



To College. Through College.

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

Monday, November 7, 2022

CollegeBound Foundation selects its 2022 College Awareness Month winners

CollegeBound will recognize Baltimore City Schools' K-8 students who have submitted winning entries at 20th annual College Awareness Month celebration on Thursday, November 10th at the National Aquarium.

Baltimore, Md. – The CollegeBound Foundation will celebrate its 20th annual CollegeBound College Awareness Month celebration on Thursday, November 10th at the National Aquarium. Each year, CollegeBound welcomes Baltimore City Schools' students, grade K-8, to enter our annual College Awareness Month contest. Students are prompted to submit art, poetry, essay or spoken word entries to be considered for a prize and to be recognized at our annual celebration at the National Aquarium. The event will be very student- and teacher-focused, highlighting their aspirations with this year's theme "With College I Can...".

2022 College Awareness Month Winners

The CollegeBound Foundation has chosen first, second and third-place winners from each category. Categories have been split up by grade level: kindergarten to second grade, third to fifth grade, and sixth to eighth grade.

Each contest winner will receive a gift bag of fun prizes, a certificate, and a special surprise from T. Rowe Price. In addition to the winning students, three teachers won a pizza party for their class for being the classes that went above and beyond in the number of creative entries submitted. Those teachers are Mrs. McNeal-Smith from Green Street Academy, Mr. Shoales from Highlandtown Elementary/Middle School, and Mr. Thurmon from Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle School. All winning students and teachers will be invited to the aquarium for the awards ceremony. They will also receive admission to the aquarium for the day and a 4D movie.

The following universities and organizations have donated apparel for gift bags for our winners: The University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore City Community College, McDaniel College, and the National Aquarium. Winners were gifted college paraphernalia to continue their curiosity and aspirations of attending college.

A message from a past winner: Nicole Saarah-Mensah

"It's crazy to think that just seven years ago, I won the What Does College Mean to Me? contest. Back then, I was a middle school student that enjoyed watching TV a little too much but always stayed on top of schoolwork. Back then I really did not know what I wanted to do in the future. But as the years progressed and as I got involved in different activities and programs, I landed on my current track; nursing. This was a step by step progress: finish middle school, finish high school, complete nursing prerequisites, attend nursing school, etc. You may not have everything figured out right now and that's okay, seek out opportunities, explore different fields, lean on your social network.

WHAT: CollegeBound 20th Annual College Awareness Month Celebration

WHEN: Thursday, November 10, 2022 at 10 am

WHERE: National Aquarium, 501 E Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202

MEDIA: The event is Open Press: *Media interested in attending -- please contact Cassie Motz, at cmotz@collegeboundfoundation.org, 202-494-5469, by Nov. 9th at 5 pm*