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Sixteen Scholarships Awarded as Thousands of Area Students Attend CSRA College Night

An army of volunteers, sponsors and school reps assure yet another successful event

Aiken, S.C., Sept. 29, 2017 — More than 5,000 high school students, parents and educators from the greater Aiken-Augusta area recently met with recruiters from over 130 colleges and universities during this year's CSRA College Night. Scholarships, each worth \$1,000 were awarded to 16 students during drawings held throughout the evening at Augusta's James Brown Arena.

"It's rewarding to see so many students having the opportunity to meet with college representatives of their choice, knowing this night could have a significant impact on their post high school education," said Gladys Moore, Program Coordinator, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS). "To see the joy and excitement in the faces of those receiving one of our college scholarships makes all the work worthwhile."

Highly valued as a "one-stop shopping" opportunity, College Night can help reduce the number of planned college visits for students, potentially saving them thousands in travel costs.

"I really like the variety this event offers, including colleges I wouldn't have thought of previously," said Aubrey Reynolds, a senior at Westminster Schools of Augusta. "The last two years I went home with bags of stuff to look through. I took that information, narrowed down the number



Representatives from more than 130 universities provided information and guidance to thousands of students during this year's CSRA College Night where scholarships totaling \$16,000 were won.

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of schools I'm interested in and started visiting them. It really helped me decide what I want in a college. Half the schools I'm applying to are a result of visiting College Night."

The event is now entering its third decade of service to area high school students. Over \$300,000 in scholarship funding has been offered to the tens of thousands of students who have attended College Night in the past. "The generosity of our scholarship sponsors and much appreciated help from more than 100 volunteers are major reasons why this effort is consistently so successful each year," said Moore.

CSRA College Night 2017 Scholarship Winners:

Student	High School	Grade
George Volz	Augusta Christian	11
Charlie Weathers	Cross Creek	11
Taylor Wilkes	Grovetown	11
Diaminz Brown	Laney	11
Jesse Seng	North Augusta	11
Katherine Lewis	Strom Thurmond	11
Davis Green	Technical Career Magnet	11
Sidney Boothe	Burke County	12
Shelby Rogers	Davidson Fine Arts	12
Skyler Tjouras	Evans	12
Timara Cates	Hephzibah	12
Saviaunn Tyler	Hunter-Kinard-Tyler	12
Christopher Westover	Lakeside	12
Lanaeja Williams	Technical Career Magnet	12
Shykimbria Mobley	Thomson	12
William Johnson	Warren county	12

"College Night has always been big," said Jody Wilson, Program Director, Military and Veterans Services, Augusta University. "And now, it's a huge event. All colleges look at this event as a great place to visit. And the breakout sessions found at College Night add so much value answering questions like 'How do I pay for it' or 'How do I fill out the FAFSA Federal aid application?' We can sit down one-on-one and answer those types of questions. It's an invaluable tool for students and parents alike."

Moore acknowledged the contributions made by the members of the CSRA College Night Committee who put in many hours of work prior to a long evening at the huge arena. "They have seen firsthand the positive impact of the resources provided to students from throughout the region. Their enthusiasm and dedication is truly inspiring," she said.

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Some of the colleges and universities attending this year:

- Aiken Technical College
- Auburn University
- Augusta Technical College
- Augusta University
- Clemson University
- College of Charleston
- Denmark Technical College
- Furman University
- Georgia Southern University
- Lander University
- Mississippi State University
- Paine College
- Purdue University
- Seton Hall University
- University of Alabama
- University of Georgia
- University of Michigan
- University of South Carolina
- University of Tennessee
- Valdosta State University
- Vanderbilt University
- Virginia Tech
- Winthrop university
- Wofford College

CSRA College Night sponsors include the U.S. Department of Energy-Savannah River Operations Office, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, and iHeartMedia. Other contributors include: SRP Federal Credit Union, Bridgestone Americas, CENTERRA, SC Society of Professional Engineers Aiken Chapter, American Society – Aiken Chapter, Aiken County Public School Career Specialists and Counselors, Augusta Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Communigraphics and Augusta Marriott Hotel and Suites.

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