

MEET OUR KIDS

JELANI BLANCHARD is a senior at Forest Hill High School. He wants to become an accountant and a mentor for troubled youth. He hopes to one day work as a broker at Smith Barney Financial. Jelani enjoys swimming and running. He has been accepted to Miles College in Alabama, but hopes to attend South Florida University in the fall of 2008.

EMILY DONATO is a member of Council for Unity and currently attends the 8th grade at Mark Twain JHS for the Gifted and Talented (I.S. 239). She started singing at an early age. She had her solo debut at Lincoln Center at the age of 11. Emily is very excited about attending Bard High School Early College in the fall. She was also accepted to LaGuardia High School. She was granted a full scholarship to the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music and also sings with the Brooklyn Youth Chorus twice a week. Emily feels that pursuing her academics and singing outside of school is a great plan. Emily would like to thank her parents who inspire her daily, her grandmother who encourages her and her teacher Mrs. MaryAnn McGowen for standing by her and believing in her.

DAJUAN HAWKINS is a high school graduate and CFU Alumnus. He has been a faithful member of Council for Unity for over four years. He loves working with his community and children. DaJuan wants to become a great actor one day. In his spare time he enjoys singing and writing. He has been accepted to SUNY Old Westbury and New Paltz Colleges.

DARLENE HUERTAS (JADE) is a CFU participant in their membership services program. She is seventeen years old and a senior at Cathedral High School. She has been accepted to five colleges, Marist College, Iona College, Ithaca College, SUNY Oswego College, and Mount Saint Vincent College. Darlene plans to major in biology in the fall of 2008 with plans to become a pediatric oncologist. Her hobbies include watching movies and helping disabled children at the Elizabeth Ann Seton Hospital in Manhattan.

RICHAREEF "RICH" MORDAUNT is in the 11th grade at Sheepshead Bay High School in Brooklyn, New York. After seeing many of his friends' attitudes and grades change, Rich decided to join Council for Unity. He became an active member of Leadership, Alumni Coordinators and MAC. As a result, his teachers have seen a tremendous change in him from being a troublemaker in school to a respectable young man. Rich wants to become a successful auto technician and own an auto shop. His hobbies include dancing, playing football and painting.

SHERON PHILLIPS is a junior at Boys and Girls High School. She is an alumna of CFU and a faithful member of the CFU extension programs. Sheron wants to become a paralegal. In her spare time she enjoys reading and traveling. She wants to go to Georgetown University to study political science.

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ASHLEY THOMAS is sixteen years old. She currently attends Susan E. Wagner High School in Staten Island, where she is a junior. She has been a member of Council for Unity since September 2007. Some of her favorite hobbies are playing basketball and watching movies from the 1920's and 1940's. Ashley's dream is to graduate from Spellman College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she will study physical therapy and business management. Her hope is to one day open a rehab center for children with physical disabilities. She loves sports and helping children.

JOSHUA ISAIAH THOMAS is eighteen years old, CFU alumnus and graduate of Susan E. Wagner High School in Staten Island. He loves photography and giving back to his community. His dream is to become a great philanthropist who can create real change in the world. He hopes to attend FIT (Fashion Institute of Technology) in the fall of 2008 where he will study Fashion Design and Photography. He would like to one day take pictures for TIME or National Geographic magazines.