



For 60 years, A Better Chance (ABC) National has placed high-performing students of color in the nation's leadership pipeline through increased access to top independent and public schools. Over 30 ABC of Westport Staples High School graduates have attended top colleges and universities since the local chapter was founded in 2002. Graduates have pursued careers in finance, medicine, communications, law and the arts.

ABC's mission is to substantially increase the number of well-educated young people of color who are capable of assuming positions of responsibility and leadership in America.

WELCOME 9TH GRADERS

The excitement of a new school year never gets old. ABC of Westport welcomed two new scholars, Anderson and Jeffrey, in August 2023.



Anderson Correa, Brooklyn, New York. Excelled in school at North Brooklyn Prep Middle School, Anderson's teachers describe him as an 'outstanding young leader and model scholar' and 'respectful, kind, caring and highly motivated'. Anderson is on the Staples soccer freshman team and plays flute for the Staples Band.

Jeffrey Nwafor, New Jersey. Jeffrey's middle school teacher describes him as 'always ready to learn', 'an active participant, ready to help his peers' and Jeffrey describes himself as, 'curious, helpful and determined' – all characteristics that will serve him well at Staples. Jeffrey looks forward to joining Staples clubs and getting to know his new ABC Westport family.



ABC WESTPORT STAFF PROFILES



Daniele Dickerson & Dale Mauldin are ABC of Westport's Executive Directors of Student Life. They live with the Scholars at the ABC House and manage the house operations and day-to-day lives of the Scholars. Their daughter Sage enjoys science, art projects and cooking.

Daniele is a writer and creative consultant. Daniele was changed and challenged by her time as an ABC Scholar in the Ridgefield ABC program and is thrilled to give back to the next generation of ABC Scholars. A graduate of UNC Chapel Hill and Otis College of Art & Design, she knows firsthand how impactful the time spent in an ABC House can be and has spent many years tutoring and mentoring students of color, helping them to successfully navigate academia and thrive as individuals.

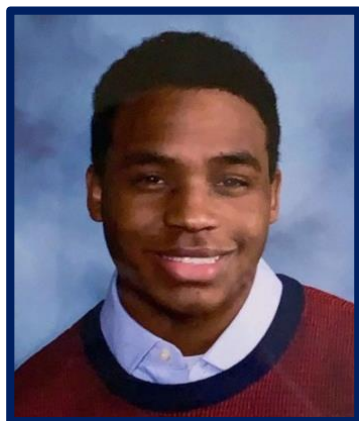
Dale is a television producer and editor who has won two Emmys for his groundbreaking work. Throughout Dale's career he has met countless high-achieving people whose lives have been positively impacted by the presence of a caring and supportive mentor, and he embraces being that positive force in the lives of the ABC of Westport scholars. Daniele & Dale work every day to enrich the lives of the Scholars, promote equity and become active citizens of Westport.

ABC of Westport welcomed Chef Sandra to the Glendarcy House in Spring 2023. Chef Sandra was raised in Bridgeport, CT. Her culinary career began as a prep cook at Hallbrook Hospital in Westport where she was fortunate enough to learn from experienced chefs willing to teach her the trade. Chef Sandra has worked at hospitals, nursing homes and her favorite, a mental health facility for adolescents in Stamford where she was more than a chef to the residents.

Chef Sandra has three children and three grandchildren. When not working, she likes spending quality time with family and friends, watching sports, HGTV and of course, the Food Network.



ALUMNI UPDATES



Darby Aurelien, Staples Class of 2019, graduated from Lafayette College in May '23 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. After spending two summers as an intern with Xerox, Darby has started a full-time position with the company as a Product Development Engineer.



Jalen St. Fort, Staples Class of 2022, is a Sophomore at Tulane University studying Marketing. Following his State Championships in Track at Staples, Jalen is running for the Division I Green Wave track team at Tulane where he runs the 800 meters and 4 x 400 meter relays.



David Li, Staples Class of 2019, will graduate from NYU in December '23 with a degree in Mathematics. Between Junior and Senior years of college, David worked at Westport firm Gemspring Capital which has employed six ABC Westport graduates as interns.



Christopher Morales, Staples Class of 2016, graduated from Cornell University in 2020 with a degree in communications. Christopher has since returned to his hometown of Los Angeles where he works for ad agency Deutsch LA.

Additional Alumni Updates:

- Adrian Belvitt, Staples 2016, Colgate University 2020 – lives in NYC and works at Coinbase
- Luis Cruz, Staples 2015, Boston College 2019 – lives in New Jersey and works at JPMorgan Chase
- Diego De Leon, Staples 2020, Chapman University 2024
- Ruben Guardado, Staples 2014, USC Engineering 2018 – lives in Metro NY and works at Evercore
- Yoel Hooper-Antunez, Staples 2020, Grinnell College 2024
- Mannasses Ogutu, Staples 2017, Carleton College 2021 – lives in Minneapolis and works at Marquis Senior Communities

A Better Chance
of Westport



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A Better Chance of Westport thanks the vibrant community of Westport for its ongoing and committed support.

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Although affiliated with the National A Better Chance program, ABC of Westport is a self-supporting, independent 501c3 non-profit organization managed by volunteers from the local community. To find out you can get involved, e-mail us at info@abetterchanceofwestport.org

Please consider supporting ABC of Westport's mission financially or by volunteering your time.

For more information, please visit our website at www.abetterchanceofwestport.org or e-mail our VP of Fundraising at etseidman@gmail.com