

AN INVESTMENT IN SUCCESS



PHOTOS: GRAD IMAGES

When Joshua Adegbeye was 10 years old, his father gave him a broken Game Boy that he cracked open to reveal its greenboard, which he proceeded to take apart and eventually made work again, thus sparking his interest in electrical engineering. Adegbeye, whose parents are originally from Nigeria, completed five internships during his years at NJIT and is the recipient of the Bernard Leroe '46 and Guttenberg Scholarships. In May, he received his B.S. degree and headed to Texas to begin his career at Lockheed Martin.

"For each donor in the room, I want to extend my utmost gratitude," Adegbeye told the nearly 100 donors who came to NJIT to meet with the students whose scholarships they endow at NJIT's 29th Annual Scholarship Brunch held April 28. "I want to let you know that when you give and invest unto others genuinely, you will be repaid in abundance."

Left: Ester Calderon '18 and Joshua Adegbeye '17 described how the generosity of donors has helped them achieve their goals at the 29th Annual Scholarship Brunch. Above: (L to R): Albert Dorman '44, '99 HON; Adam Bindas '17; Joan Dorman; and NJIT President Joel S. Bloom

In total, donors endow more than \$3.7 million in private scholarships that have helped nearly 1,200 students.

Also speaking was Ester Calderon, a third-year applied mathematics major and Albert Dorman Honors College scholar who said that her mother's ambition to attend nursing school served as inspiration to pursue her own education. At NJIT, Calderon participated in the Math Department's EXTREEMES research program and is on the executive board of the Knitting and Crocheting Club, which donates hats, scarves and gloves to the Salvation Army and caps for cancer patients to a Newark hospital. Both Adegbeye and Calderon are students in NJIT's Educational Opportunity Program.

"Thanks to you, I have a chance to finish my college degree," Calderon said. "I cannot begin to describe how grateful I



am for each and every one of you and your generosity."

Guest speaker Steven B. Saperstein '84, chief operating officer of PGIM Fixed Income and a member of the NJIT Board of Overseers, said that the continued generosity of donors is "very important in growing the NJIT Foundation." Saperstein, who also is a former president and vice president of the Alumni Association of NJIT and currently serves on the Association's Board as secretary, has established the Steve and Alison Saperstein Endowed Scholarship.

"I would not be where I am today without my NJIT education," he said.

Highlights of this year's event included the presentation of the Albert Dorman Future Leader Award to Adam Bindas '17, an Albert Dorman Honors College scholar who received his B.S. in chemical engineering in May, and a special performance by the Giga Beats, NJIT's student acapella group.

For more information about establishing and supporting scholarships at NJIT, contact: Darlene Lamourt, director of donor engagement, at 973-596-3403 or darlene.lamourt@njit.edu. ■