



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Press Release
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DCBIA Announces 1st Scholarship Recipient to Georgetown University's Master's in Real Estate Program

Talented DC Recipient to Use Georgetown University Degree to Find Solutions for DC's Neighborhood Challenges

(Washington, DC) - The District of Columbia Building Industry Association (DCBIA) announces that Ursula Johnson is the first recipient of a full scholarship to study in the Master of Professional Studies in Real Estate program at Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies, beginning this fall.

In an effort to strengthen DCBIA's community involvement to include education, earlier this year, DCBIA announced a partnership between DCBIA and Georgetown University. The scholarship is valued at \$32,500, supported by DCBIA Pinnacle Sponsors Balfour Beatty Construction and Property Group Partners.

"We're so excited to offer this scholarship to Ursula," said Lisa María Mallory, CEO. "She's a woman, a District resident, and her interest and experience in community, architecture, arts, and education exemplifies what this scholarship is about and what it can do to expand her real estate career and add to the diversity of our exciting industry."

Ursula Johnson, who lives in Congress Heights in Ward 8, received her Bachelor of Architecture degree from Howard University. She has received her LEED Green Associate designation and worked in top firms such as Gensler, Rashid Architects, and Shalom Baranes Associates. She has also been active with the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities. With this DCBIA scholarship, Ursula plans to use the Master of Professional Studies in Real Estate degree at Georgetown University to expand her awareness about the many aspects of real estate such as financing and investors, accounting, and construction management.

"My architecture career has provided a glimpse that there are other factors involved when designing a project, beyond visual aesthetics and drawing production," she says. "I want this degree to help me understand how development projects come to fruition so that my design-oriented problem solving can meet the needs of the District's housing and neighborhood challenges."

The scholarship was competitively awarded and selection was made through Georgetown University's admissions program, which included an extensive essay.

For additional information, contact DCBIA at (202) 966-8665 or email Liz DeBarros at edebarrros@dcbia.org.

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The District of Columbia Building Industry Association (DCBIA) is the voice of the DC real estate development industry providing educational, social, research, and community service programming for a membership of over 450 member companies representing thousands of real estate development industry professionals, including owners, developers, general contractors, subcontractors, architects, engineers, lenders, attorneys, brokers, title companies, utility companies, community development organizations and other real estate development industry professionals. DCBIA also advocates on behalf of its members before the District of Columbia and federal governments.