

■

EDUCATE

EMPOWER

ELEVATE



20TH ANNIVERSARY REPORT

■

BUILDING SCHOLARS FOR THE FUTURE

■

YOUTH ENRICHMENT AND EDUCATION

HEALTH PEER EDUCATION

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

CONTINUING EDUCATION SUPPORT

■

GAPBUSTER GHANA



## WHY OUR WORK MATTERS

### After 20 years of service, GapBuster, Inc. is Coming Full Circle!

“Sankofa” is a word that comes from the Akan people of Ghana and depicted as a bird with its head turned backward taking an egg from its back. The symbolism is that to understand the present and make positive strides in the future, one must reach back to the knowledge gained in the past.

GapBuster, Inc. was born 20 years ago as my answer to a system that was not giving my child and other black and brown students, the resources that they needed to thrive within the educational system. I wondered what would happen to these black and brown students in 20 years and what this would mean for this generation of children if someone did not step up. In this instance, that someone who had to step up was the person that I saw in the mirror every day. It was an easy decision to let go of my medical profession and start on this journey with GapBuster.

Our programs have educated, enriched, and empowered the tens of thousands of children that have passed through our programs to believe that they can live whatever dreams they can envision for themselves. Our results are impressive and have proven that every child can learn and succeed in the right environment.

In 2020, we have gone virtual with our programs and provided our students with a safe, fun, and enriching environment where they can learn, laugh, and thrive.

The past year has put additional focus on the issues of racial and social injustice as well as the ongoing inequities in our educational system. Our programs at GapBuster, Inc. can be part of the solution to right some of the many wrongs in our society. We stand ready to open our doors to more students and help bridge the educational gap, provide the resources for our children to thrive in a safe environment, increase generational wealth as we build stronger communities for all.

We are grateful to the families that have entrusted us with their children, the community that has supported our programs, and the many people and institutions that have believed in our work and continue to support our programs generously.

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT 20 YEARS AND BEYOND,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
YVETTE BUTLER-YEBOAH, MD



>750

OVER SEVEN-HUNDRED FIFTY

Of our students have traveled  
abroad (South Africa, Bahamas,  
Mexico, France, Holland, Indonesia,  
Ghana, and Ethiopia).





## OUR MISSION

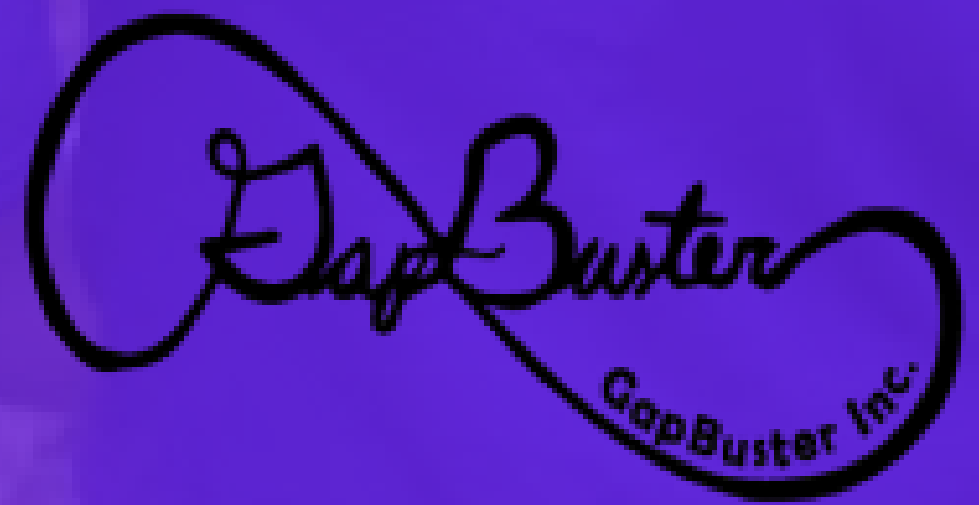
Through supplemental education, enrichment programs, and leadership development training, GapBuster develops well-rounded individuals positioned to excel in academic, social, and professional environments.

## OUR VISION

To close the academic performance gap.

## OUR MOTTO

“Educate, Empower and Elevate,” to inspire youth to be future leaders through the power of education.



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Nesreen Hill, Youth Programs Director  
Gail Davis, Administrative Assistant  
Marquise Williams, Outreach Coordinator

\*Deceased, April 2020

## OUR IMPACT & SUCCESSES

# >75%

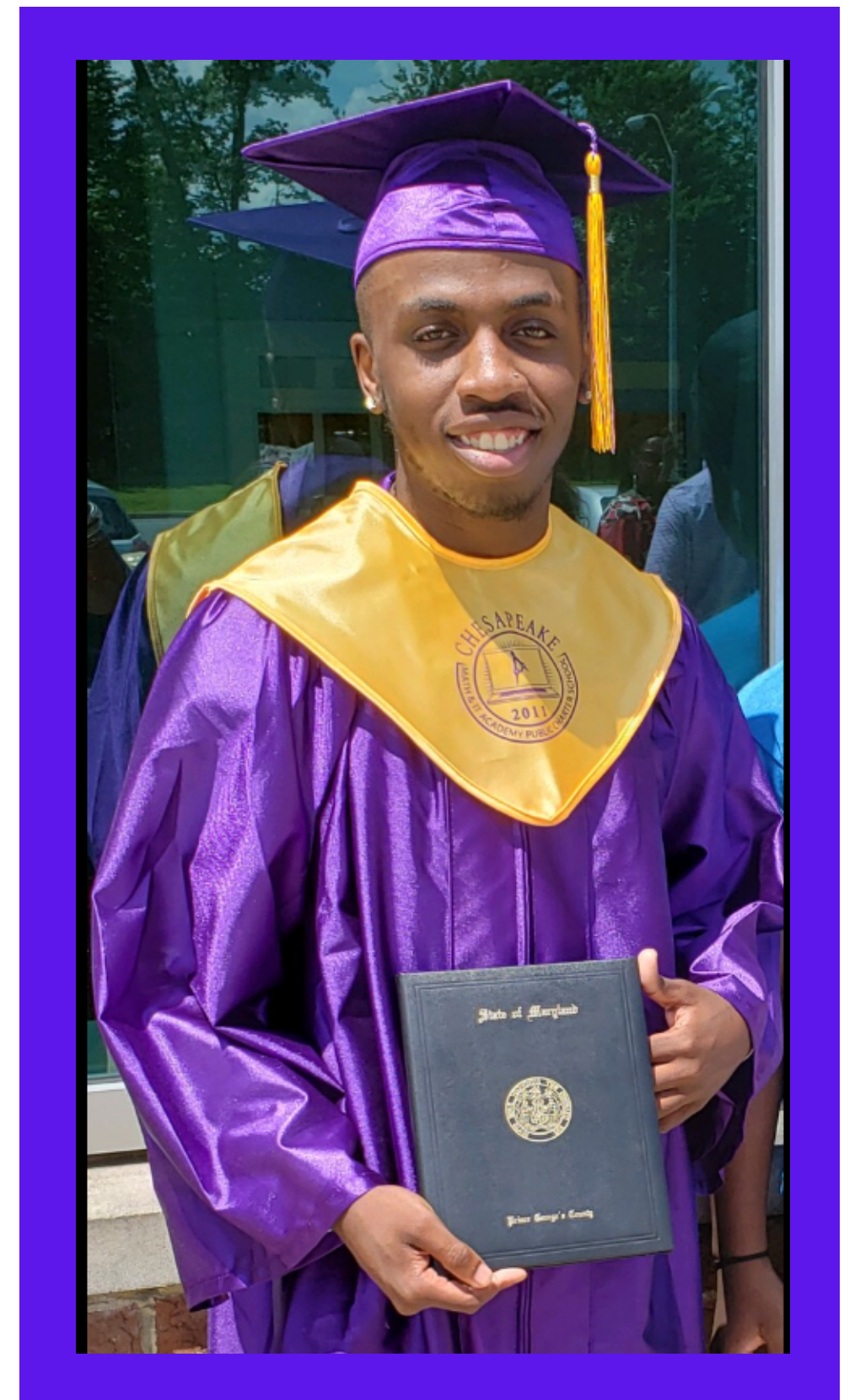
OVER SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT

Of our students are breaking barriers as the first from their family to attend college.

# >95%

OVER NINETY-FIVE PERCENT

Of our students attend college and over 98% of these students are graduating



# >\$1M

OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS

In scholarships awarded to GapBuster students

# 5

FIVE

Of our students received the Gates Millennium Scholarship and 3 are recent Posse Foundation graduates.

# >\$500K

OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND

Was collected to produce these 'Change Agents' for the future.





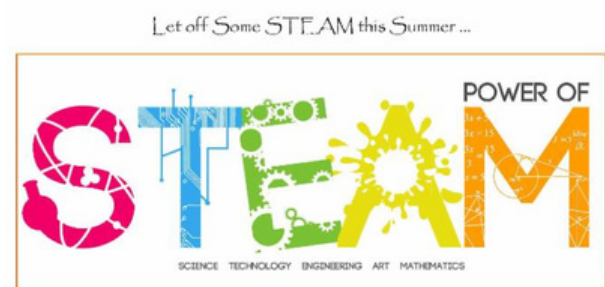
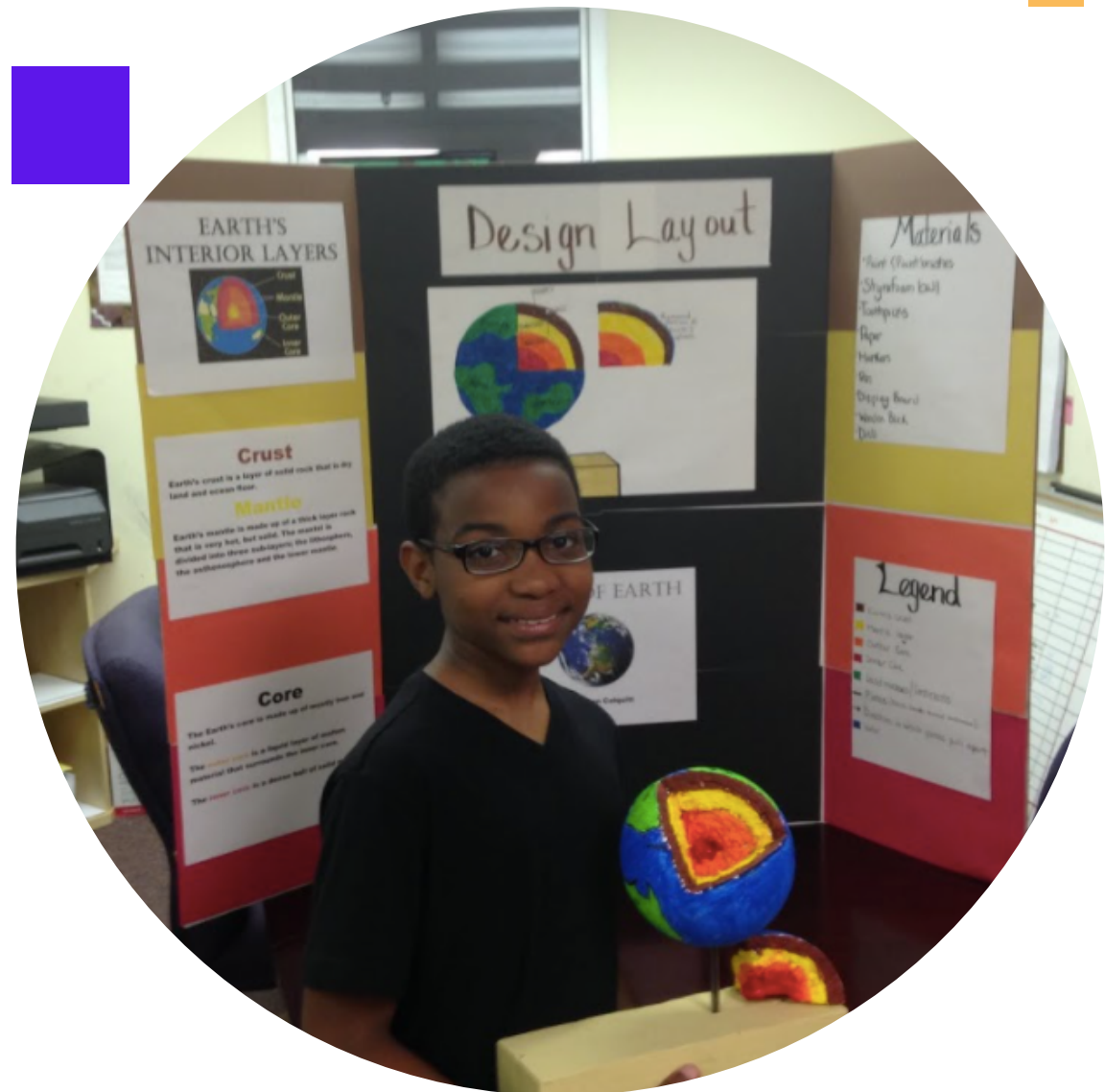
S.T.E.A.M Education

GapBuster offers programs to area youth in middle and high schools during the school year in the form of after-school and extracurricular activities focused on leadership building and academic enrichment. During the summer we open our program to all school-aged children for summer activities.

IT Buster

Established to help students get career-ready to enter into the ever-changing Information Technology arena.

IT-Busters (IT-BUSTERS) knows firsthand that computer training has to meet all of its customers' needs in order to have a tangible lasting impact. When you measure across multiple customer segments—each of which has its own priorities—you see how much more training must do to consistently and simultaneously satisfy participants, managers, and executives. Training then can move to close those gaps and deliver more real value. Closing those gaps between employer skill needs and employee skills development is the main objective of IT-BUSTERS.



"I was a part of GapBuster, Inc. from 7th grade until I graduated from high school. GapBuster, Inc. and Dr. Butler impacted my life in a major way. GapBuster, Inc. helped developed my professional skills and networking abilities. It instilled in me the importance of community and giving back to others. The program exposed me to places and people that I would have never experienced otherwise.

- Kelly Ferguson







“Since I was young, GapBuster, Inc. has pushed me to do the best, not only in school but also in the community. I want to THANK everyone, starting from Dr. Butler to Nesreen to the rest of the staff. And I wanted to let everyone know that I definitely think of my great times in GapBuster, Inc. even here at Cornell University. The Leaders-in-Training program is more than just an educating [program] – it’s a strong family that I’m grateful to be a part of.”

- Hillary Yeboah



GapBuster’s Leaders-in-Training program has been a cornerstone of our organization since its inception.



“I was in GapBuster from 1st grade through about 9th grade. GapBuster, Inc. greatly impacted me in a positive way for several reasons. First being that I learned a great deal academically from the tutoring sessions, which helped me excel in school. I also benefited from meeting all different kinds of people, which made great friends through GapBuster, Inc. I have become a more well-rounded individual from the various trips I took with GapBuster, Inc.”

- Robert Ramey





**NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS (NSBE) JR.**

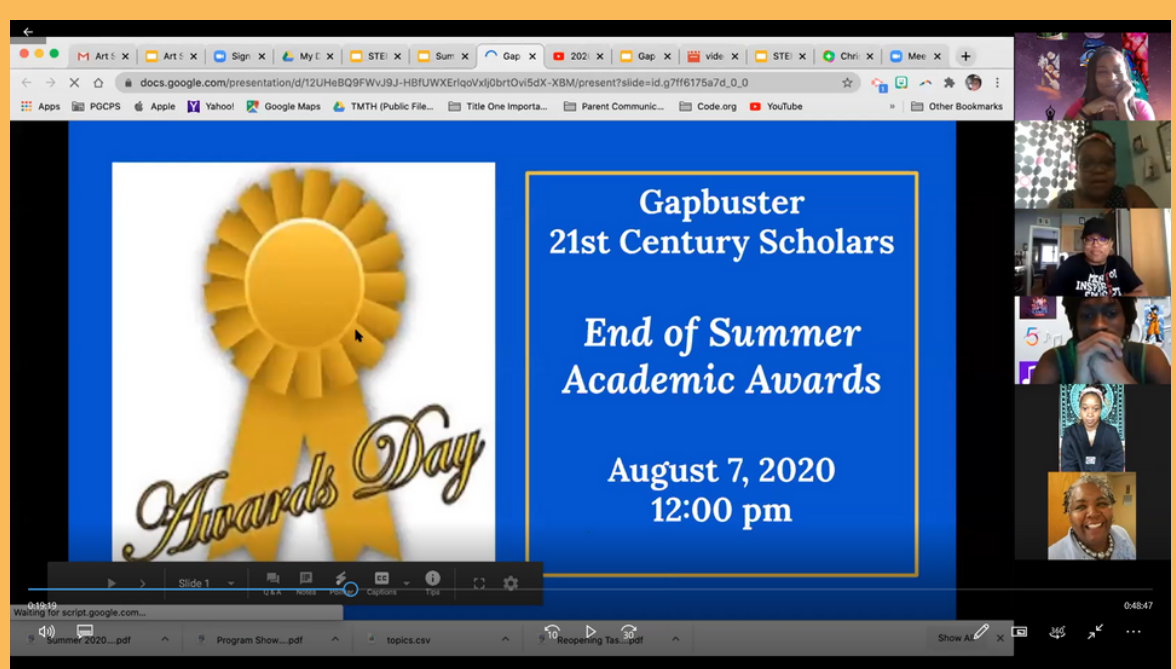
The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) is one of the largest student-run organizations in the country. As part of GapBuster, Inc. STEM initiative, students participate in Pre-College Initiative (PCI) program of NSBE, Jr. and GapBuster host chapters throughout Montgomery and Prince George’s County, Maryland. The PCI program provides activities to help students discover firsthand how engineering and technology relate to the world around them and discover the excitement of academic excellence, leadership, technical development and teamwork.



**GAPBUSTER’S 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTER (CCLC)**

GapBuster, Inc. Building Scholars for the Future has been a 21st CCLC since 2011 and provided academic enrichment and wraparound services to low-income families. During the COVID-19 pandemic, GapBuster had to quickly switch into high-gear and prepare for virtual learning. Summer 2020, GapBuster offered its first virtual summer program, and here’s what the students had to say.

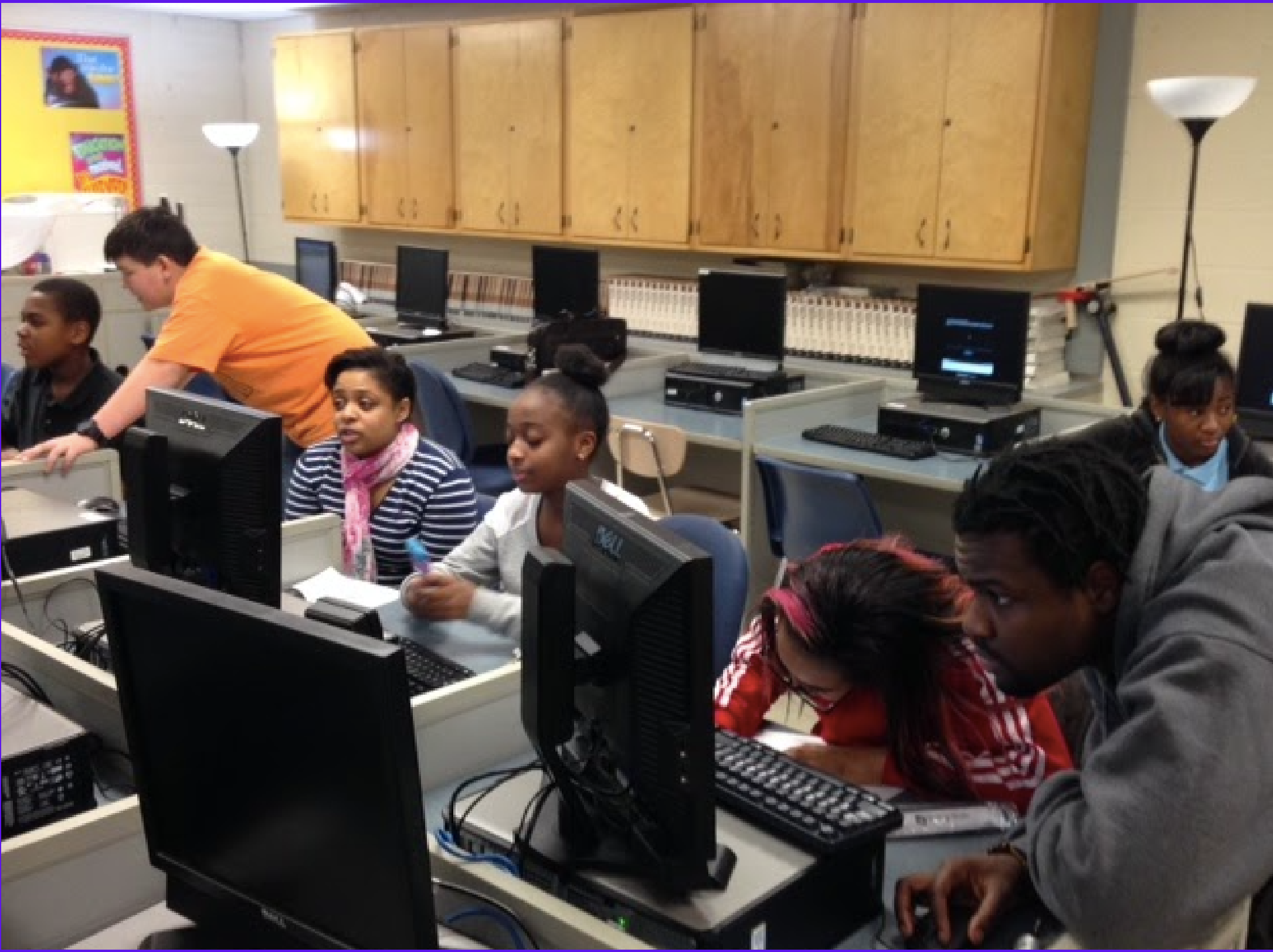
“I first heard about GapBuster when I joined the Wheaton chapter of NSBE Jr. I learned about the bigger organization that made the program possible for us. I was a part of the NSBE chapter for my junior and senior years of high school, so two years. GapBuster exposed me to a larger group of successful, ambitious engineering students.”  
- Christopher Cherrie



“I like GapBuster because it gave me something to do over the summer other than sit in my room when we couldn't go outside and be with our friends. It also helped me be more focused on my academics.”  
- Christopher Pineda-Avalos  
7th Grader,  
Nicholas Orem Middle School







Our NSBE Jr. program welcomes volunteers proficient in STEM subjects, to aid students in academic enrichment, prep for conferences with our racing gear, and most importantly, to have FUN!

**> 1,500** YOUTH PARTICIPANTS PROVIDED STEM TRAINING

We succeeded in regional contests for our NASCAR teams in which students built and raced model cars.

Our Wheaton Knights have consistently placed in presentation and overall points for the NASCAR Ten80 competition at the National Conference.





HIV/AIDS PEER EDUCATOR PROGRAM

“The LIT and HIV/AIDS Peer Education program have enriched my passion to be involved in global affairs and to pursue a career in Global Public Health.”

- Camille Meeks

As one of GapBuster's longest-lasting and most successful initiatives, the HIV Peer Educator Program educates teens on current HIV prevention techniques, general reproductive health, and social drug use. They are also equipped with presentation skills to impart this same knowledge to their peers.

Rewards of this program include increased awareness of HIV/STD transmission and prevention, promotion of healthy behaviors regarding sex, improved self-esteem through community engagement, tons of student service learning hours, opportunities to travel, and life long friends.

The training will consist of 10 sessions concluding with a Teen Health Expo in concert with other area organizations and agencies. All training sessions will be lead by experienced peer educators and guest presenters from both the public and private sectors.

Students who complete the program receive a Certificate of Completion. Past Peer Educators have traveled abroad to Africa to share a cross-cultural exchange about HIV prevention and making healthy choices for young people's lives.



> 160

OVER ONE HUNDRED-SIXTY

Youth trained in the U.S. and South Africa to be HIV/AIDS Peer Educators.







"I first heard about GapBuster when my brother joined, & I have been a part of GapBuster since I was about 5. GapBuster has exposed me to many things such as college tours, STD/STI health education, as well as building and tailoring leadership skills."

- Yamundow Sarr



Our students gain invaluable self-awareness and community engagement skills through the HIV Peer Educator Program.



"I first heard about GapBuster in elementary school. Obviously I wasn't making many decisions on my own then, my mom heard about it from another parent at the school. I was consistently in GapBuster for about 7 years. During my run I was involved with Leaders On Training, and participated in HIV/AIDS peer education, going as far as traveling to South Africa with a group to do service there."

- Malik Smith





LEADERS-IN-TRAINING PROGRAM

GapBuster offers programs to area youth in middle and high schools during the school year in the forms of afterschool and extracurricular activities focused on leadership building and academic enrichment. During the summer we open our program to all school-aged children for summer activities.

Students not only develop essential leadership skills but go on to impact their community in meaningful ways. Academic, civil, and cultural enrichment, college tours, and leadership conferences are what set the LIT program apart.

- Students in the LIT program are free to participate in other GapBuster activities (such as NSBE Jr., the HIV Peer Educator Program, and dropout prevention programs).
- In the past, students have traveled to South Africa as part of the HIV Peer Educator Program, which is one of many benefits and learning experiences afforded by Leaders-In-Training.
- Myriad opportunities for community service and service-learning is through the ability to participate in GapBuster’s programs while cultivating leadership skills and service-learning that makes this program an invaluable experience for college-bound high school students.'
- We have meetings for individual programs at different times and locations, not to mention our events, conferences, and competitions.



“Dr. Butler-Yeboah has been my mentor for over 10 years and she has been involved in all of my education and career stages since high school. She has encouraged me to travel far, reach high, and to really think outside of the box. Thank you Dr. Butler for your leadership and your example to go after your heart’s desires and allow your purpose to lead you. I am eternally grateful to Gapbuster..”

- Kristin Holmes





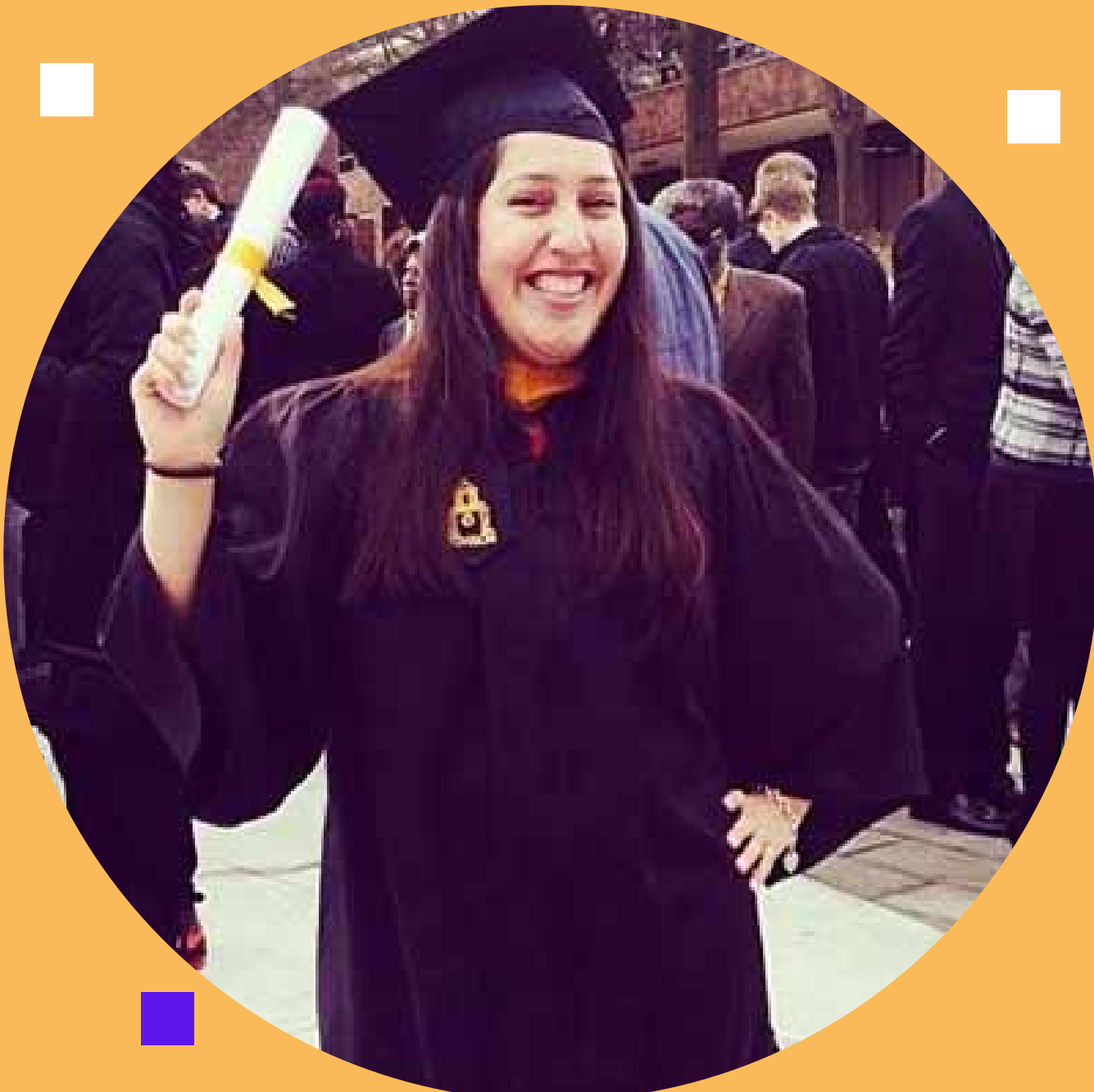
LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS

- GapBuster, Inc. has strong ties to the League of United Latin American Citizens. Executive Director Dr. Butler was the Maryland State Director of the organization. LULAC allows students the chance to take on leadership roles and celebrate their culture. GapBuster’s LULAC group has gone to the Hill to speak with politicians!
- Our students gather at the Center for Educational Partnership and Montgomery Blair High School The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), founded in 1929, is the oldest and most widely respected Hispanic civil rights organization in the United States of America.
- Since its founding, LULAC has fought for full access to the political process and works to improve opportunities for Hispanic Americans. The mission of the League of United Latin American Citizens is to advance the economic condition, educational attainment, political influence, housing, health, and civil rights of the Hispanic population of the United States.



“I had such an amazing time at GapBuster. I learned a lot about myself, the staff and the kids. The program was fun and interactive. I have so many great memories of GapBuster. There was never a dull moment!”

- Amely Monterroza





**COLLEGE TOURS**

Today’s high school student is extremely busy and those most likely to attend college seem to be the busiest. In addition to attending classes and doing homework, they’re involved in sports, clubs, and a myriad of after-school activities; many also have a part-time job. How can they find the time to research college choices? Yet selecting a college may be one of the most important decisions they make. It is the first step to their career and their future!

GapBuster, Inc has designed a college tour to meet their student’s needs and has completed every aspect of the tour.



“Gapbuster has had a major impact on my life. I was able to take advantage of opportunities that have helped me to excel and be where I am at today. Through being able to travel across the country visiting universities, attending NSBE conventions, volunteering in the community, and networking with bright-minded individuals, I have been able to learn and grow. I am super thankful for Gapbuster.”  
- Mustaffa Said

**COMMUNITY GIVING**

GapBuster, Inc. has not missed a year to host a Friendsgiving dinner for the holidays, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic this year, it was impossible to have a large gathering serving the community. Keeping in the spirit of giving, alumni helped organize the holiday season and provided food to over 250 families in need.



**COLLEGE TOUR**  
**University of Maryland Eastern Shore**

**COLLEGE TOUR**

**North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University**







# HEARTFELT GIVING SERVING OUR COMMUNITY





### GapBuster, Inc. Tutoring Services

In the spring of 2020, student learning took a new look with many schools going more digital for classes and coursework. In light of this new educational frontier, GapBusters, Inc. has partnered with a collection of highly qualified teachers who are here to help our students who may need additional academic support. Click the link [HERE](#) to sign up for more information and to participate in our tutoring services!

### ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)

12-week ESOL programs. ESOL (teaching English to speakers of other languages) instruction includes levels 1, 2, 3 and conversational English.

### GED Preparation

Classes GapBuster, Inc offers 14-week General Educational Development (GED) preparation covering the New GED. The New GED will cover four subject tests: Math, Social Studies, Science, and Language Arts/Writing. Social Studies and Language Arts/Writing sections will contain ECR (Extended Constructed Responses). The test will be taken on the computer in person.

### Workforce Development

8-session workshop designed to help youth and young adults learn requirements for obtaining employment. These training sessions will include the following: pre-assessment of job readiness and employability, resume-building, dressing for success, effective interview skills, writing follow-up and thank you letters and a post-assessment of skills learned.

### HIV Counseling, Testing and Referral (CTR)GYT\*

Get Yourself Tested is FREE, 20-minute rapid HIV testing with confidential results and counseling, and no needles. Walk-ins welcome!



"The education, experiences, and mentorship I received from GapBuster have given me the confidence to pursue a career in medicine. Thank you for showing me my own potential – I know I will be an effective physician by what I've learned about leadership and the importance of serving your community."

- Sayi Lindeire



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**

Cherrelle is a certified Global Career Development Facilitator & Trainer (GCDF) and has worked in Career Services & Employer Relations in higher education and the non-profit sector for over 7 years. Cherrelle earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education & Marketing from North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University in 2010.

After graduation, she was hired as a Career & Technical Education teacher in Wake County, NC where she assisted in piloting the first public all-girls leadership academy known as the Wake Young Women's Leadership Academy, Raleigh, NC. She most recently served as Assistant Director of Employer Relations at UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School where she led the Undergraduate Business Program's Diversity & Inclusion initiatives and fostered strong working relationships with over 200 companies across a variety of sectors.

Cherrelle is now the new Dean of Corporate Learning & Professional Development at Vance-Granville Community College in NC. She holds a Master of Business Administration degree from East Carolina University and in 2021, she will embark on a new educational journey as a part of the Doctoral program in Community College Leadership at North Carolina State University.



"I can truly say that I may not have had the relentlessness and perseverance that I have today, if it were not for GapBuster, Inc. and Dr. Butler's continuous support... I also hope that the young leaders are certainly leading by the examples and footsteps that have been placed before them."

- Cherrelle Coleman

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**

My name is John Orr and I have been a member of GapBuster, Inc. since 2000. I am the first child of two immigrants from the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. I grew up in Silver Spring, Maryland and attended Montgomery Blair High School. From there, I went on to be the first in my family to receive a degree, much less a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering Degree, from the University of Pittsburgh.

This organization has been extremely important in my development as a young professional. Through various Gapbuster Opportunities, I have had the privilege to participate in numerous rewarding activities such as becoming an HIV/AIDS peer educator, volunteering on political campaigns, visiting college campuses, partaking in etiquette class and SAT Prep classes.

After college, I have been working as a management consultant for various consulting firms. I am currently a Senior Consultant at Grant Thornton. Due to the values instilled in me by GapBuster, learning is a lifelong endeavor. My most recent accomplishment was graduating from the University of Maryland with a master's in business administration and a concentration in Business Analytics and Information Systems. I am excited to see what the future has in store!



"Dr. Butler and GapBuster, Inc. were the reasons that I graduated high school with over 500 community service hours, and received various scholarships to pay for my college tuition."

- John Orr



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**

GapBuster, Inc was brought into our community center at Rock Creek Terrace Apartments. We had already established a teen focused group where we would meet Friday nights to engage in community activities. With the help of our advisor, we were able to become a part of GapBuster. I was an active member of GapBuster since the ninth grade. Even now I still call myself a member from still being able to receive newsletters and maintain strong ties with Dr. Yvette Butler, CEO. I was able to serve as President of the GapBuster Leader's in Training program for four consecutive years. GapBuster, Inc. made the expected goal of college, an attainable and realistic goal for me. My full scholarship to Ohio State University would not have been achieved without the full support and development GapBuster brought to me and many of my peers.

Last, I wholeheartedly believe that the amount of effort you put in being a part of the GapBuster family will show long term in your passion and endeavors. Currently, as a college student, I believe it is not too soon to get involved. I am eager to seek opportunities that I can participate, whether it's chaperoning, helping at service events, or even coming in to speak to the current youth of GapBuster in order to pass on my knowledge and experience with GapBuster and college. GapBuster has given to me like none other and I know in my heart that I will be giving back as soon as the opportunity arises.



**"GapBuster provided me with the opportunity to become engaged in community service, academics, and personal development. I can truly say, after my parents, GapBuster had become my backbone of success."**

**- Samuel Asfaha**

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**

I was first introduced to GapBuster in 2001, when I was a 5th grader attending Forest Knolls Elementary School. And since have been an active member with the program, volunteering at local food drives, clothing giveaways, acting as a guest speaker, counseling at summer camps and I currently mentor/teach during the after school program.

A family environment was established way back when, which made it easy to return to the program after finishing school in order to contribute. Many kids attend the program, and just as I looked up to and modeled after the older counselors when I was a 5th grader, the tables have turned, and now I am acting as the role model for the younger kids. Helping them see that the after school program is a means of preparation, an investment for their future.

We as young adults bridge the gap with youth and assist them in developing productive learning habits, and character traits in the present, while relating how the work they are engaging in now will positively impact their futures. As of now while I am waiting to hear back from physical therapy schools I am developing a movement education program for youth with mental disabilities as well as a senior fitness class for those in the DC metropolitan area.



**"GapBuster placed an emphasis on exploration, thinking and learning. Education took place in as well as outside of the classroom by way of traveling and field trips and other unique and interactive activities."**

**- Saileu Sarr**



**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**

I have been part of Gap Buster, Inc. for almost four years. I have had the opportunity to be involved in many ways as a Wheaton High School student. I was introduced to the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) and be able to engage in different levels in my community.

As a youth, GapBuster, Inc. helped me come out of my shell and develop as a leader. It gave me the opportunity to explore and pursue a passion, for me was the fields of STEM and as a leader. I was able to be involved by being civically engaged in my community. I have traveled with GapBuster, Inc. and the exposure and networking in conferences have prepared me to become aware of what I have to do to succeed after college.

I will continue to come back and speak with young youth to guide them to positive influences and help prepare them for the future ahead of them. I want to be able to volunteer at GapBuster, Inc. at events and continue to be involved in as many ways as I can.



"I was first introduced to GapBuster, Inc. in 2012. I became more familiar with GapBuster, Inc. I attended and met people of the organization during my first feed the homeless event during that year's Thanksgiving"

- Soulihe Nida (Swale)



"This program also instilled in me the responsibility to perform at a high level in the classroom and to be a model citizen outside the classroom."

- Khalil Smith

**ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:**

I joined Gapbuster when I was six years old. Gapbuster taught me at an early age about the inequalities the black community faces in the education system and beyond.

After graduating from Springbrook High School, I attended The University of Akron and earned my B.A. in Media Production (however, if I had to do it all over again, I would have attended Howard University).

During college I was a broadcast television and radio producer then began my professional career in the social media space in order to build a more versatile career path.

I currently work as a Social Video Producer for the San Francisco 49ers. I previously worked in Major League Baseball for the Philadelphia Phillies in a similar role. Outside of work, I serve on the board for the Silicon Valley African Film Festival. I am currently based in San Jose, CA.



ALLEGANY COLLEGE OF MARYLAND  
 BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC  
 BOSTON COLLEGE  
 BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY  
 BROWN UNIVERSITY  
 CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY  
 COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY  
 CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
 DARTMOUTH COLLEGE  
 DAVIDSON COLLEGE  
 DUKE UNIVERSITY  
 EAST CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY  
 ELIZABETH CITY STATE UNIVERSITY  
 FISK UNIVERSITY

FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY  
 FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
 FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY  
 FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY  
 GEISINGER COMMONWEALTH SCHOOL  
 OF MEDICINE  
 GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
 GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY  
 GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
 GOUCHER COLLEGE  
 HAMPTON UNIVERSITY  
 HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
 HOWARD SCHOOL OF LAW  
 HOWARD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
 HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
 JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY  
 KING'S COLLEGE LONDON  
 LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY  
 LOUISBURG COLLEGE  
 LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MARYLAND  
 MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF  
 TECHNOLOGY  
 MCDANIEL COLLEGE  
 MONTGOMERY COLLEGE  
 MOREHOUSE COLLEGE  
 MORGAN STATE UNIVERISTY  
 NEW YORK UNIVERSITY  
 NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY  
 NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND  
 TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY  
 NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL  
 UNIVERSITY

"Gapbuster was instrumental in building up my confidence as a student and as a person. It gave me a community where I felt safe enough to grow and explore different passions while also being engaged with my community. I was supported through high school and college and still feel like I have a place with Gapbuster because it feels like a bit of home"

- Tiffany Pauls



## GAPBUSTER COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE AND MATRICULATION LIST

"Malcolm Clyburn graduated from Morehouse College with a major in International Relations and a minor in Public Health. Malcolm then went to Mozambique for Peace Corps. When he returns to the U.S., he hopes to continue his education through graduate studies".

- Malcolm Clyburn

PENN STATE DICKINSON LAW  
 PRINCE GEORGE'S COMMUNITY  
 COLLEGE  
 PRINCETON UNIVERSITY  
 RUTGERS UNIVERSITY  
 SALISBURY UNIVERSITY  
 SALISBURY UNIVERSITY  
 SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY  
 SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY  
 STATE COLLEGE OF JAKARTA  
 SEWANEE-THE UNIVERSITY OF THE  
 SOUTH  
 SOUTHERN ALBERTA INSTITUTE OF  
 TECHNOLOGY  
 SPELMAN COLLEGE  
 ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY  
 STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
 STEVENSON UNIVERSITY  
 TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

TOWSON UNIVERSITY  
 TRINITY WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
 TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY  
 UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY  
 PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
 UNIVERSITY OF AKRON  
 UNIVERSITY OF ALBANY  
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS  
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
 LOS ANGELES  
 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
 SANTA BARBARA  
 UNIVERSITY OF GHANA  
 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
 BALTIMORE COUNTY  
 UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
 COLLEGE PARK

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT  
 CHAPEL HILL  
 UNIVERSITY OF PACIFIC  
 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH  
 UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND  
 UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CLARA  
 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
 UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA  
 VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH  
 UNIVERSITY  
 VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
 WASHINGTON ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY  
 WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
 XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA





## MORE OF OUR GAPBUSTER GRADUATES & ALUMNI





### GAPBUSTER GHANA

GapBuster Ghana is part of the international effort to close the academic and opportunity gap. Our first sister city is in Koforidua, Ghana partnering with Effiduase Methodist Primary and Junior High School. Our goals are to provide exemplary STEAM education and build a learning center for students, which has a library and computer lab to support academic enrichment for students in junior high school. We are steadily increasing our education support and health initiatives through medical missions partnering with various organizations and hospitals in Ghana.

### Brief History Of The Program

GapBuster expanded the STEAM program "Building Scholars for the Future" targeting girls ages 11 to 18 into Ghana. In June 2017, GapBuster Ghana was incorporated as a Non-Government Organization (NGO) in Ghana.

In June 2018, the chief of the town, Nana Okoawia, Methodist Very Reverend Galley, and Local School Officials donated space at Effiduase Methodist Primary and Junior High School for GapBuster to build and open a cafeteria, technology center, and community library.

In January 2019, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, GapBuster Ghana hosted its first STEAM pilot program in Koforidua, Ghana partnering with instructors from All Nations University.

In January 2020, [A-1 Finishers](http://a-1finishers.com/) a leading construction and renovations company from Washington, DC, joined the GapBuster team to help complete work on the cafeteria, library, and computer lab.

In February 2020 in honor of Black History Month, GapBuster, Ghana hosted a ribbon-cutting and opened the Haywood A. Robinson, III library and computer laboratory donated by GapBuster, Inc. and The People's Community Baptist Church. Donations are still required towards improving the technology and community center.

You can donate [HERE](#). Your dollars go a LONG way in Ghana.



> 20,000%

OVER TWENTY THOUSAND

Students and families served internationally with students traveling to countries such as South Africa, Indonesia, Mexico, Bahamas, Ghana, and Ethiopia.







Since joining in the sixth grade, her trip to South Africa as a HIV/AIDS peer educator sparked her interest in biology and the public health sector. Since then, she had made it her goal to become a first-generation college graduate and accomplished just that in 2018 with a degree in Biology and minor in molecular biology, biochemistry, and bioinformatics from Towson University.

- Daniela Velasquez



OUR TIES TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF SOUTH AFRICA ARE STRONG. WE HAVE MADE SEVERAL JOURNEYS THERE, AND EACH INSPIRES AND ENLIGHTENS US.



"...We formed a sort of family through academics, HIV/AIDS awareness, and community service throughout the metropolitan area. My most memorable experience would by far be my trip to South Africa peer educating about HIV/AIDS to people of all backgrounds and ages. Being able to visit our Motherland is an opportunity some never get to experience and I wouldn't trade it for the world."

- Albert Ramey-Speed





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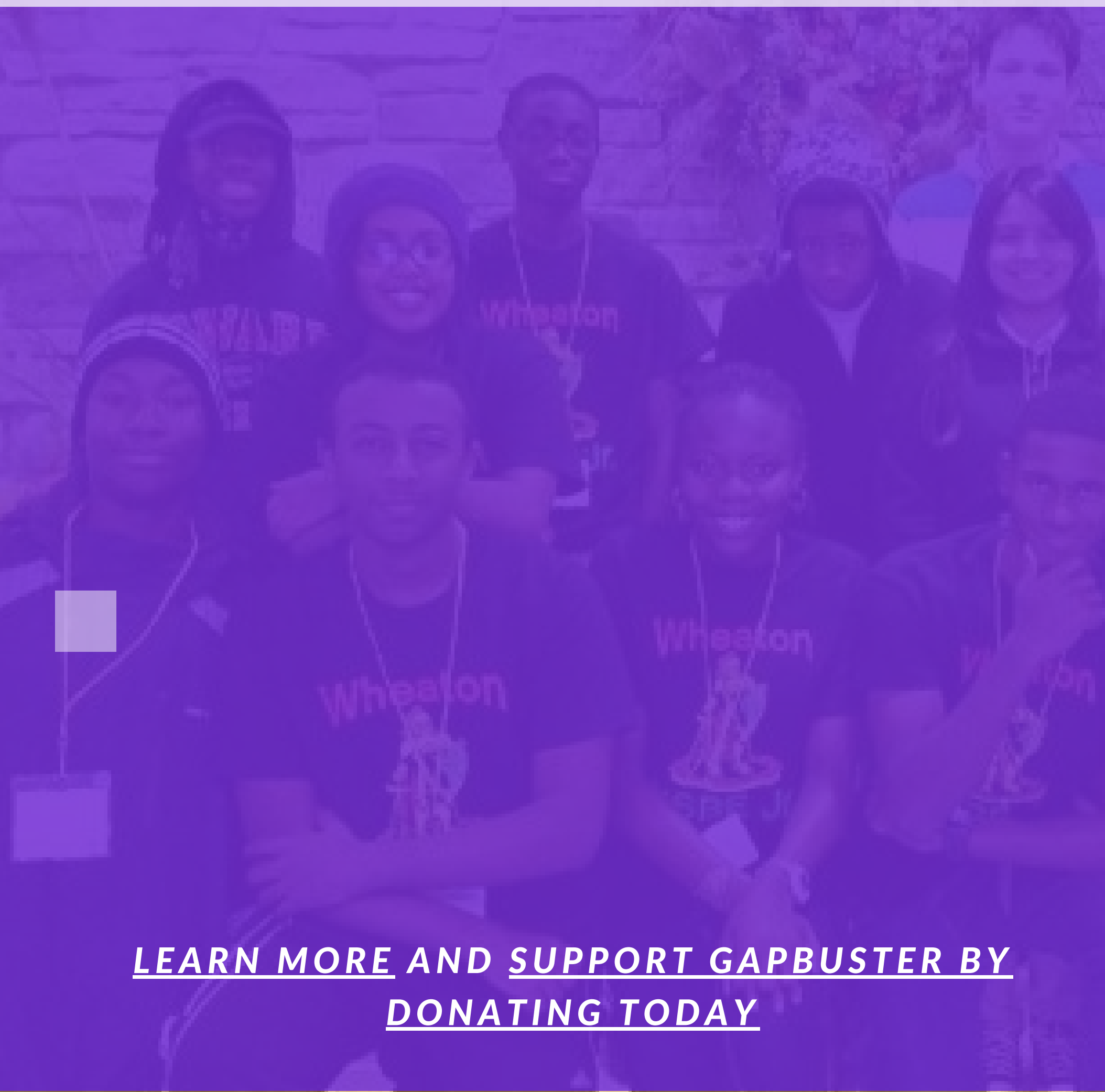
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~ INSPIRED BY DR. HOWARD THURMAN



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