

# Support the Scholarship Program



You can make a difference in the education of our youth by providing a scholarship for a deserving student in the school or location of your choice. Your contribution is vital for the fulfillment of Dr. and Mrs. Carson's dream of recognizing and rewarding our nation's highest academic achievers.

## **Sponsor an Endowed Scholarship**

A gift of \$30,000 will fund one scholar at the school of the donor's choice each year. The donor's name is included in the award each year and is engraved on the school trophy.

## **Sponsor an Annual Scholarship**

A gift of \$1,500 will honor a scholarship recipient for one year. In addition to receiving a \$1,000 college scholarship, the winner is honored at an awards banquet, where the student receives a certificate and a medal. The student's school receives a trophy engraved with the recipient's name.

## **Scholarship Supporter**

A donation at any level will help recognize high academic achievers and honor America's future leaders.



# Carson Scholars Program

*Discovering Promise ...*

*Rewarding Excellence*

For further information, please contact the Carson Scholars Fund, Inc.  
305 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 310, Towson, MD 21204  
410-828-1005 [www.carsonscholarsfund.org](http://www.carsonscholarsfund.org)

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Carson Scholars Fund



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Carson Scholars

## History



The Carson Scholars Fund was founded in 1994 by now retired world-renowned pediatric neurosurgeon Dr. Ben Carson and his wife, Candy. The goal of the Carson Scholars Fund goes beyond a simple monetary scholarship program.

The Carson Scholars program recognizes and rewards academic excellence in young students (grades 4-11) who also have strong humanitarian

qualities. Students are nominated by their school and are recognized at an annual regional awards banquet. New scholars receive a \$1,000 scholarship towards college, medal and certificate, and their school receives a trophy. Each year, scholars may reapply for Carson Scholar recognition and renew their status as Carson Scholars provided that they maintain their academic status and high level of volunteerism.

## Impact

**The Carson Scholars Program is more than just a scholarship program.**

It starts young, encouraging a college-bound culture in schools across the country. Scholars are given an incentive to achieve and are exposed to inspirational adult leaders. More importantly, Carson Scholars are role models in their schools and communities. Collectively, they are shaping a better future for themselves, their schools and their communities.



## Scholar Spotlights



**Name:** Gitanjali Rao  
**Carson Scholar Year:** 2019

**From:** Colorado

**Education:** Currently a freshman in high school

**Fun Facts:** At 12 years old, Gitanjali invented a testing device to detect water in lead faster and more accurately than current techniques available on the market. She has given four TEDx talks, was listed as the youngest Forbes 30 under 30 – science in 2019, won the 3M Young Scientist Challenge in 2017, and was the first girl selected as the National STEM Scout of the Year in 2018.



**Name:** Da'Kuawn Johnson

**Carson Scholar Year:** 2006. 2-time Carson Scholar. 2017 Carson Scholar Hall of Fame inductee.

**From:** Baltimore, Maryland

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, University of Maryland – Baltimore County. Currently pursuing a combined M.D./Ph.D. at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

**Fun Facts:** Da'Kuawn studied biochemistry, molecular biology, and Spanish at UMBC. As a freshman, he was a third author on a research publication in the scientific journal *Diabetes*. He's received several

distinguished honors including being named a Meyerhoff Premier Scholar and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Exceptional Research Opportunity Program (Exrop) Scholar at Yale University. Da'Kuawn is passionate about STEM and helping other students succeed academically. He's also musically gifted and plays five different instruments.

## Carson Scholars by the Numbers

- More than **8,800** scholarships awarded
- Scholars in all **50 states and Washington, DC**
- Alumni attend (or have attended) over **730 colleges and universities**
- More than **\$7 million** in scholarships paid to colleges
- As of 2019, there are over **3,000 scholars** who have been recognized by the Carson Scholars Fund **multiple times**.
- Alumni network of over **6,100** young adults
- **2,730 schools** across the country have had Carson Scholars