



Badu Foundation, Inc

Become a Sponsor for a \$500 Financial Literacy Scholarship for a Low-Income Student of Color in Chicago

“I would recommend this program to other students so that they can further their knowledge on how to build up income.” – Jermaine, 14 years old, 2020 participant

“Learning about finances is important.” – Laila, 9 years old, 2020 participant

Sponsorship Opportunity

The [Badu Foundation](#), a Chicago-based nonprofit, is seeking 20 civically-responsible industry leaders who value and understand the importance of teaching financial literacy to young people. We invite you to become a sponsor and provide a \$500 scholarship to one of our 30 program participants. We will match up to \$10,000 of scholarships. We run a 4-week summer financial literacy program in June for low-income students of color ages 6-18 who live in underserved communities. Students could use the scholarship funds to invest, purchase school supplies, and pay for college application fees. They would become empowered, motivated, and encouraged to know that there are caring adults who are supporting them to gain critical financial literacy knowledge. Students would write to their sponsor after their successful completion of the program sharing what they learned and how they plan to use the financial literacy skills in their lives and in their futures. We will recognize our sponsors and their companies on the Badu Foundation website.

Background

The Badu Foundation was founded in 2020 by Jeff Badu, a certified public accountant, business/community leader, and educator. Jeff immigrated to Chicago from Ghana when he was eight. Wanting to belong, Jeff was caught up in gang activity in the Uptown neighborhood. When Jeff was sixteen, he took an eye-opening trip to Ghana in 2008 with his family to visit relatives. Seeing firsthand so many homeless struggle on the streets and also hearing from his aunt how people’s quality of life is severely limited by the economic circumstances in his developing home country, it was a wake-up call. When Jeff returned to Chicago, he changed his mindset and severed his ties with the gang. Jeff soon became very focused and was committed to realizing his academic and career potential. After graduating from Uplift Community High School and dedicating himself to his academics, he earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in accounting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In 2016, Jeff started his tax firm. He is passionate about teaching financial literacy to students and has hosted financial literacy workshops throughout the country.

Program Goals

Jeff is aiming to expand his summer financial literacy program from 3 students served in its inaugural 2020 year to 30 in June 2021. He and his high school and college classmate Noe Gil Moreno would be the co-instructors. The program goals are to support young people of color to:

1. Gain critical financial skills such as budgeting, saving, investing, and applying for scholarships that will empower them to make informed life decisions
2. Build better habits and mindsets about money matters and plan better for their futures to improve their financial health outcomes and to avoid being in debt
3. Become inspired to pursue a degree and career in finance or accounting given the guidance and mentoring they will receive from their dedicated instructors of color