



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**Dean Emeritus Donald E. Wilson Scholarship Recipient:
Kaéla Kuitchoua**

Dean Emeritus Donald E. Wilson Scholarship recipient Kaéla Kuitchoua, Class of 2024, is currently in her third year and is building on her early interest in neuroscience, behavioral biology, and genetics. Many of Kaéla's volunteer and academic activities have strengthened her skills and her desire to help underserved communities through her work. It was a pleasure to hear Kaéla provide us with updates on her journey through medical school at the *Celebrating Diversity Reception and Dinner* on Saturday, February 25, 2023.

Since beginning her education at UMSOM, Kaéla has joined the Combined Accelerated Program in Psychiatry (CAPP) elective track, is a member of UMSOM's Second Look Day Committee, and of UMSOM's chapter of White Coats for Black Lives. She is also a mentor for the Bridging Admissions Mentorship Program.

As co-vice president of UMSOM's Student National Medical Association (SNMA) chapter last year, Kaéla coordinated a virtual conference for the Regional Leadership Institute. This event introduced underrepresented premedical and medical students to various career paths they can take with their medical degree. **She was grateful for and inspired by the many physicians of color from UMSOM and the greater Baltimore and D.C. communities** who volunteered for this event.

Now that Kaéla is in her third year, she has been enjoying applying her basic science knowledge from the classroom to the clinical setting. She has decided that she will be pursuing a career in psychiatry. She is particularly interested in community psychiatry, which strives to incorporate community resources when treating patients, which may make treatment more accessible to those who typically are unable to seek care.

"Being honored with the Donald E. Wilson Scholarship for wanting to practice medicine with under served communities has motivated me, particularly through my 3rd year of medical school. Throughout my rotations in the greater Baltimore area, many patients have expressed how important it is for them to see providers that look like them. Scholarships like the Wilson Scholarship will continue to improve diversity amongst physicians so that all patients can feel represented," said Kaéla.

To make your gift to the Dean Emeritus Donald E. Wilson Scholarship Fund:

Online link: www.medschool.umaryland.edu/WilsonFund

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