



For Immediate Release

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SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED AT READING HOUSING AUTHORITY

Celebrating the Stokes Stitt Scholarship, the L. DeWitt Boosel Memorial Scholarship, and the Paul G. Pecharko Memorial Scholarship

Reading, PA – April 19, 2024 – Five residents of the Reading Housing Authority (RHA) Public Housing & Housing Choice Voucher Programs have a bright future ahead, having been chosen to receive assistance to support their academic ambitions. Caterin Ortiz of Glenside Homes and Jeremiah Santiago of Oakbrook Homes, both seniors at Reading High School, are the winners of the 2024 Stokes Stitt Scholarship competition. Named after a long-time Commissioner who believed higher education to be the pathway out of poverty, a \$2,000 per year award, renewable for up to four years, has been awarded to 35 recipients since its origin in 2001, representing an investment in participant's futures exceeding \$100,000.

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Association of Housing and Redevelopment Agencies (PAHRA), RHA will also honor Aaliyah Zambrano of the Housing Choice Voucher Program and Brian Estevez of Oakbrook Homes, both recipients of the L. DeWitt Boosel Memorial Scholarship. Additionally, RHA will recognize Lindsey Leon, who has been awarded the Paul G. Pecharko Memorial Scholarship. Notably, Ms. Leon was also the recipient of the 2023 Stokes Stitt Scholarship.

According to Chairwoman Lorena P. Keely, "The recognition of resident achievement through these scholarship programs is among the most celebrated time of year for RHA! These talented young people have taken us at our word—that RHA will 'provide the foundation for people to find a home of hope and achieve their aspirations.' We could not be more proud and excited for Caterin, Jeremiah, Aaliyah, Brian, and Lindsey as they continue to pursue their educational goals. Their determination and hard work, and our support and recognition, is an integral part of the Authority's commitment to both our residents and the entire City of Reading and they are part of both the Authority's and City's bright and prosperous future!"

Recipients will be honored by the Board of Commissioners at RHA's monthly meeting at 4pm on April 23, 2024, at the William W. Willis Center for Administration, 400 Hancock Boulevard, Reading 19611.

Founded in 1939 to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing, RHA's mission has evolved to include a significant emphasis upon service-enriched housing aimed at helping households gain economic self-sufficiency and older adults and persons with disabilities live and thrive in communities of their choosing. The Stokes Stitt Scholarship Program and the organization's partnership with PAHRA are but one method to deliver upon this commitment to residents of the City of Reading.

Applications Office

120 South 6th Street
Reading, PA 19602-1653
610-372-3933

applications@readingha.org

North Campus

Glenside Homes
Hensler Homes
River Oak Apartments
1301 Schuylkill Avenue
Reading, PA 19601-1601
610-375-4307

northcampus@readingha.org

South Campus

Oakbrook Homes
Sylvania Homes
1001 Scott Street
Reading, PA 19611-1797
610-777-7627

southcampus@readingha.org

Center City

George M. Rhodes Apartments
Dwight D. Eisenhower Apartments
Samuel Hubert Apartments
Kennedy Towers
Franklin Tower
Emma Lazarus Townhomes
835 Franklin Street
Reading, PA 19602-1150
610-372-4629

centercity@readingha.org

Office of Voucher Programs

400 Hancock Boulevard
Reading, PA 19611-1802
610-373-5088

section8@readingha.org

Resident Services Department

300 South 4th Street
Reading, PA 19602-2349
610-376-8413

residentservices@readingha.org

Willis Center for Administration

400 Hancock Boulevard
Reading, PA 19611-1802
610-775-4813

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Providing the foundation for people to find a home of hope and achieve their aspirations