



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **LOCAL BUSINESSES AND DONORS SPONSOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS IN NEED**

*Three incoming freshman begin college as participants in  
Annapolis & Anne Arundel County Scholarship Trust  
scholarship and mentoring program*

**August 12, 2014 --- Annapolis, MD ---** Three local Annapolis students will begin their college career as participants in the Annapolis & Anne Arundel Scholarship Trust (“Annapolis Trust”) scholarship and mentoring program that is focused on supporting low income and/or first-generation-to-college students. Kamiya Rantan (Howard University, Washington, DC), Joshua Medley (Frostburg University, MD) and Juan Brown (Bloomfield College, NJ) will be the first to be fully aligned with the organization’s expanded model that includes scholarship naming opportunities in the [Sponsor-a-Trust-Scholar](#) program, mentoring and career development.

In the Sponsor-a-Trust-Scholar program, an organization or individual sponsors each student’s \$800/semester scholarship for up to a total of \$6,400 over four years. Murphy Commercial (Annapolis, MD), OpenPath Products (Annapolis, MD), Smoothie King (Crofton, MD) and several individual and family donors will be sponsoring the fall, 2014 scholarships.

*OUR MISSION is to work with the community to provide the inspiration,  
mentoring and scholarships for first-generation students  
so they can complete a higher education.*

[www.AnnapolisTrust.org](http://www.AnnapolisTrust.org)

Annapolis & Anne Arundel Scholarship Trust is a registered 501(3)c

As part of the scholarship program requirements, every recipient commits to maintaining a 2.5 GPA and participating in the Annapolis Trust's mentor program. Mentors are matched to students using a selective process that is based on interests, majors, college experience and geographical location. Mentors must commit to regular contact with their mentee, training and a background check. Mentors are responsible for encouraging students academically; helping them develop social and life skills; and offering guidance, resources and networking for internships and/or career development.

"As a first-generation-to college graduate and mentor, I definitely understand the extra challenges a first-generation or low-income student can face while pursuing a degree. As a business owner, I can help provide a scholarship to lessen their financial stress and give back to the upcoming generation," stated Romica Brashear, owner of Smoothie King in Gambrills, MD and a Sponsor-A-Trust Scholar fundraiser and mentor.

"Community partnerships are key to the success of our students. Organizations, companies and individuals have the ability to provide scholarships in their name and/or become mentors that share their experiences, guide a student and help them plan for their futures," states Reginald Broddie, President & CEO of Annapolis Trust.

Over the past 14 years, 41 youth have received scholarships from the Annapolis Trust and achieved a 68% graduation rate – more than six times the national average for first-generation-to-college students. Currently, the Annapolis Trust has 10 students in four-year colleges. Annapolis Trust alumni boast careers in medicine, community service, technology and education.

The Annapolis & Anne Arundel County Scholarship Trust (formerly the Annapolis Boys & Girls Scholarship Trust) was established in 2000. The Annapolis Trust's mission is to work with the community to provide the inspiration, mentoring and financial scholarships for first-generation students so they can complete a higher education.

The next application period for 2015 scholarships will begin in late September.

Learn more at [www.AnnapolisTrust.org](http://www.AnnapolisTrust.org) or email [info@annapolistrust.org](mailto:info@annapolistrust.org).