Quinten Thomas Memorial Scholarship

September 28, 1995-March 9, 2018

Access application form *here*

Eligibility:
- Open to both Undergraduate and Graduate students.
- Open to ALL majors.
- Must be foster youth, formerly incarcerated, youth on (criminal legal) probation, or currently or formerly houseless.
- Must have a FASFA or California Dream Act application on file for the upcoming academic year.
- Must enroll in 3 units or more during the Fall & Spring terms of the award year.

Quinten Thomas was raised in the Los Angeles foster care and probation systems. He was admitted to CSUN through the Educational Opportunity Program in 2014. He participated in the summer Residential Bridge Program and was an active member of the EOP Resilient Scholar Program. He was a junior working toward a baccalaureate degree in public health. He loved being with his CSUN family and thirsted for a college degree to develop as an individual and improve his prospects for a better life. He had a genuine passion to give back to his community. He frequently went back to his high school in Lancaster to talk to students about college. He felt that if he could do it, anyone else could too. At CSUN, Quinten always volunteered to give campus tours to middle school & high school foster youth and was always able to make strong connections with the students. In college, he continued to face adversities, from food insecurities to houselessness. Despite these adversities, he struggled to change his life and that of others. People who knew Quinten remember him as loving, kind, generous, thoughtful, persistent, resilient, hopeful, curious., and motivated to succeed.

Quinten was arrested on March 2nd, 2018 on a warrant for a misdemeanor charge and incarcerated at the Los Angeles Twin Towers Correctional Facility. While in physical distress, he continuously sought help from jail staff. He was found dead in his cell on March 9th. He left behind his daughter Ashanti, who was a year old at the time of his death, and Saharra White, Ashanti's mother. He was working toward becoming a nurse to provide for his family and to help others.

Applications are due by April 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
Incomplete applications will not be considered

IMPORTANT NOTICE for students receiving financial aid or a grant. Please contact the Financial Aid office to see if/ how an additional scholarship might affect any current payment(s) you may be receiving.

If you have questions about this scholarship, contact Martha D. Escobar at martha.d.escobar@csun.edu.