



Centennial
BERMUDA FOUNDATION

2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

*When we dream big,
anything is possible.*



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The Centennial Bermuda Foundation is proud to announce the recipients of the 2025 Centennial Scholarships. In our unwavering commitment to fostering an equitable and accessible scholarship programme, we are delighted to support students pursuing diverse pathways in post-secondary education.

Whether it's Bermuda College, community colleges, vocational training, undergraduate, arts, or postgraduate degrees, our scholarship programme is designed to empower our recipients to Dream Big.

This commitment reflects our vision that there are equitable opportunities for people to lead purposeful lives, have financial security and enjoy a sense of belonging within the community.

Generally, we award scholarships on the following basis, taking into consideration students' budgets, any other scholarships awarded and the duration of their studies:

- Bermuda College - up to **\$15,000** for up to two years
- Community College - up to **\$35,000** for up to two years
- Undergraduate - up to **\$35,000** for up to four year
- Arts Degree - up to **\$35,000** for up to four years
- PostGraduate - up to **\$35,000** for up to four years
- SkillUp - up to **\$35,000** for up to two years

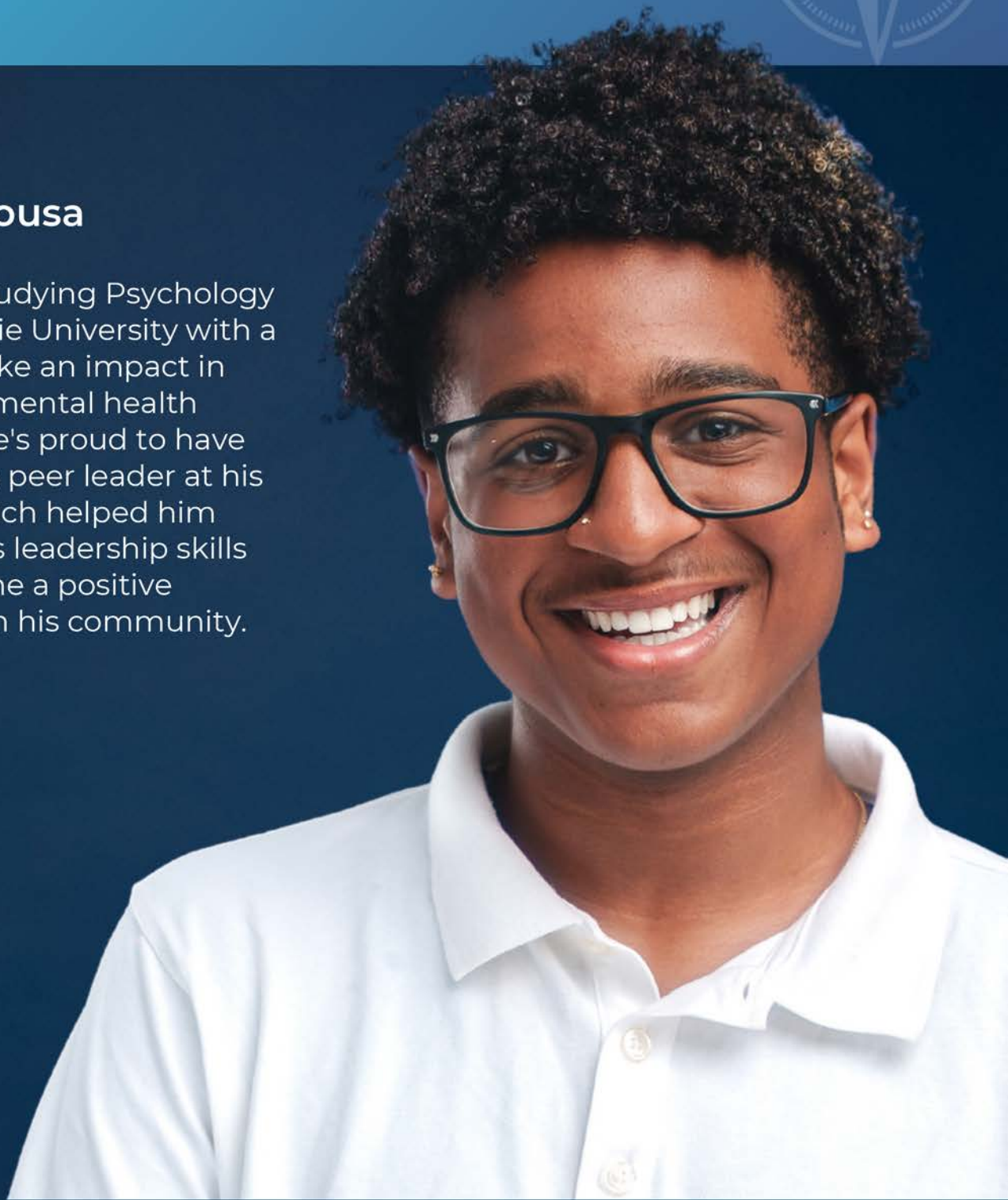
*Congratulations to our 2025
scholarship recipients!*

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP



Danté Sousa

Danté is studying Psychology at Dalhousie University with a goal to make an impact in improved mental health support. He's proud to have served as a peer leader at his school, which helped him develop his leadership skills and become a positive presence in his community.



"I volunteer because I like to see that people are impacted by the ways I can help them. One thing I would like to see improved in our community is fairness and love because a lot of people hate others because of religion, sexuality, or race - for Bermuda to be united and peaceful, we have to work on this generational hate that's been passed down."

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP



Grace Amaradasa

Grace is studying Maths and Physical Sciences at the University of Toronto. She's pursuing subjects she's passionate about like finance, maths, and economics while also having room to explore the Arts side. She's proud to have completed the challenging Gold Duke of Edinburgh journey through Kejimikujik National Park in Nova Scotia, an experience that called on her to step out of her comfort zone and persevere, even when she wanted to give up.



"I'm very passionate and determined about the things that I do - I get involved with a lot, and I genuinely really enjoy everything. I want to join the finance industry and am currently looking at reinsurance, and I also really hope to use my financial skills to help charities."

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP



Shane Powell-Hayward

Shane is studying Accounting and Global Business Management at St. Mary's University. He was drawn to accounting because it shows how businesses perform over time and provides skills he can use in any industry. He's most proud to have received Bermuda's 2024 Outstanding Teens Award for Leadership, a pivotal moment that embodied his father's advice to always be a leader, not a follower.



"I chose to study global business management because in Bermuda we have huge international business opportunities, and I'd like to get into that industry. Winning this scholarship has taken off a huge financial burden - I'm so grateful because I feel like I was able to give back to my parents, in a way, for all the work they've done for me."

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP



Taurean Millwood-Thomas

Taurean is studying Marketing Management and Communications at University of Essex. He's drawn to the way storytelling and strategy can boost businesses and communities. It was a great achievement to receive an unconditional offer from Essex after facing numerous challenges with school acceptances – and he says it was the one offer that felt perfect and meant to be, coming at a time when he really needed it most.



"I've faced challenges that could have discouraged me completely, but I used them as fuel to keep going and persevere. I have a strong passion for bringing Bermudian businesses out of the shadows so they're seen and heard. We're such a small island, we need to be more connected and support each other's businesses. Marketing can make a small business one day and a big business the next."

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP



Yari Mello

Yari will be studying Architectural Engineering at Coventry University, a degree that perfectly combines his passions of design, engineering and architecture. Since he was little, he's always created contraptions out of anything he could find around the house, was obsessed with Lego, and later spent hours on Minecraft building homes and bringing his ideas to life. He's proud to have won the Dr. Reginald Grundy Photography Competition in the buildings category for two consecutive years, particularly meaningful as he was the only public school student to win in his age group - an achievement that he feels, attests to his natural eye for design and architecture.



"My name, Yari, means courageous in Spanish, which is ironic because when I was a little kid, I was drastically afraid of everything - butterflies, people, trees, leaves - any minor thing. It's great to see how I've come since then because this summer I'm going to Costa Rica for a survival expedition in the wilderness, and I'll actually be able to represent what my name means!"

BERMUDA COLLEGE/COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



Zania Parson Simmons

Zania is studying Neonatal Nursing, beginning with her Associate's Degree in Nursing at Bermuda College before continuing to Birmingham University for her neonatal specialisation. She's proud to have received an award for completing over 200 hours of candy striping since 2021, a commitment that opened her eyes to her true calling in healthcare.



"Candy striping was my eye-opening moment - I was working in the maternity ward and the nurse took me into the NICU where all the premature babies were. When I saw the babies, I thought, my God, they're so tiny, they're so fragile, and I want to help these kids and be a part of their journey."

BERMUDA COLLEGE/COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP



Nikia Simons

Nikia is currently studying radiologic technology at Keiser University in Orlando, with aspirations to pursue CT and sonography. She takes immense pride in making it to university - an achievement she once thought impossible - and she has transformed from a "laid-back student" into someone who is focused, thriving, and pursuing exactly what she wants to do with her life.



"I chose RT because I love the human body and I've always been fascinated with how it works and just the intricate details of how we're made. I'm passionate about giving back and being kind to others because growing up I was bullied a little bit, and I always try to leave a lasting impression of either a smile, a joke, or just the kindness that I make you feel."

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP



Taj Donville-Outerbridge

Taj is pursuing a Dual Master's program in Public Administration at the London School of Economics (LSE) and Global Affairs at the University of Toronto. They're driven by the need for more diversity in public policy spaces, particularly black queer male representation in rooms where legislation is made. They're proud to have supported the founding of Bermuda Pride and now serving on its board as the youngest non-executive director, advocating for LGBTQ+ inclusion and human rights in Bermuda.



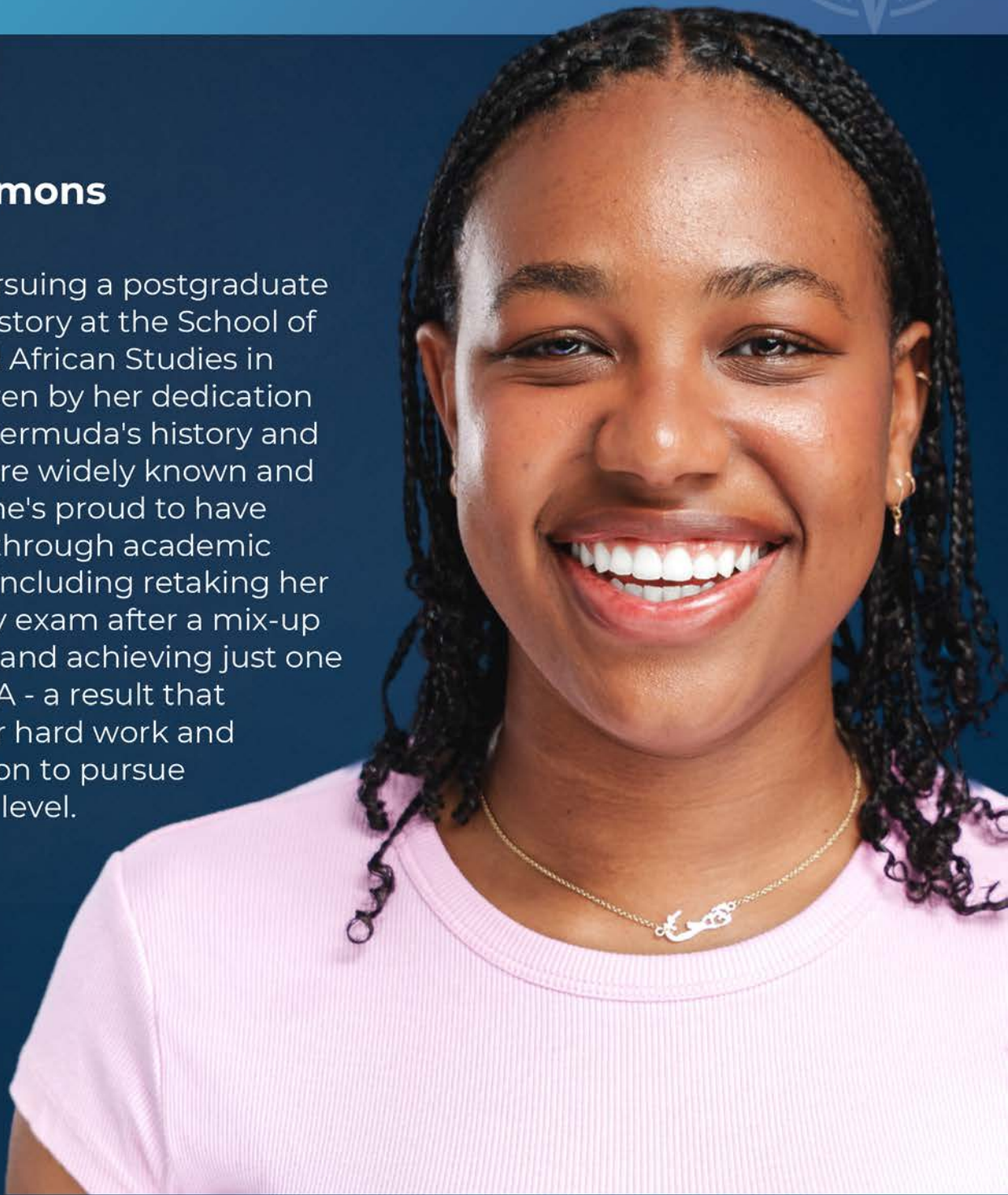
"I care a lot about Bermuda - my experiences growing up haven't been so kind and Bermuda hasn't necessarily been the best place for me. But I care deeply about my country and our people, and that's why I do a lot of work in the non-profit space as a youth activist and writer to uplift Bermudians and Bermuda's story to the global stage."

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP



Amani Simons

Amani is pursuing a postgraduate degree in History at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, driven by her dedication to making Bermuda's history and heritage more widely known and accepted. She's proud to have persevered through academic challenges, including retaking her GCSE history exam after a mix-up with papers and achieving just one point off an A - a result that reflected her hard work and determination to pursue history at IB level.



"I am very dedicated to Bermuda's history and heritage, and I want to help Bermudians establish a stronger self-identity and fall back into love with their heritage. The world is so widely connected, and Bermuda is so ingrained in that history, but it's not very well known - I would love for that to become more publicly known, especially through my work at the National Museum of Bermuda where I've been interning in the curatorial department."

SKILLUP SCHOLARSHIP



T'ori Flood-Martin

T'ori will be studying Marine Diesel at Marine Mechanics Institute (MMI) in Orlando, Florida. He is drawn to the field because he's a visual and hands-on learner who grew up fixing things and putting them together by himself. He's proud to have achieved honour roll every year at CedarBridge Academy whilst also being an entrepreneur and starting his own clothing line, demonstrating his ability to balance academics with business ventures.



"I am very hardworking, and I like to think outside the box to be different. Living on an island and being surrounded by boats my whole life sparked my interest in this form of mechanics - I plan on coming back to Bermuda to work in the diesel mechanics field because there's a lack of diesel mechanics on the island."

SKILLUP SCHOLARSHIP



Michaele Parfitt-Smith

Michaele is studying Substance Use Disorder Counselling at the University of the Pacific, driven by her passion to address addiction and trauma together to truly heal communities. She's proud to have founded Empower Me Bermuda, a free peer-led community support group for women that focuses on trauma and addiction, creating a safe space for healing and breaking stigma in the community.



"This is my calling - this is not just a career change for me, this is something I'm so passionate about. With this scholarship, I get to live out my dream, do an internship overseas, get as much education and experience as possible, and see what different approaches are out there in the world so I can bring that back to Bermuda."

ARTS DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP



Zen Marley Mello

Zen will be studying animation at University of Bournemouth, driven by his belief that animation is the closest thing to magic because you can create literally anything. He's proud to have made videos addressing problems throughout the island that were acknowledged and responded to by leaders in those areas, moments that helped him realise the power that animation has and motivated him to pursue it further.



"Any idea is a good idea and has value - it can be easy to shut down a bad idea, but everyone has different lives and perspectives, so there's value in any situation or idea someone has. Animation often falls into the stereotype of being just for kids or a distraction, but if people are going to be distracted by it, you might as well use it to say something meaningful because people are going to see it."

ARTS DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP



Ariadne Ward

Ariadne Ward is going into her second year studying Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University, with dreams of becoming both a novelist and teacher. She's proud to have been longlisted for publication in Northern Gravy literary magazine - whilst not ultimately selected, she values this recognition as an important step in the creative process and proof that her writing was worth a second look, especially as she navigates the rejection that's inherent to the publishing world.



"I'm a firm believer that artists and creatives are the arbiters of human experience - we translate what it is to be human for the rest of the world to see and recognise themselves in. That's why I'm so passionate about what I do and bringing Bermuda to the rest of the world so they can experience a fraction of our culture. I love that writing creates an intimate, vulnerable relationship between writer and reader."



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2025 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANNARITA MARION, Chair

Retired Accountant and Board Deputy Chair, Centennial Bermuda Foundation

KIM PRATT

Executive Director, Bermuda Hospitals Charitable Foundation

MICHAEL BRANCO

Chairman, Celeste Ventures

HARRY MASTERS

Founder and Director, Advancing Green

SHANNON DAVIS

Teacher, Mount Saint Agnes (formerly at Dellwood Middle School)

JEREMY HASSELL

Owner, Sabio

CRISTEN SUESS

Senior Claims Specialist, Argo Group

KISHEN MENON

Chief Portfolio Strategist (Bermuda), Prudential Financial

KAREMA FLOOD

Police Inspector, Bermuda Police Service

COLLEEN SINCLAIR

Vice President HR and Operations, All Insurance Management Ltd



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Peer Forward Senior Program Manager Tim Spicer (centre) with the
2024 Scholarship Recipients & Success Coaches

CENTENNIAL SUCCESS COACH PROGRAMME

Now in its third year, the Centennial Success Coach programme offers mentorship and guidance to first-year scholarship students. The more a student can settle into their studies and develop a sense of belonging, the greater their success will be throughout their academic journey.



2025/26 CENTENNIAL SUCCESS COACHES

Azeem Khan

Managing Director,
ReGen Group Limited

Camille Creary

Family Preservation
Social Worker, Dept. of
Child & Family Services

Dante Cooper

General Secretary,
Bermuda Union of
Teachers

Jonathan Beard

Retired Deputy Head
of Saltus

Latisha Lister

Executive Director,
Employee Assistance
Programme

Marianne Dinsmore

Accomplished Business
Leader

Scott Clarke

Senior Risk Analyst, Essent
Reinsurance Bermuda

Tanya Beard

Executive Coach,
Untangled International
(entrepreneur)

Tiffany Whitter

Educational Therapist,
Success Academy II
Middle/High School

Uneaka Daniels

English Language Arts
Teacher, Port Royal
Primary School

Wesley Hall

English Language Arts
Teacher and Advisor,
Purvis Parish School

Centennial Bermuda Foundation is an independent, philanthropic foundation, providing scholarships to individuals and grants to a wide range of nonprofit groups in Bermuda. Over the years, the foundation has given over \$90 million to support projects both large and small, and now provides approximately \$4 million in grants, and awards up to \$1 million in scholarships annually between new and returning students.



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www.centennial.bm