

THANK YOU
so much



Thank you for encouraging, supporting and investing in my future. I strive to honor God, give back to the community and live victoriously.
Blessings,

Lauren Forney



October 5, 2024

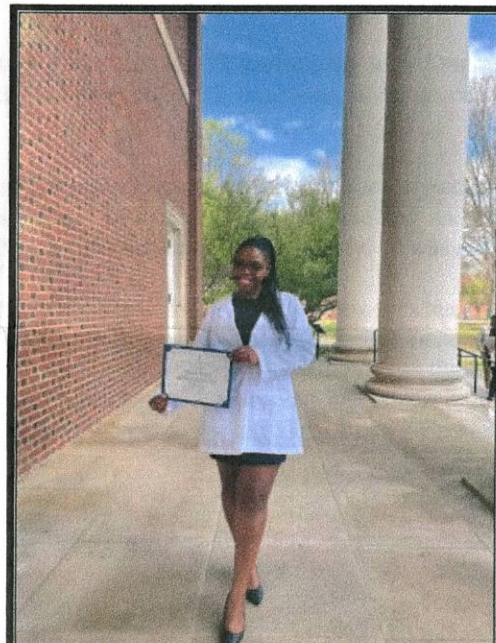
Dearest Bronx Brothers Scholarship Committee

Thanks so much for selecting me as your **Bronx Brothers scholarship recipient**. My ability to attend my dream college is because of scholarships. Please note I want to keep in touch with every organization that is helping me attend college by investing in me. I plan to send updates on how things are going in college. I hope this is okay. Some notes will be sent via email, and a few will be sent the old-fashioned way through the mail.

My sophomore year was a whirlwind! I've dedicated myself to maintaining a GPA above 3.0 while diligently following my graduation plan. As a **Peer Assistant Leader (PAL)** for the class of 2027, I reported back to campus early for training, engaging in the opportunity to connect with new Spelmanites and serve my cherished institution.

Adding to the excitement, I proudly accepted the role of **Community Involvement Chair for Spelman Protégé**, an organization dedicated to integrating incoming students into campus life. This position allows me to channel my passion for community engagement and leadership, fostering meaningful connections and experiences for our new Spelman Sisters.

My commitment to the **Spelman College Health Career Opportunity Pipeline Scholar (HCOPPP)** remains firm. Through engaging workshops, such as those hosted at Morehouse School of Medicine, I've had the privilege of interacting with esteemed professionals in various healthcare fields, from gynecology to dermatology, nurturing my aspirations and expanding my knowledge. I received my Health Career **White Coat** second semester. I moved from Affiliate to **Scholar!**



I continue to serve the Atlanta Community by volunteering at the **Atlanta Food Bank**, **Believers Church** where we support the homeless, and as an **Ambassador for the National Society of High School Scholars**. I was able to share with an audience about tips and tools for navigating college and never giving up on applying for scholarships. I also



volunteered with **Break the Cycle**, an organization focused on community service. Recently, I joined Spelman College peers for a litter cleanup in Atlanta. This experience reignited my passion for environmental stewardship, reaffirming my commitment to preserving the Earth for future generations.

Back in Texas, I proudly continued leading my non-profit, **Lauren's Community Service Academy**, where I successfully organized the **11th Annual Canned Food Drive this year**. Additionally, I've taken on the role of student ambassador for a local organization called **She is More than Enough**, dedicated to empowering teenage girls and young women. I had the privilege of participating in a live Instagram panel during Teen Dating Violence Month, where I shared insights on fostering healthy relationships. Please check out the recording if you have about 30 minutes to spare. bit.ly/3PoaZD2

Continuously, I pursue scholarship opportunities, emphasizing my commitment to driving positive change through service, advocacy, and resilience in the face of my health challenges. I was awarded the **John Lewis Good Trouble Scholarship** and the **Open-Door Scholarship**, as they mirror my efforts to support my community. Please take a moment to view the article written about the John Lewis scholarship. I was happy to be able to tell my story of how I am keeping John Lewis' legacy alive. Link to article: bit.ly/4ch6FPH

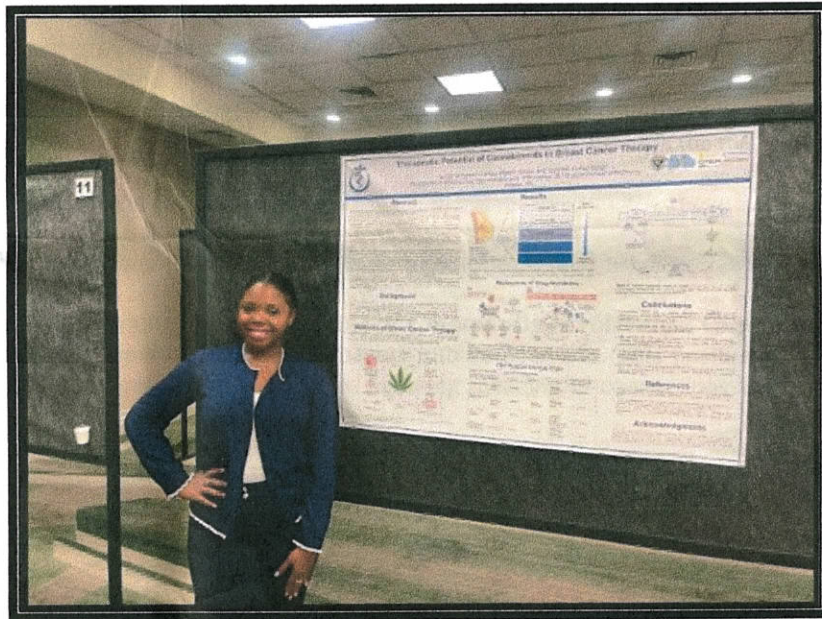
I'm grateful for every opportunity, the overwhelming support from my college engagement, and my Spelman Sisters. Despite the challenges of my to-do list, I prioritize my health with exercise, meditation, and naps. Please pray for balance and continued steady health.

The summer, was full of exciting opportunities. Firstly, was thrilled about my **study abroad** experience in Santiago, Chile, with a cohort from Spelman College. Exploring South America and immersing myself in a new culture promises to be an enriching experience. All of my years of taking Spanish paid off.

Additionally, I've been presented with the chance to participate in a **Dermatology Career Prep Program** in Washington, DC. This program aligned perfectly with exploring possible career aspirations and will undoubtedly provide valuable insights.

I've eagerly applied for various research internships to further enhance my academic and professional journey. I had an interview with the Georgetown School of Medicine, as it presented an incredible opportunity for growth and development. I was notified that I was waitlisted for this opportunity. I was sad for a minute about this.

I continued to believe one of the many applications I submitted an opportunity would come through—well it did! I will be involved in **Cancer Immersion Research** with the **Morehouse School of Medicine** for eight weeks. I was involved in interactive classes with students from Tuskegee University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, be assigned a mentor, and do a research adventure. I presented my research at the Cancer Research Symposium in Alabama. I was overwhelmed when I won **2nd place for my Oral Poster Presentation**.



I can't believe we are already a month into my junior year at Spelman College! I will save information about the start of the year for my next update. I'm continue to be committed to maintaining excellent grades, volunteering, seizing educational opportunities, and prioritizing my health.

Thanks again for investing in my future. Until next time!

Respectfully,

Lauren Forney

2024 Bronx Brothers Scholarship Recipient