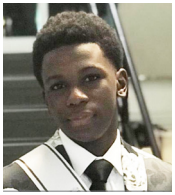
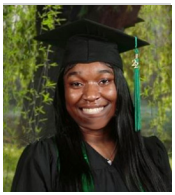
2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees



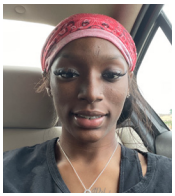
Jubril Olajuwon Ayoola
Graduated from Dunbar Vocational Career Academy
Attending Eastern Illinois University

Colin Ballentine
Graduated from Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy
Attending Morehouse College

Zakiyyah Batchelor
Graduated from Corliss High School
Attending Tuskegee University



Maché Nicole Browder
Graduated from Ogden International High School of Chicago
Attending Kentucky State University



Arielle Zariah Alexus Brown
Graduated from Hyde Park Academy High School
Attending Roosevelt University

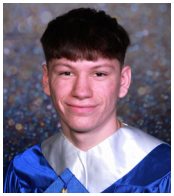
2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

Alexis Castillo
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending University of Illinois Chicago

Neja B. Childs
Graduated from Hyde Park Academy High School
Attending Jackson State University

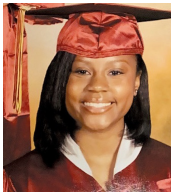
Irene Crespo
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Saint Xavier University

Julian Fitzgerald Crowell
Graduated from Chicago Christian High School
Attending Saint Louis University



Anthony Cruz
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Columbia College Chicago

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

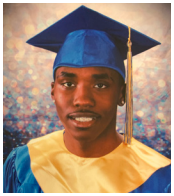


Kamryn Nicole Dancy
Graduated from Lindblom Math and Science Academy
Attending University of San Francisco

Anarre'a Ny'Layah Dangerfield
Graduated from North-Grand High School
Attending Louisiana State University

Malik Bakai Dismukes
Graduated from Dwight D. Eisenhower High School
Attending Southern Illinois University

Devin D. Dixson
Graduated from James B. Conant High School
Attending Indiana State University



Jerrell Edwards
Graduated from Dunbar Vocational Career Academy
Attending Northern Illinois University

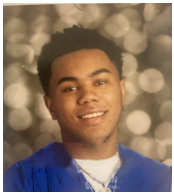
2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

Megan Flowers
Graduated from Corliss High School
Attending University of Illinois Chicago

Quintin Treavon Flowers
Graduated from Wendell Phillips Academy High School
Attending Southern University and A&M College

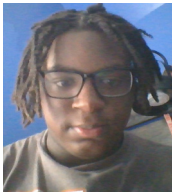
Yesenia Gomez- Hernandez
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Dominican University

Neovia Greyer
Graduated from Rowe-Clark Math & Science Academy
Attending Bradley University



Marquan Hicks
Graduated from Wendell Phillips Academy High School
Attending Southern Illinois University

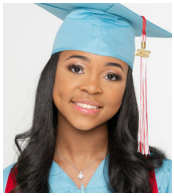
2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees



Fred Jackson
Graduated from Percy L. Julian High School
Attending Whitman College

Clyde Jamison
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Northern Illinois University

Grace Putrina Johnson
Graduated from Dunbar Vocational Career Academy
Attending Fisk University

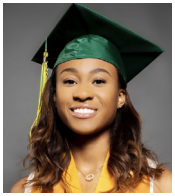


Jayla Simone Johnson
Graduated from Kenwood Academy High School
Attending Spelman College

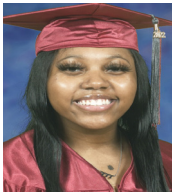
Robert Johnston
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Kennedy King College

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

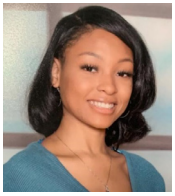
Ceanna Renee Jones
Graduated from Hyde Park Academy High School
Attending Eastern Illinois University



Kayla Lillian Jones
Graduated from Lane Tech College Prep High School
Attending University of San Diego



Makayla Kelley Nicole Kelley
Graduated from Legal Prep Charter Academy
Attending Northern Illinois University

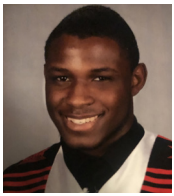


Kyla Rae King
Graduated from Dr. Martin L. King College Prep High School
Attending Harold Washington College

Kanyae M. Martin
Graduated from Hyde Park Academy High school
Attending Jackson State University

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

Darrion Artrell Mason
Graduated from Perspectives Joslin High School
Attending Iowa Weslayen University



Jamie Mathews
Graduated from Percy L. Julian High School
Attending Western Illinois University

Dwayne McGee
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Western Illinois University

Gabrielle Elise McWright
Graduated from Rich Township High School
Attending Michigan State University

Ganiyah Moore
Graduated from Wendell Phillips Academy High School
Attending Columbia College Chicago

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

Julian Muniz-Rivera
Graduated from Westinghouse College Prep
Attending University of Illinois Chicago

Aria O'Neal
Graduated from Legal Prep Charter Academy
Attending Dominican University

Floyonna T. Peterson
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Northern Illinois University

Courtney Pettis
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Bradley University

Bajah Malik Phillips
Graduated from Wendell Phillips Academy High School
Attending Texas Southern University

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

Kevin Ramirez
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Kennedy King College

Enilorac Archeval Rivera
Graduated from Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Truman College

JaKayla Marcia Rogers
Graduated from Ogden International High School of Chicago
Attending Kentucky State University

Lonye Scott
Graduated from Chicago High School for the Arts
Attending Grambling State University

Aliayah Scott
Graduated from Homewood-Flossmoor Community High School
Attending Saint Louis University

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Awardees

Delaiah Joelle Sneed
Graduated from Lane Tech College Prep High School
Attending Spelman College

Jania Miracle Southall
Graduated from Dwight D. Eisenhower High School
Attending Hampton University

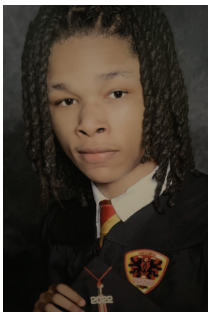
Tyla M. Watkins
Graduated from Dyett High School for the Arts
Attending Jackson State University

Jamari N. White
Graduated from Chicago Military Academy at Bronzeville
Attending Jackson State University

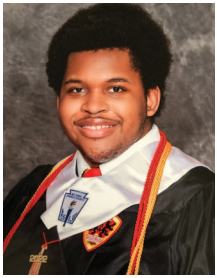
2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships
Essay Winners

Congratulations!
2022 Essay Winners

As part of our Trunk Scholarship selection process, applicants are asked to submit a short essay expressing why a post-secondary education is important to them. In addition to a college trunk containing the things they need to begin their college journey, the top three essay winners receive a cash award in the form of a gift card to help cover other fees and incidentals. There were so many outstanding essays submitted this year expressing strong ambitions for the college experience, we had a tie for both first and second place.



2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships
Essay Winners



First Place Winner (tied – two 1st place winners)

Jeremaih William Johnson

Graduate of Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men - Bronzeville Campus
Attending Grambling State University

Education/knowledge can never be taken away from me. Obtaining a post-secondary education is essential in ensuring a promising future. Education is a pathway for success. College will allow me to be able to the gain the skills needed to reach my goals and enter the job force.

My life began with me being diagnosed with Autism at the age of three. I could not speak until the age of 6. With several years of Special Education, Speech Therapy, and hard work, I am now an honor roll student, musician, singer and college bound. Unfortunately, during my journey, I faced bullying because I am "different" which caused me great stress. Looking for a way to deal with this stress, I found something that I truly love.

I learned at an early age to embrace something that I am passionate about. My passion is the arts. That encompasses photography, music and theatre. I am taking all my passions to Grambling State University this fall to major in Theatre. I will use theatre as a forum of expression and understanding. I want to use my "voice" as a vehicle to show others that there is nothing wrong with being unique and a true authentic person.

While earning a degree in college is important, it is even more important to grow as an individual. Having the ability to be in the presence of like-minded individuals striving towards the same goal will push me towards greatness. I look forward to every adventure that my post-secondary education has to offer.

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Essay Winners

First Place Winner (tied – two 1st place winners)

Jawon Rogers

Graduate of Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men - Englewood Campus
Attending Grambling State University

I see many things in my neighborhood that I wish I could change. I live in Englewood, zip code 60621. I've heard that my neighborhood is one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in the country. We are good decent people but we need investment and education.

Although I'm from a single- parent household, I've been fortunate enough to have a loving extended family who took me outside of the neighborhood for more educational experiences/opportunities. I would like to do the same for others after college. Thinking back on my school experience, I didn't have man adults I could relate to. However, the one teacher that has had a profound impact on my life is Mr. Brown. He is a Dean and a teacher. He's taught me and counseled me when I really needed guidance. His influence and encouragement has helped me decide to major in education. It is one way I feel I can make a direct impact on my community. I would like to use my life experience and incorporate it in classroom lessons when needed.

I hope to be a "Mr. Brown" for black young males. I plan to come back to teach in my neighborhood of Englewood. Black male teachers only make up 2% of the teacher population. I will major in Education and become a teacher to clos this lagging percentage gap. This is where I am most needed.

I recently lost one of my closest friends to gun violence. Before his death, I was debating whether I would go to college or begin a job at Amazon. After his death, I know I need space and time to continue my education so that I improve myself but also improve my community. I love my neighborhood of Englewood. Even with its issues, the neighborhood is filled with beautiful people who want better. Deandre's death made me focus on what's important I no longer just think about what I am going to do today, but rather what I do today will affect my tomorrow.

Second Place Winner (tied – two 2nd place winners)

Sabrina Ferrer

Graduate of Percy L. Julian High School
Attending University of Richmond

I grew up in a single-parent household being the oldest out of five children. I was practically the second mom in the house by age 13 and my mom dropped out of high school when she was pregnant with me, which automatically placed a weight on me. Being older had already placed this weight on my shoulders to be a role model for younger siblings along with being expected to get good grades. I made it my goal to do better. I'll be a first-generation college student on both my mom's and dad's side so it pushes me to make my family proud. I knew from personal experience that a college education can take you far in life, only a high school diploma can do so much. I wanted to be financially stable and never have to worry about money or my living situation.

Going to college also aligns with my interest in meeting new people! Though I've connected with people online who were miles away, college would be my chance to physically connect with these people. Colleges with large environments give me the chance to be able to meet all kinds of people. Being around children for the majority of my life has also inspired me to want to work with children. I want to mix both of my passions by inspiring kids to go out and explore, to find themselves no matter their circumstances. My goal is to become a pediatric surgeon, so I want to go to a college connected to a hospital. Life hasn't always been the easiest for me but my experiences help me grow and through this growth, I'm sure I will be successful.

2022 Revie Sorey Trunk Scholarships Essay Winners

Second Place Winner (tied – two 2nd place winn

Ke'rrell Robert Moore

Graduate of Urban Prep Charter Academy for Young Men - Englewood Campus
Attending Jackson State University

Growing up, I thought I was supposed to be the next big drug dealer because of the environment I was in. After all, how can you blame me when it's all I knew? All that I saw? No one ever taught me anything other than the streets so, I knew that was my path. As the years went on, I lost a lot of childhood friends to gun violence, drugs, and the system. After a while, I felt like I had nothing to live for and subsequently, I continued on the same path.

I would risk my life every time I walked out of the door and I was just so lost that I felt like no one loved or cared about me. That it wouldn't make a difference if I was gone. Well, that was until the day that I almost lost my life. Although I've been shot at many times before, this time was different. This time, it traumatized me and I think I'll be scared for the rest of my life. While in a moving car, I got shot in my back and my friend got shot in his head. As we were laying there, I just kept thinking about how he wouldn't even make it to his 8th grade graduation. I was then taken to the hospital and while being in a coma, I came to understand what I needed to do. I woke up as a different person.

Being able to graduate high school and go on to college was something I took for granted. Now, it feels like one of the most important things that I'll ever do in my life. I want to be someone who people will look up to. I need to graduate from college not only for myself, but to also encourage young men who were also lost to go to school and become something other than what they've been taught. I want to encourage them to find their purpose in life and know that they can succeed. Nearing my high school graduation, I am so proud of myself. I wasn't supposed to be here.

Third Place Winner

Antoine Kitchen

Graduate of Tilden Career Community Academy High School
Attending Harold Washington College

There are many obstacles I have overcome in my life. The most challenging obstacle I've overcome is when I decided to move out of my mom's house. It really started when mom became pregnant and I had to help a lot more around the house. I was already a teenager, and she had a high-risk pregnancy. I had been responsible for helping out around the house, but now I was responsible for it all: washing dishes, vacuuming, and making sure the house was maintained while she was on bed rest. I thought things would get better once she gave birth to my sister, but things got worse.

Once my sister was born, things drastically changed. School was not an option for me. I couldn't go to class and watch my sister at the same time; not even online during remote learning. All at once, my responsibilities overwhelmed me. I tried solving the problem by getting online for e-learning early, but that never worked. Things became impossible as I became burdened with caring for a family while learning what it was to be a young man. I needed a way out - I'm a problem solver - so I began to visit my father's home. This sometimes worked until my mom went back to work. I was always watching my siblings, including learning how to change multiple diapers at age 15 years old. I could rarely log in to my online classes because I was responsible for the home and my sister while my mother worked.

Summertime came. With my senior year around the corner, everything was looking good. My real escape from being responsible for my baby sister: I was going back to in-person learning!

continues on next page ...

Antoine Kitchen essay continued ...

I knew going back in person would be best for me, my education, and my mental health. However, my mother felt differently. She completely stopped speaking to me. I was shocked. It made me feel down. I felt betrayed and disappointed.

In the end, her silence gave me the motivation to push myself further. I was going to prove to her I could be more than she ever thought or expected of me. My responsibility was no longer for anyone else. I was only responsible for myself. I have focused my energy on bettering myself, taking care of myself, and taking my education seriously. Being young to me has always meant taking care of those around me. Now my responsibility is only to me.

While my mother's pregnancy during the COVID-19 pandemic was an obstacle for me, I knew my way through this generational curse of having to worry about my baby sister was to get back to school. I am determined to find meaning and purpose in my life by bettering myself. I've learned to rise above. I must be responsible for myself first. I plan on attending college and earning a degree in business. I will be the first person in my family to earn a college degree. I will prove to myself and everyone around me that I will continue to overcome obstacles and be successful.

Embracing our Dreams and Reclaiming our Future!

Congratulations Class of 2022

We are so proud of you!

Ada S. McKinley Educational Services