

Beyond the Week



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On their last day of the program, the 2015 cohort poses in front of Rice's iconic Lovett Hall.

2015 IN REVIEW

Now in its fourth summer, the Young Owls Leadership Program welcomed 60 rising sophomores from 10 Houston ISD high schools to Rice University. For one week, students experienced college firsthand by living and dining at a residential college and interacting with other high school and college students.

During the week, students developed their leadership skills, learned about the college application process, and attended lectures by Rice faculty members including Dr. Richard Tapia and Dr. Stephen Klineberg. By the end of the week, the 2015 cohort became a group of leaders ready to return to their communities to inspire change!

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Student Spotlights

CINTHIA CANTU

During the last week of June, Cinthia Cantu (YOLP 2014) attended a weeklong environmental program at the National Conservation Training Center in West Virginia. Here is what she had to say:

“My experience at Sc3 was amazing. One of the main reasons I wanted to go to the Student Climate & Conservation Congress (Sc3) was because I wanted to see more diversity among professors and students working in the same subject of climate change awareness. I got to meet students and teachers from 47 states and even some who came all the way from India. I worked closely with them and learned about their culture and what they do to help the environment. I was really impressed and thankful to have an experience like this. My Agriculture and Gardening group and I gave a presentation at the conference on the last day. It was a speechless experience!”



AJ Barnes, Ashley Buchanan, Cinthia Cantu and Cecilia Liang (from left) return to Baker Commons for Cinthia's Green School Alliance presentation.

Following her trip, Cinthia gave a presentation about the Green School Alliance at Rice University on July 20th!

RONALDO SALGADO

Ronaldo Salgado was the winner of the first ever Young Owls Scholarship (from the Morales family). He was a member of the 2013 cohort and graduated from Eastwood Academy. He will be attending the University of Houston and is looking into majoring in Business and Sports Management.

CARLOS GONZALES

Shout out to Carlos González from the 2013 cohort for being extra involved and taking initiative in applying to colleges this early in the process. He is a rising Senior at Chavez High School and is involved in band, the National Farm Worker Association and theatre. He is an exemplar at applying to scholarships and will begin writing his college essays soon as well!

Scholarship Opportunities



Jack Kent Cooke Foundation College Scholarship Program



The College Scholarship Program is the largest undergraduate scholarship program available to high-achieving high school seniors with financial need who seek to attend the nation's best four-year colleges and universities. College Scholars receive up to \$40,000 per year, college planning support, ongoing advising, the opportunity to network with the larger Cooke Scholar community, and a pathway to the foundation's \$50,000 per year Graduate Scholarship. The application period is open from September to November. Up to 40 College Scholars are selected for this program each year.

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program

For your younger siblings The Young Scholars Program, a selective 5-year pre-college scholarship for high-performing middle school students with financial need, is the largest scholarship of its kind in the nation. It provides individualized academic advising, financial support, and a pathway to the foundation's \$40,000 per year College Scholarship. The application period is open from January to April. Up to 65 Young Scholars are selected for this program each year. Final notification is in the early fall.

Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship Program



U.S. Department of Education

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship program is funded by the federal government and administered by the state governments in each state. This merit scholarship program is open to high school seniors. Students apply through the State education agency in their state of legal residence. Each state has its own deadlines.

Coca-Cola Scholars Program Scholarship



The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation Scholarships are open to US high school seniors who have a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Recipients are selected based on leadership, character, civic and extracurricular activities, academic excellence, and community service. This is an extremely competitive program, with more than 100,000 applications received each year.

Gates Millennium Scholars



The Gates Millennium Scholarship program is sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and administered by the United Negro College Fund. Nomination by a professional educator (principal, teacher, guidance counselor, etc.) is required. The focus of this program is on students who will be pursuing careers in mathematics, science, engineering, education or library science. Candidates must be African-American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian/Pacific Islander American, or Hispanic American, a US citizen or permanent resident/national, have a cumulative GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale, and be entering a US accredited college or university as a full-time degree-seeking freshman in the fall.

Make sure to check out specific eligibility guidelines for these scholarships online, or reach out to any YOLP advisor or coordinator.