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FAYETTEVILLE-MANLIUS
A BETTER CHANCE

Opening the door to greater education opportunities since 1974.

Fall 2012

A Year of Great Expectations!

Dear F-M ABC Parents/ Guardians/Supporters & Friends:

My name is La Rae M. Martin-Coore; it is my honor to serve as the Resident Director for the F-M ABC Program. I am also the Academic Coordinator for the Le Moyne College Upward Bound Program, which helps students graduate from high school, and enter and graduate from college. I have a Masters Degree in Higher Education from Le Moyne College and over 15 years of experience working with teens and youth. I truly believe I have a gift and the passion for helping young adults achieve their goals and succeed!

We have completed our first 6 weeks of the academic year. Full of challenges and successes, the scholars have begun to embody what it means to be F-M ABC Scholars.



L-R: 2012-2013 scholars: Janai, Tanaja, Alex, Nellie, Kesi and Sara

They have settled into the routine of classes, studying, completing chores and spending time with their host families. All scholars are participating in extracurricular activities such as student government, plays, sports and clubs. We even have a book club that one of our board members has started.

The theme for the year is "Great Expectations". The residential staff along with the board members are ex-

pecting the absolute best from the scholars in their academics, social life and choices they make while participating in the ABC experience. We will do our very best to help them be successful!

We have an exciting year planned with lectures that will take place at the house from college admissions counselors, campus visits, financial aid presentations as well as social outings to such places as Syracuse Stage.

We look forward to communicating with you and seeing you at various

Activities & Events :

During our first few weeks the scholars have participated in various events that have allowed them to show their strengths and characteristics:

- Welcome Back Breakfast
- Bowling
- Fire Safety & Prevention
- F-M ABC Book Club
- Battle of the Classes
- Wiz Khalifa Concert
- Fright Night & Haunted Hayride



L-R: Residential Staff - Heather, La Rae and Colette



Scholars with Colette and La Rae posing for photo by Ned Campbell of The Eagle Bulletin

Top Spin will
host its next big
event on Novem-
ber 14th, 2012
in NYC.

F-M ABC is once
again one of 3
beneficiaries!

THANK YOU
TOPSPIN!!



To learn more about Topspin go to
Topspincharity.com and Like Topspin
on Facebook!

Many thanks to Peter Farnsworth, Kate Kelly, Nicole Coward, and the whole TopSpin Committee for their fantastic efforts for us and for education in NYC. Their belief that all children deserve better educational opportunities has allowed us to enhance our program in so many ways and to offer so much more for our scholars.

Thank you to our Community Friends.

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Thanks to our Corporate Community Friends who
devote Community Service Days to make our house
shine. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Anaren Service Volunteers



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Lynn Paulson cutting the grass
during VHA Service Day

Memorial and Tribute Gifts

In Honor of:

Theresa and Manuel Ares

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Jim Benson

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(Received after October 20, 2011)

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Students of Marcela Terrell

Eric Terrell on Mother's Day on behalf of
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Carol Small and Family

The Alumnae Report 2012

Our alumnae send their news but also greetings and love to the Board, host families, staff and scholars, and all those who support F-M ABC.



Indu Bala Ahluwalia with former teacher

Konnie Whitfield Hendricks - 1979

This year I was blessed to purchase a new home, which I had built. My daughter, a HS junior, went to her first college fair. As a social worker (BA Fordham, MSW Howard), I am blessed to help many people. I also participate in local events and donate to organizations that help and empower others, which I did as an ABC student. My prayer is that I will be able to more active with ABC now that I've accomplished my goal of homeownership.

Indu Bala Ahluwalia - 1980

I was recently in MI for work and went to see my Junior High teacher, Mrs. Liu, to thank her for being so influential in my early life in Cleveland. My older son is now attending Amherst College, as I did. Reverend Silbaugh, past ABC chair (and Amherst alum), would get such a kick knowing this.

Lourdes Padilla Ramirez - 1983

I can't believe both of my children are now in college and I am an "empty nester". My younger just started at Stonybrook and my older is a junior at SUNY Purchase. This could not be possible without ABC, which taught me the importance of education and exposed me to lifestyles where parents were directly involved with their children & their children's education (my host parents were Jerry & Nicki Bisson and Caroline Richmond). ABC not only assists the scholars they recruit, but it impacts future generations.

Tammy Rosado Gruenberg - 1984

I am in my second year of my Executive Masters Program at Columbia U. School of Public Health. I will be getting my MPH focusing on Health Care Management. I also started a new job as Medical Director of Women's Health at the Morris Heights Health Center and am on the faculty at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. I am doing everything full time, but somehow, not being on call anymore has made all the difference. Randy enjoys working as SVP of Technology Procurement at Citibank. Zachary is a sophomore at HS for Math, Science and Engineering at City College. Seth (10) is in the honors program at Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy and a two sport athlete. I am so grateful for the opportunity that the ABC program gave me. I will always cherish that it catapulted me to greater things.

Donna Graham Stewartson - 1984

My family and I are doing well. I am currently looking for a new job in education. We met with ABC representatives at an independent school fair and will be applying for our daughter.

Annette Miles - 1985

All is well. As usual, I am busy with work (as a Maternal-Fetal Specialist in the Dept. of OB/GYN at Kaiser Permanente, Atlanta, GA) plus the kids (school, sports, orchestra & their social lives)!! Lawren (12) is in 7th grade, Joshua (10) is in 5th grade.

Barbra Eden - 1988

Lots of milestones to share: I purchased my 1st home this June 2012. After turning 40 last year, I took up golf which I absolutely love! I added a new member to my family: Snowy, The Fantastic Eden, a Jack Russell. I presently reside in South Florida and work in sales for DIAGEO North America. I love the work and enjoy the travel throughout Central and South America.

Natasha Haynes-Smith - 1990

I'm still covering entertainment for CNN/HLN, and I am currently on the Board of Visitors for the University of Wisconsin School of Journalism and Mass Communications, where I went for graduate school in Journalism. I was invited to join the board last year.



Barbara Eden enjoying golf!

Mayra Rivera Lewin - 1997

I just started my 11th year teaching and, as always, it's very exciting. My school is celebrating its centennial year and I am responsible for planning our Centennial Gala. It promises to be quite the event with many important politicians on the guest list. Kareem and I just celebrated our second anniversary and are more in love every day.

Ingrid (Beth) Hansen - 1998

My boyfriend Earl and I went down to Florida in June for Earl's daughter's graduation from high school (with honors and distinctions!!) and made that trip into a mini vacation. My brother Josh got his first job as a Design Assistant. He's also a Senior Editor for an online magazine. I've been at Ogilvy for six years now - that's like an eternity for this industry. Since the company is so large, I've had a lot of opportunity to grow and work on interesting (and not-so-interesting) pieces of business. I still love being a copywriter.



Ingrid Hansen

Alanna Forte Bhoorasingh - 1998

Alanna reports (via phone) that she is a Critical Nurse Specialist working four 12 hour shifts/week at Kings County Hospital's ICU and is also studying for a Master's degree in Critical Nursing. Alanna's husband Craig is also a nurse and in school. Their daughter Kaiya, 10, takes classes at a Russian ballet school. Juggling work, school, and family is exhausting, but Alanna is doing it all and feels thankful for the people who supported her at F-M ABC. "How did you put up with us?" she asked.

May Ling Brantman (attended 1997-2000)

I finally finished my BA in Business Management. I took my classes online, juggling 4 - 5 classes along with a full time job, an active 8 year old and a social life. I still work for Berkeley College - 6 years in January. I received a few promotions over the years, most recently Project Specialist in the Enrollment Management department. My amazing daughter, Aimee, is in third grade. We moved to White Plains, a couple of years ago. I'm still a city girl at heart, so I'm happy it's a quick ride in.



May Ling & Aimee

Maribelle Ruiz Hernandez - 2002

The family and I are still in San Antonio but are expecting to be relocating soon. We are a dual-service family (Air Force and Army). Our goal is to get stationed somewhere closer to home; so that family can help out if we get deployed overseas. Marquise, age 9, is now in 3rd grade and keeps us very busy with sports & school. Cassidy is now very much in her terrible-twos. She is so much like me-- the girl can talk! I don't know how you all did it with a house full of teenage girls! I was selected for promotion again. I've been called a "fast burner". I'll finally be done with school next summer. Chris is away at Army training until January/February.



Maribelle & Family

Amelia Stone - 2007

This year, my second at USC, I was elected the president of the Math Graduate Students Assn, and was asked to make our department a little more social. Apparently, I am a good person to steer the group in that direction. This past summer, I did research in LA with one of the department's top professors. I am greatly involved in my sorority, Zeta Phi Beta, supervising the undergraduate chapter at USC while also doing service with my citywide graduate chapter.



Amelia Stone - 2nd from right

(continued on page 8)

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Here's what members of the Community have to say about the F-M ABC program:

The young women from the A Better Chance Program enrich my classes in ways that are unimaginable. This is most especially the case in a course entitled 'The Rhetoric of Race in American Culture,' where their honest, mature and courageous contributions greatly impact their peers by pressing them to consider race-related issues as more than an abstraction. Laura Iodice, F-M Teacher

The ABC program is one that is fundamental to the numerous girls who have participated in it over the many years. Without funding for the program, the girls will not be able to enrich their lives and the lives with whom they come in contact. There are so many ways in which the program impacts our school and many schools in the country and I hope that it can continue in the same way as it has for years to come. Elizabeth Wheeler, F-M Teacher and Host Mom

It takes a special young woman to participate in the ABC program. These girls are smart, responsible, resilient, and self-reliant. I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with them and more importantly, really get to know them, throughout their four years at FM. Angela Sommer, School Counselor

We made a difference to those 73 young women who have graduated from F-M ABC so far and they are now making a difference in the lives they touch through their careers, families, and in their communities. Our graduates have honored all of us because we believed in them and helped change the trajectory of their lives. Barbara Sutton, Board Member

Take a 14 year old from the Bronx, put her in an affluent, predominantly white suburban high school, provide a loving, supportive environment and watch her become a class leader breaking down racial barriers and socio-economic stereotypes while melting the hearts of those around her. This is how FMABC affects change – through one scholar at a time. Kathy Elbadawi, Host Family

More Alumni News:

Dorisol Inoa - 2009

I'm a senior in college (Wesleyan U.)! Can you believe it? This summer I was a teacher with Breakthrough in Philadelphia. I taught literature to 7th and 8th graders. I'm really happy I took this summer to explore education. I told my kids about the ABC community school program, and encouraged them to apply. This year I'm working in the admissions office as an interviewer. If any ABC seniors need help on college interviews, I could talk to them. I'm also planning the 7th Annual National Dominican Student Conference, with potentially 500+ guests. It's a huge responsibility, and I can't wait to make it happen. I will be looking for a full time job in the management consulting industry. If you have friends in the industry, please let me know so I can connect with them.



Dorisol & Shynise with their mascots!

Shynise Stiff - 2010

This past summer, I was a summer analyst at Goldman Sachs. It was a great hands-on experience that increased my passion for my major, Applied Economics and Management. I liked using, in the real world, the tools I learned in class. Currently, I am in my junior year at Cornell University. I am still enamored with the people, learning, and beauty of Ithaca.



2012-2013 Scholars in Action:



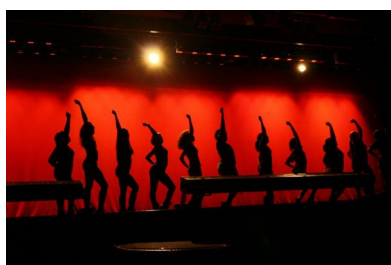
Alex apple picking with her host family



Sara kayaking in the Adirondacks



Janai practicing fire safety



The scholars performing in Black History Month Assembly 2011-2012



Nellie and Sara at the NY State Fair with their host families



Tanaja at the Welcome Back Picnic with board member, Tris Farnsworth



Alex & Nellie preparing for homecoming



Kesi at Welcome Back picnic with host mom, Tracy Buckingham



Sara learning to make pasta with her host family