



Gregory Wilson

2013 Scholarship Recipient



Gregory Wilson, Cohort of 2013

“When you reach success, remember to never doubt yourself and know that you deserve a seat at the table”

Born and raised in Ward 8 of the District, Gregory Wilson was a part of a community that was no stranger to hard work and dedication. Gregory describes how many of his neighbors were working class and devoted themselves to their jobs to support their families. He was also exposed to D.C.’s rich and robust political scene at an early age, as he once lived across the street from the District’s beloved Mayor Marion Barry. Growing up with the support of both of his parents, who are also Native Washingtonians, Gregory learned firsthand how important education was to his long term success:

“My mother always stressed to me that education was power [...] that education is the great equalizer.”

She drove this point home by always encouraging Gregory to complete his homework, look up unfamiliar words in the dictionary and leaving books out for him to read on a consistent basis. Gregory remains grateful that his mother took the time to cultivate and nurture his thirst for knowledge, which has continued to propel him and his career forward.

Gregory attended Thurgood Marshall High School, a public college preparatory school. He describes how his high school prepared him for college through his participation in the Honors Club and the Advanced Placement track, which provided opportunities for academic advancement by supporting rigorous thinking, analytical skills, and time management. When the time came to apply for college, Gregory credits his college counselor, Ms. Levine, for encouraging him to apply to scholarships and create a system for himself. He didn’t know about the Economic Club prior to applying to the scholarship, but he was “very proud to receive the scholarship” because it reduced the financial strain of attending college. Gregory reflects on how he didn’t understand the magnitude of what the program would offer to him over the years, but credits many of his influential experiences to the program’s initiatives and development seminars.

After becoming a 2013 Economic Club Scholar, Gregory immediately took advantage of one of the Economic Club's many opportunities, and attended the 2013 Bingham McCutchen Business Leadership Development Seminar. While there, he had the opportunity to meet Economic Club member Thurgood Marshall, Jr., and they remained in close contact through the duration of Gregory's freshman year:

"He [Thurgood Marshall, Jr.] became my mentor and he's actually the reason I took up accounting. I was originally majoring in physics and engineering, but he helped me in my decision to switch to accounting."

After changing his major to accounting, Gregory advanced further in his academics, while also committing himself to the Delaware community through service work with youth and adolescents. Delaware State not only identified Gregory as a Dean's List scholar for three semesters, but he was also awarded the Community Service Award for his work in distinguishing the college and greater area as a network that is dedicated to civic engagement. After attending another signature event hosted by the Economic Club, Gregory had the privilege of meeting Tamika Tremaglio, an Economic Club member and the Greater Washington Managing Principal for Deloitte. They were able to connect, discuss Gregory's passions, and his potential place in the company. During the summer of 2018, Gregory worked as an intern with Deloitte, under Tamika's tutelage, through the Economic Club's Urban Alliance Internship Program, where he served in a rotational position that allowed him to explore consulting, advising and tax accounting. Gregory describes how this internship clarified his path and reaffirmed that accounting was a profession he wanted to commit himself to.

After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting, with a double minor in Finance and Economics, from Delaware State University in May 2018, Gregory joined the Booz Allen Hamilton team as a Government Accountant Compliant Consultant. Looking ahead into the next five years, Gregory hopes to continue growing professionally with his accounting skills. He is also committed to expanding his philanthropic efforts, and has taken on the role of Director and Board Member of the District's newest group home, Bridging the Gaps Group Home, a haven designed for abused and delinquent youth. Moreover, Gregory recently joined the Economic Club's Scholars to Leaders Mentor program as an Alumni Mentor. When asked what mission statement could be used to describe himself, he honestly shared:

"Make a lot of money to help a lot of people and make sure you have fun while doing it."

Gregory has blazed a powerful trail for the scholars that follow in his wake, and he hopes to offer sage advice that they can carry with them no matter where they go or what they embark on:

"[Every young professional should read] Rich Dad Poor Dad by Robert Kiyosaki. [Whenever you encounter failure or setbacks], remember that it all works together toward a greater plan. [For incoming professionals who may come from marginalized and/or minority communities], find a mentor who is successful and great at what they do and pick

their brain. When you reach success, remember to never doubt yourself and know that you deserve a seat at the table.”

Gregory Wilson is a lifelong scholar, leader, professional and philanthropist, and based on the legacy he has already left for himself, the sky isn't even his limit.

*To learn more about the Economic Club's Education Initiatives, contact
education@economicclub.org*

Scholar Profile Researcher & Writer: Najya Williams (2015 Scholar)