



## Queen Hudgins

### 2013 Scholarship Recipient

*“Not everything is going to be fair even when you think it should be. Sometimes you have to take the bad with the good. You can’t solve every problem, and honestly not every problem that arises is for you to solve. . . If that system was already there before you, you are just going to have to learn to go with it.”*



From an early age, Queen knew she would attend college and that her college success would depend upon her receiving scholarships. Queen was raised with the conviction that education was always the number one priority in her house, because her parents never had the opportunity for post-secondary education due to financial setbacks and family disadvantages. Queen’s family were relentless academic advocates for Queen and her sister, inspiring them to excel academically.

Queen attended three high schools and obtained her high school diploma from Cardozo Education Campus. While at Cardozo, Queen was made aware of The David M. Rubenstein Economic Club scholarship from her high school counselor along with other scholarship opportunities offered to students in the city. Queen applied to every scholarship on the list, including the Economic Club’s, and was thrilled when she was awarded funds from The Club in 2013.

With the help of The Economic Club, Queen continued her education at Winston Salem State University where she declared her major in Sociology. Queen quickly realized the benefits of participating in the summer internship program offered by the Club and participated in it for two years: once in 2015 at the Young Women’s Project, and again in 2016 at the Children’s National Child and Adolescent Protection Center. Both internship experiences gave Queen a sense of purpose and fulfillment allowing her to serve her community and follow her passion.

Upon college graduation, Queen interned with the District of Columbia government in their Department of Disability Services which later led to an opportunity to work with the Department of Behavioral Health, where she currently works. As an Economic Club Alumna, Queen is still actively involved with the Club and became one of the inaugural winners of the \$10,000 Vernon E. Jordan, Jr. Scholars to Leaders Fellowship Award in 2021, which provided financial assistance in pursuing her graduate degree. Queen plans to continue working in HR and uplifting her community.

***Queen's advice for scholars:*** “Be engaging. Be a person who is willing to learn but is also willing to be taught. . . Over time comes evolving. Do not be afraid to evolve and be taught. Be the learner.”