As we celebrated Women’s History Month, I was reminded of the countless women throughout history who have paved the way for progress and equality. At KC Scholars, we are proud to continue this legacy. Through our programs we have supported a total of 4,352 women by providing scholarships and credential programs that have supported exceptional women in pursuing their dreams and achieving their full potential.

At KC Scholars, we believe it is our duty to ensure our staff, scholars, donors, and community understand the critical role we all play in supporting women, no matter their age. Across our country, women still fight battles and break barriers in the career fields they pursue, in the workplace, in their personal health, in their families, and out in the world. By educating, supporting, and encouraging our young women, we are working together toward progress and the hope of a better tomorrow. Women’s History Month continues to be a celebration of how far we have come and the belief that anything is possible no matter where you come from or what you look like.

As the CEO of KC Scholars, I am constantly inspired by the 50 amazing women I have the privilege of working with every day. Together, we will continue to celebrate the incredible achievements of women throughout history, while also working towards a more just and equitable future for all women.

With gratitude and admiration,

Earl

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Our first Core Value, the one that drives our mission and inspires us everyday is SCHOLARS FIRST, here is what our scholars have to say.

My dreams have come true! At times I thought college would never be attainable due to finances, KC scholars changed that for me! It improved my life and my family’s life! I’m so incredibly thankful to be a KC Scholar Alumni.

- Randi Perry
We celebrate the amazing impact 20 years of support and learning has had on Kansas City thanks to Kauffman Scholars. We plan to continue the legacy started by Kauffman Scholars as we expand our programs.

Kauffman Scholars post-secondary scholarship program began its official six-month phased closing on March 13, 20 years to the day after launching the initiative that offered college scholarships, academic tutoring, and mentoring to students starting in seventh grade. More than 800 scholars from Kansas City schools have earned college degrees with extensive support from the program staff and collaborating partners.

At its conclusion, Kauffman Scholars will include eight classes of graduates in their 20s and early 30s who impact the Kansas City area as active members of their communities and of the regional workforce. Seventy-five percent of the most recent graduation cohort resides in the Kansas City metropolitan area and report a positive career outcome within six months of post-secondary completion.

Tanesha Ford, executive director, Kauffman Scholars, Inc., said the emphasis throughout the planned program conclusion will remain focused on scholars. “Just like we’ve tried to do for the entire program, we are focusing on the promise and possibilities that our scholars represent,” Ford said. “They are our legacy, and their presence in the Kansas City workforce and community reflects their personal accomplishments. We’re happy to be celebrating who they have become.”

KC Scholars will continue to provide College Savings Match, post-secondary scholarships, and funded job training programs well into the future as we celebrate the sunsetting of Kauffman Scholars and welcome their alumni into our family as we continue to support the KC community.
Celebrating our successes as we continue to work towards our goal of GREAT JOBS for Kansas City! 2,384 people have reached out to explore the program 784 have enrolled.

Our BOLD BEGINNINGS are turning into BOLD OUTCOMES.

What is Great Jobs KC?

Provides access to a fully-funded, short-term, flexible, skills based career training program.

• It’s short-term because you can complete the program in less than a year.
• It’s flexible because our training partners offer programs that include virtual, online, on-campus, hands-on, or even hybrid training.
• It’s skills-based because you master high-demand skills that employers are seeking in the following careers: healthcare, construction, information technology, or manufacturing.
• It’s a career training program because it trains you for a career, not just a job. A career with a salary that helps you secure your future.

Find out if you qualify for our Great Jobs KC program. Fill out the form and find out. Or, if you think this is the perfect opportunity for someone you know please share the link with them.
Save the Date: Award Day is coming April 28th!

And this year will be BIG!

Later this month he NFL Draft is being held here in Kansas City so we are holding our own draft of sorts. Each year we surprise a small group of our Traditional and College Savings Match awardees in person at their schools, letting them know they’ve received our scholarship. This year our scholars will be #DraftedbyKC Scholars and we plan to surprise ALL of our awardees on the same day.

Stay tuned for more details!

To get you ready here’s some footage from a previous AWARD DAY. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OR7hSuKrIeE

Share the Love

We know how much we love what we do, we’d love to know how much you love it too.

Please leave us a review on Google so others can find us and benefit from our programs.

Use this link to send them directly to our Google review page: http://search.google.com/local/writereview?placeid=ChIJlOjABZPwlcR1ewob2APhHc
Scholar Wrap-Around Services

If your business or non-profit would like to become a wrap-around service partner helping to provide support for our scholars please reach out us at CommunityResources@kcscholars.org.

Employer Network News

The KC Scholars Employer Network Team has met with and listened to employers about their talent needs. We have scholars available and ready to fill employer talent needs in multiple industries. If you are an employer, or know an employer, and are looking to invest in the Kansas City workforce contact us at EmployerNetwork@kcscholars.org.

Employer Network Opportunities

Looking for a career in public service? Join this online three-part series that begins April 13, 2023.

Students and recent graduates are key participants in the future Federal workforce. To make a career in public service a reality, understanding the Federal employment process is vital. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Federal Executive Boards (FEBs) present the Federal Executive Board Campus Series 2023. This three-session series is open to all students, recent graduates, and FEB Federal academic partners. The series explains the Federal application and hiring process to help students and recent graduates find internships and full-time jobs working in their career field and will help academic partners gain the information needed to help guide their students.
1. **Navigating USAJOBS (Finding and Applying for Federal Jobs)**
Thursday, April 13, 2023, from 1:30 – 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)
This overview covers key aspects of USAJOBS, the main online portal for Federal employment. The session includes how to create and manage a USAJOBS account/profile, tips on searching for Federal jobs, reviewing job announcements, applying for jobs, and how to follow up.

   Click on link to register Navigating USAJOBS Webinar Registration

2. **Writing Your Resume for Federal Jobs**
Thursday, April 20, 2023, from 1:30 – 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)
This session reviews unique aspects of writing a résumé that is specifically customized to apply for Federal jobs. Learn what information is required for a résumé that will make you more effective in the Federal hiring process. You will learn what to include, things to avoid, and what makes a résumé for Federal employment different from those used for private sector and other employment.

   Click on link to register Writing Your Resume for Federal Jobs Webinar Registration
   [https://opm.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QkHbv3QTpabtkooX6hBZQ](https://opm.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QkHbv3QTpabtkooX6hBZQ)

3. **Interviewing for Federal Jobs**
Wednesday, April 26, 2023, from 1:30 – 3:00 PM (Eastern Time)
Participants will be equipped to prepare for and engage in successful interviews for Federal jobs. We will cover actions you should take prior to, on the day of, and after your interview. Also, you will learn about the kinds of interviewing methods used by Federal agencies, the types of questions that may be asked during the interview, and how best to respond.

   Click on link to register Interviewing for Federal Jobs Webinar Registration
   [https://opm.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_-1dNu1dERay1DdXY2b1EVQ](https://opm.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_-1dNu1dERay1DdXY2b1EVQ)
Our Community Engagement Team has been across our six county region spreading the word about Great Jobs KC and signing adults up for the program. One person even got their friend to sign up so they could go through the program together.

Ruskin High School

Infinite Scholar College & Career Fair

Enough is Enough Resource Fair & Panel

North KC Transition Resource Fair
KC Scholars 2022 Traditional Scholarship awardees who will start their college journey in Fall 2023 took part in an in-person College Transition Workshop at the Kauffman Foundation conference center on March 14th to learn more about transitioning from high school to college. Through presentations from their current High School advocates and their future College Advocates, students and their families learned about how they could use their funding and resources available as they make the important decision of where they will attend college. The 57 students also heard about the support KC Scholars will provide once they are in college, such as how to navigate their campus resources, workshops, support, and important tips.
We Can’t Do It Alone

We all can make a difference.

Even the smallest contribution can help us make a huge impact.

Consider giving to provide deserving scholars the opportunity for postsecondary education. In helping members of our community secure employment that insures a good paying salary you will also be helping to racially and ethnically diversify our regional workforce.

We encourage you to support our Scholars.

Send a check to: KC Scholars,
8080 Ward Parkway, #402, Kansas City, MO 64114
or
Donate directly by clicking the button below
KC Scholars Supporter Spotlight

Our 247 volunteer reviewers have our never-ending gratitude.

“Capturing May 1st Scholarship Award Day on social media ignited a burning passion in my heart for KC Scholars’ purpose in the greater Kansas City Metro. As a Reviewer, I’m able to join others in my community to empower young learners, in an impactful, rewarding and personal way. While I’m no longer on the KC Scholars staff, participating each year as a Reviewer continues to fuel my passion for KC Scholars’ mission.” Libby Bottorff (formerly Kane)

See Our Impact

SCHOLARS SUCCESS

“My time at Mizzou has been amazing! Through grieving, break ups, and just pure stress (whew, to be 22) I have been able to persevere and hold on tight to God’s promise of a better life. Throughout my underclassman years I established a home here at Mizzou, creating community through multiple organizations such as United Ambassadors, Freshman Action Team President, and CASE Scholars. As I continued my education I became established on the Legions of Black Collegians executive board, National Alliance of School Educators Vice President, President of Mystical 7 honor society, Miss 1908 and Miss Congeniality in the 2022 Alpha Phi Alpha Miss Black and Gold Pageant, and founded the university recognized organization, Mizzou Black Creatives. I’ve also been blessed with internships in both Michigan and North Carolina every summer teaching Freedom School to students of color!!

I have been beyond blessed with several mentors, friends, and colleagues that have all contributed greatly to my success here. I am beyond grateful for everyone who has invested and catered to me through these years. Thank you so much.”

N’ya Fritz
I wanted to let you know that I have finished my Medication Aide course. I passed my in class final and my State Exam today! Thank you for all your help and I want to thank everyone for assisting me with the gas card. It’s much appreciated.

Jasmine Brown
Team Tidbits

We’re GROWING!
Below are the current KC Scholars team opportunities.

Human Resources Generalist
Marketing Assistant
Marketing Analyst
Scholar Advocate
Great Jobs KC
Data Architect

Check out how great it is to work here!
Apply on our career page

https://kcscholars.org/join-our-team/
In The Media

Angie on Caring for KC podcast
https://omny.fm/shows/cumulus-kansas-city-podcasts/caring-for-kc-part-2-of-kcpd-police-chief-stacey-g

Our 500th person to sign up for a Great Jobs KC program, Andre Forbes Jr.

In honor of Women’s History Month one of our Great Jobs KC women scholars was interviewed on KMBZ Radio.
https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#/report/2f018030-3c74-4b0e-aaee-9f7844ce4b9c/clip/77d97397-4a18-479f-a4a0-a0d302b43242/play

Tia Johnson was one of our first adult learner scholarship awardees
https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#/report/13c1c61d-bcb5-4e0c-ad29-6cc2ebd2606a/clip/9e47eb32-de49-4928-b0e8-8824373581a7/play

Divinity Rollen recently began a training program in healthcare through Great Jobs KC
Our 500th person to sign up for a Great Jobs KC program, Andre Forbes Jr.
In honor of Women’s History Month one of our Great Jobs KC women scholars was interviewed on KMBZ Radio.

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KC Scholars and two of our worthy women recipients were featured on FOX 4 News about their experience.
Divinity Rollen recently began a training program in healthcare through Great Jobs KC

https://app.criticalmention.com/app/#/report/13c1c61d-bcb5-4e0c-ad29-6cc2ebd2606a/clip/9e47eb32-de49-4928-b0e8-8824373581a7/play
Ewing Kauffman wanted Kansas City to thrive. Here’s how to make it happen for everyone | Opinion

BY ESTHER GEORGE SPECIAL TO THE STAR
MARCH 29, 2023 5:06 AM

For example, Kansas City schools, businesses and families are redefining high school by daring to reimagine education for the real world. The Real World Learning initiative activates communities to provide all students with real-world experiences and market value assets. The initiative actively supports more than 30 school districts, representing more than 80,000 students.

Community-driven initiatives such as KC Scholars, Great Jobs KC and ProX are making traditional and alternative pathways to enter and advance in the workforce more accessible, with the resources to support tens of thousands of skilled and diverse professionals who will drive the region’s economy in the years to come.

Link to article
https://www.kansascity.com/article273685285.html
Traditional lenders and capital innovators are deploying new financial models to increase equitable funding for small business owners — especially those who are Black, Latino and women.

Significant investments in early education, closing the digital divide and other supports from public sources such as the federal government and the states of Kansas and Missouri are creating supportive learning environments for youth and families. However, it will take all of us — foundations, elected officials, service providers and potential beneficiaries — to help shape how that funding can be used to maximum effectiveness.

It is not coincidental that much of the foundation’s work focuses on areas with which Mr. Kauffman was familiar from his own life experiences as the child of a family of limited means. He believed Kansas City should be a place where every student can access a quality education and apply it toward their own success. Where entrepreneurs can find support, knowledge, opportunity and funding. Where key city institutions, organizations and programs are accessible as critical civic investments.

Yet, the fact is that far too many in our community are financially unstable and don’t see a pathway to improve their economic opportunities. The foundation’s work, through its grantmaking, programs and initiatives, aims to provide opportunities that help people achieve financial stability, upward mobility and economic prosperity — regardless of race, gender, or geography.

Link to article
https://www.kansascity.com/article273685285.html
We felt lucky asking you about St. Paddy’s Day and it paid off. Just a bit of fun in your day as we check out your answers and give you another fun survey to enjoy.

According to online estimates over 94 million people plan to wear green on St. Patrick’s Day, are you one of them?

Well, I hope 60% of you failed to do laundry the week of the holiday.

Considering the weather it looks like only 10% of you enjoyed the parade this year, since 90% of you said either it’s never your thing or only when the weather is A-OK.

Woah...70% of you are no fan of traditional St. Paddy’s Day fare.

60% split across the three big parades but I’m more intrigued by the 40% who follow the Leprechaun movies.

The results and the next round of BE BOLD can be found in next month’s newsletter.

Tell Us What You Think
Join us online **EVERY** Wednesday 12:00pm–1:00pm for a virtual information session.

**Join on your computer, mobile app or device**
Click here to join the meeting
Meeting ID: 221 112 442 485
Passcode: 37VfG6

**Or call in (audio only)**
+1 816–406–3910 618051675# United States, Kansas City
Phone Conference ID: 618 051 675#