

Logical Relationship	

I am on a mission in life to educate other people as I myself become educated, and to mentor other people as I myself received mentorship. I began my first year of college at a community college and transferred to a four-year university. I received my first degree in 1999. I am currently pursuing my doctorate in education.

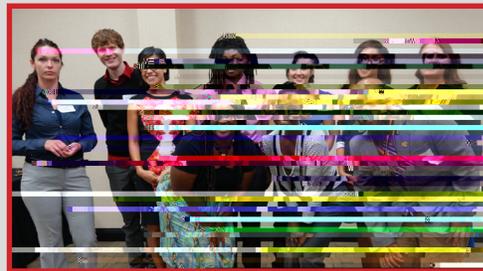
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I was born in Lubbock, Texas. My parents, Danny and Marcy McMillan, had me when they were just 17 years old. We had humble beginnings, but I was raised by a village of wise people. Perseverance, persistence, patience, and spirituality were central to my upbringing. The members of this wise village taught me the importance of family and good food. Education, teaching, and learning have always been essential components of my life.

Each day I am reminded that I stand on the shoulders of giants who came before me. As a first generation college student, I am proud to acknowledge the many giants who paved the way for me. Among them are my grandfather Vance Harris (Papa) and grandmother Marcnellus Harris (Big Mama)—both of whom recently passed away. When I recall the strength of Papa and the solid rock influence of Big Mama, I maintain the persistence to fight for my dreams and carpe diem in life.

I was there at the moment when Big Mama had her last breath on earth. That day was the most traumatic experience of my young life. At the time of her passing, I was months away from completing my dream to become the first person in the history of my family to obtain a doctoral degree. It is on the wings of the memory of this great woman that I completed my doctoral journey in 2013.

Dr. Shchommer-Aikins led the Summer Research Seminar for prospective McNair researchers.





McNair Scholars Program

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McNair Fee Waivers/Fellowships

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), in conjunction with the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), has compiled a list of McNair incentives to help Scholars find graduate schools that offer application fee waivers and/or fellowships and other opportunities that are available to McNair Scholars.

This list can be found at http://www.coenet.us/coe_prod_imis/COE/TRIO/McNair_Fee_Waiver_List/COE/NAV_TRIO/McNair_Scholars_Fee_Waiver_List.aspx?hkey=d459a62a-5577-4103-b125-8c3bb8aa5029

Highlighted Fellowship:

University of Alabama Graduate School awards a limited number of McNair Graduate Fellowships. To be considered for the fellowship, a student must be admitted to a degree-seeking program. Preference is given to students who have completed a McNair program and have been accepted into a Ph.D. program at The University of Alabama.

The service-free stipend for these fellowships is \$15,000 for the academic year plus a scholarship to pay full tuition for up to 15 hours for fall and spring semesters in each academic year. The Graduate School will provide single health insurance coverage for each recipient. A student must be enrolled full-time and maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average to remain eligible for the fellowship.

“The Doctor”

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