



PRESS RELEASE

2018 NJTL ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

**Winners to Be Honored at the Yale Club in New York City
Sponsored by Deloitte, a Leading Professional Services Organization**

**Contest Exclusive to Students 18 and Younger Who Participate in
National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) Chapters Nationwide**

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., Aug. 09, 2018 – USTA Foundation, the national charitable arm of the United States Tennis Association (USTA), today announced the 10 winners of the 20th annual NJTL Essay Contest. The winners, ranging in ages from 10 to 18 who participate in National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) chapters nationwide, were selected from more than 2,700 entries submitted this summer. Deloitte, one of the world’s largest professional services organizations, serves as the presenting sponsor of the NJTL essay contest and luncheon.

This year’s essay question asked: “What is the most important lesson you have learned thus far through NJTL, and how does that lesson help you in your life as a student, a tennis player, and an individual?” To enter the contest, students were asked to answer this question in an essay of fewer than 350 words.

Each winner will receive a trip to New York City from Aug. 23 to Aug. 26. The trip includes round-trip airfare for the winner along with a parent/legal guardian plus a three-night stay at the Grand Hyatt New York.

On Friday, Aug. 24, Deloitte will host the student winners, along with their chaperones, in their innovative Greenhouse™. Winners will participate in an immersive experience, with activities to help the winners understand the importance of strategic thinking and networking in an engaging way. The group will also visit historic 30 Rockefeller Center’s “Top of the Rock” as well as meet with Deloitte professionals.

The winners will also have VIP status in the President’s Box as part of 2018 Arthur Ashe Kids’ Day powered by Net Generation, the annual youth celebration that precedes the US Open. The 2018 Arthur Ashe Kids’ Day will be held Saturday, Aug. 25, at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, home of the US Open.

The weekend will wrap-up with an awards luncheon on Sunday, Aug. 26, hosted by USTA Foundation Honorary Board Member, and former New York City Mayor, the Honorable David N. Dinkins. The luncheon will be held at the Yale Club, where the essay contest winners will receive an honorary plaque. This year’s emcee will be newly-appointed USTA Foundation Celebrity and Player Advisory Council member, Thaddeus M. Bullard, known as WWE superstar “Titus O’Neil.” Deloitte’s Chief Inclusion Officer, Dr. Terri Cooper, will be delivering the keynote address.

“The USTA Foundation is delighted to host another group of bright and talented NJTL students in New York City,” said Dan Faber, Executive Director, USTA Foundation. “Their heartfelt essays are a true reflection of the powerful impact that NJTL’s have on young lives and in their local communities. We are honored to recognize the national winners with this opportunity and look forward to hearing about their experience at this year’s luncheon.”

The 10 winners of the 2018 NJTL National Essay Contest were selected in the following categories:

Winners

NJTL

Boys/Girls 10 and Under

Krish Attaluri, Cary, N.C.

Andrea Nicholson, Washington

Raleigh Tennis Association

Washington Tennis and Education Foundation

Boys/Girls 12 and Under

Diego Rivera, Arlington, Texas

Gabrielle Pierce, Washington

Dallas Tennis & Education Academy

Metropolitan Tennis and Education Group

Boys/Girls 14 and Under

Isaac Lian, Indianapolis
Andrea Morales-Mendoza, Berkley, Calif.

NJTL of Indianapolis
Youth Tennis Advantage

Boys/Girls 16 and Under

Remi Asso-Gonzalez, Lancaster, Pa.
Camille Blecher, Houston

Tennis Central
Houston Tennis Association

Boys/Girls 18 and Under

Jabeiro Brown, Jacksonville, Fla.
Hillary Phu, Daly City, Calif.

MaliVai Washington Youth Foundation
Youth Tennis Advantage

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USTA Foundation Incorporated, the national charitable arm of the United States Tennis Association Incorporated (USTA), brings together the powerful combination of tennis and education to change lives of under-resourced youth. The Foundation utilizes financial grants, scholarship opportunities, curricula, technical assistance and training to make a lasting difference, and it's with a primary focus is to develop and ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of the National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network. The NJTL network features more than 350 chapters that reach more than 200,000 youth on an annual basis. The Foundation raises money and public awareness to support these life-changing programs through private donations, corporate sponsorships and foundations, as well as its special fundraisers held throughout the year, including the US Open Opening Night Gala, the US Open Paver program, World Tennis Day and a series of Pro-Ams on both coasts, to name a few. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than \$28 million in grants and scholarships that help to serve up dreams to thousands of children throughout the country. For more information on USTA Foundation, visit www.ustafoundation.com. Or stay connected through Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/USTA/>, and on Twitter at @USTA...

The USTA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis in the U.S. and the leader in promoting and developing the growth of tennis at every level -- from local communities to the highest level of the professional game. A not-for-profit organization with more than 655,000 members, it invests 100% of its proceeds in growing the game. It owns and operates the US Open, one of the highest-attended annual sporting events in the world, and launched the US Open Series, linking seven summer WTA and ATP World Tour tournaments to the US Open. In addition, it owns approximately 90 Pro Circuit events throughout the U.S. and selects the teams for the Davis Cup, Fed Cup, Olympic and Paralympic Games. The USTA's philanthropic entity, the USTA Foundation, provides grants and scholarships in addition to supporting tennis and education programs nationwide to benefit under-resourced youth through the National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network. For more information about the USTA, go to USTA.com or follow the official accounts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat.

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