



Founded in 1986  
Preschool-8th

*Giving birth to the genius in every child*



# 2012-13 FINANCIAL REPORT





Growth. Company's measure their success by it annually. Whether through profit earned or widgets sold. For publicly traded companies simply making a profit is insufficient, they must demonstrate their potential for growth. How many more widgets will they sell next quarter, and next year?

As I drove past a large public school in Oakland, with the students released for the summer, the buildings looked lifeless and vacant, like a large factory no longer making widgets that anyone wanted; or perhaps still able to make widgets, but not at a price anyone wanted to pay, I couldn't help but draw a comparison to schools and facto-

ries, and wonder: When did our children become widgets in a factory?

When did the large behemoth school, serving hundreds of children a day, 30 at a time, with a quest for ever higher test scores, on increasingly ever more meaningless test become the norm? When did we stop caring about each child, and instead marvel at our ability to increase test scores by 0.5%? Incidentally, increasing test scores is relatively easy when schools simply, "teach to the test", and discard all non-testable subjects (think, science, foreign language, performing and visual arts).

At McClymonds High School in Oakland, home of Bill Russell, 12 African-American young men graduated this year. 12. At the only high school that serves West Oakland. Less than 50% of our children graduate from high school, and even fewer attend college, and even less actually graduate from college.

The situation is so devoid of hope that with good intentions we are left to celebrate the mediocre, relishing the opportunity to cele-

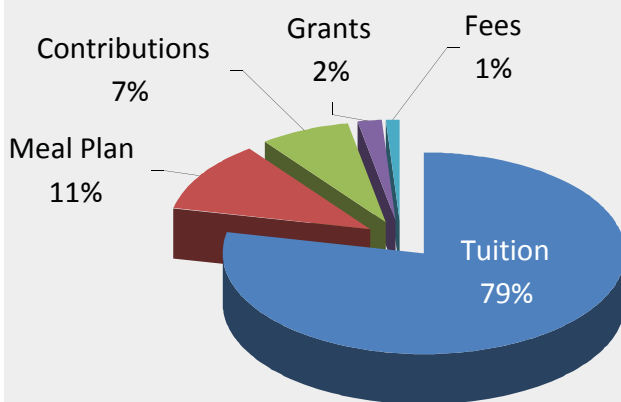
brate anything at all. A celebration honoring African-American public school students in Oakland honored all those students with a GPA above 3.0. In other words, "we're just glad you're still here".

I'm reminded of the one room school houses that dotted the rural south in the early 20th century, and teachers who lived in the community and took great sacrifice to ensure everyone learned. Thousands of years from pyramid builders, but only doorsteps from Emancipation, educators sought to build a "new Negro" - to reconstruct us into other better selves.

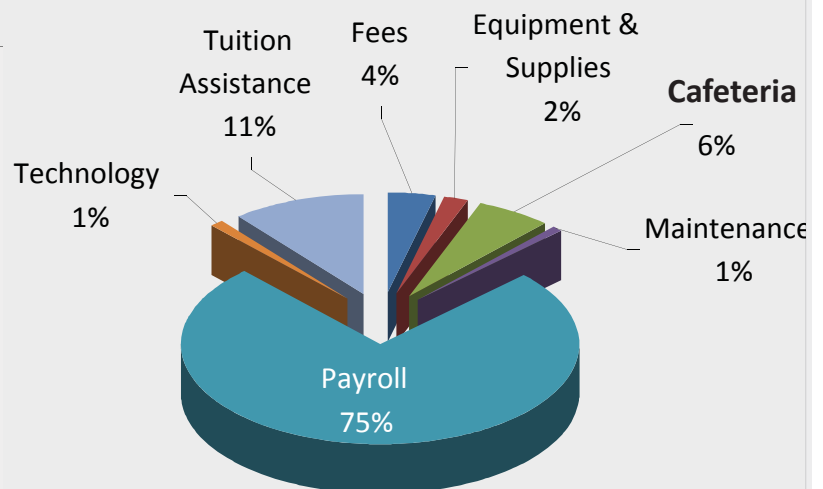
It is a reminder to us all that factories don't educate children, but caring and compassionate educators in small environments, where each child's family is known is the model for a successful education. And as we enter the classroom each day we go not to make widgets, but to create keepers of this great legacy.

Jahi Awakoaiye  
Director

# 2012-2013\* Annual Giving Summary REVENUE



# EXPENSES



\*Partial summary, through July, 2013



Ile Omode is located in Oakland, California and has served students from Oakland and surrounding cities for nearly 30 years. Initially begun as a home-based day care serving preschool children, the small, independent private school has continued to grow over the years.

The school now occupies a 3-story building and serves students from preschool to 8th grade; providing a preschool, elementary, and middle school.

Ile Omode students are challenged to meet a rigorous African-centered curriculum that is lauded for its strength across an array of disciplines, including language, science, technology, and mathematics.

Students have authored books, engaged in extensive community-driven research projects, built machines to study kinetic energy, learned computer programming and graphics design, and several have concurrently enrolled in an advanced Algebra course at a local college.

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



Become a Friend of Ile Omode, and help contribute to our mission to empower our youth, so that they may answer the call of their birth, and lift up an entire nation. With your support we'll continue to:

- Send students on college tours
- Provide **technology** to every student from 2nd through 8th
- Fund a **performance arts** program to ensure every student participates
- Begin every child's day with a healthy **breakfast**, and refuel them with a nutritious **lunch**
- Develop enriching afterschool programs
- Purchase **science equipment and materials** to offer hands-on science
- Offer current textbooks, and continue providing a deeply intrinsic **African-inspired curriculum**

**To inquire about donations contact the school, visit our website ([www.ileomode.org](http://www.ileomode.org)), or complete the included donation envelope and become an annual supporter of this mission.**

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**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: Tracy T. Brown ([tracybrown-photo.com](http://tracybrown-photo.com))



# More than Sweets

## Students Raise Funds for a Trip to Washington, DC

A trip out of state is often great for students, but places an enormous strain on the pocketbooks of parents. This year's near annual out of state trip took the middle school class to Washington, DC in April, and the trip is a great example of the school's financial creativity in bringing enriching experiences to our students regardless of income.

Typical school trips to DC run nearly \$3,000. We completed our trip for under \$700 per student. Beyond the per student cost, students were only required to pay for their souvenirs. So how did we do it? We took a page from our grandparents play book, and stretched every dollar.

After comparing a dozen travel sites promoting the cheapest airline tickets, parents stormed the phones of the airlines directly, and secured tickets for under \$200 per person.

Another parent used their employer's travel program to secure significant discounts on our rented SUVs, because when traveling in DC it's always best to travel like a presidential motorcade - even when pulling up to the local McDonalds.

We slept several students to a room, and while we enjoyed an elegant dinner on our final night, we took ample liberties at our hotel's continental spread, enjoying a late morning yogurt and a mid-afternoon muffin. We were also recipients of wonderful generosity.

On our second day, we enjoyed DC's local holiday, Emancipation Day, which commemorates the emancipation of 3,100 enslaved Africans in DC. The holiday is the brain child of Councilman Vincent Orange - an Oakland native. When he discovered us in the crowd, we received a tour of the council offices, were declared his official guests at the evening concert celebrating the day, and were given free dinner.

And most importantly, students took responsibility for their own trip. Students sold boxes of chocolate to finance their trip, and several students earned enough money to pay for their entire trip. Galanafai Windross and Tierra Robinson netted over \$700 in sales. This leaves a lasting impression on students and helps them to appreciate the work required to make this trip possible.



## \$28,000 Preschool Bathroom Renovation

Since moving to the current location on Holly Street in Oakland, the preschool has had one bathroom, and one toilet. With a smaller enrollment this was an occasional problem, but as the enrollment has increased, so has the wait at the bathroom door. In 2012 Ile Omode received a \$30,000 grant from **First 5 of Alameda County** to completely renovate our bathroom.

The renovation included two toilets, two sinks, a drinking faucet and an activity sink. The new bathroom is both functional and pleasing to the eyes, and has resulted in a few less jumpy legs at the bathroom door.

## ACTA Kwanzaa Grant

A \$5,000 grant from the Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) will fund Ile Omode's cultural arts program in preparation for the Um-oja, Kwanzaa celebration on December 26, 2013. The grant provides for a summer and fall dance and drum program and helps to showcase the African-American holiday celebration.

# Casino Night Party

## One of Ile Omode's best fundraisers ever!

Gambling (for fun), dancing (a little old school, mixed in with a little new school), great food, and a world class bar...what's there not to like?

On Saturday, May 11 Ile Omode hosted its first Casino Night fundraiser, and family, friends and community enjoyed an evening of casino games hosted at Geoffrey's Inner Circle in downtown Oakland. Guests enjoyed professional dealers for Black Jack, Texas Hold'em Poker, roulette, and craps. The games were purely for fun, and all guests were able to exchange their winnings for raffle tickets for the evening's raffle.

Geoffrey Pete graciously hosted the

event, providing a substantial discount on his rental fees. The event proved profitable for the school and Geoffrey, as the adults-only affair allowed guest to enjoy great food and spirits.

A cadre of volunteer parents ensured a smoothly run event with entertainment from DJ Sam McNeal and live music from Chanita, a local vocalist. Adults were quick to show off their mastery of the Cupid Shuffle and quite a few still remembered the Electric Slide.

For Friends of Ile Omode in the leader's giving circle, complimentary VIP tickets were provided allowing free admission into the event.



(top) Event coordinator, **Pamela Williams** with **Geoffrey Pete**, owner of Geoffrey's Inner Circle. (left) Guests enjoying themselves at one of several casino tables. (bottom) The floor was never empty, as a soul train line followed right after cupid shuffle.



A small group of committed Friends of Ile Omode gathered at the home of our board president Greg Hodge, for our first ever private house party fundraiser, organized by Sirius

reconnect and while some folks expanded their networks by forming new relationships and connections. After the mixer, Ile Omode Director, Jahi Awakoaiye gave a special pre-

Ile Omode and how our Friends can help the school thrive. Our guests were invited to renew or increase their existing commitments to make new commitments if this was their initial engagement with Ile Omode. The response was genuine and heartfelt as our Friends helped us raise nearly \$2,000 that evening!

## Throw a House Party for Ile Omode

Creativity, our fundraising partner.

sentation to highlight the success, growth and vision for Ile Omode.

Our evening began with a pleasant after work social mixer. Several old friends got an opportunity to

The night continued with a casual and intimate conversation about

Contact Mama Pam at the school if you're interested in hosting a party at your home.

# Grants Bring iPads into the Classroom



Ile Omode was one of the first Oakland schools to implement a 1:1 computing program in 2006, where students are assigned a laptop for their use throughout the year. That first year began with older Apple laptops purchased through eBay, and progressed over the years to brand new HP laptops.

Two years ago we sought to move to tablets, and received a donation of two HP tablets, just prior to their decision to leave the tablet market. But their demise in the market, didn't deter our desire to migrate to tablets.

With a full plan for tablet adoption in place, but no funds, we received a surprise call. With a reference from our local councilman, **Larry Reid, State Assemblyman** **Sandre Swanson** was going



this grant we purchased a number of used iPad tablets, along with equipment to support a projection system in a classroom. The school is now preparing to move to a 1:1 tablet program for middle school students in the fall, with another classroom set of iPads to be used by elementary classes.

Teachers also attended a workshop to review how to incorporate iPads in existing curriculum lessons, and have experimented with their use in the previous school year.

During the summer, the school offered a two-week math and computer technology camp, that for the first time introduced students to computer programming on the iPad. This was taught to students of

## Tablet Initiative

### Towards the creation of a 1:1 tablet program

to nominate our school for a grant from the **Barona Band of Mission Indians**. This grant financed the purchase of 10 Apple iPads (along with additional equipment used to enhance our science program). We purchased refurbished units which allow us to purchase more iPads.

Later in the year, we received an award of \$2,500 from the **Coalition of Black Trade Unionist**. Through

all ages, with a component for students aged 6 to 9, and a more advanced segment for older students. The program was a great success, and culminated with the older students creating a simple racing game on the iPad.

Teachers expect to take these models and extend them in the coming school year.

### Donations from Studio Net and iFaraday Put Stylus in the Hands of Our Students

Two generous donations from Studio Net and iFaraday have made the iPads even more approachable for students at various grades. The Cosmonaut, a stylus from Studio Net provide great tactile support for younger children (although adults love them as well). And styli from iFaraday will meet the needs of older students for both note taking and graphic design. Studio Net, an East Coast design firm, fashions a stylus that, "feels like a dry erase marker", and provides a comfortable grip for anyone, and especially children. iFaraday is based in Eugene, Oregon, and provides several models aimed at artist and designers, and the company strives to "make the best product we know how."





## S T A F F S P O T L I G H T

Stacey Wyatt, whose family has three children at Ile Omode and is also an educator believes that, “Mama Ashante was able to manage and focus my child’s ...high academic skill”, and because of this her, “child’s experience has been wonderful”.

Students from her first class, which included her son, are now sophomores in high school, and their success is a testament to the start they

received in kindergarten. Halim Muhammad, a sophomore at Dublin High, remembers Mama Ashante fondly, “she was one of my best teachers”.

This sentiment is shared by current students. Chantal Dyer-Richard, a kindergarten parent said that her daughter, “clearly adored her teacher and spoke so highly of her”, and also, “recognized her as a mother figure.”

Her classroom, named in honor of Marcus Garvey, fits her personality. The old school green chalkboard - requiring actual chalk, would seem out of place in most classrooms, but seems to fit nicely within her old spirit personality.

Ashante was born in Denver, Colorado, and being raised by an accomplished single mother and surrounded by three brothers probably imbued her with a very strong and independent spirit.

Her mother, Cheryl Presley, is a college administrator, serving previously with Boston College as the vice-president of student affairs, and this may have influenced her decision to pursue a career in education.

Ashante studied criminal justice at Grambling State University in Louisiana, and found her political footing as she joined the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, because she liked the, “sister and brotherhood. I liked how they

were coming together, and studying.” She later moved to Oakland after graduating from the HBCU.

She begins every day with libation and a morning reading circle. Her favorite reading book is, “I am Unique”, while her personal favorite book is “Wild Seed” by Octavia Butler. After reading circle she launches into a vigorous routine of language arts and mathematics that would rival most 3rd grade classrooms. She gets the most from her charges, and parents marvel at the reading acquisition that young students experience in her class.

As her own children slowly migrate through high school she knows that changes will come. She anticipates being sad when they’re both away in college, and expects that she’ll, “probably travel more, and teach abroad”, but right now she’s still enjoying being Mama Ashante at Ile Omode.

**M**ama Ashante Presley has been a member of the Ile Omode teaching staff since 2002, just a year after she enrolled her two children who both graduated from Ile Omode. Karla Jones, a parent at Ile Omode for three years, considers Mama Ashante to be a, “loving caring teacher, who puts her focus and energy into her students”.

Mama Ashante taught previously at two Oakland high schools; the School for Social Justice and Ralph J. Bunche. It was at Bunche where she became disillusioned by the efforts of public schools to adequately serve African-American children. Faced with poor performing and under prepared children she sought to alter the curriculum to better support the student’s needs, but was rebuked by the administrations, who “wanted me to teach the curriculum that they had.” While at the same time administration and staff continued to make disparaging comments about Black students.

She had never taught kindergarten before, but after observing a classroom, she realized she was more than ready for the challenge, and quickly adapted to the unique demands imposed by a classroom of 5 year olds. She calls them, “true knowledge seekers”, because they’re so excited about school.



## Black History Bowl 4Peat Champions

Ile Omode students won all divisions at the 4th annual Dr. Carter G. Woodson Black History Bowl, hosted by Kulture Freedom; including elementary, middle school, and the high school divisions. This is the school’s fourth straight victory, and students are preparing, “one for the thumb”, to make a fifth in 2014.

# 2012-2013 Donors

Asante ("thank you") for every contribution from \$1 to \$1000

## Community Builder

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Fred Franklin  
Bob Leung  
Robert Roth  
Laura Parker  
Eric Guitertz  
Tadd Scott  
Linda Jordan  
Lisa Jovick  
Brian Fox  
Steven Hankle  
Juan Seravia  
Jay Pugua  
Angela Neal  
Margaret Cross  
D. Ali Manuel  
Marie Cross  
Alah Rodriguez  
Kevin Dugan  
Paul Barros  
Paul Victor  
Eric Johnson  
Erica Johnson  
Cedric Powell

Reginald Scott  
Andrea Williams  
Opal Hancock  
Lamont Muhammad  
Ray Pope  
Carmon Jones  
Nicole Tenell  
Linda Sanders  
Nish Jackson  
Alester Lee  
Greg Jackson  
Kelley Ransey  
Macarthru Herron  
Michael Shorten  
Waheeda Al-Musawwir  
Labeeba Al-Musawwir  
Aamir Al-Musawwir  
Nana Kofi Nti  
Tonesha Russell  
Takiya Franklin  
Maresa Decena  
Folashade Omari  
Aureal Wilson  
Delillah Clayborn  
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Cloann Moss  
Jewel Stovall  
Jannah Moses  
Darine Younger  
Tasha Thompson  
Mavanatha Pryor  
Japera Moses  
Asahel Harrison  
Jendayi M  
Ashar Harrison  
Rainia Noble  
Claudia Noble-Levingston  
Jamilla Churchill  
Dorothy David  
Tamica Clement  
Erika David  
Connie David  
Ricky David  
Thea Brooks  
Janet Noble  
Sidney Coulter  
Greg Hodge  
Pam Tshaka  
Ngina Lockett  
Katabongi  
Manu Ampim  
Fanya Ka Makini  
Connie Bridgeforth  
Yaniba Ebibirman  
Cinnabar  
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Kim McKay  
Samuel Freeman  
Bobbie Jackson  
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Ousseynou Kouyate  
Zenzile Riddick  
Bakare Awakoaiye

Tracy Brown  
Aminah Huang  
Fanya Ka Makini  
Kimberley Adams  
Tony Williams  
Katabazi Coleman  
Lula Mae Manuel  
Kahasi, Hirut  
Mariam Toor  
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Stevann  
Cole-Johnson  
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Anthony Koo  
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Coulter, Sidney  
David R. Elliot  
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Norma Williams  
Rakiya L. Lee  
Rubain & Assoc  
Whaley, Cahlea



**Casino Night Sponsors: Mama Tyanne (middle) flanked by Patrice Bossett (Family Dental Practice) and ??**

Wyatt, Stacey  
Reese, Tia (Sims)  
Cooks, Charemon and  
Jamal  
Seagraves, Andrea &  
Desiree  
Almusawwir, Shakira  
Morgan, Alison and Robert  
Sheri A. Brady  
Tammy C. Colding  
Yates, Afua Carol  
Zef J. Amen  
Zelma Joyce Lewis  
Ann K. Juell  
Ivey B & Carolyn Williams  
Kennedy, Carl and Beverly  
Macheo K Payne  
Clark, Koren  
Moree, Calvin & Kimberly  
Aeeshah & H.K. Clotley  
Brown, Gloria  
Green, Gerald  
Hughes, Alice  
Kingston, Helen  
Diane Bodrick  
Zakiya Harris  
Churchill, Jamilla  
Richard, Chantal  
Hamilton, Keishna &

Eugene  
Thomas, Neche  
Bozorg, Yusef and Selena  
Davis, Taffany and Amudu  
Paulette E. Johnson  
Tonya Hyder  
Teresa Campbell  
Martha Melendez  
Julia D. Soo  
Otis Simmons  
Angela Kahalewei  
Kristine Pajarito  
Kaywin & Bushberg Family  
Trust  
Kristine Pajarito  
Lillie Mae Atuen  
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James M Gary  
Rodney Brooks  
Ambessa Negus  
Chinnita Pack  
Hirut Kahasi  
Kimberly Touray  
Kaylen & Valencia Cotton  
Neche Thomas  
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Tanya Boyce  
Floyd Nubra  
Rafael Gutierrez  
Lynda Harris  
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Lula Rhodes  
Athena Schultz  
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Amy Astri Detrick  
CDC Evaluation Development  
Shizen Nakamura  
Mary Montgomery

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

Secrease, Margaret  
Dereca Blackmon  
Lopez, Lil De Izquierdo  
Makini, Fanya Ka  
Janice Lord-Walker

Kweli & Leonor Tutashinda DC  
Amudu & Taffany Davis  
Chantal Richard  
Draughan, Orville & Lennie  
Frankie M. Bowman  
Ifeoma Adams  
Makini, Titilayo  
Paterson, Gary  
Theresa Lewis  
Watson, Claudia  
Carolyn Wooten  
Constance Bridgeforth  
Zerita Sharp  
Lily J Toney  
Turner, Walter B  
Karen Campbell  
Sudi Damu Aii

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

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Pinderhughes, Howard & Raquel  
Secrease, Kenneth & Naima Mays  
Fancy Bryant  
Zef J. Amen  
Kweli Tutashinda  
William Bradley  
Antonia M Jackson  
Dismuke, Mattie  
Emory Douglas  
Diane Bodrick  
Zakiya Harris  
Churchill, Jamilla  
Richard, Chantal  
Frederike Schilter  
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Charities of CA  
Arnold Perkins  
E. Rodriguez & N.W.

Hurse  
Ray, Anika and Gerald  
Deborah B. Vaughn  
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Damani B. Sukumu  
Davis, Raymond  
Donyale John  
Karen M. Teel  
Sheila G Phillips  
Terrell, Pamela  
Douglas & Arlene  
Coleman  
Windross, Shakur and  
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Cross, Marie  
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B.J. Preston  
Stewart, Ajamu and  
Paula  
Ntambu Mwongi  
Lezell Williams  
Greg Hodge  
Quinton Sankofa  
Mona Hall  
Ekundayo Azibo  
Quinton Sankofa  
Akiya Penny  
Bernice Miller  
Howard Pinderhughes  
Gerald Green  
Williams, Earline and  
Bobbie

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# Cartoon Creation

## Looking for the next Aaron McGruder

Inspired by animation and television cartoons, Ile Omode students set out to learn how to create their own custom digital creations. It wasn't a simple process, as students began by creating a single finger, followed by a full hand, then a face, and finally a full bodied character.

Seventh grader Khukheper was inspired by Little Bill, and attempted to model his character after the popular character, but abandoned the idea, and decided to create his own. The idea of self-creation was an important one for most students. Nkosi, an 8th grader, felt that the class allowed him to "express a lot of

creativity", and collaborating with other students on developing a cartoon strip was even more fun.

After creating individual characters, students extended their characters by designing them in multiple poses. They then shared their creations and developed cartoon strips. The process of creating cartoon strips inspired many of them once they realized the dialogues and panels brought their characters to life.

Perhaps the next Aaron McGruder or Morris Turner (Wee Pals creator) will appear in the next several years.

## Alumni Profile

**Quandra Chaffers** attended Ile Omode until 1989 when she was in elementary. She is grateful to the school for giving her, "a phenomenal education that put me far ahead of my classmates in middle school".

In 2009, Quandra graduated from **Spelman College**, and received a B.A. degree in Mental Health · Psychology. She decided to continue her education at George Warren Brown School of Social Work at **Washington University in St. Louis**. She earned a Masters of Social Work, with an emphasis in mental health, public policy, and direct practice in 2011.

Quandra is currently working as a **case manager therapist for the YWCA** in St. Louis, Missouri, and is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Quandra believes that Ile Omode helped her to learn, "to be proud of my blackness and invest in a community by thinking of it as a village."

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**Aminah Muhammad** ('11) attends Dublin High School, where she studied Honors Chemistry and completed her second year of Mandarin while caring a 3.5 GPA...**Kamari Fletcher** finished her first year at Xavier University



## Ile Omode's First 8th Grade Graduate Goes to College

Ile Omode served students from pre-school through 6th grade until 2008. The school recognized that students' academic abilities were not being challenged by local middle schools, and decided to offer a full middle school.

**Adrien Herron** ('09) pictured left with her brothers, **Haile** ('13, left) and **Marcus** ('10, right), was the first and only eighth grade student that year, and became the school's first 8th grade graduate (see

story on the following page). **Marcus** will graduate from St. Mary's High School next year, and **Haile**, graduated from Ile Omode's middle school this year, and is the last Herron to grace the halls of Ile Omode.

Since 2009, the school has graduated as many as seven students in a single year, with many continuing to some of the best high schools in the area.



In April, for the first time, the school awarded two scholarships to our alums entering college in a special church service at Wo'se.

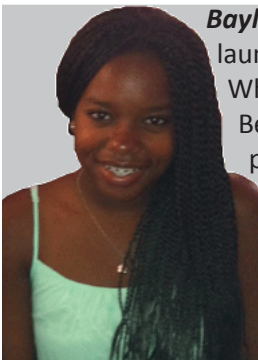
The scholarships were not large - only \$250, and was intended for books and other materials, but we wanted to make

# Alumni Update

*Honoring our high school graduates*

some effort to honor the high school graduates, particularly since this was the first class to graduate from high school since Ile Omode expanded from 6th to 8th grade in 2008.

**Adrien Herron ('09)**, who enrolled at Ile Omode, along with two younger brothers, when she was a 3rd grader, was the school's first 8th grade graduate. Adrien attended Saint Mary's College High School in Berkeley, and applied to a number of colleges. She received acceptances from Xavier University, University of Oregon, Oregon State University, Langston University; with scholarships from Xavier, but ultimately choosing Sonoma State Univer-



**Bayli Jones**, a junior at St. Mary's High School in Berkeley, launched an online pottery store, **Evolution of Pottery**, in May. When she was eight she began creating pottery at a studio in Berkeley. Within seven years she had accumulated nearly 50 pieces in her family's garage. Encouraged by her mother, who found a website for artists called etsy, she decided to convert her hobby into a business. She sells beautiful and hand crafted plaques, vases, bowls, and plates, and hoping to earn money for her senior year. See <http://www.etsy.com/shop/EvolutionofPottery>

sity. Sonomas is close to home, but she says, "far enough where I can learn to be independent".

Adrien will study biology with plans to become a pediatrician. She said, "participating in a higher level of math, computer technology, and science provided me with a strong foundation of problem solving", and prepared her for study in the sciences.

**Jelani Noble** graduated from Bentley School in Lafayette, after attending Ile Omode from 3rd through 5th grade, and will attend DePaul University in the fall. Jelani, a gifted pianist, and his family have remained close to

the school's community since he left, and he has performed at several Wo'se events throughout the years. Bentley requires seniors to complete an internship in their final trimester, and Jelani interned at Ile Omode; he providing teaching assistance in Algebra 1 and Jazz Band, and taught several lessons in the Algebra 1 course.

Jelani intends to study psychology with a focus on pre med, and aspires to be a psychiatrist. He feels that Ile Omode has prepared him well for college, and the school has helped him, "learn a lot about the great visionaries and heros in African-American history."



## Mr. Outstanding

**Bakare Awakoaiye** ('10) was named Bishop O'Dowd High School's 2013 **Outstanding Male Junior** for his academic excellence and campus work as determined by O'Dowd' teachers. The rising senior was also accepted to the National Honor Society, and maintains a 4.1 GPA. He'll spend the summer at a leadership program at Morehouse College and take a programming course at DeVry University while training to run at the AAU Jr. Olympics...



**KaRa Awakoaiye** ('12) and **Dante Johnson** ('11) competed for Bishop O'Dowd and Emery High, respectively. Both students advanced to the California state championship in track; the two were also 100 meter champions at the AAU West Coast Championship in Reno, NV. **KaRa** also competed at the AAU Jr. Olympics in Detroit, Michigan in August and **won the national championship** in the 100 meter hurdles. This is her third national championship.

8924 Holly Street  
Oakland, CA 94621



**WO'SE** ILE OMODE IS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF WO'SE COMMUNITY

"The most important thing to remember is this:  
To be ready at any moment to give up what  
you are for what you might become."

*-W.E.B. Dubois*

To donate, contact Pamela Young-Williams, Business Manager,  
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