MEET ALBRIGHT’S 2010 GOLD A AWARD WINNERS

The Gold A is the highest Albright student award and is given to seniors for outstanding leadership in campus activities, contributions to the intellectual, literary, musical, artistic and/or social life of the College; and for enriching the cultural life of the College and promoting a more congenial atmosphere.

These eight talented and hard-working student leaders from the Class of 2010 well represent the diversity, engagement and academic achievement of the Albright student body. Collectively these students received College aid awards amounting to $145,300 in 2009-10 and $571,596 over four years. Scholarships range from $12,500 to full tuition ($30,800 in 2009-10) annually. All of these students have also been student Ambassadors and been featured as a “Face of Albright” and a blogger for the Admission Office, www.albright.edu.

Andre Forbes Ezeugwu
Hometown: Parsippany, N.J.
Major: Music Business/Theatre
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” African-American Society, vice president; Albright College Activities Council; Concert Choir; Gospel Ensemble; Domino Players Theatre Company; Pi Kappa Phi; lead resident assistant; Student Government Association; Music & Entertainment Industry Student Association (MEISA)
Internships: WINWIN Global, music production internship
Off-Campus: Created own production company, Ifodige Productions, Inc.
Looking Ahead: Plans to earn a master’s in business administration. Want to be a corporate CEO.
About Andre: “One of the residential life staff cited a thousand small emergencies when he took command of a situation, soothed a student’s feelings, or solved the problem in a way that made the student feel comfortable. It was in small acts of love that she saw his greatness.”

Simon Foster
Hometown: Sparta, N.J. (originally from Australia)
Major: Co-concentration in Business Administration: Marketing and French, summa cum laude
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” Student Government Association, president; Peer Orientation Program, steering committee; Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, historian and public relations chairman; The Albrightian, advertising editor and manager; French Club, vice president and founding member; Campus Center manager
Research: Senior honors thesis on the impact of the changing media landscape on the advertising industry
Internship: With a marketing and advertising firm in Singapore, summer 2008
Looking Ahead: Graduate theatre program
About Simon: “The most effective student leader we’ve seen in 20 years, someone whose intelligence and institutional understanding were clear even in his freshman year, someone who committed his energies to nearly every endeavor on campus, someone who dressed like a student leader—heck, someone who dressed like a college president. His sterling example has lifted the expectations and the performance of everyone around him.”

Andrew Gibout
Major: Theatre
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” Domino Players Theatre Company; Mane Men (a capella choir); Concert Choir; Optimist Club; Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity; actor; director; Albright Lion mascot
Community Service: Alternative Spring Break for hurricane relief, Snow Stoppers
Looking Ahead: Plans to earn a master’s in business administration. Want to be a corporate CEO.
About Andrew: “An Albright original, he is known for his diverse involvement on campus, from singing as one of the Mane Men, on the stage as a Domino Player, and performing as the Albright Lion mascot. In all his work, in all his play, he has lived as an irresistible model of inclusion, of pride, of love.”

Takuya “Mr. T” Iwata
Hometown: Saitama, Japan
Major: Political Science and Psychology
Scholarship received: International Student Scholarship
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albrights;” Student Government Association, International Student Association representative; Inter Fraternity Council; International Student Association, president; Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity; Domino Players Theatre Company; Peer Orientation leader (POP); Albright Break Dancing Team, co-founder
Off-campus activities: Reading Community Players theatre company
Research: Two research projects in conjunction with the Psychology Department
Off-campus education: Graduate political science course at Boston University, summer 2008
Looking Ahead: Master’s and doctorate in psychology. Wants to be university professor in Japan.
About Mr. T: “With a leap of enthusiasm he has transcended the Pacific to land in the presidency of the International Students Association, in the thinking man’s fraternity – Alpha Sig, on the Homecoming court, and on the chapel stage as a break dancing contestant in every charity pageant we hold, demonstrating humor, creativity and boundless good will.”

BRITTANY MCLAUGHLIN
Hometown: Chester, Pa.
Major: Child and Family Studies, cum laude
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” Students Aware of Infectious Diseases; African-American Society, president; Gospel Ensemble, president
Community Service: Volunteer at the Cancer Treatment Center of America in Philadelphia
Looking Ahead: Now working as an adoption social worker at Presbyterian Children’s Village in Philadelphia. Going to graduate school at Widener University.
About Brittany: “A student leader who can build and cross bridges, someone with the loyalty to represent her home, her family, her church, but someone, too, with the intelligence to excel in her studies, with the talent to express her truth, with the generosity to throw a party for the whole community, and with the charisma to inspire the most gracious efforts of all her sisters and brothers.”

MALLORY OLSHESKI
Hometown: Reading, Pa.
Major: Elementary/Special Education and History, summa cum laude
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” women’s basketball, captain; Peer Orientation Leader (POP)
Community Service: Volunteer at 13th and Union Elementary School, tutoring children and helping teachers.
Looking Forward: Teaching first grade beginning in fall 2010. Will begin master’s program in education
About Mallory: “Mallory is open, curious, tolerant, kind and a perfect representative of Albright—excellence without attitude. She is such a good person, and yet doesn’t seem to notice how good she is.”

SARA PARSONS
Hometown: Towanda, Pa.
Major: Biology and Evolutionary Studies, magna cum laude
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” Admission Office, overnight coordinator; lead resident assistant; Albright Outdoors Club; Beta Beta Beta (biology honors society), founding president; Honors Program; Honors Club, vice president; biology lab assistant; Organic Conference leader; Lion Diplomat; intramural volleyball
Research: Biology, history and culture of the Mayans and the archeology of ruins. Albright Creative Research Experience (ACRE) project “Using Microsatellite Analysis to Determine Allele Frequencies in White-Footed Mice,” using landscape genetics to investigate the migration rates between two mouse populations using molecular techniques. Presented this research at the 2009 National Conference for Undergraduate Research and the 2010 meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists. Research in World Heritage rainforest in Australia on the aggressive social interactions and behavior of giant fruit bats.
Looking Ahead: Attending Miami University for a master’s in zoology. Wants to earn a doctorate and teach at collegiate level or work in conservation management.
About Sara: “For the last four years she has been not only Albright’s most skilled and dedicated biological field researcher, but also our most adept communicator of scientific understanding to a popular audience. Her down-to-earth fascination with the way the world works allows her to explain natural processes with precision, not pretention.”

ALICE SANTANA
Major: Music Business and Business Administration: International Business Track, magna cum laude
Campus Involvement: Albright Ambassador, “Face of Albright;” Student Government Association; GRAMMY U representative for the Recording Academy (Philadelphia Chapter); Dearden Honor Society for Business and Economics; Concert Choir; Women’s Chorale; LION Records, Co-founder (Albright’s first record label which helped develop an R&B singer and a rock band by conducting photo shoots, creating viral marketing plans, and producing and distributing a full-length album.)
Internship and off-campus education: Interned with Artists and Musicians of Latin America (AMLA), a nonprofit music organization that works with Latin musicians in the Philadelphia area and aids in artist booking and development, and runs a music school for children in the area. Attended MEISA national conferences in Long Island, Boston and Miami and brought home title of National Chapter of the Year the first year she was president. Traveled to Hawaii to complete “Field Study on Marine Mammals” course to study whales and the marine ecosystem.
Looking Ahead: Working as AMLA’s programming director. Plans to go to law school for entertainment law, earn a master’s in music business and work in the Latin music industry.
About Alice: “A pioneer in a new academic concentration at Albright, she helped not only to give it intellectual respectability, but also to make it a centerpiece of the College’s cultural life. She did not do this alone, of course, but through the art of collaboration—through a way of communicating enthusiasm, of showing respect that made all around her want to do their best.”

* Quotes from the Honors and Awards Ceremony, May 2010