

# Cleveland State University

*engagedlearning™*

The McNair Scholars Program has been preparing undergraduate students for graduate school since 2007. Currently, there are several McNair Scholars that have graduated and are working towards obtaining a Doctorate Degree, MD /PhD, an MBA, and a Master's Degree.

As the Spring semester continues, more McNair Scholars will apply to and be accepted into graduate programs and we wish them all plenty of success. With such a wonderful program as The McNair Scholar Program, it is a pleasure to assist students in obtaining the research, knowledge, and academic abilities they need in order to sustain a higher education. With continued financial and active support from Cleveland State University we are sure that our scholars will continue to be successful and benefit from the program. The McNair Scholars program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and Cleveland State University. The program is named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, an African American physicist and NASA astronaut who died in the Challenger explosion in 1986.



# TRiO

RONALD E. MCNAIR  
POST-BACCALAUREATE  
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

## *McNair Scholars Program*

Main Classroom, RM 219

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[www.csuohio.edu/offices/mcnair](http://www.csuohio.edu/offices/mcnair)

## *Congratulations McNair Alumni*

- Candidate for M.A. Historic Preservation, University of Delaware, DE
- Graduated in Spring 2012 with BA in Anthropology, Cleveland State University, OH
- Undergraduate research title (2011)- *Life, health and status in a 19th century early Cleveland Irish community*



**Keisha M. Gonzalez** is a second year Master of Arts in Historic Preservation candidate at the University of Delaware's School of Public Policy and Administration. Funded through the School of Graduate Studies, she serves as a graduate research assistant at the Center for Historic Architecture and Design (CHAD) for the Mid-Atlantic Historic Buildings and Landscape Survey (MAHBLS). Her work for CHAD includes the architectural documentation of threatened structures along the Mid-Atlantic Coast. This includes the development of historic context through primary research, hand measured drawings, AutoCAD renderings, and nominations to local and federal registers such as the National Register of Historic Places. Keisha has taken an active role in CHAD's initiative to incorporate oral histories to the contribution of a landscape or structures historical record.

Due to the nature of historic preservation, the MA-HP program at the University of Delaware requires students to complete capstone studio versus a thesis. Keisha's capstone is focused on the riverside Village of Maurice town, New Jersey. As part of her capstone, Keisha documented the Will's House, a Colonial revival dwelling constructed circa 1860. An intense two-week field session produced two elevations, a cross-section and two floor-plan drawings. Complementing the drawings is a historic narrative and a photographic log. Permitting students to engage their interest outside of traditional historic preservation, the program requires an independent research component. This semester, Keisha will be exploring residential public opinion within the village of Maurice town, in response to the current National Register of Historic Places district nomination. She is interested in the subject and object dynamics between small town residents and historic preservation initiatives.





## *Congratulations McNair Alumni*

- MD-PhD Student at the University of Texas Southwestern, TX
- Graduated in Fall 2011 with BS in Chemistry, Cleveland State University, OH
- Undergraduate research title (2010)- *Study of High Energy Materials*

### *KEEP the FAITH, STAY the COURSE*

On the sumptuous evening of Friday, May 6 2011, during our annual McNair scholar's expo and banquet, our distinguished guest speaker Mr. Carl S. McNair boisterously revealed to me that the McNairs had traced their ancestry via genetic methods to the people of Cameroon. Born Cameroonian myself my neural circuitries went ablaze firing with the thoughts of a probable similar genetic make-up to the late great Dr. Ronald E. McNair. More importantly that evening, I had with me, my copy of "In the Spirit of Ronald E. McNair. Astronaut An American Hero" (authored by Carl McNair) and I promptly had Mr. McNair sign it. His signature reads: "To AL, keep the faith and stay the course."

Fast forward almost three years to the date and that's exactly what my narrative has been; I have kept the faith and stayed the course. I kept the faith through an arduous application process, a five-and-a-half-hour brain freezing ordeal: otherwise known as the MCAT, numerous financial constraints and initially a few rejection letters (one from Harvard; which I'm framing by the way. It's probably the only assured way to get Harvard to address you in a personal letter: send them \$100 and an outstanding application package). Yet I have stayed the course and had a handful of choices in deciding where to pursue my MD. PhD training and I ultimately decided to join UT Southwestern after a personal invitation from Nobel Laureate Michael Brown.

My narrative at UT Southwestern is still the same and my advice to the current McNair scholars is KEEP the FAITH, STAY the COURSE. Know that no matter how impossible the task at hand is, know that no matter how undeserving and sometimes even untalented you may feel, no matter how unfortunate some events happen, if you keep the faith and stay the course, giving it your best every day you will come to realize the task at hand is indeed possible, you are very deserving, you are very talented and your fortune is within reach. Personally it may have been just poetic conceit once I started fantasizing about the commonalities I shared with Dr. McNair, besides our genetic constitution; yet I knew from that moment that somehow we may not all be masters of the skies as the Astronaut that he was, but we can all aim for skies, and beyond, as he did.

*-Aloysus Lawong*



## SPRING 14' EVENTS:

- *February 18<sup>th</sup>* – Writing Workshop for personal Goals
- *February 25<sup>th</sup>* – MBTI Interpretation
- *March 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>* – UMD McNair Conference
- *March 18<sup>th</sup>* - Graduate School Preparation Workshop
- *March 19<sup>th</sup>* - Graduate School Resume Workshop
- *April 22<sup>nd</sup>* - Writing Workshop for professional Goals
- *April 23<sup>rd</sup>* - GRE preparation

## Fall 2013 Graduates:

- ✚ *Dominique Rose- Bachelor of Arts*
- ✚ *Angela Mesenburg- Bachelor of Arts and Bachelors of Social Work*
- ✚ *Anecia Chatmon- Bachelors of Biology and Bachelors in Chemistry*



## Welcome New Scholars:

- ✚ Alberto, Andres- *Biology*
- ✚ Arias, Fernando- *Electronic Engineering Technology*
- ✚ Bykov, Leon- *Mathematics*
- ✚ Call, Bethann- *Health Sciences Pre-Occupational Therapy*
- ✚ Jones, Jillian- *Health Sciences*
- ✚ Kulman, Daniel- *Biology*
- ✚ Ndum, Nkemdilim- *Biology*
- ✚ Oluwasanmi, Mofetoluwa- *Biology*
- ✚ Robinson, Samantha- *Speech and hearing*
- ✚ Seck, Sokhna- *Chemistry*
- ✚ Nikova, Teodora- *Biology*
- ✚ Thomas, Celeste- *Speech and hearing*
- ✚ Waltonen, April- *Psychology/ Organizational Leadership*

