

BRIGHTER HORIZON

EDUCATING THE FIRST GENERATION



THANKFUL FOR YOU! 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



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Brighter Horizon Foundation was founded on a simple principle: empowering students to be the first in their family to pursue a college degree or an associate degree in the trades.

A Message From Our President

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this message finds you well and filled with pride, knowing the incredible impact you have made. On behalf of the Brighter Horizon Foundation, I want to express our deepest gratitude for your invaluable support of our 5th Annual College Reveal event. This past year's success was extraordinary, and it is thanks to your generosity and belief in our mission.

This past June, we gathered on the beautiful campus of Chestnut Hill College to celebrate the determination and achievements of our remarkable Scholars—first-generation college students who embody resilience and hope. The event was a true milestone, not only for the Scholars and their families but also for everyone invested in their success, including dedicated supporters like you.

I am thrilled to share that 2024 has been another record year for the Foundation. We surpassed our fundraising goals, which has allowed us to expand vital wrap-around services in critical areas such as housing stability, access to mental health resources, and food security. These services are essential lifelines, enabling our Scholars to stay focused and confident as they navigate their academic journeys.

It is no secret that students from underserved communities face disproportionate challenges in higher education financing, often contending with long-term debt and limited resources. These obstacles can have profound effects on their mental well-being and economic mobility. Your support is helping to break these barriers, paving the way for brighter futures and generational change.

Since our inception, the Brighter Horizon Foundation has supported 76 young Scholars. By the end of June 2025, 33 Scholars will have proudly walked across the stage as college graduates, 4 of those Scholars from our trade school partnership with Williamson College of the Trades, and the others joining alumni from prestigious institutions such as Pennsylvania State University, Cornell University, UPENN, Drexel, Georgetown University, Temple University, Princeton University and Chestnut Hill College.

None of this would be possible without you. Your partnership fuels our vision and reminds our Scholars that they are not alone in their journey. Your contributions are a testament to the power of collective effort in creating transformative change.

As we look ahead, we are excited to continue sharing updates about the incredible progress of our Scholars and the positive ripple effects they are creating within our communities. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey and for believing in the potential of every young mind we serve.

Wishing you joy, good health, and prosperity in the coming year.

Thankful For You,

Yvette Dapremont Bright

President



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela



2024 College Reveal



Yvette Bright and Board Director Charlton Monsanto



Board Director Terry Booker and Donors

BRIGHTER HORIZON FAMILY

2024

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Erin Whyland
Isabella Wilcher
Jamie Williams
Maya Wilcher
Kevin Yang
Emily Young



Mentors Sydney and Erin



Celebrating our 2024 High School Graduates!



BH Scholars and Mentors!!

College Graduate Spotlight!



Meet Michaeya

Michaeya is a resident of West Philadelphia, and a 2024 graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. Coming from a family where higher education was once a distant dream, Michaeya defied these odds and paved her own path to success. Raised by her Aunt Colleen, who continued to push her to excel, and acted as her number one supporter,

Michaeya has proven that with the right tools and dedication, barriers can be shattered for future generations. Michaeya's relentless pursuit, coupled with her passion for learning, turned challenges into steppingstones. During her time at Penn State, Michaeya has served as a mentor to incoming freshmen, volunteered at numerous events across campus to promote a healthy transition to a college career, and has recently traveled to Croatia to study public policy and work with students from the University of Zagreb to create new policies that may help the residents of the country. Her achievements are a testament to the power of resilience, hard work, and the pursuit of knowledge. As she steps into the next chapter of her life, Michaeya stands as a beacon of hope, proving that with courage and discipline, anyone can overcome obstacles and reach new heights.



Meet Carlos

Carlos is a resident of North Philadelphia and a graduate of Williamson College of the Trades, where he majored in Carpentry Technology. He was a volunteer at the Providence Center when he was introduced to Brighter Horizon. Since moving from Puerto Rico to the United States, he had always dreamed of pursuing

a higher education and worked hard to support his family as the eldest son. His school days were always packed with finding knowledge on a variety of topics, while also spending time with family and enjoying his hobbies. His love of creating things and working with his hands lead him to the carpentry program.

At Williamson College of the Trades, and with the support of Brighter Horizon, he thrived while continuing to contribute to his community, his family, and Brighter Horizon with his newfound skills and knowledge. He spent time interning with Sparks Exhibits, where he is now employed full time as a Carpenter Apprentice, and he looks forward to mentoring other trade school scholars.



Meet Safiyyah

Safiyyah, a Philadelphia native, graduated from Cornell University with a degree in Civil Engineering. Since middle school, she had been interested in engineering, and at Cornell, she was able to explore what engineering could look like for her as a career. Throughout her college journey, she spent time pursuing

her two passions of mentorship and leadership. She was a mentor for several organizations on campus that focus on the leadership and development of underrepresented engineering students and women on Cornell's campus. These organizations include Building Ourselves Through Sisterhood and Service (B.O.S.S), and The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). Safiyyah also served on the chapter and regional level of NSBE in roles such as Conference Planning Chair and Membership Chair.

On the professional side, Safiyyah had the opportunity to intern as a Highway Road Design Engineer with the Detroit Department of Transportation and as a Project Engineer with Gilbane Building Company. She continued her studies at Cornell University where she completed her master's in Systems Engineering in December 2024. She is looking forward to an exciting career as a Systems Engineer at Lockheed, where she can fully utilize her technical as well as business and professional skills in consulting and/or engineering management.



Meet Nasir

Nasir is a lifelong resident of West Philadelphia and graduated in 2024 from Williamson College of the Trades. He had been set on a career in the trades since high school, as he believed there was upside to learning a valuable skill. He credits his little sister, who he says is the rock of his motivation, hoping to inspire her to be dedicated to building a future and pursuing

her career aspirations. Williamson College of the Trades molded him into an honest man, embodying core values of faith, integrity, diligence, excellence and service.

Over the course of three years, Nasir gained much knowledge in the power plant field such as boiler service, electrical wiring and maintenance/repair, to be fully prepared for whatever field of service he chooses to pursue. He was highly sought after by many companies and made a career choice that aligned with his interests and passions and now works as a Nuclear Technician for Constellation Energy. Aside from his career, he plans to mentor other young African American men who want to enroll at Williamson. He acknowledges the discomfort he experienced of being in a different setting at Williamson and has seen numerous students who let that discomfort get in the way of the great blessing that the school has been for him and others. He wants to do his part to help with assimilation to the trade school so they can reap the benefits of a free education and building of character that like Nasir, will allow graduates to have a bright future, but also to give back to their communities.

Scholar Spotlight!



Meet Tatiana

Tatiana is an Upper Darby resident who attends Middlebury College in Vermont, where she is pursuing a BA in English with a minor in French. Her mother raised her to understand the importance of education and how it can serve as a gateway to opportunity and independence. Tatiana likes to enrich her studies with experiences to explore other cultures and creative processes.

With the aid of Middlebury and the support of her Brighter Horizon mentors, she has been able to take advantage of a writing residency in Greece, serve as a styling assistant in New York, and spend a semester in France studying literature. She hopes to explore more opportunities to improve her writing, deepen her literary knowledge, and explore different means of creative expression. Tatiana has come to appreciate that with a good support system in your corner, anything is possible. Tatiana will graduate from Middlebury in 2025!



Meet Keith

Keith is a resident of Northeast Philadelphia and currently a student at Williamson College of the Trades. He is on his way to graduate in May of 2025. Keith will be the first person in his family to complete higher education and would not have been able to do it without the support system that he has. The area he grew up in was a place where many people didn't have a chance to go to college, which made him think he could never become a college student. But his mother always kept him on the right path, putting him in extracurricular programs and encouraging him to be in the right crowd. After hearing about Williamson College of the Trades, he applied himself as much as he could, with motivation and determination. In the end he got accepted showing that all that effort he put in was well worth it and another step closer to success. Keith has already had two summer internships at power plants, one of which was a nuclear power plant. He has used the knowledge that he learned to help mentor underclassmen at the school and is also a role model for his siblings to look up to. He was offered employment at PSEG's nuclear plant after graduation and will begin working starting in the summer of 2025. Keith hopes to continue to encourage others to believe in themselves and pursue their dreams. He is excited about mentoring another Williamson Brighter Horizon Scholar!



Meet Kristen

Kristen, is a resident of Brookhaven, Pennsylvania, and a senior at Monsignor Bonner and Archbishop Prendergast Catholic High School. Growing up in a community with limited opportunities, she faced challenges that could have discouraged her dreams. However, with the unwavering support of her family, especially her mom, who always taught

her the importance of resilience and service, she has been able to turn those challenges into steppingstones. Giving back to the community has always been a priority for Kristen. Each year she organizes fundraisers at her church to provide free backpacks, school supplies, and meals for children in need. Experiences like this have taught her the power of community and the importance of leaving a lasting impact.

Academically, she is deeply committed to service and leadership. As a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council, Kristen has worked to uplift others and advocate for opportunities to support her fellow students. Looking to the future Kristen's dream is to become an oncologist and establish a foundation to improve healthcare in underserved regions. She is passionate about using her skills to make a difference in the lives of others, at home and across the globe. She is very excited to start her college career this fall and hopes to study at UPEN or Princeton!



Meet Anna

Anna, a New Jersey native, is set to graduate from Princeton University in May 2025! As the daughter of first-generation Chinese immigrants, she has demonstrated unwavering dedication to her family – translating English documents for her parents, caring for her younger brother, handling household responsibilities and managing her family's restaurant. Despite these challenges, Anna remained steadfast in her pursuit of higher education. She dedicated herself to excelling in the most academically rigorous curriculum throughout her secondary education, earned a degree from community college to further her education, and embraced opportunities through Brighter Horizon to realize her dream of attending a four-year university. In 2022, she transferred into Princeton as a member of the Class of 2025.

At Princeton, Anna has excelled in East Asian Studies, delving into the historical and modern dynamics of China, Korea, and Japan through coursework and completing two formal research projects, with another ongoing. Beyond academics, she has been an engaged member of the community, serving as a Korean Language Course Assistant and mentoring incoming transfer students and veterans, helping them navigate Princeton's rigorous environment. As she prepares to graduate, Anna stands as a testament to the power of perseverance and the impact of hard work, demonstrating how challenges can be transformed into solid foundations for growth and success.

2024 BY THE NUMBERS



\$529,000+
REVENUE



\$28,000+
MEALS, BOOKS,
HEALTHCARE,
TRANSPORTATION



76
SCHOLARS SERVED
THROUGH 2024



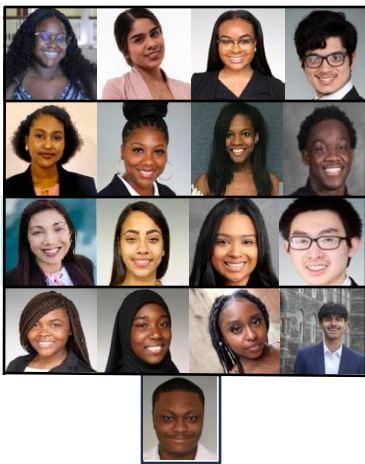
\$277,000+
BH COLLEGE
TUITION



\$18,000+
TUTORING

**990 filings and other information available upon request. 2024 financials are unaudited.*

2024 SUCCESS METRICS



17
SCHOLARS
WILL HAVE
GRADUATED
BY YEAR END 2024

1
ENTERED A
POST-GRADUATE
PROGRAMS

100%
HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION RATE



93%
OF BH COLLEGE STUDENTS
MATRICULATE TO THE
SECOND YEAR OF COLLEGE



45+
COLLEGE
ACCEPTANCES

SUCCESS METRICS SINCE FOUNDING IN 2018



\$3.1M+
REVENUE



\$250,000+
MEALS, BOOKS,
HOUSING,
TRANSPORTATION,
HEALTHCARE and
MORE



76
SCHOLARS SERVED
THROUGH 2024

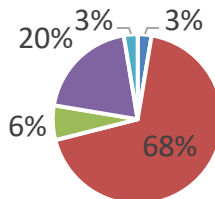
33 COLLEGE GRADS BY 2025
5 IN POST GRADUATE PROGRAMS



\$62,000
AVERAGE
STARTING
SALARY



\$1.8M+
BH COLLEGE
TUITION



- Caucasian
- African American
- Asian American
- Latino
- Arab American



175+
COLLEGE
ACCEPTANCES
TO DATE



\$198,000+
TUTORING

CLASS OF 2029



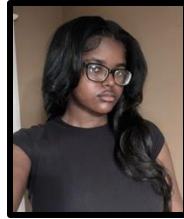
Kaylin



Jordan



Tyzhay



Renel



Katherine



Kristen

PARTNERSHIPS

Our partners are critical in helping us to identify motivated, deserving first-generation students who can use the support of Brighter Horizon to achieve their goals of attaining a four-year college degree or an associates' degree in the trades.



CRISTO REY
PHILADELPHIA
HIGH SCHOOL



of Greater Philadelphia
& Southern New Jersey



Providence
Center



GIRARD
COLLEGE
GRADES 1-12



WILLIAMSON
COLLEGE of the TRADES
Founded 1888



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UNDER \$1,000 and TRIBUTE GIFTS – SO THANKFUL FOR ALL OF YOU!

Brighter Horizon 6th Annual COLLEGE REVEAL

**BRIGHTER
 HORIZON**
EDUCATING THE FIRST GENERATION

You're Invited!

Brighter Horizon's 6th Annual
COLLEGE REVEAL EVENT

Saturday | June 7, 2025
6:00 – 10:00 PM

Girard College
 Founder's Hall
 2101 S. College Avenue, Philadelphia PA



Malik Myles Ruqayyah, Jaymaba Kyla Beatriz Amira

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL CELEBRATION
 to honor our college Scholars, who have worked so hard to
 achieve their goals, and reveal where our high school
 scholars will attend school in the fall of 2025 as
 first-generation college students!



BRIGHTER HORIZON

EDUCATING THE FIRST GENERATION

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