

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## African-Canadian Students to Receive Prestigious BBPA National Scholarships

**TORONTO, October 3, 2019 –** The BBPA National Scholarship Program is proud to announce the 50 African-Canadians from across Canada who will receive the 2019 BBPA National Scholarships. The BBPA National Scholarships provide financial assistance to Canadian students of African descent currently enrolled in post-secondary programs. Recipients were selected based on academic excellence, a demonstrated financial need and recognized contributions to their communities.

York University is pleased to join the BBPA National Scholarship Fund in hosting the 2019 BBPA National Scholarships presentation ceremony on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at the Tribute Communities Hall, 83 York Blvd, Accolade East Building, Main Floor at York University at 6:00 p.m.

"We are very proud of the young women and men who are receiving the 2019 BBPA National Scholarships," said Luther Hansraj, Chair of the BBPA National Scholarship Fund. "They have achieved academic success while making significant contributions to their communities. These young people will be the future leaders that all Canadians can be proud of."

The President of the BBPA Nadine Spencer shared; "The BBPA is inspired by the truly remarkable talents and resilience of our scholarship recipients. They represent the significant positive narratives in our community that are often overlooked and unpronounced. I am honored and humbled to have the BBPA and our donors demonstrate our commitment to their success."

"Our government is proud to invest and celebrate these exceptional students, as we work together to ensure they reach their full potential in a province that recognizes the God given ability of every student. Their commitment to service, leadership, and learning is commendable, and underscores my confidence in the future of our country, democracy, and economy," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education.

The Black Business and Professional Association established the BBPA National Scholarship Fund, formerly entitled "the BBPA Harry Jerome Scholarship Fund" in 1986. The BBPA National Scholarships are made possible through the contribution of diligent sponsors and donors. Since the scholarship fund began, over 1000 post-secondary students from the Black community nationwide have been awarded scholarships totaling \$3.7 Million.

Donors to the BBPA National Scholarship Program include:

- Ministry of Education
- BBPA Future Leaders Scholarship
- The Dentons Canada Scholarship
- Christina Julian Ross Scholarship, Stanley Julian
- The Minerva Scholarship, Dr. Ross
- Toronto Community Housing

- TD Bank Scholarship
- University of Toronto
- Dr. Quida M. Wright
- Ray Williams
- Chef Roger Mooking
- York University



## The 2019 BBPA National Scholarships recipients are:

Aaron Parry Adara Harry Aishat Bello Amanda Owusu Aniyah Stuart-Veira Anthony Downy Ayesha Hassan Caila Palmer Cameron Rodriguez Carl Lamers Chante Hamilton Charmaine Ross Chidubem Nkoloagu Debora Ocholi Eki Okungbowa Falan Bennett Jinepher Koduah Jordyn Goins Joycelyn Asantewaa-Akuoko Keneca Pingue-Giles Keona Simmons Khalil Wheatle Kimathi Bwomono Lama Elfaki Leigh-Ann Grant

Lilian Dwira Lina Elfaki Marisa Coulton Muna Mohamed Mya Hastings Najma Abdalla Natalie Ramaabya Nicole Mfoafo-M'Carthy Nyah Wagner Rebecca Amoah Rebecca Konadu-Bruce Ross Cocks Safia Hirsi Shanice Nkathazo Shaquille Morgan Sommer Knight Sonia Igboanugo Sophia Tracey Taejah Noble Tafyra Poyser Teresa Akinbodun Tsinat Semagn Victoria Ebereany

The BBPA, founded in 1983, is a non-profit, charitable organization that addresses equity and opportunity for the Black community in business, employment, education and economic development. Our purpose is;

- To encourage and support the pursuit of entrepreneurship, business, professional excellence, higher education and economic empowerment.
- To facilitate access to ecosystems and resources.
- To identify and reward excellence in achievement.
- To establish linkages and co-operate with other organizations on matters pertaining to business, education, economic development and community wellness.

To build cross-cultural understanding and promote equity.

For more information please visit us online at www.bbpa.org, call (416) 504 - 4097 or email info@bbpa.org