

MAKING AN IMPACT

Investing Today in Tomorrow's Leaders

"The benefit of Steppingstone extends beyond the individual Scholars, creating a multiplier effect that positively impacts their schools, peers, families, and the generations to come. Whether motivating their siblings to work hard in school, serving as leaders in the workplace and their communities, or one day setting the example for their own children to go to college, Steppingstone Scholars make a meaningful difference to society,"

~ William Fitzsimmons, Harvard's Dean of Admission and Financial Aid

Meet the Future Leaders

Steppingstone Scholars begin preparing to be future leaders in their respective careers as early as fifth grade. While most Scholars do not know the career they will pursue after college graduation, they begin acquiring the requisite skills during The Steppingstone Academy's academic component. Alumni Scholar Craig Groves '00 took a route that surprises him now as he looks back on his own pathway.

As a 10-year-old boy in 1999, Craig carefully filled out his application for The Steppingstone Academy, hoping to gain acceptance to the program and ultimately to enroll at a competitive public exam school. Craig listed math as his favorite subject and science as his least favorite, explaining "science is difficult for me." However, after completing Steppingstone's academic component and enrolling at Boston Latin School, Craig not only grew to like science, he now holds a degree from Georgia Institute of Technology in mechanical engineering and works for General Electric Energy analyzing data and developing software that enables businesses to run chemical processes smoothly.

And in an economic climate of increasing job competition and emphasis on the need for a four-year college degree, it

"I feel my education has made me competitive in this tough job market and struggling economy."

~ **Craig Groves '00**



Craig Groves '00 develops software in the oil and gas industry as a database analyst for **General Electric Energy**.

Boston Latin School '06;
Georgia Institute of
Technology '10

Photo: Rated Ramz Photography



Krystal Brooks '93 (with husband Joei Sanchez and son Kahmanni) helps clients make informed investment choices by keeping them up-to-date on their funds' market activity as Senior Client Operations Specialist at **State Street Bank**.

Boston Latin School '99;
University of Massachusetts
Boston '06; United States
Army '08

By the year 2025, more than 2,000 Steppingstone Alumni will be part of the U.S. workforce.

is more imperative than ever that Scholars are prepared to pursue their careers (*see sidebar*). Steppingstone recently surveyed Alumni to learn more about their professional interests and career choices. Alumni Scholars reported a wide array of professions, with 36% of Alumni surveyed employed in finance/business; 21% in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math fields (projected to see the highest job market growth in the years to come); 21% in education; 11% in the arts and entertainment; 7% in non-profit organizations; and 4% in law. They, along with the hundreds of other Steppingstone Alumni, as well as the more than 1,400 Scholars who are currently enrolled in The Steppingstone Academy and the College Success Academy, are on track to become future leaders in their professions after earning their four-year college degrees. By the year 2025, more than 2,000 Steppingstone Alumni will be a part of the U.S. workforce.

While Craig's journey took him down a path not originally envisioned, he is glad his training in science at both The Steppingstone Academy and Boston Latin School, coupled with his own determination, brought him to where he is today. As the U.S. workforce continues to value college graduates, Steppingstone is more committed than ever to prepare the leaders of tomorrow by engaging motivated students at an early age and providing Scholars with the tools they need to pursue their dreams. Through supporting Scholars in all aspects of their academic careers, culminating in four-year college graduation, Steppingstone is proud to witness the thousands of Scholars and Alumni impacting the world in significant ways.

Photo: University School



Alicia Genisca '93 (perched in the hills of Ethiopia) works at the Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative in Kenya for **Global Health Corps**.

Thayer Academy '99;
Johns Hopkins University '03;
Weill Cornell Medical College of Cornell '09



J.P. Jacquet '95 creates quality educational opportunities for all students within the Bronx and throughout New York City's K12 public school system as the Associate Director of Portfolio Planning for the **Department of Education**.

Roxbury Latin School '01;
Harvard College '05;
Columbia University '12,
M.A. in Independent School Leadership.



Rochelle Williams-Belzair '94 directs two oncology research programs at the Dana Farber Harvard Cancer Center at **Massachusetts General Hospital**, working closely with scientists, medical directors, and Harvard Medical School faculty.

Newton Country Day School '00;
Tufts University '04.

Studies show . . .

- If students continue to graduate from college at the current rate, there will be a shortage of 23 million college-educated adults in the U.S. workforce by 2025.
- Employees in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) make America more competitive in the global economy by generating new ideas, new companies, and new industries.
- Earnings for college graduates are more than double that of high school graduates over a lifetime.*
- The unemployment rate for people 25 years or older who graduate from college is 4.3% compared to 9.3% for high school graduates.**

*Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce
**U.S. Labor Department 2012

Scholarly Achievements

Founded in 1990, The Steppingstone Foundation is a non-profit organization that develops and implements programs which prepare urban schoolchildren for educational opportunities that lead to college success. Based on the premise that, regardless of circumstance, children can achieve at high levels if they are prepared in a focused, demanding academic environment, Steppingstone programs emphasize rigorous standards and achieve meaningful results.

Academic Honors and Prizes:

Bruna Lee '09 of The Rivers School was honored with the Harvard Club Prize, a top honor for a junior.

Dedham Country Day School's **Hendricks Delva '09** received the Charlotte Lowell Award for demonstrating friendliness, kindness, and unselfishness.

Lesley-Ann Boyce '05 of Newton North High School received a Newton METCO Academic Achievement Award at graduation.

The following Scholars at Thayer Academy received recognition at Prize Day last June:

Felice Cabral '11 was honored with the Hedley-Campedelli Scholarship Award, presented to a seventh-grade student who demonstrates high character, love of life, and promise.

Tina Tran '08 was awarded the Spanish Prize for outstanding academic achievement, a sincere appreciation of Hispanic culture, and sustained daily preparation and participation.

Jacqueline Painten '08, also a graduate of Derby Academy, received a Most Improved Freshman English Award for demonstrating perseverance and growth in the subject.

Barbara Singhakiat '06, also a Park School graduate, was honored with the Saint Michael's College Book Award, presented to a junior in the top 20% of his or her class who demonstrated a sustained and sincere commitment to community service activities either at school or within the local community.

Olivia Lau '06 received the University of Rochester Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award, presented to a junior with high achievement and rigor in science classes and high PSAT or SAT math scores.

Najat Goso '07 was honored with the ADA Helen Gilbert Claff Prize, an award given to a sophomore girl who reflects the qualities of warmth, generosity, friendliness, and love of human kind.

Brimmer and May acknowledged honors to the following Scholars in grades seven through 11 at its year-end awards ceremony:

Dashaun Simon '10 received the Betsy Joy Roberts Award, given to a student who exemplifies integrity, optimism, and good will. He also won the Citizenship Award, given to a seventh grader who possesses the qualities of honesty, responsibility, reliability, and a strong sense of community.

Raymond Ma '07 was honored with the College of the Holy Cross Book Prize, awarded to a junior who combines outstanding scholarship and personal qualities with a sincere concern for school and community.

Jeremy Guevara '06 was awarded the Ellen Baker Nichols Scholarship for demonstrating academic promise and enthusiasm for the school.

Madeline Guevara '06 received the Upper School Spanish Award, given to a student who makes invaluable contributions to the classroom through her own cultural background and enthusiasm for Spanish culture.

Paul Lafferty '09 was honored with the Citizenship Award, given to an eighth grader who possesses the qualities of honesty, responsibility, reliability, and a strong sense of community.

The following Newton Country Day School Steppingstone Scholars received Red Ribbons at Prize Day, which denotes an average of a B+ or above with no grade below a B-: **Kimberly Saunders '08, Cassandra Vickers '06, Melbey Flores '07, Mayte Martinez-Alvarez '08, D'Jonita Cottrell '09, Monet Eugene '10, Camilla Ora '09, Ghiana Guzman '10, Mariane St. Juste '10, Yrvine Thelusma '10, Marlendi Elysee '11, Precious Ebika '11, Vinou Val '11, and Toya Ora '11.**

Also at Newton Country Day, academic prizes were awarded to Kimberly for creative writing, Cassandra in anatomy and physiology, Melbey in AP Spanish literature, Mayte in religion, D'Jonita in Spanish I, Monet in dance, Mariane in French, Vinou in English, and Toya in instrumental. Precious received a Sacred Heart Goal V Award for her commitment "to personal growth in an atmosphere of wise freedom."

Opeoluwa Olukorede '09 of The Rivers School was named co-president of the senior class.

Chimene Cooper '06, a graduate of The Park School and a senior at Milton Academy, won the school's Bisbee Award for outstanding research in U.S. History, and was named Miss Jabberwock 2012 for winning the fundraising competition at The 2012 Jabberwock Cotillion in May.

Cathedral High School's **Aisha Qader '10** was inducted into the National Honor Society last spring.

Alex Gamez '07 and **Abi Crawford '06** of The Rivers School were selected as two of the tri-presidents of the Rivers Integrated Cultural Awareness Club.

The following students received the Honor Roll distinction at the John D. O'Bryant School for the fourth term: **Antonio Amaro '10**, **Dariana Arteaga '10**, **Amanda Brea '10**, **Hei-Sin Leung '11**, **Mauricio Reyes '10**, **Wendy San '10**, **Duy Tran '10**, and **Anthony Veras '10**.

The Steppingstone Academy's August commencement keynote address was given by Alumnus **Chukwuma Ekwelum '00** (pictured below) who attended Belmont Hill School, Trinity College, and graduated last May with a master's degree from Boston College's School of Education. He is now teaching humanities at Codman Academy Charter School.



Photo: Pierce Harmon Photography

Graduation Awards:

David Paradela '06 and **Hury Michael '05** both graduated with academic honors from Boston College High School in May. David, also a Dedham Country Day alumnus, is in his first year at University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Hury, a graduate of the Fessenden School as well, enrolled at Colgate University.

Cathedral High School's **Jessica Taylor '08** received the class leadership award last spring at graduation. She is in her first year at Regis College.

Milton Academy's **Bright Osajie '05** was awarded the William Bacon Lovering Award, given to a student who perpetuates the memory of a gallant gentleman and officer. He is in his first year at University of Massachusetts Amherst. Also at Milton Academy, **Javon Ryan '06** was awarded the Benjamin Fosdick Harding Latin Prize as a junior.

Tyrone Li '06 of Buckingham Browne & Nichols was honored with The April Teruel Prize, an award given to seniors who are kind and understanding to their peers and active participants in school life. He enrolled at Bowdoin College in September.

Benjamin Ma '06 of Brimmer and May received an Athletic Association Award, given to a senior known for his or her spirit and sportsmanship. He was also honored with The Blazer Award, given to a senior who best upholds the values and ideals of Brimmer and May. He is in his first year at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science. **Diana Chaves '05** was also awarded an Athletic Association Award and The Alumni Award, given to a senior who demonstrates academic excellence and is a student of high character. She enrolled at Holy Cross in September.



Steppingstone's Assistant Director of Counseling Services Kristin Arcangeli poses with **Saline Payne '08** after receiving her diploma from John D. O'Bryant School.



David Hernandez '06 walks to the stage to accept his diploma from Boston Latin School.



Scholar **Brian Goff '06** proudly displays his diploma from Boston Latin Academy.

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* Welcome new board members!

Faces of the Summer

Attorneys from law firm **Ropes & Gray** visited The Steppingstone Academy in July to see the Scholars in action. Since 2011, Ropes & Gray has been working with Scholars and their families to provide pro bono legal services on immigration status in an effort to maximize the financial aid Scholars need to access college.



To celebrate its 100th anniversary and “Serve with Liberty” day, volunteers from **Liberty Mutual** (pictured above) enthusiastically helped Steppingstone move into and decorate Milton Academy for the six-week summer session and assembled classroom and academic materials with Scholars.

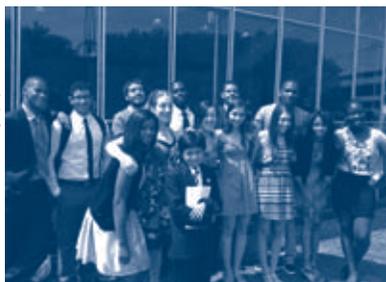


Photo: Pierce Harman Photography

Each summer, Steppingstone hires Teaching Assistants to support faculty and serve as role models to the Scholars. This year, 10 of the 14 TAs are high school Scholars.

In The Steppingstone Academy: **Temitope Ashorobi '08** (Boston Latin School), **Bassil Bacare '08** (The Park School, Roxbury Latin), **Ashley Beckles '08** (Southfield), **Valentine Iwejuo '06** (Fessenden, Roxbury Latin), **Trent Jones '06** (Belmont Hill), **Bruna Lee '09** (Rivers), **Refjola Malushi '07** (North Quincy High School), and **Londyn Odom '09** (Xaverian).

In College Success Academy: **Jeremy Guevara '06** (Brimmer & May) and **Sophia Lesperance '10** (Noble and Greenough).

Scholars Make Headlines

The July 9 edition of *The Patriot Ledger* featured the College Success Academy with Steppingstone's executive vice president of programs, Yully Cha, detailing the program's summer goals and the Scholars' progress.

Newton Country Day School graduate **Cassandra Vickers '06** (pictured in front below) was featured in the *Jamaica Plain Gazette* in June for her accomplishments, including her 4.0 GPA, book prize awards, and varsity crew participation. She is in her first year at University of Pennsylvania.



Photo courtesy of Newton Country Day School

Ashley Santelises '08, a 2012 Southfield School graduate and first-year student at MIT, was profiled in *The Roslindale Transcript* last spring, noting her academic accomplishments, including the distinction of prima (highest GPA in her class), Harvard Book Prize winner, and Southfield Math Award recipient.

Seventh-grade Scholar **Thos Kuffour '12** of Fay School and Steppingstone president Kelly Glew appeared on WCVB-TV's *Chronicle* in July, as the summer program's Milton Academy site was featured as part of a larger segment on Milton's 350th town anniversary.

Barbara Okafor '06 (pictured below), a Boston Latin Academy graduate, was recently featured in *The Bay State Banner* for her academic success and track and field accomplishments in high school. She is continuing her track career at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth this fall.



Photo: McCarthy Photography

Stepping Out

Photo: Jamie Baldwin/For the Love Photography



Steppingstone President & COO Kelly Glew, Author and Keynote Speaker Wes Moore, and NPEA Executive Director Karin Elliott gathered at the NPEA 2012 Conference.

5 NPEA
Annual Conference
April 11-12, 2013
BOSTON

NPEA: Now

Preparations are well underway for the fifth annual conference, to be held on April 11-12, 2013 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Confirmed keynote speakers include Steve Pemberton, Divisional Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer for Walgreens, and author, *A Chance in the World: An Orphan Boy, A Mysterious Past, and How He Found a Place Called Home*.

NPEA: Then

On April 19-20, 2012, the National Partnership for Educational Access (NPEA) held its fourth annual conference, *Innovative Collaborations: Strategies for Supporting Under-represented Students*. Hosted in Chicago, the conference drew 321 attendees who attended workshops and panel discussions designed to provide tools that programs can use to improve and expand their college access services, while also learning about effective collaborations. Workshop topics included implementing effective family engagement strategies, how to maximize college visits, and research-based strategies for supporting students from matriculation through graduation.

Graduation Party Gala

Help celebrate Steppingstone's 80% college graduation rate by attending this year's graduation party-themed Gala! This year's event will be held on Thursday, November 1 at The Charles Hotel. We are so grateful to this year's co-chairs, Kate & Tom Gilbane, Darlene & Gerald Jordan, and Christina Wing-O'Donnell & Tad O'Donnell.

For additional information, please contact Kate Wood, Senior Director of Advancement, 617.423.6300, ext 238 or kwood@tsf.org.

College Acceptance List

American University
Bates College
Bentley University (2)
Boston College (4)
Boston University (6)
Bowdoin College
Bridgewater State College
Bucknell University
Clark University (3)
Colby College
Colgate University
College of the Holy Cross (2)
Columbia University
Concordia University
Curry College
Elon University
Emerson College
Fitchburg State College
Framingham State College (2)
Franklin Pierce College
Georgetown University
Hartwick College
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Johnson and Wales University
Juniata College
Lasell College (3)
Lehigh University
Massachusetts College of Art
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (3)
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Northeastern University (3)
Providence College
Quinnipiac College
Regis College (3)
Salem State College (3)
Simmons College
St. John's University, NY
Suffolk University (3)
Tufts University (2)
Union College (2)
University of Massachusetts Amherst (9)
Boston (6)
Dartmouth (7)
Lowell
University of Michigan
University of Pennsylvania (2)
Wentworth Institute of Technology (2)
Wesleyan University
Williams College



On Saturday, August 11, Steppingstone families, friends, faculty, and staff celebrated the accomplishments of 110 Scholars as they graduated from The Steppingstone Academy.



Also Inside:

- Scholars Making Headlines
- Alumni in the Workforce

FALL 2012

Steppingstone**news**

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