



**Presents the “Hold Fast to Dreams” Tour
Starring Vince Papale**

And the winners of a \$10,000 scholarship are...



Jennifer O'Mara

Jennifer O'Mara learned at an early age the reality of death. Her father, a Philadelphia firefighter who had suffered serious depression after separating from Jen's mom, committed suicide when Jen was just 13. This tragedy led to difficult transitions for Jen. Today, she is senior class president, a cheerleader and an honor student at Interboro High School, Vince's alma mater. Her dream is to be the first in her family to go to college.

*"Thanks to Sallie Mae for doing this... this is great... it should be an inspiration to every single one of us that we can do what we set our minds to."
-Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell*

Philadelphia



Keyon Diggs

Principal Leila Dinkins worries about the young men attending Malcolm X Shabazz High School. Despite significant efforts to improve the graduation rate from 44 percent to 75 percent over the last 10 years, she knows that many young men will still be lost to the streets and end up in gangs or prison. The scholarship will change that future for one student, Keyon Diggs. A football player, Keyon hopes to attend Rutgers University next fall.

*"Choosing Diggs was her [Dinkins'] way to motivate him to continue his education and to show other young men that good things can happen in Newark."
-Newark Star-Ledger*

Newark



Jennel Davoren

Raised by her grandmother in the wake of her mother's death and her father's drug addiction, Jennel Davoren was forced to move frequently. She often struggled to do homework amid the sounds of the hustlers, drug dealers and prostitutes in her apartment complex. Jennel uses these influences as motivation for her to stay at Jones High School and continue on to higher education.

*"The scholarship 'will make a lot of dreams come true,' she [Jennel] said at the awards ceremony held at Jones."
-Orlando Sentinel*

Orlando



Sa'mon Porter

Elementary school seemed easy for Sa'mon Porter, but life in middle school and then at Vashon High School got even tougher. Not sure if she could keep up, Sa'mon "embraced her own success." She knows that success in life takes hard work. Getting into, paying for and thriving in college will be no different, but she is up for the challenge and confident she will succeed.

*"I'm so happy to join Vince in this effort to allow our kids to hold fast to their dreams and to live up to their greatest potential."
-Missouri State Treasurer Sarah Steelman*

St. Louis



Jeannette Juarez

Though she was born in the United States, Jeannette Juarez spent three quarters of her life in Mexico. She returned to the United States in high school and enrolled herself in adult classes at night to complete the equivalent of four years of English in two years. Now enrolled in an honors English class at Thomas Jefferson High School, she also excels in engineering and math. She plans to be a psychologist after college.

*"I'm going to be the first in my family to go to college."
-Jeannette Juarez on KTLA-TV*

Los Angeles