



American Institute Of Marine Studies

Top Marine Science Student Awarded Full Scholarship To University of Miami



January 2004

South Broward High School Senior, Daniell Washington was awarded by AIMS a full four-year scholarship to the University of Miami worth over \$130,000.00. Daniell states, "I've realized that my next step will be to attend the University of Miami and participate in specialized studies in the marine science field. As the recipient of the 2004 AIMS Undergraduate Scholarship, I am honored to have been chosen and to attend such a prestigious university. I've come to understand that as a member of the next generation, it is my responsibility to use my education as a tool to protect and preserve the ocean in order for future generations to be able to appreciate its true magnificence and beauty."

Visit

www.aimsamerica.org/daniellwashington.htm to keep up with Daniell at the University of Miami this fall.

My name is Daniell Washington and I was born in sunny South Florida in 1986. I live with my mother and go to the best magnet high school in Hollywood, FL. Ever since I can remember I have been intrigued with the ocean and its inhabitants. This fascination has given me a continuous thirst for knowledge and experiences that bring me that much closer to the wonders and beauty of our vast oceans. Here's a glimpse of my story...

Staring at the glassy water sloshing in the concrete tank and gripping the edge of my seat, my six year old heart raced as I anticipated what was about to happen. Slowly, a huge black shadow crept just beneath the surface of the water and with the blink of my eye, the majestic creature named "Lolita the Killer Whale" leaped out of the turquoise underworld to unimaginable heights. Time seemed to stand still as I watched her sleek body glide through the air, all the while never believing, even in my wildest dreams, that I would see such a beautiful creature. With fins sprawled in every direction, her massive body slammed the water and quickly sent a tidal wave of salty liquid over the entire audience. After the initial shock of the chilly water, a roar of cheers engulfed the stadium and I stood drenched with a huge smile stretched across my little face.

This discovery has developed into an unshakable passion that has fueled my pursuit of a career in marine science. My love for the sea and especially the fascinating creatures that inhabit the ocean has led me to participate in the Marine Magnet Program at South Broward High School. Throughout the past four years I have had the pleasure of participating in numerous AIMS sponsored programs like Summer BEACH, the Southern Florida Watershed Project and Summer Science at the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Center. These educational and most importantly, fun experiences have provided me with the opportunity to learn about the ecologically diverse marine environments of South Florida. Currently in my senior year, I've realized that my next step will be to attend the University of Miami and participate in specialized studies in the marine science field. As the recipient of the 2004 AIMS Undergraduate scholarship, I am honored to have been chosen and to attend such a prestigious university. I've come to understand that as a member of the next generation, it is my responsibility to use my education as a tool to protect and preserve the ocean in order for future generations to be able to appreciate its true magnificence and beauty.

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