



Friends of the Bardwell Scholarships

With great pride, Bardwell Scholars honor Yolanda Hopkins. We began our relationship with Yolanda during Spring term 2000, continued as she graduated from Harold Washington College, and supported her through her many successes at Roosevelt University. This December Yolanda will receive her BA from Roosevelt.

The Bardwell Scholarships has been more than a financial blessing, it has become an intricate part of my growth and development. Providing me with the financial means to continue my education is only part of what I've received. The scholarship has provided me with valuable information that will carry me throughout my professional career and everyday life. The mentorship provided by Hedy Cohen has helped me through some very questionable periods in my life. She has provided for me an ear and a shoulder, both of which I have used often.

Bardwell Scholarships helped me obtain my Associate Degree in the Fall of 2001 and at the end of this Fall 2003 term, I will be receiving my Bachelor Degree in Psychology with the help of the scholarship. I was able to cross several milestones on my road to success and with the continued encouragement from Hedy Cohen and all of those associated with the scholarship, I will be able to cross many more.

Thanks to all who have supported me throughout my journey.



Yolanda Hopkins
Harold Washington 2001, AA Degree
Roosevelt University December 2003, BA
Bardwell Scholar

Johnny Phan was a work/study student assisting in John Wozniak's office during the summer of 2001. At that time, the staff began to know Johnny as the resourceful, hardworking young man he is. When he needed help to finish his classes at HWC, Bardwell Scholars were happy to help.

I have been a Bardwell Scholar for about a year. I kind of knew where I was heading with my future but I was not quite sure how to get there because of financial difficulties. One day Mr. Wozniak told me about Bardwell Scholarships and how it could help me. I filled out the application and set an appointment to meet with Hedy. At that moment I was a little nervous and a bit worried because I didn't know what Hedy would say or if I was eligible for the Scholarship or not, but when I met Hedy, she made me feel so comfortable. I basically told her a little about myself and what my plans were and she said, "We'll be glad to help you". When I heard that, I was so happy and felt relieved.

Now, I am finally graduating! This is going to be one of the most exciting moments of my life because I'll be the first one to have a college degree in my family. Now I can move on to the next step in my future, getting into the Fire Department or the Police Department. While waiting for that opportunity to come, I'm planning to transfer to University of Illinois at Chicago for a Bachelor Degree in Applied Psychology.

Thanks to Hedy, a great mentor, as busy as she is, she is always there to support us everyday, full of motivation and encouragement. I also would like to thank Mr. Wozniak, who is, I think, the busiest person at the college and probably has ten thousand different things to do in a day, and still took his time to help me correct my transcript towards graduation. Furthermore, I'd like to thank the people who have made contributions to the Bardwell Scholarship fund. If it wasn't for you, I would not have made it to where I am now. Thank you so much.



Johnny Phan
Harold Washington Graduate 2003
Bardwell Scholar

Visit our newly updated website at
www.bardwellscholarships.org

**Bardwell Scholarships thanks you
for your continuing support.**

An Interview with Retiring Harold Washington College President Nancy C. DeSombre.

by Priscilla Williams
Bardwell Scholar
Harold Washington College Student

Nancy C. DeSombre, a woman who wanted to make a difference, has a passion for education, reading, and working in her garden, loves traveling, the arts, and laughter, is about to retire from the presidency at Harold Washington College. She has been in the educational field over 43 years, holding the position of President of Harold Washington College for the past 10 of those years.

After finishing her graduate work at the University of Chicago, President DeSombre chose to embark on a life long career as an educator within the community college system where, coupled with her love of people and education, she saw the opportunity to accomplish her desire to do the greatest good for the greatest amount of people. Nancy is very personable, easy to talk with, knowledgeable, shrewd, and powerful. Bringing these leadership qualities to Harold Washington College as President enabled her to make important and necessary changes, diverting what would have been disastrous for the school to a major success, within her first four years. While change is often difficult and sometimes painful, she knew change was necessary to raise the level of quality education and for the good of the school.

Under her leadership the college received a ten year accreditation, the highest awarded and a first for the school. To the president, education makes the difference; therefore quality education is a must. She attributes much of her success as CEO to taking things a step at a time, setting goals, having confidence in her capabilities as well as others', hiring "good people", and never forgetting to say "thank you". Securing the right people for the job is most important. Surrounding herself with reliable people, not puppets, but people who, when given a task will complete it; people who follow instructions while having the freedom to be creative in their own right.

To Nancy C. DeSombre, education is the heart of her mission. Through it all she has achieved goals, elevated the standards of the school, and made a difference in the lives of those who have received a quality education.

To the students of Harold Washington she gives these words of wisdom: continue learning, you can never get too much education, believe in yourself and others, get involved and be passionate about what you do, and above all, remember to say, "Thank you". "Thank you" can never be said enough, nor do people tire of hearing it.



Retiring Harold Washington College President Nancy C. DeSombre with Bardwell Scholar Priscilla Williams.

Kim Lawrence, our first student to attend graduate school, talks about the many transitions in her life.

A New Beginning

Being the English nerd that I am, I decided to look up the word “beginning” in the thesaurus. Among its meanings were: “the initial stage of a developmental process, birth, dawn, genesis, nascence,” and simply, “start”. The month of August marked a new beginning for me. I decided to let my hair go natural. I am working at a new school, Westinghouse Career Academy. And last but not least, **I began my Master’s program at National-Louis University.**

Deciding to let my hair go natural was a huge step for me. Yes, I have decided to grow locks. Breaking away from the straight and manageable look to opening my eyes to the truth of my nappiness was an awakening for me. I made this decision after taking an inventory of myself and coming to the realization that I did not know who I really was. And now, after only two months, I still don’t know who I am, but I am closer to figuring it out than ever before. In this short time span, I have gone from avoiding anything and everything that would offer my reflection, to embracing every moment to adore my locks. And while it will take about six months for my hair to fully lock, I am well equipped for the journey.

At the end of June, Flower Career Academy closed its doors and graduated its last Senior class. That time was extremely emotional for me. I was happy for the students that graduated although I was somewhat worried about their future. I was concerned that I had not taught them enough for the “real world.” And last, I was scared to death because I did not have a job for the Fall. But, like my mom always says, “the Lord will make a way”. And that, he did. Around the middle of August, after spending many dollars on postage and faxes, I received a call from Westinghouse Career Academy. Soon after my interview, I was offered a position in the Achievement Academy at the school. While I had my reservations about teaching students with a myriad of difficulties, I was not going to back down from a challenge. My students have

a long way to go for achievement, but I can say that I am proud of their advancements thus far. Pray for me... I need it!

After some stimulating conversations with Hedy, I decided to pursue my Master’s program at National-Louis University. This program is absolutely wonderful! The class meets one night a week for three and a half hours. There are no tests. My professor is heaven sent. Our group has even gone out for dinner for a class meeting! What more can you ask for? Don’t get me wrong. There are huge readings, and numerous writing assignments. But, this is absolutely ideal for me! I love it - so far. The objective of this program is to conduct your own research in your classroom. That aspect of the program has me very worried. But, I am confident that I will rise to the call.

Overall, these new beginnings that now consume my life for the most part, are stressful, laborious, confusing, tiresome, burdensome, frightful, and downright rough at times. But, I am glad to say that I have a strong support system in place for times when I feel like I can’t take it anymore. Of course, among my support system is my family at Harold Washington College and the Bardwell Scholarship, who are always there when I need them.

Kimberly D. Lawrence
Harold Washington Graduate 1997
Chicago State Graduate 2002
Chicago Public School Teacher
Bardwell Scholar

Hedy speaks to Future Teachers.

The More Teachers for Chicago (MTC)-Tomorrows Teachers (TT), (formerly Future Teachers of Chicago) Club was honored to have Ms. Hedy Cohen as a guest speaker on November 14, 2003. The More Teachers for Chicago (MTC) Club is a support group at HWC for students whose goal is to become teachers. For me, as a Bardwell Scholar, Hedy Cohen always gives me motivation and encouragement to keep going forward with my education and she is also a

teacher. I informed my club members of some of her many talents and we all agreed she would make a good guest speaker for our club.



Hedy Cohen (third from the left) with students from Future Teachers, Harold Washington College.

Hedy gave a great presentation for all future teachers. She came in with a great smile and full of energy. It didn't take long before she had all of us feeling energized, too. After a few introductions, Hedy presented everyone with a teacher's care bag. The care bags all had a variety of items like hand soap, aspirin, deodorant, candy, coins, stickers, toys and many other things. We all were excited to receive the care bags. When Hedy started to explain to us the value of the bags and how the items in the bag could be useful tools for engaging students, everyone was amazed. We were all excited at how many new and wonderful ideas Hedy gave us for teaching children and making it fun to learn. Our faculty advisor, Myra Cox, loved the presentation and invited Hedy to come visit her Child Development class that she teaches at Harold Washington College.

Diane Richardson
Harold Washington College
National-Louis University student
Bardwell Scholar

A Celebration of Excellence

On Friday, November 14, 2003, the Mu Pi Chapter of HWC's PTK celebrated its' annual induction service for new members. PTK is the internationally recognized honor society for two-year colleges. Students who have earned and maintained a 3.0 grade-point average are encouraged to join and participate in PTK, which introduces its' members to scholarships, fellowship, and community service. PTK encourages its members to become leaders, both personally and professionally. This

year's theme, "If you build it, they will come. Building a circle of leaders," resonated with guest speaker Dr. Dortch's thought provoking ideas on the meanings of leadership. This ceremony is symbolic of the excellence that is expected and shared throughout the Harold Washington College Community.



Linda Murphy with her son, Michael Conigan at Honor Society induction at DePaul University.

The Bardwell Scholarship Program is proud to announce the admission of three of its' members to PTK: Sharon Beauregard, Daniela Changuan and Lukman Gbadamasi. Bardwell Scholar, HWC Alumni and former PTK Member Linda Murphy was also honored recently as she was inducted into DePaul University's Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society for Education. The Bardwell Family extends its' congratulations to all of the new inductees.

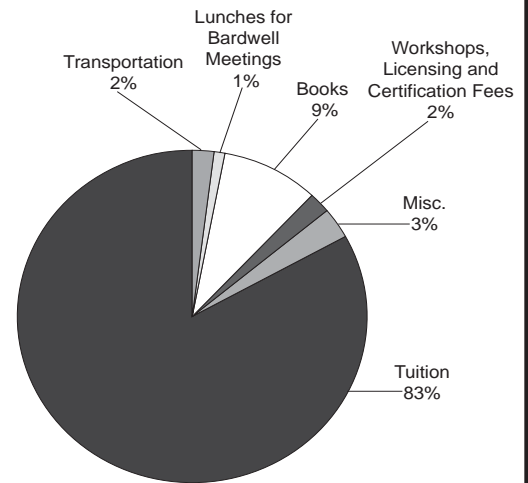
By Sharon Beauregard
Bardwell Scholar
Harold Washington College



Daniela Changuan, John Wozniak and Sharon Beauregard at Induction for Phi Theta Kappa.

**Consider the gift that will last forever
-EDUCATION-
through Bardwell Scholarships.**

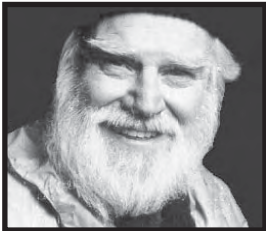
Your generous tax deductible financial contributions have enabled Bardwell Scholars to continue their important educational work. Yet, as a contributor to this or any organization, it is important to know how your money is used. Bardwell Scholarships is proud of the unique fact that all money goes directly to student support. Your contribution will be used for student tuition, books, and mentoring.



**Bardwell Scholarships Expenses
September 30, 2002 to September 30, 2003**

Contributions, which are deductible to the extent the law allows, are always appreciated and enable us to continue this important work. Please ask your employer if they offer matching funds or corporate contributions to nonprofit organizations.

Contributions to the Roger W. Bardwell Scholarship Fund may be made by check and sent to:



**Roger W. Bardwell Scholarship Fund
% Ehlert Finance Group
50 Lakeview Parkway, Suite 102
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For further information, or if you know someone who might be a candidate for a Bardwell Scholarship, please contact John Wozniak or Hedy Cohen:

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