

# OAAA E-Weekly Newsletter

Office of African American Affairs

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**September 6, 2021**

## Special Announcement

**2021-2022 OAAA / GradSTAR Faculty-Student Mentoring Program!**

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, September 7 at 5:00 pm**

Information and applications are [on line now](#)

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Fall 2021 Academic Calendar

**October 9 - October 12:**  
Reading Days

**October 22 - October 24:**  
Family Weekend ([Go to Family Weekend](#))

**November 24 - November 28:**  
Thanksgiving recess

## OAAA Announcements & Services

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### **OAAA / McIntire School of Commerce Information Session**

Monday, September 6 – 6:00 pm-7:00 pm – W.E.B. DuBois Conference Center - #2 Dawson's Row

A McIntire Admissions representative will answer questions and give helpful tips on what it takes to be accepted into the "Comm School." Please [RSVP](#) space is limited. If you cannot attend, contact [Ms. Carter](#) to schedule an advising appointment with Dean Thomas. Pizza provided!

### **OAAA/Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy**

Tuesday, September 14 – 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm W.E.B. DuBois Conference Center - #2 Dawson's Row

Batten representatives will answer questions and give helpful tips on what it takes to be accepted into the "Batten School." Please [RSVP](#) as space is limited. If you cannot attend, contact [Ms. Carter](#) to schedule an advising appointment with Dean Thomas. Refreshments!

### **Meet the OAAA Deans and Staff**

Wednesday, September 8 - 1:00 - OAAA Main Conference Room -- #4 Dawson's Row

Come to an informal open-house at OAAA to meet the deans, staff, and find out what services are available this year. Refreshments!

### **OAAA/GradSTAR Lunch Series: Tuesdays @ DuBois**

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday (**Starting September 14**) – 12:00-2:00 pm - W.E.B. DuBois Conference Rm #2 Dawson's Row

Join Dean Antoinette Thomas for lunch and conversation. Space is limited. **You must [RSVP](#) to reserve your spot.**

### **Black Friday**

Every Friday - 1:30 pm - W.E.B. DuBois Conference Rm #2 Dawson's Row

Come & join us for food & fellowship!

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**OAAA Tutoring for Fall 2021 – Contact: [Dean Thomas](#) for more information**

**OAAA tutors meeting dates & times via In-Person & Zoom: (Starting Tuesday, September 7)**

### **OAAA Calculus & Statistics Tutoring with Travis Elliott**

Tuesdays – 1:00 pm-3:30 pm – (in person) W.E.B. DuBois Conference Room #2 Dawson's Row

Thursdays – 2:00 pm-4:30 pm – [Zoom Room](#) Passcode: 082999

### **OAAA Chemistry Tutoring with Yvette Gamor**

Thursdays - 5:00 pm-7:00 pm – (in person) W.E.B. DuBois Conference Room #2 Dawson's Row

[Email](#) for Zoom appointments if needed.

### **OAAA Organic Chemistry Tutoring**

TBA

### **OAAA Biology Tutoring**

TBA

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Contact: [Dean Mason](#) for more information on:

- **Black College Women (BCW) Book Club**
  - **Black Male Initiative (BMI)**
  - **Black President's Council (BPC)**
  - **Black College Women (BCW) - In the Company of my Sister**
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### **Quote of the Week**

“There are some people that look at faith as a part of their life, and there are those like me that look at faith as the essence of their life. I look at all things through my faith.” – Roland Martin

### **Student Spotlight**



## Booker Johnson

Booker (he/him/his) is a third-year Echols Scholar student and Meriwether Lewis Institute for Citizens Leadership Fellow in the College of Arts and Sciences pursuing a double major in English with a concentration in Modern & Global Studies and Government on the pre-law track from Chesterfield, VA. Around Grounds he serves as the Political Action Committee Chair of the Black Student Alliance (BSA), is on the executive board of Student Council as the Director of Coalition Engagement, and is the Co-Chair of Orientation and Bonding for the Office of African American Affairs' Peer Advisory Program. In his spare time, he is also working towards starting a Black journal with some of his friends, called the Virginia Black Review, in which he serves as the Managing Editor. Following his undergraduate career, Booker currently plans on taking a gap year before attending law school in which he can use this time to explore the global and domestic political sphere through internship, fellowship, and career opportunities.

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You can nominate someone (not yourself) to be in the Spotlight. Send your nominations to Dean Antoinette Thomas ([art8u@virginia.edu](mailto:art8u@virginia.edu)) every Thursday by 12 noon.

## Quote's Corner



[Roland S. Martin](#) (born November 14, 1968) born in Houston,

Texas, is an American journalist. He is a 1987 graduate of Jack Yates High School-Magnet School of Communications, and a 1991 graduate of Texas A&M University, where he earned a bachelor's of science degree in journalism. Martin is the host and managing editor of #RolandMartinUnfiltered, the first daily online show in history focused on news and analysis of politics, entertainment, sports, and culture from an explicitly African American perspective. Since 2008, Martin has been a senior analyst for the Tom Joyner Morning Show, where his daily segment is heard on more than 100 stations and 8 million people daily. He is the author of three books: *Listening to the Spirit Within: 50 Perspectives on Faith*; *Speak, Brother! A Black Man's View of America*; and *The First: President Barack Obama's Road to the White House as originally reported by Roland S. Martin* and contributed to several others. In his career, Martin has won more than 30 awards for journalistic excellence, as well as awarded the 2008 President's Award by the National Association of Black Journalists for his work in multiple media platforms. In 2008, he was also inducted into the Texas A&M University Journalism Hall of Honor. He is a four-time NAACP Image Award winner, including named Best Host for the last two years. Martin spent six years as a contributor for CNN, appearing on numerous shows and earning accolades near and far for his no-holds honesty, conviction and perspective on various issues. In 2009, CNN was awarded the Peabody Award for its outstanding 2008 election coverage, of which Martin was a member of the Best Political Team on Television. Mr. Martin is a life member of the National Association of Black Journalists, and a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He has been awarded honorary degrees from Florida Memorial University; University of Maryland-University College; Lemoyne-Owen College; Lane College; and South Carolina State University. He is married to the Rev. Jacquie Hood Martin. They reside in Washington, D.C. area.

## Upcoming Events

### Fellowships Series

There are awards for students at all stages (undergraduate, graduate, professional) – and even alumni. It is never too early to start learning about these opportunities. Special events and sessions with unique times or locations are marked with asterisks (\*) below.

### Gilman Scholarship Information Session

Monday, September 6 – 4:00 pm-5:00 pm – Rotunda Multipurpose Room (121)

The Gilman Scholarship Program awards up to \$5,000 for students to intern or study abroad, and there is up to \$3,000 in supplemental funding for students studying a critical need language. Must be eligible for a Pell Grant or the dependent child of an active-duty military member to apply.

### Introductory Workshop

Monday, September 13 – 4:00 pm-5:00 pm – Rotunda Multipurpose Room (121)

Don't know what fellowships are? Wondering what the point of pursuing any of them might be? Come enjoy a chance to envision yourself as an applicant for these incredible opportunities. This workshop is most appropriate for first and second years or older students who have yet to be exposed to the Office of Citizen Scholar Development.

### Truman Scholarship Information Session

Monday, September 20 – 4:00 pm-5:00 pm – Rotunda Multipurpose Room (121)

Are you a dynamic leader? An activist dedicated to positive change? Committed to public service? If you answered 'yes' to any of those questions, you should consider the Truman Scholarship, which provides \$30,000 toward graduate school and access to a network of incredible leaders. Come even if you aren't sure about the graduate school part. Apply as a third year.

### Goldwater Scholarship Information Session

Monday, September 27 – 4:00 pm-5:00 pm – Rotunda Multipurpose Room (121)

Do you love research? Are you considering pursuing research science, mathematics, or engineering as a career? Are you simply a STEM student and want to at least explore an exciting opportunity? Come learn about the award and the process for nomination by the University of Virginia. Apply as a second or third year – so first years should definitely come!

### Peer Financial Counseling Available!

Tuesday-Thursday – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm – Georges Student Center Room 245

Peer Financial Counseling offers all UVA students one-on-one help from trained peer counselors on a variety of topics including budgeting, student loans, personal credit, basic investing, and more. Our counselors understand the stresses that come with being a college student and want to help you better manage those factors while in school. [Write to us](#) at to schedule an appointment! [For More Information!](#) Contact Name: [Dustin Ciraco](#)

### Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry Series

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday – 4:00 pm – Clemons Library Room 204

We will have a workshop to support undergraduate research and creative inquiry. Every first Wednesday is a session entitled, 'Getting Started in research and creative inquiry.' [Schedule](#): (full schedule to be posted by September)

## Opportunities with Deadlines

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### **The Innovation Associate Program**

**Application Deadline: Monday, September 13 at 9:00 AM EST**

This fall, the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the Georgetown University School of Medicine is offering exciting internship positions for undergraduates and graduate students interested in being part of a dynamic, student-led team. The Innovation Associate Program explores diversity strategies in education, medicine, health care and policy work at the Georgetown University School of Medicine. For more information, [please visit our website](#). [Apply Here!](#)

### **Ridley Scholarship Fund Awards Available to Non-Ridley Students Available**

Ridley scholarships that extend beyond current scholars: <https://aig.alumni.virginia.edu/ridley/about/ridley-scholarships/>

### **Ravenell "Ricky" Keller III Memorial Fund**

The Ravenell (Ricky) Keller III Scholarship Award was established to perpetuate the memory of Ravenell "Ricky" Keller. Ricky was a 1985 Honors graduate of the College, where he was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., the IMP Society of Leaders, the University Guide Service and the Board of Trustees for the Class of 1985. Upon his passing, it became known that he was also a member of the Seven Society. Ricky participated in the First Years Seminars program and received the First Year Academic Achievement Award, the Afro-American Scholars Award, the Fraternity Leadership Achievement Award, and the John Kenneth Crispell Memorial Award. He participated in the Study Abroad Program, which afforded him the opportunity to study at the London School of Economics. The Keller Scholarship is available to all African-American UVA students who qualify. Students are eligible to receive a one-time grant to supplement a study abroad experience during a semester, summer or J-term.

### **National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)**

Students have the opportunity to embark on a fully funded wilderness expedition, and leadership training through the NOLS Gateway partnership. Since its founding in 1965, the National Outdoor Leadership School has aimed to provide the environment and training necessary to help participants discover their full leadership potential. Through the NOLS Gateway partnership, the organization has had the opportunity to collaborate with organizations across the country to award full-tuition scholarships to exceptional youth who would otherwise not have access to NOLS expeditions. Each summer, up to 150 youth from up to 50 official partner organizations expand their leadership and wilderness skills at one of NOLS' seven domestic operating locations. Thousands of Gateway Partner Program graduates are now leading others in industries from conservation to software development.

### **Ridley-Sabato Capitol Hill Internship Stipend (Not Yet Awarded)**

At least one student will be provided with a \$5000 stipend as they pursue experiential learning in the fields of politics, government, and public service. The intent of this stipend is to relieve some of the financial burden associated with the acceptance of a political or governmental internship, and as such, recipients may use it to cover housing, transportation, food and business clothing expenses associated with said internships.

### **Truist Ridley Leadership and Financial Education Academy (Set to Begin in January 2022)**

Partnering with the BB&T Leadership Institute in Greensboro, North Carolina, and the UVA Career Center, the academy program will feature participation by Truist executives in teaching students about financial services, asset management and advisory services, technology, data sciences and operating careers, as well as participation by partners from consulting, legal, financial planning, accountancy and related fields. It will also feature leadership and well-being course instruction from the Leadership Institute's award-winning faculty. The initial funding will provide for two summer's worth of 3-to-4 cohorts of 15 students to participate. Over a two-year period, the pilot program will support up to 120 African-American students at UVA. This will provide these rising second year students with an early experience of Truist's commitment to teammates and diversity and inclusion, and a valuable addition to career resumes. For Truist, it provides a remarkable opportunity to connect with high-quality cohorts of students in an authentic setting and create brand awareness of the opportunities Truist is committed to providing.

### **Richmond Ridley Clarence Cain Endowed Fund**

The Ridley Club of Richmond, Virginia sponsors a full tuition-and-fees award for an exceptional African-American student from the Richmond, Virginia area. This scholarship has been the result of the collective efforts of Richmond area alumni and businesses, and will provide four years of financial support for one of the Richmond area's best scholars. Richmond area alumni continue to raise funds toward this geographic scholarship – the first of its kind for the Ridley Fund – and encourage others to support this effort.

### **Michael Russell Engineering Scholarship**

In 2007, School of Engineering and Applied Science alum Michael Russell of Atlanta, GA established a scholarship fund for African-Americans pursuing a degree in the School of Engineering and Applied Science at UVA. They are expected to possess

the leadership and scholarship qualities that typify all Ridley Scholars.

#### **The Gregory Ledford Endowed Fund**

In 2007, McIntire School of Commerce graduate Gregory Ledford established the Gregory Ledford Endowed Scholarship to benefit a rising third year African-American Commerce School student. This scholarship provides full tuition-and-fees for two years for an African-American student who has been admitted to the School of Commerce. Preference is given for students concentrating in Finance. The chosen scholar must have a high grade point average and must demonstrate involvement in University, community or other individual extracurricular pursuits.

#### **The Sylvia V. Terry Scholarship**

Named for legendary OAAA Dean Sylvia Terry, the Terry Scholarship recognizes the scholastic and community achievements of Black or African-American students at UVA. The scholarship provides two years of full tuition-and-fees support for the recipient. Ideal applicants are rising Third Year students with strong grades, leadership activities, and community service. Because of Dean Terry's pivotal role in creating the Peer Advisor Program, preference is given to academically strong candidates with significant experience as mentors.

#### **The Dr. Derek E. Brown Scholarship**

The Dr. Derek E. Brown Scholarship was created to remember Dr. Brown's dream of helping African-American male students seeking admission to medical or dental school. This award is designed to help qualified male students defray the high cost of applying to medical or dental school. Ridley is currently in the process of restructuring this award to benefit recent UVA graduates.

#### **The Paige Pre-Medical Fund**

This scholarship is designed to help pre-med students defray the high cost of applying to medical school. The applicant must be a fourth-year African American student at the University of Virginia who has taken all pre-medical requirements and the MCAT. Applicants must be planning to enter medical school immediately after graduating. One winner will receive a \$1,500 scholarship (non-renewable), which they may use to pay for medical school application fees and interview expenses.

#### **Annetta Thompson Fund**

Family and friends honored the life of the first full-time administrator for the Walter N. Ridley Scholarship Fund by establishing this fund in 1999. The Annetta Thompson Scholarship is awarded to a deserving 4th-year Ridley scholar who exemplifies Annetta Thompson's commitment to education. Annetta Thompson received her bachelor's degree in education from UVA in 1973. She valued the role of education and the importance of creating opportunities for young people pursuing an education. Annetta's hard work and diligence during her tenure as the fund administrator contributed to the tremendous growth and success of the Ridley Fund.

## **This Week in Black History**



**Did you know?** September 15th 1963 - Birmingham Church

Bombing On September 15, 1963, a bomb exploded during Sunday morning services in the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, killing four young girls. With its large African-American congregation, the 16th Street Baptist Church served as a meeting place for civil rights activities. Fifteen sticks of dynamite were planted in the church basement, underneath what turned out to be the girls' restroom. The bomb detonated at 10:19 a.m., killing Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Addie Mae Collins—all 14 years old—and 11-year-old Denise McNair. Spike Lee's film, *Four Little Girls*, depicts this true story. [Visit](#) for more information



**Did you know?** September 17th 1983 - Vanessa

Williams becomes first black Miss America Vanessa Lynn Williams was born on March 18, 1963, and raised by music-teacher parents in suburban New York City. She attended Syracuse University, where she majored in musical theater. After winning the Miss New York title, Williams went to Atlantic City, New Jersey, to participate in the Miss America pageant. On September 17, 1983, Williams made history by becoming the first African-American woman in the pageant's 63-year history to capture the Miss America title. (For the competition's first 30 years, blacks weren't even allowed to become contestants.) Scandal later erupted, however, when nude photos surfaced of Williams that had reportedly been shot when she worked for a photographer before her pageant days. She was forced to resign her Miss America title in July 1984. The photos later appeared (without Williams' consent) in *Penthouse* magazine. She later pursued a successful career in theatre, film and television. [Visit](#) for more information