

News Release

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PricewaterhouseCoopers awards prestigious scholarship to local student

September 2009, Bermuda – Assurance, tax and advisory firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers, has selected 20-year old Bermudian student, Sylvia Usher, as the recipient of its 2009/10 HeadStart scholarship.

Miss Usher, a former Berkeley Institute and Bermuda College student begins a Bachelor of Commerce degree at St. Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia this September, and plans on becoming a Chartered Accountant on graduation.

"I plan on coming back to Bermuda at the end of my undergraduate degree to start my journey towards becoming a Chartered Accountant," she said. "It is my goal to one day become a Partner at one of Bermuda's top accounting firms like PricewaterhouseCoopers. Not only do I want to provide the best services for my clients, but I want to be someone they look up to. I never give up on my goals, and I like to inspire others to reach theirs. I take every experience as a time to learn something new."

While academics are a top priority for Sylvia, she is also committed to giving back to the community. She has volunteered for the Bermuda Music Festival and the Iron Kids Triathlon, and plans on joining 'Trashformers' - a program designed for students to pick up litter in local neighbourhoods and promote recycling - while in Nova Scotia.

"Giving back to the community you can not only help people, but you can learn new skills, meet people, and you feel good about what you have done," she said. "All the things you learn from the experience might help you solve a problem you have down the road," said Sylvia.

Darren Johnston, Senior Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers commented on the award, "We are very pleased to award this scholarship to Sylvia. She is an outstanding young woman and we are excited to assist her as she continues with her studies and her career. At PricewaterhouseCoopers, we are focused on the continued development of young Bermudians. The benefits of our HeadStart program, which includes our scholarship, go far beyond providing students with financial assistance for their university education. HeadStart provides a sound basis for developing their careers."

"As the recipient of the PricewaterhouseCoopers scholarship and a member of our HeadStart program, Sylvia will be able to receive direct mentoring and will be invited to join our summer internship program, gaining unparalleled business experience," said Mr. Johnston. "We wish Sylvia continued success in her studies and are confident that she will, over time, make valuable contribution to Bermuda's business sector."

Sylvia said, "I am both surprised and grateful for this award. I'd like to be seen as a role model for all young Bermudians and be able to show them that with hard work you can accomplish your goals."

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The PricewaterhouseCoopers HeadStart scholarship is aimed at talented Bermudian graduate and undergraduate students in their second, third, or final year of university, studying towards a business degree. It is awarded on the basis of not only academic strength and a well-rounded school career, but also character and leadership qualities.

For more information regarding the PricewaterhouseCoopers HeadStart programme and scholarship, please visit www.pwc.com/bermudacareers.

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