

## 2012/2013 ABRAMSON SCHOLAR GRADUATES

### December 2012

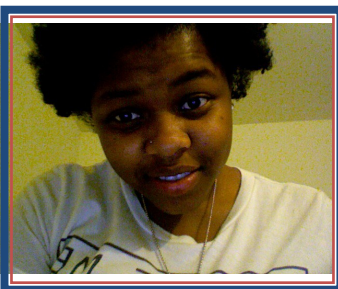


**Elaine QiLing (Ling) Li** (Bell Multicultural) had a very eventful winter. During the fall of 2012, her last term in college, Ling juggled work and school. In December, Ling graduated from James Madison University where she majored in Business Administration. She is now working as an Administrative Assistant at the World Bank where she maintains and updates websites. In a few years, Ling hopes to pursue a graduate degree to expand her business knowledge.

**Lily (Li) Zheng** (Bell Multicultural) graduated from George Mason University in December 2012. Li majored in Accounting and is now working as an Assurance Auditor for the CPA firm Clifton Larson Allen.



### May 2013



**Markeytta Harrison** (Coolidge) just graduated from the University of Virginia, where she double majored in Sociology and Communications Disorders. During this last term, Markeytta was particularly excited about her role as a facilitator in her Multicultural Education class.

That is by far my favorite class because we address issues head on such as racism, classism, sexism, etc., with no textbooks. WE are the textbooks. Every class you sit next to someone you don't know who doesn't look like you at all as far as race and/or sex is concerned...It opens your eyes to so much...This class is in place to break down comfort zones and allow change.

Markeytta describes this course as "amazing" and the best class she has taken at UVA! On the extracurricular front, Markeytta handed off her responsibility as President of B.E.A.T.S., a poetry organization, to her successor. She maintains contact with her "Little Sister" from a few years ago, when she mentored a junior high student. After the summer, Markeytta will work for CityYear in Los Angeles. This will give her experience working with children, which will be useful down the line when she hopes to work with children who have communications disorders.



## Recent Abramson Scholar Graduates, continued

**Kalon Hayward** (Duke Ellington) recently graduated from Fordham University where he majored in Theatre Performance. During his years at Fordham, Kalon was involved in many productions both on campus and in the larger New York community. Also, he has volunteered his time at Setting the Stage, an organization that mentors high school students interested in pursuing theatre studies in college. Last summer, Kalon spent a month at the highly prestigious and competitive Midsummer in Oxford program of the British American Drama Academy; a grant from the Abramson Foundation made his participation in that program possible.

In April, Kalon played the role of Christian in *Ruined*, a play by Lynn Notage. He has also recently become very involved in The Classical Theatre of Harlem, where he works part-time as office manager and assistant to the associate producer. Through his employment at CTH, Kalon was house manager for *Detroit 67*, which played at the National Black Theater in Harlem. He writes: "I look forward to seeing everyone at the Abramson Foundation soon. Thanks for all your support!"



**Louis Ngonzo-Biyo** (Bell Multicultural) is a recent graduate of Catholic University, where he majored in Civil Engineering. This semester, he worked on a senior design project, which he presented to a panel of faculty and engineers. In addition, he participated on Catholic's Concrete Canoe team, which competed against other teams in the region. Louis continues to indulge in his life-long love of soccer; he both referees in and around DC and plays on an intramural team. He is also extremely active in his church, Living Hope DC, where he attends weekend services and Bible Studies. He is very pleased that, after graduation, he will start work at Whiting Turner, a contracting company that has offices all over the country.

P.O. Box 7810 \* WASHINGTON, D.C. 20044-7810

(202) 470-5425 \* (202) 318-2482

INFO@ABRAMSONFOUNDATION.ORG \* [WWW.ABRAMSONFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.ABRAMSONFOUNDATION.ORG)