



2014

## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS.....

THE **DR. ADA THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP** AND THE **JOHN PREWITT SCHOLARSHIP** MAY BE AWARDED TO A MEMBER OF ARKANSAS COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN FOR UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES, FROM AN APPROVED UNIVERSITY, WORKING TOWARD CERTIFICATION OR A DEGREE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION OR GRADUATE STUDY IN FIELDS RELATED TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF CHILDREN WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES.

DR. ADA THOMPSON WAS A PROFESSOR EMPLOYED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS WHO WAS LOVED AND RESPECTED BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND ADMINISTRATORS THROUGHOUT ARKANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES.

JOHN PREWITT WAS A PASSIONATE, INNOVATIVE CHAMPION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES WHO SERVED IN NUMEROUS LEADERSHIP ROLES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

JOHN PREWITT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

BRITTANY SLAYTON

RUTH EYRES

TRE MCGHEE



**John Prewitt Scholarship Recipient**

**Tre Alexander McGhee is a senior at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where he is majoring in speech pathology. After graduation, he plans to obtain his master's degree in speech pathology. He is the son of Teresa Blake and Rodney McGhee. Some of the honors he has received while attending UALR include UALR Dean's list, UALR Academic Scholarship, UALR Chancellor's Leadership Corp Scholarship, and the African American Male Initiative Academic Award.**



**John Prewitt Scholarship Recipient**

**My name is Brittany Slayton. I am 23 years old. I am married to the love of my life and we have a beautiful son named Cannon who is 2 years old. I am currently attending Arkansas State University. I am in my senior year in the teaching program. I will graduate in May with a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education with an emphasis on Special Education. I have known since the ninth grade that I would be a Special Education teacher. In ninth grade I volunteered for the Special Olympics and that's where I fell in love with the children. I am so excited for my future as an educator! I am honored to be a recipient of this scholarship. It means so much to be recognized by such a wonderful council. I am completely grateful and blessed to have received this scholarship.**



**John Prewitt Scholarship Recipient**

**Ruth Eyres works as a Special Education Consultant for Easter Seals Outreach. She is a National Board Certified Teacher in Exceptional Needs, Early Childhood through Young Adulthood. She is passionate about providing training opportunities for teachers who work with students with developmental disabilities. Ruth received a B.S.E. from Hendrix College, a M.S.E. in special education from the University of Central Arkansas, and is currently working toward an EdD at the University of Memphis.**



## DR. ADA THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:



HANNAH WINFIELD



STEPHANIE WINFIELD



HEATHER TYLER

I am a wife, a mother, and a full-time college student. My family and I made the decision two years that I would return to college and pursue a degree in the special education field. This choice meant that I would leave a job of nine years as an ophthalmology clinic billing manager and focus fully on my studies and family. The decision to become a special educator aligned with my own daughter's diagnosis of autism at the age of three. Our family was fortunate enough to encounter special education professionals who have changed our daughter's prognosis in life through early intervention. It was while watching special educators work with my daughter, that I realized teaching is my calling in life. I saw firsthand that a patient, positive, and well-trained educator can tear down proverbial walls that had been built by medical professionals in regards to my child's ability. Once I have attained my degree in 2015, I hope to work in the special education field servicing special needs, preschool-aged children with vital early intervention methods.

THE **AR-CEC EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP** MAY BE AWARDED TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS AN IDENTIFIED DISABILITY UNDER **IDEA**. THE EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PLANNING TO ENTER A POST- SECONDARY INSTITUTION SUCH AS A COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, TECHNICAL SCHOOL, ETC. OR A STUDENT CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN ONE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED INSTITUTIONS.

AR-CEC IS THRILLED TO BE ABLE TO HELP STUDENTS WITH AN IDENTIFIED DISABILITY PURSUE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL.



## EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

ZACHARY WINFIELD



LUCIOUS HARRIS





## 2014 AWARD WINNERS.....



**Outstanding Student Member Award**

**Megan Aitchison**

The AR-CEC Outstanding Student Member Award is to be given to any Student CEC member who has demonstrated a strong dedication to the goals and ideals of Student CEC and has shown a commitment to putting those ideals into action by promoting the education and well-being of individuals in Arkansas with disabilities.



**Orlan "Jack" Morgan Award Recipient**



**DR. MARY PEARSON**

The AR-CEC Orlan “Jack” Morgan Award was established for the purpose of recognizing individuals whose occupational skills are utilized to serve or promote the welfare of persons with disabilities. Any individual who earns a living by working on behalf of persons with disabilities is eligible for nomination. Examples of those eligible include counselors, speech pathologists, physical therapists, teacher consultants, college and university faculty, physicians, or administrators of programs for persons with disabilities.

**Special Education Paraprofessional of the Year Award Recipient**



**REBECCA BRYANT**

The Arkansas Special Education Paraprofessional of the Year Award recognizes an Arkansas Paraprofessional who currently provides direct services to students with exceptionalities. The Arkansas Special Education Paraprofessional of the Year is an outstanding member of the profession whose work exemplifies the best in special education. His or her work reflects significant educational success for students.

## Advocate Award Recipient



**MR. MOOSE BREWER**



The AR-CEC Advocate Award was established for the purpose of recognizing individuals who have promoted the welfare of persons with disabilities. A parent, civic club member, public official or any member of a community may be nominated for this award. Nominees need not be members of CEC and are not paid to work with persons who have disabilities.

## 2014 AR-CEC Teacher Grant Recipients:



### **Easter Seals Arkansas: Children's' Rehabilitation Center-**

**Technology in the Classroom: Meeting the Needs of Students with Significant Developmental Disabilities**

**Virginia Onyilagha, (Upper Elementary & Middle School) Angel Whitsell (High School), Melissa Silveira (Early Elementary), and Patti Dillon (Autism)**