

IMPACT REPORT 2023

AMOS



The
AMOS
Bursary

IMAGE: NEW YORK EXPERIENCE 2023

FRANCIS, INTERN AT AMOS BURSARY

In 2018, my association with Amos Bursary began when friends and now Amos Bursary brothers, Munye, Abolaji, and Franklin, urged both myself and my friend Myron to apply. Despite not being selected as a Scholar during the interview, I was offered a place in the Associate Programme, which initially felt disappointing as I aspired to secure the scholar role. Nevertheless, I maintained a strong connection with Amos Bursary through sporadic involvement as an Associate, communication with programme friends, and participation in Amos Bursary events.

This summer, when the opportunity arose to become an Amos Bursary intern, I eagerly seized it. Having just completed my final year of university, I believed I could play a crucial role in advising The Amos Bursary's young participants and share my challenging journey through education and the professional realm as inspiration. Grateful for the considerable assistance I received from The Amos Bursary over the years, I was driven to give back to the next generation, even if only for a summer.

One significant challenge I encountered was planning events within the relatively short span of summer holidays. Coordinating Amos Bursary's aspirations across various industries and academic institutions proved challenging, but with adaptation and the support of the dedicated Amos Bursary team, the outcome exceeded expectations.

While it's difficult to pinpoint a singular highlight, forming close relationships with students, particularly the 2022 and 2023 cohorts, stands out. Witnessing their openness and increasing trust as the summer progressed was immensely rewarding.

Acknowledging all students who engaged with The Amos Bursary over the summer, I want to highlight Jibril Rose for making the most of opportunities.

Our initial connection at the Bank of America event revealed his resilience in overcoming personal challenges to strive for a successful future. I have no doubt he will achieve great things.

My advice to incoming and future students is not to fear making mistakes. Embrace the journey, learn from errors, and strive for improvement. This approach builds character and garners respect from peers.

Reflecting on my experiences, I recognise the scarcity of role models during my academic journey. To prospective Amos Bursary interns, I encourage you to step up and be the inspiration these students need. Engage with them, offer support, and be present. Their gratitude will make your summer profoundly fulfilling.

Francis Nwofor, Amos Associate,
Graduate Essex University 2023



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INTRODUCTION



2023 has been a year of change with so much to celebrate. This impact report is not just a testament to our strategic vision but a heartfelt journey through a year of resilience and growth, where we've championed academic excellence and professional success for young British individuals of African and Caribbean heritage.

This year has been about more than statistics and targets; it's been a journey of determination embracing inclusivity, regional impact, and digital advancements as our guiding stars.

As we reflect on the achievements of 2023, it's not just about the workshops, events, and programmes. It's about the stories of triumph, the students securing paid internships, and the Youth Leadership Conference sparking insightful discussions under the theme 'Disruption - Steps for Radical Change'.

The heartbeat of our community thrived during Black History Month, celebrating cultural awareness and spotlighting the achievements of community leaders. The expansion of our International Experience programme to Ghana and the flourishing internship initiatives exemplify our commitment to providing students with enriching experiences beyond borders.

Looking forward, the journey continues with optimism and growth. Plans for 2024 include the establishment of additional programmes in the West Midlands, ensuring a broader impact on university choices and providing even more enriching experiences.

To each sponsor and partner, your support transcends transactions - it is a testament to a commitment to excellence, and a belief in the transformative power of education. Your support has been instrumental in our journey of operational efficiency and student progression. Beyond the numbers, the impact of corporate mentorship and internship opportunities has been profound, with a record recruitment of 172 mentors actively shaping the future of our students. As we continue on our journey, we do so with profound gratitude for your support, knowing that together, we are shaping a brighter future for the next generation.





We are especially thankful to our major funding partners, for their dedication that has paved the way for our progress.



Colleen Amos OBE
CEO, The Amos Bursary and Lumina Practitioner

Goldman Sachs funding has enabled us to focus on ensuring sustained growth of the programme and the launch of the West Midlands programme.

McKinsey's remarkable contribution in developing the funding partnership strategy has been exceptional. Their adaptability and pursuit of excellence played a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of our success.

In collaboration with PwC, we strategically integrated Salesforce, a milestone that not only enhances our operational efficiency but also underscores our firm commitment to maintaining the highest standards of data integrity and GDPR compliance. The seamless integration achieved with PwC's support is a testament to the power of collaboration.

ROKOS and Schroders' exceptional dedication to student development have paved the way for transformative progress for the young people.



Sarah Ebanja
Chair, The Amos Bursary

Sony and Bank of America's support for our student development projects and conferences has been a beacon of encouragement, fostering an environment of growth and learning.

The Live Nation partnership continues to play a pivotal role in the provision of scholarships, and student wellbeing initiatives.

In the spirit of collaboration, we extend heartfelt thanks to trustees, patrons, mentors, supporters, and our exceptional team of volunteers. It is the collective effort of the AB family and friends that propels our mission forward, shaping brighter futures for the young minds we empower.

As the Amos Bursary evolves, the echoes of 2023 resonate as a testament to our ability to overcome challenges, adapt to change, and persist in our mission of empowering young minds to reach their fullest potential. The journey ahead is marked by optimism, growth, and an unyielding commitment to promoting excellence, shaping futures and changing the narrative.





Lamin Tarawally, SOAS University

GLOBAL ASPIRATIONS

When describing some of the drawbacks of growing up in a low-income family, I tend to reflect on how the world used to feel 'small'. Although I was familiar with the maxim 'the world is your oyster', the most I travelled was within the confines of north-east London, the world's second-largest financial centre and a beacon of multiculturalism and opportunity.

And, even growing up in the trendy Hackney, I could not think beyond the local chip shop. The paradox is that despite growing up in a global city, my aspirations were very much confined to the locals. Fortunately, at a critical point in my development (the dreaded A-Level years), I joined The Amos Bursary. In the years since, my mindset and indeed my aspirations, have become very much global.

I was excited for the New York Experience and expected it to be an eye-opener. Yes, we did the usual tourist attractions; complained about the infamous subway; visited the New York Stock Exchange; walked the hallways of 'the' Goldman Sachs and I interned at Schroders (more on this soon); all of which were new but expected experiences. What made the experience truly life-defining for me was the unexpected and deep mindset shift. The experience moved me from just thinking that my reach and impact could one day be global, to now genuinely believing it.

I was fortunate enough to have a meeting with the CEO of Schroders North America, where I picked his brain on all things business strategy and management. This was followed by a 'Lunch & Learn' with a member of staff who is also a Professor at NYU Stern School of Business.

He gave Rubin (a fellow aspiring MBA student) and me, tips on getting accepted into a top US business school. And he offered to be our mentor (I definitely will be taking that up!). This is what I mean by mindset shift. The New York experience moved me from just thinking about my aspirations, to actively having discussions which put me on a platform to pursue them. Indeed, it has given me the knowledge, and network to make it happen.

The New York Experience allowed me to take that necessary but wholly intimidating first step. It has moved me from ideation to doing. I now genuinely believe my global aspirations are possible.



I study Global Development at SOAS. This means that I've had many debates about the pros and cons of the United Nations – I usually represent the voice of the latter. The New York Experience isn't only about corporate America, but also a study tour. I've moved from sitting in a small classroom pontificating to standing in the United Nations General Assembly. During a tour, I was educated and made much more aware of the global challenges that the United Nations addresses.

I have even grudgingly changed my opinion to broadly support the work of the United Nations. Learning how global institutions shape the world is the necessary detail to really understanding one of the ways that the 'the world can be your oyster'.

One morning, after Playing golf at Hampshire Country Club, I woke up with muscle and joint aches. The experience made me use muscles that I never even knew existed and wearing a polo and chinos at an exclusive country club made me feel like Tiger Woods. It reminded me of images I used to see on the news of President Obama playing golf. I now understand why he spent hours playing the sport! And on the topic of a former US President, we also visited Washington DC, which in common with Hampshire Country Club, also had very well-trimmed grass.

Growing up in a low-income household we never had enough money to invest in hobbies. This, layered with the fact that people from my background must usually work ten times harder to get to the same places, you forget to stop and enjoy the journey. Playing golf in NYC and having a short staycation at Washington DC, was the first time in a long while that I stopped and just enjoyed the moments. It has taught me that although the 'hard grind' is important, being with great people, in an international setting and doing fun things is also highly rewarding. I aim to stretch my 'newfound' muscles a bit further by taking up golf in the UK.

Although the main thrust of this report is about how the NYC experience was deepened by global aspirations, there are a couple of other things I've learned about myself. As referenced, improving my ability to stock take and enjoy the moments is key, but so is spending more time listening to the amazing life stories of my peers. Sharing an Airbnb with four other Amos Bursary brothers was a load of fun, and deeply inspiring. Hearing their stories of founding their own organisations, attending top-tier universities and navigating social issues made me realise that I need to make more of an effort to embrace one of the pillars of The Amos Bursary – Brotherhood.

To conclude, my quick-fire advice to a younger person looking to embark on self-development opportunities is three-fold: seeking cultural exposure will give you more to learn from, always try to maintain your network (they are indeed your net worth), and the highlight for me, ensure you have a global perspective. A few years back, The Amos Bursary opened me up to thinking beyond my immediate environment. This year the Bursary has not just instilled within me a deep belief that my reach and impact will be global but through the NYC experience, I have been provided with the initial tools to do so.

Lamin Tarawally, SOAS University



I plan to apply to the Harvard 2+2 programme.





FUTURE CANDIDATES FOR UNIVERSITIES AND EMPLOYERS

The Amos Bursary journey for students commences with the application process, and this year marked a significant milestone with students from the West Midlands applying to the programme for the first time. There were 543 applications for available places in London and the West Midlands.

Following a rigorous selection process, the panel identified and selected 48 Scholars in total with 37 in London and 11 in the West Midlands.

The success and appeal of The Amos Bursary is further emphasised by the enthusiastic response from students. Notably, 24 Associates and 150 Progressive Network online students. This robust engagement reflects the programme's significance and the impactful opportunities it offers to students across both regions.



A PROGRESSIVE'S STORY

After almost two years of being with The Amos Bursary, the invaluable opportunities for professional and personal development are ones which have enabled me to extend and uncover my potential.

Whether it be insight days with Amos' various sponsors, creative/professional workshops, or networking events, each initiative has an immense positive impact on me and it was for students to learn, listen and take part.

I started my journey with The Amos Bursary as a Progressive, meaning that through being proactive in wanting to continuously improve myself, I managed to unlock new opportunities along the journey of becoming an Amos Scholar. But more importantly, having a community of ambitious students with similar backgrounds continues to inspire me and encourages me to seek new opportunities.

Abdullai Hassan, 2020 Cohort, University College, London



I always say that my most significant blessing this year came in the form of an email confirming my place as a Scholar with The Amos Bursary (AB). Since then, I've gained invaluable opportunities, made meaningful connections, and had experiences that will stay with me forever.

Destiny Phillips, Scholar, 2023 Cohort





STUDENT-LED WELCOME CONFERENCE

The Annual Welcome Conference, held every January, is a meaningful experience for all students who apply to The Amos Bursary, ensuring that each applicant, whether selected for the programme or not, has the opportunity to partake in at least one Amos Bursary experience. The conference was expertly hosted by Leon Gidigbi and Sharon Ukpere. Workshops and discussions were facilitated by over 50 corporate sponsors, alumni, and current students.

The industry-led discussion featured - Goldman Sachs, Live Nation and Grant Thornton. The panel discussion featuring Year 13 students was supported by Theresa Oghenetejiri Enemua, Oluwaseyi Adeyanju, Daniel Bateren Scott Damoo, Lamar Miller and Ife Alabi, who felt that being a part of the panel made them realise how much of an impact The Amos Bursary has had on their personal journeys so far and the impact it will have in the future.

INDUCTION DAY AT LINKLATERS

February 2023 saw the first combined Induction Day at Linklaters which included students from London and the West Midlands in attendance with their parents.

Somtochukwu shared his first day as an Amos Bursary Scholar.

I attended The Amos Bursary Scholars 2023 Induction Event at Linklaters which was extremely insightful. We gained many skills including key ideas on networking and how to improve our demeanour in networking situations and great tips on elevator pitches. We were also graced by the presence of Baroness Valerie Amos, answering the many questions we threw at her! I was extremely inspired by the black excellence surrounding me and I am looking forward to what the future holds for me in the next 5 years with the support of Amos Bursary. I would love to thank everyone who came to help for taking time out of your day to be willing to help us progress further.

Somtochukwu Egwuonwu, Scholar 2023 Cohort





Meet the 2023 West Midlands cohort

EXPANSION WEST MIDLANDS

Since its launch in October 2022, the West Midlands programme has experienced remarkable growth and progress. The region's journey has been marked by the recruitment of 15 academically able young people on the programme in March 2023.

Advancements and Achievements

A series of impactful Learning and Development sessions have been held at prestigious sponsor venues like Goldman Sachs, PwC, and The University of Birmingham. Notably, more than 20 volunteers from the West Midlands have enthusiastically joined as mentors and project supporters, demonstrating a strong commitment to guiding the Scholars throughout the programme.

Our STEM support has significantly expanded through valuable partnerships with renowned entities such as BBC, JLR, and Diamond Light Source in the West Midlands. To bolster awareness of the Scholar programme, various marketing events have been successfully executed. These events include an awards ceremony hosted

by the Association of Jamaican Nationals, a celebratory gathering at Birmingham Symphony Hall, Scholar presentations at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, and a basketball sports event hosted by the Royal Navy.

Participation from West Midlands Scholars in key events held in London, such as the Induction and Annual Amos Bursary Residential conferences, Wellbeing Conference, and Bank of America Learning and Development days, has been noteworthy. These engagements have enabled them to access a diverse range of opportunities and experiences.

The 2023 cohort has laid a robust foundation, and we are eagerly anticipating the continued support and guidance we can offer to assist them in achieving their academic and social aspirations. This progress signifies a promising trajectory for the Scholars' future endeavours.





WORKING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

Through workshops, insight days and a range of opportunities and experiences, The Amos Bursary empowers its Scholars to maximise every opportunity, instilling a deep understanding of the significance of cultivating their personal brand, seizing the moment, and actively engaging in networking.

Bukunmi exemplifies this ethos, as she strategically leveraged her summer to translate these teachings into action throughout her vibrant and enriching summer experiences.

Her summer comprised various enriching experiences contributing to both personal and professional growth. Beginning with an insightful day at Bank of America, she gained valuable perspectives on Global Transactional Services. The Khadija Saye Art Internship through IntoUniversity deepened her understanding of art, encompassing exhibition planning, curation, and press engagement.

Attending the 'Disruption' conference by The Amos Bursary left a lasting impact on Bukunmi, emphasising the profound relationship between individuals and art. Engaging with the Mission 44 Youth Advisory Board in July contributed to her involvement in charitable endeavours for transformative changes.

Further explorations included a comprehensive insight into the energy sector during her time at RWE. Participation in various events like Reflect 2023, RS Grassroots' flagship event, and SiSTEM UK's initiatives provided platforms to engage with influential figures and contribute meaningfully.

Bukunmi's dedication extended to Horizon's Rothschild & Co work experience, where she delved into wealth and asset management. Her commitment to sustainability and diversity within STEAM earned her recognition through the Jack Petchey Award, benefiting her sixth form with art supplies for future endeavours. Her journey culminated in securing a place at the University of Warwick for civil engineering, a testament to her dedication and perseverance during Years 12 and 13.

Bukunmi's summer highlights a blend of personal and professional development, advocacy for diversity, and a fervour for the arts, laying the foundation for a promising academic journey ahead.

Oluwabukunmi, Oloyede, 2022 Scholar, first year Warwick University





THREE-DAY CONFERENCE FOR RADICAL CHANGE

The Annual Conference weekend hosted by The Amos Bursary is a pivotal three-day gathering. The focal point of this weekend is the Saturday conference, meticulously organised this year by George Imafidon MBE, Isaiah Wellington-Lynn and Victor Azubuiké.

Their shared dedication to nurturing the next generation underscores the enduring influence of The Amos Bursary and the unwavering commitment of its alumni.

Themed 'Disruption: Steps for radical change,' the conference was geared towards empowering individuals of African and Caribbean heritage to become catalysts for positive change in their respective industries. With a roster of thought-provoking, empowering, and creative leaders, the event boasted phenomenal speakers and insightful moderators. The hosting duties were ably managed by Meg Zeenat Wamithi and Kwesi Bimpong, attracting approximately 330 attendees.

Central to the conference was the recognition of communication's transformative power, emphasising the notion that 'disruption isn't always revolution; by being the first, you can create disruption'.

Distinguished speakers such as Baroness Amos, Wilfrid Obeng, Kenny Imafidon, Professor Sara Rankin, Lavinya Stennett, Renée Kapuku & Courtney Daniella Boateng, and Sophia Thakur enriched the conference with their insights. Hannah Awonuga and George Imafidon MBE offered perspectives on disruption from a corporate standpoint, while Tom Hulme and Lex Fefegha brought a technological lens to the discussion. The overarching emphasis on unity and

community as fundamental drivers of progress resonated profoundly. Guest speaker Clint 419, CEO of 'CORTEIZ', underscored the significance of knowing one's roots, asserting, 'if you don't know where you're from, you don't know where you're going', and highlighted the importance of authenticity.

The Residential Conference's first and third days encompassed visits to the V&A and Science Museums, alongside a crash course on marketing facilitated by Unilever staff, with a marketing project presentation by students concluding the event on day three. Additionally, sessions like the Sisters Circle and Boys to Men centred on emotional well-being. The 'Empower Her' session led by Nana Owusu emphasised the significance of boundaries for young women, while sessions for young men covered diverse topics, including safe relationship management.





JADEN'S ROADMAP

Jaden Williams is navigating higher education with a practical roadmap, blending ambition, strategic planning, and unwavering perseverance. With a feet-on-the-ground approach, Jaden's journey embodies a practical demonstration of setting goals and actively pursuing them.

His academic journey is like building a solid foundation brick by brick. Each university application represents a focused drive toward excellence, showcasing a clear vision for academic achievement. However, Jaden's approach

doesn't stop at traditional routes. Recognising the value of hands-on experience, he's actively seeking engineering degree apprenticeships, understanding the importance of marrying theoretical knowledge with practical application.

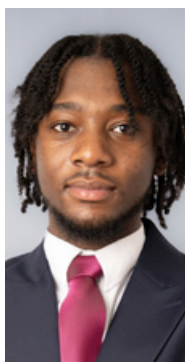
Within the 2022 cohort, Jaden uncovered the immense benefits of mentorship. This isn't just about guidance; it's about a strategic collaboration that refines personal statements and sharpens skills for academic success. Jaden's experiences extend beyond textbooks, resonating with real-world

engagement at the esteemed Berkeley Group. This isn't just about theory; it's about learning by doing, creating a solid footing in the competitive field of engineering.

Moreover, Jaden's enthusiasm for the subject extends to embracing the latest advancements showcased at the Institute of Physics. This thirst for cutting-edge knowledge is complemented by an unwavering commitment to programmes like Access Cambridge, reflecting a practical pursuit of growth and development.



Naarah



Kavaughn Smith

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE VIA WEBSITES

Connect websites

The Amos Bursary provides a unique opportunity for students through our digital proposition, enabling them to construct their own websites. Recently, Owen, Divine, Jesiah, Kavaughn, and Naarah seized this opportunity by participating in a workshop hosted at the Foresight offices at the Shard.

Following the workshop, these students translated

their newfound knowledge into tangible outcomes. Their accomplishments are evident in the creation of truly impressive websites, serving as a testament to both their creative prowess and the effectiveness of our training programme. The practical application of skills acquired underscores the impactful and hands-on nature of the digital proposition, further enriching the educational experience for our students.





Theresa represents

Theresa celebrated International Women’s Day at Number 10 Downing Street with The Girls’ Network.

She represented the Lambeth Youth Council with distinction by delivering a compelling speech at the opening of Active Lambeth’s new play area. Was elected and sworn in as Co-chair of the Lambeth Youth Council for the 2023/24 and received the prestigious Role Model Award 2023 from The Change Foundation.

Theresa Oghenetejiri Enemua,
2022 Cohort, Birmingham University

ARTICULATE STUDENTS IN ACTION

Our mission is to cultivate proficient and articulate individuals capable of engaging in impactful discourse within various spheres.

The following students have made significant contributions to political dialogues and community affairs:

Gibril Rose

2nd Year, LSE
Number 10 Downing Street, London

Gibril had the honour of attending an event at Number 10 Downing Street. Reflecting on his experience, he remarked, ‘I engaged in discussions regarding government policies and the prevailing societal challenges.’

Kwesi Bimpong

Higher Apprenticeship,
Goldman Sachs
The Old Bailey

Kwesi Bimpong was chosen to address the audience at the Old Bailey reception, commemorating the contributions of the Black, African, and Caribbean Communities in the City of London.

Amber Morrison

2nd Year, Cambridge University
Online PwC International

At PwC’s International virtual town hall meeting, Amber Morrison, a Cambridge undergraduate, elucidated the significance of ‘Saluting our Sisters’ and how it empowers women to bridge the Authority Gap, a vital aspect as they transition into the professional world.

Peter Odugbile and Olanike Ajijola

Birmingham University
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Representing The Amos Bursary, Peter Odugbile and Olanike Ajijola shared their inspiring journeys during an event at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. They were joined by leaders from renowned UK organisations, motivating and guiding the youth of Wolverhampton.





Samuel Olujugba The House of Commons

Samuel Olujugba had the privilege of being a speaker at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK Interactive Youth engagement event held at The Houses of Parliament.

These students exemplify dedication, eloquence, and a commitment to actively contributing to crucial discussions and events, serving as beacons of inspiration for their peers and communities.



Jibril wins National Award

Jibril Rose shines bright after being honoured with The Association of Jamaican Nationals' Inspiring Youth Award. This accolade is a testament to Gibril's unwavering resilience and recognises his incredible journey. It not only applauds his personal victories but also positions him as a symbol of strength and determination, embodying the spirit of Jamaican fighters.

Meeting the esteemed Mayor of the West Midlands, Andy Street, and Dr. Beverly Lindsay OBE Vice Lord-Lieutenant of the West Midlands at the ceremony further marks his remarkable achievement. Gibril's recognition not only celebrates his past successes but also heralds the positive impact he's bound to continue making in the future.

Gibril Rose, LSE, Amos Bursary Scholar 2021



Kwabena Osei in the top 10

Congratulations to Kwabena for his outstanding achievement in securing a position among the top 10 in the Black Heritage Undergraduate of the Year Awards for 2023. This remarkable recognition highlights Kwabena as a student who is actively contributing to positive change within his community. His dedication to breaking down barriers and leaving a lasting legacy as an inspiring role model is truly commendable.

Additionally, Kwabena's excellence in his field further underscores his commitment to making a meaningful impact. This accomplishment not only showcases his individual success but also serves as an inspiration for others to strive for excellence and contribute positively to their communities. Well done, Kwabena!

Kwabena Osei, Graduate Oxford University





Under 16 Progressive students

BANK OF AMERICA FOR UNDER 16 STUDENTS

The Bank of America marked a major milestone with the official launch of The Amos Bursary Under 16 Progressive Network for boys of Caribbean descent.

This initiative aims to empower students, academically and ease their transition post GCSEs into the Amos Bursary or other similar programmes to support them through sixth form. Fifteen Year 10 students from Harris Academy Peckham, Harris Academy Haringey, and Forest Hill Boys School are actively involved, showcasing the wide impact and collaborative effort.

It targets British Caribbean heritage boys, a group least represented in Higher Education. These students, identified for their academic ability and leadership potential, are recruited in Year 9.

The programme offers additional education and experiences to provide academic advantages and foster social awareness. Sessions take place on weekends and mid-week during half-term holidays.

The focus is on effective interventions that propel these students toward desired outcomes, emphasising academic and personal aspirations among boys of Caribbean heritage. The programme's core priorities include Pupil Empowerment, Parent Support, Teacher Involvement, and Community Engagement.





Amos Bursary students and staff at the the Bank of America Insight day

Jabari, a participating student, said, 'this has been very helpful in broadening my perspective of all the different careers and goals we can reach. It has made me think seriously about my future and more on how I want to present myself. Having sessions at Kings College and learning a new skill such as speed reading has really aided my studies and my thought process'.

Judella (Jabari's Mum) said 'I am so pleased that Jabari is on this programme. It is so amazing seeing him in this positive space filled with wonderful role models who are helping him to see possibilities beyond what he may have imagined. I am already seeing the difference with him being more diligent and organised with his studies and he looks forward to attending every session'.

Beverley (Jule's mother) said 'It is evident that Jules has grown in confidence. I was very proud to see him on the stage at the Bank of America launch event when he said a few words on the stage with some of the other boys in front of a large audience in a very grand and quite imposing room. It is something that he was able to do with the help of The Amos Bursary who had supported the boys with a public speaking seminar shortly before'.

Jules, I have developed a more positive and productive mindset towards my education. Amos has also helped me to become a more confident and pragmatic person. Amos has opened my eyes to different career paths as shown by the inspiring individuals within the programme.

BANK OF AMERICA INSIGHT DAY

Bank of America hosted over 30 students for an Insight day in July.

After the event the students said 'Banking is about more than just numbers and finance. There's transferable skills from my interests that correlate to banking and It doesn't matter where you start it's where you end up'.

'Maybe banking as a career is for me because of how interesting I found transaction banking'.



The highlight of the year was the Health and Well-Being Day at Live Nation. It was very rewarding to bring the young people together with professionals and experts in the field, to discuss sensitive issues that are part of their everyday reality.

As the Bursary now supports girls as well as boys, it was important to bring them both together in a safe space where they had time to share, explore, support each other and find new ways to manage challenges in a healthy, positive way. We are confident they left feeling much more confident and able to pursue their goals rather than being angry, and ready to give up or compromise on their dreams. One young person said that they could resonate with what was being said while another said they gained practical tips which they could use.

Dr Martin Glyn,
presenting at the
Wellbeing Day



NIKE'S PERSONAL STORY

It takes courage to share your personal journey with hundreds of people and Nike did this in the West Midlands earlier in the year. She used her public speaking ability to share her story.



Olanike Ajijola, 2021, Cohort,
Birmingham University

The insights she shared about her experiences, challenges and triumphs, particularly in the realm of mental health, was truly inspiring. She opened up about her struggles and used her platform to address the importance of mental health in the black community.

The key points she highlighted are:

Mental Health Does Not Define You: Emphasising that mental health challenges do not define you. It's a reminder that individuals are not alone in their struggles, and success is not hindered by mental health issues.

Reach Out for Help: Breaking the stigma surrounding mental health involves creating a culture where individuals feel safe to express their feelings and seek support.

Pursue Every Opportunity:

Overcoming self-doubt and taking risks is essential for personal and professional growth. Nike's acknowledgment of missed opportunities due to mental health struggles is relatable, and her advice to keep trying is motivating.

Network with Everyone:

Stressing the significance of networking and making connections beyond one's immediate field is a valuable insight. Diverse perspectives from professionals in different sectors can contribute to personal and career development.

Nike's journey and resilience can serve as a source of inspiration for others facing similar challenges. Her willingness to share both the highs and lows contributes to breaking down barriers around discussing mental health, fostering a supportive community, and encouraging others to pursue their goals.





Joel's Triumph Over Public Speaking Fear

Mastering effective communication is pivotal for confidence-building, nurturing relationships, and adeptly manoeuvring in diverse social and professional arenas.

Acknowledging the challenge of public speaking as a transformative milestone, Joel proactively engaged with the Voices programme, recognising its potential for personal growth. Joel's retrospective analysis of the Amos Voices programme underscores its profound impact on honing his communication prowess. Beyond imparting practical skills, the programme fosters a nurturing environment conducive to personal development. Joel seized this opportunity for self-betterment, successfully traversing the path toward enhanced communication proficiency.

Joel, Leicester University Scholar, 2020 Cohort



Emiola Explores Creativity in Mental Health

The Ideas Foundation serves as a platform for students to channel their creativity in diverse ways.

Emiola participated in a McCann workshop, an enlightening foray into the convergence of mental health, creativity, and design thinking. The collaborative effort between the Ideas Foundation, McCann, bolstered by the UCB Community Health Fund, provided Amos Bursary students a profound avenue for immersive engagement.

The focus lay on delving into mental health themes and unravelling the symbiotic relationship between creativity and well-being. Emiola noted the invaluable contribution of George Taktak, How Mental's founder, partner Joe Thomson, and Lydia Thornley, enriching the workshop with expertise. Their insights not only delved into critical topics but also exposed participants to real-world applications of design thinking in addressing mental health challenges.

Emiola, Kings College London, 2012 Scholar

Journey to Self-Awareness through Lumina Workshops

In 2023 over 175 students took part in the Lumina Spark workshop which focused on character development. This was a transformative experience for Ezra Teshome. He found immense value in the Lumina Spark workshop, gaining crucial insights into his strengths and developmental areas, a pivotal step in personal and professional growth. Additionally, the workshop served as a catalyst for enhancing his communication skills, indispensable in multifaceted life circles. Despite the challenges, Ezra perceives ongoing learning and development as fundamental pillars for his continued personal and professional success.

Ezra Teshome Year 13, 2023 Scholar





Seyi Adeyanju,
cohort 2022,
Manchester
Metropolitan
University

Building Unshakable Confidence

The 'Unshakeable Confidence' workshop with Action Jackson was one from which we students gained many valuable insights. The impact of his words was so relatable that I found myself in tears.

The first section of the workshop focused on 'Unlocking the keys to finding purpose,' during which he shared his personal journey. He emphasised how he initially pursued his parents' dreams but later realised that true joy comes from pursuing one's own dreams. An important tool we practised was the career triangle, which considers passions, skills, and market value or availability. This activity inspired and encouraged me to shift from constantly seeking opportunities to creating them and adopting a more open-minded approach. This change has proven beneficial not only in my studies in physiotherapy but also in the field of performing arts.

Another highlight of the workshop was the 'Conquering Insecurities' section, where we embraced vulnerability, built resilience, and overcame self-doubt, as Action Jackson eloquently put it. We participated in speaking positive affirmations aloud, which proved challenging for me since I tend to keep negative emotions internalised and not express them.

In summary, we left the session with a powerful reminder that our worth doesn't require validation from others. We should all embrace our uniqueness and strive to become a disruptive generation.

Seyi Adeyanju, Cohort 2022



Khejahra Sweeney,
Scholar, 2023
Cohort

Emotion illuminated

Every Bursary student has completed their Lumina Spark portrait, provided by Lumina Learning founder Stewart Desson. The workshop helps you be more self-aware, aware of others, value diversity in others and appreciate the importance of teamwork. Lumina Emotion is a measure of emotions, feelings and behaviours, and how these relate to one another. The students learned how to assess and manage the emotions of one's self and of others. In October we moved to the next stage of development with Lumina Emotion for university students – a workshop run by Lumina specialist, James Marshall.

Khejahra Sweeney said 'In response to James Marshall's suggestion for personal development, I have outlined three key strategies:

- > Prioritise self-care by taking regular breaks during study sessions and moments of being overwhelmed, recognising when I'm imposing unnecessary stress on myself.
- > Foster diverse perspectives by engaging in meaningful conversations with individuals who hold differing opinions. I aim to broaden my understanding and cultivate a broader worldview, perhaps by actively participating in a debate society.
- > Strengthen my ability to assert boundaries by becoming more comfortable with saying 'no' when necessary, ensuring that I maintain a healthy balance between my commitments'.

Khejahra Sweeney, Scholar, 2023 Cohort



This collaborative effort between The Amos Bursary and its sponsors exemplifies the transformative impact that can be achieved when individuals and organisations unite for a common cause.

We are pleased to highlight the achievements and progress made possible through the support of our dedicated partners. The Amos Bursary has cultivated a network of 31 partners and 3 Foundations/Trust, encompassing both financial contributors and in-kind supporters. This collaborative effort has been instrumental in propelling our organisation forward and driving positive change in our community.

Our strategic focus remains centred on fostering strong relationships with our existing partners while actively seeking new collaborations to build a robust and diverse portfolio of funders.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our current partners for their unwavering commitment to our mission. We look forward to furthering our collective efforts in the coming year.



31
Sponsor
partnerships



3
Foundations/
Trust



GOLDMAN SACHS COMMITTED TO TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Goldman Sachs (GS) has emerged as a stalwart supporter of the Amos Bursary, marking a transformative partnership that extends beyond financial contributions. Since the initiation of the partnership, Goldman Sachs has actively recruited graduates and higher apprentices from the Amos Bursary.

The success story began with Jonathan Oloyede, the first AB scholar recruited by GS, and the tradition continues with two additional alumni Regen on the graduate scheme and Kwesi on the higher apprenticeship scheme. These alumni serve as ambassadors, sharing their experiences as AB scholars and embodying GS's commitment to diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

Goldman Sachs took a pivotal role in championing the launch of the West Midlands programme, demonstrating a commitment to extending opportunities beyond traditional hubs. This regional focus demonstrates GS's dedication to fostering talent across diverse geographical landscapes.

In 2023 GS offered AB students the opportunity to participate in The 'Goldman Sachs A-Level Insight Morning'. The Trader Academy, was a specialised programme for women

graduating in 2025, GS also organised an Apprenticeship Insight Afternoon.

GS has a high staff participation rate and this underscores GS's commitment to actively engaging with Amos Bursary students, providing them with real-world knowledge and experiences crucial for their professional development.

Goldman Sachs provided over 50 mentors for the Amos Bursary. The commitment extends beyond mentoring to active involvement in AB development days, where GS staff contribute to enriching the educational experiences of students with real-world insights and experiences.

Goldman Sachs' partnership with the Amos Bursary goes beyond a traditional philanthropic alliance; it is a dynamic collaboration that actively shapes the future of young talents. From recruitment and alumni impact to championing regional initiatives and hosting insightful programmes, GS has proven to be a dedicated ally in fostering positive change and empowering the next generation. The multifaceted contributions of Goldman Sachs continue to elevate the impact and reach of the Amos Bursary.



LIVE NATION EMPOWERING DREAMS

The Amos Bursary is more than a financial aid programme; it is a transformative force that empowers students to overcome challenges, explore their potential, and shape their future. Through partnerships with sponsors like Live Nation, the Bursary creates opportunities for students to share their experiences, express gratitude, and build valuable connections that extend beyond the academic realm.

Live Nation's Scholarship's Vital Role in Overcoming Challenges

In the pursuit of higher education, many students face financial barriers that can hinder their academic and personal growth. Scholars have not only benefited from financial assistance but have also experienced transformative opportunities that have shaped their academic journey and enriched their lives.

Lunch and Meet with Live Nation employees

Rachel and Nicholas, recipients of the Live Nation Scholarship, took the opportunity to represent their fellow scholars, at the Lunch and Meet event at Live Nation's premises. It was an opportunity to share their experiences as Amos Scholars and demonstrate the impact the scholarships have had on their lives.

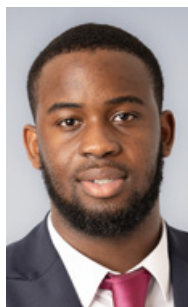
Nicholas said 'For many AB scholars, the financial support provided by scholarships has been a lifeline, alleviating the stress associated with the high costs of education'. He emphasised the invaluable role the funds played in relieving the financial burdens associated with university life.

Abibat, Nicholas and Babafunto were unable to attend the Lunch and Meet session but sent in video testimonials. They all spoke with passion outlining how The sponsorship transformed their lives. Abibat spoke of how the funds assisted her due to the lack of family finances, and her mother's 'ill health, and the rising cost of living in the second year of university all significant obstacles which she could overcome. Cristabel explained that the scholarship has not only assisted in covering essential costs like rental fees and groceries but has also provided the flexibility to explore international work experiences during the summer.

Rachael expressed how the Live Nation Scholarship transformed her university journey, providing crucial support for academic and personal growth. The scholarship not only covered essential study resources but also enabled Rachael to invest in her physical well-being, participate in extracurricular activities, and explore various aspects of university life. It opened doors to life-changing experiences, including the Amos Bursary New York 2023 trip, where Rachael immersed herself in culture, learned about black history, and gained career insights at Schroder's.



Rachael Adereti



Nicholas Owoaje



ROKOS' IMPACTFUL CONTRIBUTION

Through continuous engagement, ROKOS has significantly contributed to the success and growth of The Amos Bursary's initiatives.

ROKOS staff have been consistent in their presence at all AB events. This has created a strong connection focused on making a positive impact in education and employment.

Leading from the front CEO Mark Edwards, has attended skills development days, career events and participated in online workshops, demonstrating a genuine commitment to the goals and mission of the Amos Bursary.

Recognising the importance of practical exposure, ROKOS has provided internships and work experience opportunities. This hands-on engagement allows Amos Bursary scholars to apply their academic knowledge in real-world settings, enhancing their skills and employability.

ROKOS staff contribution extends to mentorship and support for aspiring students aiming for Oxbridge.

Janet Best Kayiwa's mentor is James Campbell and she said 'my experience of him as my mentor has been wonderful. From the beginning of our relationship he has always shown genuine intrigue about my academic progression, successes and even elements of my personal life that he made me feel comfortable enough to share. Prior to my A-level exams, we had frequent calls that we would schedule where we would talk about numerous things such as revision techniques, university choices and how to survive uni.

Between calls, he would send me different resources which would aid the things we talked about and just message me for general catch-up. I was also having a hard time with things in my personal life that he was aware of and he advised me on the different paths I could take to deal with the situation which I deeply appreciated. He definitely takes a lot of pride in the role he has as a mentor which is shown through his efforts to go above and beyond whenever. I could not have asked for anyone better than my mentor James Campbell from RCM'.

In a bid to encourage interest in STEM, ROKOS Management organised the Women in STEM event, connecting female secondary students with accomplished professionals in STEM disciplines. This initiative, attended by 17 participants, aimed to inspire and guide the next generation of women in STEM.

AB Alumni Kenny Imafidon brought a personal touch to ROKOS involvement by sharing his inspiring journey and extracts from his book at their Black History Month celebration. As a parting gift, they donated 50 books to Amos Bursary scholars, fostering a culture of knowledge sharing and empowerment.

In conjunction with funding, ROKOS contributions have significantly enriched the educational experiences of AB scholars. ROKOS involvement is not just about financial support but a genuine investment in shaping the future of young talents within the Amos Bursary community.



MCKINSEY CONSULTS

Corporate funding review

In 2021 McKinsey & Company offered a pro-bono day, where a group of their staff offered to brainstorm and conceptualise what the Welcome Conference and the Progressive Network online programme (the third stream of our programme) would look like. Three years on, they are strong supporters running workshops at the African Caribbean Societies Conference and attending the Careers Carousel.

In November this year, McKinsey conducted their second, month long pro bono session with us to develop our funding strategy for the next five years. This entire project was conducted remotely, using various forms of communication, including WhatsApp calling, emails, Zoom, Voice Notes, and more. This versatile approach allowed us to navigate the complexities of our diverse work settings and locations successfully. The team's attention to detail, depth of knowledge, and ability to gather information from the various sources we submitted led to a coherent comprehensive plan. Their skill set and commitment to going above and beyond to ensure the project objectives were met left us with a clear route map for the future.

SCHRODERS HIGHLIGHTS: 2023

In 2023, Schroders supported the Amos Bursary, enhancing its operational foundation with core funding to facilitate growth and sustainability. This aid led to the successful expansion of the charity's programmes, with a focus on educational opportunities and the well-being of selected students.

Key Achievements:

Supporting Amos Bursary Growth:

- > Core funding from Schroders facilitated a successful Residential Conference with 350 student participants.
- > The Summer School programme engaged 75 students.
- > An impressive 90% of students progressed to Oxbridge or top universities, with 21 students graduating, three achieving First-Class Honours, and the rest earning Second-Class Honours.
- > Tailored programs for Oxbridge, Law, and Medicine applications benefited 23 students.

Individual Student Journeys:

Progress of nine students showcased diverse experiences:

- > 2020 Cohort: Leon Gidigbi studied at Oxford University and Asaru Williams Henry interned in Ghana. Joel Calliste pursued studies at Leicester.
- > 2021 Cohort: Eden Ehioghae participated in a media production course, Michael Lawson-Falomo was elected President of the Cambridge

University African-Caribbean Society, and Joshua Hallier interned at an Asset Management firm.

- > 2022 Cohort: Daniel Bateren took a gap year, Tristan Daley joined Essex University, and Divine Agumba enrolled at Nottingham University. Additionally, Frank Nnodi began working at Schroders in 2022 and was seconded to Australia in 2023.

Engagement and Opportunities with Schroders:

Amos Bursary Career Carousel (April 2023): Over 80 students engaged with Schroders staff members.

Internship Opportunities: Ten students applied for Schroders internships, with AB students Joanne Geraldo and Michael Lawson-Falomo attending the Cazenove Young Investors Day and five students securing a fast-track place at the Future Black Talent event, including Ayan Abdallah who secured an internship for 2024.

Amos Bursary's International Experience Programme in New York: Four AB students gained insights into various teams at Schroders.

Depth of Impact:

From April to October 2023, Schroders' involvement impacted over 600 young people participating in AB events, with 95 Amos Scholars directly benefiting and forming connections within the Schroders community, shaping lasting positive influences on their educational journeys.





Linklaters hosted the Student Development Day, a collaborative initiative with The Amos Bursary, focusing on refining skills essential for navigating the professional landscape.

Awa Amon shared her enriching experience, commencing with engaging panel discussions featuring industry leaders sharing insights on diverse sectors, university-to-work transitions, and prioritising mental well-being. The event also showcased alumni perspectives, offering valuable advice to current participants.

Key takeaways emphasised the significance of surpassing expectations by adding an extra 10%, valuing personal passions over societal pressures, and seizing available opportunities. Awa acknowledged the invaluable guidance received from Max Auer and Samantha Francis. Max Auer provided constructive feedback during mock interviews, encouraging Awa's uniqueness, while Samantha Francis offered professional insights to enhance her CV.

This immersive day provided Awa with a professional lens, elevating her comprehension of the corporate sphere, and furnishing her with tangible tools for honing interview skills and refining her CV. Ultimately, the event empowered students with the indispensable knowledge and proficiencies crucial for excelling in their professional endeavours.

Awa Amon, online Progressive Network

PWC INVEST IN YOUNG LEADERS

The Breakfast in the City event at PwC, which was co-ordinated by Amos Bursary Alumni Qasim Barrow was absolutely brilliant.

It gave practical support and insight into consultancy for the students who attended and was perfectly pitched to the undergraduates and alumni who were in the room.

One student who is studying Law shared that she was stuck wondering how to use her degree but not wanting to become a lawyer. She was inspired to learn what this sector offers and all the ways she could apply to join PwC.

The feedback throughout the morning from Qasim, Ahmed, Jerome and Kavanaugh, also highlighted to the students, the range of key skills and qualities they need in order to be successful at PwC and in the sector.

A great big thank you to Qasim for organising and all the PwC staff for the time and effort you have invested in our students once again.

PwC enhance efficiency

Salesforce has been strategically prioritised as the primary Management Information

System (MIS) to uphold compliance with GDPR and centralise Amos Bursary operations, aiming to enhance overall efficiency. Recognising the importance of data integrity, PwC has generously offered support to facilitate the seamless integration of information currently collected through Google Forms, a tool frequently utilized by our staff.

Significant enhancements have been implemented resulting in a more accessible presentation of key data. These modifications empower our staff to operate more independently by establishing clear connections between our stakeholders. Notably, summary data is now conveniently accessible on the Salesforce landing page, streamlining the information retrieval process for improved operational effectiveness. These systematic improvements underscore our commitment to leveraging technology and strategic partnerships to advance the capabilities of our operational infrastructure.

The recruitment process has been enhanced and simplified to make the selection process easier.



WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL CORONATION GENERATION POSTER CHALLENGE



Providing platforms for creative expression

The Ideas Foundation have partnered with The Amos Bursary to give our students some amazing opportunities to explore and showcase their creativity. The highlight of 2023 was the Coronation Generation Poster Design Challenge, funded by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and photographic equipment provided by Canon.

This project encouraged young people to engage in creating posters using photography, copywriting, typography, and graphic design to mark the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. The poster had to reflect one or more of the key themes: community, diversity, sustainability, and youth.

The Coronation Generation Challenge was won by a team of Amos Bursary Students - Divine Agumba, 2022 Scholar, Rebecca Gouro, 2022 Associate and Vanessa Okeke, 2023 Progressive, 13-year-old Erykah Worburton was our junior member of the team. The winning photograph was taken by Moyin Babalola, Associate. The feedback on the back of the winning poster being announced (#KingdomUnited) has been phenomenal and Sir John Hegarty summed it up best when he said 'I wish I'd thought of it myself. It's a brilliant image. It shows how one idea can unite all issues. I love the fact they've just inverted Kingdom and

Funded by UK Government



Created by students across the United Kingdom for the Coronation Generation Poster Design challenge, celebrating community, diversity, sustainability and youth. View entire gallery and find out more at coronationgeneration.org

The winning poster

Photographed by Moyin Babalola



United'. We're hugely grateful for your support and dedication to nurturing a new creative class.

The Amos Bursary winners went to Northern Ireland for the winners' exhibition launch in Belfast, a momentous occasion that brought together young talent from diverse backgrounds. The two-day experience, organised by the Ideas Foundation, featured a city tour giving a deeper understanding of the city's rich history and culture. The Exhibition Launch at Belfast Exposed provided a platform for the talented young artists to showcase their work to a broader audience. The Coronation Generation Exhibition finally came to London and included a private viewing exhibition celebrating the 'Coronation Generation: Poster Design Challenge', hosted by McCann & Canon. The exhibition showcased the students' incredible work generated through a collaborative effort, with the support of creative professionals. Divine Agumba, expressed gratitude for the enriching experience. She said the workshop not only refined their technical skills but also broadened their perspective as storytellers.



National coronation poster competition team

Vanessa Oke's comments

'When I originally arrived at the office in the morning, I doubt I would have been able to guess what the experience would be like, but the teamwork sessions and the walkthrough settled down all the doubts I had. Everyone, from the staff to my teammates to the organisers involved were really supportive; before I knew it, we were lifting each other up, encouraging each other to give input, answering all our questions and queries, and treating each other like individuals to be recognised in their own right.

To that end, I don't regret being involved in the process one bit, and I'm proud of what we produced as a result of it. I learned, at the end, exactly how much teamwork and co-operation matters when targeting a brief like this one, and how a little bit of motivation can go all the way in regard to being a creative.

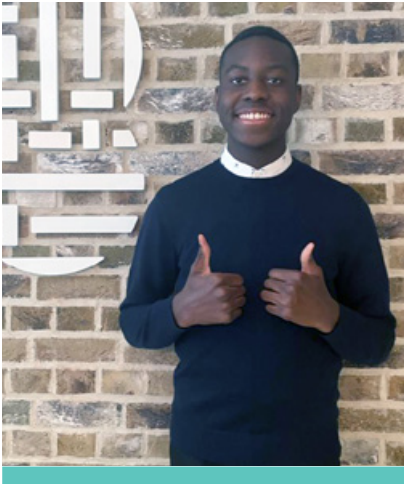
I feel as if I've met so many different people, visited so many different places, listened to a vast range of perspectives and found a myriad of resources and opportunities I would never have had the chance to have done'.

Vanessa Okeke, Progressive Network, 2023 Cohort



Coronation Generation Creative Process





DEEP DIVE INTO THE WORLD OF POLITICS

Congratulations to Obed Potopoto on a successful and enriching internship at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change (TBI). Obed had the unique opportunity to delve into the intricacies of global politics, gaining insights that spanned regions from Europe to Asia.

During this internship, Obed actively contributed to various briefings and engaged in extensive research across diverse policy areas, including health, housing, and global elections. The hands-on experience extended to participating in team meetings and even presenting a comprehensive overview to the entire team, showcasing Obed's dedication and expertise.

The internship provided Obed with a fresh perspective on the functioning of politics, bridging the gap between theoretical concepts and the practical realities on the ground. This holistic understanding is invaluable for anyone aspiring to make a meaningful impact in the political arena.

Obed Potopoto, Scholar, 2023 Cohort

IMMERSIVE LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Zain Kakooza, a Year 13 student with aspirations of becoming a lawyer, had the privilege of spending a week in August at Linklaters as part of an internship facilitated by The Social Mobility Foundation and The Amos Bursary. This opportunity provided Zain with an immersive experience in the corporate legal space, offering valuable insights into various aspects of a legal career.

During the internship, Zain actively engaged with different practice areas, including litigation, arbitration, investigation, and mergers and acquisitions. The hands-on experience allowed Zain and peers to network with and present to trainees and associates at Linklaters. Interactive sessions covering a wide range of sectors demonstrated the diversity of the firm's work.

A highlight for Zain was a case study focused on crisis management. This exercise challenged Zain to anticipate and address potential issues before they occurred, providing a mentally stimulating experience akin to the responsibilities of a real lawyer.

His experience demonstrates the impact of well-structured internships, providing aspiring professionals with the opportunity to gain practical insights and contribute to their career aspirations.

Zain Kakooza, year 13 Scholar, 2023 Cohort

INSIGHT INTO REAL ESTATE

During the recent half-term, Shaun King had the opportunity to engage in work experience at Grosvenor, an international organisation with a rich history spanning over 100 years. Grosvenor's diverse portfolio encompasses urban property and rural estate management, with a notable commitment to becoming the UK's first carbon-neutral property company.

Throughout the week, he had the privilege of shadowing the development team. This experience provided insights into ongoing projects, including the intricacies of the South Molton Triangle. He gained a profound understanding of the multitude of challenges arising from legislation and had the chance to witness the day-to-day meetings integral to project development.

A highlight of the week was a tour of Mayfair and Belgravia hosted by the asset management team, represented by Edward Cadbury and Annabel Coke. They explained their roles and strategies for increasing property value, shedding light on the impact individuals can have within the dynamic property industry.

Schaun said 'This experience at Grosvenor has solidified many of my perspectives, with the most significant realisation being that my desired career path aligns seamlessly with the property industry. This opportunity provided by Grosvenor, has undoubtedly played a pivotal role in shaping my career aspirations within the property industry'.

Schaun King, First year Estate management, Reading University





CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION

The significance of networking and collaborating with other organisations can significantly enhance both personal and professional development.

Lamar's involvement in an international volunteering endeavour in Morocco stands as a commendable example, showcasing the transformative potential of international volunteer initiatives. Spanning over 10 days in July, Lamar actively participated in a joint effort between Connect Stars, Summers Town Youth Centre, and Active Communities Network. This collaborative project aimed to empower young individuals to broaden their horizons and contribute to supporting disadvantaged communities in Morocco.

Initially apprehensive about language barriers and cultural differences, Lamar expressed his pre-trip concerns. However, he now regards the experience as a 'massive success', underscoring the substantial positive impact the volunteering project had on both himself and the local Moroccan community.

Lamar Miller, Cohort 2022, London Interdisciplinary school

US EMBASSY VISIT MOTIVATES

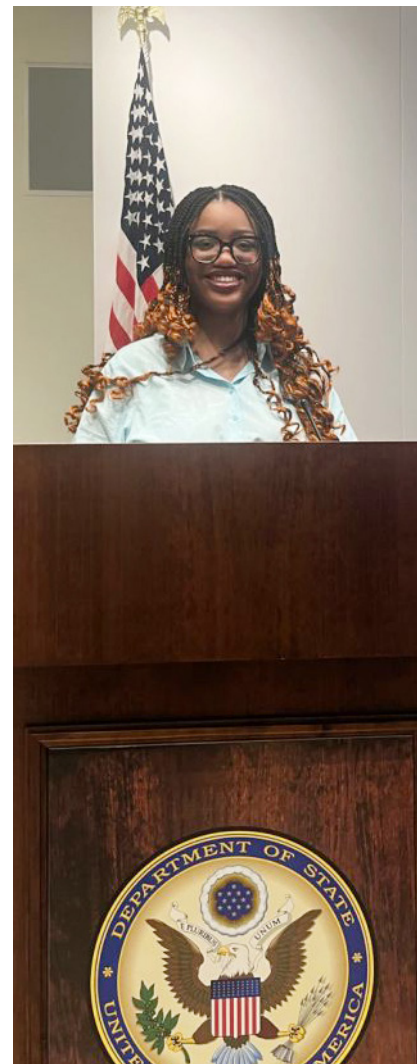
2023 Amos Bursary students made a number of visits to the US Embassy to participate in workshops and discussions.

Minerva Johnson's experience at the STEAM Inclusion Workshop hosted at the US Embassy in London was not only educational but also highly motivational. The event, featuring a panel of engineers, entrepreneurs, educators, and more, showcased the diverse opportunities within various sectors, inspiring Minerva to explore her interests across these fields.

A standout moment for Minerva was the talk by NASA engineer and scientist Mamta Patel Nagaraja, Ph.D. Mamta shared invaluable technical insights from her remarkable career and emphasised the importance of developing soft skills, particularly public speaking. The message that 'success is personal and looks different for each of us' resonated deeply with Minerva and the diverse group of

inspirational women present, representing various industries.

Overall, the workshop underscored the importance of women's contributions in industry and also reinforced the idea that women's perspectives and minds are not just wanted but necessary for driving innovation and success.



Lamar is the first student from The Amos Bursary to secure a place at the London Interdisciplinary School, the first university of its kind in the UK! This is a significant milestone for Lamar and the beginning of a successful and enriching academic journey at the London Interdisciplinary School.

Lamar Miller, London Interdisciplinary School





GLOBALLY AWARE

It is really important that Amos Bursary students become globally aware of the issues and challenges the world is facing today.

Baroness Amos hosted the Global Challenges day, an opportunity to think through the issues we have to think about as a country and as individuals. This event was live streamed. We had a Stellar line up of speakers.

Topics included the peace and security landscape, how we can think about the African continent differently, particularly through a business and entrepreneurship lens, climate change and the environment.

We also talked about soft power, the difference between what we hear on the news, the kind of rhetoric, and the work that is going on behind the scenes.

Our speakers were:

Stephen Hopgood, former professor of international relations, deputy director specialist in international human rights

John Prideaux, US Editor, The Economist

Yaw Nsarkoh, former Senior VP Unilever

Dr Mattia Romani, Partner at Systemiq

Vera Kwakofi, Senior Commissioning Editor, Commissioning, at the BBC

NneNne Iwuji-Eme, former UK High Commissioner to Mozambique





In conversation with President Kufour

CONVERSATION GHANA

Amos Bursary students were in conversation with Former President Kufuor of Ghana. It was an opportunity for all students to engage with Political, Social and economic issues related to Ghana, Africa and the wider world. This event was hosted by Amos alumni Victor Azubuiké.

Ian Kai Wamala, 2018 Cohort said 'It was an immense honour to have the extraordinary opportunity to meet President Kufuor at a notable event last Thursday where he discussed pressing global challenges.

As an individual with aspirations of engaging in business endeavours within Africa, I was particularly captivated by his insightful remarks regarding intercontinental trade, which currently only contributes to around 3% of our continent's overall trade value. President Kufuor also commented on the persistent issue of value addition to our abundant resources, a concept I eagerly seek to explore in my own pursuits.

His impassioned words served as a catalyst, inspiring me to actively contribute to the progressive growth of our remarkable continent. Moreover, his assertion concerning our collective duty to enhance our nations and continent resonated deeply within me as a proud Ugandan. Witnessing a leader of such deliberate and purposeful commitment to his own country embrace these sentiments in person was profoundly impactful'.

Nana Opong, 2021 Cohort said 'Even as a Ghanaian it is rare that you get to meet a president from Ghana. Even one as loved as His Excellency President Kufuor, it was a rare experience

and a privilege to be able to have even been in the same room let alone speak to him. I learned so much from him from what it took to be a leader, whether it was respecting others or simply displaying compassion to one another and to what it would take for Africa to be United whether as a Pan African state or within the African Union itself. I also liked how the session didn't feel like a conversation between a president and citizen but rather a conversation between friends. I'm thankful that I was able to attain such an opportunity and thankful to all those who organised it'.





UNILEVER - GENERATION TO GENERATION

In 2019, Unilever initiated its collaboration with the Amos Bursary, actively participating in our programmes by offering internships and work placement opportunities to our students.

This support has proven to be invaluable. Unilever's commitment over the last four years has had a profound and lasting effect, empowering our young people to explore new career prospects and seize opportunities that have been made available to them.

The Generation to Generation event ran in partnership with the Amos Bursary to allow young black women to connect with senior black female leaders... representation in action. 50 young black women were given the opportunity to connect with 5 black women in senior roles*, to hear and learn from their corporate & personal experiences.





EVA OROKPO ON THE UPFRONT CONFERENCE

In 2022, Sullivan & Stanley, a Change Consulting firm, introduced The Amos Bursary to Upfront, which was running a female empowerment conference. Sullivan Stanley was instrumental in supporting our young women to attend the conference and also funded some of our students to participate in an online 6-week course. Below are the top tips compiled by AB scholar Eva during the conference.

Inspiration ran through the day, starting off with an introduction from the founder Lauren Currie, who spoke about the beginnings of her work. She mentioned how she started.

Tip 1

The sticky note on the bathroom mirror which pushed her forward. Create your own to inspire you.

Dr Yekemi Otaru, hosted the first workshop that I attended. She confidently spoke about the art of personal branding with grace. Getting taught that when you're on your personal branding journey you have no idea what opportunities will come to you.

Tip 2

Be open to all opportunities and start your personal branding journey with self-development.

There was a panel starring Hera Hussain, Dr Emma Svanberg and Cecilie Fjellhøy. They spoke about how and why we should fight activism with fire. I loved how both their experiences and professions were different, but everything was so linked.

Tip 3

Listen more - there is more that connects us than makes us different

Cecillie Fjellhøy, spoke about her experience turning fraud into positive change, and how she's grown as a person. Her vulnerability showed how she has made such an awful experience into a positive one.

Tip 4

Never give up.

As a Linguist, the workshop about building your writing confidence presented by Bec Evans really spoke to me. Debbie Millman once said that 'Confidence is the successful Repetition of any endeavour'.

Tip 5

Commit to a personal or professional goal for 21 straight days. After three weeks, the pursuit of that goal should have become a habit.

Vulnerability peaked when Nagela Dales spoke about generational grace. Despite not being one of the mothers in the room, this keynote talk really spoke to me. I understand the view that the world has on my mother, and I can never look down on what she has done and the pain that she has gone through. I hope that I become an intelligent, resilient woman just like her.

Tip 6

Respect our elders.

Kasey Robinson did a wonderful job speaking directly to us about white fragility and how problematic this is for other ethnic communities. Mentioning white women tears and the girl boss agenda was really important to cover.

Tip 7

Find out about white fragility.

Eva said 'The conference really showed that as a community we must change the bias against women. I aim to work on myself and my views. I learnt that grace is being myself in my own way - something that I would have never learnt without this experience'.



Eva Orokpo, Second Year University of Warwick, 2021 Cohort



EXPERT LUNCH AND LEARN WITH CNBC

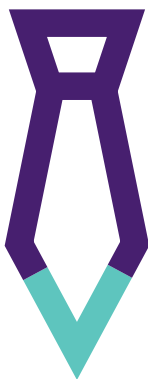
CNBC Julianna Tatelbaum
Delivered an expert Lunch and
Learn session on presenting to
Amos Bursary Students.

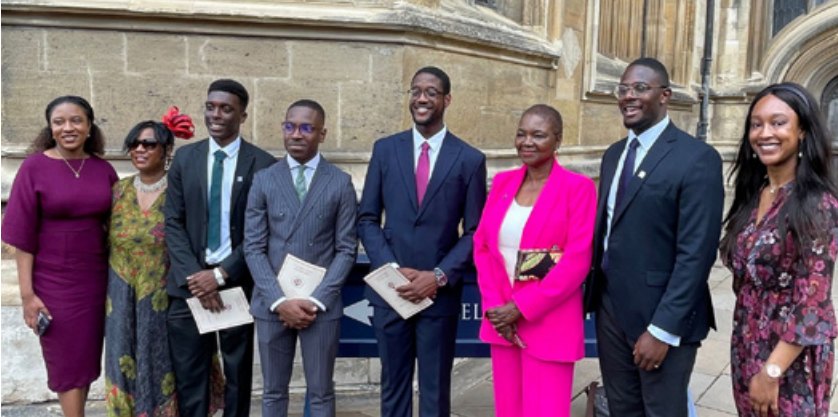
**CNBC News Anchor, Julianna
Tatelbaum, shared her
expertise on presenting with
Amos Bursary students.**

The Amos News Network is a bespoke 12-month programme cocreated with CNBC International that offers Amos students first-hand knowledge of journalism and financial news from experts in the field at CNBC International. Students gain a range of media-based skills including editorial, production, copywriting, editing, social media and marketing. Additionally, CNBC employees provide mentorship and guidance tailored to the students' needs and interests.



Rubin at the CNBC headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, USA





The Windrush Service at ST Georges Chapel Windsor

CELEBRATING WINDRUSH 75 YEARS ON

In October 2023, Birmingham City Council hosted the 75th anniversary celebration of the arrival of the Windrush Generation into the United Kingdom at Birmingham Town Hall and Amos Bursary was represented at this prestigious event.

Celebrations commenced with a procession of flag bearers representing the key roles that African, and African-Caribbean men and women have played in the National Health Service, Armed Forces, Education, Politics, Legal and Finance sectors.

The Amos Bursary has established strong and lasting relationships with key decision makers within these organisations who continue to create career opportunities for Amos Bursary students.

10 Amos Bursary representatives were nominated to represent the Bursary at the Windrush Windsor Service at St George's Chapel in June to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of HMT Empire Windrush.

Elisha Peters said, 'The event truly encapsulated the injustice our people had to face, whilst promoting the positivity and culture that has sprouted from the arrival of the HMT Windrush 75 years ago. I was reminded of the resilience and strength of a people who came with little, faced a lot, and yet achieved so much'.

Elisha Peters, Surrey University
2020 Cohort

THE CORONATION CONCERT

We were there
Great atmosphere, music and company

40 Amos Bursary students, mentors and committee members were given charity tickets to attend the Coronation Concert in Windsor to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. 20,000 people filled the East Lawn of Windsor Castle along with members of the Royal Family.

Everyone joined in dancing to music from an array of artists. Spectacular displays filled the skies long into the evening. The students said it was an amazing concert and even better to make the most of such an opportunity with so many of their Amos Bursary family.



INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES PROGRAMMES

Below are the impactful outcomes of our International Experiences Programme, made possible through the generous support of Linklaters, New York University (NYU), Schrodgers, CNBC, Web Summit, This transformative initiative has empowered our students, providing them with invaluable skills and perspectives that contribute to their personal growth and future success.

During the summer a total of 35 students embarked on International Experiences in Canada, Portugal, Ghana, and the USA. These immersive programmes, a minimum of one to six weeks, have proven to be instrumental in shaping the lives of our students. They actively engaged with host companies, worked on meaningful projects, and gained exposure to diverse cultural environments.

The primary objectives of our International Experiences Programme align with the broader goal of preparing our students to be active and informed global citizens. The experiences aim to:

- > Provide exposure to international work environments
- > Foster cultural understanding and appreciation
- > Enhance personal development and employability skills
- > Broaden horizons and perspectives on the world of work

The experiences have resulted in profound transformations for each participant. The following are glimpses into the impact on individual students:

All of the experiences were Alumni led with Darrell Adjei planning, co-ordinating and chaperoning the students to the Technology conferences. Max Auer supporting the Ghana students and Jolade Olusanya and Amos Bursary sisters committee members Liseli Sumbwanyambe and Timothy Duncan supporting the USA students.

Medics day at St Joseph's Health

I was fortunate enough to visit St Joseph's Health in Paterson, New Jersey, hosted by Dr Christopher Trotz, the Vice President of Physician Services. As part of this opportunity, we shadowed board meetings to gain insight into healthcare administration and the background workings of hospitals.

We also met with doctors and other healthcare professionals to broaden our understanding of the US healthcare system and the possibility of working there. The key thing that I learned from this experience is that healthcare does not stop in the hospital - St Joseph's Health works in the community to build local affordable housing, provide health education services and encourage multilingualism to ensure that everyone in the diverse area of Paterson can feel comfortable accessing help. This was really inspiring to see and encouraged me to think more broadly about how I can use my medical education to help others.

Amber Morrison,
Cambridge University, 2021 Cohort





New York City, The stock exchange bell

Our cultural experience

The culture New York brings is unmatched. The one culture that was plastered all over Brooklyn, where we stayed, was the Jamaican culture. Being from Jamaica, myself, and not being in touch with my roots had really made me second-guess what I am actively doing to learn about my background. Music would always blast in the street and stands and food was dished out on sidewalks. It was an environment that could never be forgotten.

Lerece Patrick, Kings College London, 2021 Cohort

New York culture is awesome. My biggest takeaway is that we should be more entitled. Entitlement in English culture is a bad word, but my time at Oxford has taught me that entitlement doesn't necessarily mean thinking you deserve better than others. It means knowing that you deserve your dreams. I met so many Americans fighting to make a change in their society. They didn't question whether it was their right to have a say in their society. They didn't question whether they deserved to self-actualize. New York has helped me to embed the belief that I deserve to live a life that fulfils me. There are plenty of (more) privileged people who are out there chasing their dreams without question. If they're doing it, why shouldn't I

Leon Gidigbi, Cambridge University, 2020 Cohort

USA EXPERIENCE

In July/August, 10 students, accompanied by chaperones from our Alumni and Sister Committee, Jolade Olusanya, Liseli Sumbwanyambe and Timothy Duncan explored the professional landscape in the USA.

The exposure to diverse industries and work environments enriched their understanding of global business dynamics. They also had cultural experiences including a visit to the Stock Exchange and a weekend in Washington visiting the major sites including the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and Howard University.

The partnering organisations make these international experiences possible. Their support has significantly contributed to the holistic development of our students, preparing them for a future where global perspectives are invaluable. We look forward to continued collaboration and the prospect of providing more students with life-changing international experiences.



SCHRODERS

4 students gained industry insight experience at Schroders in NYC. Rubin, Nike, Lamin and Rachael were able to unravel the multifaceted world of asset management. Their time at Schroders gave them an understanding of its manifold functions and the intricacies of the financial sector.

Rachael said 'We were able to meet and connect with people across different teams within the company and with different backgrounds. As an engineering student, this experience was particularly insightful for me because it provided an opportunity for me to consider and explore the different career pathways I could follow with my degree. I was even able to meet people within the company with engineering backgrounds who had pivoted to finance, and I was given practical advice which has expanded career options for me post-university.

I think what was most valuable is the connections formed with the people who worked at Schroder's. Another aspect of Schroder's that I was glad to be a part of was their Corporate Social Responsibility outreach. For this we volunteered at the Food Bank of New York and made peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for elderly people. Both experiences gave me space to give back and be grateful for all that I have, and it has inspired me to give back to my own community now that I am back in London'.

Rachael Adereti, Warwick University, 2021 Cohort

LINKLATERS

My time in New York was a truly life-altering experience. After facing some personal hardship prior to the trip, the infinite gratitude that I have for the kindness shown by The Amos Bursary and the donations of those who supported the month abroad shines even brighter. It was a time for healing, for learning, and for growth. I will always owe that to the nine other Scholars I travelled with, the Bursary team, and to the beautiful faces and places that made New York feel like a second home.

Leerece said 'One key thing I would like to take away from Linklaters is that going in with an open mindset is always necessary for a successful internship. The first thing we were told was that we were not confined to the department we were initially placed in. I think that was more important than anything else as it gave us the opportunity to work in spaces that we were not familiar with and to socialise with many different people from many different walks of life'.

Engaged in compelling projects that held genuine significance for the company. Polyin said 'I was granted the autonomy to explore Linklaters, beyond being a law firm. For instance, under the guidance of my manager at Operations, I was tasked with researching Linklaters' sustainability initiatives in comparison to other law firms in the United States. This challenge prompted me to conceive prospective solutions that could pave the way for the company's long-term prosperity'.

Spencer Bailey, New York Experience Report 2023

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY (NYU)

My fellow Amos Bursary Scholar Leon and I were fortunate to have our work placement at the NYU Metro Center. During this placement, we engaged in a range of activities which had the central objective of supporting the development of marginalised students in NYC's public school system. Through this, I gleaned the importance of collaboration between both individuals and organisations in promoting more equitable outcomes.

This was exemplified by our time participating in training for the PATH programme, an initiative being implemented in NYC public schools, which aims to promote the inclusion of students with emotional disabilities. In this instance, teachers, therapists, and administrators alike came together to offer their respective perspectives and learn from each other.

Michael Kolawole, Cambridge University, 2019 Cohort



WASHINGTON DC

Visiting Washington, D.C. for me was the ultimate American experience, as the capital it encapsulates the whole nation's identity and is home to iconic monuments such as Capitol Hill and The White House which I had the privilege to see. D.C. is the heart of the U.S. Government and holds a lot of political significance, especially as the focal point of the Civil Rights Movement.

Whilst there we went to the National Museum of African American History and Culture and again this was so insightful and really emphasised the depth and vastness of black culture across multiple industries such as music, sport, and film.

I left the museum with a more comprehensive understanding of the profound impact of black resilience, creativity and innovation and just how much this transformed not only the U.S. into what we know it to be today but the whole world.

Rachael Adereti, Warwick University, 2021 Cohort



CNBC DAY

The highlight of my AMOS Bursary trip to New York City was touring the historic New York Stock Exchange and visiting the global headquarters of CNBC and NBC Universal. We were fortunate to observe an exciting Initial Public Offering (IPO) event on the NYSE trading floor. Later, at CNBC we met with Ryan Ruggiero, Senior Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, who gave us an inside look at CNBC's operations and how they use innovative technologies to broadcast financial news globally.

Additionally, we had the opportunity to meet with some of NBC Universal's C-suite executives to learn about their leadership journeys. We also received career advice from on-air CNBC talent as well as tips on building our personal brands from the Early Careers team. The highlight for me was recording a mock TV segment using CNBC's studio and equipment – an eye-opening experience which showed me I need some serious media training!

As an aspiring business leader interested in finance and media, gaining insider access to these iconic global institutions showed me up-close how they drive business, shape financial markets, and influence economic narratives worldwide.

Reuben Poku, Higher apprenticeship, Amazon, 2020 Cohort





Ghana visit to Elmina's castle

GHANA EXPERIENCE

Over three months in the summer, Amos Bursary Scholars Joshua Dorman, Abigail Wiredu, and Asaru Williams-Henry completed internships at MTN, Tullow Oil and JLD&MB Legal Consultancy (Law firm), Max Auer, ventured to Ghana as their chaperone.

This programme facilitated cultural immersion, allowing students to partake in Internships and contribute to local initiatives and broaden their cultural competence.

Abigail spent a month in Ghana and said 'I have had an enriching and culturally immersive experience in Ghana! Interning at MTN Head office and engaging with national leaders, the Asantehene Otumfuo Nana Osei Tutu II, Former President Kufuor and First Deputy Speaker of Parliament Joseph Osei-Owusu; these meetings provided Abigail and her colleagues insights into leadership. They were able

to explore key historical and cultural sites such as the Kwame Nkrumah Museum, Flag Staff House, Cape Coast Castle, and Manhiya Palace Museum. All of this further deepened their understanding of Ghana's rich heritage.

Their visit to St Nicholas Preparatory School in Tema Newtown, gave them an opportunity to give back to the students who were from Nursery through to class 8. Abigail used the experience to overcome challenges, such as public speaking and to inspire and motivate others. Her reflection on the importance of letting students know that their past doesn't define them and that they can excel in anything they put their minds to is truly powerful. Her journey in Ghana not only contributed to her personal and professional growth but also underscored the significance of giving back and being a source of inspiration for others.



The students' stay in Ghana was filled with exploration, learning, and meaningful connections!



ASARU ON GHANA

Kumasi visit to the Asantahene

In Kumasi, my interaction with the legacy of the Ashanti tribe bestowed upon me a heightened appreciation for Ghana's diverse cultural heritage. Stories of resilience and resistance, especially those of iconic figures like Yaa Asantewaa, underscored the value of perseverance. Recognizing this deep-rooted history made me appreciate the wisdom and resilience of the Ashanti people.

St Nicholas Preparatory School

At St Nicholas Preparatory School, I witnessed firsthand the transformative power of education. Interacting with young Ghanaians from a low socio-economic background underscored the significance of continuous learning. The engagement also strengthened community ties, ensuring my efforts resonate effectively within the local milieu and fostered mutual inspiration and ambition for the future.

Three things I learned about myself

Adaptability: Immersing in a new culture and corporate setting underscored my ability to adapt swiftly.

Collaboration: Engaging in intense negotiations honed my collaborative spirit, emphasizing the importance of teamwork.

Curiosity: Every interaction, whether professional or cultural, heightened my inherent curiosity, driving me to learn and understand more.

Three tips I would give to a younger person

Be open: Embrace different cultures and experiences; they shape your world view.

Seek challenges: Venture beyond your comfort zone; it's where true growth lies.

Listen actively: Every interaction is a learning opportunity; listen, absorb, and apply.

Conclusion

Ghana's potential is boundless, waiting for the right kind of investments. It beckons those who see beyond personal gains, focusing instead on holistic development.

My internship in Ghana was not just a professional stint; it was a holistic journey, blending work with profound cultural and historical experiences. As I move forward, Ghana's lessons on resilience, adaptability, and leadership will undoubtedly shape my path.

NETWORKING OPENS DOORS

On the plane to Accra, our chaperone Max and I engaged in thoughtful conversations with our neighbouring passenger, who happened to work for the Ghanaian government in Diaspora Affairs. Once we arrived in Ghana, he invited us to the Flagstaff House, the seat of parliament for a brief tour and a meeting concerning diaspora affairs.

He informed us of the efforts Ghana has been making to allow afro-descendants and other members of the African diaspora to find Ghana as a suitable option for rediscovering their roots, as seen with programs such as the Year of Return.

Jamie Boachie



Asaru at st nicholas school, Ghana



Lunch and Learn at Headland: Sharpening Communication Skills

Lunch and Learn sessions are, hosted at Headland Consultancy, weekly and provide an informal platform for guest speakers to share insights with the audience. Representing the Bursary, Samuel Olujugba participated in a Lunch and Learn session at Headland, highlighting the importance of the work they do for the Bursary.

The opportunity allowed Samuel to enhance his communication skills, and use all the skills learned to present a session on the Amos Bursary. Fostering an environment where questions and discussions contribute to a collective learning experience. This experience aligns with the broader goal of the Amos Bursary to not only provide financial support but also empower scholars with essential skills for success in their academic and professional pursuits.

INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY EXPERIENCES

In June and November, 19 students attended the Collision Conference in Toronto and the Web Summit Lisbon accompanied by Alumni Darrell Adjei. This experience exposed them to the latest trends in technology, innovation, and entrepreneurship, fostering a deeper understanding of the global landscape.

Collision Conference, Toronto, Canada

Looking back, this Collision experience has ingrained more than just memories; it signifies a transformative landmark in my profound appreciation of the vast tech world, leaving in its wake a strong resonance of motivation and exploration. To sum up, my heartfelt gratitude goes to The Amos Bursary and Collision.

Their commitment towards shaping future generations by allowing access to such exceptional learning opportunities is commendable. Coupled with their staunch belief in our potential, these experiences help mould a solid foundation that subsequent contributions to the tech sphere will stand on.

Muhammad Mahmoud

Throughout the conference, I had the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions and network with pioneers in industries that I see myself working in the future. A highlight of the conference was being able to go into the speakers lounge where I met founders and CEOs of companies and gained valuable pieces of advice for my future endeavours. These interactions provided me with more confidence and excitement to embark on my own entrepreneurial career.

Abibat Popoola



Websummit, Lisbon, Portugal

My time on the Lisbon Web Summit trip was truly a once in a lifetime experience and one I will always cherish. On the opening night, against all the odds, I had the great fortune of winning the Golden Ticket out of a stadium of 70,000 people making the entire experience unforgettable and following in the footsteps of my Amos Bursary brother Muhsin who had won it the year prior.

This immediately upgraded my ticket to the highest status in the conference of ‘Chairman’ granting me backstage access to all the VIP areas and lounge meant only for the speakers, investors, statesmen, celebrities and other notable people at the event.

Mohamed Elhassan

The conference itself was nothing short of amazing. As event curation is one of my interests, just seeing the scale and organisation of the event was jaw dropping. Everything was meticulously planned and the attention to detail was so impressive. More importantly, as I’m quite keen on breaking into the world of Venture Capital, the conference was the perfect opportunity for me to learn more about the world of start-ups and investing. Being able to meet so many different investors, venture capitalists and start-ups allowed me to learn more about what entrepreneurship looks like and what investors are looking for.

Michael Lawson-Falomo

Lisbon and the Web Summit 2023 were a game-changer. The experience wasn’t just about learning—it ignited a fire within me to be part of the tech world in a meaningful way. The connections I made and the lessons learned will be my compass as I navigate the exciting journey ahead in the tech industry.

Sharon Ukpere



Collision Conference, Toronto

Attending the Collision Tech event, I was immersed in an environment pulsating with innovation and the latest technological advancements. This renowned gathering of tech enthusiasts, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders provided an excellent platform for exploring emerging technologies and their potential applications.

Despite studying medicine, the vast array of med tech which was on display blew me away; introducing me to a totally different environment than I was accustomed to. It provided a unique opportunity to witness groundbreaking advancements in the fields of healthcare, cryptocurrency, and MedTech.

Toronto's amalgamation of celebration, cultural diversity, and technological breakthroughs left an indelible mark and I would like to thank all those involved in allowing us to continue on a trip like this.

Azeez Shekoni



The team on their way to Collision Canada





TWO CAREER FAIRS IN ONE DAY

Imagine having the opportunity to attend two career fairs in one day! What a privilege!

I was able to attend The Amos Bursary Careers Carousel and the Reach Society Annual Career Fair.

In the Reach Society Fair, I was able to network with like-minded people, and attend workshops. What I took away is that no matter what job you have, the skills you learn stick for life and can open doors for other opportunities. I know I have a wide range of avenues that I can pursue in life, and each can help me in an abundance of ways.

The Amos Bursary Careers Carousel at UNISON enabled me to take part in speed networking sessions with 20 different companies including Goldman Sachs, PwC, Schroders, ROKOS, Linklaters, Bank Of America, Grant Thornton, Unilever and McKinsey & Company. This event proved to me that I don't need to only interact with people within the sector I desire to be in! It demonstrated that networking will always be beneficial and bring amazing opportunities.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT BROWN BROTHERS HARRIMAN

Networking events provide invaluable opportunities to connect with professionals, gain insights into different roles, and receive valuable career advice.

Gifty really appreciated her experience at the Black History Month networking event at Brown Brothers Harriman! Her takeaway was about the importance of being inquisitive. Asking questions not only demonstrates curiosity but also shows a genuine interest in learning and growing.

Exploring African cuisine as part of the networking dinner added a delightful cultural touch to the experience. These events, with exposure to diverse perspectives and opportunities, contribute significantly to personal and professional growth.

Kendrick Asabere said 'Events like these not only provide valuable networking opportunities but also contribute to changing narratives and promoting diversity and inclusion within the financial services industry. It's wonderful to see organisations taking proactive steps to support and engage with students, especially during Black History Month'.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENGINEERS

The students had the opportunity to visit Cundall, a global multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy in August.

During the visit, they engaged with Rob Marney, Cundall's Electrical Associate, who is passionate about discussing alternative routes to engineering with young people. Rob, also an active member and mentor of The Amos Bursary, shared his own journey and provided advice to encourage the students to pursue their dreams in the engineering field.

Rob and his colleagues at Cundall presented various routes into engineering, discussed their daily experiences in the field, and highlighted the diverse opportunities available within the industry. Emphasising that there isn't a single path to engineering, they aimed to inspire the students and showcase the different career pathways. The students expressed their excitement and gratitude for the visit, gaining valuable insights into the engineering profession and future career possibilities. Miya Pollock, one of the students, expressed her appreciation for the enriching experience provided by the visit to Cundall.

Jesiah Richards completed a week of work experience at Union Bancaire Privée (UBP). The experience was described as exceptionally insightful, providing exposure to various business areas, including compliance and asset management. Jesiah expressed gratitude to David Easton and Carissa Gill for supporting and organising this valuable opportunity. Additionally, Jesiah was awarded the Miller Prize for Year 12 mathematics at the annual Celebration of Achievement evening at Westminster City School. Well done Jesiah!



SAMUEL READY TO SHINE AT ANTHROPOLOGY

Digilearning and The Amos Bursary have joined forces to offer students life-changing experiences, and Samuel Olujugba, a Politics & International Relations Undergraduate, has embarked on an exciting career journey at Anthropy UK.


Samuel had the privilege of attending the Anthropy conference at the Eden Project in Cornwall, where each talk overflowed with speakers sharing insights and envisioning an inclusive, sustainable, and progressive Britain. Actively engaging in networking, Samuel seized the opportunity to learn from diverse professionals, thereby broadening his perspective.

As a participant in the Emerging Leaders programme, Samuel joined a cohort of 100 young individuals, providing a platform for meaningful dialogue. This allowed them to voice concerns and collaboratively envision a future for the next generation. Specially designed sessions facilitated collaboration, idea-sharing, and networking, contributing to broader representation in the discussions.



Samuel at Anthropology





Nelson Mandela said,
'What counts in life is not
the mere fact, that we have
lived. It is what difference
we have made to the
lives of others, that will
determine the significance
of the life we lead'.

THE IMPACT OF MENTORSHIP ON CAREER EXPLORATION AND PERSISTENCE IN EDUCATION

The pivotal role of mentorship in fostering professional growth and academic perseverance is exemplified through the case of Trenyce Sylvester, a budding student midwife at Kingston University.

This report outlines the influence of Ann-Marie Brooks-Mullings, a former midwife and Amos Bursary mentor, whose support and guidance significantly shaped Trenyce's career trajectory.

Trenyce Sylvester's testimonial serves as a testament to the transformative impact of mentorship on individuals navigating educational and professional pathways. Acknowledging the instrumental role played by Ann-Marie, Trenyce expressed her gratitude for the unwavering encouragement and timely counsel that propelled her aspirations.

Central to this narrative is the resonating message delivered by Ann-Marie, 'Delay doesn't mean defeat', a mantra that infused Trenyce with resilience and determination, empowering her to overcome obstacles encountered along her journey.

This case study underscores the invaluable contribution of mentors and supporters in fostering a positive environment conducive to educational and career pursuits. It highlights the profound influence and motivational power vested in mentors, thereby illuminating the significance of their role in nurturing and guiding individuals towards achieving their academic and professional ambitions.

This testimonial serves as an example of the profound impact of mentorship and encouragement on the educational and professional journeys of our students and the pivotal role mentors play in inspiring, guiding, and motivating.



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Mentors



AMOS BURSARY HIGHER APPRENTICES

Kwesi Bimpong, Eijah Olanipekun and Rubin Yaw Aboagye-Poku

Growing up in a part of London with limited ties to the African and Caribbean community, I found solace in church and lived vicariously through cousins in South London. The Amos Bursary introduced me to my brothers Rubin and Elijah, opening doors to corporate opportunities.

Experiencing the Bursary's power of community and diverse corporate cultures, I pursued an apprenticeship, as did Rubin and Elijah. Our shared values led us to establish the Black Apprentice Network (BAN), fostering a community for apprentices to connect, partner with corporates, and organise knowledge-sharing events.

From Bursary Scholars to founders of one of the UK's largest apprenticeship networks, our journey, guided by community support and seizing opportunities, exemplifies the transformative impact of The Amos Bursary.

Kwesi Bimpong, Goldman Sachs 2020 Cohort



GRANT THORNTON VOLUNTEERS

Grant Thornton Colleagues dedicated their time and resources to make the Amos Bursary Insights Day a memorable experience for Year 13 students. Grant Thornton combined the session with their volunteer day. The volunteers, inspired by a shared sense of purpose, spent the day engaging with bright Year 13 students who brought curiosity and eagerness to learn from their professional experiences. They had the opportunity to interact with inspiring students in the early stages of their career journeys, sharing insights about trainee programs and offering valuable career advice.

MY VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

I've volunteered twice. Once was a Saturday in May where year 12 students were preparing to write their personal statements. I helped them to expand on their super curricular activities. I've also volunteered more recently in October, where year 13 students gained insight into different careers and pathways open to them. It was akin to 'speed dating' where students had five minutes to get to know about each volunteer's career and routes taken to reach their current role.

Volunteering has helped me develop communication and adaptability skills which are readily transferable to the workplace and can help me in my day job. I would absolutely volunteer again. I was so impressed with the talent in the room and would love to continue helping and nurturing them on their career path. If you're considering volunteering with The Amos Bursary, I say go for it - it's very rewarding. Take up opportunities when you see them. We all have a chance to give back. I am proud to be part of an organisation making real change.

Nerys Bint, Head of IT Audit, Grant Thornton





Ife Alabi



VOICES GIVE BACK

Amos Voices Empowers Coaches for Continued Impact

The Amos Voices Public Speaking Programme, sponsored by Sony Interactive Entertainment, has been pivotal in helping our students become exceptional public speakers and mentors. We're thrilled to share that four qualified speakers from previous programmes, under the expert tutelage of Tambo Silavwe from Insight Coaching, are now trainee coaches for Amos Voices, showcasing their growth and commitment to supporting new speakers.

This programme isn't just about public speaking; it fosters a tight-knit community and enhances confidence, eloquence, and presence. The 2023 programme, held at The Lounge at Grant Thornton, saw 15 talented students eager to refine their speaking skills. It's all about giving them a platform to share their stories, challenges, and successes, inspiring and motivating their peers along the way.

Amos Voices in action

Ife's story Empowering the Youth in West Midlands:

Amos Scholar, Ife Alabi met Edwin Ogiefa Barry an Amos Bursary 2023 West Midlands Scholar, the Head Boy at Cardinal Newman Catholic School Coventry, during The Amos Bursary Social event in August. This led to a collaboration between Ife, a student at Warwick University, and friend Rayaam Alem, Birmingham University. They joined forces to craft a presentation aimed at guiding year 12 students on excelling in sixth form.

Pooling their experiences and affiliations, Ife and Rayaam delivered an assembly, sharing insights and advice to inspire younger students in their educational journey. Their dedication to supporting Midland's young people while pursuing their studies reflects an admirable commitment to community engagement and mentorship.



Education is not only about personal growth but also about empowering others to achieve their goals.





CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

The students were given the opportunity to go to the Royal Opera House to see The Royal Ballet – Don Quixot

Here are the testimonials and key sentiments shared by the attendees:

Babafunto Babajide-Ojo
(Imperial College, Medicine):
Found the performance phenomenal.

Chioma Igwe
Highlighted the exceptional skill and grace of the dancers and the impact of the live orchestra.

Desiree Blessing
(Aspiring Politics and Sociology Undergraduate):
Appreciated the storytelling through ballet and the stunning precision of the cast.

Jada Lavine Monerville
(Apprentice Dental Nurse at Bupa Health and Dental Centre):
Highlighted the precision and energy of the cast, creating a visually appealing and entertaining show.

Shianne Keller
(Gap Year Student):
Recognised the enlightening experience and the Amos Bursary's commitment to enhancing cultural capital, emphasising the importance of representation in such spaces.

Anthonia Oni
(London School of Economics and Political Science, Law):
Described an unforgettable experience with exposure to high-calibre ballet dancers.

Naomi Amoako
(University of Surrey, Business Management):
Recognised the storytelling capabilities of ballet through costume, music, dance, and set design.

Emiola Oke
(King's College London, BSc Neuroscience and Psychology):
Lauded the opportunity to attend the prestigious event, enjoying the precision and swift movements of the dancers.

Khejhra Sweeney
(University College London, LLB):
Appreciated the ballet, meeting fellow Amos Bursary participants, and finding inspiration for a successful career.

Joshua Dorman
(PMC Treasury, Internship):
A new and exciting experience, appreciating how emotion and storytelling can be conveyed through dance and live music.

Reon Nana-Poku
(Cornerstone VC, Internship):
Described the event as magnificent, emphasising the extraordinary performances, the grandeur of the Royal Opera House, and the overall artistic brilliance.

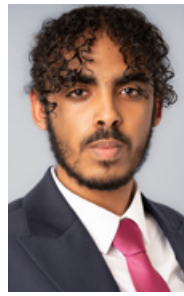




MENTOR MARKETING AT LONDON LIONS BASKETBALL TEAM

Jerome Quartey, Marketing Director at the London Lions basketball team and a mentor to Alumni Jesse Williams, graciously invited The Amos Bursary to attend the London Lions Basketball Games as part of the Black History Month celebrations in October.

This invitation, offering complimentary attendance, not only showcases the robust mentorship and connections within The Amos Bursary network but also emphasises the significance of inclusivity and community involvement. The opportunity to attend these basketball games served as a fantastic occasion for The Amos Bursary members to relish a sporting event while commemorating Black History Month.



Saaleh Abanur

ENGAGING WITH NON-PROFITS

Salaah Abanur's introduction to The Amos Bursary roots back to the Organisation of Young Africans (OYA), showcasing the interconnectedness of support networks. His passion for the OYA and his work reflects his commitment to positively impacting students' lives and fostering cultural awareness.

Salaah, a 2023 Scholar, adeptly manages his school responsibilities while actively contributing to the OYA. At OYA, Salaah serves a pivotal role, supporting African and Afro-Caribbean students in English, Maths, and Science. Simultaneously, he imparts invaluable knowledge about African history and culture, aligning with the organisation's broader mission of instilling pride in heritage and refining public speaking abilities.

Having been a former student benefiting from OYA's programs during Year 11, Salaah's exceptional dedication led to a trainee employment opportunity. Presently engaged in an administrative capacity, he remains deeply involved in coordinating the Saturday School sessions.

Although suffering with hypermobility and dystonia he continues to follow his passion to help others.





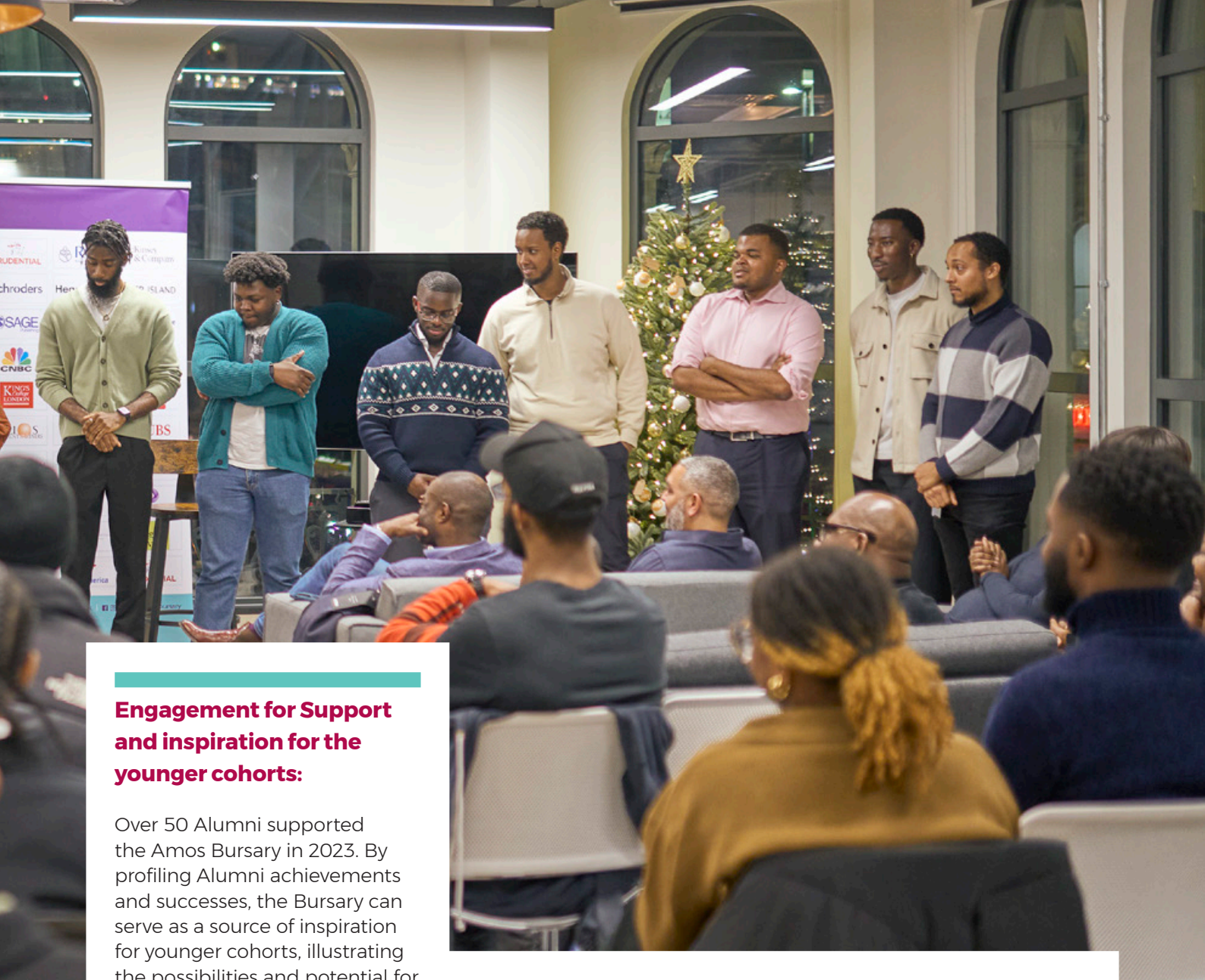
SHOWCASING ALUMNI STORIES

Our Alumni engagement approach is a holistic strategy that recognises the multifaceted needs of the Alumni community. It aligns with the goal of continued support for our Alumni community and also building a network of leaders that fosters continuous learning, collaboration, and success for the young students in the Bursary and wider community.



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Alumni





Engagement for Support and inspiration for the younger cohorts:

Over 50 Alumni supported the Amos Bursary in 2023. By profiling Alumni achievements and successes, the Bursary can serve as a source of inspiration for younger cohorts, illustrating the possibilities and potential for growth beyond the program

Promoting Success in Employment:

The Amos Bursary provided Alumni with the opportunity to train as Board Trustees.

Fostering Social Engagement:

The Alumni continue to support each other and keep in touch via their WhatsApp group.

Showcasing Alumni Stories:

Alumni achievements continue to feature in our social media platforms, reports and website.

Highlighting Career Opportunities:

Additional opportunities for career advancement are shared.

ALUMNI NURTURES TALENT

Alumni takeover days are when the alumnus run development sessions. These days have been a great success and the students were fully engaged and learned a lot.

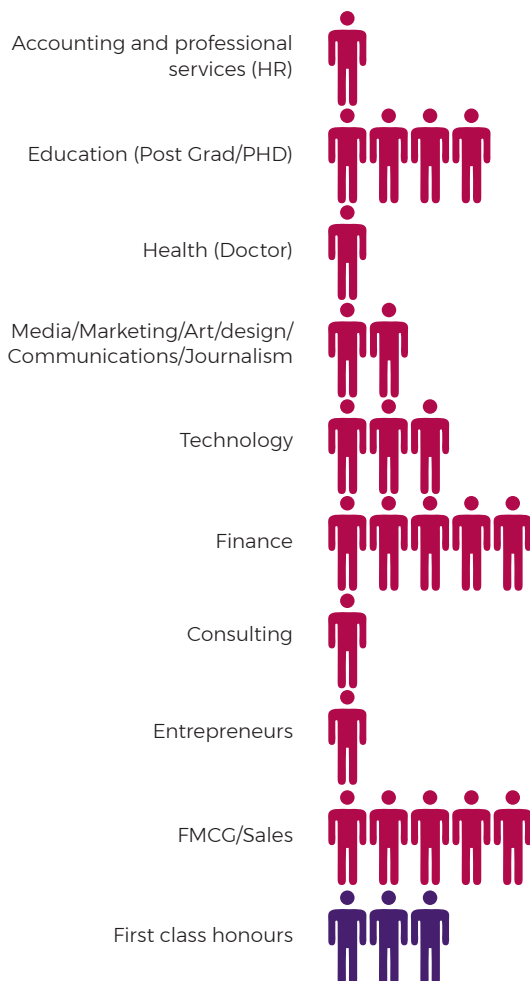
The Financial Day, co-ordinated by Solomon Adu and Remel Anno- Barneih in August was well received by the students and in October the takeover which focused on your personal brand led by alumnus Jolade, Joseph, Karl, Max, Timothy and Nathan. At the same time Alumni: Andre, Daniel, Faustino, Xavier, Max, James, Myron and undergraduate Lamar and Leon, have supported The Caribbean project, running sessions and mentoring our under16 students at King’s College London.





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 GRADUATING SCHOLARS

2023 Graduating Scholars – career sectors



They were welcomed into the Alumni Brotherhood by the Alumni who came together for their annual gathering which was hosted by Sullivan & Stanley, Change Consultancy.

Guest speaker for the evening was Tim Campbell, who has been an Amos Ambassador for many years. We wish them every success as they begin the next stage of their journey into the world of work.





AN EXTRAORDINARY SERIES OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

What an extraordinary series of accomplishments for George Imafidon! It's a remarkable achievement to receive an MBE from the Prince of Wales, recognising George's outstanding contributions to engineering, technology, and his impactful work with young people.

Furthermore, being honoured with the Entrepreneur Rising Star of the Year award by Barclays and The Black British Business Awards speaks volumes about George's entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to making a positive difference. The additional acknowledgment from KPMG as the Most Promising Non-Profit Organization further underscores the significant impact of Motivez under George's leadership.

Congratulations to George Imafidon on these well-deserved recognitions! His achievements are not only a testament to his individual brilliance but also a source of inspiration for The Amos Bursary community and beyond.



Daniel Discovers Law talent

The Making Links Discovery Programme is a partnership initiative between Linklaters, the Social Mobility Foundation (SMF) and The Amos Bursary. Each year The Amos Bursary selects 10 of its students and recruits 5 of the same calibre from other ethnic minorities who are interested in a career in law to join the 18-month bespoke programme. They attend development days, receive mentorship and are given internships to create future lawyers that are equipped to transition to undergraduate programmes.

Since the inception of the programme the Amos Bursary Alumni Daniel Beckley has been instrumental in this process by helping to recruit the students. Daniel said, my career owes much to the Amos Bursary, which inspired me to help recruit students for their Discover programme with Linklaters, targeting 16 to 18-year-olds from lower socioeconomic backgrounds pursuing careers in law. My rewarding journey as a 2014 scholar brought me invaluable opportunities, mentorship, and personal growth. Thanks to the Bursary, I blended my passions for music, business, and IP, leading to a fulfilling role at Universal Music as a digital team executive post my legal studies.





EXCEPTIONAL TALENT ON DISPLAY

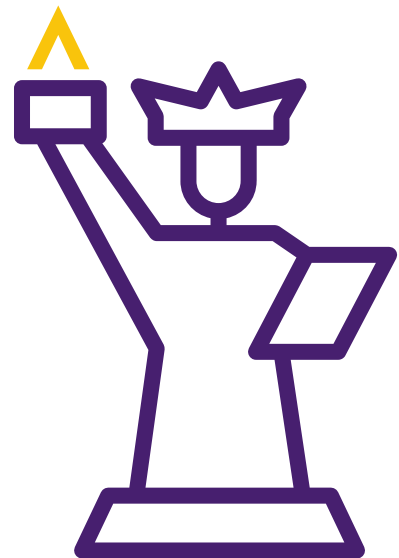
The triumphs of Amos Bursary Alumni Solomon Adeybi and creative partner Adwoa at the Gallery@OXO exhibition resonate deeply within the creative industry.

His exceptional talent, showcased with support from Amos Bursary alumni, committee members, and attendees, not only illuminates his artistic brilliance but also underscores the significant impact and recognition he has garnered.

Lorna Dyke’s experience, of purchasing a painting brought her immense joy, this speaks volumes about the profound connection individuals can forge with art. Solomon a budding luminary, nurtured within The Amos Bursary family, possesses an innate ability to stir powerful emotions through his artistic

expressions, symbolising the vibrant creativity cultivated within The Amos Bursary community.

Heartfelt applause to Solomon Adeybi and creative partner Adwoa for their exhibition success. Their achievements stand as a testament to the potential of creative careers in inspiring, connecting, and leaving an indelible mark, both within and beyond the dynamic sphere of The Amos Bursary community.





The New York Experience students at home

In August, Jolade Olusanya had the privilege and challenge of supervising over 10 Scholars from The Amos Bursary on the annual New York Work Study Experience. This sees them gain work experience in firms such as Linklaters, Schroders, NYU whilst gaining new international perspectives.

JOLADE LEADS THE NEW YORK EXPERIENCE

Jolade said 'I say privilege because I was in the first cohort, one of the first 7 young people in the Bursary. They showed me the world beyond London and for that I'm forever grateful. Since then, I've been a part of its proactive Alumni network supporting the programme that now boasts over 250 current Scholars and graduates doing amazing things in the world. It was also great to return to a city I love very much and even introduce these young people to my community out there.

Most of my work takes me abroad due to the Bursary who gave me one of my first jobs abroad as a graduate, over a decade ago. To be able to give back in this full circle moment is something that I'll cherish for years to come.

I also say challenge because it was. I mean...you try living with 10 young people who are a decade younger than you lol.

It was an educational experience for me having worked with young people since I was 15, but never in this way. Learning how to listen, give them responsibility, trust discipline where necessary and at the same time make sure safeguards and the reputation of the charity were fully observed. Young people deserve a chance, and The Bursary gives them that.

I want to thank the Bursary and the students (families too) for their trust. I want to encourage people reading this to support The Amos Bursary, to find ways to support the young people. I also want to thank my fellow chaperones Liseli Sumbwanyambe and Timothy Duncan as well as Linklaters, Schroders, New York University and CNBC for welcoming us into your world. Special thanks to Lyndon Campbell for being so generous with his time and encouragement.

My career is a very busy one and to take a whole month out of it was not a light decision, but it was worth it and easy because community and my career are closely linked. Especially when young people are involved. Would I do it again? Most definitely, even if they keep forgetting to turn off the iron from time to time.'



ALUMNI TAKEOVER

AB Alumni Hosts Day-long Boot Camp for Amos Students.

In August, the alumni of AB gathered for a day-long boot camp. The focal point of the event was the financial sector, where these alumni have carved their paths to success. With their collective experience and dedication, they not only provided invaluable insights but also served as pillars of support and guidance for the bursary students.

The alumni, with their backgrounds in various financial organisations, embarked on a mission to demystify the intricacies of the financial world. Through interactive sessions and engaging discussions, they delved deep into every facet of finance, from investment banking to risk management, offering a panoramic view of career opportunities in the field.

One of the defining aspects of the workshop was its hands-on approach. Rather than being passive recipients of information, the students were encouraged to actively participate, ask questions, and share their perspectives. This fostered a culture of collaboration and critical thinking, empowering the students to grasp complex concepts and envision their own journeys in finance.

Moreover, the alumni generously shared insights into the corporate landscape, shedding light on the realities of working in a professional environment.

As beneficiaries of the bursary programme themselves, the alumni embodied the spirit of giving back, serving as inspiration for the next generation. Their commitment to supporting the bursary students underscored the power of education and mentorship in shaping brighter futures.

In essence, the day-long boot camp served as a beacon of empowerment, illuminating the path for aspiring financial leaders. It transcended the confines of a typical workshop, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of all participants. As the curtains drew to a close, the resonance of knowledge shared, connections forged, and aspirations ignited reverberated far beyond the confines of the classroom, heralding a new dawn of possibilities for the students of Amos.

In conclusion, the AB alumni's dedication to nurturing talent and fostering a culture of excellence serves as a testament to the transformative power of mentorship and education. As these young men continue to chart their own paths to success, they remain steadfast in their commitment to paving the way for others, ensuring that the torch of knowledge burns ever brighter for generations to come.

Our thanks to the participating Alumni:

**Jonathan Oloyede
Joseph Simeon
Karl Kareem
Richard Butler
Warsame Ismael
Lohan Morrison
Solomon Adu**





SEUN AND GABRIEL LEAD UNIVERSITY ACS SOCIETIES

It's inspiring to see the positive impact of Alumni like Seun Sontan and Gabriel Amida, who are actively involved in bringing together African Caribbean Societies (ACS) from universities across the UK.

The ACS Leadership Summit, hosted at Live Nation HQ, not only provided a platform for collaboration but also marked the launch of The ACS Charter.

The engagement of universities, including Exeter University's Vanessa Onokpasa and Jonathan Tutamalo, in sessions focused on problem-solving, society capacity development, and community building is a testament to the value of such events. The support and facilitation by Amos Bursary Alumni contribute significantly to the success and meaningful outcomes of these conferences.

Jesse Panda said 'Going to the ACS Conference was an amazing opportunity to both share with and receive ideas from other ACS Committees leaders. It gave me an invaluable

insight to other perspectives on certain concepts and issues and allowed me, along with my committee, to approach problems in a more effective way.

Additionally, being around other leaders who are all working incredibly hard for their respective ACS communities was an inspirational environment to be in and an extra bit of motivation to deliver for my own ACS Community'.

Congratulations to Seun Sontan, Gabriel Amida, and everyone involved, for their dedication to fostering leadership and collaboration within African Caribbean Societies at universities across the UK.



KENNY'S STORY

I am committed to altering the trajectories of others' lives.

I'm grateful for all the people that make up the village who've supported me on my journey. I would have never got here without them, and more importantly without God on my side.

12 years ago, at just 18 years old, I walked out of the Old Bailey court a free man! I was found not guilty of 7 charges, including murder (under joint enterprise). In another reality, I would have been doing a life sentence, with a minimum of 30 years behind bars for a murder I didn't commit.

To think that I've gone from being at my rock bottom, spending 23 hours a day in a cell in 2011 to now, 12 years later in 2023 living a purposeful and fulfilling life, and doing the unimaginable – it's a miracle. Who would have thought that this young kid from Peckham, who many would have written off after all that had happened to him, would:

1. Secure a 3-year fully paid scholarship through The Amos Bursary, and graduate with a law degree
2. Co-found and build a business (ClearView Research) from a few hundreds of pounds of self-investment, to a 7 figure company today
3. Be in leadership roles, and on boards where I can be a positive influence and impact the lives of millions and children and young people across the UK

4. Become an author published by Penguin – If you haven't read #ThatPeckhamBoy
5. Be featured across TV and radio channels, as well newspapers, such as; BBC One, Channel 4, ITV, Channel 5, Sky News, Capital Xtra, BBC Radio 4, The Guardian, The Independent, etc.
6. Be listed in Forbes 30 under 30
7. Have travelled to 53 countries/territories across the world, though before I went to prison I had only visited Nigeria
8. Have co-founded My Brother's Keeper with Lord Dr Michael Hastings CBE, and work across 6 prisons in the UK supporting men who have long-term sentences to positively transform and live out their full potential
9. Meet, sit down and interview, everyone from royals to world-class athletes and highly successful entrepreneurs such as Sir Lewis Hamilton, Aliko Dangote, and the late Queen Elizabeth.

I hope my book serves as a helpful reminder that you are much more than the worst thing that has happened to you.



THAT PECKHAM BOY

Never allow yourself to become a prisoner of your past. Chase your dreams with a heart full of hope and lots of audacity. The dream won't happen overnight and there's no shortcuts to getting there. There's no elevator to success, you will always have to take the stairs!

In commemoration and appreciation of Black History Month, ROKOS, Willis Towers Watson, and KPMG had the pleasure of hosting Kenny Imafidon, an esteemed Author, social commentator, and Alumnus of The Amos Bursary. The engaging discourse and subsequent book signing event were a testament to his impactful presence.

ROKOS generously contributed copies of Kenny's book to The Amos Bursary, while Andrew Long, Managing Director at Willis Towers Watson, also donated books, furthering the reach of Kenny's work.

During these events, Kenny delivered a compelling talk centred on his book 'That Peckham Boy', recounting his journey from his upbringing in Peckham to his present achievements. He shared excerpts from 'That Peckham Boy: Growing Up, Getting Out, and Giving Back'.



Student messages to Kenny

The event was a fantastic blend of thought-provoking discussions, entertainment, and electrifying energy. I'm deeply grateful to Kenny for inviting me to be a part of this history that he is creating. Kenny said 'when writing the story of your life make sure that you're the one holding the pen'.

I just wanted to express how truly remarkable and inspiring your story is. Coming from the same place as you, I know first-hand how rare it is to see someone from the environment you were brought up in achieve the remarkable feats you have. Your journey is a testament to the incredible potential that lies within all of us, even when the odds seem stacked against us. I'm genuinely inspired by your resilience and determination.

I want you to know that your story will serve as my testimony and a constant reminder that it's possible to make the most of your life, no matter the challenges or obstacles. Your achievements are a source of motivation for many, and I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to hear your journey. Thank you for being a shining example of what's possible.

Kavaughn Smith

The Kenny Imafidion Story demonstrates how someone sailing on the wrong boat can still make it to the island. After hearing his story first-hand, I began to understand the importance of discipline and resilience, as well as the benefits attached to these qualities. This has contributed to a thoughtful opinion surrounding nurture versus nature.

In my opinion, his story is an example that nurture is what shapes an individual; it is not determined by nature. Human beings' behaviour and nature are not fixed. As a community, it is our responsibility to act as shepherds for our brothers and sisters who may know nothing but the negative aspects of life. To enable our community to thrive collectively, we must explore and apply the concept of restoration. This is essential to help our community transition into something better and challenge the stereotypical views that society often holds about the black community, 'no child left behind'.

I have come to the conclusion that the goal is not merely to escape the 'trenches' and never look back, but to excel and invest back into our community. This can transform the current themes of nurturing, shifting from ideas that lead to side hustles involving illegal activities and intra-crime to ideas that lead to initiatives, new technology, start-ups, and so on. In short, the objective is to ensure that no child is left behind.

Moving forward, I aim to remain disciplined, resilient, and authentic, as these factors will help challenge the one-size-fits-all model often put forward by organisations. Schaun King

Kenny Imafidion's story exemplifies the benefits of hard work, dedication, and life with a purpose. His path is one that many others have taken, but only a few have successfully completed. Listening to his stories struck a chord with me because they demonstrated the transformative potential of a single opportunity and the significant influence that someone's faith in you can have on your life.

Nonetheless, I have realised the weight of duty I bear as a young man for these frequently 'forgotten men'. They, too, deserve love and forgiveness because they have latent potential that will blossom if given access to the correct resources, a lesson I have learned to greatly appreciate.

Reon Nanu-Poku



I learned that 'If you can breathe you have destiny'.



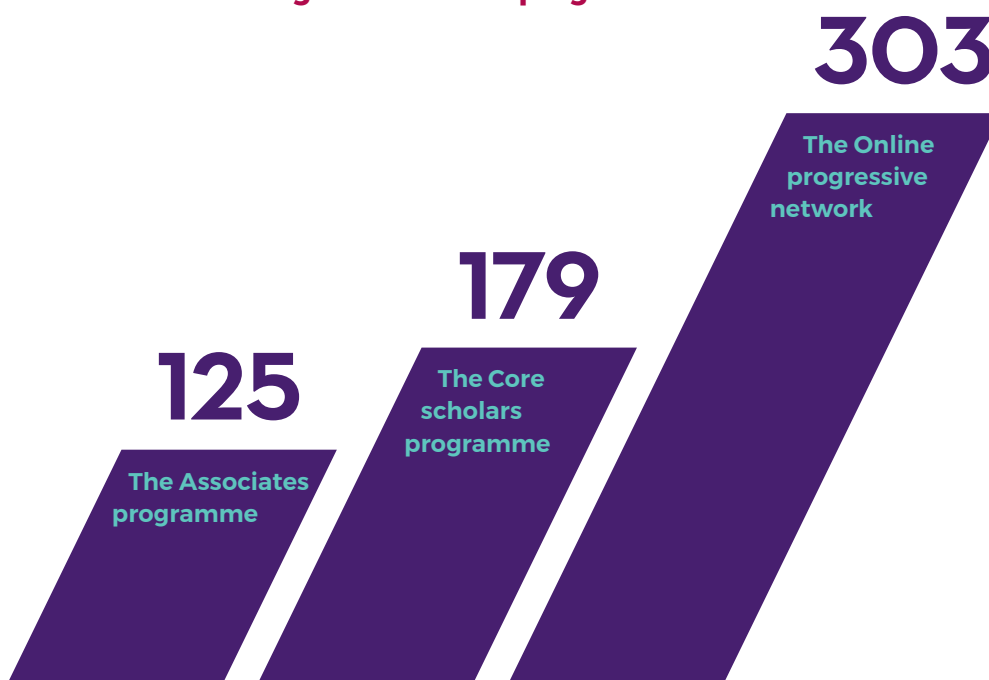
FACTS AND FIGURES

The Amos Bursary offers three, five year programmes, from year 12 at school or College, to final year University to academically able students from challenging backgrounds, who are educated in the UK and attend State schools in London and the West Midlands.

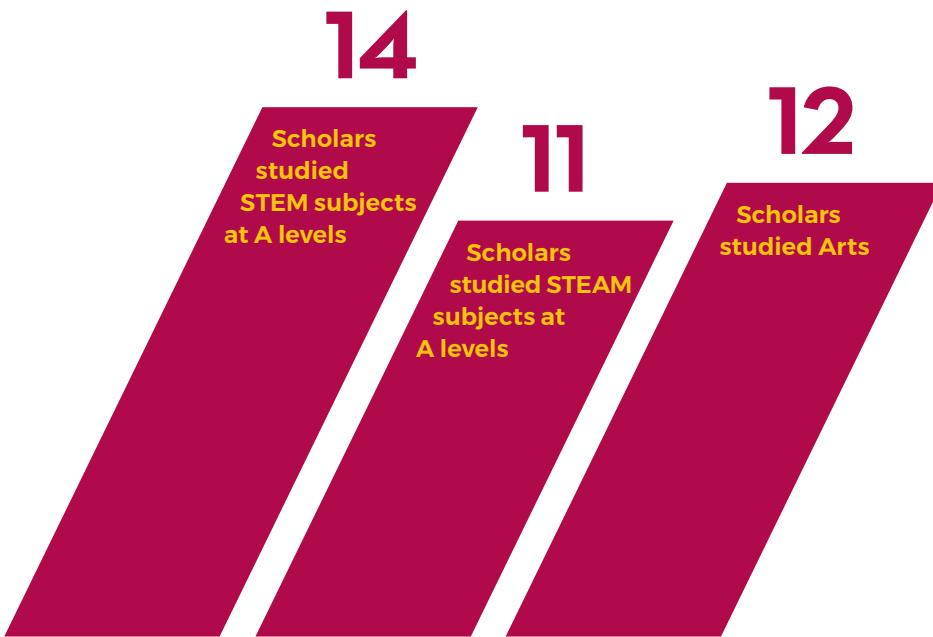
Our Legacy

- 2008:** The charity was devised as a legacy to Mike and Dolly Amos (parents of Baroness Amos, Collee Amos OBE and Michael Amos)
- 2009:** Programme launched with 7 young men – Amos Scholars (face to face)
- 2017:** Associates programme launched (face to face) due to number of applicants who met the criteria
- 2021:** Introduced young women onto the programme sponsored by the Sorrell Foundation
- 2021:** Launched the Online progressive network to accommodate the numbers of young people who had applied and met our criteria
- 2023:** Further growth with expansion into The West Midlands with 14 scholars in 2023

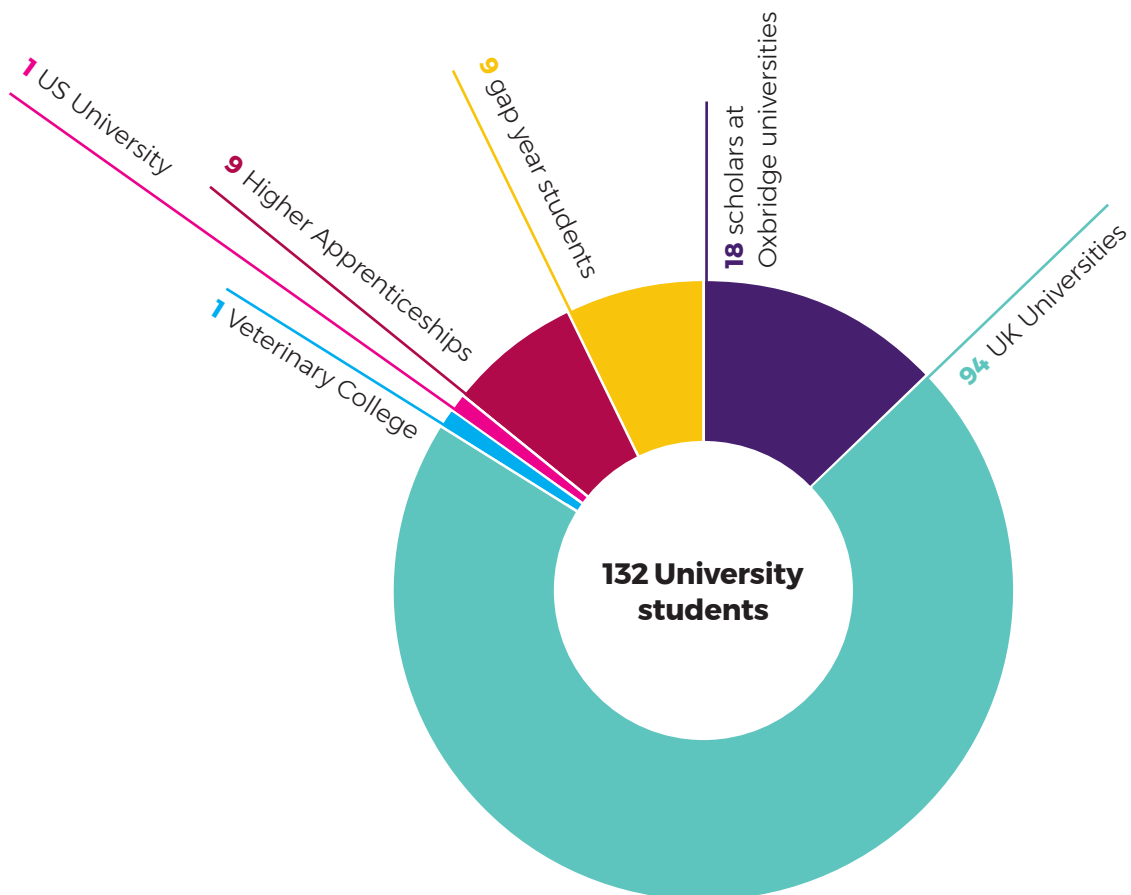
607 Beneficiaries registered on our programmes.



2022 Cohort - A level students subjects studied



Scholars Higher Education and vocational courses/institutions



SPONSORS

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Headland 



Goldman Sachs



BARINGS



J.P.Morgan



McKinsey & Company

Linklaters

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WELLINGTON MANAGEMENT FOUNDATION
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Ms Colleen Amos OBE, CEO and
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The Amos Bursary would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the Amos Bursary in 2023.

Our volunteers, sponsors, mentors and supporters.



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