



GEORGE BIDDLE KELLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

A RECOGNIZED TAX EXEMPT 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

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PRESS RELEASE

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Capital District Foundation Announces 2009 Scholarship Awardees

Albany, N.Y., August 5, 2009 – The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation announced its 2009 George Biddle Kelley Scholarship winners earlier this week.

“We are pleased to recognize such promising young men from the Capital Region community, and to be able to play a role in assisting them as they embark on their next major step in life, going to college,” said Christopher Ellis, Chairman of the George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation. “The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation values the pursuit of scholarship and academic excellence, and we wish these young men all the best in their future academic endeavors.”

The George Biddle Kelley Scholarship is awarded annually to deserving college bound male high school students in underserved and underrepresented communities throughout the Capital Region, all of whom have demonstrated a commitment to the values of scholarship and improving the lives of others in their community. Selection criteria include, academic performance, character, community involvement and demonstration of need..

The George Biddle Kelley Scholarship was awarded to:

- Mr. Ocasio Wilson, a graduate of Albany High, who will be attending Vassar College.

In addition, two George Biddle Kelley book awards will be awarded to two other finalists:

- Mr. Jalon Scott, a graduate of Albany High, who will be attending Susquehanna University
- Mr. David Cass, a graduate of South Glens Falls High School in South Glens Falls, who will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

In addition to the monetary award, each finalist will also receive a state of the art laptop computer.

Since its reorganization, the George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation has served as the educational/community service arm of the Beta Pi Lambda alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide educational opportunities to promising young scholars in underserved communities throughout the Capital Region. The Foundation has maintained a proud history of annually providing scholarships outstanding college-bound students, while also assisting both high school and college students through literacy, mentoring, and college awareness programs. The Foundation is named in honor of Mr. George Biddle Kelley (1884–1962), a native and lifelong resident of the Capital Region, who was a founder of both the national fraternity and local alumni chapter. Kelley a graduate of Cornell University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI); was the first African–American registered engineer in the State of New York; and worked as an auditor with the NYS Department of Tax & Finance for over 30 years

Founded at Cornell University in 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha is the nation’s oldest intercollegiate fraternity for African-American men, with over 150,000 members and more than 700 undergraduate and alumni chapters worldwide. The Beta Pi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha was established in Albany in 1939, and has been serving the Capital Region community for 70 years.

The George Biddle Kelley Education Foundation is a recognized tax exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation organized under the Laws of New York with consent from the New York State Education Department. For more information, please visit www.gbkfoundation.org.

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