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Sixteen Scholarships Awarded as Thousands of Area Students Attend CSRA College Night

An army of volunteers, sponsors and school reps assure yet another successful event

Aiken, S.C., Sept. 27, 2016 — More than 7,500 high school students, parents and educators from the greater Aiken-Augusta area recently met with recruiters from over 130 colleges and universities during this year's CSRA College Night. Scholarships, each worth \$1,000, were awarded to 16 students during drawings held throughout the evening at Augusta's James Brown Arena.

"We're excited about the amazing turnout from throughout the entire region," said Gladys Moore, Program Coordinator, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS). "We use virtually every square inch of the arena to help college recruiters provide much needed information to the students. One recruiter described it as the 'Super Bowl of all college recruiting events.'"

Highly valued as a "one-stop shopping" opportunity, College Night can help reduce the number of planned college visits for students, potentially saving them thousands in travel costs.

"College Night has been encouraging. Getting all that I need to know in one location was impressive," said Hannah Dyches, a senior at South Aiken High School. "This will definitely cut down on the number of campus visits I was considering. I'd highly recommend this to anyone wanting a college education."



Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Chief Engineer J.C. Wallace (right) presents a \$1,000 scholarship to Nya Burley, John S. Davidson Fine Arts High School, one of sixteen scholarships presented to students attending this year's CSRA College Night event.

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The event is now entering its third decade of service to area high school students. “Well over \$250,000 in scholarship funding has been offered to the tens of thousands of students who have attended College Night in the past. The generosity of our scholarship sponsors and much appreciated help from more than 100 volunteers are major reasons why this effort is consistently so successful each year,” said Moore.

CSRA College Night 2016 Scholarship Winners:

<i>Scholarship Winner</i>	<i>High School</i>	<i>Grade</i>
Kailah Brantley	Academy of Richmond Academy	11
Andrew Rae	Alleluia Community	12
Derin Hammon	Barnwell	12
Ma'Kayla Creech	Barnwell	12
Armani Sweat	Cross Creek	12
Lucio Alvarez	Cross Creek	11
Stephanie Petrillo	John S. Davidson Fine Arts	12
Jillian Toole	John S. Davidson Fine Arts	12
Nya Burley	John S. Davidson Fine Arts	12
Brenda Gordon	Lakeside	12
Kayla Rushton	McCormick	12
Nathaniel Owens	Midland Valley	11
Robin Mims	Thomson	11
Hunter Smith	Virtual Charter School	12
Laniyah Boswell	Westside	12
Maggie Smith	Williston-Elko	11

“My goal is to have a business one day selling my own product,” said Caroline Petersen, a junior at South Aiken High School. “And to be successful, I believe I need to strengthen my skills in marketing.” Petersen explained that she participated in the annual College Night Career Aptitude exercise that reveals academic and personal strengths.

“The counselor who worked with me during the exercise said the results indicated that I’d be perfect for marketing. So, I feel reassured that I’m making the right choices,” said Petersen. “There are so many more colleges than I expected and from so many places. The recruiters were extremely helpful.”

Moore acknowledged the contributions made by the members of the CSRA College Night Committee who meet together for months prior to the event. “They believe in the importance of this cause that benefits so many students. In fact, some of the members have been a part of this committee since the first few years,” added Moore.

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CSRA College Night sponsors include the U.S. Department of Energy-Savannah River Operations Office, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, SRP Federal Credit Union and iHeart-Media. Other contributors include: Aiken County Public School career specialists and counselors, American Association of Cost Engineers International (CSRA section), ASCO Automatic Valve, Augusta Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Augusta Marriott Hotel and Suites, CENTERRA, Communigraphics, Shaw Industries, and South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers (Aiken chapter).

http://www.srs.gov/general/outreach/edotrch/coll_night.htm

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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