

Project GRAD Akron



Project GRAD Akron, a community-based non-profit organization created in 2002, is part of a comprehensive national initiative aimed at improving the success of urban school students to academically achieve, graduate from high school, and enter and complete a college education.

Project GRAD is based on the belief in the potential of every child, a focus on parents and community involvement, training and support for teachers, evidence-based approaches and a commitment to full accountability for all stakeholders.

In addition to providing a host of educational programs and services to students in the Akron Public Schools, Project GRAD Akron provides a \$4,000.00 (payable \$1,000.00 yearly) scholarship for each graduating Buchtel High School senior who successfully fulfills the requirements of the rigorous PGA Learning Contract.

Project GRAD Akron, an affiliate site of Project GRAD USA, is a member of the National College Access Network (NCAN) and the Ohio College Access Network (OCAN).

Project GRAD Akron also provides additional scholarships to students graduating from Buchtel High School. **The Project GRAD Akron India Douglas Memorial Book Scholarship** will be awarded annually, beginning with the Buchtel Class of 2016, to female graduating senior(s) who meets the “*How to Be Indie Scholarship*” application requirements and who are selected by the Scholarship Review Committee.

Donations to the Project GRAD Akron’s India Ola Douglas Memorial Book Scholarship may be sent to Project GRAD Akron, a 501 (c) (3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. All donors will be provided letters confirming their contributions to the scholarship.

Project GRAD Akron

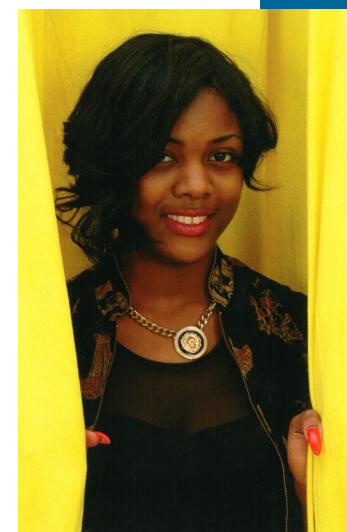
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Graduation **R**eally **A**chieves **D**reams



India Ola Douglas Memorial Book Scholarship

*How to Be “Indie”
Scholarship*



India Ola Douglas



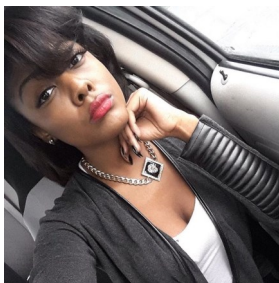
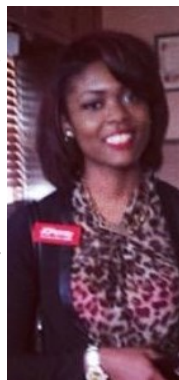
India Ola Douglas attended Erie Island Elementary School, Perkins Middle School, and was a 2013 graduate of Buchtel CLC (High School) in the Akron Public Schools. Active in school, she was a member of Project GRAD Akron, Young Entrepreneurs, and volunteered with community events, such as Pancake Day.

India was always very creative. She was passionate about fashion and the arts. She taught herself how to play the piano. As a child, she rearranged the clothes of her dolls. Later, she designed clothes for her younger sister Ashlyn, and gave fashion tips to her older brother Donte.



An intelligent, fashion forward young lady, her hobbies included drawing fashion designs, writing poetry, creating artwork and jewelry, practicing her makeup artistry on other young ladies for special events, computer technology, playing the piano, and spending time with family and friends.

India was committed to pursuing her post-secondary education and she took classes at The University of Akron and Regency Beauty School. A hard worker, she was employed by JC Penney and a consultant for Avon. Her ultimate goal was to pursue a career in Fashion Design.



On May 6, 2015, India had just left home to attend classes. At 8:30 a.m., while sitting in her car at a red traffic light, she and other cars were struck by a driver going twice the speed limit.

On May 11, 2015, India tragically died as a result of injuries she sustained. The driver was later convicted of multiple offenses and was sentenced to prison.

India will forever be remembered by her parents, Dexter and Shannon, her siblings, and other family and friends, for her laid-back sweet demeanor, innocent smile, and positive optimistic approach to life. Her kind heart made her an easy person to talk to. Her comedic side allowed her to share many smiles, laughter, and fun times with family and friends.



BOOK SCHOLARSHIPS

The India Ola Douglas Memorial Book Scholarship was established in 2016 by India's family and friends. The scholarship was the brainchild of India's brother, Donte Douglas, a 2008 Project GRAD Akron Scholar, 2008 Buchtel graduate, and a 2013 graduate of Muskingum College. He wants other students to "chase their dreams" as his sister was doing.

Additional contributions to support this scholarship will be accepted by Project GRAD Akron and are tax deductible to the extent established by law.



OUR MISSION

In collaboration with community partners, Project GRAD Akron will provide a system of programs, supports, and scholarships for underrepresented students to achieve success from kindergarten through career.