



Where Are They Now? A Message of Gratitude from a Recent Alum



In January, 2014, K-Scope profiled Brian Suckie as one of two students who represented Kingsborough at Business Today's International Conference. Today, he is attending Columbia University, and he remains tremendously grateful for the foundation of education, opportunity, and support he received at Kingsborough:

My name is Brian Suckie, and I am a proud graduate of Kingsborough Community College. I am currently entering my second year at Columbia University, where I am studying Economics with a concentration in Sustainable Development. Afterwards, I will attend Business School for my MBA. My long-term dream is to found a nonprofit organization that focuses on sustainable economic development.

I emigrated from Jamaica to New York in the summer of 2010. For two years, I worked two minimum wage jobs to support myself and my family back home. Unfortunately, what I was making simply wasn't enough, so I quit both jobs and enrolled in Kingsborough in 2012. At first, I was very nervous; I struggled with some early assignments, and I wondered whether I even belonged in college at all. However, thanks to my own hard work, the encouragement of professors and advisers, and financial support along the way, I was able to turn the tide. Though I went into Kingsborough with modest goals, I left with big dreams.

Professors at Kingsborough don't just teach—they inspire students to aim high and broaden their horizons, to push beyond what they think is possible. Today, I am very thankful not only for the skills and knowledge I acquired at Kingsborough, but for learning to believe in myself. I am also very grateful to Kingsborough's generous donors who supported scholarships that helped me to stay in school and graduate. Not only did scholarships help me pay for essential items like textbooks and MetroCards, but they also made me feel recognized for all of my efforts.

I know that there are many students like me at Kingsborough right now, who work hard every day but struggle financially and are unsure of their futures. I hope that you will consider supporting them today, because Kingsborough is truly a place where dreams begin. I myself can certainly attest to that.

-Brian '14

Every month, the Kaleidoscope presents a different facet of the Kingsborough experience—inspiring professors, student success stories, alumni testimonials, exciting new programs, news-making events and much more. We hope you enjoy these stories, and we also encourage you to share *your* unique KCC perspective with us. *Whether you are a current student or an alum, a faculty or staff member, a retiree or a distinguished donor, [you can also share your story!](#)*

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