



WILLIAMS-FRANKLIN FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER



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WFF SCHOLAR SITS DOWN WITH KENNY LATTIMORE



Along with providing academic scholarships to college students, it is the mission of the Williams-Franklin Foundation to match awardees with mentors. After a successful [fundraiser concert with award-winning recording artist Kenny Lattimore](#) in September 2020, he and WFF scholarship recipient, Indigo Passariello, met for a mentoring session. Ms. Passariello is a senior Jazz Studies major at Howard University. Her dream upon graduation is to attend graduate school for music education and then go on to teach music theory and songwriting at the collegiate level. We were grateful to match Indigo with a professional musician who imparted upon her industry tips and advice.. Read Indigo's testimony below!

"As a young musician working towards my goals, the conversation I had with Kenny Lattimore was inspirational and illuminating. The music industry can look overwhelming to a newcomer so getting to have an honest conversation with an established and successful musician was a great opportunity. We also got to talk about both of our experiences at Howard University, which was a lot of fun!" - [Indigo Passariello, Howard University Class of 2021](#).

WFF ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

We take great joy in being able to continue relationships with our scholarship recipients. Recently we were able to check in with two scholarship recipients, Kobi Henson and Marvellous Oke.



"Since receiving the WFF Scholarship during my fourth year in 2018-2019 school year, I recently graduated from Hampton University with my Master in Architecture this past May 2020. I am blessed to say that I am currently working for the Department of Navy- Design and Construction Division in Norfolk, VA as an Architectural Designer. I also launched

Kobi Henson Designs, LLC (based in Georgia and Virginia) this past November focusing on designing my clients life through their dream homes. I am excited to see what 2021 will bring and look forward to keeping up with the Williams-Franklin Foundation." - [Kobi Henson, Hampton University 2020 Graduate](#)



"The name of the program is postbaccalaureate intramural research training award (postbacc irta/crta). I currently work under the mentorship of Dr. Da-Ting Lin at National institute of drug abuse and I am working on the computational aspect of his lab with the assistance of post-doc (Dr. Alex Denman)." - [Marvellous Oke, Graduate of Morgan State](#)

University Class of 2020

WFF SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT



[Cameron Kee](#), originally from Lawnside, New Jersey, is a 2020 recipient of the Williams-Franklin Foundation. Cameron is expected to graduate in 2022 from Howard University where he studies Supply Chain Management. He has recently accepted an offer to be a member of Best Buy's procurement team this upcoming summer! In the meantime, he

has been granted the opportunity to move back to D.C and continue his track and field season. Congratulations, Cameron!

MAYSA FUNDRAISER



On December 12, 2020, the Williams Franklin Foundation hosted a virtual holiday concert fundraiser. Soul and jazz songstress [Maysa performed holiday](#) tunes and her best hits from her 30 year career. Between songs, she inspired the audience with personal stories about her life as a singer and experience as

a proud graduate of HBCU, Morgan State University. We are so thankful to Maysa for hosting this event that helped us to achieve our event goal of \$20,000!

WFF ALUMNI NETWORK LAUNCH

We have successfully launched The [WFF Alumni Network!](#) Here at the foundation, investing in HBCU students is more than just a scholarship. The formation of the WFF Alumni Network is an extension of the foundation's mission of providing academic scholarships, business/career networking, and mentoring opportunities to HBCU students with extreme financial need. The purpose of the WFF Alumni Network is to create:

- [Peer to Peer Networking](#): Link WFF college graduates from around the country to one another to share professional resources and information.
- [Pay it Forward](#): Connect WFF college graduates to current WFF awardees to be a source of inspiration and investment to those coming up behind you.

Lifeline: Continue the relationship and communication between WFF college graduates and the WFF.

KICKING OFF WFF'S ENDOWMENT FUND

To secure the longevity of its mission, WFF has a goal to fund an endowment. The endowment fund will allow the foundation to meet its core goal of providing academic scholarships to HBCU students in perpetuity. Our goal to fully fund the scholarship endowment is **\$300,000**. In December 2020, we received **\$25,000** from private donors to kick start this fundraising campaign. Stay tuned for more information!