

HIGH SIGHT

A BETTER EDUCATION.
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2021

EXPANDING COLLEGE ACCESS AND SUCCESS

HighSight's disciplined college-counseling formula yields amazing results

HIGHTSIGHT'S MANTRA in coaching students into higher-education institutions is simple: Go to the best college possible with the best financial aid possible. HighSight is proud of where this philosophy has led.

Every graduating HighSight scholar receives at least a full-tuition scholarship to attend college, with many receiving additional grants and full-ride packages. Of these students, 85% attend the top one-fifth of colleges in America.

This year, **24 seniors from HighSight's Four-Year Scholars program have submitted 247 college applications**, with dozens of acceptances already showing up in mailboxes. Some students have made early decisions on their schools for the fall. Also, 60 Project College students have submitted an additional 654 applications.

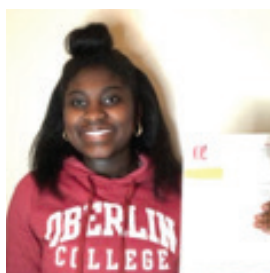
"Our college counselor Patty Hart did incredible work assisting 87 HighSight Scholars and Project College students from the Class of 2020 secure more than \$15 million in aid from the colleges last year," said Executive Director Mark Duhon.

\$1 → \$17

Every \$1 donated to HighSight last year yielded \$17 in college scholarships and aid utilized by our students, funding that otherwise wouldn't have benefitted deserving Chicago students.

100%

For the past decade, every HighSight graduate – yes, every one of them – has received a full-tuition college scholarship.



Bridget Adu-Dapaah '21
Mother McAuley High School
HighSight Scholar
Oberlin College '25
Posse Scholarship



Joe Cruz '21
DePaul College Prep
HighSight Scholar
Trinity College '25
Posse Scholarship



Nicole Aguilar Medina '21
Josephinum Academy
HighSight Project College
Northwestern University '25
QuestBridge Scholarship



Tereza Nyra Bwiza '21
Josephinum Academy
HighSight Project College
University of Notre Dame '25

HIGHTSIGHT GRADUATES ARE MAKING THEIR MARK

Miles Warren on list of “100 Most Influential Blacks Today”

Miles L. Warren III

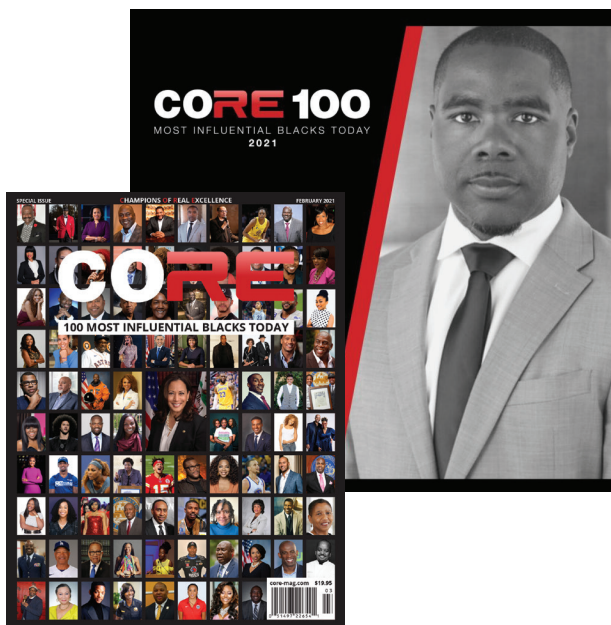
- > Providence St. Mel School '99
- > University of Illinois '03 / University of Chicago '05

HighSight congratulates former scholar **Miles Warren III '99** for being named one of CORE Magazine's “100 Most Influential Blacks Today.”

In a group that includes Vice President Kamala Harris, President Obama, Michael Jordan, and other political, business, sports, and entertainment leaders, Miles was recognized for his dedication to social change as Vice President of Global Philanthropy at JPMorgan Chase & Co. In a recent conversation, Miles shared how his HighSight experience helped shape his journey:

“HighSight's impact on my life continues in many ways. HighSight gave me a broader view of the world, giving me my first exposure to people from diverse cultures, races, and social and political perspectives. The guidance of the staff and the mentors also exposed me to opportunities for colleges and careers I didn't know existed.”

“HighSight also built a sense of brotherhood and sisterhood among the scholars, with many of us staying in touch through the years, supporting one another through school and our professional journeys. Many of us come back to HighSight because of the personal connections and the impact the experience has had on our lives.”



Brittney Miles

- > St. Scholastica Academy '09
- > Kenyon College '13 / DePaul University '17
- > University of Cincinnati, Ph.D. candidate



Brittney Miles '09, a sociology doctoral candidate, is conducting engaged research exploring the societal challenges young Black women continue to face. The focus groups Brittney conducts provide a platform for young women to find their own voices and share their experiences. Brittney shared this in reflecting upon her work:

“As I work toward completing my doctorate, I draw on many of the skills I learned at HighSight. My experiences as a high school student serve as the inspiration for asking questions about Black youth's lives in my research.”

Brittney is also interested in connecting HighSight students in college with internship positions as research assistants for educational projects across the country.

Daryl Brown II

- > De La Salle Institute '14
- > Connecticut College '18 / Chapman University '20

Daryl Brown '14 is showing that HighSight alumni are also making a mark in the creative arts.

As part of his activism and his work towards a Master of Fine Arts degree in film-making from Chapman University, Daryl created a documentary – *Eyes of a Survivor* – which was an official selection of several film festivals across America and abroad, including the Small Axe Radical Film Festival in England where it won the “Best Student Film” audience award.

Reflecting on the impact of HighSight on his educational and creative journey, Darryl shared, *“HighSight helped my family and me with the burden of financing an education. I also received crucial guidance that prepared me and allowed me to thrive as a Black person in predominantly white institutions.”*



↑ Daryl's award-winning documentary recounts the 22 years of isolation of a political prisoner and the efforts of social justice advocates to free him.



HighSight graduates' average student loan debt is \$21,000, **50% to 65% less** than other low-income Illinois students.

.....

85%+
of HighSight scholars attend the top 20% of colleges in the country.

.....

Nearly 85% of HighSight alums graduate from college, **6 to 8x** the national average for low-income students.

HighSight has been connecting more of our alumni in college with employment opportunities. As part of this effort, longtime donor **BMO Harris Bank** has partnered to place our graduates in college internships.



Jessica Kissi (De La Salle Institute '19; Bates College '23) participated in the "Summer Experience" internship, a program designed to introduce younger college students of color to careers in banking. The experience connected Jessica with BMO executives in analyzing industries for commercial banking projects.

"The networking opportunities BMO provided were just phenomenal," Jessica said. "I learned a lot about the banking industry, and I connected with tons of people who offered to help me in my career, in banking or not."



A starter on her college water polo team, **Paulina Correa** (Fenwick High School '19; Pitzer College '23) took on an internship in the bank's Commercial Middle Market section as part of a BMO program targeted at varsity athletes.

"I liked the real-world experiences, especially following my BMO mentor's guidance to be "analytically persuasive" on the client case studies and risk compliance reports I developed," Paulina reflected. "It was great working in an industry that was more diverse than I anticipated."



Reema Malhotra Bajwa, a BMO vice-president for professional development, helped place both Jessica and Paulina in their internships and is impressed by what they brought to the experiences. "Both of them came poised, positive, and eager to jump into the opportunities. It is clear that their time with HighSight provided the additional edge that helped them earn the respect of their BMO mentors," Reema shared.

HighSight is working with BMO and other groups and corporations to connect additional college students with internship opportunities this summer.

HIGH SIGHT

1711 North Cleveland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614

HighSight provides scholarships, tutoring, mentoring, leadership development, and college readiness programs that create new possibilities for Chicago high school students from low-income families. The HighSight experience empowers our scholars to excel in high school and graduate from selective colleges across the country.

highsight.org



Return Service Requested

JOIN US!

HIGH SIGHT *go another mile* ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER



HighSight invites you to celebrate
our graduating scholars
as they move on to selective
colleges across the country.

PRESENTING SPONSORS



HONORING

HighSight's Class of 2021

ALUMNI HONOREE

Miles L. Warren III '99

CORE Magazine's
"100 Most Influential Blacks Today"

VIRTUAL EVENT

**Thursday, May 6, 2021
6:30 - 7:15 p.m.**

Event info and party packages
at highsight.org/GAM

For more information, contact
312.787.9824 or
patrick.duhon@highsight.org.