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Scholarship Support Architecture Exam Takers

WASHINGTON, DC. (February 22, 2021)—For the fourth year, The Desiree V. Cooper (DVC) Memorial Scholarship Foundation will award outstanding candidates a scholarship toward the cost of their expenses for the Architecture Registration Exam (ARE). The year with increased financial support the committee increased the amount and number of awards.

The jury, consisting of friends, colleagues and family of Desiree Cooper, commends the strong field of candidates.

Awards will be given as follows:

The Black Women in Architecture award to **Lecretia Janae Jones**. The jury was “very impressed with [her] consistent focus on community service to the community through different areas,” and said the “applicant is inspired and shows potential for genuine impact in the profession.”

The DC Memorial Award to **Ramatoulie Sallah-Muhammed**. The jury remarked she is “obviously super self-motivated; the number of community service organizations that she’s been a part of is pretty amazing.”

Two NOMA awards will be awarded. First to **Whitni Irving**. The jury wrote, the “applicant’s dedication and commitment to impact in the profession is admirable.” Second to **Colby Mitchell**. The jury felt “the tone of his submittal is so full of energy and passion for architecture and his community.”

An honorable mention in the Black Women in Architecture category will be awarded to **Natasha Graves**. The jury noted her “strong vision of the social impact she would like to impart to under resourced communities with her license.”

We wish all of the awardees and applicants much success in their future as they works toward completing the licensure process and advancing in the architecture profession.

The DVC Memorial Scholarship Foundation is committed to increasing the number of minority licensed architects. The committee thanks everyone who donated to support the scholarship and the jury for their time. We look forward to continuing our impact and offerings by increasing financial support and resources for future architects.

About The DVC Memorial Scholarship Foundation

The DVC Memorial Scholarship Foundation seeks to honor the life and legacy of Desiree Cooper by championing the things she was passionate about in her professional career and personal endeavors: providing continual service to her communities and encouraging minorities and women in the advancement of their careers in architecture. Since 2018, The Foundation has awarded DVC Scholarships in three categories: The Black Women in Architecture Award, The Harrisburg Memorial Award, and The DC Memorial Award. A fourth category, the NOMA award was added in 2021. The NOMA Foundation is the fiscal sponsor of the program.

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Please email DVCscholarship@gmail.com or go to <http://bwa-network.com/dvc-memorial-scholarship/> to donate or more information.