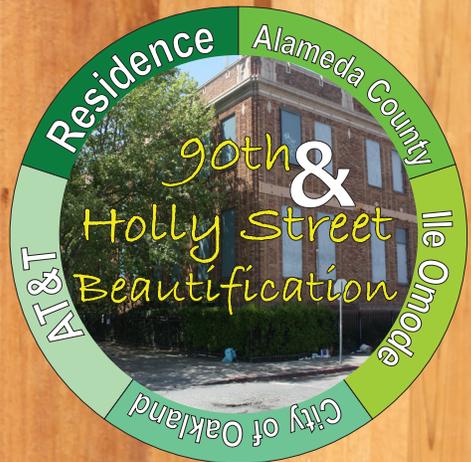
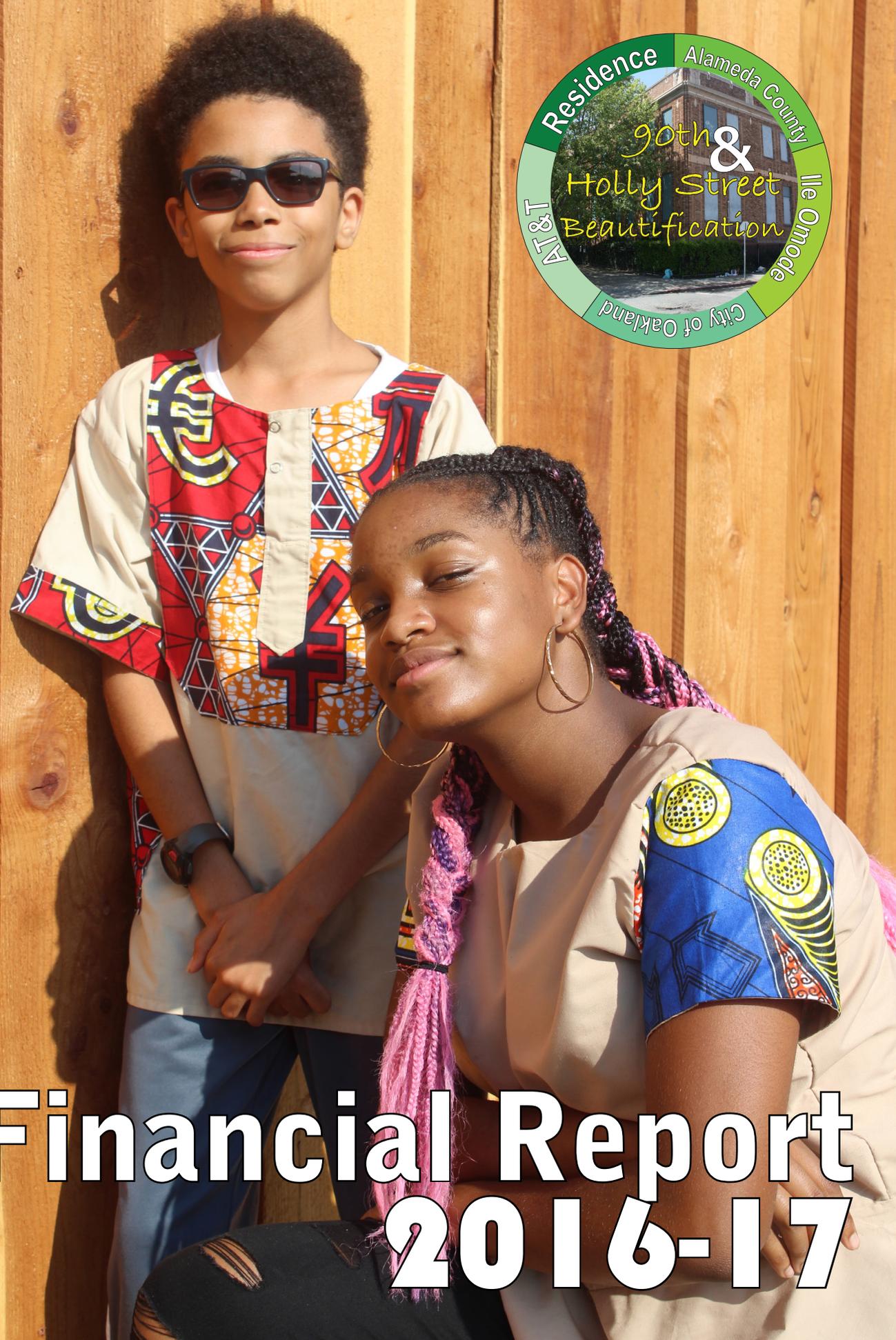




Alums Win State Athletic Titles



A donation to Morris Brown College



Financial Report 2016-17

7th graders, Neranti Gary and Selma Apra, take the SAT and more

SCHOOL FOUNDERS

**Oyin Kambon, Okanona Holmes
and Jasiri Kadiri**

SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Jahi Awakoaiye

BUSINESS MANAGER

Pamela Young-Williams

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Kelly Kouyate

MIDDLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR

Abubakar Omari

WO'SE SENIOR MINISTER

Minister Greg Hodge

WO'SE COUNCIL OF ELDERS

Minister Greg Hodge

Jahi Awakoaiye

Tracy T. Brown

Sidney Coulter

Fanya Makini

Akanke Peyton

Tyehimba Peyton

Pamela Young-Williams

Darnisha Wright

Afua Yates



MISSION

To sustain an educational institute in the best traditions of our ancestors. We will give birth to the genius resident in every child, assist parents in their efforts to become models of right behavior and right order for their children, and provide a working environment that allows our educators to follow their passion of teaching and loving our children.

ILE OMODE SCHOOL

8924 Holly Street, Oakland, CA 94621

(510) 632-8230, <http://www.ileomode.org>

MEMBERSHIP

The school is a member of the Council of Independent Black Institutions (CIBI).

COVER PHOTO: Staff

page 2



From the Director

One of my mothers, Bobbie Jackson, passed away somewhat unexpectedly just before our graduation ceremonies this year. Technically, she was my mother-in-law, but it was a term that we never used in our family. She had been battling a number of illnesses and ailments over the years, but she was sustained by

her unwavering faith in the Creator, a deep love for her family, and her life long passion - teaching.

We didn't have much in common, but teaching was a point of bonding. While my motivation to teach began as an outgrowth of a political ideology and a pursuit for nation building, eventually becoming love, hers was always rooted in love for teaching children.

Born in a small town in Mississippi in 1943, she viewed teaching through the same lens as most Black people of the time. Teaching was a hallowed profession; occupying the same celestial place as ministers, with some small space allotted for doctors. Teaching was less an occupation, and much more of a calling. And because she spent the better part of her career teaching at a Christian school, there was little separation between educating our young people to forge the next generation of doctors, lawyers, and engineers while at the same time ensuring they developed a relationship to God.

On one of the few occasions we were able to get her to walk, we went to a local park in her neighborhood, just a mile from USC in Los Angeles. She could barely walk 20 feet without bumping into one of her former students. Some were barely out of high school while others were at the park with their young family, but each face brightened when they saw her still towering silhouette in the park. She was naturally a reserved woman, and was rarely overly talkative, but from the lightness of her steps, it was clear that she was moved by these encounters.

In those moments it was clear that she took far less satisfaction in teaching these young people to master their letters, and far more in producing good people. People of character; people for whom the Creator would say, "job well done".

As custodian of this great institution I am honored by so many who have tested these waters, but my pantheon of greats must include "Mrs. Jackson". Through her I was able to witness the transformation of character that occurs through every lesson plan, and the righteousness inherent in this vocation.

Jahi Awakoaiye, Director



Year in Review

SEPTEMBER - Ile Omode begins its 30th year with the largest enrollment ever: 109 students, Beautification Committee

is launched at the first monthly family meeting of the year - a parent, staff, & community collaboration to revitalize our neighborhood and campus... **OCTOBER**

- students and parents take to the street for a Community Cleanup; Oakland officials and KTVU come out...

NOVEMBER - first Beautification Town Hall meeting is held....

DECEMBER - Umoja night Kwanzaa is a huge success with over 400 people in attendance while Ile Omode students showcase their performing art talents ...

FEBRUARY - Oakland's mayor joins Ile Omode for the 3rd Annual Huey P. Newton Oratorical Festival which features students showing their skills in spoken word and dramatic plays....

MARCH - dozens of students participate in the science fair... **MAY** - the school's first Mardi Gras themed masquerade party...

JUNE - students enjoy an end of the year celebration at Santa Cruz Beach and Boardwalk... **JULY** - a new fence with seating is built, and a custom shed follows



About Ile Omode

Educating Our Children Since 1986

Ile Omode has served students from Oakland and surrounding cities for 30 years. Initially begun as a home-based day care serving preschool children, the independent private school continues to grow.

From its 3-story building in East Oakland, the school serves students from preschool to 8th grade; providing a preschool, elementary, and middle school.

Ile Omode students meet a rigorous African-centered curriculum lauded for its strength across an array of disciplines, including language, science, technology, and mathematics. Students have:

- Engaged in extensive community-driven research projects
- Developed science projects
- Coded computer applications
- Enrolled concurrently in an advanced Algebra course at a local college.

Our tuition remains one of the lowest in the areas, while our services, including providing laptops/tablets, musical instruments, daily breakfast and lunch, included after-school services, is untouchable. We strive to remain affordable for families and support parents' effort to provide the best for their children.



67%
Enrollment increase since 2001, with enrollment increasing every year in the last decade

Summer Camps
160
Students

Families Served
147
this year

Student-Teacher
9:1
Ratio

2016-2017 Donors*

Asante ("thank you") for every contribution

**From September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017; does not include cash contributions or local fundraisers when no donor information was provided.*

Community

Builder

**Supporter
Up to \$24**

Kelly and Ouseynou Kouyate
Andrienne Desantis
Melva Fitzmorris
O. Denise Robinson
Rhea Johnson
Tracie McCants
Briana Sherwan
Donna McKinney
Beverley Lashley & Marion Goring
Clarence & Barbara McElhaney
Tamara Lawson
Michelle Ware
Pamela Robinson
Patricia Foster
Patricia Hastings

**Mama
Jasiri Kadiri
\$25-\$99**

Rischa Cole-Johnson
Andrea Reyes
Carmen L Chiong
Dannielle D Williams
Farcia De'Toles-Medearis
Laura Galvin
Joanna Bullock
Larry B Gayden
Titilayo Makini
Tawana Robertson
Arlinda Harris-Brown
Al-Musawwir, Labeeba
Angelia Scott-Thompson
Erica Moppins
Melvin Robinson
Kai and Ernest Nortey
Celine F Walker
Charsina Imara
Claude Allen
Dianne Smith-Jubilee
Emory Douglas

Gale M Madyun
Gladys D Nortey
James Manuel
Hope Jones
Olorioyin Kambon
James Lawson
Lee Family
Stella & Brett Moore
Ustadi Kadiri
The Kula Foundation
Rodney and Elneda Shannon
Sia and Jahi Awakoaiye
Curtis & D'Etta Robinson
Cheryl Burks
Lucia Hicks-Williams
Marcia Shields
Porche & Ian Perkins Parker
Kampala & Mark Rancifer

**Baba
David Stewart
\$100-\$249**

Ebon Adams and Donisha Hornes
Ahmed Aparo
Monifa Azibo
Best Tires
Sidney Coulter
Deloris F. Jenkins-Bellow
Denise Gideon
Lynda Harris
J Klade Ballayan
Janice Walker-Lord
Justin & Keisha Smith
Keita Kenyatta
Keyva Kendall
Edna Lawson
Norkethia Guinn
Portia Ridgeway
Ajamu and Paula Stewart
Kellie & Maurice McElhaney
The Benevity Community Impact Fund
Ethel L and James Haskins
Antonia Jackson
Tyehimba Peyton
Sean Besteda
Constance Bridgeforth
Carl and Beverly Kennedy
William Bradley

Dean H. Tyler
Nailah Madyun
Pamela & Johnie Williams
Yvette Donelson
Andrea Phillips
Tyrone & Halimah Anderson
Claudia Cooper
Derrick Malone
Devasta De'Toles-Dugan
Kimberly & Joseph Lynch
Monica Al-Bakari
Dr. Wade & Vera Nobles
Roland Wilson
Tamara J Lawson
Wooten Carlynn
Faith Fisher
Alicia K Dixon
Ife Tayo Stewart
Reginald James
Ernest Nortey

Leader's Circle

**William Alexander
Liedesdorff
\$250-\$499**

The African American Tobacco Council
Kofi Ampim
Rodney Brooks
Fancy Bryant, 3
Kenisha Carr
Diamond Johnson
Ivragene Hudson
Mayor Libby Schaaf 2014
Nubian Flunder
T. Collins
Walter B. Turner
Yolanda's Construction Administration & Traffic Control
Tre'cher Clay
Dasha LaBrie
John Halcomb
Milton and Funmilayo Tyler
Deangela Cooks
Fanya Ka Makini

MR Copy
Sheila Phillip-Shavies
Crystal Henderson
Dona Bellow
Quinton & Martina Sankofa
Jan & Gerald (Jamal) Hunter
Wells Fargo
Theodisa Battiest
Victoria & Jerry Jenkins
Paula Stewart

**Madame C.J.
Walker
\$500-\$999**

Bay Bridge Auto Body & Frame
Berkeley High School
Bookers USA Market
Community Car Wash
Samantha Wise - Classy Educated Ones
Phytologie Oakland
Earlaine and Bobbie Williams
Independent Charities Of America
Franklin and Karla Jones
Brian and Tandeeka Kennedy
Dorian K Bohler

Legacy

**Black
Wallstreet
\$1,000-\$4,999**

Hewy Lewis
Tri Valley Bank
Makia White-Goines
FGA*LA Chart Center
Donna Wilson
Ramoniah Hall
Willie Thompson
Gloria Booth
Paul Jackson

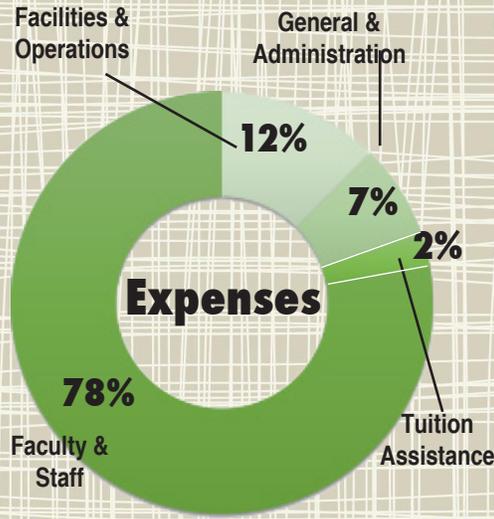
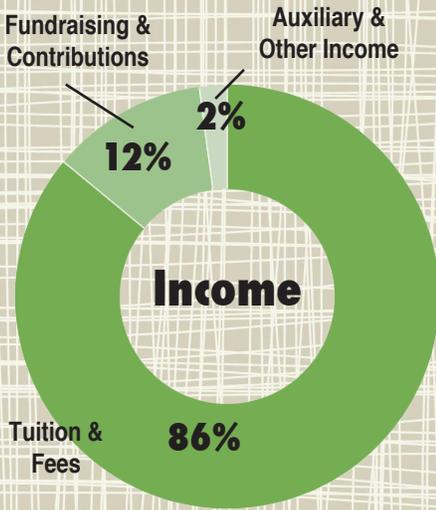
**Black Star Line
\$5,000 & up**

Mxolisi Ozo-Sowande
Anonymous (2)

2016-17

Operating Income and Expenses

Fiscal year runs from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017



\$125K

Total amount of grant money received for programs and staffing

12

students received scholarships from Ile Omode totaling **\$20K**

2016-17 Income

Tuition & Fees	\$712,614
Fundraising & Contributions	\$98,733
Auxiliary & Other Income	\$17,506

2016-17 Expenses

Faculty & Staff	\$633,292
Facilities & Operations	\$101,227
General & Admin	\$58,275
Tuition Assistance	\$22,000

\$7K

awarded by Ile Omode since 2013 to **21** alums entering college for the first time

\$32K

Managed by middle school students, college tour committee, for 2016-17 year

FUNDRAISING



\$6K

Wine & Cheese
(Sep'16)



\$18K

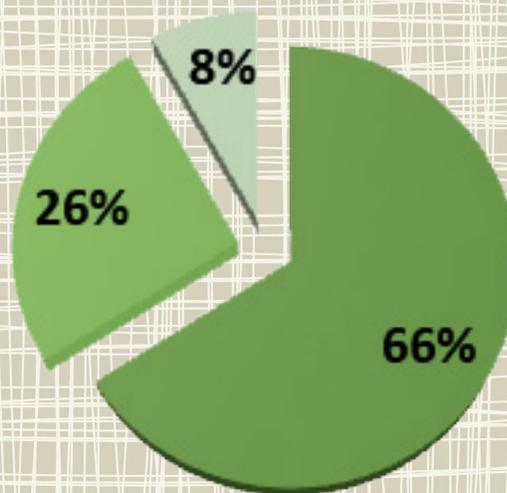
Bowlathon
(Dec'16)



\$13K

Mardi Gras Gala
(May'17)

ANNUAL GIVING



- **Community Builder - under \$250**
- **Leader's Circle - \$250 to \$999**
- **Legacy - \$1000 or more**



7th Graders Take on the SAT

The nationally administered college entrance exams, better known as the SAT or ACT, is a fraught exercise that can stress and overwhelm the most promising high school senior. But imagine the intimidation a student might feel if they're not even a senior, or better yet, not even a high school student.

In March, 2017, two of Ile Omode's finest, while just in the 7th grade, ventured to take the SAT. They settled in to the high school classroom where the test was administered, and took a moment to take in the older students that flanked them, clearly oblivious to the young test takers.

Selma Aparara and Neranti Gary, compelled by the prospects of a national scholarship, took the challenge and dug into the newly released SAT, which is considered even harder than the previous version. When the results were released just several weeks later, the two had finished above the 50th percentile, and had outperformed (one of them concluded it meant they were "smarter") half of the nation's college-bound high school seniors in the country.

For those familiar with the duo, the results weren't the least bit surprising. Selma is a multitasking prodigy, as adept on the dance floor at an Alvin Ailey dance camp (where she spent her summer) or in a Black Girls Code event, where she frequently is pressing for more "coding".

Neranti, like Selma, can't have his interests placed in a small box. The two of them perform in Ile Omode's jazz band, he on the traps and she on the piano. Neranti's real passion however, beyond science, is computer programming, and he spends his free time and summers developing 3D games and applications.

The two, who have been stand-out students since arriving at Ile Omode, have battled every year since 6th grader for the top spot each progress period. They have a 4.0 cumulative GPA, and have their sights set on the most competitive private schools in the area, but their real target are the top universities in the country.

However, after finishing the SAT in 7th grade, they are most certainly already on the radar of many admission directors.



For several years, Ile Omode hosted a very successful, "Casino Night" fundraiser each spring. Unfortunately, changes in California banned the fundraiser, and Mama Pamela, Ile Omode's business manager, along with a committee of parents sought to create a new spring fundraiser, and from the faces of this year's spring fundraiser participants, their retooling produced a great success.

This year's spring fundraiser was a Mardi Gras themed, masquerade ball hosted by Nikki Thomas, and guests leaped into the experience. The catered fundraiser, held at Oakland's Chabot Science and Space Center, saw all manner of exotic masks and full costumes.

The event included a silent auction, live music and a DJ, and guests were treated to the Center's unique amenities, including use of its several observatories, which made for wonderful viewing in the evening skies.

Childcare was also provided on-site, allowing adults to party like it was "1999". The event raised nearly \$14K, and the community is already looking forward to 2018's event.



Southern College Tour

100 STUDENTS! After escorting a record 25 students on a middle school college tour to Atlanta, Georgia and Tuskegee, Alabama in April, 2017, the school has now taken 100 students on our middle school college tours which began in 2009.

The week long trip is designed to introduce middle school students to colleges and universities, notably Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), as well as providing students a chance to see historical landmarks and bond with each other. Students for example, visited Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birth home and non-violent center, as well as enjoyed an evening at a local skating rink.

This was the third southern college tour, and students saw the usual HBCUs, including Morehouse College, Spelman College, and Clark-Atlanta University - where they met Ile Omode 2012 alum, Maia Morgan. Maia, in her first year at the university, shared her freshman experiences and reflections with the group.

Maia participated in the 2010 college tour, which was Ile Omode's 2nd southern tour, and it was at that time that she placed Clark-Atlanta

on her list of future colleges to consider.

However, this tour was the school's first time visiting Morris Brown College, whose marching band was featured prominently in the movie, "Drumline". Before visiting Atlanta many people assumed that Morris Brown College had closed after losing its accreditation, but a little research corrected this misconception, and the school's director, Baba Jahi Awakoaiye, made contact with Morris Brown's president, Dr. Stanley J. Pritchett, and the two arranged to meet.

Morris Brown has never closed, but the college had suffered considerable damage. A dorm was nearly

burned to the ground after local homeless people began occupying a building. Their stadium, which hosted events during the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, is fenced in and overgrown with vegetation and graffiti, and the administrators had to stave off prospectors who began ripping out plumbing to recycle the metal.

The school has only 50 students, but they are working to regain accreditation and rise again. In the spirit of helping our communities, middle school students decided to pool their trip money, and presented the college's president with a check for \$500.

Trips to Atlanta's Georgia State University and Georgia Tech Institute, as well as Tuskegee University were important, but the visit to Morris Brown was perhaps the highlight; nearly as great as the final night.

On the last evening the students enjoyed a semi-formal dinner and party at the Luv Lounge. The proprietor gave the school the entire lounge, and students savored an amazing Ethiopian spread and had their own DJ. Next stop: DC'2019.



Students present Morris Brown president with a donation of \$500

A generous grant from the California Endowment and the California Wellness Foundation provided the necessary funding to launch our school and neighborhood Beautification Project. This was one of the school's most ambitious projects, and marshaled the resources of the school's parents, and local community members.

We wanted to enhance not just the appearance, but improve the safety in the neighborhood while enhancing the health and welfare of students and our neighbors. Throughout the year, the school's call for action attracted scores of groups and people.

Parents, staff, and Wo'se members formed the Beautification Committee led by Mama Charemon Cooks, a parent, who served as the committee's project planner, and developed a multi-year plan.

The support for this project became clear at our first ever, Community Cleanup. Students and parents planned a one-day cleanup around our school, and received support from the City of Oakland, which provided tools and equipment for cleaning; as well as our Oakland City Councilman, Larry Reid, who immediately called out the City's waste



management to assist in removing debris and trash the students had collected. That effort attracted the local media and the students were featured in a KTVU news segment.

Baba Johwell Baptiste, a new parent this year, with a background in video production produced a wonderful video highlighting the day, which has garnered continued interest in our project.

Following the Community Cleanup, the school organized a Beautification Townhall Meeting in November, which attracted over 75 people, to discuss the challenges in the neighborhood, while offering solu-

tions. Led by a panel including Nate Miley, Alameda County Supervisor, Larry Reid, Oakland's District 7 Councilman, and Kirby Thomson, Vice-Chair of the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council it foreshadowed a relationship that would continue to grow throughout the year.

Operating from a layout plan developed by Baba Tajai Massey, a parent, architecture and global artist, Ile Omode met with Supervisor Miley's Illegal Dumping Committee, the Oakland Police, and representative from AT&T towards building a broader partnership.

Some of the discussion has led to a proposal for AT&T to join Ile Omode and the City of Oakland in mounting license plate readers to track illegal dumpers.

The Beautification Committee is hardly done, and next year's plans include adding trees to the new fence, engraved plates to honor our graduating classes, a water fountain, enhanced play area, and an expanded and improved garden, along with a host of other additions.

After a start with much fanfare, it is wonderful to see the full work eclipsing even the loftiest ambitions.





WE BUILT A WALL

Well, actually a fence....and a shed, but as “our” leaders in Washington debate their wall project, we’re happy to extol our accomplishments, so it’s a wall. A big wall. A beautiful wall. Probably the best wall ever built, and no, our neighbors didn’t pay for the wall.

The Beautification Committee’s signature project this year was funded by two foundations and tremendous sweat equity from Ile Omode parents to build a fence with bench seating. The older fence was on the verge of collapsing and the neighbor’s dogs were a constant source of anxiety. The fence was built with a concrete base and built-in seating, and prevents any penetration, and the slightly taller fence provides greater security and is infinitely more attractive.

During the summer, Baba Marcus Gary, a multi-talented parent, drew up a design for a custom shed to replace our older shed, and provide housing for the garbage. He worked with a team of babas in the summer, often in 100 degree weather, to build the shed, and it is a work of art.

Preschool Ancestor’s Day



The Mama Jasiri Preschool staff organized its annual “Ancestor’s Day” celebration. Every morning the class begins the day with meditation and libation, with students picking ancestors to honor. The celebration is a chance for students to embody the spirit of historic ancestors in costume. Students, with assistance from their parents, actively were in spirit, and along with dress also shared speeches from the ancestors, which included Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. , Dr. Charles Drew, Thurgood Marshall and others.

Basketball Program Grows



Ile Omode’s basketball program continues to grow. The school offered a single basketball team last year (middle school girls), and given the incredible demand for more and tremendous parent and staff support, the school introduced 3 more teams this year - middle school boys, and elementary teams for the boys and girls. Playing in the Oakland Parks and Recreation League, Ile Omode students continued to show improvement with several stirring last minute victories during the season. With only a single basketball court on the grounds, the coaching staff was incredibly creative in hosting weekly practices, and little Currys are blossoming.



Alums Earn State Titles

Tierra *Lonnie* *Khukheper*

This year, 3 of our high school alums, who are also classmates, secured California state titles in athletics. Class of 2014 graduates, Lonnie Turner, Khukheper Awakoaiye, and Tierra Robinson-Jones, earned championships for Bishop O’Dowd High School in Oakland, California.

In the fall, Lonnie (lineman) and Khukheper (cornerback), helped O’Dowd’s football team to an unprecedented championship run. They finished the season with a 9-1 record and league title, and stormed through the playoffs, dispatching 6 straight opponents, and along the way securing regional and Division III titles, with their closes victory against Rancho Cotate High School; a comeback victory secured on a field goal in the final seconds of the contest.

The team traveled to Moreno Valley (San Bernardino county) for the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) Division 5AA state football championship, where they dominated in a victory on Saturday, December 17 against Valley View High School, 43 to 24, and joined McClymonds High School in the same

weekend, to become the first Oakland schools to ever win a football state title.

The two are poised for another run at a state title in their senior season, and they’re ranked high in early season polls.

While Lonnie and Khukheper collected their state rings, Tierra was just getting ready for the start of the 2017 track season. She finished the 2016 season as the top 400 meter runner in Northern California, and one of the strongest runners in the country. She picked up right where she left off, and her teammates

for the season.

At Clovis, California, site of the CIF State Track and Field championship, she improved from last year’s 4th place finish (while breaking an O’Dowd record) to finish with the silver medal in the event (and breaking her own record). She dropped her personal record by nearly a second, from last year’s 54.05 seconds to 53.24 seconds. And this year, she helped power O’Dowd’s relay teams.

Coached by Baba Jamal Cooks, one of Ile Omode’s parents, the 4x400 relay captured the North Coast title, and was expected to finish well, but was not favored to win the event. However, with a devastating 2nd leg by Tierra, which smashed the crowd of the state’s best 400 runners, she provided O’Dowd with a lead they would not relinquish, bringing Tierra her first state championship (and Cooks his first as an O’Dowd coach).

Tierra is the 3rd fastest high school junior in the country at 400 meters, and the favorite to capture the title at the state championship next year.



immediately knew she was ready



Jelani graduates from DePaul University in Chicago

HIGH SCHOOL ALUMS

Cierra Gibson-Mathis (c'16) attends Envision Academy High School in Oakland, and won the Oakland Ath-

Alumni Updates

Milan Gibson (c'15) spent 2 weeks in Paris studying French, and learning the Parisian culture...**Khukheper Awakoaiye** (c'14) completed a one week leadership program at Morehouse College...**Kelinde Secrease** (c'15) completed a sports analytics technology apprentice program, and is now a certified SportsCode Elite analytics software user - the second youngest certified user in the world...**Maya Jenkins** (c'14) won the West Alameda County Conference league championship in the shot put with a throw of 121' 5.5"... Over the summer, **Barry Brand**

Nkosi Moore (c'13) will attend SFSU in the fall

(c'14), a junior at Oakland Technical High School, performed research to check for possible associations between routine clinical test and cardiac dysfunction in sickle cell and thalassemia patients at Children's Hospital... **Malik Bossett** (c'15) interns at the Califor-

nia Academy of Sciences and studied the effects of LaNina and El Nino on weather patterns; he also conducted research on the sand crab populations at Ocean Beach

COLLEGIATE ALUMS

KaRa Awakoaiye (c'12) a Howard University freshman spent a week in London with the honors business program... **Bakare Awakoaiye** (c'10), a Howard junior, pledged Phi Beta Sigma and this summer conducted research at the University of Penn, along with completing a service project in Ghana for 2 weeks.... **Isis Fuller**, a Howard

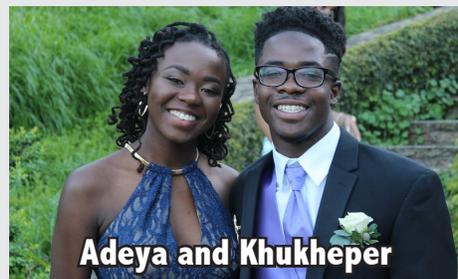
University junior was the head advising fellow for Matriculate (a non-profit supporting high achieving low-income students applying to colleges)... **Oriyomi Originwa**, while taking a gap year before college is studying farming techniques among organic farmers, and has spent the summer at two farms in Washington and Oregon



Bishop O'Dowd's Prom

Barry and Maya

Ile Omode's class of 2014 included five students who attend Bishop O'Dowd High School (6 total)- Adeya Wyatt, Maya Jenkins, Lonnie Turner, Tierra Robinson-Jones, and Khukheper Awakoaiye, along with Barry Brand who attends Oakland Technical High School, and somehow all six paired up to attend Bishop O'Dowd's junior prom.



Adeya and Khukheper



Zenzile Riddick (c'15), only a sophomore at UC Santa Barbara, is on a collision course with "amazing". She has set her sights on earning a Ph.D. and is already on track, recently being named a Ronald McNair Scholar, for her demonstrated promise as a future doctoral student.

Her UCSB professors quickly knew they had a special student, and she was invited to enroll in a graduate course, where she was the only undergraduate in the course, yet received the highest grade in the class of Ph.D. candidates. Her research, focused on studying the impact of colonial missionary education on Black and African identity, was selected by the Undergraduate Research Colloquium SLAM Competition, where she was the youngest of 50 competitors.

Beyond the classroom, Zenzile served as the programming director for the Black Student Union, and concerned with UCSB's accessibility to underrepresented student, she completed a research project which led the university to implement an alert system to assist students in ensuring they complete their financial aid application.

Because of this work she was invited to present before the UC Regents (the governing body for all UC campuses) where she discussed the rising cost of attendance and barriers to admission.

She continues to credit Ile Omode with her success, and is a model of excellence.

8924 Holly Street
Oakland, CA 94621



“Our children must never lose their zeal for building a better world.”

- Mary McLeod Bethune

ILE OMODE IS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF WO'SE COMMUNITY

To donate, contact Pamela Young-Williams, Business Manager,
at 510.632.8230 or pamela.williams@ileomode.org

