



# EMPOWERED SOUNDS

A PUBLICATION OF **EAGLE EMPOWERMENT, INC.**

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## Our Mission

The mission of Eagle Empowerment, Inc. is to enrich the lives of youth and families through education, mentorship and travel to broaden their thinking, enhance their insight, and visualize life's possibilities.

## Core Values

- Educational Enlightenment
- Leadership Development
- Integrity Building
- Quality of Service to Others

## Our Motto

EDUCATION IN  
MOTION

## The Search for the Best School

Participants Jalen Carter and Tony Taylor discuss their recent feat in applying to major colleges.

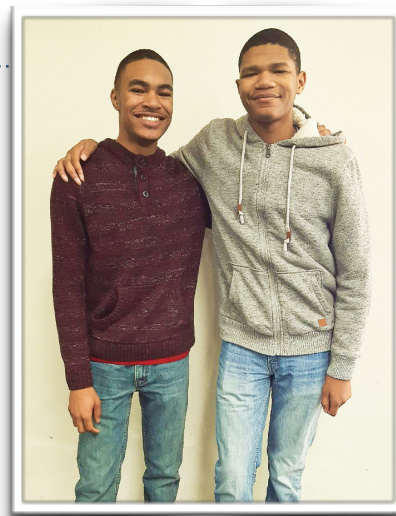
*Jalen:* Applying to colleges was one of the most stressful things I have ever done. I didn't realize that there was so much to do. Not only did I have to apply to colleges I also had to apply for financial aid.

I applied to 12 colleges and have been accepted to Cal State Long Beach, San Francisco State, University of Iowa and UC Riverside! My acceptance to the University of Iowa took me by surprise because they got back to me within a week!

I chose colleges that have either good Communications or English programs. After college I want to go into a career involving marketing and advertising. I also sent applications to: Harvard University, Pepperdine University, San Francisco State University, Stanford University, Syracuse University, UC Davis, UC Los Angeles, UC Santa Barbara, and Yale University.

*Tony:* I am going to college because I want to continue to discover who I am. College has been on my mind since my early middle school days. My family's love and support gave me the desire to go to college. They always pushed me to be the best I could be. With that motivation from my family, it only made me strive harder as a student. Throughout the years, my family has dealt with financial struggles because my dad was not in the picture. It made everything difficult. I had to step up and become a father figure to my brothers while my mom worked to keep food on our table.

While going to school and taking care of my little brothers, I learned to be responsible at a young age. Going to college will not only fulfill my dreams of getting a great education, but it will give my brothers the motivation to follow in my footsteps. These challenges made me into who I am today and taught me how to always stay diligent in whatever I do, and hopefully that can include college also. My plan is to pursue my academic interests at the University of Southern California. Engineering has remained my academic interest since I was 10 years old. I've thought about my college plan and what will be expected of me as a student. My hope is to be accepted into the Mechanical Engineering program at USC's Viterbi School of Engineering. With my faith in God and His plan, I believe I can get there.



## Participant Spotlight: **Geovanni Martinez**



Hello! My name is Geovanni Champ Martinez and I am currently a Sophomore at Verbum Dei High School in Watts, California. I traveled to Seoul, South Korea on March 12 and was there for six days. I am a member of the Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles. We were invited to join the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra to participate in four performances at the Seoul Arts Center. I continue to enjoy advancing in my playing of the viola.

It is well known that when someone attends “Verb” they must apply for an internship at a job fair. In the summer of 2017, I was looking for a job that was intertwined with medical practices. I applied for Hyland’s Homeopathic and was accepted! Hyland’s is a pharmaceutical company that manufactures all homeopathic drugs, which means that all the products are produced with natural raw materials.

Another aspect of Verbum Dei is that all students must complete 100 hours of community service. I have been committed to serving the homelessness and promoting social justice. To complete my hours for homelessness, I assist at a community food distribution site. My freshman year I went to Urban Compass, which is an after school program that lets Verbum

Dei students tutor and help elementary kids with classwork and activities.

## Director’s Corner by Daisy Oliver

Eagle Empowerment welcomes two new members to its Board of Directors. Anthony Buck, Jr. and Darrin Oliver were participants on the first Youth Tour in 2000. They have excelled in life. We are thrilled to have them join our team!

With homeownership, Anthony is proud to provide for his two beautiful daughters. After serving several years in retail management, he now travels the country as a Conductor with Amtrak. He has enjoyed serving on the Pastoral staff of his church.

Darrin was 9 years old when he participated in Youth Tour 2000. He later served as a mentor on Youth Tour 2005, and as a Chaperone on Youth Tour 2015. He is a graduate of New York University and the University of Southern California with degrees in Social Work. Exposure to traveling with Eagle Empowerment prompted a strong appetite for learning about geography and diversity of culture. In high school, Darrin traveled to Seoul, South Korea with Project Bridge. Another great experience was a semester studying abroad in Accra, Ghana while a Sophomore at New York University. He now works as a Clinical Social Worker.



## Youth Tour 2019

We’re excited about our upcoming Youth Tour 2019! The tour departs Sunday July 21, 2019 and returns Saturday July 27. It will be six days of discovery. Participants will be exposed to the unique culture of the midwest United States in Chicago, Milwaukee and South Bend. This is also the first tour that includes parents and mentors partnering with children on this educational adventure.

Each participant has a financial goal of \$1,500. They are enthusiastically raising funds to meet their obligations. For some, this will be their first trip out of the state of California, and for others it will be their first airplane flight.

### Board of Directors

Carol Houston, CEO  
Veronica Oliver, COO  
William Marshall, CFO  
Kevin Davis, Secretary  
Daisy Oliver  
Anthony Buck  
Darrin Oliver

### Empowered Sounds - Eagle Empowerment, Inc.

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