

Ricardo Davis



Congratulations to Ricardo Davis who is the 2023 recipient of a four-year scholarship from the RW Sorrell Scholarship Fund.

Ricardo, a high school senior graduating from Cheltenham High School with honors will be heading to **Howard University** in the fall of this year to pursue a degree in Nursing. Currently, he is working in a paid summer internship program that the Scholarship Fund participates in through a partnership with Independence Blue Cross. The internship is an opportunity for Ricardo to gain exposure to a corporate culture, build a network with other college-bound interns and earn income toward college expenses.

Ricardo has been described by his teachers and those who know him as a young man who has a commitment to learning. One of his references described him as a student who “is interested in learning for learning sake.” Conscientious, collegiate, collaborative and talented are all adjectives used to describe him and the spirit he exudes. He is credited with bringing a positive energy to class everyday.

Ricardo graduated from Cheltenham High School with a 4.19 weighted GPA excelling in both AP and Honors classes. Extra curricula activities included memberships in both the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society, Student Council where he served as Chairperson of the Charity Department, member of the Black Scholars Program, the Debate Club, the Select Choir and the Men’s Choir. Areas of recognition included winning fourth place at the State level in the Health Occupation Knowledge Bowl for Skills USA, successfully obtaining his CPR/AED and Naloxone certification through courses offered at the school, and for his volunteer services with Easter Seals which required a fundraising and shopping effort. He will never forget the smiles on the children’s faces when they received their desired holiday gifts. This annual day-long event allowed Ricardo to talk, sing Christmas carols and play games with the children.

Ricardo has a love for music. This passion led him to pursue an online internship at the Bloomberg Arts Institute where he developed marketing strategies for a non profit music organization known as “Project 440.”

When he is not in school, he spends his time volunteering in community service projects with his church where he is very connected and/or working at Panera Bread preparing and bagging food orders. Ricardo states that “community service and volunteerism have had a huge impact on his life. Providing help to others has helped him build character and has been a good outlet for him to exercise kindness and build connections with people from different backgrounds and cultures.” Having faced adversities and challenges in his own life, Ricardo strives to showcase excellence in leadership and service to others. He plans to make a difference in helping those who lack access to health care, not only in this country, but in the country of Jamaica where he was born. His ultimate goal is to become a doctor and be the change he would like to see in the world. ■