

WLP and YMS Students Receive Human Relations and Social Justice Awards

By Sikivu Hutchinson



In May 2018, students from the Women’s Leadership Project (WLP) and Young Male Scholars’ (YMS) programs received recognition for their human relations and social justice work on sexual violence and sexual harassment prevention, college readiness, and school-community coalition building. Both students and staff from Gardena High School (GHS) and King Drew Magnet of Medicine and Science were honored by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Human Relations Commission in a ceremony at the LAUSD School Board headquarters. Board member Richard Vladovic, Local District South superintendent Christopher Downing, Gardena principal Rosemarie Martinez, and King-Drew principal Reginald Brookens commended the students’ advocacy. On May 25, GHS twelfth graders Derion Bruton, Markell and Markease Harris, Amanda and Ananda Johnson and Areionn Lawrence received recognition for academic achievement as well as their school-community advocacy work with WLP and YMS at Gardena’s annual Senior Awards ceremony. Amanda and Ananda Johnson were also in the top ten of their graduating class and received the LAUSD Superintendent’s Award for Academic Excellence. Students will be attending CSUDH, CSU East Bay, Grand Canyon University and El Camino College in the fall.

