

MARYLAND chapter spotlight 2018



Martin's West | Baltimore, MD
April 22, 2018



2018 New Scholars: **126**

2018 Recognized Scholars: **329**

Cumulative Mid-Atlantic Scholars: **3,757 (3,585 Maryland)**

**Does not include PA scholars invited to the Maryland Ceremony*

Highlights: Dr. Alveda King, an accomplished author, activist and politician and niece of the late Martin Luther King, Jr., was presented with the Sonya Award. 6-time Carson Scholar Allyson Sweiderk and 2-time Carson Scholar Gabriel Ramos wowed the crowd with a special musical performance of *The Impossible Dream*, arranged by Candy Carson. Dr. Oz, professor of surgery at Columbia University and 9-time Daytime Emmy Award winner, received the Trailblazer Award. Members of the 2018 CSF Hall of Fame were introduced and applauded.

\$2,995,808.60** has been paid out to colleges on behalf of the scholars who won their awards in Maryland and across the Mid-Atlantic*.

***As of fiscal year 2018*



Commitment in Maryland



Rachel Walker

2018 Carson Scholar
Urbana High School
Ijamsville, MD

As a legally blind individual, Rachel hopes to change the public view of blind and visually impaired people by serving as an example. She is an active member of her school's marching band and pit orchestra, volunteering as an instructor for her former middle school band. As a yellow belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, Rachel teaches classes to new students while working towards her next belt. She has received numerous awards including the Character Counts Award and Straight A Honor Roll. Rachel helps her orientation and mobility specialist by working with younger students who are also blind or visually impaired.

Ronald, an eighth grader at North Carroll Middle School, enjoys solving problems and reading. Currently teaching himself Italian, he is on his way to becoming trilingual. Ronald was chosen to attend the Middle School Leadership Conference where he learned valuable lessons in teamwork. As a volunteer at the Hashawa Outdoor School, he participates in team building activities that stress the importance of cooperation and completes environmental service projects to benefit the Bear Branch Nature Center. Ronald has been named Student of the Month twice and enjoys running and practicing gymnastics in his spare time.



Ronald Oliva-Flores

2018 Carson Scholar
North Carroll Middle School
Hampstead, MD



Michelle Bao

9-time Carson Scholar
Howard High School
Ellicott City, MD

Michelle is attending Stanford University this fall to follow her passion for educational advocacy. She is a talented pianist with a heart for helping others, demonstrated through her countless awards from the Maryland State Music Teachers Association and her love of tutoring other students in piano. During high school, Michelle was the founder and president of Howard High Girl Up Club, which aims to create a positive and encouraging learning environment where students feel free to contribute ideas. She was an appointed officer of the Howard County Association of Student Councils, an AP Scholar with Distinction, and a recipient of the Maryland Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

“We are extremely grateful that such a program exists to give academic scholars the credit and recognition they so greatly deserve.”

-Parents of a Carson Scholar