

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



CELEBRATE THE CULTURE

Black History: The Experience

This Black History Month, I've been thinking a lot about my paternal grandmother Barbara Juliet Moss and her journey from Jim Crow in our nation's capital to home ownership in the city of her birth. My grandmother grew up in an age when the doors of opportunity and access were decidedly closed to many Black folks in America. Though my great grandfather worked hard as a Pullman Porter to feed and care for his family, they struggled mightily, and my grandmother got her first job as a domestic at age 8. Despite poor educational access and options, she had a vision of homeownership that most people thought was crazy. But she worked three jobs for over 20 years - a dry cleaning job during the day, more domestic work in the afternoon, and she cleaned the local elementary school at night. I have no idea where she found the strength or energy - she often shared stories of the indignities and humiliation of legal segregation in this country - but she kept pushing.

No matter what my grandmother's circumstances were, she believed in the power of philanthropy. Whether she was taking food and baked goods to municipal workers who couldn't take off holidays or rallying the young people in her neighborhood to go caroling during the holidays or organizing Black senior citizens whose homes were being highjacked because of gentrification, she understood the power of giving back. She understood that her philanthropy was a way to affirm her own humanity.

I've had opportunities that grandmother only dreamed of for her children and grandchildren. I am so proud to stand on her shoulders and to be a part of the transformational work of Oliver Scholars. I'm glad for progress, but I am also committed to staying vigilant in the struggle for educational equity. We have so much more to do. I'm so proud that Oliver Scholars is an educational and youth development solution we can count on.



DR. DANIELLE R MOSS

OLIVER SCHOLARS, CEO

SCHOLAR SUCCESS



MILES SYLVESTER '21

Miles Sylvester is a current Freshman at Dickinson College. Despite being diagnosed with a severe illness that disrupts his regular mobility, Miles was able to get straight A's for his first college semester. This is a major accomplishment for him due to the fact that he was not on campus for the first two months of school due to the unavailability of Health Care Aides. The college made accommodations for him to participate in classes remotely from home until they were able to secure medical care and assistance for him.

Miles is strongly considering a major in International Business Management with a double major in Chinese. Miles says he would have never considered Chinese without having participated in Chinese during the SIP at Oliver. The Chinese language is tough to master and he has really put in the work over the years to excel.



JANAE BENNETT '22

Janae Bennett, a senior at the Peddie School in New Jersey, is the Leader of the Caribbean Alliance and the Women of Color Club. She also served as the Field Hockey Manager for her school's hockey team and stage manager for the Fall production of "Into the Woods". This Spring, during her last semester of high school, Janae will be a stage manager for her school's Spring Musical and will also be assisting, once a week, with a production in New York City. Janae has recently learned she has been accepted into University of Chicago, Emerson College and Loyola Marymount University.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



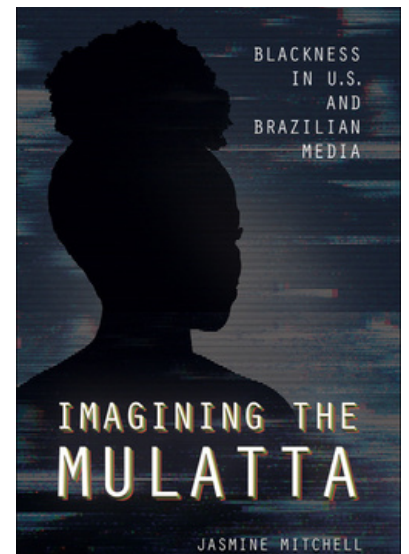
YOU'RE INVITED

Join the Alumni Council and Black Trivia Network on February 8th for a family night of fun and Black History Month trivia. All are welcome! The event is FREE, but registration is required. ([Register here](#))



Alumna Author, Jasmine Mitchell

In honor of Black History Month, Oliver Scholars shines its light on Jasmine Mitchell '99. Jasmine is the author of "Imagining the Mulatta" a take on blackness in the United States and Brazilian media. [Download](#) today and show your support to a fellow alum.



2022 Launch: College Coach Program

The Alumni Council's Scholar Support Committee, led by Melvin Boone '10 and Johnny Araujo '09, is happy to introduce The Oliver Scholars College Coach Program, a new initiative at Oliver Scholars, providing mentors for college students. Coaches will help guide Oliver students through their college experience! Click [here](#) to volunteer or learn more!



DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Oliver Scholars Celebrates Black History Month Past, Present, and Future

As we pay tribute to the rich history of Scholarship, Leadership, and Service of Black innovators, we are inspired to look to our future -- Oliver's next generation of scholars.

Oliver Scholars programming initiatives affirm the voices and experiences of our scholars and celebrate their triumphs along their academic and professional journey -- as leaders and trailblazers in the city, nation, and the world.

Join the movement and continue the powerful legacy of Oliver Scholars! Make a one time or recurring gift to make an impact in the lives of our scholars.

Support our Black History Month program of events to raise awareness and critical funds to further our mission.



Share your day with Oliver Scholars!

Whether you're celebrating your birthday, graduation, anniversary or any other special day, use the occasion to raise awareness and funds for Oliver Scholars.

Friends and families can join the celebration with a donation to Oliver Scholars. Learn more [here](#)!

Ways to Get Involved

[DONATE](#)

[VOLUNTEER](#)

[SHARE YOUR DAY](#)

[NOMINATE A STUDENT](#)

[BECOME A SOCIAL MEDIA AMBASSADOR](#)

[BECOME A COLLEGE COACH](#)

JOIN AN EVENT:

TRIVIA NIGHT 2/8

CEO SALON SERIES 2/28

CAREER EXPOSURE CONFERENCE 3/1 - 3/2

SPRING OPEN HOUSE 4/9