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THE HANK AARON CHASING THE DREAM FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES AN ENDOWED $100,000 SCHOLARSHIP AT CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

ATLANTA (Sept. 12, 2011) – Clark Atlanta University this week announced the establishment of a $100,000 endowed scholarship from The Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation. The scholarship will support CAU students pursuing careers in public service, teaching, social work, humanities, science and medicine.

CAU President Carlton E. Brown said, “It is the generosity of Major League Hall of Famer Hank Aaron and his wife, Billye, that speaks volumes about their commitment to charitable giving and to the future of our youth. We are grateful to have such friends of the University.”

The scholarship supports, in perpetuity, one student per year at Clark Atlanta University until more students can be supported through additional contributions or growth of the fund.

(more)
The first recipient of the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Scholarship is Elise Barnes, a senior early childhood education major from Naperville, Ill., who received a $4,000 award for last year. Barnes holds a 3.47 grade point average and is working on her practicum at neighboring Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School. After graduation in May 2012, she plans to work for the Atlanta Public School System as an elementary school teacher for at least a year before pursuing graduate studies.

The Chasing the Dream Foundation in time will fund 12 such “4 for 4” scholarships at colleges and universities across the United States. The scholarship name references the 12 times in his baseball career that Aaron went 4-for-4 at the plate. The scholarships represent the latest beneficence from the 15-year-old foundation, which Hank and Billye Aaron created to give back to the community by supporting deserving at-risk youths.

President Brown and Barnes will attend a “4 for 4 Scholars” event on Sept. 18, 2011, at Turner Field, during the Atlanta Braves versus the New York Mets game. A private luncheon will be hosted by the Aarons and the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation Board of Directors.

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