



## Rockefeller Brothers Fund Names 2008 Teaching Fellows

*Brown University and Spelman College Sweep with Three Fellows Each*

NEW YORK, NY (April 28, 2008) — Twenty-five college juniors from 15 participating institutions have been named recipients of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund's (RBF) 2008 Fellowships for Aspiring Teachers of Color. Each fellow receives up to \$22,100 over a five-year period that begins this summer and ends after completion of three years of public school teaching.

"The 2008 Fellows bring diverse experiences—both personally and academically—that will be assets one day in the classroom," said Miriam Añeses, director, Fellowships for Aspiring Teachers of Color.

Universities and colleges may nominate up to three candidates for the fellowships. This year two academic institutions—Brown University and Spelman College—were the only schools to have all three candidates selected for the 2008 Class of RBF Fellows.

Established in 1992, the Fellowships for Aspiring Teachers of Color were created with the primary objective to recruit students of color from universities and colleges nationwide to the teaching profession. Each year the Fund awards up to 25 fellowships to students of color entering the teaching profession. Since the program's inception, the Fund has awarded fellowships to 351 college students. The class of 2008 marks the 14<sup>th</sup> cohort of RBF Fellows.

Incoming Fellows are required to complete a summer project between their junior and senior years. Planned jointly by Fellows and their mentors, the projects provide students with direct teaching experience with children or youth. Projects are presented at a summer workshop, which will be held this year from August 13-17 in the Washington, D.C. area.

The 25 members of the 2008 Class of RBF Fellows are:

NAME	SCHOOL	MAJOR
Ruth Cañas	University of St. Thomas, Houston	Bilingual Education
Irene Castillon	Brown University	Education
Katrina Contreras	Mount St. Mary's College	Liberal Studies
Ikeisha Daniels	Pomona College	Black Studies/History
Malika Davis	Spelman College	Child Development
Audrey Estupinan	Texas State University	Interdisciplinary Studies/Early Childhood
Kylah Field	Swarthmore College	Education/Political Science
Chiemezie Ibekwe	Emory University	Educational Studies
Ligaya Jackson	Howard University	Human Development
Brittany Leonard	Spelman College	Child Development
Candice McCray	Pomona College	Black Studies
Rousseau Mieze	Williams College	Black Studies/History
Kevin O'Brien	Brown University	Biology
Stephanie Okpala	Duke University	Psychology/Spanish

NAME	SCHOOL	MAJOR
Lourdes Perez	Mount St. Mary's College	Child Development
Dinh Xuan Phan	Duke University	English
Aneka Roberts	Yale University	Psychology
Susana Sanchez	University of California, Riverside	Chicano Studies
Christina Tilghman	Wellesley College	Black Studies
Minh Tran	Yale University	Psychology
Daniella Valerius	Pace University	Education
Yesenia Vargas	Wellesley College	Sociology
		Exercise and Sports Science/
Albert Walker	Texas State University	Mathematics
Kelly Walton	Brown University	Gender and Sexuality Studies
Lauren Williams	Spelman College	English

For more on the 2008 Fellows and the Fellowships for Aspiring Teachers of Color, visit [www.rbf.org](http://www.rbf.org).

#### **About the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF)**

Founded in 1940, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund encourages social change that contributes to a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world. The RBF's grantmaking is organized around four themes: Democratic Practice, Sustainable Development, Peace and Security, and Human Advancement and four pivotal places: New York City, South Africa, Western Balkans, and Southern China. On October 12, 2006, the RBF trustees approved a new cross-programmatic grantmaking initiative on energy.

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