

Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program



2010 Program is off to a great start!



Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship recipients 2009 celebrate with Keiko Nakamura, CEO of Toronto Community Housing (far right) and David Mitchell, Board Chair (far left.)

The 2010 Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program is shaping up to be one of our best ever. Thanks to great outreach and awareness, we attracted a record number of applicants from throughout the Toronto Community Housing and Scadding Court Community Centre communities. We have some terrific new sponsors and academic partners on board, and are welcoming back valued ongoing partners.

Our adjudication committees have been working hard to select this year's recipients, and we are pleased to announce we will be awarding 25 scholarships and bursaries this year.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has pitched in so far, and we look forward to seeing many of you at the gala awards dinner on May 20.

MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF TORONTO YOUTH

The Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program awards \$4,000 post-secondary scholarships to youth leaders active in issues of diversity, equity and/or anti-racism. What sets this program apart is that it targets youth from marginalized communities who are working actively to improve their communities and their city.

Since the program began in 2002, we have awarded a total of \$338,500 to 86 youth recipients.

"Many students have to consider their finances when choosing to go on to post-secondary education. It is also a stressful issue. The scholarship has helped to ease that stress and has provided me with financial security."

IN THEIR OWN WORDS: SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SPEAK OUT

"This award has made it possible for me to attend post-secondary school and be the first male in my family to complete university."

Babatunde Tiamiyu, 2009 recipient and a student at York University

"I was considered an at-risk youth when I was younger. I've grown out of it, and now I can say I will be a college graduate who helps other youth."

-Ameera McIntosh, Scholarship Recipient 2008, is in the recreation and leisure services program at Humber College.

"It meant a lot to me. Going to university shows me how much potential there is for the future."

- Suhail Ahmed, Scholarship Recipient 2009, is studying life sciences at the University of Toronto and hopes to go to medical school.

"The scholarship made a huge difference to me. It helped me pay for tuition and expenses – my whole family was really happy."

- Fatma Alriyami, Scholarship Recipient 2009, is studying physical science, with a major in chemistry, at the University of Waterloo

TWO NEW POST-SECONDARY PARTNERS FOR 2010

Matching Scholarships provide an opportunity for post-secondary institutions to support students in their second year of studies. This year we welcome two new institutions: Humber College and the Ontario College of Art and Design. Many thanks to the University of Toronto, York University, Ryerson University and Centennial College for their ongoing support.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD PATRON

I want to express my personal appreciation to all of those who continue to support the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarships Program and to welcome those who are new to supporting this unique and valuable program. As a strong advocate for youth and the battle against racism and discrimination, I am pleased to see Scadding Court Community Centre and Toronto Community Housing continue to bring together labour unions, businesses, community organizations and prominent individuals to provide this opportunity for Toronto youth. I am proud to be a patron of this extremely important initiative, which represents a vital and exciting contribution to the future of our city.



Former Chief Justice Roy McMurtry

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

The Scholarship Employment Program, which operates in partnership with St. Stephen's Community House, has been a great success and an important addition to the scholarship program. It lets these amazing young people access career-related jobs and earn money in a meaningful way, while gaining knowledge and experience and developing key networks to support their career development.

FOR YOUTH INITIATIVE

For Youth Initiative (FYI) is a "by youth for youth" agency that uses pop culture to bring critical theory and social systemic change to the streets of the former City of York, North Etobicoke and West Toronto areas. FYI has joined the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship program and also awards scholarships to recipients from their communities.

HONOURARY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Adam Vaughan, Councillor, City of Toronto

Alexandra Dagg, Director, Workers United Ontario Council

Barbara Hall, Chief Commissioner, Ontario Human Rights Commission

Ceta Ramkhalawansingh

Chief William Blair, Chief of Police, Toronto Police Service

Dr. Alok Mukherjee, Chair, Toronto Police Services Board

Dr. John Ralston Saul

Joseph Mapa, CEO, Mt. Sinai Hospital

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Peggy Aitchison, Principal, Forest Hill Collegiate Institute

Max Beck, Chief Executive Officer, Easter Seals

YOU'RE INVITED...

Annual Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program Awards Dinner

DATE

Thursday, May 20

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TIME

6 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction
7 p.m. Dinner and Awards Presentation

LOCATION

Bright Pearl Seafood Restaurant
346-348 Spadina Avenue

Tickets are \$120 each.
This popular event usually sells out,
so reserve your seat early!

Contact Sawitri Mardyani at (416) 392-0335 or
sawitri@scaddingcourt.org to reserve your tickets and
for more information about the program.

Scadding Court Community Centre

Scadding Court Community Centre is a multi-service organization serving a high-density neighbourhood in downtown west Toronto. Our mandate is to support and foster the well being of individuals, families, and community groups by encouraging both local and international opportunities for recreation, education, athletics, community participation and social interaction. Programs work with under-serviced, culturally diverse groups such as low-income families; children and youth; newcomers; people living with disabilities; seniors and the un/under-employed and benefit from partnerships with schools, community organizations, businesses and institutions.

Toronto Community Housing Corporation

Toronto Community Housing is one of the largest social housing providers in North America and home to about 164,000 tenants (about 6% of the city's population) in communities across Toronto. Residents reflect the diversity of our city and come from all over the world. They speak over 100 languages, have a broad range of religious and spiritual beliefs, represent all age groups and have different abilities and sexual orientations. We believe that we must be more than a landlord. We have a responsibility to partner with tenants, staff, neighbours and other organizations to strengthen both our own communities and the neighbourhoods that surround them.

Thank you for helping make this program a reality. Toronto Community Housing and Scadding Court Community Centre gratefully acknowledge the support of our sponsors and academic partners for the Investing in Our Diversity Scholarship Program.

Scholarship Sponsors



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