

The PulseBEAT

*A Newsletter of the West Michigan
Community Help Network
Premiere Special Issue*



Annual Kids Free Trip to Africa 2019: Meet Our Students!



Amilya Locke is looking forward to the opportunity to travel to Africa. The 19-year-old senior at Muskegon Heights High School said she has wanted to go since she first heard about the trip a couple years ago.

"Not a lot of people have the chance to go, or get this experience," Amilya

said. She works at Shoreline Inn.

After graduation this spring, she plans to attend Muskegon Community College. After two years, she wants to transfer and finish her schooling at Howard University, "or somewhere really far away," she said with a laugh.

Her co-workers & her family are excited about her trip. "My brother is jealous because he never got to go," she said. "For me, I have to take this chance to go. It will be a good experience."



Airianna Hopson, 18, still has a passport from when she visited Canada, and she can't wait to have it stamped again this summer when she travels to Africa.

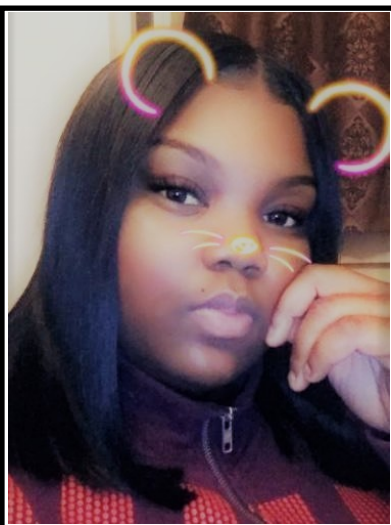
She and her mother moved to Muskegon from Georgia when she was 9 years old.

She heard about the Kids Free Trip to Africa when she transferred to Muskegon Heights High School during her junior year last year.

She knew right away that she wanted to go. Like her other peers from Muskegon Heights High, she wrote an essay about why she wanted to visit Africa.

"I want to learn more about my culture," she said.

Airianna will graduate in May. She plans to attend Ferris State University to major in Hospitality Management and also pursue culinary arts at Baker College of Muskegon. She would like to run a restaurant one day.



Tamila Phillips said she's still in shock that she has an opportunity to visit Africa.

This young lady has come a long way. She admits she used to have behavior issues when she was younger, and she's proud of how she has matured.

"I was a kid who stayed in trouble...I had a very bad past and I changed and grew up from it," she said.

Tamila is a senior at Muskegon Heights High School. In preparation for the trip, she's been diligently doing research about the continent of Africa. She has a particular interest in seeing a slaveship.

"I'm still in shock that I'm going to Africa. It's something that I think about everyday."

After she graduates, Tamila plans to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. She would like to work in home healthcare in Dallas, Texas.

Kids Free Trip to Africa 2019



E'Nire'lon McBride may only be 16 years old, but he already knows that he wants to inspire young people in his future career.

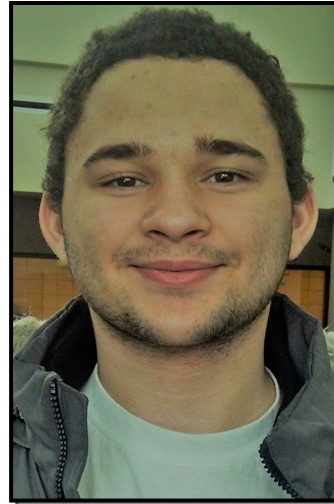
"One day I want to be a motivational speaker," he said. "I want to motivate kids and help them stay on the right path."

E'Nire'lon heard about the Kids Free Trip to Africa opportunity last year.

One of his friends had went and showed him pictures afterward. After that, he wrote an essay about why he wanted to go.

"I want to seek out new things," he said. "I've never been outside of my hometown. I just want to explore the world."

His family is supportive of him, and he is grateful.



At 17 years old, Tyrone Hardmon is tired of the same old daily routine of life.

"I want to escape this bubble," he said. "I'm sick of normal life. I just want to do something different."

Tyrone, who is a junior at Muskegon Heights

High School, grew up in

Ludington. He and his family moved to Muskegon Heights about five years ago. Tyrone enjoys video games and wants to study culinary arts after high school. When he heard about the Kids Free Trip to Africa, he knew he had to try to go.

"I don't really want to do any research about the trip at all. I want to be surprised. I want to hear music, see creative buildings, see dances. I'm ready to experience new things!"



Donovan Daniels is a 10th-grader at Orchard View High School.

He heard about the trip to Africa from his mother, Kaja Thornton Hunter.

His family is very supportive of him going on the trip, and he's been doing research on the "beautiful" country of Ghana, he said.

At 15, he is the youngest of the group of students. Donovan is not a stranger to traveling, because he has been out of the country with his

family before. "I hope to explore and discover new things while I'm there," he said. "I feel extremely excited. This is a once in a lifetime thing."



This newsletter is presented as a public service from the West Michigan Community Help Network,
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Kids Free Trip to Ghana

This amazing, educational experience is like no other our youth will encounter!
We are committed to providing this for them, free of charge. **But we need your help.**

Expenses include:

Travel: Airline tickets at \$1,850 each

Hotel: \$500/person

Food: \$125/person

Ground transportation: \$150/person

Passports: \$145 each Visa: \$100

Medical preparation (shots, etc): \$250

Total cost per youth: \$3,120



All contributions are welcome!

Your tax-deductible donation can help provide a life-changing experience for a young adult.

There are many ways to give:

- You may donate online via PayPal
<http://paypal.me/1037thebeat>

- Online at kidsfreetriptoafrika.com

- Or in person or via mail at

WUVS 103.7 FM the Beat/M106 FM

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ABOUT THE WEST MICHIGAN COMMUNITY HELP NETWORK



Based in Muskegon, Michigan, the West Michigan Community Help Network is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a worldwide mission to educate, inform and empower others about issues that affect their well-being, using all available resources. For two decades, this multi-dimensional organization has coordinated numerous grassroots community events to benefit the citizens of West Michigan and beyond with food drives, job fairs, community concerts, youth mentorship programs, and much more. There are also three community-based radio stations—two in Muskegon and one in Florida.



THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT!

WE CAN'T SERVE THIS COMMUNITY WITHOUT YOUR HELP!

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

For those who have given anything from spare change to corporate gifts toward any of our community programs, we say
THANK YOU!



In Loving Memory and Special Tribute...

It's a tremendous understatement to say how special "Mother" Bernice Mayes was to our organization. Not only was she a founding board member of the West Michigan Community Help Network, she believed in the mission and invested her time and resources. She was a beautifully strong presence in our community...and beyond. She made her transition and joined the saints on February 25, 2019.

Rest in heaven. You are loved and greatly missed by the many lives that you touched.

