



The University of Maryland

C.D. MOTE, JR.

INCENTIVE AWARDS PROGRAM

2026 YEARBOOK



IAP is more than just financial support. It shows the investment in students who are committed and disciplined, ready to show leadership and growth, and to take advantage of every opportunity, and I know I can uphold those requirements.

—JADA MACHADO '30

About Us

Dear Friends,

What began as a pilot program for Baltimore City students has grown into a thriving network of exceptional scholars and alums from Baltimore and Prince George's, Montgomery and Charles counties. Thanks to decades of philanthropy and partnerships, IAP provides full scholarships and programming to dozens of students in its unique "community within a community" on campus. Our scholars possess the autonomy to shape our culture and a shared commitment to community, service, and meaningful impact. They regularly return to their hometown high schools to speak with younger students, serving as living proof of what is possible through dedication and inspiring the next generation to pursue higher education.

As our alumni network continues to grow, we see these civic-minded leaders taking the skills they honed in IAP and using them to uplift the communities they call home. Our 2026 graduates are already doing just that. We celebrate their accomplishments and wish them well in their future endeavors.

Into this rich tradition we welcome the newest cohort of IAP scholars who we are proud to present to you. We look to them with the expectation that they will follow in the steps of those who came before them and make an imprint on our program and the campus. Thank you for standing with us as we invest in these remarkable young people and our collective future.

Warmly,

Jacqueline W. Lee
Director

It is not just my GPA or rigorous coursework that makes me stand out, it's my perspective. I understand responsibility beyond my years, and I value collaboration over individuality. I am most motivated by making a difference in my community. I bring empathy, determination and strong commitment to using my education to help others in IAP.

—KIYAH THOMAS '30



By learning to embrace challenges rather than fear failure, I am better equipped not only in sports but in school, work, and life. Every setback is now a lesson, every competitor a collaborator in my growth, and every experience a step toward becoming the person I strive to be.

—JOSHUA ANDERSON '30



Letter to the Class of 2030

Dear Cohort 26,

Congratulations on being part of the Incentive Awards community! While I was at Maryland, I succeeded in many things and I failed in some. You will too. But each lesson has become a testimony, a tool in my toolbelt for the future. If UMD looks like a Goliath to you, remember how that story ends. Giants fall. Not because we have it all together, but because we keep showing up, leaning on each other, and trusting that what brought us here will carry us forward. You belong here. You are more than “potential.” Most importantly, you are not alone. Let this place be your training ground. I can testify that when you trust the process you will be stronger and wiser when you come out. I am cheering for you. Welcome to UMD and welcome to IAP. **Now, let's go slay some giants!**

Best wishes,

Alira

Alira Abdullai '26





Gwyneth Andal

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute

Each match or game I play becomes a chance to analyze my performance, identify areas to improve and work on skills that will make me stronger. I also see it as an opportunity to connect with others. My opponents are no longer people I am simply trying to beat, they are individuals helping me push my limits and become a better version of myself. This shift has also allowed me to enjoy the process more. Losing is no longer a source of frustration but a moment to reflect, grow and appreciate the time I spend with teammates, coaches and fellow competitors.

Joshua Anderson

Mount Saint Joseph High School



As the oldest and the first in my family to break boundaries, I feel a responsibility not just to myself, but to my parents, grandparents, and younger brothers. I want to show them that education is powerful and that the opportunities we are blessed to have in this country must be seized. Nothing can stand in the way of my pursuit of a law degree as I am determined to overcome every challenge and to push forward even when the path is difficult. I know that every step I take toward my dream honors the sacrifices my parents have made to provide me with the chance to pursue it.

Allison Argueta

Wheaton Senior High School



Hamma Ba

Baltimore City College



A portrait of a young man with a large, dark afro, wearing a black suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a red wall with a bulletin board.

**Elijah
Bailey-Perkins**

James Hubert
Blake High School

A portrait of a young man with short dark hair, wearing a black shirt and a light-colored blazer. He is looking slightly to the side with a neutral expression. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Kenneth Dorsey

Patterson High School

A portrait of a young man with short dark hair, wearing a white polo shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a red wall with a window.

IAP stands out to me because it values character, service and long-term impact. I bring persistence, humility and a willingness to learn from others. I want to be part of a community that challenges me to become not only more accomplished, but more grounded and service-oriented. I am ready to both contribute to and grow within IAP.

Lewi Bonger

Wheaton Senior High School

A portrait of a young man with short dark hair, wearing a black shirt and a light-colored blazer. He is looking slightly to the side with a neutral expression. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

I began changing the way I faced setbacks. I've become comfortable asking questions and recognizing when I don't know or can't do something. This change in mindset has improved my performance and confidence, allowing me to enjoy life a lot more. The biggest change, I would say, was recognizing that growth requires self-compassion, too. My life experiences have shown me that progress does not equal perfection. And yes, I still strive for excellence, but I don't let perfectionism prevent me from being proud of myself for doing the best I can.

Priscilla Espinoza Fernandez

Seneca Valley High School

I don't move through life passively. I notice patterns and try to understand why things work the way they do, even when it would be easier not to. This mindset is a big part of why I believe I fit into IAP. It shows that I'm intentional. When I step into an opportunity, I use it fully, not letting anything go to waste. I want to be challenged and surrounded by people who think differently than I do because growth happens when your ideas are tested. This kind of environment has always pushed me in the best way.

Shayla Escobar Flores

North Point High School



Kinshawn Jones

Baltimore Polytechnic Institute



Living in a close-knit community didn't make me dependent on others, but it taught me to value relationships and showed me how important it is to offer the support I've been so lucky to receive to others. I value connection, not because I'm afraid to be alone, but because I think life is better when you have supportive people around you to share your experiences with. I truly believe that community is the most important thing you can have, and that is why this program will be so valuable to me, as it would give me the opportunity to build a family that I can rely on for years to come.

Mannat Kaur

North Point High School



Betel Issak

Northwood High School



As the oldest daughter of immigrant parents, I've witnessed the sacrifices they made to provide opportunities they never had. Watching them adapt to a new country while living with uncertainty taught me perseverance and gave me purpose. When I want to slack off, I always remind myself why they came to America—not just to survive, but to ensure I could thrive. This inspired me to approach education with gratitude and determination, viewing it as a privilege rather than an obligation. Their courage shaped my work ethic and deepened my commitment to lifting up my family.

Stephanie Leon
Oxon Hill High School



Shekinah-Nephtys Ndedi
Chesapeake Math & IT Academy
North High School



Over time, I realized that comparing myself to others wasn't helping me. I started focusing on my own progress and accomplishments instead. I set personal goals and celebrated small wins. This helped me feel proud of my own efforts and boosted my self esteem. Now, when I face challenges, I handle them with more patience and confidence. This mindset has helped me become more resilient and self-assured and it has also made me better at supporting others in reaching their goals.

Chloe Moss
Frederick Douglass High School

Jada Machado
Bard High School
Early College
Baltimore





Desmond Omogoke

Eleanor Roosevelt High School

What sets me apart is purpose. My passion for cardiology is rooted in personal experience. Growing up with asthma and watching my father manage high blood pressure showed me how deeply health affects families. Those experiences shaped my desire not just to study science, but to use it to protect and strengthen lives. IAP will allow me to grow in a community of driven, intellectually curious students. I will contribute persistence, leadership and a genuine commitment to using education to create meaningful impact.

Grant Okereke-Uduji

Largo High School



As a student at the Academy of Health Sciences, I was constantly surrounded by high-achieving peers. Many of them had access to networks and resources that I did not initially have. Despite this, I remained competitive through initiative and strong time management. Competing without the same advantages pushed me to work harder and develop resilience.

Elizabeth Osunjimi

Academy of Health Sciences at
Prince George's Community College



Emily Reyes

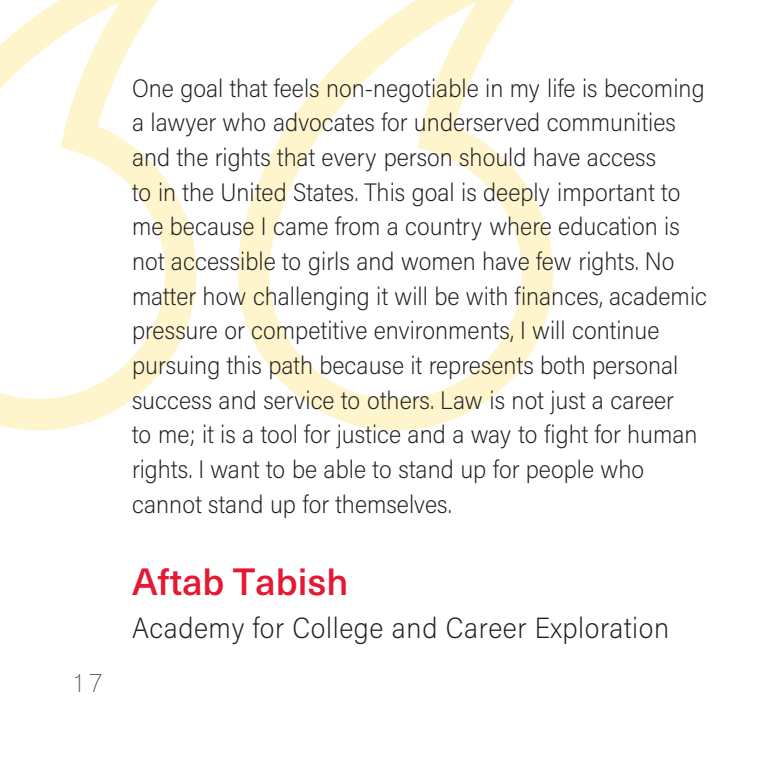
Laurel High School



Carter Sparks
Baltimore
Polytechnic Institute



Brandon Thomas
Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical
High School



One goal that feels non-negotiable in my life is becoming a lawyer who advocates for underserved communities and the rights that every person should have access to in the United States. This goal is deeply important to me because I came from a country where education is not accessible to girls and women have few rights. No matter how challenging it will be with finances, academic pressure or competitive environments, I will continue pursuing this path because it represents both personal success and service to others. Law is not just a career to me; it is a tool for justice and a way to fight for human rights. I want to be able to stand up for people who cannot stand up for themselves.

Aftab Tabish
Academy for College and Career Exploration



Through entrepreneurship and athletics, I learned that resilience is quiet, responsibility is personal, and progress is collective. I am motivated not only to succeed, but to grow in a community where I can challenge myself and help others rise with me. That mindset is what I bring to the IAP community.

Ryan Kebritsaz Tavakoli
Walter Johnson High School





I am here today due to the support of multiple communities. My family instilled values of trust and integrity, teaching me to help others while celebrating my identity. My mentors, whether teachers or coworkers, taught me the power of perseverance and to believe in my own abilities. My friends helped nurture my sense of curiosity and the joy of discovering. Each of these communities have supported me when I'm down, teaching me that your community is your greatest asset.

Gaven Wu
La Plata High School



Kiyah Thomas
Academy of Health Sciences at
Prince George's Community College



The values of IAP-scholarship, leadership and service-match who I am. I want to benefit from the program's mentorship and community, but also actively contribute to it. I hope to continue learning and growing while helping others along the way.

—GWYNETH ANDAL '30





My favorite college memory was attending Fall Retreat and participating in activities like Factuality, poem writing, cohort bonding, and tug of war! I felt so much closer to other IAP scholars and developed new friendships.

—ANGELICA REYES '26

2026 Graduates

They were already brilliant when we met them as high school seniors, but they were open to our guidance, which only enhanced them and their college experience. We helped grow their agency and develop a network through mentorship, curated opportunities and programming. They were self-directed, however, and, as a result, accomplished so much during their time at UMD. We are so proud of where they're headed—work in various industries or graduate school. Most importantly, they modeled community for others in the program and inspired younger cohorts, touching many students directly and indirectly through their efforts. **Congratulations, cohort 22!**

THE GRADUATES



ALIRA ABDULLAI
Public Policy
MINOR: NONPROFIT
LEADERSHIP AND SOCIAL
INNOVATION



RANIA BIEN-AIME
Family Health



KESHAWN BROWN
Mechanical Engineering



VALERY CAICEDO
Civil Engineering
MINOR: SUSTAINABILITY
STUDIES



JOSHUA CHAVEZ
Computer Science



TERRENCE DOUGLAS
Communication



JERALDIN ESPAÑA
Immersive Media
Design



**KIMBER GONZALEZ
LOPEZ**
Computer Science
Finance



ALYSSA HUTCHINSON
Information Science
MINOR: HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT



MAHA IDSASSI
Neuroscience
MINOR: HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT



LA'MYRAH JACKSON
Public Policy
MINOR: SUSTAINABILITY
STUDIES



**GEORGE
JAMALDINIAN**
Electrical Engineering



JEFFERNY LIN
Biological Sciences: Cell
Biology and Molecular
Genetics
MINOR: GENERAL BUSINESS



CHRIS LORD
Aerospace Engineering



DEONDRE MARTIN
Economics



JUNIOR NGUH
Information Science



LESTER PAZ
Real Estate &
The Built Environment
MINOR: GENERAL BUSINESS



AEIRSS PRINCE
Government and
Politics



ANGELICA REYES
Middle School
Education
MINOR: HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT



**MAXIMO
REYES-MALDONADO**
Marketing



BAQEE SANNI
Biological Sciences:
Physiology &
Neurobiology



**ABDIEL SANTOS
MOLINA**
Real Estate &
The Built Environment
MINOR: SUSTAINABILITY
STUDIES
MINOR: GENERAL BUSINESS



ASHLEY TAUPYEN
Information Science
MINOR: ADVANCED
CYBERSECURITY
EXPERIENCE FOR
STUDENTS



ARIANA TSEGA
Public Policy
MINOR: EDUCATION
POLICY, EQUITY, AND
JUSTICE

Selection Committee

Roger Arangorin, Jr. '21*
Department of Defense

Jose Arevalo '13*
Spring Ridge Financial Group LLC

J. Kenneth Battle
Prince George's County Council

Kevin Beverly
Community Volunteer

Christie Bianco '97
Suitcase Swagger

Kareem Branch '06*
NASA

James Brockington '06*
Baltimore City Public Schools

David Buchholz
Community Volunteer

Jonathan Claiborne '77
Community Volunteer

Jennifer Covahey '08*
CollegeBound Foundation

Esther Ekanem '17*
Northrup Grumman

Barbara Goliday
Trinity Washington University

Sarah Grebow
Consultant

Bill Haris '94
U.S. Navy

Alma Hernandez '22*
Public Defender Service for
the District of Columbia

Lauri Hidalgo
Community Volunteer

Lisa Holden-Pitt
Community Volunteer

Carlos Howard '16*
University of Maryland

Ima Ibidapo '05*
Law Office of Ima Ibidapo

Sheila Jones '74
Law Office of Sheila Jones

Marilyn Meyers, Ph.d. '86
Community Volunteer

Stuart Miller
Community Volunteer

Tony Nobles III
Tony Nobles III Consulting

Nonyem Oguejiofor '04
U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services

Joan Rentsch '81
Community Volunteer

Pranav Saha '02
Booz Allen

Carmela Sambells '24*
Medical School Student

Dulce Santos '13*
Prince George's County Schools

Jonathan Schaechter '87
Morgan Stanley

Laura Scheeler
Resource Solutions, Inc.

Patrice Shumate '23*
Capgemini

Kathy Keys Waymmann '81
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Inga Williams '06*
Morgan State University

Tiana Wynn '05*
S. B. & Company

Advisory Board

William A. Cohen
University of Maryland

Chuck Daggs '69
KIPP Bay Area Schools

Barry Gossett '62
The Gossett Group

Shannon Gundy
University of Maryland

Daniel Millman '84
Chairman
Turner Impact Capital LLC

C.D. Mote, Jr.
Honorary Chairman
University of Maryland

Nancy Murray
University of Maryland

J. Keith Scroggins '79
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Heather Foss Thomas
University of Maryland

Craig A. Thompson, Esq. '92
Venable LLP



*I bring to IAP a unique combination of
perseverance, leadership and perspective
with the ability to face challenges head on,
a drive to help others succeed and a belief
that growth comes from embracing both
difficulties and opportunities.*

—KENNETH DORSEY '30

* IAP alum

2025-26 Donors

AS WE LOOK AHEAD TO THE NEXT 25 YEARS, donors, your gifts are vital to providing a chance for a new generation of students. There are no words to aptly describe the impact of your generosity. All we can do is to say thank you and to show you what it looks like when you invest in people's lives. Whether you are an early donor who believed in Dr. Mote's vision, just became a donor or you joined us at some point along the way, your gifts open the door to a world of possibilities. Thank you so much!

IAP enables amazing young people—who may not otherwise have been given an opportunity—the chance to change the world.

—AMARA SILLAH '10

Anonymous
Britton S. Anderson and Tija J. Anderson*
Evan M. Anderson
Apple Inc.
Howard M. Averill and Sharon Averill
Henry J. Bado*
Issmatu S. Barrie*
Bruce C. Bidle
Stuart Bowers and Mary V. Perry
Board of Charles County Commissioners
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Christie M. Bianco and Salvatore J. Bianco
Bruce C. Bidle
Chelsea Cesaro
Laura C. Cech
Cisco Systems, Inc.
Jonathan E. Claiborne and Deborah H. Diehl, Esq.
Albert W. Clarke, VII
Carlo Colella and Sally S. Colella
Melva T. Coles*
Grace J. Crussiah and Ralph R. Bauer
Francis X. Cuomo, II and Genevieve M. Cuomo
Charles W. Daggs and Rebecca S. Daggs
John C. Davison
Melissa Del Rios
Patricia A. Dingle
Esther A. Ekanem*
Odell D. Eldridge
Michael Feng
Darrah Fitzgerald Hall
Diana S. Forbus and Keith L. Forbus
Heather Foss Thomas
Crystal R. Foster
Renee E. Funches, M.D.
Mahesh T. Gehani and Sarika Gehani
Barbara A. Gill and William D. Leith
Barry P. Gossett

Kendall D. Grant
Sarah H. Grebow
Cheryl K. Harrison
Hecht-Levi Foundation, Inc.
Stanley Hellman and Elissa W. Hellman
Malina Heng
Deborah M. Heuckeroth and Keith M. Kowalski
Lois A. Howlin
Dave F. Huting
Ima-Nkoyo C. Ibidapo* and Opeyemi A. Ibidapo
Jahi D. Jones*
Sheila D. Jones, Esq.
Flora M. Kearney Family Foundation
Christopher Lane* and Lisa M. Lane
Nicholas M. Lane
Edith K. Lauer
Steven R. Leonard and Anita Leonard
William Liou and Erica Estrada-Liou
Christopher Lord* and Lakeisha Lord
Joyce S. Lowenstein
Ojas U. Malghan
Angela Martin and David Martin
Edward H. McKenney and Denise Patterson McKenney
Marilyn B. Meyers
Gabriel J. Michael and Lindsay W. Michael
Olga G. Miller
Daniel I. Millman and Laura Fung Millman
Martrell Moore
Davian A. Morgan*
David R. Morris and Cheryl P. Morris
Nancy E. Murray
Jessica Nolasco*
The Northrop Grumman Foundation
Camilla N. Obasiolu*
Chukwuma C. Odigwe*
Olatunji R. Onigbanjo*
Schwanna B. Otey

Michelle Packer
Rafael A. Lovo Panameno*
Angelo Pirali and Yavona D. Pirali*
Nicole R. Pollard, Esq.
Robin L. Portman
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC)
Norman E. Pruitt and Yolanda J. Pruitt
David E. Raderman and Rose A. Smiley
Arnold I. Richman and Alison L. Richman
Willie J. Roach and Winona F. Roach
Richard & Rosalee C. Davison Foundation, Inc.
Pranav Saha
Jonathan D. Schaechter and Michele Schaechter
J. Keith Scroggins
Kimberly F. Sellers
Jonathan F. Senn-Carter, Jr. and Darian T. Senn-Carter*
Ross A. Stern and Amy C. Stern
Lawrence E. Strickling and Sydney L. Hans
M. Dee Strum
Gary C. Tartanian and Ann B. Tartanian
Candice Thames
Darius E. Thomas
Craig A. Thompson, Esq. and Deborah K. St. Lawrence-Thompson
Eileen M. Thompson
Bobby Turner and Lauren Turner
Georgiana S. Tyler
Toan R. Vu
Terrence L. Walker
Dareth C. Wallace
Thomas S. Wallsten
Jacqueline Wheeler Lee and John Robert Edward Lee
Teresa A. Wheelous-Bradley
Jazmyn M. White
James A. Williams, III and Inga Ferguson Williams*
Faaq A. Zarger

* IAP student or alum

Endowed Gifts and Bequests

IN ADDITION TO ANNUAL GIFTS, the following funds established by donors provide continued support for the Incentive Awards Program.



I am certain that one day I will make my family proud, not just through the accomplishments I achieve, but through the way I carry forward the sacrifices and support that have shaped my journey. This goal is worth everything because it represents the life I want to build, the legacy I hope to create, and the opportunity to break cycles and open doors for my family.

—ALLISON ARGUETA '30

Alan R. and Marilyn B. Meyers Maryland Promise Scholarship

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Incentive Awards Fund

Andrea and Randy Berkow Maryland Promise Scholarship

Anonymous Baltimore Incentive Awards Scholarship

Arnold & Alison Richman Terpstart Endowed Scholarship

Baltimore Gas & Electric Fund

Barbara S. and Arthur O. Dunn Maryland Promise Scholarship

Barry Zeller Family Incentive Awards Scholarship

Carlo and Sally Colella Maryland Promise Scholarship

C.D. Mote, Jr. Incentive Awards Program Endowed Operating Fund

C.D. Mote, Jr. Incentive Awards Program Endowed Scholarship

Craig and Deborah Thompson Endowed Scholarship

Daggs Family Incentive Awards Scholarship

David & Julia Semer Endowed Scholarship

David & Julia Semer Maryland Promise Scholarship

David Lee Bowers Memorial Incentive Awards Endowment

Davison-Golden Family Baltimore IAP Scholarship

Diane and Lindsay Golden Maryland Promise Scholarship

Dubin Family Endowed Scholarship

Eugene A. and Clara Benson Bozay Maryland Promise Scholarship

France-Merrick Foundation Incentive Awards Fund

Frances Kelley Green Incentive Awards Fund

Gossett Family Incentive Awards Program Endowment

Howlin Family Maryland Promise Scholarship

James Y. Loving and Constance Kramer Loving TerpStart Endowed Scholarship

Jan B. Kaplan Incentive Awards Endowment

Jeffrey F. Rollins '71 Endowed Scholarship for the Incentive Awards Program

Johanna K. and Jeffery T. Black Maryland Promise Scholarship

Jonathan and Ann Barrett Maryland Promise Scholarship

Joseph “Joey” Newhouse Maryland Promise Scholarship

Kylie Averill '22 Maryland Promise Scholarship

Lauer Family Maryland Promise Scholarship

Leonard Family Maryland Promise Scholarship

Marilynn Duker and Dale McArdle Endowed Scholarship for the Incentive Awards Program

Marvin and Shirley Polikoff and Nina Globus Memorial Maryland Promise Scholarship

Mercile J. Lee Incentive Awards Program Maryland Promise Scholarship

Mercile J. Lee Incentive Awards Program Support Endowment

Michael S. Dana & Family Incentive Award

Millman Family Maryland Promise Scholarship

Montgomery County Incentive Awards Endowed Scholarship

Montgomery County Incentive Awards Program Endowed Support Fund

Parren Mitchell Baltimore Incentive Awards

Prince George’s County Northwestern High School Incentive Awards Fund

Ralph and Jason H. Williams/W. D. Prater Maryland Promise Scholarship

Rebecca Lynn Johnson Baltimore Incentive Awards Fund

Rentsch-Schelfe-Tunney Maryland Promise Scholarship

Richard and Ann Sparrough Incentive Awards Scholarship

Richie Coleman Scott Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Richman Baltimore Incentive Awards Program Support Endowment

Richman Baltimore Maryland Promise Scholarship

Robert W. Farkas Incentive Awards Scholarship

Robert J. Ratliff Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Incentive Awards Fund

Scheeler Family Maryland Promise Scholarship

Singh Verma Endowed Scholarship

Sondra Simon Memorial Maryland Promise Scholarship

Dr. Sue-Ning Chu Barry Maryland Promise Scholarship

The Honorable Ronald and Mrs. Darlene Moultrie Endowed Scholarship

Ursula G. Wetzelberger Incentive Awards Fund

Willard Hackerman Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Incentive Awards Scholarship

William T. Wood Incentive Award Book Fund

Zeller Family Incentive Awards Fund



C. D. MOTE, JR. INCENTIVE AWARDS PROGRAM

SUZANNE G. AND MURRAY A. VALENSTEIN BALTIMORE SCHOLARS
PRINCE GEORGE'S AND MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOLARS

4090 Union Drive
1105 Cole Field House
College Park, MD 20742

25⁺
YEARS

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
College Park, MD
PERMIT NO. 10

cdmincentiveawards.umd.edu
incentiveawards@umd.edu

 @CDM_IAP

 @CDM_IAP