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**2023**

# MEET, DEAJENE JOHNSON



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**My name is DeAjene Johnson; I am a rising junior Criminal Justice major at the illustrious Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, AL. I am from Detroit, Michigan, the middle child of eight. I am also a dog mom. On campus, I participate in many organizations and clubs to help advocate and create a better student experience for all bulldogs. For example, I serve as a representative in the Student Government Association, where I actively voice the needs and concerns of my peers to ensure a conducive learning environment. I also contribute to the AMUITE publication, our yearbook, where I use my creative skills to capture and chronicle the invaluable memories and experiences of the student body. Additionally, as Miss Gamma Epsilon for Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, I champion community service initiatives and organize inclusive social events, enhancing the sense of unity and Bulldog spirit on campus. In the future, I aspire to become a criminal defense attorney to protect minorities from wrongful incarceration and help them return home to their families.**

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**“I ASPIRE TO BECOME A CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY TO PROTECT MINORITIES FROM WRONGFUL INCARCERATION AND HELP THEM RETURN HOME TO THEIR FAMILIES.” -DEAJENE**



# CONGRATULATIONS

Deajene!



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MEET,  
**NYMEER**  
CASTON



**CERTIFICATE**  
OF AWARD

Certifies that

**NYMEER CASTON**

was awarded the  
**Start Now Success Village Scholarship**  
2023



**My name is Nymeer Caston I am a rising senior biology major here at Alabama A&M University and I am aspiring to become a Nurse Practitioner with hopes of getting into Nursing school. Growing up in Champaign Illinois, being the oldest of five was tough while resources were limited. I never knew how much college can change your perspectives of life itself until I came to A&M, I am a first-generation college student who's trying to create a legacy of my own and showing the next generation that you can be whatever you aspire to be if you believe in yourself.**

**Outside of my school and work I give back to homeless and participate in campus/ park clean up. In addition to volunteering, I offer free tutoring to high school students through a nonprofit organization designed to help students who want to go to college.**

**Being at this illustrious HBCU has pushed me even further to be independent and a true leader who isn't afraid to ask for help when needed. I have been caring for my late great grandmother since I was a child and my passion for nursing has grown from then on. If I had one life changing decision to make, I would choose to become a nurse. Being an African American first-generation college student is not just a passion for me, it's also an opportunity for me to feel worth. With the same passion and love for everyone, I plan to open my own nursing facility and expand globally. The sky is the limit and I want to go further if I have the opportunity.**



**“I AM A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT WHO’S TRYING TO CREATE A LEGACY OF MY OWN AND SHOWING THE NEXT GENERATION THAT YOU CAN BE WHATEVER YOU ASPIRE TO BE IF YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF.” -NYMEER**



# CONGRATULATIONS

*Nymer!*



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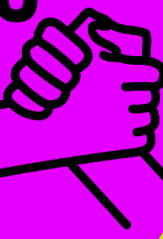
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MEET,  
**EBONI**  
LEWIS



**CERTIFICATE**

OF AWARD

Certifies that

**EBONI LEWIS**

was awarded the  
**Start Now Success Village Scholarship**  
2023

*Dr. Yvonne Briggs*  
Dr. Yvonne Briggs  
Start Now Success Founder





**My name is Eboni Lewis, I am from Memphis, Tennessee. I am a full time sophomore at Alabama A&M University majoring in Elementary Education. I have maintained a 3.8 gpa through my freshman year and I am on the Dean's List. I am currently a member of SAB(Student Activities Board), Bulldog Educator Association, NSLS ( National Society of Leadership and Success) where I also serve as the Social Media Outreach Coordinator. My plans after college are to be a Kindergarten Teacher, and go back and get my master's degree in Administration. I have always loved being a mentor to young children, which inspired me to want to become a teacher. I come from a family of educators and grew up in the CME Church where I was nurtured by educators in the Church and have been mentoring me for years. I have always been involved in church since I was in the children's department, always giving a helping hand. My involvement in extracurricular activities started when I was in the 2nd grade participating in Girl Scouts, where I have had the opportunity to give back all over the community of Memphis. I knew from a young age I was born to be a leader, and that my role was always to help others so that they could excel in life. I look forward to these next few years on the Hill.**

**“I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED BEING A MENTOR TO YOUNG CHILDREN, WHICH INSPIRED ME TO WANT TO BECOME A TEACHER.” -EBONI**



# CONGRATULATIONS

*Eboni!*



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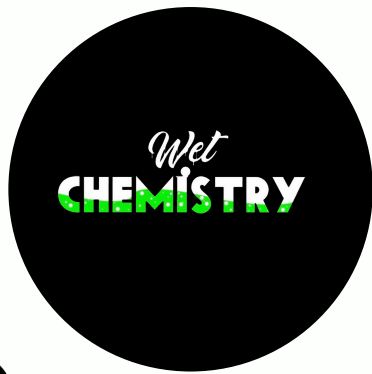
to all of our 2023  
sponsors and  
everyone who  
contributed to the  
Start Now Success  
village scholarship.

*-Dr. Briggs*

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