



UFSC San Francisco Bay Area Chapter NEWS

A Very Special Reception

When most of us think back to our freshman years in college, our thoughts might immediately go to our first time leaving home, all-night study groups, sororities and fraternities, or even parties. For a trio of bright, ambitious and determined young adults, our local UFSC chapter will have a role in getting them to fulfilling their dreams of a college education. On May 20th, our chapter held its annual Scholarship Reception to honor three local high school seniors on their way to college. The following students were awarded a total of \$9,000 towards their college education costs:

Ashley Michelle Chambers

(third from the right, to the left of her mother and three-year-old daughter)

McClymonds High School
will attend UC Berkeley

Alexis Jackson (in her absence, her

father, second from the right, attended)

Bishop O'Dowell High School
will attend Yale University

Johnny Pham (Johnny and his

mother are to the right of Damita, at far left)

Oakland High School
will attend UC Berkeley



Union Bank of California hosted the event and more than a dozen current and prospective UFSC members attended to congratulate the students and their families. Members, hosts, students and their guests enjoyed refreshments and a keynote address from Union Bank of California SVP/Regional Manager Julius Robinson. National President Damita Barbee addressed the audience, and Chapter President Greg Young introduced the speaker. Scholarship Chair James Jackson, and Javay Walton, a 1997 UFSC Scholarship Recipient presented the scholarships.

Coach's Call

When it comes to career development, determining our goals and the best way to achieve them, and addressing our internal and professional challenges, sometimes we need professional help. As part of our Continuing Education Program Series: Professional Development, Refining Your Skills, J. Alton Byrd, CEO of Clear Focus Coaching, spoke at our July membership meeting.



Clear Focus Coaching is a Sacramento based executive coaching firm with offices in San Francisco as well. Byrd has more than two decades of global business experience in a variety of industries and specializes in personalized development for professionals in corporate America.



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Byrd recommends taking charge of your own career path, and taking the time to determine what you truly want to do and how you plan to get there.

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Reaching out to the Bayview

Two troubled districts in San Francisco often making headlines are the Bayview and its southeast neighbor, Hunter's Point. The news the media often highlights surrounding these largely African-American and low-income areas is almost always bad. In July, our local UFSC chapter brought some good news to the Bayview.

For three weeks in July, UFSC members hosted 30 youth between the ages of 16 and 19 enrolled in the Chocolate City 2 program through Young Community Developers, a 30-year-old Bayview non-profit that provides job training for at-risk, low-income youth in these blighted neighborhoods.



Through a variety of activities to encourage interaction and mentorship, more than a dozen UFSC members, including our National President, Damita Barbee, met these youth in downtown corporate offices on Friday afternoons. Members spent two hours each afternoon **interacting** with the youth and telling them about the variety of jobs available within the financial services industry, sharing successful strategies to manage the challenges African-Americans still face in corporate America, helping them hone their job search skills, giving them valuable financial literacy education, and showing them the proper demeanor for professional environments.



The most important part of these workshops was not just the lessons learned on a variety of important topics, but the interaction between these youth and successful, professional African-Americans they can see as role models. We were often reminded that young people in the Bayview rarely, if ever, have the opportunity to meet and learn from successful, professional African-Americans.

Some of what the students learned included: "It's important not to give in to stereotypes that people use to judge (other) people." "Banking is more than money" "Inspire young people to succeed" "Finish your high school education and go on to educate your family and young ones." Thank you, UFSC, for you time and mentorship.

Welcome Aboard to Dawnn Hills, our new Membership Chair!