

The Structured Finance Foundation

Investing in the Future of Finance



Students | Scholarship | Success

Background:

In 2020, the Structured Finance Foundation established a fund to provide scholarships to eligible students attending the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), a public historically Black university, who are pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in finance, accounting, or economics in its School of Business and Public Administration. The Structured Finance Foundation scholarship launched with an initial commitment of \$80,000 and has granted two need- and merit-based \$10,000 scholarships annually since 2021.

The scholarship fund complements the non-financial SFA and UDC partnership focused on curriculum input, educational briefings, job search support, informal mentorship opportunities, and full-time paid summer internships, and further contributes to the full suite of SFA's initiatives, which seek to promote diversity and inclusion in the securitization industry.

<https://structuredfinancefoundation.org>

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Structured Finance Foundation Scholarship Recipients



Manda Burnham, **Class of 2023**

"I am sincerely honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Structured Finance Foundation Scholarship. Thank you for your generosity which will allow me the opportunity to focus solely on maintaining academic excellence. I can give my undivided time and attention to my academic rigor. As someone who grew up in a household where financial literacy was never a decision, I will break the cycle and obtain the knowledge to help generate and grow my wealth and the wealth within my communities."



Hansi Lara Cruz, **Class of 2023**

"I am deeply grateful for the opportunity of becoming one of the second generation students at UDC awarded by the Structured Finance Foundation. It is such an honor to be called one of the most promising students and have the opportunity to access the benefits the association has available for me. Being an international student awarded this gift during my first year of graduate school demonstrates it is possible to dream big. Working hard towards your career, getting high grades, doing your best every time, and making an effort when an assignment comes, is totally worth it."



Brea Ellis, **Class of 2022**

"After taking a personal finance class and learning about compound interest, I developed a passion for finance and investing. Shortly thereafter I decided to take up a second degree in finance. The scholarship will help me focus on my studies instead of being burdened with financial stress. Additionally, taking part in events hosted by SFA can help supplement concepts learned in the classroom. The scholarship also helps with my personal and career goals by allowing me to graduate without any student debt. Furthermore, as a recipient, I will have the opportunity to connect with members within various aspects of the financial industry to seek advice and gain insight regarding their career journey."



Novae Sylva, **Class of 2022**

"I know first-hand how stressful it can be when you want to further your education, but you don't have the means to do so, especially financially. It warms my heart to know that we have organizations like the Structured Finance Foundation that are willing to give a helping hand to students who want to further their education but don't have the means to do so."

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Institutional Donor Initiative

The Structured Finance Foundation is seeking multi-year commitments from donors who would like to support the efforts of the Foundation to invest in the future of finance via ongoing engagement with the UDC student pipeline.

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Four-year commitment of \$10,000/year

Scholarship named in honor of Donor Organization

Donor Organization prominently displayed on the Structured Finance Foundation's website and materials, including recognition at the annual scholarship award ceremony at UDC in the Spring.

CONTACTS

Leslie Sack, Executive Director, Structured Finance Foundation

Anna-Liza Harris, Chair, Structured Finance Foundation Board

foundation@structuredfinance.org

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