HAPPY PRIDE MONTH
AND
JUNETEENTH
Happy Pride Month and Juneteenth!

I hope this past month finds you in good health and high spirits. I want to take this moment to reflect on the importance of both Pride and Juneteenth as celebrations of how far we have come as a community, but also to reflect on the strides we still need to take in our efforts for diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Pride Month celebrates the LGBTQ+ community, their achievements, and their ongoing fight for equality. It is a time for us to honor the courageous individuals who have paved the way for acceptance, understanding, and inclusivity. As a community organization, it is our responsibility to continue fostering an environment that embraces diversity and empowers everyone to be their authentic selves. We recognize that the unique experiences and perspectives of those from the LGBTQ+ community contribute greatly to the richness of our organization, and we are committed to work hard in making strides internally.

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. This historic day serves as a poignant reminder of the struggles faced by our ancestors and the continued fight against systemic racism. It is an opportunity for us to reflect upon our collective responsibility to dismantle racism in all its forms and create a more just society. At KC Scholars, we remain committed to educating and empowering our community to become advocates for racial equity and social justice.

At KC Scholars, we recognize that the journey towards true equality is ongoing, and we are committed to playing our part in breaking down barriers and building bridges of opportunity for all. Through our programs, initiatives, and partnerships, we strive to empower minds, nurture talents, and cultivate a community that embraces diversity, fosters empathy, and values the richness of our shared humanity.

To our scholars, remember that education is not just about acquiring information; it is about nurturing your curiosity, expanding your horizons, and becoming active participants in shaping the world around you.

To our partners, thank you for your unwavering dedication. Your passion and commitment to our scholars help create a learning environment that values diversity, celebrates uniqueness, and fosters intellectual growth.

To our parents and guardians, you are the first and most influential teachers in your child’s life; your involvement is essential to their belief in themselves, their growth and their acceptance of others.

Thank you for continuing this conversation with me. I am humbled to be part of this beautifully diverse and inclusive organization. I will continue to listen and learn from all of you and strive to make improvements as we grow together.

With gratitude and hope,

- Earl

**Scholars First**

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.

“**Oh wow, where do I start? I appreciate the opportunity you gave me to create the life I deserve for my family and me. You guys provided me the tools to build my dreams and I am forever indebted. Bless you all!**”

- LaShanda Richardson
We are proud to add two new Post-Secondary Network Partners.

- **University of Saint Mary** – providing fifty $100,000 scholarships annually for the next 10 years

- **Northwest Missouri State University** – providing fifty $50,000 scholarships annually for the next 7 years

“This partnership with Northwest Missouri State University creates an amazing opportunity for more Kansas City area students to realize their dreams of a college degree. At KC Scholars we believe in the impact of education on the financial stability of the next generation. Helping to support the dreams of so many through their investment in education by providing these scholarships shows the commitment Northwest Missouri State has to the community and those are the types of partnerships we strive to build.”

- *Natalie Lewis, COO KC Scholars*
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 leave a Google review:
http://search.google.com/local/writereview?placeid=ChIJl0jA8ZPvw1cR1ewob2APhHc
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.
Scholar Support Resources

If your business or non-profit would like to become one of our Scholar Support Resources helping to provide support for our scholars please reach out us at CommunityResources@kcscholars.org

JOIN US IN OUR MISSION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT MEDICAID HEALTH COVERAGE

Due to the declared end of the pandemic, Medicaid participants are no longer automatically renewed. All participants MUST complete renewal paperwork, which is sent out via postal mail. If you have moved and not updated your address with your state, you may not discover your loss of coverage until your next medical appointment. In order to continue receiving Medicaid coverage, you MUST update your information with the state.
In Kansas, enrollees can update their information by calling the State of Kansas at 1-800-792-4884 or visiting https://kancare.ks.gov/.
For personal assistance, El Centro provides Navigators in English and Spanish at 913-677-0100 or https://getcoveredkansas.org/find-navigator.
In Missouri, enrollees can update their information by calling the State of Missouri at 1-855-373-4636 or visiting https://mydss.mo.gov/renew.
For personal assistance, they can email the KC Care Health Center at navigators@kccare.org.
If you need assistance please reach out to your scholar advocate so we can put you in touch with someone who can help you through the process. If you don’t know who to contact at KC Scholars please reach out to communityresources@kcscholars.org
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.
In the Media

One of our 2023 awardees from Bishop Miege was featured in The Leaven.

Click here to view the full article!
Made Men is our partner that provides GED assistance to our scholars to get them on the path to job training and a good paying job. Below is a recent success story of one of our KC Scholars. Congrats Marissa!

Marissa was the first KC Scholar that we received here at Made Men! We want to congratulate Marissa, who took 2 and passed 2 of her official GED® exams recently! Not only did she pass, but she also passed with GED® College Ready + Credit, which means that she could receive up to 3 credit hours for her score! The passing score is 145, and the highest is 200, Marissa scored 176! She is on track to have her GED® within the 60 day timeframe.

Marissa is a testament that the process works, if you work it.

I just wanted to write to say Thank You.

My daughter, Sava Maeve Browning, just graduated from the Kansas City Art Institute and this could not have happened without KC Scholars.

She graduated with a double major and was top student in her class. Mom and Dad and all her family are so proud of her.

Thank you so much for the support.

Nadja Karpilow
Mom

Maeve’s Art.
“I just wanted to say thank you, and your team for helping me accomplish such a life changing experience, I am forever greatful to you, and KC SCHOLARS, I am ready for the world now!!! Also, or ps, lol, if I need you for any future endeavors can I reach out again, or is this a one on a dog and go?? Because I have something really big in planning and have been for quite some time now. Pss I also referred quite a few people to you as well, hope you can save their lives as you did mine, thanks again“

**James Carter – CDL**
In Our Community

We are spreading the word about Great Jobs KC in creative ways including on your next pizza order. Keep an eye out for our pizza box stickers when you order from area Pizza Huts and Papa Johns.
It’s Orientation Time!

Our scholarship program team is busy welcoming our most recent class of awardees into the KC Scholars’ family with our KC Scholars’ orientations. We can’t wait to see where these scholars will go and what they will accomplish!
We’re GROWING!
Check out our many career opportunities with KC Scholars.

Check out how great it is to work here!
Apply on our career page
https://kcscholars.org/join-our-team/
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#