

## Obama Donates Portion of Nobel Prize to Posse

On March 11, 2010, The Posse Foundation became one of only 10 organizations selected by President Barack Obama to receive a portion of the president's \$1.4 million Nobel Peace Prize award money, which he elected to donate to charitable causes.

### THE PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT IS A MESSAGE TO THE COUNTRY THAT THESE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NEEDED AS LEADERS

"These organizations do extraordinary work in the United States and abroad helping students, veterans and countless others in need," said President Obama. "I'm proud to support their work."

Within days of sharing the exciting news that Posse would receive a \$125,000 grant from President Obama, hundreds of Posse Scholars and Alumni sent in letters expressing their appreciation for the president's remarkable gift

and recognition.

"On behalf of the entire Posse Foundation, I thank President Obama for this incredible acknowledgment and support," says Posse President and Founder Deborah Bial. "For 20 years Posse has been finding outstanding young people and connecting them to the great education they so deserve.

"The president's support is more than financial; it is a message to the country that these young people are not only important, but needed as leaders. We are beyond thrilled."

The other nine organizations selected to receive donations ranging from \$100,000 to \$250,000 are: Fisher House, the Clinton-Bush Haiti Fund, College Summit, the United Negro College Fund, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, the Appalachian Leadership and Education Foundation, the American Indian College Fund, AfriCare and the Central Asia Institute. **POSSE**



President Obama accepts Nobel Peace Prize last December.

COURTESY WHITE HOUSE

## University of Southern California Joins Program UW-Madison Expands Partnership, Brandeis Sets Sights on Atlanta

The University of Southern California (USC) has signed on as Posse's newest partner institution and will recruit its first class of Posse Scholars from New York City this fall.

Additionally, the University of Wisconsin-Madison—which already recruits Posse from Chicago, Los Angeles and D.C.—has expanded the program further to recruit specialized Science Posse from New York City, making them Posse's first quad-city partnership.

Also recruiting Science Posse from New York City, Brandeis University will

now admit liberal arts Posse from Atlanta as well.

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Located in Los Angeles, California, USC is one of the world's leading private research institutions and the oldest on the West Coast. It is among the top 1 percent of the most selective colleges and universities in the country and is a global leader in the fields of communication, multimedia technologies and the life sciences.

With an undergraduate student

### USC SAID FROM THE START THAT THE LEADERSHIP ASPECT OF POSSE WAS WHAT MOST ATTRACTED THEM

body of 17,000, 12 percent of whom are first-generation college students, USC enrolls more international students than any other university in the country and offers extensive opportunities for internships and study abroad. The university also fosters a vibrant culture of public service and has received national recognition for its commitment

to community involvement and service-learning programs.

"USC said from the start that the leadership aspect of Posse was what most attracted them," says Posse President and Founder Deborah Bial. "USC's commitment to public service and their awareness of the importance of developing global leaders from diverse backgrounds, makes them an ideal partner.

"We very much look forward to the collaboration and know the USC Posse Scholars will have a wonderful experience." **POSSE**

## Nobel Laureate Speaks at Posse's Presidents' Conference

On October 12, 2010, Joseph Stiglitz, winner of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, was the featured speaker at The Presidents' Conference on Higher Education and the Economy, which was moderated by University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Carolyn "Biddy" Martin and hosted by The Blackstone Group in New York City.

Close to 40 chancellors and presidents from leading colleges and universities

### PRESIDENTS FROM LEADING INSTITUTIONS GATHERED TO DISCUSS THE ECONOMY

gathered for a discussion about the ramifications of a weakened U.S. economy for institutions of higher education.

The event also included a presentation on the need for diversity in STEM fields by Peter Bruns, professor emeritus of genetics at Cornell University and special consultant at Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

In addition, David Thomas, H. Naylor Fitzhugh professor of business administration at Harvard Business School, spoke on diversity in higher education and its impact on the demographics of corporate leadership.



LEFT: Joseph E. Stiglitz, Columbia University professor and Nobel laureate in economic sciences.

RIGHT: University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Carolyn "Biddy" Martin moderated the Presidents' Conference.



RIGHT: University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Carolyn "Biddy" Martin moderated the Presidents' Conference.

and equity in higher education.

To learn more about upcoming Posse events, please visit our website at [possefoundation.org](http://possefoundation.org). **POSSE**

## Carnegie Mellon Becomes Graduate School Partner

The H. John Heinz III College at Carnegie Mellon University has signed on as a Posse graduate school partner.

Heinz College will annually offer one Posse Alumna/us a full-tuition graduate scholarship to its School of Public Policy & Management or School of Information Systems & Management.

In addition, Heinz College has agreed to provide tuition reduction scholarships—worth about \$6,000 per semester—to all Posse Alumni who matriculate into any of their full-time master's degree programs.

Carnegie Mellon is a national research university located in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with over 7,500 students and 3,000 faculty, research and administrative staff. The School of Public Policy & Management is one of the nation's leading public policy research institutions.

The School of Information Systems & Management consistently ranks among the world's elite in information technology and information technology management. **POSSE**

COURTESY DANIEL BAUDA, SIDNEY OPERA HOUSE

# First Lady Invites Posse Fdn. to White House

On invitation from Michelle Obama, The Posse Foundation visited the White House on March 13 and again on September 21 to conduct workshops for students participating in the first lady's mentoring program—a yearlong initiative that aims to broaden the horizons of 20 D.C.-area teenage girls by pairing them with mentors who are members of the White House staff.



COURTESY WHITE HOUSE

First Lady Michelle Obama.

**A GOOD MENTOR IS SOMEONE WHO LEADS BY EXAMPLE. THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, THE FIRST LADY IS DOING JUST THAT**

Posse President and Founder Deborah Bial along with Posse trainers and alumnae Yinnette Sano and Tynasha Wright and director of training and evaluation Regina

Bain conducted the days' workshops. Mrs. Obama thanked Deborah and Posse for its work on college access and

stressed to the young people in attendance the importance of attaining a college degree.

The workshops focused on strategies for understanding the higher education landscape and tackling the college application process. Students filled out college "dream cards," talked about educational values, created a personal college expectation map, and explored culture, diversity and academic life on college campuses.

"Being invited to the White House for this project was truly an amazing honor," says Deborah. "It's difficult to overstate the influence a mentor can have on a young person's life. A good mentor is someone who, among other things, leads by example. And through this program, the first lady is doing just that." **POSSE**

# Gala Honors Bucknell Pres. Brian Mitchell



Former Bucknell University President Brian Mitchell accepts the Posse Star Award.

# Alumnus Founds Org. to Serve Impoverished Children

Ryan Letada, Wheaton Posse 5 (New York), graduated from Wheaton College in Massachusetts in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in economics. Upon graduating he set out for Manila, Philippines, on a Fulbright Fellowship to research the mass eviction of residents of poor urban communities. Less than a year later, he is preparing to send 100 laptops to two schools in small, impoverished fishing communities in the municipality of Lubang in Mindoro, Philippines.



Ryan Letada, Wheaton Posse 5 (New York) Alumnus and co-founder of eKindling, addresses group of Filipino students about XO laptop computer.

**MY EXPERIENCE WITH POSSE HELPED ME IDENTIFY MY PASSION FOR SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

In the summer of 2009, Ryan co-founded eKindling, a nonprofit social venture that seeks to enhance educational opportunities for underserved children. eKindling, short for education kindling, got its start when Ryan discovered the organization One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) and set a goal to expand its service to the Philippines. Since then, eKindling has raised more than \$20,000 from donors across the globe and has partnered with OLPC to help provide their low-cost XO laptop to its intended

audience: the world's poorest children.

"I want to provide children in the Philippines with the educational opportunities that will allow them to dream bigger," says Ryan.

Ryan and his family immigrated to the United States when he was 11 years old to escape poverty in the Philippines, settling in the Bronx, New York. He credits

his parents' sacrifice for the opportunities he has had to travel the world, pursue a Fulbright and receive a first-rate education.

"My experience with Posse and at Wheaton helped me identify my passion for social entrepreneurship and find ways to make positive change in the world through business and creativity," Ryan says. **POSSE**

On May 26, a record 600 guests gathered at Pier Sixty in New York City for the 2010 Posse Gala, An Evening of Stars. The annual event celebrates Posse's incredible partners and supporters who have demonstrated a commitment to education and made a significant investment in the lives of young people.

Among the evening's honorees was outgoing Bucknell University President Brian Mitchell, who was presented with the Posse Star Award by recent Bucknell Posse graduates.

**I DON'T SEE MYSELF AS A PARTICIPANT IN POSSE; I SEE MYSELF INSTEAD AS A SOLDIER IN A MOVEMENT**

"I believe that the Posse Program is the best exemplar we have of a private public partnership that links colleges and universities to policy objectives, to university strategic plans, to American strategic needs and to societal needs across the globe," he said. "It's important to realize that this has the capacity to change lives, to change cultures on college and university campuses and to reinforce an American ethos.

"I can say clearly that I'm very proud to have participated in Posse and will continue to be active in it. But I don't see myself as a participant in Posse; I see myself instead as a soldier in a movement."

Under President Mitchell's leadership, Bucknell became Posse's second tri-city partner in 2009, annually awarding more than \$4 million in Posse Scholarships to students in three cities.

Other honorees included Miami-Dade County Public Schools Superintendent Alberto Carvahlo, The Travelers Companies with Chairman and CEO Jay Fishman and, Derron Wallace, a Wheaton Posse Alumnus who is currently studying at the University of Cambridge on a Marshall Scholarship.

The hugely successful event, which raised \$2.1 million, was once again emceed by past gala honoree and *60 Minutes* Correspondent Lesley Stahl and included a special comedic performance by John Oliver from *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. **POSSE**

# Union Scholar Sets Out to Impact Medical Field

Tri Trang, Union Posse 3 (Boston) is a junior at Union College in Schenectady, New York. As a student in Union's highly competitive eight-year Leadership in Medicine Program—a combined bachelor's, master's and medical degree program—he is currently majoring in biology and economics and taking courses toward a master's of science in health care management. He will begin medical school at Albany Medical College in 2013.



Tri Trang volunteers in Rio Bamba, Ecuador, with the MEDLIFE Brigade.

**MY GOAL IS TO PROVIDE TOP-QUALITY PRIMARY CARE, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST**

"Union was my first choice," Tri says. "When I found out I got the scholarship I had a tough decision to make between Posse and going to an admissions interview for Harvard. Going to college with a group, a support network was the experience I wanted for myself."

Tri and his family immigrated to the United States from Vietnam when he was just a baby and settled in Connecticut before moving to Worcester, Massachusetts. With a long history of academic achievement and community involvement that began in high school,

Tri continues to be a remarkably active leader on campus and in both local and international communities. He co-facilitates an afterschool science

program and tutors special needs children. He has also volunteered as a trained counselor for a smoking cessation program at the Schenectady Free Health Clinic and worked at UMass Memorial Hospital.

On campus, he is involved with the student AIDS awareness group FaceAids, the college's environmental club, Habitat for Humanity and Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. He even founded a Hip Hop and break dance team called UBreak.

This past summer Tri interned with Posse Career partner Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts, gaining valuable exposure to different aspects of the health care field. He spent his winter break in Riobamba, Ecuador, traveling with the MEDLIFE Brigade, a team of volunteer doctors and students who provide basic medical and dental care to the area's poorest communities. It was an experience that particularly resonated with Tri.

"I have vivid memories of the very low quality medical care and dingy waiting area in the primary care doctor's office that served my low-income Vietnamese community growing up," he says. "That experience heavily influenced my goal to become a doctor and provide top quality primary care, especially to those who need it most." **POSSE**

# 480 Students Win \$67 Million in Scholarships



From a pool of more than 12,000 nominees, 480 new Posse Scholars in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, D.C., Los Angeles, New York and Posse's newest site, Miami, won \$67.2 million in four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships and are now enrolled at 37 Posse partner colleges and universities across the country.

Early this year each Posse site held an Awards Ceremony to welcome the newest class of Scholars, who were cheered on by their families, teachers and a welcoming community of fellow Scholars, Alumni, staff and partner college administrators.

Special guests at Awards Ceremonies included Lawrence University President Jill Beck, Union College President Stephen Ainlay, First Lady of Massachusetts and

Posse National Board member Diane Patrick, Boston Schools Superintendent Dr. Carol Johnson and Miami-Dade Superintendent Alberto Carvalho, who was honored at this year's Posse Gala event.

Several of the ceremonies also received local and national media coverage in such outlets as WJLA News in D.C. and The Huffington Post.

In its 21-year history, Posse has identified 3,148 exceptional young leaders who have won \$334 million in four-year, full-tuition scholarships to some of the most selective colleges and universities in the country. **POSSE**



#### POSSE AWARDS CEREMONIES (top to bottom from left)

- Members of Brandeis Science Posse 3 (New York).
- Reginald Glosson, Dickinson Posse 6 (Los Angeles).
- Hamilton Posse 1 (Miami) Scholars Marcela Delgado, Myles Hodges and Morgan Markman.
- Members of Lafayette Posse 5, Sewanee Posse 4, Wisconsin Posse 2 and Bucknell Posse 6 (D.C.).
- Karla and Erika Carrion, Carleton Posse 10 (Chicago).
- Boston University Posse 3 (Atlanta).
- Denison Posse 6 (Boston).



## Posse Alumni Gather for Annual Leadership Conference

On August 13, 2010, 110 Posse Alumni from across the country gathered at the second annual National Posse Alumni Leadership Conference in New York City.

Joined by Posse staff and board members, Alumni participated in various workshops geared at preparing them for success in graduate school, the workforce and beyond.

The event was once again generously sponsored by The New York Times Company and Posse Career partner Goodwin Procter.

Posse President and Founder Deborah Bial and longtime Posse Board member Hon. Mayor David N. Dinkins opened the event with welcome remarks.

Fellow Posse board members David Kabiller, founding principal at AQR Capital, and Nancy Mistretta, formerly of leading recruitment firm Russell Reynolds Associates, also participated as workshop panelists, offering their expertise on creating the ideal career and succeeding in the finance world.

Other workshop topics addressed how to get into a competitive graduate school and wealth building.



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A few of the Alumni attendees of the National Posse Alumni Leadership Conference.

# Campus Retreats Ask 'Do We Still Need to Talk About Race?'

This year, nearly 3,000 participants came together at different sites around the country to explore the subject of race at Posse's annual PossePlus Retreats (PPRs). PPRs are off-campus gatherings of Posse Scholars, fellow college students, administrators and faculty that address important campus issues identified by Posse Scholars.

Newer partner schools such as Bard College, Tulane University and University of California, Berkeley held their first retreats. The University of Wisconsin-Madison, a newly named quad-city partner, held its first multicity retreat, which boasted nearly 200 participants.

Current events such as President Obama's election, the appointment of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and the arrest of Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr., framed the retreat discussions, which considered the question of whether or not we are in a post-racial society.

Some of the workshops led by Posse staff and professional facilitators

included Blogosphere, which examines how comments about race differ in virtual forums, and Spaces, which looks at how race plays out in specific locations on campus.

## POSSEPLUS RETREATS AIM TO FACILITATE COMMUNITY BUILDING AND PRODUCTIVE DIALOGUE

Each PPR opened with a video on race, which, for the first time, featured on-street pedestrian interviews. The retreats closed with an activity in which participants wrote a children's book about race. Participants also completed a survey on the topic, which will be used to inform a report that will be released by the Posse Institute later this year.

PossePlus Retreats aim to facilitate community building and productive dialogue while exploring a topic on a national, campus and individual level. Past PPR topics have included social responsibility and education. **POSSE**



Attendees of the Brandeis PossePlus Retreat participate in a small group discussion.

### "ALUMNI" from page 3

Special guest speakers included Yale psychology professor and author of *How Pleasure Works: The New Science of Why We Like What We Like*. Paul Bloom and keynote speaker Harold Ford Jr., executive vice chairman of Bank of America Merrill Lynch and former U.S. congressman, who recently joined Posse's national board.

"To Posse Scholars and Alumni, I

congratulate and salute you," said Harold. "I am totally honored in every sense of the word to not only be a part of this organization but to hopefully help be a part of graduating the next generation of Posse leaders from our organization and across this country."

Hamilton Posse 2 Alumnus Loubens Theork, one of three brothers to receive the Posse Scholarship, was presented with the 2010 Ainslie Alumni Achievement Award, which is given annually to a Posse

Aluma/us who has achieved success and demonstrated the potential to create meaningful, far-reaching contributions to society.

Loubens immigrated to the United States from Haiti at the age of 13, and since graduating from Hamilton College in 2006, has launched a successful career as an analyst at Fidelity Investments in Boston and formed a nonprofit organization to give back to students in his native Haiti.

"The goal of the organization is to provide scholastic opportunities to at least 25 Haitian kids every year," said Loubens. "I strongly believe in education and providing opportunities for those who don't have it, helping them to advance their education."

In the spirit of giving back, one-third of Posse Alumni who attended the conference made a donation to Posse.

**POSSE**

## PARTNER COLLEGES+UNIVERSITIES

Babson College	Lafayette College
Bard College	Lawrence University
Boston University	Middlebury College
Brandeis University	Mount Holyoke College
Bryn Mawr College	Oberlin College
Bucknell University	Pepperdine University
Carleton College	Pomona College
Centre College	Sewanee: The University of the South
Claremont McKenna College	Trinity College
Colby College	Tulane University
The College of Wooster	Union College
Connecticut College	University of California, Berkeley
Denison University	University of California, Los Angeles
DePauw University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Dickinson College	University of Pennsylvania
Franklin & Marshall College	University of Southern California
Grinnell College	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Hamilton College	Vanderbilt University
Kalamazoo College	Wheaton College

### GRADUATE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College School of Public Policy & Management  
 Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College School of Information Systems & Management  
 Northeastern University College of Business Administration  
 Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management  
 Northwestern University School of Law  
 University of Washington College of Education  
 University of Washington Evans School of Public Affairs  
 University of Washington Information School  
 University of Washington School of Social Work

## POSSE MISSION

Founded in 1989, The Posse Foundation identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes. The Foundation extends to these students the opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams—Posses—of 10 students. The Foundation's partner universities award Posse Scholars four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships.

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