

Thank you for your donation and continuous pledge to invest in equitable opportunities for the future leaders of our industry. In our first year, we raised \$95,750.

Many of you had the opportunity to meet and connect with the students at our Annual Convention in Dallas. We awarded four scholarships; the recipients are **Adenicka Blake, Damian Grooms, Jamesha Williams, and Shanicka Taylor**. Unfortunately, Mekhi Ryan could not raise enough funds to continue attending school and has enrolled in the military.

Impact Snapshot

\$299,250

This will fund 35 scholarships over 3 years

\$8,000

Each recipient will receive for the school year

19

We have the capacity to award this many scholarships in 2024



From left to right, Damian Grooms, Adenicka Blake, Shanicka Taylor and Al Hutchinson

Our program includes quarterly engagements such as virtual panel discussions with the students, career development opportunities, and networking opportunities with industry leaders.

We look forward to having you engage with the students and seeing them grow within our industry. To get involved contact, Jessica Reyes, EDI Manager, at jreyes@destinationsinternational.org.

The next page highlights what the students have experienced since attending our Annual Convention.

Your donation is truly impactful, and thank you again for your pledge.

Hear from the Students

Q: How was your experience attending our Annual Convention in Dallas?

A: “It was an amazing experience that broaden my knowledge on this industry. I have switched my major from culinary to hospitality! I am excited to be a part of the industry”
- **Damian Grooms**

Q: Are there any destinations you would like to visit from the professionals you connected with at our events?

A: *Somewhere in Ireland or England. These were some of the locations that piqued my curiosity.*
- **Adenicka Blake**

Q: What’s your favorite class thus far this semester? Why?

A: “My favorite class this semester is Hospitality Facility Plan Management. We’re learning about the depth part of the industry and what it takes to run a successful business.”
- **Jamesha Williams**

Q: What classes are you looking forward to next semester?

A: *Presently discussing next semester with my advisor - **The recipients.***

