



## SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ANNOUNCED

Each year our national benefits provider, Dillard Financial Solutions and NAFEC join forces to present a \$1,000 National Scholarship for children or grandchildren of NAFEC members. This year's winner is Keviana Harris from Dallas, Texas. She is a student at Langston University and is studying Agricultural Business. Her Father, Coy Poitier, is Chairman of the Dallas County Urban County Committee.

My experiences in the garden have made me the person I am today. My name is Keviana Harris and this is about me. Growing up I was raised in the church, if we weren't doing something, we were at church. We went to church after school and after practices. I was the captain of the Samuel High School track team and I won many medals. I graduated in 2021 from Lancaster High Schools and was in the National Honor Society. Being the youngest female in the church, I was put on the praise dance team until I couldn't do it anymore. Over Time I became the praise dance instructor since we had younger girls coming to the church. It was something I was proud of because I was able to teach my feeling and express them through the dance and dancers I was very shy and embarrassed if I would mess up or forgot the dance but once I felt the music, I didn't have to think, I could just dance. My parents have always been supportive of me but wanted me to open my abilities to more, they started FWAC Garden and never looked back.



In the garden, I was taught to notice the littlest things and let the garden tell you what it needed. I became my dad's second hand man and I really liked it. I loved being in the garden helping and learning about the new fruits and vegetable, some I never had heard of. I was also able to do community service during this time. During my middle and high school days I was not confident in myself, I didn't like how I looked or talked. I was bullied and felt like I was never needed. Bur being in the garden and church, it felt like I was needed and felt if I left things would fall apart so I stayed, kept going and never gave up! My Goal is to graduate from college and help run gardens and do that I can do it! My confidence foes up as I learn new things, I don't care what other say about me now. Early mornings and late nights I spend helping my parents with the garden. We pick vegetables to be eaten, cut the weeds out so the good plants can grow, continue to water and make sure there is enough sunlight. Making the garden look presentable by painting things and making signs is fun. I am proud to say I am part of an amazing family that helps to provide life changes in the community. Thank you for the scholarship and it will help me in the future.

