



ORGANIZING PARTNERS



Press Release  
For Immediate Release

## Aspiring Black CPA Scholarship Recipients Announced

*The national initiative to provide immediate financial support to Black accounting students and professionals has awarded 100 scholarships totaling \$93,500.*

**CHICAGO**, July 5, 2022 – In 1921, 25 years after the first certified public accountant (CPA) certificate was granted in the United States, John W. Cromwell Jr. became the first Black CPA. He opened a door through which thousands of Black accountants would eventually pass. That door has opened wider thanks to the Aspiring Black CPA Scholarship—a one-time national scholarship initiative established to provide immediate financial support for Black and African American accounting students and professionals pursuing the CPA credential.

The Aspiring Black CPA Scholarship was supported by generous individual and organizational donations to the Black CPA Centennial Fund, which raised \$93,500 as part of the yearlong celebration in 2021 honoring the 100-year anniversary of Cromwell’s landmark achievement.

“Our intent was to help pave the way for more Black individuals to pursue the CPA credential and succeed in a more diverse and inclusive CPA profession,” says Todd Shapiro, president and CEO of the Illinois CPA Society, speaking on behalf of the Black CPA Centennial’s organizing partners. “The 100 scholarships we’ve been able to award, in honor of the 100-year commemoration, are going directly to deserving students and professionals to provide meaningful financial assistance to each of them as they strive to overcome their unique financial barriers during their pursuit of the coveted CPA credential.”

The scholarships will provide financial support for expenses related to preparing for or taking the CPA exam, including college tuition toward CPA eligibility, related classroom materials, CPA exam preparation courses, CPA exam application fees, tutors, and more. The Black CPA Centennial organizing partners are proud to announce the following 100 Aspiring Black CPA Scholarship recipients:

<b>Name</b>	<b>State</b>
Valencia Adams	Georgia
Dolapo Adekoya	Texas
Chinaza Akam	Illinois
Moyinoluwa Akin-Adamu	Georgia
Ashley Alexander	Illinois
Christopher Bailey	Michigan

Jamo Baldeh	Wisconsin
Japhet Bampelenga	Illinois
Tionne Battee	Illinois
Bettyna Beauchamp	Florida
Roxane Bile	Texas
Jalen Boyd	Ohio
Trinity Bracey	Illinois
Abdul Jawal Braimah	Illinois
Rajana Britton	Wisconsin
Andre Brown	Texas
Corey Brown	Georgia
Courtney Bryan	District of Columbia
Brittney Burke	Georgia
Amber Champion	Georgia
Veraon Clemmons	Tennessee
Seanette Culmer	Florida
Nia Douglass	Georgia
Darius Enoch	California
Shaska Fipps	Illinois
Iman Ford	Illinois
Hope Franklin Pierce	Illinois
Caitlin Fullerton	Georgia
Abigail Gayden	Georgia
Gabrielle Graham	Georgia
Buffy Gray	South Carolina
Olivia Gunter	Illinois
Patrick Gyimah-Danso	Illinois
Jazmine Hall	Minnesota
DeAndra Harley	Illinois
Marcus Harrell	Georgia
Tiana Hooker	North Carolina
Linda Ihedioha	Georgia
Jordyn Jackson	Texas
Naomi Jackson	Indiana
Della James	Michigan
Emmanuela Jean-Baptiste	Florida

Dedjrik Jefferies	Maryland
Creeana Jefferson	Georgia
Deandre Johnson	Colorado
Jemilyia Johnson	Illinois
Larry Johnson	South Carolina
Brenda Jones	North Carolina
Kristy Joseph	New York
Carel Kawele Kuzona	Illinois
Kasei Lewis	Missouri
David Long	Florida
Brittaney Lott	South Carolina
Jaheisha Marten	Florida
Marrionna Martin	Indiana
JeLissa Morgan	Arkansas
Nicole Morris	Texas
Samantha Munatsirei	Oklahoma
Allandria Munroe	New Jersey
Robert Ndaye Muange	Illinois
Nadine Nikiema	Georgia
Kemei Oates	North Carolina
Eldrin Oatis	Illinois
Gail O'Banner	Illinois
Ogochukwu Obiagwu	Ohio
Chiedozie Okafor	Maryland
Huzein Olagunju	Texas
Beauty Olonilua	Illinois
Lolade Onasanya	Illinois
Tasharie Ormsby	Georgia
Brittney Oti	Louisiana
Darrell Pacheco	Virginia
Kaydan Pascual	Illinois
Erica Peebles	Florida
Tiara Purnell	Louisiana
Enjolique Reed	Illinois
Tambreshia Richardson	Texas
Amber Richmond	Tennessee

Shelisa Robinson	Louisiana
Tiffany Rucker	Florida
Terrai Runnels	Texas
Reynard Scott	Arkansas
Nia Simmons	Indiana
Kirstyn Smith	California
Dante Steele	Maryland
Javenia Stephens	Georgia
Louvenia Stephens	Georgia
Michael Sterling	Florida
Eric Tamakloe	Illinois
Elizabeth Taylor	Georgia
Erica Thomas	Georgia
Terkessa Toombs	Nevada
Mercy Towett	North Carolina
Danielle Troupe	Indiana
Jazmine Turner	Texas
Deborah Warmate	Alabama
Lorenzo Watson-Lemarche	Illinois
Caira Williams	Georgia
Marquis Williams	Massachusetts
Faddimatou Zebou	Maryland

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### **About the Black CPA Centennial**

The Black CPA Centennial was a yearlong celebration in recognition of the 100-year anniversary of the licensing of the first Black CPA in the United States, led by a consortium of organizing partners, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Diverse Organization of Firms, Illinois CPA Society, National Association of Black Accountants, and National Society of Black CPAs. Visit [www.BlackCPACentennial.cpa](http://www.BlackCPACentennial.cpa) for more information.

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