



**BLACK CANADIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND/LE
FONDS DE BOURSES POUR ETUDIANTS
CANADIENS NOIRS**

25 YEARS/VINGTCINQ ANS 1996-2021

*25TH Anniversary Virtual Cocktail Evening
Saturday, September 25, 2021*

COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET



*Commitment. Consistency and Continuity
Engagement. Persévérance et Continuité*



Dr. Alexis welcomes a participant to the Annual Walkathon

**25 Years Congratulations!
25 ans Félicitations**

FOREWORD / AVANT-PROPOS



A warm welcome to you!
Thank you for joining us!

Peut-être, êtes-vous un donateur, un sponsor, un bénévole, un récipiendaire, membre du Comité des Donateurs ou peut-être avez-vous contribué à l'un de ces titres au cours des dernières années au Fonds de Bourse pour Étudiants Canadiens noirs, le FBECN.

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Perhaps you have been a Donor, Sponsor, Patron, Volunteer, Recipient, Donors' Committee member, or have contributed to the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund (referred to hereafter as BCSF) in one of those capacities over the years.

But right now, you are a Reader of this introduction to our Commemorative Booklet which is intended to be a significant part of the Bienvenue! Merci de vous joindre à nous!

Cependant, maintenant vous êtes en train de lire l'introduction de notre livret commémoratif dont le but est de contribuer BCSF's 25th Anniversary celebrations.

It continues a tradition which we established on Saturday, December 9, 2006, when we presented the programme of our 10th Anniversary in a similar document. We produced a second edition for the Dinner/Dance Gala held

on Saturday, December 26, 2016, in proud recognition of our 20th anniversary. And now, this evening, here we are with a third edition focussing this time on our 25 years of success.

Except that we are now facing a Pandemic which has limited our ability to organize the kind of “in person event “which would permit us to express our gratitude for your generous and magnanimous

support given to us so consistently year after year.

Still, it is a booklet for you and for all of us.

We hope that each of you will see yourself in it d’une manière significative aux Célébrations du 25^{ème} anniversaire du Fonds de Bourses.

La tradition établie le 9 décembre 2006, lors de la célébration de notre 10^{ème} anniversaire, continue. Une seconde édition a vu le jour à

l’occasion du gala et dîner dansant du 26 décembre 2016 lorsque nous avons fièrement célébré notre 20^{ème} anniversaire. Et maintenant, ce soir, avec cette troisième édition nous commémorons virtuellement les 25 ans de succès du Fonds de Bourses. Seulement voilà, à cause de la pandémie, nous ne pouvons pas vous exprimer de vive voix notre gratitude pour le soutien généreux et désintéressé dont vous avez fait preuve, année après année.

Ce livret est à vous et pour nous tous.

Nous espérons que chacun de vous s’y retrouvera car il because it contains something for everyone. You may have met our Founder and may be able to relate to the Tribute to him; the Reflections and Reminiscences of former BCSF Chairs might resonate with you and you might think that you know BCSF current and past Donors’ Committee

members a little more when you read about them here.

Then, we hope that our Honour Roll which presents lists of volunteers, individuals, and organizations whose generosity and service in myriad ways have kept us on course, will inspire you as will a visit to our Archives and pictorial images of our fund-raising events which are also fun; and, of course, if you don't already know, the

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contient quelque chose pour chacun d'entre vous. Vous avez peut-être connu notre fondateur et vous apprécierez le tribut dont il est l'objet. Les réflexions et souvenirs des anciens présidents vous

rappelleront les souvenirs d'antan et après avoir lu ces lignes vous connaîtrez un peu mieux les membres passés et actuels du FBCEN.

J'espère que le tableau d'honneur des bénévoles, individus ou organisations dont la générosité et les services rendus sont inestimables, vous inspirera ainsi que la visite de nos archives garnies de (avec leur lot de) photos prises lors d'événements de levées de fonds qui étaient tous une occasion de réjouissance. Vous description of the process and protocol to which we adhere when assessing applications will reemphasize our commitment to transparency and accountability; above all, hearing about what the scholarship has meant to some of our former Recipients will reassure you that our Mission is being accomplished and

their dreams being realized.

Finally, expect to find information that you might not have known or suspected about the unique organization which we are still delighted to call the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund.

Happy reading!

John Harewood
Editor

trouvez la description des processus et protocoles auxquels nous adhérons lorsque nous examinons les

Mayor's message

demandes de bourse et le sérieux et la transparence de notre organisation. Entendre et lire l'impact que notre bourse a eu sur les récipiendaires confirmeront à vos yeux que notre mission s'accomplit chaque année et que les rêves de nos récipiendaires se matérialisent continuellement.

Enfin attendez-vous à trouver ici des informations que vous n'auriez pas soupçonnées sur cette organisation exceptionnelle que nous sommes heureux d'appeler « Le Fonds de Bourse pour Étudiants canadiens noirs ».

Excellente lecture!

John Harewood
Auteur



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September 25th, 2021

On behalf of Members of Ottawa City Council, it is my distinct pleasure to extend congratulations to the leadership and volunteers of the **Black Canadian Scholarship Fund** in recognition of its 25th Anniversary.

Founded on May 1st, 1996, by the late Dr. Horace Alexis, in collaboration with the OttawaCarleton Community Foundation, the **Black Canadian Scholarship Fund** has achieved an important milestone encouraging academic excellence, volunteer service and community leadership, through the annual award of scholarships to deserving local Black secondary school graduates, who require financial support to pursue a university degree program.

As Head of Council, I want to acknowledge the Fund's Donors' Committee, sponsors, and volunteers for awarding some seventy scholarships since
Le 25 septembre 2021

Au nom des membres du Conseil municipal d'Ottawa, j'adresse mes plus sincères félicitations à la direction et aux bénévoles du **Fonds des bourses pour étudiants canadiens noirs**, à l'occasion du 25^e anniversaire de ce fonds.

Lancé en 1996 par le regretté Dr Horace Alexis, en collaboration avec la Fondation communautaire d'Ottawa-Carleton, le **Fonds des bourses pour étudiants canadiens noirs** a franchi une étape importante en promouvant l'excellence dans les études, le bénévolat et le leadership communautaire grâce à la distribution annuelle de bourses d'études à des diplômés d'écoles secondaires noirs et méritants de la région qui ont besoin d'une aide financière pour suivre un programme universitaire.

En tant que chef du Conseil, je tiens également à remercier le Comité des donateurs, les commanditaires et les bénévoles qui ont attribué quelque soixante-dix bourses depuis la création du Fonds.



Permettez-moi d'offrir aux boursières et boursiers de cette année mes meilleurs vœux de its inception.

Allow me to offer my best wishes to this year's scholarship recipients for success with their university studies.

succès dans leurs études universitaires.
Cordialement,

Sincerely,

**“Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to change
the world.”**

Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa

Dr Horace Alexis: In Memoriam



We know that we are not being original when we say that an anniversary is a moment for celebration and reflection. But it may seem strange to call it “a moment” when we are

considering a significant passage of time such as twenty-five years, a quarter-century in other words, – in the life of an organization, the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund, but with a special focus on the man who founded it.

As a highly- trained family physician who expended tireless efforts to keep abreast of the latest in medical research, Horace Alexis might not have described himself as a risk-taker although he loved horse-racing and racehorses. He was fundamentally a man of science but clearly saw no contradiction in being a dreamer and visionary at the same time.

He saw a need which had to be addressed. Blacks were not being represented in the medical profession; indeed, they weren't being proportionally represented in the professions at all because not many were attending university. The reason was not lack of ability but of crucial financial support.

To him, being a dreamer and visionary necessitated taking risks to rectify the problem. Surely one of the biggest risks which he undertook was the deposit of \$5000 from his own pocket to the Community Foundation of Ottawa-Carleton as the initial capital for the Fund.

Yes, his goal was to raise \$1000, 000 over the years to provide scholarships for academically outstanding Blacks in the Ottawa area who were graduating from high school and had been admitted to university, but he had no guarantee that he would be able to convince other community members to join him, however noble and imaginative his plan.

Except that his passion was infectious, his drive relentless, his charm irresistible and his determination boundless. You might meet him for an appointment in his office and be well served; or at a public function or by chance on the street but, in the end, you would find yourself either pledging a donation, joining the Donors' Committee, or volunteering for one of the fundraising events such as a Night at the Races, a Spring and

end of the year dinner/ dance, a raffle, or a dinner at a patron's or your own home.

From May 1, 1996, until his death in February 2019, he never stopped seeking for ideas to raise funds and Donors' Committee members worked hard in response to his zealous leadership. His way of expressing his appreciation was to urge them to do more and to do better! Indeed, he set the bar of achievement so high that sometimes they may have thought, perhaps erroneously, that he undervalued their supportive efforts.

He might not be jubilant, but he might justifiably risk a smile at the success of the Fund during these past twenty-five years.

The record is enviable.

More than three quarters of a million dollars raised; close to 70 scholarships awarded; former recipients now doctors, lawyers, biotechnologists, economists, political scientists, criminologists, business entrepreneurs, public servants, and human rights advocates!

We celebrate him today and every year in July or August at the Awards Ceremony when we see the spark in the eyes of each recipient and know that they are the continuing promise and hope of our community's future.

He may be gone but his spirit lives on in us and in all of you who have embraced his vision as your own and given your unwavering support to ensure that his dream is realized in this and future generations.

John Harewood
Editor

Message from the Chair “Celebrating the Journey”

Twenty-five years, a quarter of a century – that’s a long time for an organization to endure. I did a Googled search of community organizations launched in 1996. There are only a handful that are still functioning today.

Endurance isn’t easy. Meaningful endurance is even harder.

For a Fund such as the BCSF to endure over 25 years and be as relevant today as it was at its founding is quite a feat. To be more relevant and more valuable today is an honor that goes to few.

The late Dr Horace Alexis had a vision and was willing to put not only his time but his money to the test when, along with a few community members he registered the fund and got it started in May 1996. Even as I recognize those who shared his vision and supported his idea to fruition, I acknowledge that it was his relentless focus on raising funds from 1996 to his death in 2019 that has created a sound financial foundation for us to take forward into the future. We must also mention the Community Foundation of Ottawa which continues to manage the Funds making it work for us.

I was first involved in the organization as a supporter and became an active member of the Board in 2013. Needless to say, it was Dr. Alexis’ persistence that got me involved. Like several volunteers I can tick off the significant moments of my 9 years of involvement with the Fund.

But that’s like saying a 9-year-old knows her grandmother’s life pretty well. You can recite the details– such as when she was born, got married, had her children, but you have no clue about her entire Journey – what it took to create the vision, the challenges, near death experiences, accomplishments, big and small and the persistence necessary to achieve them. Yes, you know the highlights, but you aren’t aware of each thread that has been carefully woven to create the tapestry that is seen today.

As I reflected on this 25year celebration I could not help but think of those who were at the helm before me, past presidents such as Dr. Kwofie, Keith Charles, Michel Decoste, Ted Guillaume, and as well, the keepers of our finances:- Larry Peterson, Judith Wilson, Dr Cletus Peters, and Joseph Redhead. We all know that at the end of the day to offer Bursaries, we must bring money in. And finally, all who moved on; and of course, those who stayed the course, those who contributed and those who continue to contribute. That is what it takes to grow. Today the Fund is well established and will be able to provide Scholarships to black students well into perpetuity. We have not reached the late founder's financial goal but are on our way to that goal of (\$1,000.00). A special thank you to our many donors who are making that dream a reality

During the past two years we saw a world not only affected by a pandemic, but one touched by extreme political and economic disparities. The COVID 19 pandemic brought all in person activities to a halt, and we were unable to host our usual in person fundraising activities. You our donors stood by us and continued your donations. Please know that we took note of your commitment and are deeply indebted to you. Your support means a lot to the life of the fund.

As we celebrate this significant milestone, we can boast of the success of the Fund especially at the number of lives that are impacted. We have grown from one renewable scholarship per year 1998 to five in 2021. Since 1996 bursaries were awarded to almost 70 students with a cash value of almost \$394,000 each bursary is now in the amount of \$6,000. We can boast of graduates now contributing in fields of:- Accounting and Finance, Biochemistry, Biomedical Science, Business and Business and Government, Business Technology Management, Law, (and many others) Childhood and Youth, Commerce, Conflict and Human Rights, , Computer Science, Civil Engineering, Criminology, Economics, English as a Second Language ,Human Kinetics, International Development and Globalisation, Information Technology, International Relations and Social Justice, Law, Mass Communications, Music, Nursing, Physiology, Political Science ,Social Work, Sociology. This is the yardstick by which we measure our 25-year accomplishments/or successes. And so we congratulate the students who have completed their studies and are actively transforming communities.

There is so much more that can be said, but let me end by borrowing the word Ubuntu (a Zulu word) to describe our collective accomplishment – the ideal of Ubuntu suggests that strength resides in community and our ability to work towards a common goal. BCSF began when one man answered the challenge of the times with a solution shared first by a few who shared with a few more and a few more - you the community are the few that continue to forge the Fund onward and forward. As we celebrate the success of the Fund let's not forget that it is also your success.

Let's embrace the ideals of UBUNTU as we continue this journey and look forward to the next 25 Years.

Elizabeth December-Lovell
Chair BCSF

Looking Down Memory Lane with Former BCSF Chairs

A Personal Reflection – Dr. Sam Kwofie BCSF Chair, 2002-2004



This year, in May, the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund (BCSF) celebrated its Silver Jubilee-25th anniversary. Looking back, it's been a long wonderful and fulfilling journey, and we can comfortably celebrate its achievement

comfortably celebrate i achieveand the fact that **ment and the fact thait** has met its **t it has met its** objectives.

Over the past twenty-five years, the Fund has impacted numerous black youths in the Ottawa region and set many of them on a successful career path.

I joined the BCSF after I had been successfully enticed by the infectious enthusiasm and dedication of the late Dr. Horace Alexis. As an outstanding practising physician in the Ottawa community for over six decades, he was the vision and force behind the founding of the Fund. Fundamentally, he believed and was committed to the idea that the black community in Ottawa needed to a single-mindedly embark on making sure that our young people pursue careers in the professions and that we should organize ourselves to help remove any financial barriers that impeded this objective.

My involvement dates back to 1998 when I became a Board member and then in 2002 when I assumed the Chairmanship. Those were the primordial years of the Fund and despite the many challenges we faced, we set a clear objective of bringing it up to a target of one million dollars in the shortest possible time.

The essence of our task depended on corporate sponsorship, so Board members had to go out and solicit local businesses to make donations. In addition, they had to campaign in the Ottawa community at large to sell tickets, each Board member undertaking the task of selling a specific number. This was hard and demanding work, but we put our hearts and minds together and made it happen.

On the morning of the Annual Ball, all of the Board members met at the venue to organize and decorate the Hall. Each year, some of the scholarship recipients would volunteer to assist in this endeavour. Their presence and enthusiasm were quite endearing.

One of the enjoyable parts of the evening for me was spending time with John Harewood at the entrance welcoming our guests into the Hall. His lovely and witty comments on the evening's proceedings were eloquently shared and savoured with glee.

One of our most successful events was the Annual Golf Tournament organized by none other than Keith Charles, one of our illustrious Board members. Keith puts his heart and soul into everything that he does, and the Golf Tournament was no exception. It was a major contributor to our revenue and our easiest fund-raising event in that the Board members didn't have to do much; we just had to show up and Keith

delivered the big bucks. It was one of my most favoured occasions. He had been doing it for years and had it all figured out.

The Fund is forever grateful to him for his invaluable contribution.

The Board had a variety of talent. Michel Decoste brought joy and humour to the Board Meetings and had a penchant for getting things done. Fred Pryce was the constitutional expert, always ready to keep us on the straight and narrow, guiding us and making sure that we were following our constitution to the letter. The late Larry Peterson, a lovely gentleman with a quiet disposition and a keen eye for numbers, kept a tight fist on the purse. He was our Treasurer, a meticulous accountant, and an indispensable Board member. John Harewood made sure that discussions and arguments ran smoothly without undue interruption and that the tyranny of reason prevailed---which was hard to resist. And then, there was our inimitable General Secretary, Claudette Williams who kept impeccable minutes of all our deliberations. She was meticulous and always overprepared. No amendments were necessary after she read her detailed minutes. She was the beginning and end of all our meetings. Just indispensable!

The highlight of the year was always the Awards Night, the occasion when recipients receive their scholarships. During my tenure, the Fund offered at least two scholarships annually after a vigorous application process under the scrutiny of a Selection Committee.

The Fund has produced several outstanding individuals, such as nurses, physicians, teachers, and all kinds of career young and up and coming professionals. This is my greatest joy.

I wish to express my heartfelt congratulations to the Fund, a big “Thank You “to the members who served as well as to all community members who lend your support in various ways.

And to our numerous recipients, the task ahead rests in your hands. Our community has special challenges and unique problems. History has not been kind to us, and the modern era continues to exact its toll. President Obama summed it up best in reference to advice he got from his mother.

“To be black is to be beneficiary of a great inheritance, a special destiny and glorious burdens that only we are strong enough to bear.”

I would like to leave this piece by a first century writer to all our recipients:
“You are the light of the world; a city on a hill cannot be hid. None after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel but on a lampstand and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your creator.”

MICHEL DECOSTE, Chair, 2009-2011



My name is Michel Decoste, Vice-Chair, and a founding member of the Black Canadian scholarship Fund

I still remember when my then family Doctor, the late Horace C. Alexis called me to invite me to join the BCSF initiative. Until then, I had always refused to be member of any group. I accepted this time when he reminded me “Michel, we have made it here; let’s try to give back something to the community.”

In addition to pursuing my teaching career, I had always wanted to help the community; so I immediately accepted to join the few members, such as Yvonne Harper, Pat Holas, and the late David Lane in support of this noble cause. Ever since then, I have committed myself entirely to the success of the organization. Indeed, for the first two years, Dr. Alexis and I had to manage the organization, as Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and Treasurer since no other member had the time.

I must mention the name of the late Larry Peterson who joined the organization at the invitation of Keith Charles, Chair (2004-2006), and managed our accounts very efficiently as Treasurer.

I will continue to be involved with the Fund while remembering these words of Dr. Alexis, “Michel, eventually all of us will go and we want the Fund to keep on growing, let us draft a “poison pill clause”.

The success of the Fund represents the fulfillment of an important purpose of my life in Canada. My only wish is to see a former recipient become an important member of the Donors’ committee.

Je suis Michel Decoste, Vice-président et membre fondateur du **Fonds de Bourses pour Etudiants canadiens noirs**.

Je me rappelle encore lorsque mon médecin de famille d'alors, le feu Horace Alexis, m'avait contacté pour me demander de faire partie de cette organisation qui allait prendre naissance. J'ai toujours refusé d'être membre de tout groupe. Cependant j'ai accepté immédiatement, après que Dr Alexis m'ait dit « Michel, on a réussi ici, essayons de donner en retour quelque chose de durable à la communauté ». C'est ainsi que je me suis joint aux autres dont Yvonne Harper, Pat Holas et l'infatigable feu David Lane pour poursuivre ce noble objectif.

Depuis, je me suis engagé corps et âme pour le succès du Fonds, si bien que durant les deux premières années Dr Alexis et moi, avons occupé les postes de Président, Vice Président, secrétaire et Trésorier parce qu'aucun autre membre était disponible. Ici, je dois mentionner le nom de feu Larry Peterson qui avait vraiment mis de l'ordre dans notre administration sur demande de Keith Charles, en sa qualité de Président.

Je continuerai à m'impliquer dans l'organisation en me rappelant ces propos prémonitoires « Michel, éventuellement, nous partirons tous mais le Fonds doit continuer de progresser et écrivons ensemble le brouillon de la clause ostentatoire ». Pour ma part, le succès et la pérennité du Fonds de Bourses pour Etudiants canadiens noirs symbolisent la réalisation

d'un important objectif de ma vie au Canada. Mon ultime espoir est de voir un ancien récipiendaire devenir un membre important du comité des donateurs.

KEITH CHARLES, Chair, 2004-2006

Keith Charles will remain among the most outstanding members of the BCSF of any era. While an increasing disability prevents him from contributing to this Booklet, we are delighted to quote from his message which appeared in the Booklet of the 10th Anniversary.

He wrote it under the heading “Looking Back With Pride; Looking Ahead with Confidence” and concluded with “ I have been privileged and pleased to have been part of this success story . I urge you to become a partner in helping to chart the future for our young people .My association with this initiative has brought me great satisfaction”.

Keith Charles

December 2006

TED GUILLAUME, Chair, 2011-2015

Towards the end of my three years, I called Dr. Alexis so we could have a chat about things. He then found this a great opportunity to invite me to join the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund. He had the habit of talking to my wife and me about the Fund's activities. We were regular attendants at different activities of

the Fund but, this time, he wanted me to become a member of the Donors' Committee. For those of you who remember Dr. Alexis, who could have said no to that great visionary, with such a persuasive personality?

In very little time, I got to know the other Donors' Committee members and could observe how committed they felt in doing this voluntary work, a community service that has benefitted the young black students going to university. Unlike many similar organizations, BCSF was not going to disappear overnight, and they had already awarded over 20 scholarships. For 25 years, they have stayed the course. Can we imagine today they have already awarded over sixty (60)? What a feat!!!

I spent twelve very memorable years at the BCSF. Twenty-five years already!! Wow!!! May I take this opportunity to congratulate the members of the Donors Committee, past and present, for their sustained efforts. How could I forget the supporters who have been by the Fund's side from the beginning. Those different activities that you have so carefully planned year after year have been a great testament of how seriously you have taken this noble task. Those black university-bound students owe a debt of gratitude to you for your great generosity. In doing this kind of work, you have been helpful to both students and their parents.

Let us hope that the BCSF will continue to work as fervently towards its goals in the coming years. I would not be surprised if some day soon the Fund was to reach one million dollars, which was of course the dream of Dr. Alexis. It was his pleasure to remind us of that as often as he could. Is this not our own wish?

A quarter century serving this community is worth celebrating. I humbly join all of you in recognizing this important occasion. All of you who have worked so hard at the BCSF, be proud of your efforts. Together, we have met a great challenge and the next 25 years stand as our next challenge to the benefit of the young black students of our community furthering their post high school studies. Let us continue to equip them with this powerful tool that education represents in their lives.

T. Guillaume

Vingt-cinq ans plus tard le rêve continue

Tout est arrivé grâce au rêve, à la vision, à la motivation et à la détermination d'un homme.

Dr Horace Alexis était un médecin famille réputé à Ottawa pendant plus 3 décennies. Il était bien connu aussi pour son amour des chevaux et des courses de

chevaux. En suivant les informations liées au domaine de l'éducation il s'était rendu compte que les coupures du gouvernement de l'Ontario dans les années 90, le coût des études universitaires et des livres, le coût de la vie avaient tellement augmenté que de bons étudiants, particulièrement dans la communauté noire, se voyaient contraints d'abandonner leur rêve de poursuivre des études universitaires.

Il a donc cherché un moyen de se pencher sur ce problème et s'est tourné vers la Fondation communautaire d'Ottawa-Carleton, maintenant la Fondation communautaire d'Ottawa. Il a fait un chèque de cinq mille dollars de sa poche et ce montant représente le capital initial du FBECN. Il a signé l'accord avec la Fondation communautaire d'Ottawa-Carleton le 1er mai 1996.

Et voici comment le FBECN est né avec pour objectif d'offrir une bourse d'un an à un(e) étudiant(e) canadien(ne) noir(e) qui :

« a terminé ses études secondaires dans une école de la région d'Ottawa et a été accepté(e) dans une université canadienne ».

Dr Alexis avait une vision claire et un but: lever des fonds à concurrence d'un million de dollars qui apporterait des dividendes à perpétuité pour offrir des bourses chaque année.

Il avait pour habitude d'appeler le Fonds « [son] bébé ».

Comme nous sommes sur le point de célébrer le 25ème anniversaire du Fonds cette année lors d'un cocktail virtuel et d'un encan silencieux le 25 septembre 2021 on peut imaginer qu'il sourirait en concédant que le Fonds est maintenant majeur et pousserait chacun à se mettre au travail.

Il ne fait aucun doute que l'énergie et la passion de Dr Alexis expliquent largement le succès du Fonds. Au cours des années il a attiré de nombreux bénévoles y compris un groupe solide, le Comité des Donateurs, qui comprend de 10 à 15 personnes. Ils organisent des levées de fonds annuelles: soirée aux courses, tournoi de golf, marchethon et gala de fin d'année tout en continuant de solliciter le soutien de la communauté.

Ce Comité lui-même est intéressant car il reflète la diversité canadienne, ses membres étant originaires de nombreux pays et de groupes ethniques variés. Les deux langues officielles sont utilisées. Deux de ses anciens présidents, Michel Decoste et Ted Guillaume se trouvent être francophones.

Christiane Millet-Alexis, l'épouse du fondateur, Dr

Thecla Alexis, Dr Michèle Alexis et leurs conjoints Keppel Barath et Pat Mohamed n'ont cessé de soutenir le Fonds.

La réponse de la communauté d'Ottawa a été encourageante et a bénéficié du soutien de nombreuses compagnies et associations telles The Jewish Foundation of Ottawa, l'église des Adventistes du Septième Jour, l'église anglicane SaintMatthew, Interlangues, Astec, ainsi que le regretté Jacques Plante figurent parmi les généreux donateurs.

En cette année d'anniversaire le Fonds a reçu des dons de l'Association des Gens d'Affaires noirs et de la famille du regretté Léon Silver, supporter ardent des débuts du Fonds.

Mais le plus important est le succès du FBECN et ses résultats enviables! Presque trois-quarts de million de dollars recueillis!

Maggie Fondong a été le premier récipiendaire en 1998 eyt a reçu 10,000.00\$ tris années consécutives. Puis la bourse est passée à 5,000.00 \$ et atteint maintenant 6,000.00 \$ depuis 2013.

Les récipiendaires de 2002, Bietel Bocreption et Tatiana Sotindjo sont maintenant médecins, MarieAnge Janvier, récipiendaire en 1999, titulaire d'un doctorat en mathématiques est maintenant ingénieur à l'hôpital pour Enfants, Aquilas Kapend,

récipiendaire en 2003, est maintenant Procureure de la Couronne. Les autres années ont vu aussi réussir toute une série d'avocats, d'ingénieurs, d'économistes, d'infirmières et de spécialistes en communication. Si l'on ajoute les récipiendaires de 2021, Hannah Awell, (sciences infirmières à Ottawa U), Hayat Chasso (travail social à Carleton, Richard Muhindo (ingénierie civile à Carleton), et enfin Damzntha Yeoun (sciences infirmières Ottawa U) nous avons un total de 67 récipiendaires!

Richard Muhindo, le récipiendaire exceptionnel qui s'est vu décerné le prix du Fondateur Dr Alexis est né dans la République démocratique du Congo, a perdu son père à l'âge de 6 ans et a fui une nuit son pays en cachette pour se réfugier en Ouganda où il a passé 7 ans dans un camp de réfugiés avant d'arriver au Canada en 2017. Son superviseur l'a décrit comme un élève compassionné et il a parfaitement compris l'esprit du FBCN en déclarant « Moi aussi, lorsque j'aurai fini les études je créerai aussi un Fonds pour aider les autres étudiants qui le méritent ».

Le FBCEN a connu 6 présidents, la dernière en date est Madame Élisabeth December-Lowell. C'est donc elle qui présidera les célébrations de ce 25ème anniversaire.

L'auteur, John Harewood, est un enseignant en retraite qui a présidé plusieurs des comités du FBCEN dont le comité de sélection, le comité des

entrevues, et le comité du Mois de l'Histoire des Noirs.

(“This article first appeared in the 2021 August Edition of The Globe Report. It was written by John Harewood and translated by Christiane Millet Alexis.)

BCSF PILLARS

Donors' Committee members have been the heart and engine of the BCSF since its inception. Each member brings special skills, knowledge and experience which contribute enormously to the achievement of the organization's objectives. The following are vignettes of the current and past members some of whom have been with the organization for more than a decade ,but all have been unwavering in their commitment to the BCSF and have given their time , talents, and energy in outstanding service.

PRESENT DONORS' COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ELIZABETH DECEMBER-LOVELL, Chair, 2015-

Elizabeth December-Lovell has held the position of Chair for the longest period and has seen it extended with unanimous approval. She was already wellknown for her dedicated service to her own Guyanese community when she decided to offer her many skills to the BCSF in pursuit of broader community development through the empowerment of our youth.

A model of stability herself, through her knowledge, experience, and obvious competence in leadership over the years, she has contributed immensely to the stability and credibility of the organization, especially during the period of uncertainty resulting from the pandemic.

MICHEL DECOSTE, Vice-Chair, 2015- (Please refer to his Reflection which appears earlier)

JOHN HAREWOOD

Was admitted as a BCSF Donors' Committee member a few months after its founding. Since then, he has served periodically as Chair of the Scholarship Selection, Elections, Interviews and Black History Month Committees, worked with the End of Year Dinner/Dance, Walkathon, Newsletter, 10th and 20th Anniversary Committees, participated in editing, and reviewing the Constitution and By-Laws and drafted the Operations Handbook.

CHRISTIANE MILLET-ALEXIS, (Permanent Board Member)



While Christiane Millet -Alexis remained an enthusiastic and faithful supporter of her late husband's vision throughout his leadership of the BCSF, she has made her own stellar contribution to its objectives . Whether by generously providing a venue for its meetings, using her network effectively to solicit donations , serving for some time as Secretary and for several years as Chair of the Scholarship Selection Committee or by recruiting members for the Donors 'Committee , she has constantly demonstrated her dynamism and exemplary professionalism by introducing new ideas to enhance the profile of the organization. She served as Chair of the Planning Committee for this very important anniversary.

PATRICK MARTIN



Not only has Patrick Martin been the face of the BCSF as the regular Master of Ceremonies at the Annual Awards Ceremony, a role which he has invariably performed for years with poise and purpose, he has also been a very engaged and active member of the Walkathon Committee. In addition, he has helped the BCSF to partner successfully with St. Mathews Anglican Church in fund-raising, a relationship which has resulted in significant donations to the organization.

KENTON WILTSHIRE

Kenton Wiltshire is the other member of the Wiltshire team and one of that generation whose energy augurs well for the BCSF's future. Not only is he the longest-serving Secretary in the organization's history, but he has also shown the same commitment and dedication in his role as Chair of the Walkathon, Member of the Dinner/Dance, and Interviews Committees.

Whenever he intervenes in the discussion at Committee meetings, he may be expected to provide useful information.

MARCIA WILTSHIRE

Part of the BCSF's success has been its ability to attract members of different generations to its Mission and Purpose. Marcia Wiltshire is one of the younger generations who has brought her energy, enthusiasm, and skills to the organization in many areas, including the provision of space for Donors' Committee meetings, serving on the Black History Month, Awards and Dinner /Dance Committees, coordinating the organization's Public Relations and most recently, updating the BCSF's website and playing a leading role in planning this 25th anniversary celebration.

ANNETTE BOUZI

Annette Bouzi may be described as her own recruiter and like the Wiltshire, is the promise of a future generation. Having followed BCSF events for a time , especially the Awards Ceremony, she enquired about the possibility of joining the Donors' Committee and was enthusiastically welcomed. The Committee and the general public has observed her presentation skills, in both official languages ,when she delivered the keynote address at the 20th anniversary Dinner/Dance and is pleased to have her deliver an encore for the 25th.

ANNE SENIOR

Having been one of the most reliable donors and contributors to the BCSF for many years, Ann Senior decided to take her commitment to another level, so

she applied for and was welcomed unanimously as a member of the Donors' Committee. Since then, the BCSF has benefitted from her vast experience and wide counsel, especially regarding necessary clarification of some details on the Application Form relating to the assessment protocol and process. She has also readily placed her considerable editing skills at the disposal of the Committee and is playing a useful role in the planning of this anniversary.

YVONNE MILLER



Ever since she was welcomed to the Donors' Committee with full approval, Yvonne Miller has been forthright in giving her ideas and lending her support to BCSF events . She is currently using her experience and organizational skills as Auction Coordinator to ensure the success of the Auction which will serve as one of the principal fundraising items of the 25th anniversary celebration.

SANDRA HINES

In addition to her fluency in Canada's official languages, Sandra Hines has brought her knowledge, experience, and skills in Accounting to the Donors'

Committee which quickly offered her the position of Treasurer. She readily accepted , but has also made her mark in other areas ,especially on the Black History Month Committee where she proposed an innovative presentation format and has promised to work on a three-person team in the production of a video of the BCSF and aspects of Black Canadian History which will be available for use in future presentations.

PAST MEMBERS

FRED PRYCE

Fred Pryce s was a Donors' Committee member throughout the period and served at one time on the Scholarship Selection Committee. He never permitted any disability to prevent him from attending meetings where he frequently reminded members of the requirements of the Constitution. His was also a constant presence at the Night at the Races and the End of Year Dinner/Dance when he would begin the proceedings with "The Grace".

MARCIA MATHOO

Marcia Mathoo served for many years on the Committee and always played a helpful role in organizing the venue for the Annual Dinner/Dance. She was also active in enhancing the profile of the organization by seeking alternative locations for the Dinner/Dance

CLAUDIA NICHOLSON

Claudia Nicholson served for several years as BCSF Secretary; always energetic and creative, she constantly introduced ideas urging the use of social media platforms and targeting youth to raise the organization's profile and encourage more participation in its events, especially the Walkathon and Black History Month lectures.

CELESTIN NGISULU

Celestin Ngisulu was for some time BCSF Secretary and has been a faithful supporter of its Annual/Dinner Dance and Awards Ceremony.

- **SERVED AS SECRETARIES:** Joyce Adubofuor, Suzette Brooks, Rachelle Exeter, Jenille Prince, and Claudette Williams.
- **SERVED AS TREASURERS:** Lynette Dutchin, Doretha Carrington, June Calendar, Michelle Olivier, Joseph Redhead, Ousman .
- **SERVED AS LEGAL COUNSEL:** Frederic Lavertu

Each of the Following individuals served at some time during the 25 years:
Kwaku Agyei, Dr. Jacqui Antonio, Bertilia Christian, Dr. Joseph Clarke, Evelyn Duberry,

Gregg Edwards, Bassie Ekong, Cheryl Elliot,
Terry Evans, Charles Frazier, Barbara Gray,
Robin Hazel, Nicole Herod, Martin Howard,
Charmaine Hunter, Lionel Ifill, Lillian
Kitcher, Sandra Knight, Kayi Kodjo, David
Lane, Joan Manning, Gerald Martin, Solomon
Mensah, Louis Methot, Kirk McIntyre,
Jacquie Mochai, Hammed Assam Olajokum,
Kathyann Quashie, Fred Sherman, Chapman
Uko, Helen Vance, Yvonne Wilson



IN MEMORIAM
WE REMEMBER THEM! WE REMEMBER
THEM! WE REMEMBER THEM!

We, who still serve, carry in our hearts happy memories of the following former members of the Donors “ Committee who served during the 25 years and left us too soon.

Dr. Horace Alexis, Founder and Chair 1996-2002 and 2007-2009, the life force of The BCSF.

Roselee Clarke, Vice-Chair during the 10th Anniversary Celebrations in 2006.
Served on the Essay Committee.

David Lane - was a founding member who shared the vision

Martin Howard - was a member of the Committee which prepared a report on the BCSF’s Structure and Functioning.

Dr. Edward Kwadwo - served on the first Scholarship Selection Committee in 1998; brought his youthful energy to the BCSF’s meetings.

Larry Peterson - performed his role as Treasurer with distinction throughout his tenure.

Leon Silver - was honoured posthumously for his dedicated service to the BCSF. The Organization recognizes his outstanding generosity this year with the award of a plaque preserving his legacy.

Requiescant in pace!

“No matter what accomplishments you make, somebody helps you”

Althea Gibson, Former Tennis Star

WHO WINS A BCSF SCHOLARSHIP?

If you haven't attended one of our Award Ceremonies or a BCSF End of the Year Dance or visited our website, you must be asking “ Who are these lucky 68 Recipients whom you almost seem to be bragging about and how did they manage to make the cut anyway?”

We began this Booklet by thanking you for your generosity and support for the past quarter century. This is the least that we can do. Actually, it's more than that. It is our responsibility. But here we are going further to say that our sense of responsibility demands that we be transparent and accountable.

So, here are the answers to the questions which we asked earlier.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A BCSF SCHOLARSHIP, AN APPLICANT MUST

- Be a black Canadian Citizen or a Landed Immigrant or Permanent Resident
- Residing in the Ottawa area, graduating from high school with an average between 75% to 90% in 6 Grade 12 courses (U) or (O) or (M) or a combination of 6 Grade 11 or 12 courses (U) or (O) or (M).
- Admitted to a Canadian University
- Demonstrate financial need, community, and volunteer service

HOW TO APPLY?

- Seek and obtain an Application Form from any high school in the Ottawa area
- *Fill* in the form and send it to:

The Black Canadian Scholarship Fund,

CSC (T) P.O. BOX 8002, Ottawa, ON K1G
5H6

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

In every year, a Scholarship Selection Committee, comprising five (5) members, is formed, three chosen from the community and two Donors' Committee members who have volunteered for the position.

Stage 1

- The Committee evaluates the applications and prepares a shortlist recommending at least three applicants for a scholarship.
- The shortlist is then submitted to four members of the Donors' Committee who have volunteered to serve on the Interviews Committee,

Stage 2

The Interviews Committee interviews each shortlisted applicant, selects those whom it considers eligible and submits their names to the full Donors' Committee with the recommendation that each be granted a scholarship. It also names the applicant

whose overall performance qualifies him/her for the Founder's Award.

Stage 3

The Donors' Committee or the Board of Directors approves of the recommended applicants and awards each a scholarship in the amount of \$6,000 at a public Ceremony in July or early in August every year. The amount is deposited to the account of each recipient in two installments at the university of his/her choice.

BCSF Scholarship Recipients/Recipiendaires du FBECN 1998-2021

1998 Maggie Fondong, First Recipient: Mission Accomplished

The words Commitment, Consistency and Continuity best describe the BSCF when we reflect on its actions in awarding scholarships during the first twenty-five years. Circumstances changed and the organization re-examined its policy to face new challenges, but its goal has remained unchanged as has its determination to achieve it.

According to its original policy, it aimed to support each scholarship recipient throughout a

three or four -year undergraduate degree with an amount of \$ 10,000 to be granted every year provided that the recipient maintained satisfactory academic standing.

After two years of fund-raising, the Fund had accumulated enough from the interest to offer a full- term scholarship, and it did so to Maggie Fondong who, from 1998 to 2001, received \$ 30,000 in completing a B.Sc. degree at Trent University.

Changing More To Serve More

Although fully satisfied with the success of Maggie Fondong, the BCSF realized that the policy of offering similar support to a new recipient every year for a fixed term of three or four years placed a heavier burden on its fundraising and would eventually limit the number of scholarships it would be able to offer. Furthermore, it anticipated an increase in the number of applicants and the challenge of addressing it, a challenge which became a reality when the Province abolished Grade 13 and a double cohort of students graduated in 2003.

So, it changed the policy from as early as 1999 when it decided to make the scholarship nonrenewable and the amount \$5,000. One scholarship was awarded in 1999 and one in 2000 but ever since then, at least two have

been awarded every year and five in this jubilee year.

RECIPIENTS 1999 – 2021

- | | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| 1999 | Marie-Ange Janvier | 2000 | Awo Nuuh |
| 2001 | Awo Nuuh
Alexandra Derisier | 2002 | Bietel Bocreption
Tatiana Sotindjo |
| 2003 | Melissa Charles
Edwin Nortey | 2004 | Senayit Belay |
| 2005 | Busole Charlotte Mussunken | | |
| 2006 | Francoise Makanda
Randall Antoine | | |
| 2007 | Justin P. Nortey
Nedge Blaise
Grace di-Mpasi | 2008 | Anaira Dufresne
Jimmy Ngandu |
| 2009 | Wais Said Ali Youssouf
Maryann Mohamed | | |
| 2010 | Nelly Naxe
Khadija Ali Ahmed | 2011 | Viviane Pani
Tatiana Thelusma
Lamar McCormack |
| 2012 | Michelle Lafleur
Samora Philippeau | 2013 | Faduma Mahmoud
Shekinah Kali
Akoul Luala
Rushelle Richardson |
| 2014 | Gabrielle St. Juste
Bilan Farah
Amal Mohamed | 2015 | Lydie Masengo
Tara Lemours
Naomi Kossi |

2016 Michael Tshimanga
Daniel Addo
Nsasi Divine Kambu

2017 Wal Bolis Gatlei Wal
Mayaasia Uмба
Aisha Mao
Katrice Bent

2018 Farhia Haji
Tyrece Johnson
Najla Mohamed

2019 Souban Youssouf
Nicole Kamanzi
Precieux King
Anael Toussaint

2020 Dionne Allen
Soleilah Menelek Nosifort
Gavin Sseninde
Amanual Zewdu

25th ANNIVERSARY AND 2021 RECIPIENTS

**Richard Muhindo - Founder’s
Award**

Civil Engineering Carleton University



“Firstly, I thank the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund for selecting me as a recipient of this scholarship .Receiving it has greatly reduced the financial stress of my family and has given me peace and determination to focus on my dream of becoming an Engineer without worrying where to get money to support my education. I am particularly appreciative of the Black

Canadian Scholarship Fund for inspiring me so that I plan, after my education, to also start a scholarship to help other deserving students

Hayat Chasso
Ottawa Black Business and Professional Award
Social Work, Carleton University



“I was so happy to learn of my selection for this great honour and I deeply appreciate and am thankful for your support. I am extremely grateful to be accepting such an important award that recognizes the hard work and contributions I have made within my community and school. Growing up in a less privileged family has not only presented financial and academic challenges but also helped me to realize the value and importance of education.

I hope one day I will be able to help young black students achieve their goals just as the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund has helped me.

Thank you all for enabling this one and a lifetime opportunity.”

**Samantha Yoeun -
Leon Silver Bursary
Nursing, University of Ottawa**



“As someone who grew up with a lower income family, I learned the value money has and the difference it can make in someone’s life. This is why I am extremely grateful to be awarded this scholarship. This year I worked most days after school as I was worried about being able to afford university by myself. This scholarship removes that major stress. This award means that I can be first in my family to go to university. It means that I can attend classes with my main focus being on acquiring knowledge and not worrying about the cost. And finally, it means that I can continue my journey to become a registered nurse, a career that allows me to make a real difference in my community and to help others.”

.....

Nura Evans Li



Music, Carleton University

**“I plan to use me education to mentor
and inspire other young people
through language and music.
Receiving this scholarship would
enable a smooth transition to university
life, giving me time to
focus on my goal of creating change”
Hanan Awell - Nursing, University of
Ottawa**



“I am greatly honoured to be one of the recipients of the Black Canadian

Scholarship. I feel tremendously grateful for the support the Black Canadian Scholarship has provided my family and me. I can't wait to be part of a growing striving to help students like me achieve their goals by eliminating their barriers. Achieving an award like this will significantly change my journey in university more than I had previously anticipated. It will introduce a more solid future for my dreams and goals to become a reality.

In addition, I have an opportunity to volunteer and work with a dedicated group of people that work to better our community.”

GETTING TO KNOW THE RECIPIENTS

Where do they come from?

Bahamas, Canada, Egypt, Eritrea, Haiti Jamaica, Kenya, Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania

What are they studying or what have they studied?

Accounting and Finance, Biochemistry, Biomedical Science, Business and
Government, Business Technology Management, Childhood and Youth, Commerce, Conflict and Human Rights, , Computer Science, Civil Engineering, Criminology, Economics, English as a Second Language ,Human Kinetics, International Development and Globalisation,

Information Technology, International Relations and Social Justice,
Law,
Mass Communications, Music, Nursing, Physiology, Political Science
,Social Work, Sociology

Where are they studying or have, they studied?

Carleton University, Laurentian University, McGill University, Oakwood
College, Oklahoma, Ryerson University, Trent University, University of
Ottawa, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo

And What's Their Latest News?

We checked in on some of them to find out how they were doing and what
they think about the BCSF. Here is what they said:

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

Here are excerpts from a "Thank You Letter " dated October 4, 2001, and
written by **Maggie Fondong** , the First Recipient in 1998:

"It is not every day that great ideas get implemented and come to
fruition, but the BCSF has gone beyond the idea of helping needy
students, and actually realized this goal. Wonderful things can happen
through the unyielding efforts of concerned men and women.

As the first recipient of this scholarship, my sentiments are particularly
strong. A sense of indebtedness has been impressed upon me, and I know
that the seeds of "goodness" will be multiplied.

Lives have and will be blessed by these good works."

Sincerely,
Maggie Fondong.

B.Sc., Trent University

Marie -Ange Janvier Ph.D., P. Eng., CCE

“I’m honoured and extremely proud to be one of the first Black Canadian Scholarship Fund recipients. It is the seed that has been planted in me that opened doors to drive my current career. As an award recipient, beside the financial support, the award committee, with its belief in me, gave me such confidence that I graduated with an engineering degree with high distinction and even pursued a Ph.D in Biomedical Engineering. Subsequently, I was able to fund my entire studies with other scholarships because of this 1st award.

Currently, I am working at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO), a position I have held for the past ten years and also as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Ottawa and Carleton University where I mentor, supervise and teach graduate students in the field of Biomedical Engineering. I am very appreciative that this award granted me the mentorship and support to become a successful professional. My vision for the future is to use the torch that has been passed on to me to encourage Black youth into STEM fields and to grow research and development in health technologies and health care in academia.

1999 Récipient, Marie-Ange Janvier
Clinical Engineer

Adjunct Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Ottawa

Adjunct Professor, Department of Systems and Computer Engineering, Carleton University

2000 Recipient, Awo Nuuh, B.Soc.Sci. M.B.A.

“I was the 2000 Recipient of a Black Canadian Fund Scholarship as a graduate of Woodroffe High School.

The BCSF opened doors for me to complete my education and set the stage for success. I will always be grateful to the Founder of the Fund, Dr. Horace Alexis and members of the Ottawa Community who supported the Fund.

I joined the Federal Public Service in 2006 and am currently Senior Analyst and Team Leader overseeing a small team of analysts at the Respectful and Inclusive Workplaces (RIW) Directorate Service. The Team is responsible

for providing research and data analysis support to the Directorate to inform the development of learning and training.”

2002 Recipient Tatiana Sotindjo.

Tatiana Sotindjo graduated with a degree in Medicine from the University of Ottawa in 2011 and is now Inaugural Hudson scholar in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion for 2021/22 in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of British Columbia.

Francoise Makanda, Recipiendaire. 2006, B.A., Mass Communications, Carleton University.

Grace a la bourse, il n’y avait pas de poids sur mes épaules, puisque la première année était payée. Avec ce Fonds, nous savons que la communauté est derrière nous.

2017 Recipient, Katrice Bent, B. Com. (Business Technology Management, minor in French) Ryerson University.



Earlier this year, I officially graduated from the Ted Rogers School of Management with a Bachelor of Commerce in Business Technology Management and a minor in French. I must say that it was quite the journey, especially over the last two years. I am thrilled that despite the

personal challenges that I faced; I was able to finish strong by achieving the Dean's List for the academic year 2020/2021.

I am so thankful for the scholarship that I received from the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund. It was the first that I received, and it most definitely made completing my degree more manageable. I look forward to giving back and supporting the scholarship fund once I am in a position to do so."

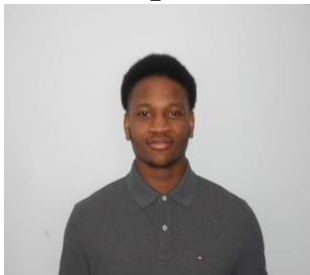
2018 Recipient, Najla Mohamed,

Carleton University, BGLnS, Global Politics

"I was graduating from Ridgemont High School when I received my bursary from the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund. I am now entering my fourth year at Carleton University where I am specializing in Global Politics. With the generous support of the BCSF community, I was able to begin my studies without the added stress of financial concerns. Over the last three years, I've also been able to involve myself in some worthwhile experiences at Carleton, including a full-time paid research internship in my faculty, a senior editor position at Kroeger Policy Review, and a fundraising role at the Somali Education Fund. This Fall, I will start working as a research assistant for my former professor, and after the completion of my undergraduate studies, I hope to attend graduate school to pursue research in Political Economy.

While a lot has certainly changed for me in the last few years, one thing that has and will always remain constant is my immense gratitude to the BCSF for supporting me on my postsecondary journey."

2019 Recipient, Precieux King, University of Ottawa



“My name is Precieux King. I am entering the third year in my pursuit of my Bachelor’s in Commerce with a specialization in Accounting at the University of Ottawa within the Coop program. The BCSF has significantly impacted my life. The scholarship covered two-thirds of my tuition in my first year, playing a tremendous role in minimizing the amount of student debt I will have upon the completion of my degree. In conclusion, I thank God for the impact the Black Canadian Scholarship has had on many lives.”

2020 Recipient, Gavin Sseninde, University of Ottawa



“I was among the lucky recipients of the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund in 2020. I received a link to the website through a friend and I applied. The call I received a few weeks later from one of the Committee members was a highlight of my summer 2020. I don’t know how my first year would have been without the confidence I got from this scholarship. I am very grateful to this community, and I am sure that I owe them to do my best in

academics. In that way, I believe The Black Canadian Scholarship Fund values /mission will be fulfilled. Forever grateful, I can only pray that the lord keeps blessing you.”.

A word From Sarah Onyango Roll of Honour Volunteer

(who has Been in the Forefront As MC For numerus BCSF Events)



My relationship with the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund (BCSF) started back in the late 1990’s when I met Christiane in a hotel lobby in Ottawa. After listening to her explain how she and her husband were raising money to help Black high school students achieve their post-secondary dreams, I was sold. The idea of providing scholarships to help lessen the financial burden for these young people as they embark on their university journey is not new; however, Dr. and Mrs. Alexis’s sustained emotional investment in the BCSF is one of the many reasons I have been a supporter for over 20 years.

Most of all, I have been further motivated to continue my support after seeing waves of BCSF scholars succeed in their studies and chosen careers.

Thank you, BCSF, for investing in so many young lives over the last 25 years! I salute all your hard work and wish you 25 more years of service to our community.”

**Do You Remember Our Trip Down Memory Lane Earlier?
Well, Now It’s time to Peek into Our Archives!**



From Left: Maggie Fondong, first recipient in 1999

May 1, 1996, Agreement signed with the Ottawa Carleton Community Foundation. Black Canadian Scholarship Fund founded.

July 10, 1996, BCSF's First Night at the Races.

October 19, 1996, Inaugural BCSF Dinner/Dance at Ottawa Delta Hotel and Suites.

July 11, 1998, Maggie Fondong is selected from 19 applicants to receive the First BCSF Scholarship. The Scholarship Selection Committee comprised Dr. Shirley Brathwaite, M. Michel Decoste, Mr. John Harewood, Coordinator , Radha Jappan, and Dr. Edward Kwadwo.

June 30, 1999, First non-renewable Scholarship of \$5,000 awarded.

July 2001 First two non-renewable Scholarships awarded, each of \$5,000.

At the Annual Dinner/Dance at Christmas, 2002, the BCSF honoured Leon Silver posthumously for his outstanding contribution to its objectives by presenting a plaque to his widow.

July 2003 The BCSF received a total of 35 applications, the highest number to date and awarded three scholarships for the First time to respond to the Double Cohort following the abolition of Grade 13. It also awarded its first scholarship to a male.

2003-2005 BCSF organized city-wide Essay Contest for Grades 11 and 12 on topics such as 400 Years of the Black Presence in Canada and The Underground Railroad.

2003 BCSF Decides to discontinue Spring Dance.

December 9, 2006, 10th Anniversary Dinner/ Dance held at The Ukrainian Hall, 1000 Byron Avenue, Ottawa.

By that date, the BCSF had awarded 16 scholarships.

June 2007 First BCSF Annual Walkathon.

December 2009 Dinner/Dance. 170 Guests attended. Highest number ever for this event, Guest Speakers

were Marie-Ange Janvier (1999 Recipient) and Justin Nortey (2003 Recipient).

April 2010 Inaugural Edition of Newsletter.

December 4, 2010, Dinner/Dance. Francoise Makanda, Guest Speaker (Recipient 2006)

June 2011 Bietel Bocreption and Tatian Sotindjo, Recipients in 2002, graduated with degrees in Medicine from the University of Ottawa.

April 2012 Approval of BCSF Handbook
July 2013, First non-renewable scholarships, each of \$6,000 awarded.

Spring, 2016 Dr. Alexis honoured by University of Ottawa Alumni Association for his outstanding contribution to the Ottawa Community.

November 26, 2016, 20th Anniversary
Dinner/Dance held on at St. Anthony's Banquet Hall, 523 St. Anthony Street. By this time, the BCSF had awarded 47 scholarships.

December 16, 2017, Dinner/Dance. Lydia Massengo , Guest Speaker (Recipient 2015)

February 7, 2019, Death of Dr. Horace Alexis, Founder of BCSF.

July 2020. First Virtual Awards Ceremony

May 30, 2021, BCSF receives 61 applications, the highest number in its history. For the first time, a Pre-Screening of applicants was conducted by Anne Senior, Michel Decoste and Ted Guillaume. The Scholarship selection Committee comprised Michel Decoste (Chair), Anne Senior, Yolanda Banks, Ted Guillaume, and Marie-Francoise Nsengiyumva.

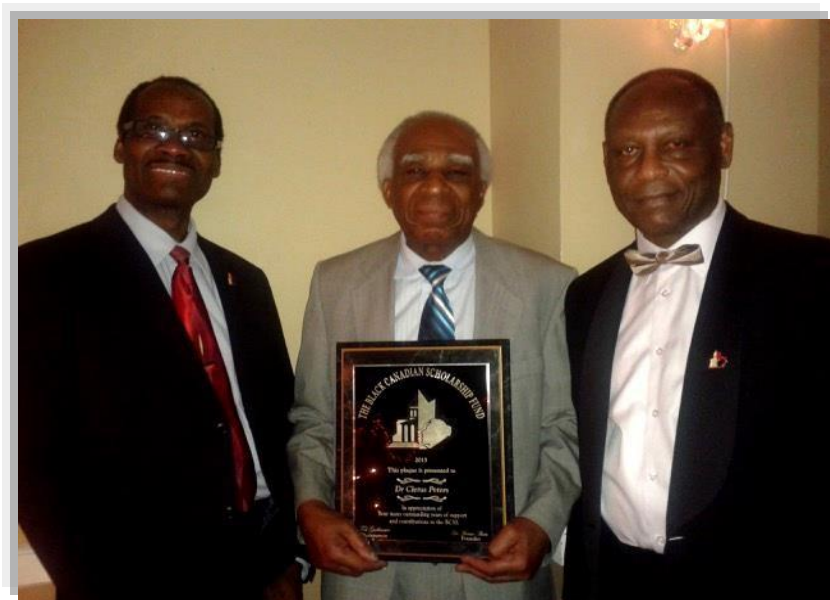
July 1, 2021, Death of Barbara McInnes , CEO of Community Foundation of Ottawa who signed the original agreement on May 1, 1996, which resulted in the founding of the BCSF.

August 12, 2021, Second Virtual Awards Ceremony. Presentation of Founder’s Award to Richard Muhindo by Christiane Millet -Alexis.

Presentation of Bursary and Plaque to Samantha Yoeun (Recipient in 2021) by Howard Silver, President of The Silver Group and Living Well Homes in recognition of the contribution of his late father, Leon Silver to the BCSF and to preserve his legacy.

Presentation of Bursary and Plaque to Hayat Chasso in recognition of the contribution of the Ottawa Black Business and Professional Association to the BCSF.

By this time, the BCSF had awarded 68 scholarships.



Ted Guillaume(left) and Michel Decoste (right) congratulate Dr. Cletus Peters on his award for outstanding service to the BCSF.

BCSF TRIVIA 1996-2021

- Q. **Where has the BCSF held its meetings?**
- A. In Dr. Alexis's office on Lower Level-194 Main Street, Interlangues on 412 Maclaren St. and Interlangues, Main Campus, 130,Albert St. Suite 710, 331 Cooper St, Room 400, Old City Hall, Main Street, Bronson Centre , Bronson Avenue, Julian of Norwich Anglican Church, 7 Rossland Avenue.
- Q. **Can you name the venue of the Walkathon?**
- A. Choose one of the following 1. The Experimental Farm 2. Merivale Tim Horton's 3. Fisher Avenue.
- Q. **Which two meats were served at the 10th and 20th Anniversary celebrations ?**
1. Curried goat, 2. Jerk Chicken, 3. Roast beef, 4. Baked snapper, 5. Grilled Salmon

Q. Which of the following has the BCSF used to raise funds?

- A. 1. Choral concerts 2. Raffles 3. Silent Auction 4. Private dinners
5. Adventures in Spices 6. All.

Q. Which of the following has provided music for the BCSF's events?

- A. 1. The Francis Trio, 2. Sifa Choir, 3. Nepean
Panharmonics, 4. DJ Supersound, 5. All

Q. Which Door Prize has been most frequently donated by BCSF Donors' Committee Members?

- A. 1. Bottle of wine, 2. Gift basket, 3. Gift Card 4. Assorted
Chocolates 5. Concert tickets 6. Caribbean Rum

Q. What was the price of the ticket at the Inaugural Dinner /Dance on October 19, 1996?

- A. 1. \$ 40, 2. \$ 60, 3. \$ 50, 4. \$ 45, 5. \$65

Q. What is the maximum number of individuals who may be members of the Donors' Committee?

- A. 1. 12, 2. 14, 3. 16, 4. 15, 5. 20

Q. Some members of a High School Basketball Team once served guests at the End of Year Dinner/Dance. True or False? What was the name of their Teacher /Coach?

**THE BCSF SAYS THANK YOU, THANK YOU!
TO
VOLUNTEERS OVER THE YEARS**

Miriam Allen, Lise Bazinet, Madeleine, and Zoltan Biro,
Dr. Shirley Brathwaite, Vera Clapp, Giovanna Clarke, Francis
Coballe, Adrienne Coddett, Herb Daly, Gerta Decoste, Rachel
Decoste, Karl Gordon, Dereck Hamilton, Patricia Harewood,
Maxine Ifill, Dr. Radha Jhappan, Patrick Johnson, Judy Kazz,
Liliane Kwofie, Myrtha Lapierre, Anne-Marie Louis,

Dr. Robert Moore, (deceased), Marie-Francoise Nsengiyumva, Sarah Onyango, Esmee Patterson, Claudette Russell- Lashley, Lloyd Stanford, Paula Williams.

SPONSORS

Air Canada, Archer Chemical, Canadian Medical Laboratories, CN, Embroidery Ottawa, Ottawa A Channel, Southbank Dodge Chrysler jeep, Spill Tech, Grossman Klein Endowment Foundation, Interlangues, Mytek, MWG Garments, Peerless Garments, Raytek Printing, Marketex Inc, Golf

GUEST SPEAKERS AT THE END OF YEAR DINNER/DANCE AND AWARDS CEMONY

Dr. Robert (Bobby) Moore, (deceased) former High Commissioner, Professor, Theologian

Dr. Esmeralda Thornhill, Professor of Law, First Chair of the James Robinson Johnston Chair of Black Canadian Studies , Dalhousie University

Her Excellency Theresa Soloman, High Commissioner to Canada for the Republic of South Africa.

Karl Gordon, retired Teacher from Merivale High School, poet, actor .
Adrienne Coddett, Teacher and Host of Black on Black at CHUO

Adrian Harewood, former CBC Radio Host of “ All in a Day”

Marie-Ange Janvier (Recipient 1999)

Justin Nortey (Recipient 2003)

Aquilas Kapend (Recipient 2003)

Francoise Makenda (Recipient 2006)

Rushelle Richardson (Recipient 2013)

Lydie Massengo (Recipient 2015)

Dr. Joy Mighty, Professor Emerita, former Associate Vice-President ,
Teaching and Learning, Carleton University

Annette Carla Bouzi, Professor of Law, Carleton University

WALKATHON STARTERS

The Reverend Dr. Anthony Bailey, Coordinating Minister , Parkdale
United Church

Toronto Dominion Bank Representatives

Dr. Lloyd Stanford, Public Servant, Professor, Host of Third World
Players

GOLD STAR DONORS

\$1000 - \$ 15, 000

Dr. Horace Alexis and Christiane Millet Alexis, Dr. Joseph Clarke and
Giovanna Clarke, Joslyn and Lionel Ifill, Stan and Fong Xavier, Jean
Plante , Mr., and Mrs. William Alexander. Dr. Sam Kwofie, Lynette Cox,
Jean Plante, Leon Silver, Adrian Harewood. Ottawa Jewish Foundation
Seventh Day Adventist Church LCBO

The Silver Group and Living Well Home, St. Matthew's Anglican Church,
Julian of Norwich Anglican Church. Ottawa Black Business and
Professional Association, Toronto Dominion Bank

BCSF 's ROLL OF HONOUR 1996- 2021

We have already referred to the Donors' Committee of the BCSF as its heart and engine, the energy which keeps and has kept it on course for this quarter of a century. Crucial also to its success have been its most generous Donors, volunteers and often unseen but ever reliable supporters who have exemplified its motto of Commitment, Consistency and Community in many areas.

They include:

- Christiane Millet -Alexis, the spouse of Dr. Alexis, his daughters Dr. Thecla Alexis and Dr. Michele Alexis and their spouses Bharath Keppel and Yazed Mohamed.
- Dan and Anne Senior
- Dr. Shai Ben Shalom and Dr. Miri Halevy
- Pat Holas who signed the agreement on May 1, 1996 alongside Dr. Alexis
- Philip and Nayat Saikaley, who opened their home for fundraising dinners
- Dora and Ray Sunstrum, Albert, and Beatrice Linus and Nugent Miller, outstanding consistent attendees at the end of year Dinner /Dance
- Frederic Lavertu, author of the Constitution and By-Laws
- David Lane, one of the founding members of the BCSF

- Yvonne Harper, one of the founding members of the BCSF
- Diane Wilmot, ever present indefatigable volunteer
- Yolanda Banks, , who gave talks on Black History to Ottawa-area schools for several years during Black History Month and has facilitated the Virtual Awards Ceremony with elegance and great competence
- Marie-Francoise Nsengiyumva , whose presence on the Scholarship Selection Committee and contribution to its efficacy have been invaluable for years
- Giovanna Clarke who has for years sold the highest number of tickets for the Dinner/Dance

*Deryck Beckles has used his outstanding leadership and organizing skills to ensure the growth of the Annual Golf Tournament and make it the BCSF's most profitable fundraising events

* Sarah Onyango who never refused a BCSF request to MC at the End of Year Dinner/Dance or Annual Golf Tournament.



BCSF Donors “ Committee members celebrate another Awards Ceremony : From left: Christiane Millet-Alexis, Annette Bouzi, Elizabeth December -Lovell, John Harewood, Michel Decoste, Ted Guillaume, Kenton Wiltshire, Marcia Wiltshire, Patrick Martin

SPECIAL RECOGNITION IS DUE TO:

MICHEL DECOSTE: He has the rare distinction of having been a member at the founding of the organization and of having maintained his membership on the Donors' Committee, without interruption, for the 25 years of its existence. While he has served as President; he has also held the office of Vice-President for a longer period than any of his predecessors: most significantly, he was a member of the Scholarship Selection Committee which chose the first Recipient in 1998 and was Chair of the said Committee in This anniversary year of 2021 when five Recipients were chosen to bring the total to 68. It is also he who has overseen the preparation of the scholarship cheques and the plaques for special awards throughout this period which we are celebrating. His has been extra-ordinary service.

LARRY PETERSON: Demonstrated exemplary professionalism as Treasurer by streamlining the organization's finances and introducing best practises, such as presenting regular monthly reports and emphasizing accountability.

JUDITH WILSON: As Treasurer, maintained the high standard set by her predecessor but served as well with distinction on the committee reviewing the Eligibility Criteria for the scholarship and for Donors' Committee membership. She also introduced new ideas of fundraising and actually organized '*Adventures in Spices*', an event which catered to different tastes in cuisine, art, travel, health and body-care and attracted several local businesses.

TED GUILLAUME: was a dignified President whose calm demeanour facilitated the settlement of differences; he enthusiastically sought sponsorship for the Walkathon, served effectively as MC on occasion; he was also a member of the Interviews and Newsletter Committees, expended much effort to keep in touch with former recipients and ensured that the organization benefitted from his long experience as an educator.

KEITH CHARLES: Although as President he was at the forefront in planning the BCSF's 10th Anniversary

celebrations, he will always be remembered for the energy and net-working skills which he demonstrated in organizing the first Golf Tournament and guaranteeing its place as one of the BCSF's annual and major fundraising events.

KENTON WILTSHIRE:

He has demonstrated his exemplary commitment to the BCSF for most of the 25-year period, serving faithfully as Secretary with a renewed mandate, chairing the Walkathon Committee and giving counsel unwaveringly on the End of Year Dinner/Dance and Interviews Committee.

MARCIA WILTSHIRE: In addition to offering her services consistently and energetically on various BCSF committees, for a considerable time over the years, she facilitated arrangements to provide a meeting place for Donors' Committee meetings.

PATRICK MARTIN: He has now maintained his membership on the Donors' Committee through three anniversaries and, often working behind the scenes, has sought successfully to promote the organization through new sources of fund-raising.

DR. CLETUS PETERS: Took on the role of Treasurer after it had been performed by two trained Accountants and carried out the task with such efficiency and distinction that he himself seemed to have been professionally trained in the field. During his long tenure on the Donors' Committee, he also used his creative energy to introduce the Walkathon as a fund-raising event, propose and edit a Newsletter, add useful sections to the Handbook of Operations, serve effectively on the Golf Committee and occasionally on the Scholarship Selection Committee. His wise counsel has always been an asset.

ELIZABETH DECEMBER-LOVELL: started as a volunteer, soon changed to become a member of the Donors' Committee and, having been elected as the first female BCSF President in 2015, has now held the position longer than any of her predecessors, and with unanimous consent. Thanks to her keen understanding of the BCSF's

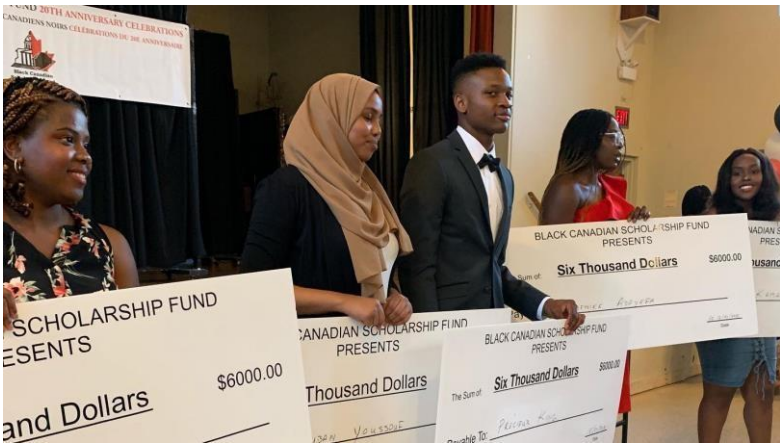
mandate and its relations with the Foundation , she steered the committee steadily and with exemplary competence in the challenging period following the death of the Founder. During her tenure, the organization has received the largest number of donations in its history. She is the only President who will have presided over the planning and celebration of two landmark anniversaries.

CHRISTIANE MILLET-ALEXIS

Already mentioned as a Gold Star Donor, she has been an unwavering supporter of the organization at every phase of its twenty-five years, offering her time, skills, experience, and resources to ensure that it achieves its objectives and mission. A truly outstanding member.

A SELECTED BCSF PICTORIAL PANORAMA

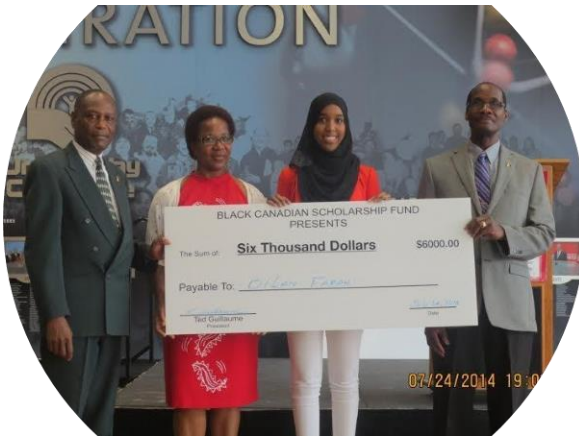
ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY



The 2019 Scholarship Recipients
From left: Anael Toussaint, Souban Youssouf, Precieux King,
Adenike Adeyefa, Nicole Kamanzi



Nicole Kamanzi receives her cheque from Michel Decoste and Christiane Millet -Alexis



2014 Recipient Bilan Farah celebrates with Michel Decoste, Elizabeth December-Lovell, and Ted Guillaume

NIGHT AT THE RACES



Dr. Alexis , Christiane Millet -Alexis and other members of the Alexis family in the Winners Circle,

RACE SPONSORED BY: *CMI Interlangues Inc.*

WELLSVILLE RACETRACK CENTRE

EVEIL DUN CHAMPION RECORD

RACE TIMES % 25.1 % 57.4 % 1:26.2 1M 1:54.4

Eric Valiquette Trainer *Guy Corbeil Owner*
Brad Forward driver

NCRFHA

BCSF WALKATHON



From left: Carl Nicholson, Official Starter, Dr. Alexis



Walkers eager to start the 5k

THE BCSF GOLF TOURNAMENT



Golf Czars Deryck Beckles and Keith Charles



Champions of the Course



The Founder solicits support at the Golf Dinner

Four Chairs at the Dinner/Dance



From left: Keith Charles, Ted Guillaume , Dr, Horace Alexis, and Elizabeth December-Lovell



**Dr. Alexis and Christiane-Millet Alexis with some family members
at the Dinner/Dance**

20th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



MC John Harewood at the lectern

25th ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Christiane Millet-Alexis
Elizabeth December-Lovell

Yvonne Miller
Marcia Wiltshire
Anne Senior
John Harewood

Chair and Translator
Commemorative Booklet
Layout
Silent Auction
Event Planning
Event planning
Commemorative Booklet
Editor and Content
Manager

25 Years Congratulations!
25 Ans Felicitation