

## McNair Newsletter



Ronald E. McNair

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### NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

#### Greetings Everyone!

As the spring semester at Cleveland State University is unraveling, things are looking great for the McNair Scholars Program. The McNair Scholars Program is looking forward to another year of growth and success and we have much to be proud of. Did you know that upon graduating with a bachelor's degree, our scholars have consistently been accepted to graduate school programs? This is not a coincidence, but evidence of our students' achievements and advancements in education. Congratulations to all of the McNair Scholar Graduates from this past summer and fall!

The McNair Scholars Program has been successful in developing well-prepared students as they enter graduate school. Since 2007, 86% of the McNair scholars have obtained bachelor's degrees, with 65% of those scholars enrolling into graduate programs. One scholar has completed her master's degree, one scholar is in the process of earning her PhD, another scholar is presently in Medical School, two scholars are working towards obtaining Doctorates in Physical Therapy, and 14 scholars are currently in master's programs, 11 of whom are here at CSU. It is a great joy to witness the accomplishments of all of our outstanding alumni. Furthermore, I anticipate many more successes as we enter this year with new scholars and upcoming graduates. Best wishes to all of you!

#### Valli Sarveswaran, Director

- Sara Al-nimer
  - Psychology
- Arielle Bowers
  - Psychology
- Dominique Brooks
  - Biology
- Anecia Chatmon
  - Biology & Chemistry
- Jermaine Clark
  - Business Economics
- Michael Chukwuonye
  - Electrical Engineering
- Tenia Harris
  - Biology
- Astrid Hernandez
  - Psychology
- Alexander Kariotakis
  - Biology
- Jayleen Melendez
  - Psychology
- Angela Mesenburg
  - Social Work
- Brittany Pearcy
  - Linguistics
- Audrianna Rodriguez
  - Psychology
- Dominique Rose
  - Psychology
- Monique Russell
  - Environmental Science
- Pedro Sarsama
  - Economics
- Shannon Walker
  - Environmental Science
- Morgan Wiggins
  - Biology





# MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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*Left to Right: Sara, Michael, Arielle, and Dominique  
Morgan and Shannon not pictured above*

## Spring 2013 Summer Research Scholars

- **Sara Al-nimer**
  - Psychology
  - Mentor: Dr. Connie Hollinger
- **Arielle Bowers**
  - Psychology
  - Mentor: Dr. Lisa Doane
- **Michael Chukwuonye**
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Mentor: Dr. Nigamanth Sridhar
- **Dominique Rose**
  - Psychology
  - Mentor: Dr. Michael Horvath
- **Shannon Walker**
  - Environmental Science
  - Mentor: Dr. Robert Simons
- **Morgan Wiggins**
  - Biology
  - Mentor: Dr. Michael Hammonds



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SPRING 2013 GRADUATES

- **Jermaine Clark**
  - Business Economics
  - Mentor: Dr Bathala Chenchuramaiah
  - Future: Attend Law School
- **Tenia Harris**
  - Biology
  - Mentor: Dr. Yan Xu
  - Future: To obtain MBA then continue to Dental School
- **Astrid Hernandez**
  - Psychology
  - Mentor: Dr. Michael Horvath
  - Future: Obtain a M.Ed in Community Health, then acquire a Ph.D in Urban Education
- **Brittany Pearcy**
  - Linguistics
  - Mentor: Dr. Ameer Shah
  - Future: Simultaneously obtain MBA and Masters in Public Administration, then obtain a PhD in communications
- **Audrianna Rodriguez**
  - Psychology
  - Mentor: Dr. Roberta Steinbacher
- **Pedro Sarsama**
  - Economics
  - Dr. Subhra Saha
  - Future: Learning to parent while teaching high school, then pursuing M.S. (and later PhD) in mathematics



*Left to Right: Jermaine and Tenia. Astrid, Brittany  
Pedro and Audrinna not pictured above*



# MCNAIR ALUMNI IN GRADUATE SCHOOL

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"The first day of graduate school was like reliving the first day of high school all over again, except this time the concern was, will I compare intellectually with my colleagues? As time progressed I began to realize that I was applying the professional skills that I developed and exercised through McNair Scholars events. This included research, public speaking and networking. McNair has surly molded me into the young professional that I am today."

**Keisha Gonzalez**

*Candidate for MA Historic Preservation*

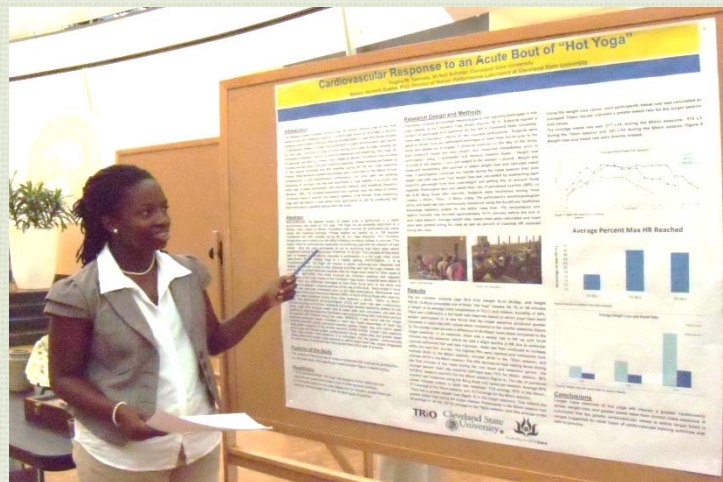
*University of Delaware, DE*

"The McNair Scholars program has benefitted me by allowing me to realize my true potential as a college student. Before being accepted in the program, I was unsure if I could successfully finish a Bachelor's degree. Now I am finishing up a Master's and am anxious to apply to PhD programs. McNair gave me access to resources that have equipped me to move forward. The workshops and conferences were great learning experiences for me. It has also allowed me to build relationships with other students and with faculty."

**Regina Smith**

*Candidate for MA Community Health*

*Cleveland State University*





# KEY EVENTS FOR SPRING 2013

- January 11<sup>th</sup> – Welcome Back Scholar Meeting
- January 16<sup>th</sup> - Library Instruction Session
- January 30<sup>th</sup> - Financial Literacy
- February 6<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup> – Preparing Professional Portfolio 3 and 4 workshop
- February 15- Blue Man Group at Playhouse Square
- March 14<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> – University of Maryland Conference
- March 28<sup>th</sup> – Loan Forgiveness
- April 12<sup>th</sup>- Western Reserve School of Cooking
- April 26<sup>th</sup> – McNair Scholars Banquet



**Top Picture:**  
Dominique, Michael, Sara, and Morgan at the University of Maryland Conference

**Bottom Picture:**  
Sara, Dominique, Dr. Jerry Lewis (Executive Director of Academic Achievement Programs, University of Maryland, College Park), Morgan, and Michael

## BECOME A MCNAIR SCHOLAR

The CSU TRIO McNair Scholars Program assists undergraduate students with their academic development and prepares them for doctoral studies. In order to help the students achieve their goals, the program supports and sponsors undergraduate experiences to produce highly competitive students who have all of the necessary skills for graduate school. These experiences include attending seminars, advising, preparation for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and involvement in research. Students who participate in the program come from disadvantaged backgrounds, show strong academic potential in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) disciplines, and are committed to pursuing a Ph.D. degree. This program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, an African American physicist and NASA astronaut who died in the Challenger explosion in 1986.

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