

## Kiara Buford



My Name is Kiara Buford and I am a Senior at Peoria High School. At school I a member in Pride Team, United Sister of Color, Key Club and many more. For college I haven't decided yet due to me having offers from track but I plan on studying sports marketing and communications in college. I am an active member in my community from helping out with marathons to giving food to the homeless. I am very grateful to have won this Scholarship and I want to thank the Omega Psi Phi Scholarship with helping me continue my education.

## Jordan Williams



I am a student athlete that has been involved in many activities during my four years at Peoria High. I have played football, wrestling, and track. In football I was awarded 1st team all-conference two years in a row.

In school I have been in the pride team, which helps set up school activities as well as volunteering throughout the community. Personally, I have volunteered at Loaves & Fishes and an event called Love Peoria.

I have a 4.3 GPA, and have received many academic achievements along the way. I made honor roll every semester, made student of the month on multiple occasions, was inducted into the National Honor Society, have been a part of Senator Weaver's Youth Advisory Council for 2 years, and was named an Illinois State Scholar.

My plan is to study computer science at St. Ambrose in hopes of entering the technology field. I have always had a thing for messing and understanding different parts of tech and software. The technology field is full of growing opportunities that I hope to be a part of. I know that by getting a degree and completing college will help me lead a more successful life in the future.

## Aaliyah C. Burnett



A 2020 Manual Academy HS Senior, Aaliyah Burnett is the daughter of Pastor Harvey and Mrs. Geraldine Burnett of Peoria, IL. Aaliyah is a determined next generation leader, member of the National Honor Society, and one of the initial Peoria Public School students enrolled in a dual High School/College degree curriculum. Aaliyah has proven her educational prowess, will to succeed and her ability to adapt to life's changes and challenges.

A 4-year participant, leader, and top athletic performer on Manual Academy's Girls' Varsity Volleyball and Varsity Track & Field teams, Aaliyah has been an elected member of the Student Council in which she has served as both her class President and Vice Present, a former Elise Allen Award recipient and winner of several prestigious in school academic honors.

A "fashionista" and serious athlete, Aaliyah's hobbies include clothing, hair, finger-paint design, and serving the community through her church, the New Bethel COGIC and pursuing personal athletic training and development through Peoria Inner City Track & Field Club.

Aaliyah has been accepted by many of the nation's top colleges and universities, such as The University of Kansas, Iowa State University, The University of Kentucky, Xavier University of Louisiana, George Mason University, Olivet Nazarene University, Michigan State University, Tampa University and Harris-Stowe State University. A final decision forthcoming.

Aaliyah plans to pursue her education in sports medicine and physical therapy related disciplines with designs on professionally serving athletes and ultimately the community in which she resides.

# Sencere Brent



My name is Sencere Brent and I am the son of Latisha Sidener and Michael Brent. I am a senior at Peoria High School. I am a student athlete that plays football, wrestling, and baseball. I am a part of student council, pride team, I am the Vice President of Key club, and a part of know greater heroes. I am the senior class president. I am a 3.6 GPA student.

My post high school plans are that I'm going to Monmouth College where I'll be playing football and majoring in mechanical engineering. I wish to build roller coasters for a living.

## Hope Adhanom-Shipman



Hope Adhanom-Shipman is a senior at Richwoods High School and active in the Peoria community, focusing her efforts on three priorities that she cares about deeply: equity, education, and the environment. She serves as a student representative on the Peoria Public Schools Board of Education, where she provides a student voice toward the goal of equitable educational opportunities for all students. She is also active in a student organization focused on local environmental concerns, including lead exposure in under-resourced neighborhoods. She founded another student organization, Green Ambassadors, that provides educational STEM experiences for underserved children, empowering them to apply their own talents and collaborative problem-solving toward environmental solutions. Hope also serves as a mentor for youth as a Sun Foundation art and science camp counselor and 4-H assistant leader. A four-year athlete in volleyball and dance, Hope gives back by coaching Peoria middle schoolers in both sports. She has volunteered in her church youth group and politically as an election judge. At school, Hope serves as co-president of the senior class and is active in Student Council, Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering, Science Club, Interact Service Club, French Club, and the school newspaper. She is a National Honor Society member, an Illinois State Scholar, and a National Merit Finalist. Hope is still determining her college choice among Harvard University, Yale University, and Stanford University. She plans to study environmental engineering so that she can work toward sustainable solutions to reverse environmental degradation and work toward environmental justice to increase quality of life for all. Hope feels fortunate to have the support of her family in America and Ethiopia. She helps out by spending time with her three younger siblings, grandparents, and other family members, and she especially enjoys being active outdoors.

# Aundrea Hollis

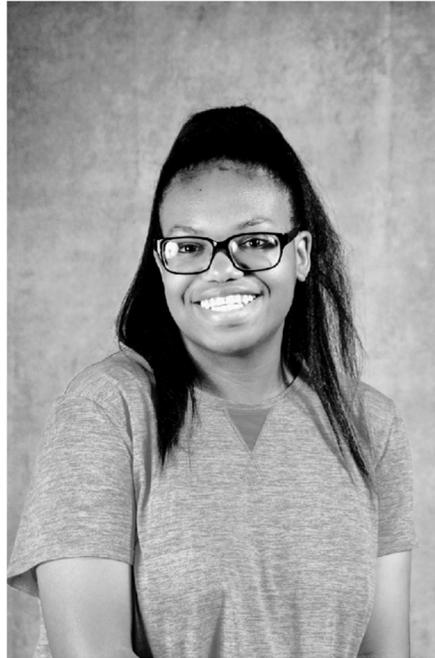


At Peoria High School, I am a student athlete who played volleyball for 4 years and softball for 3 years. I had received many sports awards such as sportsmanship, most coachable, and most valuable player. I had participated in clubs inside of school. The clubs that I participated in are trio, Spanish club, student council, and yearbook. The academic awards that I received at are honor roll, student of the month, perfect attendance, and national honors society. My weighted GPA is a 3.9.

I had given back to community by picking up garbage and volunteering at the Friendship House, where I helped fold clothes and collect food to put inside the pantry to give to the homeless people.

I am planning on majoring in forensic science in the criminal justice field. This field had always caught my attention ever since I was young. This field is interesting to me because of all the violence that is going on in my community and other states. So, by going into forensic science I can make a difference by understanding how the crime scene works and what possible ways we can update the technology to make it easier for detectives to find the murder. By getting a college degree it would help me achieve this goal.

## Aimari Ervin



My name is Aimari Ervin. I am 17 years old. I'm African American. I have 8 siblings. I live with my mom and my grandpa. I grew up in Champaign Illinois, and lived there until a couple years ago. Now, I'm a senior at Manual High School in Peoria Illinois.

I am involved in programs such as JROTC, orchestra, student council, and GLOW(girls light our way, a mentoring program). In JROTC and student council, I have helped with different community service activities including blood drives, donations, and being an escort at events. Some of my achievements include being accepted to National Honors Society and being on honor roll all four years of high school.

Right now, I am on my college searching journey. I have been accepted to a few schools, and am trying to decide between them. Right now, I am filling out scholarships to help pay for my education. I plan to major in English/Creative Writing. I am seeking a bachelor's degree.

# Imani Anderson



My name is Imani Anderson and I am currently a senior at Quest Charter Academy High School in Peoria, Illinois. I am an honor student with a 3.9 GPA and I have continually maintained this academic achievement throughout high school. I've participated in track and cheerleading for three years. I was also a part of the golf team for one year. I have been involved with school clubs such as Key Club, Quest Yearbook Club, PAC (Principal Advisory Council) and Student Senate. I am currently the Vice President of Student Senate/Class Vice President. I am also part of a community club called the Delta G.E.M.S. (Growing and Empowering Myself Successfully). I am a member of the National Honor Society and most recently received the Sterling Merit Award. I have volunteered at Proctor Hospital as a escort for the patients. I also currently volunteer at my church's nursery.

I plan to major in Biology on a Pre-Med track this fall. I've been fortunate to have been accepted to Hampton University, Fisk University, Xavier University of Louisiana and many others; however, I plan to attend Spelman College.

I am currently enrolled in dual credit classes at Illinois Central College. I will receive my certificate in Basic-Emergency Technician in May of 2020.

My goal is to become an Obstetrician Gynecologist and own a private practice. I want to provide holistic care for women by providing exceptional pre- and post-natal care while supporting them, physically, emotionally and mentally.