

RESET AND LAUNCH

2023 ILA YOUTH EXCELLENCE AWARDS AGENDA

Irving Oil Auditorium, 5257 Morris Street

ORDER OF EVENTS

Host – Sidney Idemudia, ILA Past Executive Director

- 1:00 p.m. Arrival & Youth STEM Demonstrations
- 1:30 p.m. Opening Prayer
Reading by Wayn Hamilton
Welcoming Remarks (video/spoken remarks from Asher Trim-Gaskin)
- 1:35 p.m. Remarks from Invited Guests
- 1:40 p.m. Guest Speaker: **Dr. Camille Wardrop Alleyne**
- 2:10 p.m. Presentation of Awards
- ILA-TD Opportunity Scholarships
 - Summer Student Research Scholarships
 - Student of the Year
 - Mentor of the Year
 - Graduating Mentors
- 2:25 p.m. Student Testimonial - Jesimiel Ugbebor
- 2:30 p.m. Stakeholder appreciation
Closing Remarks – **Dr. J. Pemberton Cyrus**, ILA Chair

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. Camille Wardrop Alleyne is an American aerospace executive, rocket engineer, space scientist, internationally acclaimed speaker, writer, educational leader and science ambassador whose accomplishments in the field of space exploration have been extraordinary. In the highly technical fields of science and engineering where women are underrepresented, she is one of the most recognized in aerospace engineering and one of the few women of color to serve in a senior leadership position at NASA.

Dr. Alleyne has had a 28-year career advancing the areas of aerospace and space technology development at NASA. She is a leading architect in the commercialization of space, enabling space economies in low earth orbit and on the moon and is the first African American to lead a major human space flight program at NASA. She is also an expert in the areas of space, science and technology application for sustainable development, specifically focused on developing countries.

Dr. Alleyne is renowned for her work on global STEM education for girls, which she does through The Brightest Stars Foundation founded in 2007. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from Howard University, a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Florida A&M University, a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Houston.

Born in Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Alleyne is a licensed Private Pilot whose accomplishments include being a Finalist in NASA Astronaut Selection Program.

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- Mrs. Oluronke Taiwo (Scholarships)
- Dr. Martin Tango
- Ms. Jesimiel Ugbebor (Student Rep)

ILA OPERATIONS STAFF

- Asher Trim-Gaskin, Program Director
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- Malayna Gero
- Mac Thyryvaal Girard
- Ibiene "Naomi" Ibiama
- Cadine Johnson Foster
- Maddin Laffin-Santiago
- David Mensah
- Kayler Mutyabule
- Afisemi Ngei
- Uchechukwu Okereke
- Oluwakemi Olarotimi
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- Olashile Adebimpe
- Oluwatoni Adeniyi
- Bimpe Ayoola
- Chiyedza Mugavazi
- Temitope Onafalujo

EANSY PROJECT

Marie Green, Regional Program Coordinator EANSY (Sydney)
Tamiko White, Regional Program Coordinator EANSY (Preston)
Ibiene "Naomi" Ibiama, Social Media Specialist
Ruth Njilayi, Social Media Specialist
EANSY = Engaging African Nova Scotian Youth in Agriculture and Community Food Security Project

UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

Jesimiel Ugbebor, Mechanical Engineering (Co-op)
Jasmin Desmond, Psychology and SOSA
Jeffrey Lyn, Electrical Engineering (Co-op)
Jasiel Austin, Mineral Resource Engineering (Co-op)
Monique Wright, Health Promotion
Theresa Afi, Master's in Applied Science (Civil Engineering)

SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS (SSRS)

SSRS (Computer Science), \$9100

Scholar: **Ivagba Omoikhekpen**
(2nd yr, Computer Science)
Supervisor: Dr. Eric G. Poitras
Research topic: *Does Bridging Analogies on recursion facilitate students' learning with visualizations?*

SSRS (Health), \$1625 (August 2023)

Scholar: **Tobi Adeoye** (2nd yr, Nursing)
Supervisors: Dr. Keisha Jefferies
Research topic: *Negative experiences of African Nova Scotians when accessing healthcare in rural Nova Scotia*

SSRS (Science), \$6500

Scholar: **Hervé Kazungu**
(3rd yr, Biochemistry and Neuroscience)
Supervisor: Dr. Paola Marignani
Research topic: *Transcriptomic analysis of breast cancer cell lines*

SSRS (Medicine), \$5000

Scholar: **Nathan Barton**
(3rd yr, Microbiology and Immunology)
Supervisor: Dr. Francesca DiCara
Research topic: *Role of Metabolites in the Diet-Microbiota-Gut Brain Signalling with PEX5 Knockout in Drosophila melanogaster*

ILA-TD OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

New Secondary-school scholars

Mojolaoluwa Akintokun (\$2,000)
Halifax Christian Academy, gr. 12
(one-time for 2023)
Ifeoluwa Akitobi (\$500)
Fairview Junior High School, gr. 7
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Karema Alarabi (\$3000)
Ihsan Academy, gr. 11
(one-time for 2024)
Sarah Astatkie (\$2000)
Cobequid Educational Centre, gr. 12
(potential: \$2000/yr for four years)

Sara Bregaw (\$500)
Halifax West High School, gr. 10
(potential: \$3500/yr for four years)
Hayden Joseph (\$500)
Fairview Junior High School, gr. 7
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)

Secondary-school scholars

Inioluwa Adara (\$1500), Sacred Heart School of Halifax, gr. 9
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Naomi Adebawale-Akinbulu (\$1000)
Astral Drive Junior High, gr. 8
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Lemuela Ajuwon (\$3500), Sydney Academy, gr. 12
(potential: \$3500/yr for four years)
Ebunoluwa Akitobi (\$1000)
Fairview Junior High School, gr. 8
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Tjasa Allen (\$4500), Halifax West High School, gr. 12
(potential: \$4500/yr for four years)
Marlon Vernon Carpenter Donovan (\$1000) Kings County Academy, gr. 8
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Obed Harun (\$3000), C.P. Allen High School, gr. 11
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Ethan Metzger (\$2000), Halifax West High School, gr. 10
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Tyra Obadan (\$3000), Sydney Academy, gr. 12
(potential: \$3000/yr for four years)
Omolola Oshikoya (\$5000), CEC, gr.12
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)
Charles Joshua Paris (\$4000), Halifax West High School, gr. 12
(potential: \$4000/yr for four years)
Simisola Shodunke (\$1000)
Dartmouth South Academy, gr. 9
(potential: \$4500/yr for four years)
Eve Wedderburn (\$5000), Citadel High School, gr. 12
(potential: \$5000/yr for four years)

Post-secondary scholars

Emtenan Al-Taher (\$4000), Nursing, Yr. 1
Elisabet Astatkie (\$2000), Industrial Engineering, Yr. 3
Mourisia Campbell (\$4000), Nursing, Yr. 1
Kareem El-Beshbeeshy (\$4000), Electrical Engineering, Yr. 3
Rachel Lavers (\$4000), Biology, Yr. 1
Elsa-Kaze Twagirayezu (\$3000), Nursing, Yr. 1

STUDENTS OF THE YEAR

Junior

William Naetochukwu Ezumezu, gr. 6, Kings County Academy

Intermediate

Joe Johnson, gr. 8, Kings County Academy

Senior

Basirah Ashiru, gr. 10, Ihsan Academy

Honorable Mention

Na'eemah Salaudeen, gr. 4, Ihsan Academy

MENTOR OF THE YEAR

Taja Scriven, ASP Mentor

