



College Resources and Panel for Underrepresented Students of Color

October 8, 2020



The S2C program provides students with the mentoring, knowledge, and support they need to make it to and through college.

Introduction of Speakers

- Main presenter and moderator:
 - Aileen Aragonés, Manager of the Stevenson to College Program
- Panelists:
 - Tyrek Washington, SHS Class of '17, Student at Drake University
 - Citlaly Diaz, SHS Class of '19, Student at Illinois State University
 - Erika La'Shay Davis, Partner Relations Specialist with College Greenlight
 - Liz Houlihan, Director of First-Year Initiatives at University of Illinois at Chicago



Today's focus:

- Learn about resources and opportunities available in the college exploration and persistence process exclusive for students of color
- Hear insights from college students and higher education professionals



FACT:

Research shows that students who are involved in co-curriculars/have a “sense of belonging” will be more successful in high school AND college



Opportunities provided by SHS

- College and Career Center
 - Ongoing: Guest Presenters, Workshops, Grade-Level Presentations, and P-SCOPE meetings
 - PATS (Patriots Applying to School)
 - Career Exploration and Research Classes and Programs
 - Stevenson to College (S2C)
- Student Services Support Groups
- Student Activities
 - Various cultural/affinity groups and events

Helpful tip: Colleges consider student involvement/leadership in co-curriculars in the admissions process. Some even ask students to write a short essay response, defining their passion/involvement in a co-curricular!

College Exploration/ Admissions: Key Terms

- Summer Enrichment/Pre-College Programs
- Multicultural Open House Events (Often family-focused/friendly)
- “Fly-In” Campus Visits
- Ongoing, virtual presentations

Key websites:

- CollegeGreenlight.com
- HACU.net
- HBCUCollegeFair.com
- IACAC.org
- ISAC.org



Major financial aid/scholarship opportunities

- LEDA (Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America)
- Questbridge
 - College Prep Scholars
 - National College Match
- Gates Scholars Program

- American Indian College Fund
- Asian/Pacific Islander Scholars (APIA Scholars)
- Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF)
- Ron Brown Scholar Program
- United Negro College Fund (UNCF)

Key Resources when enrolled as a college student

- Academic Advisor
- TRiO/Student Support Services
- Multicultural/Diversity Liaison or Center on campus
- Respective academic departments
- Co-curricular organizations
 - Cultural affinity groups
 - Specific Greek Life fraternities/sororities
 - DEI coalitions/leadership teams on campus
 - Professional/career-focused groups



Transition to Panel



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Question for Student Panelists:

How did you choose the college you enrolled in? How much did your racial/cultural background influence this decision?



Question for Student Panelists:

How have you prioritized/explored connecting with your cultural identity as a college student and how has this helped you grow as a person?



Question for Higher Ed Professionals:

What are some opportunities/resources your institution provides for students to explore/connect to their cultural identity groups?



Question for Student Panelists:

How do you discuss your college experiences with your family members? How similar/different do you feel your experience at college as a student of color seems compared to your experience at SHS?



Question for Higher Ed Professionals:

What are some unique opportunities and resources you see across college campuses that are providing means for students of color to share their perspectives and lead for their campus communities and peers?



Question for All Panelists:

What advice do you have for students that are exploring their college options and want to consider the multicultural and diversity supports on campus?





THANK YOU!

