



DC-CAP ADVISOR

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM



Summer 2014

STUDENTS MAKING HEADLINES

Rashema Melson



Rashema Melson, Class of 2014 Anacostia High School graduate, will start at Georgetown University this summer. With the help of her family, teachers, and DC-CAP High School Advisor, Mr. Smith, she is making the dream of college a reality. Her story recently made headlines on the [Today Show](#). Rashema has managed to overcome incredible odds being homeless and hopes her story will inspire others to follow their dreams.

DC-CAP ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Isiah Guinyard



Isiah Guinyard

NEWS & EVENTS

First Lady Michelle Obama Addresses DC-CAP College Graduates



On June 19, First Lady Michelle Obama delivered remarks during the DC-CAP 2014 College Class Graduation Celebration.

Inspired by DC-CAP graduates, Mrs. Obama applauded their tenacity to stay the course and to endure the struggle to succeed. She encouraged the DC-CAP students to be role models, "They need to see that your story can be their story", she said. "Stories of families who couldn't support you, of communities where you weren't safe, schools that maybe didn't always live up to your promise. But ultimately, despite it all, you chose to succeed."

Her remarks, though candid, and moving were most importantly a call to give back. "So graduates, by continuing to focus on your own success, you will ensure that you can keep giving back -- not just to the people you love, but to the communities you come from. And by the way, that last part isn't a suggestion; it's an obligation that folks like us share. The obligation to reach back and give others the same chances we've had to succeed."

An obligation she is meeting with her new [Reach Higher initiative](#), an effort to inspire every student in America to take charge of their future by completing their education past high school, whether at a professional training program, a community college, or a four-year college or university.

Charged with a new sense of duty and purpose, DC-CAP graduates got more than a pat on the back. They, like us all, got a nudge, a push to do

DC-CAP Community Involvement and Leadership Award recipient, is a 2009 graduate of McKinley Technology High School and a 2014 graduate of North Carolina A&T State University. A mentor and a leader, Isiah has received numerous awards for his service to the community and was inducted into Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

Isiah will be teaching elementary-aged children in Houston, Texas beginning in August. He plans to pursue graduate studies in Urban Education Policy. His ultimate goal is to become the DC Public Schools Chancellor or serve in another urban school district.

COLLEGE CORNER
Pre-College Seminars



The Pre-College Seminars, held at Catholic University, are specifically designed for first-year college freshmen and their parents. DC-CAP invites representatives from local colleges and universities, along with representatives from OSSE and the Department of Education to provide workshops/sessions for parents and students on the following topics: Federal and State Financial Aid, Academic

more; a permeating reminder to devote more time to our children, and to invest more in our community.

[Read the First Lady's full remarks.](#)

CORPORATE PARTNER SPOTLIGHT
News Corp



News Corp

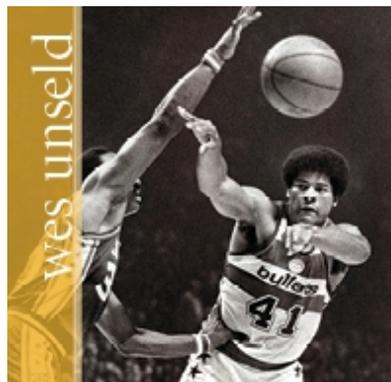
Eight DC-CAP Alpha Leadership Project (ALP) Students Named Murdoch Scholars

Thanks to a grant from News Corp, eight DC-CAP high school seniors have been named 2014 Murdoch Scholars and will be receiving four-year college scholarships.

The Murdoch Scholars, named for News Corp Executive Chairman Rupert Murdoch, will also be connected with News Corp mentors to provide guidance during their first year of college. The eight young men selected are members of DC-CAP's Alpha Leadership Program (ALP), which aims to help African American and Latino young men improve academic achievement and increase the possibility that they will graduate from high school and be socially and academically prepared to enroll and graduate from college.

[Read the full story.](#)

UP NEXT



12TH ANNUAL
MICHAEL WILBON & JAMES BROWN
CELEBRITY ROAST & GOLF CLASSIC

Celebrating Wes Unseld

September 29 & 30, 2014
The Mayflower
Lansdowne Resort

This celebrity-packed, two-day event is hosted by ESPN Host, Michael

Advising and Support Services, Surviving Your 1st Year of College, and Managing Personal Finances.

For more information, contact [DC-CAP Retention](#).

ABOUT DC-CAP

Changing lives by giving every child a chance at a college education



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM
The DC College Access Program (DC-CAP) is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to helping DC public and public charter high school students prepare for, enroll in, and graduate from college.

Since 1999, we have helped under resourced DC students believe that college is possible, find the path to get there, and complete their education.

[Donate Now!](#)

Wilbon and CBS NFL Show Host, James Brown. On Monday evening, September 29, at the Mayflower hotel in Washington, DC, DC-CAP will be "**roasting**" **Washington Bullets legend and NBA Basketball Hall of Famer, Wes Unseld**. Celebrity roasters will share their experiences and humorous stories of Mr. Unseld's illustrious career. The Roast features a silent auction with priceless sports memorabilia, travel and dining packages, and much more.

The following morning, Tuesday, September 30, golfers will have a celebrity join their foursome and play on the famed and challenging Greg Norman Course at Lansdowne Resort, for great prizes and bragging rights. Past celebrities involved in these events include Joe Gibbs, Magic Johnson, Joe Theismann, Alonzo Mourning, Cal Ripken, Kellen Winslow, Sterling Sharpe, and Stuart Scott among others.

[Sponsorship Opportunities now available!](#)



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAM

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Changing lives by making college a reality for all DC students