



Jonah Jackson

2014 Scholarship Recipient



Jonah Jackson is a 2014 scholar from Roosevelt High School who matriculated into Mercyhurst University and earned a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations with Magna Cum Laude honors in May 2018. Jonah received several awards including the Mercyhurst Carpe Diem award, for his impact on the campus. He will graduate from Villanova University School of Law in May 2021.

Currently, he serves as a member of the Black Law Students' Association, Economic Club alumni mentor, and is a member of the Economic Club's Alumni Leadership Council (ALC). As a scholar, Jonah participated in the Economic Club's Urban Alliance Summer Internship Program, working with theGroup, a prominent consulting firm, in 2016 and Bravo! in 2017. He described both internships as priceless opportunities to meet new people, foster relationships, and explore the world of government and politics. Moreover, Jonah credits his internship experiences as the primary places in which he has found valuable mentors, including Nancy Shaffer, Edward Levin, and Martin Copeland.

When asked about the impact the Club has had on his career development, Jonah reflected on his early dreams "As a child, I wanted to become a politician, more specifically, Prime Minister of Jamaica. Working at theGroup and Bravo exposed me to constituents that have power in DC. The Economic Club has been instrumental with exposure and mentorship. Being in boardrooms and sitting next to CEO's was only possible as an ECW Scholar. Surrounded by powerhouses and connecting with great leaders fuels my desire to change the world through Law and Policies."

Ultimately, the Club has expanded his network allowing him to connect with leaders in the community. For him, seeing black and brown business leaders was a pivotal point in his career development. The Club's support gave him courage and will power to dream beyond the classroom. Now as a third year Juris Doctorate candidate at Villanova University's School of Law, he has accepted a position at a global law firm, Reed Smith LLP in Philadelphia.

Advice for scholars: It's important to realize that you are walking into a broad network that will exist before and after you. Don't get the scholarship and forget about the network. The Club believes in your future; invest in yourself and others by giving back to the program.