



P.O. Box 1003 • Bowie, MD 20718-1003
www.highbridgefoundation.org

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Dear Friends,

2015 was another great year for High Bridge Foundation's Scholarship Program. As you read this message, our ten scholars have finished their first semester in college and are gearing to start the spring semester after the holiday/winter break. We gathered brief comments from them and have their permission to share these with you.

Thomas Booker (Fine Arts, *State University of New York at Purchase*): I believe the decision to attend Purchase was divine intervention. With my top school being Rutgers (rejection), and my third University of North Carolina School of the Arts (waitlisted), and hearing nothing from SUNY until two days before National Decision Day. I was ecstatic when I received the offer to attend. I can say without a doubt that SUNY Purchase was the perfect fit for me. Thank so much, High Bridge Foundation. Your aid in my journey truly makes a difference.

Amber Bush (Mass Communications, *Towson University*): I had a very good semester. I made the Dean's List with a 3.6 GPA. I have joined various clubs and organizations such as the Student Government Association, NAACP, and the Black Student Union. Towson has been a lot of fun so far, and I hope next semester is even better!

Vanessa Herrera (Accounting and Finance, *University of Maryland Honors College*): I just finished my first semester in college, and it has been an unforgettable adventure, to say the least. At first it took some getting used to, but now I know that I belong here at the University of Maryland. I am learning so much so fast, knowing that here is where I was meant to be, having these experiences that can only happen in college. Thank you for helping me gain these experiences, and I hope you at High Bridge are having a good year, as well!

Brice Hurling-Spears (Biology/Pre-Medicine, *Hampton University*): I hope everyone had a good holiday. I am home on break and wanted to thank you again for the scholarship. I also wanted to let you know that I am doing very well at Hampton. My mid-term GPA is a 4.0. Thank you and take care.

Emily Hutcheson (Environmental Engineering and Architectural Engineering, *Missouri University of Science and Technology*): My first semester at Missouri University of Science and Technology has been fantastic. I've been balancing my time between working as a teacher's aide in the local elementary and high schools and school. I also became active in the Greek community, with which I completed over 20 hours of community service and welcomed 120 girls into my life as sisters. Next semester I plan to join the Solar House Design Team and begin classes for my major.

Adedotun Oseni-Adegbite (*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*): I quite liked my first semester at MIT. At first the workload took some getting used to, but after I learned to better manage my time, I became accustomed to it. Nonetheless I can easily say I'm excited for what next semester holds for me.

Julia Rodriguez (Public Relations, *Champlain College*): I hope this email finds you well and celebrating the holiday season with loved ones! As for me, so far so good! I am on the Dean's List! I am so happy in Burlington and am truly happy with my choice in college. I have a job on campus as a diversity ambassador. I come up with, plan, and execute events on campus. The events range from cultural/religious celebrations to talks or simulations that promote understanding for different minority groups on campus. I really love my job! Also, I have started volunteering with the Bernie Sanders campaign. All in all, I would say my first semester was very successful, and I look forward to starting back January 18! Thank you again for your generous support!

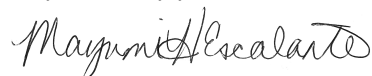
Miriam Tekle (Chemistry, *University of Mary Washington*): I am writing to thank you for your generous \$1,000 High Bridge Scholarship. I am very appreciative and thrilled to be one of the recipients of your scholarship. I can proudly say that I made the right decision when choosing to attend the University of Mary Washington, the past two semesters taught me how to think critically and work independently. However, I cannot deny the fact that the beginning of college was a little bit rocky. Yet I will take this as a learning experience and thrive to achieve my version of success. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Pauline Tran (*Virginia Commonwealth University*): I am incredibly thankful for being one of the few to receive a scholarship from the High Bridge Foundation; it has helped me and my family greatly, as I am one of the first to attend college in America. My first semester at VCU was both stressful and exciting. I made some new friends and joined a couple student organizations, like the Vietnamese Student Association and the Pre-Pharmacy Student Organization. However, it was surprisingly difficult to have a social life while maintaining my grades. I thought I did fairly well in my classes, but most of my time was devoted to schoolwork rather than meeting new people or hanging out with my friends. Next semester, I'm going to strive to do better academically and socially! Please give my sincere gratitude to the donors. My family and I are extremely grateful for their generosity. Happy Holidays!

Thomas Weaver (*Morehouse College*): I have thoroughly enjoyed my first semester at Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, and I cannot wait to return for the Spring! After completing my finals, I felt that I had honestly grown as a person, both academically and mentally. My first semester was filled with learning experiences that I feel I greatly benefited from, and I feel as though living on a college campus surrounded by like-minded individuals striving for similar goals cannot be paralleled nor replicated in any type of fashion. During my time on campus, I made it a requirement of myself to join organizations that would greatly refine my skill sets. At the beginning of the semester, I was elected Vice-President of the Morehouse Business Association for the Freshman Class, and I became a member of both the Moot Court and Debate Teams on campus. For the Spring Semester, I have aspirations of leading a section of the Maroon Tiger, our college news organization. Again, I would like to thank the High Bridge Foundation for the help in making my dream a reality!

We deeply appreciate the blessings you shared with our 2015-2016 Scholars through your generous support of High Bridge Foundation, Inc. Thank you so very much! As we welcome the New Year, we wish you and yours a healthy and joy-filled year ahead

Very sincerely yours,



Mayumi H. Escalante
President