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# Scholarships in Gammons' honor awarded to 14 Boston students

Posted by Matt Rocheleau July 6, 2011 07:04 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Fourteen Boston high school seniors have earned scholarships in honor of Massachusetts native and Hall of Fame baseball journalist Peter Gammons.

The [Foundation To Be Named Later](#), founded by Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein and his brother Paul six years ago to serve area disadvantaged youth, has awarded more than \$45,000 combined in college scholarships for the upcoming academic year.

"To have 14 deserving students receive these scholarships in my honor means more to me than any professional accomplishment," Gammons, who recently joined the MLB Network and New England Sports Network as a television and online analyst, said in an announcement.

"Without the support of the Foundation and RISO, these students may not otherwise have the opportunity to achieve their full potential and I am grateful to both organizations for making this possible," added the Groton native.

The scholarship program began last year in collaboration with Danvers-based RISO, Inc., a manufacturer and distributor of inkjet printers. The initiative awarded five city high school seniors in 2010.

The foundation's name is based off a common term used in trades between Major League Baseball organizations in which a deal is completed without the all of the deal's exchanged-players being announced.

For example, the Red Sox [this week completed a deal](#) to send outfielder Mike Cameron to the Florida Marlins for a player to be named later, or cash. Such transactions are orchestrated by Epstein in his capacity as the franchise's general manager.

A branch of the Red Sox Foundation, the foundation will also team the scholarship winners with mentors to help guide them through college; the printer manufacturer will provide the students with new laptops, scholarship officials said.

"The foundation strives to create positive opportunities for underprivileged

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youth, and we are grateful to RISO for enabling us to send these deserving Boston Public School students to college in Peter's name," Paul Epstein, a social worker in the Brookline school system, said in the release. "Peter is a passionate advocate for young people and our biggest champion and we cannot think of a better way to honor him for all of his remarkable work in the community."

The foundation has distributed more than \$5 million in cash grants and in-kind donations to local nonprofits and has sent more than 3,200 children to Red Sox and Boston Celtics games, officials said.

Jasmine Clark, of Dorchester, received the largest award – a \$12,000, four-year scholarship that she plans to put toward pre-med studies at Simmons College in the Fenway. Clark, who hopes to become a pediatrician, was nominated by the West End House Boys and Girls Club in Allston.

Darius Davis, of Mission Hill, also received a large award – \$5,500 to help cover tuition at Bentley College, the release said. Nominated by the Boston Red Sox, Davis plans to study business and play basketball next year at the Waltham school.

The two rising college freshmen were honored by Gammons, the Epstein brothers and Mayor Thomas M. Menino among others at the [Hot Stove Cool Music](#) fundraiser at Fenway Park [last month](#). New Kids On The Block band members and Boston natives Donnie Wahlberg and Danny Wood made an appearance, praising the students for succeeding in city neighborhoods where they knew well growing up.

The June 11 event benefitted nonprofit partners of the foundation.

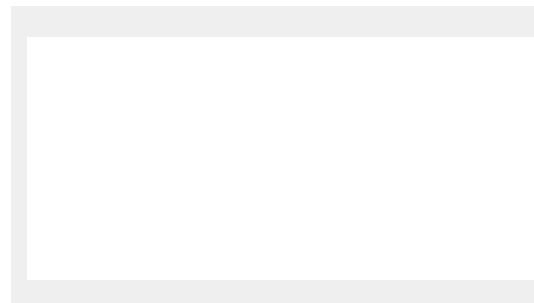
"RISO strongly believes in furthering the education of our nation's children," Alex Olshan, RISO, Inc. Vice President & CFO, said in the announcement. "We are proud to support the foundation's efforts with this academic scholarship that will provide greater opportunities to students who might not otherwise have the ability to attend college."

The 14 scholarship recipients, who will receive a celebratory send-off from the Epstein brothers, Gammons and Olshan on the field at Fenway Park before the fall semester begins, are:

- Roobiva Bernadin of Boston
- Jasmine Clark of Dorchester
- Chiquana Clayton of Dorchester
- Jessenia Cortes of Roxbury Crossing
- Darius David of Mission Hill
- Ximena Jimenz of Brookline
- Michon Joseph of Hyde Park
- Sandy Lopes of Dorchester
- Steven Paradis of Revere
- Mariah Ramdial of Milton
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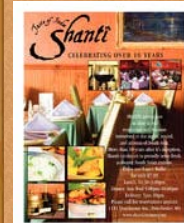


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