the District of Columbia. She is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Norice-Trai volunteers extensively in church-based community health outreach addressing health disparities with education, screenings, and referrals to programs for the medically uninsured. “It has been an honor to serve our nation as a Medical Officer at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) during the COVID-19 pandemic. I have been involved in the development and scientific review of three NIAID-sponsored COVID-19 clinical research trials. These trials are set to make significant contributions to global health, spanning the spectrum of COVID-19 management from vaccination to treatment. This unprecedented time has made my career path especially rewarding, and I am very proud to represent the Ron Brown Scholar Program at the cutting edge of biomedicine!”

In 2014, Martine Caverl (RBS 1999)—a trained nurse—began providing lifesaving instruction in first aid and gunshot wound care to residents of Chicago’s South Side. That effort soon grew into Ujimaa Medics, a volunteer-based community organization that approaches healthcare activism as a racial justice issue. Ujimaa, which takes its name from a Kiswahili word meaning “collective work and responsibility,” soon expanded, taking their community care workshops to cities across the nation, including Milwaukee, Washington, DC, New Orleans, and Seattle. In the last several years, the group has also led asthma workshops, and when social distancing forced these workshops online, Martine adapted them to address COVID-19. Access to reliable information (and countering misinformation) is especially important for asthmatics and people with preexisting respiratory conditions—particularly in African American communities, where longstanding structural inequalities have already caused disproportionately high morbidity and mortality. Whether it’s dressing wounds, preventative strategies, or community care, Martine puts the RBS spirit into practice, ensuring that her community has the resources and knowledge to care for itself. Soon, she hopes to adapt Ujimaa’s other programs for remote instruction as well, so that we can continue to benefit from her training, wherever we might live.

When New York City Health and Hospitals needed an interim Chief Medical Officer for its federally qualified health center in Harlem, the system turned to Dr. Amanda Johnson (RBS 2002). Shortly thereafter, the city’s largest public hospital network found itself at the epicenter of the COVID-19 crisis. Dr. Johnson helped to lead the response at the four-site network covering East Harlem, West Harlem, and Inwood while still seeing patients. Under her leadership, Sydenham Health Center became the first health center in Harlem to offer free, walk-up community-based testing, and it has since expanded its clinical presence to two of the sites based in public housing to better serve its neighborhood patients. Dr. Johnson’s success leading the pandemic response in Harlem led her back to NYC Health and Hospitals’ central office, where she is currently leading their quarantine and isolation hotel program. A key element of the city’s coronavirus response strategy, these isolation hotels offer New York’s homeless residents and those whose living situations can’t accommodate social distancing spaces to shelter and recover in a safe and supportive environment. Dr. Johnson sees her work as addressing both the virus itself and also the “accumulated structural disadvantages” that cause health outcomes to correlate with economic status. As Dr. Johnson notes, this is not a problem the coronavirus created—it’s just one it laid bare. She is working to ensure the public’s investment in finding ventilators is sustained and applied to the urgent project of widespread testing and contact tracing. Those measures, like the rest of Dr. Johnson’s work, will help ensure that “the long tail of poverty and inequality does not consign vulnerable populations to being uncounted collateral damage.”

Around the country and around the world, Ron Brown Scholars are working to create strong, healthy, resilient communities. Whether they’re caring for patients, exploring the etiology of disease, or spreading lifesaving information, these doctors and nurses are rising to meet the challenges of the day. “We’re so proud of the work our Scholars are doing and the many ways they honor the spirit of this Program by ‘paying it forward.’ And maybe we can all sleep a little easier knowing that such competent professionals are taking matters in hand.”

Dr. Carmelle T. Norice-Trai (RBS 1997) and Dr. Martine Caverl (RBS 1999) are both RBS scholars and leaders. Dr. Norice-Trai is a Medical Officer at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Bethesda, MD, and Dr. Caverl is a nurse and community care worker with Ujimaa Medics. The scholarship is named for Ron Brown, a Black Rhodes Scholar who was killed in the 1982 U.S. Embassy bombing in Tripoli, Libya. The RBS program is sponsored by a coalition of private, public, and philanthropic organizations, including The Coca-Cola Foundation, the Ford Foundation, Microsoft, and LinkedIn. The program is administered by the Ron Brown Scholarship Program, housed at the改變 Brown Foundation in South Carolina.
**Scholar Profile: Dr. Tristan Ivory (RBS 2000)**

Conratulations to Dr. Tristan Ivory (RBS 2000), who recently joined the faculty of Cornell University as Assistant Professor of International and Comparative Labor. Before Cornell he served as Assistant Professor of Sociology and Black Studies at the University of Missouri. Dr. Ivory received his Ph.D in Sociology in 2015 from Stanford University and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Center for Research on Race and Ethnicity in Society at Stanford University.

Like many Ron Brown Scholars, Dr. Ivory faced socioeconomic challenges growing up. Dr. Ivory credits his success to the power of family: even though money was often tight, he grew up in a loving home that encouraged his academic interests and trusted his judgment. Dr. Ivory’s mother (and entire family) realized that he was very self-directed from a young age and trusted him to chart his own academic journey. Knowing he had his family’s approval allowed him the freedom to develop and refine his identity and work habits.

Dr. Ivory’s journey from Oxnard, California to Cornell reinforces the importance of programs like the RBSP. He is quick to emphasize that the investments in programs like the RBSP are significant for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, as they provide access to opportunities that can transform their lives. He says that the RBSP has been a catalyst for his success and has allowed him to mentor future generations, giving back to the community that supported him.

Dr. Ivory is a strong believer in the importance of travel opportunities for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, most of whom have very limited opportunities to travel outside of the United States before entering college. He cites his own travel to Vietnam and Japan as shaping his understanding of himself and his place in the world. His travel experiences taught him several things: first, the world is a lot smaller than we think. He says that his travels were proof to him that people from different cultures and backgrounds can share the same language—could relate to one another, and could travel freely without being judged by the color of their skin. Dr. Ivory believes that the color of someone’s skin can sometimes force people of color to think of themselves as defined by racial identity. He was pleasantly surprised that people from other parts of the world—some of whom didn’t even speak the same language—could relate to him without the preconceptions that too many Americans still carry. The joys of travel and social observation led him to his current career.

Dr. Ivory advises his undergraduate students to concentrate on learning the variety of ideas and perspectives in the world and not to worry too much. He encourages them to focus instead on learning how to be successful, not just surviving. He says that the best way to view success is as something that can continually be improved upon.

Dr. Ivory’s views about a “purposeful life” (and especially about achieving and being successful) reflect those of someone who lives in and gains knowledge from each experience. He speaks from personal experience in trying not to worry too much about the people whom I love and have loved and the things that I do and am very grateful to be in the position that I am in. However, my sense of purpose is wholly removed from work. My purpose is to support and take care of the people whom I love and have loved and supported me. For me, this is the path to happiness. I’ve worked on developing my sense of worth and purpose from my work for years now, and I think it has began paying dividends.

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Ron Brown Scholars receive recognition

Each year at the annual American Journey Awards event we are proud to celebrate the achievements of Ron Brown Scholars, who like Ron Brown, “keep the door open and the ladder down for others to follow.” Although this year’s event was postponed until March 2021, we would like to acknowledge the following Scholar award recipients.

The American Journey Award for Emerging Leadership created in 2014 recognizes the accomplishments of Ron Brown Scholars who advance through their leadership in their respective fields and empower the next generation.

The Christopher A. Pilaro Fellowship in the Arts Award was created to honor the memory of treasured friend, Christopher Pilaro, who passed away in 2017. Chris Pilaro was an extraordinary man, deeply invested in the RBSP mission, offering creative ideas and assistance for growing the Program. The fellowship is granted annually to a Scholar who demonstrates the dedication to the arts exemplified by Chris.

The Robert Binswanger Communityarian Award established in spring of 2019 in memory of Dr. Robert B. Binswanger and will be given annually to a Scholar who exhibits the values of the life of Robert Binswanger; an extraordinary commitment to public service and improving the minds of those around them.

Scholar Helping Scholars

R on Brown Scholars know about hope and resiliency. They also know that through the most challenging of circumstances they remain committed to helping support each other and their communities. Ron Brown Scholars have always been inspired by Ronald H. Brown and his wisdom, “when you reach a level of success, keep the door open and the ladder down for others to follow.”

In 2014, Ron Brown Scholar Sam Alemayehu became the first RBS alum to fund a four-year Scholarship ($40,000) for a future Ron Brown Scholar. Today we are proud to announce three more Ron Brown Scholars following his lead: Camille Everhart (RBS 2009), Kani Keita (RBS 2008) and Ethan Monreal-Jackson (RBS 2008) have all committed to sponsor a scholarship. Each has spoken openly about how being a Ron Brown Scholar made it financially feasible for them to attend college. Just as important, the support of dedicated mentors and a “family” of Scholars has been crucial to their success. In both their successes and their generosity, Sam, Camille, Kani, and Ethan exemplify everything the Ron Brown Scholar Program is about.

No one appreciates the importance of this Program more than its beneficiaries, which is why our Scholars are some of our biggest supporters. Over the past three years, Scholars have raised $330,000 for the Program. Most of these contributions will fund future scholarships, but they have also raised money to help fellow Scholars who find themselves facing unforeseen and challenging circumstances.

The last few years have seen Scholars and Alumni facing pressures stemming from healthcare, mental health, family, and work. Some have had to withdraw from school for a semester, while others have been forced out of work. Upon learning of fellow Scholars who face difficult and unpredictable times, the Ron Brown Scholar community – both undergrads and Alumni – stepped up to form an Emergency Fund. Now, when Scholars find themselves in need of a night’s lodging, an unexpected hospital stay, a plane ticket, or even food, they have a resource they can turn to.

Last summer, Ron Brown Scholar Kristian Henderson (RBS 2005) and her 3-month-old baby were involved in a terrible car accident. Thankfully, her baby made a full recovery after a week in the ICU, but the crash left Kristian in a coma. Ron Brown Scholars raised over $6,000 to support Kristian and her family during this awful and frightening time. We’re happy to report that with the help of her doctors and her own incredibly hard work, Kristian learned to speak again, walk on her own, and continues growing stronger every day.

More recently, as the COVID-19 pandemic spread through the US and school after school shut their doors, a number of Scholars suddenly found themselves facing housing and food insecurity. Our Alumni immediately stepped up and raised over $8,000 to help those most impacted by college and university shut downs. With those funds, we have been able to assist Scholars with food, medications, housing/rent expenses and transportation to get to safe shelter. We are proud that the Ron Brown Scholar office is often our Scholars’ first call in an emergency, and thanks to the generosity and foresight of our Alumni we’re in a better position than ever to respond to these crises. We’ve also been extremely grateful to have friends of RBS to step in and provide support and shelter to many of our undergraduates who could not return home. We are eternally thankful to them as well.

While we have grown tremendously in terms of impact and outreach, we are very grateful and proud of all our Ron Brown Scholars who contribute, financially and otherwise, to support and nurture one another. The significance of their support goes to the very heart of our mission and confirms our belief in the, “Value of One: the Power of All”.

Camille L. M. Everhart, RBS 2009
ALMA MATER: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (BS, 2013), Stanford University (PhD 2018)
CURRENT OCCUPATION: Product Design Engineer, Apple
Camille desires her life’s work to reflect humanitarianism, intellect and a pioneering spirit. Camille’s chosen social duties, through her words and actions are to empower others through mentoring, volunteering, and advocating a passion for lifetime learning.

Kani Keita, RBS 2008
ALMA MATER: Harvard College (AB 2012) CURRENT OCCUPATION: Vice President, TPG Capital
Kani has always planned to donate back the scholarship – and hopefully much more.

Ethan Monreal-Jackson, RBS 2008
ALMA MATER: The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (BS, 2012), Economics
CURRENT OCCUPATION: Cofounder, Zenny, Inc
Ethan believes that if you ever have an opportunity to help, you always take it up. For him, it’s that simple.

American Journey Award for Emerging Leadership

Dr. Ryan Stewart (RBS 1999)

D r. Ryan Stewart was appointed Secretary of Education for the State of New Mexico by New Mexico Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. He is the first African American to serve as the state’s Chief State School Officer. As Secretary, Dr. Stewart leads the state’s Public Education Department where he oversees the state’s education policy and program development, funding distribution, and operational management.

Prior to his appointment, Dr. Stewart served as the Regional Executive Director for Partners in School Innovation, charged with leading the organization’s East Coast business engagements. Partners in School Innovation supports districts and schools serving predominantly low income students of color to design and implement research-based, systemic approaches to school transformation.

Dr. Stewart also served as the Executive Director of the Office of School Improvement and Innovation at the School District of Philadelphia. In that role, Dr. Stewart oversaw the District’s efforts to foster innovation in line with the District’s strategic improvement goals. The Office of School Improvement and Innovation leads the development of incentives and forums to identify, implement, and disseminate promising innovative practices throughout the school system. Dr. Stewart earned his doctorate in education leadership from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Prior to joining the School District of Philadelphia, he worked in California for the New Teacher Center, a national non-profit specializing in new teacher induction, and served as a coach for new teachers as well as a professional developer in math instruction and in establishing professional learning communities. Dr. Stewart began his career as a math and science teacher in California. In addition to his doctorate, he received his B.A. in economics from Stanford University.
Leonard Galmon is an artist whose paintings engage with blackness and belonging. Leonard gains inspiration from his own subjective impressions of society, specifically the disconnect between people and the callous assumptions we make about one another. His figurative work aims to both complicate perceptions of Black people and highlight the barriers between all people, in some hope of one day overcoming them. Lately, Leonard has been experimenting with elements of fantasy and magic, thinking that perhaps the way to a new reality is to first imagine one.

Leonard was born on May 29, 1996 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He is a 2014 Ron Brown Scholar. He graduated from Yale University in 2019 with a bachelor’s degree in art, where he won the Jonathan Edwards Art Prize for Creation. More recently, Leonard had his second solo exhibition at Arthur Roger Gallery in New Orleans, titled “Tony Pilaro’s Looking Glass.” This work used a grid pattern, overlaid with portraits, to express the microaggressions he had experienced in college and the sense of feeling “out of place” that these aggressions had instigated.

The Christopher A. Pilaro Fellowship in the Arts Award
Leonard Galmon (RBS 2014)

The Robert Binswanger Communitarian Award
Errol C. Saunders, II (RBS 2002)

“Keep them together, Mike”—those were Tony Pilaro’s guiding words 25 years ago as he outlined his vision for the Ron Brown Scholar Program. Sustaining this community has been our guiding principle since, but as our family nears 500 members, what used to be a simple and seamless process has become more challenging. For years, Ron Brown Scholars have asked for easier ways to connect with one another. We heard you! In January we launched RBS Connect: your online resource hub for all things Ron Brown.

RBS Connect began under the leadership of Marquise McGraw (RBS 2004) and the former RBSAA Board. Working with Kelle Stewart (RBS 1997), we built a social and professional networking platform just for Ron Brown Scholars.

The main feature of RBS Connect is the Alumni directory. Each user has a profile listing their professional experience, educational background, and preferences for how they want to support their fellow Scholars. We’ve prepopulated the directory with the information we have on file, so all you have to do to claim your place is update it. Once you’ve done so you’ll full access to all the tools and features the platform offers.

Scholars can connect using the main search feature, the Alumni map, or through resources such as class year, university attended or other keywords that may appear in your profile. Each Scholar has also been automatically added to a group with their RBS class and a group based on our regional chapters. If there isn’t a regional chapter near you, you can still use the map to find nearby Scholars. We have also created groups based on industry to allow Scholars to create communities based on profession. Additional features include a career center where Scholars can post and search for jobs, a news feed to stay up to date on what’s happening in each other’s lives, an easy donation button, and a calendar that lists upcoming events.

Creating your profile only takes a few minutes; as of May 12th, over 160 Scholars have signed on. RBS Connect has many possibilities and opportunities to enrich the relationships that already exist within our RBS family, but the platform is only as good as its users. So, please, take five minutes and join us today if Simply visit alumni.ronbrown.org to claim your spot!
FUNDRAISING CALL TO ACTION

For over 24 years, the Ron Brown Scholar Program has been a lifeline to its Scholars. We have awarded nearly $20M to 489 Scholars. Thanks to the generosity of friends like you, we continue to provide the country’s most promising students with the financial resources to attend the college of their choice, as well as the nurturing and mentorship to succeed and flourish in college and beyond.

Over the last few years we have noticed helping our Scholars succeed has meant enabling them to surmount a range of issues, from injury and mental health to healthcare costs and sudden job loss. Sometimes these problems are serious enough that students have to withdraw from school for a semester or more. Thanks to your support, we remain committed to our core mission. We have been able to and keep all our Scholars on track to graduate and lend a hand when anyone in our network falls on hard times.

The Covid-19 pandemic presented many new challenges for our Scholars and the Program. When colleges closed, many students faced both financial and housing insecurity issues. This community stepped up in amazing ways to support those who needed it most, including generous offers to provide shelter to many of our undergraduates who could not return home. Below are just a few examples of the many ways we, together as a family, were able to help Scholars during this time:

• Assisting a student with funds to find housing when she could not return home because of the insecurity at home with the parents.
• Providing support to purchase medications for several months and food until it is safe for a student to return to campus.
• Providing the flexibility for students to pay for a portion of rent, food and utilities at home with their parents since they are adding expenses back to their families’ budget since not being able to remain on campuses.
• Assisting students to find temporary homes with Friends of the Program until they are able to return to campus.

The pandemic also forced us to make some difficult choices. How many scholarships should we award this year? Is it wiser to welcome fewer Scholars and safeguard our resources or honor the plans we’d already made? We received an overwhelming response from our fundraising efforts these past few weeks and your generosity allowed us to welcome the full complement of 24 new Scholars into the Ron Brown Scholar family.

We also face challenges with our other initiatives of the Program. Since 2016, the Guided Pathway Support (GPS) Program’s online college access community has assisted 3,500 students in navigating their paths to college. This year, we are advising over 1,000 African American high schoolers, held more than 50 online college prep events, and helped students earn over $1 million in college scholarships. GPS relies on the support of advisors and mentors to help with students. To provide this free service to students it takes over $5,000 to pay our mentors and advisors for 2 months. We are growing quickly and with lack of access to high school counselors, the need has never been greater.

We anticipate more difficult days, months and years ahead. Nevertheless, our main focus remains where it has always been: providing the support our students need, especially in difficult times. We hope you will consider extending your generosity again and make a donation when possible. Any amount will help to make an extraordinary impact on the lives of these talented young people and our next generation of leaders. The list to the right provides options to the support the Program – we appreciate every gift, no matter the size.

WAYS TO SUPPORT

Emergency Funds/ Donations and Monthly Gifts
Visit www.ronbrown.org/section/contribute/start-giving-today or send a check made payable to Ron Brown Scholar Fund and mail to 485 Hillsdale Drive, Suite 206, Charlottesville, VA, 22901

Matching Gifts
Matching gifts are offered by many companies to encourage philanthropy giving amongst their employees. Please check with your company to learn if they participate in a matching gift program.

AmazonSmile
We are an official organization recognized to participate in the Amazon Smile Charity Giving Program. Please designate the Ron Brown Scholar Fund as your favorite charity so that a portion of the purchases you make through Amazon (0.5%) will be donated to the Program. There is no additional cost to you to do this.

Share Information with Friends
We encourage you to share information about the Ron Brown Scholar Program and the Scholars with friends/family/colleagues who may be interested in learning more or making a donation. Or let us know if you would like us to reach out to anyone directly.

Host a virtual Fundraiser
Please consider hosting a virtual fundraiser or set up a fundraiser on social media to support the Ron Brown Scholar Program.

Scholarship Agreements
Fully fund a $40,000 scholarship to support a Ron Brown Scholar. Option to pay $10,000 per year for 4 years. Please contact Michael Mallory mmallory@ronbrown.org or Anita Karadia akaradia@ronbrown.org.