



Bill Miles Production

June 2013

**The Steppingstone Academy  
Placement Schools**

- Beaver Country Day School
- Belmont Day School
- Belmont Hill School
- Boston College High School
- Boston Latin Academy
- Boston Latin School
- Boston Trinity Academy
- Boston University Academy
- Brimmer and May School
- Buckingham Browne & Nichols School
- Cambridge School of Weston
- Commonwealth School
- Concord Academy
- Dana Hall School
- Dedham Country Day School
- Deerfield Academy
- Derby Academy
- Dexter School
- Fay School
- The Fenn School
- The Fessenden School
- The Governor's Academy
- Holderness School
- The Meadowbrook School of Weston
- Milton Academy
- Newton Country Day School
- Noble and Greenough School
- John D. O'Bryant School
- The Park School
- Phillips Academy
- Phillips Exeter Academy
- The Rivers School
- The Roxbury Latin School
- St. Mark's School
- St. Paul's School
- St. Sebastian's School
- Shady Hill School
- Southfield School
- Thayer Academy
- The Winsor School
- Xaverian Brothers High School

**Visit The Steppingstone Academy this Summer**

Steppingstone is excited to invite you to The Steppingstone Academy Summer Open House. Come learn more about the services Steppingstone offers Scholars once they set foot on your school's campus—from admission and placement guidance, to academic and socio-emotional support, to college counseling. The open house is a particularly useful resource for new faculty and staff members at your school.

*The Steppingstone Academy Summer Open House*  
Thursday, July 25, 2013  
8:20 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Milton Academy  
**RSVP to Matt Kessler by July 1 at [mkessler@tsf.org](mailto:mkessler@tsf.org)**

This year's summer faculty includes two Scholar Alumni: **Laniesha Gray '00 (The Park School '02)** and **Anthony Mathieu '02 (Boston Latin Academy '08)**. Mr. Mathieu will be teaching at his alma mater, Boston Latin Academy, this fall. Ms. Gray is a former faculty member at her alma mater, The Park School. Teachers from Milton Academy and Thayer Academy will also join our staff this summer, and 24 of our summer faculty members have worked with Steppingstone in the past.

**Scholar Profile**



**Nasteho Ali '10** is one of the 93 Steppingstone Scholars currently studying at the John D. O'Bryant School, where she first enrolled in ninth grade.

Now at the end of her junior year, Nasteho has become a dedicated activist, concentrating her efforts on both local and international issues. "I focus on what's most important to me," she says, "and I really want to push myself." Among her many responsibilities is her leadership role with Youth in Charge Somalia. The diaspora youth group works to support refugees and immigrants and raises awareness about issues facing Somalia—where many of Nasteho's family members still live.

This summer, Nasteho will take on yet another important role as a Steppingstone Teaching Assistant. "I really want to give back to the community that has supported me," she says. "Steppingstone didn't just give me academic help. It also developed my social skills and taught me how to solve problems." Nasteho will mentor younger Scholars and is

particularly looking forward to helping them transition from middle school to high school. "I adored my TAs!" she remembers, "and I love Steppingstone's values and what the program stands for. Steppingstone wants to see kids rise."

**Scholar Highlights**

**Louise Barias '08 (Boston Latin Academy '14)** received the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship in recognition of both her academic successes and her ability to overcome obstacles.

**Makeda Daniel '09 (Lexington High School '15)** was elected President of the Class of 2015.

**Michael John '10 (Boston Latin Academy '16)** was accepted to Harvard's Crimson Summer Academy.

**Henry Kwan and Jaemin Woo '07 (Boston Latin School '13)** were both awarded Posse Scholarships. As Posse Scholars, they will work with other students to build diverse communities on their college campuses. In the fall, Henry will study at Bucknell University and Jaemin will attend Hamilton College.

**Opeoluwa Olukorede '09 (The Rivers School '13)** was featured on WCVB Channel 5 News as an "A+ Student." Ope will study at Johns Hopkins University in the fall.

**College Admissions Decisions**

College acceptance letters have been pouring in for 12th-grade Scholars, who are preparing to enroll at more than 40 different colleges across the country. Schools include: Amherst College, Brown University, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, George Washington University, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, New York University, Princeton University, and Wellesley College.

- College Success Academy Schools**
- Thomas A. Edison K-8 School
  - Gardner Pilot Academy
  - Jackson/Mann K-8 School

THE STEPPINGSTONE FOUNDATION  
IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
THAT DEVELOPS AND IMPLEMENTS  
PROGRAMS THAT PREPARE  
URBAN SCHOOLCHILDREN FOR  
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES  
THAT LEAD TO COLLEGE SUCCESS.

## Join the National Partnership for Educational Access

In April, more than 400 educators from across the country attended NPEA's fifth annual conference—*Prepare, Achieve, Succeed: Navigating the Education Landscape with Underrepresented Students*. Issues critical to independent and public exam schools were addressed throughout the event, and NPEA welcomed representatives from many placement schools at the conference.

During the Wednesday night kick-off reception, educators shared insights about navigating the path to college, with a focus on admission, financial aid, college completion, and college success. Speakers included: Todd B. Bland, Head of School from Milton Academy, Richard I. Melvoin, Head of School from Belmont Hill, William R. Fitzsimmons, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid at Harvard, Stig Leschly, CEO of Match Education, and Marsha Inniss-Mitchell, Director of College Readiness Initiatives for the Boston Public Schools.



Richard Melvoin, Marsha Inniss-Mitchell, Stig Leschly, Todd Bland, and William Fitzsimmons during the Wednesday night reception.

Independent and public exam schools that are members of NPEA connect with academic enrichment programs, colleges, universities, and schools from across the country to discuss how to successfully serve underrepresented students. For more information and to inquire about membership and discounts, please contact **Karin Elliott, Executive Director at (617) 423-6300 x 284 or [kelliott@tsf.org](mailto:kelliott@tsf.org)**.

## Lesley University Partnership

As part of its effort to expand educational opportunities for low-income, urban youth, Lesley University recently identified effective local non profits that prepare urban students for college success. Steppingstone was one of the organizations selected to partner with Lesley through its Urban Scholars Initiative. Through this exciting new opportunity, Steppingstone will recommend Scholars for admission to Lesley University. If accepted, the Scholars will receive scholarship aid covering at least 50% of their tuition. These selected students will then receive academic, career internship, and support services from Lesley during their undergraduate years there. The broader Steppingstone community will also benefit from this partnership as we work together with Lesley's Admission office to offer pre-college visits and general college orientation programs to all Steppingstone Scholars.

## Alumni Highlights



Offiong Bassey '97

**Candace Taylor '03 (Dana Hall School '09, Connecticut College '13)** will conduct research in Nicaragua next year as a Fulbright Scholar.

**Moriah Smith '02 (Boston Latin Academy '09, Wellesley College '13)** has also been awarded a Fulbright fellowship; she will teach English in Brazil next year.

**Offiong Bassey '97 (Nobles '03, Yale University '07)** released her first album, which features 12 original songs that fuse African soul and jazz. Her CD debuted at #2 on the CMJ New World Music Chart.

**Denver Brown '94 (Nobles '00, Williams College '04, Howard University '13)** received her "long white coat" from Howard University Medical School, marking the official beginning of her residency.

**Crystal Furlonge '92 (Phillips Exeter Academy '99, Spelman College '03)** filmed a pilot for a TV show that will follow her journey around the world as a photographer.

## More than 100 Scholars will Join 23 Placement schools in Fall 2013

This August, 127 Scholars will commence from The Steppingstone Academy. They will go on to join 23 competitive Boston-area schools in the fall. All Scholars will continue to receive Steppingstone's support services throughout their middle-school, high-school, and college years.

A total of 67 Scholars will enroll at Boston public exam schools: Boston Latin Academy (33), Boston Latin School (20), and John D. O'Bryant School (14).

Forty-one Scholars will join 20 different independent school communities in September. The following schools will enroll three or more Scholars: Boston Trinity Academy, Newton Country Day School, Noble and Greenough School, Thayer Academy, and The Winsor School.