



# THE MANAGER

www.nycmea.org

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## REWARDING BOLD GOALS

# THE 2019 MEA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

By Vanessa DeSantis



*Najee Adams*

Najee Adams never expected a college hobby to land him a spot on national television. A senior majoring in Journalism and Sports Management at St. John's University, Najee created a podcast on the NBA's Brooklyn Nets. When a professor with connections put him in touch with an Emmy award winning producer he wound up on the YES Network and his podcast received national recognition.

Which goes to show it pays to pursue a dream.

MEA's Career Development Program Joel Fishelson Scholarships help our members' dependent children like Najee realize their dreams by offering academic scholarships. Najee Adams won the top \$1,000 scholarship award. His mother is MEA member Beatrice Adams, a manager at the New York City Human Resources Administration.

The MEA selects its winners based on grade point averages, SAT and ACT test scores and an application essay. The top 12 award winners earned \$8,700 in prize money.



*Sarah Nicole Rosenwald*

A total of 24 dependents earned \$13,900 in scholarships.

"It will lighten the financial strain of my studies and I am so extremely grateful," said Adams.

Sarah Nicole Rosenwald, who received \$700, chose her field of study at NYU because medical history fascinates her. "I love learning the weird ways we used to think we could treat health conditions," the daughter of Robert Rosenwald, NYC H+H, said.

"We'll look back in a couple of decades and think, 'why did we ever do that?'"

She will use her Bachelor's degree in Global Public Health to work in health equity and education. The financial assistance will help her prioritize her time: more with studies and less consumed with odd jobs.

Samantha Rego, also a 700 dollar award recipient, was in the South Coast of Australia at the time of this interview. "For the semester I've been studying at the University of Melbourne. I've always wondered



*Samantha Rego*

why the plants and animals [here] are so weird and unique."

The junior at Georgetown majoring in the Biology of Global Health and minoring in Psychology is the daughter of Ronald Rego, NYC H+H, and the sister of a 2018 award winner, Erica Rego, who was completing her studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

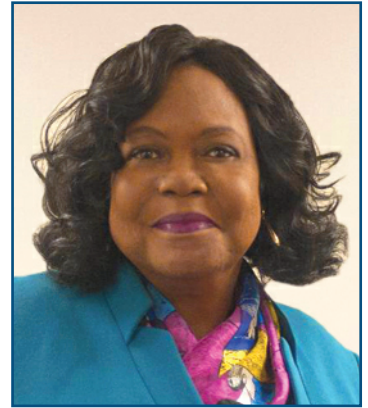
"I thought it was really important for me to leave the US to get a global perspective," said Ms. Rego.

The prestigious university also "isn't cheap." The award money reduces that burden.

The daughter of Agnieszka Lis, NYC H+H, is an NYU student doubling in Chemistry and Computer Science. Patrycja Lis plans on volunteering at a hospital in January. "I hope that will influence my career decisions in the future!" said Ms. Lis.

Patrycja, Samantha, Sarah Nicole, Najee and the rest the award winners said "Thank you!" to the MEA for helping them build their skills and succeed in school.

# Bits & Pieces



## OUR NEW ONLINE LOOK

*By Linda A. Barnes, NYC MEA Executive Director*

We recently finalized the first stages for enhancing our MEA website. MEA Executive Vice President Edgar Landas and I worked diligently with our web consultant to create a new image for our website. We are excited about the improvements that will benefit our members. Now you can submit changes to your contact details, view all the latest news, review upcoming events, and check out our recent activities on your computer or hand-held devices.

We encourage you to visit our website at [www.nycmea.org](http://www.nycmea.org) and view the updates reflected as follows:

**WHO WE ARE** – Our ability to communicate more effectively is usually enhanced when we can associate an individual's name and face during discussion. On this web page, our members have an opportunity to view the elected officers, the executive director, and their brief biographies. The names of our MEA staff are provided as well as a full listing of details for each Chapter Director. We believe this expanded feature makes it much easier to get to know us. Don't overlook our affiliate contacts located on this page, such as the Voluntary Insurance Program (VIP) and Toastmasters.

**MEMBER BENEFITS** – What a remarkable difference! It is so much easier to click on a specific tab and see an individualized brief description of each MEA members-only benefit. This helps our members make an informed decision regarding any or all of the benefits available.

**RETIREES** – Our Retiree Chapter has a page dedicated to retired members. Interesting news items, general information, events, meeting details, and direct contacts are available for immediate review.

**RESOURCES** – This section provides clear details related to some of our ongoing programs, links to other city services such as NYCERS (New York City Employee Retiree System), DCAS (Department of Citywide Administrative Services) and MBF (Management Benefit Fund). One click on a Resource guides our members directly to the required website without having to input additional browser details.

**NEWS AND EVENTS** – Previously, searching for an MEA news item or event could result in extensive time scrolling through documents or archived information. Our new site shows the most recent newsletter or events at a glance. No more click here, click there, click everywhere to obtain information.

**CONTACT US** – Our contact details have remained the same. On this page, you can ask questions or provide brief details regarding concerns.

This information is immediately transmitted to us for review and allows us to provide a direct response.

**JOIN MEA** – Oh what a convenience for us, as well as individuals interested in joining our organization! With just a simple click, an application for an active or retired city employee can be downloaded for completion and e-mailed or mailed to us. The best part of all is that applications can be filled in right online, signed with an electronic signature and sent to us immediately. Imagine, no stamps to purchase or waiting time to receive your services and benefits.

Yes, we are quite pleased about our new makeover, but our website will continue to be a work-in-progress for now. We are currently developing our strategies for upgrading our social media platforms. Our members will be able to communicate with us through Facebook, LinkedIn and other sources. We hope we can complete these upgrades in 2020. Please stay tuned.

## BENEFITS CORNER

# MAKING THE SURVIVORS' GUIDE WORK FOR YOU

*By Stu Eber and Larry Konstan*

It has been about a year since we published and put on our web site the Survivors' Guide and we wondered how many of you, as we, have yet to complete it.

And, for those of you that did complete it, or if not totally complete it but started on it, did you find that there were ways we could improve it?

Did we have too many items to answer? Were some of them not quite clear? Did we leave out important information?

We are ready to do what is necessary to make this document work for you.

Because we feel, very strongly, that this guide will be what your loved ones review and use when that time comes.

Notice what we said right up front :

*"Your very first step may be to find all the documents you need and put them where you are able to locate them"*

Your computer passwords are essential concerns for your heirs when you pass. We suggest that you review the website printed beneath this article for advice.

And then review: Do I have a will and an executor? Is my beneficiary up to date? Where is all my money? Where is my safe deposit box key and information?

Our guide will take you through all these areas and more.

And, once again, if we need to improve the survivor's guide do not hesitate to let us know by emailing your advice and questions to: [seber@nycmea.org](mailto:seber@nycmea.org).

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Go to this website for advice on managing your computer passwords:

<https://estate.findlaw.com/planning-an-estate/estate-planning-keep-track-of-passwords-access-keys-and-pins.html>

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### 2019 NYC MEA CDP Joel Fishelson Scholarship Program: Top 12 Winners

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS	PARENT/GUARDIAN	PARENTS/GUARDIAN AGENCY	COLLEGE	AWARD AMOUNT
Najee Adams	Beatrice Adams	HRA	St. John's University	\$1,000
Mia Forever Bess	Clara Guity-Bess	HHC	Howard University	\$700
Mariam Lawani	Abdul-Aziz Lawani	HHC	St. John's University	\$700
Patrycja Lis	Agnieszka Lis	HHC	New York University	\$700
Cesare Lucido	Cesare Lucido, Sr.	NYCHA	SUNY Stony Brook	\$700
Samantha Rego	Ronald Rego	HHC	Georgetown University	\$700
Sarah Rosenwald	Robert Rosenwald	HHC	New York University	\$700
Sarina Savage	Treva Taylor	HHC	University of the Sciences	\$700
Krista Segreti	John Segreti	DOITT	The University of Scranton	\$700
Stephanie Szpylka	Basil Szpylka	DOC	CUNY Queens College	\$700
Anesia Whitfield	Keshia Clark-Whitfield	ACS	Seton Hall University	\$700
Allison Wong	Diana J. Li	FDNY	Smith College	\$700



**New York City Managerial Employees Association**  
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**2020 MEA CHAPTER ELECTION SCHEDULE**

CHAPTER	CHAPTER DIRECTOR	ASS'T CHAPTER DIRECTOR	PROPOSED MEETING DATE	CHAPTER	CHAPTER DIRECTOR	ASS'T CHAPTER DIRECTOR	PROPOSED MEETING DATE
ACS	Vacant	Vacant	March 20, 2018	FDNY	Sophie Worrell	Shahadat Patwary	January 14, 2020
Buildings	Sanjoy Nath	Amitha Khatri	April 17, 2018	Finance	Zena Spence	Vacant	March 3, 2020
Comptroller	Ernestine Rivers-Merritt	Wasyf Kinach	May 15, 2018	FISA/OPA	Eric Reitzel	Herbert Hirsch	June 9, 2020
Community Board	Beryl Nyack	Vacant	September 8, 2020	H + H	Colette Pyrce	Elithea Maysonet	January 28, 2020
Corrections	Rabiah Gaynor	Vacant	March 24, 2020	HPD	Mario Guerrero, Jr	Vacant	May 19, 2020
DCAS	Tina Ramsey	Maria Frasca	November 17, 2020	HRA	Pamela Ross	Sandy Bryant	June 16, 2020
DDC	Vacant	Vacant	April 28, 2020	Municipal Chapter	Barbara DiFiore	Vacant	September 15, 2020
DEP	Peter Kontogiannis	James Caggiano	May 5, 2020	NYCHA	Carl Walton III	Tajhma Carroll	October 6, 2020
DHS	Shelia Corbin-Drackett	Jane Etienne	April 7, 2020	NYPD	Ramon Garcia	Andrew Krinsky	October 13, 2020
DOE	Hazel Wellington	John Hession	February 25, 2020	Parks	Laurence Major, Jr	Iris Rodriguez-Rosa	October 20, 2020
DOHMH	Cynthia Mont-Burbon	Shamecka Williams	September 22, 2020	Pension Systems	Vacant	Vacant	January 7, 2020
DOI	Vacant	Vacant	June 2, 2020	Probation	Nora Santos	Darrell Williams	October 27, 2020
DOITT	John May	Sherri Porcu	February 4, 2020	Retirees	Adrienne Leaf	Sam Borkow (Membership) Evelyn Nyman (Programs)	June 23, 2020
DOT	Raynard Edwards	Valerie Coleman	January 21, 2020	SCA	Annelle Grayon	Ricardo Forde	April 21, 2020
DSNY	Chudi E. Chiejina	Eugene Adia	March 10, 2020				
DYCD	Peta-Gay Campbell	Shakina Shaw	September 29, 2020				