2016 LONG BEACH BRANCH NAACP
37TH FOUNDER’S CELEBRATION SCHOLARSHIP
RECIPIENTS
The Long Beach Branch NAACP is in its 16th year of awarding scholarships to college and vocational school bound students. The Branch also provides continued support for past recipients. Recipients were selected based on a comprehensive application and judged using criteria that included essays, community service, financial need, a minimum GPA of 2.5 and letters of recommendation. The scholarships listed below are funded by donations to the Long Beach Branch NAACP Scholarship Fund, and memorial and private donor’s scholarships.

TATIANA TATE - ERNEST MCBRIDE, SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Tatiana Marie Tate has played the trumpet since the age seven and also plays drums, trombone and is learning bass guitar. She is a 12th grader at Long Beach Polytechnic High School and is a part of their Grammy Signature Music Program. She is the 2016/2017 “Drum Major” of the Poly High School Marching Band, where she plays trumpet in their prestigious Jazz “A” Jazzband, and is a soloist in the “Poly Jazz Combo III”, “Symphonic Winds Orchestra”. She has been recognized as an outstanding soloist in several festivals and competitions including the Reno Jazz Festival, Irvine Jazz Festival, and the Next Generation Jazz Festival. She was awarded the “Best Performer Award” at the Western States College Music Festival and the Grammy Museum Summer Session Band. She has performed at the First Annual Grammy Gala, featuring Boys 2 Men, Kelly Rowland, Michael Bolton, and Smokey Robinson. She also performed at the Ray Charles Stamp Dedication Ceremony. She is a member of the Colburn School Conservatory “Jazz Big Band”, the Mike Curb Music Production Mentoring program at the Grammy Museum and the Arturo Sandoval Institute All Star Youth Jazz Band. She also serves as Jazz Big Band, the Mike Curb Music Production Mentoring program at the Grammy Museum and the Arturo Sandoval Institute All Star Youth Jazz Band. She has also performed at the First Annual Grammy Gala, featuring Boys 2 Men, Kelly Rowland, Michael Bolton, and Smokey Robinson. She also performed at the Ray Charles Stamp Dedication Ceremony. She is a member of the Colburn School Conservatory “Jazz Big Band”, the Mike Curb Music Production Mentoring program at the Grammy Museum and the Arturo Sandoval Institute All Star Youth Jazz Band. She also serves as

DOMINIQUE LABAT - EVELYN KNIGHT BOOK SCHOLARSHIP
Dominique Labat is currently pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Studio Art at California State University, Long Beach. Prior to attending CSULB, Dominique was a student at Golden West College studying American Sign Language. She is currently an intern for the Arts Council of Long Beach at the Long Beach Museum of Art. Her artwork has been shown in multiple Los Angeles-based exhibits, including the “With These Hands Exhibit” “The Event”, and “ART8”.

Dominique earned three gold medals in the Drawing & Painting category of the Long Beach Branch NAACP ACT-SO Competition, in the years 2010, 2011 and 2012. Ms. Labat is a long-time supporter of the NAACP, and has volunteered at the annual NAACP Awards Gala. She is also a mentor for the Branch’s ACT-SO, Discovery of the Arts, Talent Search & Development Program, and the Stay in School Program.

EMILY PEARSON - GLORIA THOMAS SCHOLARSHIP
Emily B. Pearson is a Licensed Vocational Nursing student at Long Beach City College. She will be graduating from the program on December 13th, 2016. In addition to her nursing education, she is in her junior year at California State University Long Beach, pursing a Bachelor’s degree in Community Health Education. Emily has been an active member of the Long Beach Branch NAACP since the age of four and has participated regularly in many of the youth and college programs available through the branch. Emily was a Long Beach Branch NAACP Youth council president and scholar. In 2011 she competed in the national ACT-SO program representing the Long Beach branch in the category of entrepreneurship, and won the bronze medal. In 2017 she is planning on entering into a Registered Nursing program, so that she can continue with her educational goals. Emily’s amazing story of how she overcame the obstacles of a single parent home, heading of a disabled mother is inspiring. She believes faith, perseverance, positive attitude and helping others can change things and make a difference.

SHIRLEY VALVERDE - INTERNATIONAL REALTY & INVESTMENT SCHOLARSHIP
Shirley Valverde is majoring in psychology at CSULB. Her desire is to become a psychologist. Shirley graduated from Long Beach City College and Long Beach Unified School District. She is proud of her involvement with the Long Beach Branch NAACP, a connection that began when she was 8 years old. Shirley participated in the first Law Day Program with Keesal, Young, and Logan over 14 years ago and has been a participant in both youth and adult NAACP projects, including Stay-in-School, Fit and Focus, Urban Ocean Festival with the Aquarium of the Pacific, the LB NAACP Annual Toy Drive, and the LB NAACP Freedom Fund. Currently, Shirley is a Long Beach Branch NAACP College Intern and Scholar. In addition to the many hours donated to the NAACP, she has been involved with volunteering at meals on wheels, being a teacher’s assistant in elementary schools, attending city clean-ups, and attending and helping out at community events.

LONG BEACH BRANCH NAACP SCHOLARSHIP FUND
To establish or support a LB Branch NAACP Scholarship, you may mail your donation to LB Branch NAACP Scholarship Fund - P.O. Box 1594, Long Beach, CA 90801. For additional information, email the branch at mnaacp@gmail.com or call (562) 856-7586.

CONTINUING SCHOLARS: Maiya Meeks- UC Berkley • Barry Johnson - Long Beach College • Kyndra McDaniels - CSU Long Beach • Jordan Miller - CSU Long Beach

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