



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Halifax County Alston-Pleasants Scholar Receives Postgraduate Award to Pursue Doctorate at Stanford University**

November 18, 2016 – The Trustees of the Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholars Fund are pleased to announce that Meghan Howard has received a Scholarship Award to support her doctoral studies at the Stanford University Department of Biology.

Ms. Howard will be joining the Mordecai Lab at Stanford, which investigates how climate, species interactions and global change drive infectious disease dynamics in humans and natural ecosystems. As a doctoral student, she will carry out a dissertation research project within these broad research aims.

Ms. Howard was awarded the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology with Distinction and Highest Honors at the 2012 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill graduation ceremonies.

A resident of Roanoke Rapids and graduate of the Episcopal High School, Ms. Howard was awarded an Alston-Pleasants Scholars Fund Scholarship for undergraduate studies at the University in 2008.

The late Missouri Alston Pleasants established the Alston-Pleasants Scholarship in 1958 to provide added recognition and encouragement for selected students from Franklin, Warren and Halifax Counties. The scholarships are in memory of her grandfather, Willis “Congress” Alston, a local, state and national political leader.

The Alston-Pleasants Post-Graduate Scholars Fund provides graduate and professional studies scholarships for Alston-Pleasants Scholars. The Trustees congratulate Ms. Howard on continuing her career in disease ecology.

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For information or questions, contact Helen Parker at 404-403-1084 or [JobfinderH@aol.com](mailto:JobfinderH@aol.com).