



## RAINIER SCHOLARS

Kim Davis, Marketing & Communications Manager, (206) 838-6679 [kadavis@rainierscholars.org](mailto:kadavis@rainierscholars.org)

### **Rainier Scholars Celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon: “Pathways of Purpose, Lives of Leadership”**

SEATTLE – On Wednesday, April 20th, nearly 1,200 business and community leaders gathered at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel to attend the 10th Annual Rainier Scholars Luncheon. Rainier Scholars, a non-profit organization, serves hard-working, low-income students of color by offering rigorous academics and leadership development. Students from sixth grade forward engage in a transformative educational program on an 11-year journey to college graduation.

Rainier Scholars, together with individual donors, corporate sponsors and school partners raised \$1.4 million dollars to support its mission and the 650+ students in its program.

In the words of luncheon speaker and college senior Winson Law, “Rainier Scholars offers a vision of what is possible in an equitable America. This vision is playing out today with so many members of my cohort. My peers are applying to med school and law school, working locally and making an impact in communities across the country.”

Representing Rainier Scholars were middle school students just starting on the college prep pathway, as well as high school seniors proudly wearing sweatshirts from their colleges of choice. Joining them were 2016 college graduates from around the country, including scholars from Middlebury College, Columbia University, Smith College and the University of Washington who deservedly received a standing ovation and thunderous applause from the audience.

The luncheon celebration was anchored by a video presentation, "Pathways of Purpose," featuring three scholars who reflect on their personal journeys through the Rainier Scholars program and continue to build lives of leadership and service.

The event was made possible through the generous support of 49 sponsors, demonstrating the strong alliance between Rainier Scholars and the local business community, including Valedictorian sponsors Amazon and The Brandon Roy Foundation along with sponsorships from Padden Family LLC, Baird Private Wealth Management, The Benaroya Company, The Boeing Company, Charlie's Produce, Endeavour Capital, Harley Marine Services, MCM, Microsoft, Nordstrom, Polygon Northwest, and an array of others.

To learn more about Rainier Scholars and its aim to increase college graduation rates and empower new generations of leaders, visit [www.rainierscholars.org](http://www.rainierscholars.org) or view our [e-brochure](#).