

The Danna K. Johnston Foundation | www.DannaKJohnston.org

6947 Coal Creek Pkwy SE, #389, Newcastle, WA 98059 | PH: 206-330-8884

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Summer 2016 Newsletter

Since 2008, The Danna K. Johnston Foundation has empowered over 400 youth from diverse socio-economic backgrounds to succeed academically and socially in high school and beyond. We are very proud of our achievements to date and have continued to evolve and find innovative ways to meet our objectives in a very cost-effective manner.

DKJ SCHOLARS

The **DKJ Scholars** program provides underrepresented, academically-sound college students with a supportive network that is comprised of financial scholarships, internship referrals and networking opportunities. Through **DKJ Scholars**, we are continuing to build our legacy of making meaningful impacts on students who have successfully demonstrated their desire to succeed through vigorous academics and community-focused activities. Program participants are required to maintain specific grade point averages, progress toward graduation and irrefutable community standing.

We are excited to add the following two outstanding students to our **DKJ Scholars** program roster:

Ryshun L. Sampson and ***Rahel A. Galato!***



Ryshun Sampson



Rahel Galato

Name: Ryshun Sampson
School: Cleveland STEM HS, Class of 2016
High School GPA: 3.9
College: Seattle University
Area of Interest: Business & Medicine

Name: Rahel Galato
School: Rainier Beach HS, Class of 2016
High School GPA: 3.79 (4.19 weighted)
College: University of Washington
Area of Interest: Biochemistry, Public Health



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Hear in their own words how your support directly impacts their path toward success:

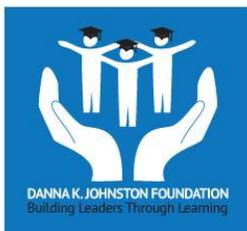
“DKJ Scholars will take a huge weight off my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school: learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I look forward to being involved with the DKJ Foundation and one day being able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.” – Ryshun Sampson, 2016 DKJ Scholar

“I am positively certain if given the opportunity to increase my education in the Biochemistry field, I will definitely strive and work my hardest to find a cure for HIV and save the world. All of these parts of me - the desire to help others, my cultural background and my love for science - will lead me to become a successful college graduate, a researcher and an advocate for impoverished girls in Africa. Thank you!” - Rahel Galato, 2016 DKJ Scholar

If you are interested in providing direct support to our cohort of DKJ Scholars, you can help in the following ways:

1. Fully or partially fund a scholarship award for (a) deserving student(s);
2. Arrange or provide a career-oriented networking opportunity for a student; and/or
3. Arrange or provide an internship interview for a student.

To learn more about all of our outstanding DKJ Scholars or the DKJ Scholar program, please visit our website at www.dannakjohnston.org.



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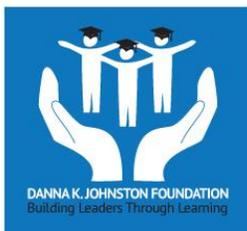
MAKING CONNECTIONS!

To help build collaboration between our local business community and schools, The Danna K. Johnston Foundation introduced Seattle-based Biopharmaceutical company [The Omeros Corporation](#) to Cleveland STEM High School Advanced Placement (AP) teachers and school administrators.



*Project Kick-Off: **Vince Florio, PhD**, Omeros Corporation Senior Director of Development presents study results to Cleveland Biology Students.*

The result of this introduction was a five-week student-led project that gave students a real-life work experience in the Biotechnology industry. After a few planning meetings between the Omeros team and the Cleveland AP teaching team, the project successfully kicked off with an Omeros-led presentation to the Cleveland students. Omeros Corporation Senior Director of Development Dr. Vince Florio presented The Omeros Corporation's results of a recent study for treatment of nicotine addiction to Dr. Granville Storey's AP Biology 100 class. Following the presentation, the students broke into six separate teams. Over the course of four weeks, the teams analyzed Omeros data and incorporated their ideas along with (cont.)



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(cont.) the Omeros findings into presentation slides. The project culminated over a two-day field trip to The Omeros Corporation's headquarters in downtown Seattle. Students presented their slides to Omeros and received insightful feedback from Dr. Florio and Omeros Chief Scientific Officer Dr. George Gaitanaris.



*Cleveland Biochemistry Teacher **Dr. Granville Storey** explains the feedback rubric to Omeros Chief Scientific Officer **Dr. Gaitanaris** in preparation for the student presentations.*



***Dr. Gaitanaris** engages Cleveland STEM HS Students in lively conversation as they present their slides to the Omeros Corporation team.*



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Dr. Storey stated “I think it really made some [of the students] believe that they could be real scientist in the future. It was a truly special opportunity. Dr. Florio was “so impressed with the level of understanding and scientific insight displayed by all the students” during the presentations.”



Group Photo after a successful second day of presentations!

The Danna K. Johnston Foundation wishes to express sincere gratitude to The Omeros Corporation for creating space for these bright, curious and hard-working students. You have made a world of difference in the lives of these young people. We also wish to thank the administration, teachers and students of Cleveland STEM High School for welcoming the connection. **Thank you!**

*The Danna K. Johnston Foundation relies on tax-exempt contributions from our community of supporters to make our programming possible. We are a non-profit organization that is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our Federal Employer Identification number is 26-4562466. If you would like to make an **on-line contribution**, please [click here](#) or visit www.dannakjohnston.org and click “donations”.*

To learn more about us, or if you have general questions or comments about our programs or organization, please send us an email at Danna@dannaKJohnston.org. You may also call us direct at 206-330-8884.

Thank you for your support!



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Thank you!

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DKJ Ambassadors

DKJ Ambassadors are civic-minded leaders who understand and support the DKJF mission. They have joined our efforts to bring hope, spirit and good will as we grow and expand our programs to neighborhoods throughout the region.

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