Opening the door to greater educational opportunities since 1981.

Spring 2016 Spring 2016 Spring 2016 Spring 2016

A BETTER CHANCE IN DARIEN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21

No 2

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STUDENTS

Anyergui Jimenez (2019) E'Sachi Smalls (2019) Ayesha Abdul-Fattaah (2018) Jenelsy Lopez (2018) Mahoghany Dolberry (2016) Niamani Williams-Coles (2016)

SPRING HAS SPRUNG AT THE ABC HOUSE

With the change of seasons, come new exciting chapters for our ABC students. The 2016 graduating seniors are Niamani Williams-Coles and Mahoghany Dolberry. Both girls have been invaluable scholars in our program as mentors, community leaders and outstanding academic contributors at Darien High School. We are proud of them and excited for their next chapter!

NIAMANI

Niamani is a great leader, friend and mentor at ABC. She has excelled academically, athletically and in the arts. She has worked hard and challenged herself with a rigorous class schedule and is a member of the



National Honor Society. She is a Captain on the DHS Track Team and has participated in Theatre 308. Niamani is also an artist, having her artwork honored at the O'Silas Art Gallery at Concordia College. She spent her sophomore summer traveling in Ecuador and the Galapagos. Last summer, she chose to stay in Darien and worked at Palmer's Supermarket to begin saving for her college education — she continues to work there! Niamani also volunteers at Person-to-Person. She plans to study computer science and hopes to own her own computer company one day!

Niamani is thankful to the De Rocco family for being a wonderful, loving, and supportive host family. She has established strong ties to the Darien community and plans to come back often to visit us all!

MAHOGHANY

Mahoghany is an accomplished scholar and athlete. She has excelled in her studies, especially in Science. After enrolling in the Authentic Science Research Program at DHS, she found a project mentor at Emory University



Hospital in Atlanta and spent two summers working there to advance her research. Mahoghany competed on the DHS basketball team, track team and cheerleading squad and served as a Captain for both track and cheerleading. This past winter she was a state qualifier in the high jump and long jump as well as shot put and was named MVP for the DHS Indoor Track Team. Mahoghany hopes to travel to Australia this summer to compete in an international track competition. Despite her busy after school schedule she still found time to volunteer at P2P.

Mahoghany is thankful for the close relationships she was able to form during these past four years and she is grateful for the support she received from her host families, the Burkes and the Garfields. They've helped her grow into a bright, independent young woman.

OUR VESPA RAFFLE IS BACK! Got To Be In It To Win It



GRAND PRIZE: BRAND NEW 2016 VESPA

2ND PRIZE:

\$250 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR PALMER'S MARKET

3rd Prize:

\$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE TO NIELSEN'S FLORIST

Drawing on Memorial Day, May 30 at 1pm Post 53 Food Fair at Tilley Pond, Darien CT \$20 per ticket - All proceeds benefit the ABC House!



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The 2016 ABC Scholars from left to right: Anyergui Jimenez, Niamani Williams-Coles, Mahoghany Dolberry, E'Sachi Smalls, Jenelsy Lopez, and Ayesha Abdul-Fattaah.

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ABC IN DARIEN FACTS

MISSION: To provide scholarships to academically talented girls of color from underserved communities allowing them to realize their academic and social potential while living in Darien and attending DHS.

ENROLLMENT: Six girls currently from New York, New Jersey and Georgia.

HISTORY: Thirty-five years in Darien; 45 girls have graduated from the program.

WHERE DO THEY GO? Graduates have entered colleges such as Columbia, Cornell, George Washington, Syracuse and MIT.

STAFF: Two Resident Directors, Executive Director & Tutors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Twenty-two local residents.

HOST FAMILIES: Six families host the girls one weekend and one Sunday each month.

RESIDENCE: 103 Tokeneke Road in Darien.

THE BUDGET: \$155,000 per year, covering staff, food, utilities, house maintenance, enrichment expenses & supplies.

How to Give: If you would like to contribute to ABC in Darien, send donations to P.O. Box 3204, Darien, CT 06820 or donate online at www.abcdarien.org

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