



The Rizzo Family Foundation Announces Inaugural Kim Rizzo Penway Scholarship Award Winners

Nationals Youth Baseball Academy standouts Dewayne McKinnon and Langston Speed selected

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Rizzo Family Foundation has announced D.C. high school seniors Dewayne McKinnon and Langston Speed as the inaugural Kim Rizzo Penway Scholarship award winners.

The duo shined as members of the Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy while exceling both academically and athletically at their respective high schools. McKinnon and Speed will be part of an on-field check presentation on Friday, June 14 prior to first pitch of the Nationals game against the Miami Marlins.

“We could not be prouder to award Dewayne and Langston with the inaugural Kim Rizzo Penway Scholarship,” Mike Rizzo said. “They have both shown tremendous commitment to academics and a passion for giving back to others. The sky is the limit for Dewayne and Langston and we are excited to support them as they pursue their aspirations.”

McKinnon is set to graduate from Benjamin Banneker Academic High School with a 4.09 GPA while competing on the varsity boys basketball and track & field teams. He also volunteered at a myriad of organizations including the Bowie-Mitchellville Alumni Chapter Kappa League, MORE INC., Hoops Sagrado, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington, Letters of Kindness to the Elderly, Martha's Table, Global Kids and Farragut Sq. Neighborhood Outreach.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity that the Kim Rizzo Penway Scholarship has given me," McKinnon said. "Without this funding I would not be able to further my education and pursue my dream of becoming a Mechanical Engineer at Florida A&M University. Once I become a successful entrepreneur, I plan to pay it forward."

Speed will attend Tuskegee University and play collegiate baseball upon graduation from McKinley Technology High School. Elected Vice President of the 2024 class, Speed is a MTHS Lead Ambassador, Med at Tech Core Leader and named "Mr. McKinley." He is team captain of the baseball team and competes as a sprinter on the track & field squad. Speed is also a member of US Elite Baseball. In addition to serving as a youth coach for the Nationals Youth Baseball Academy, Speed traveled to the Dominican Republic to rebuild homes, donate goods, and run baseball clinics.

"I'm so grateful to be the annual recipient of the Kim Rizzo Penway scholarship," Speed said. "Kim is an inspiration as no matter what adversity she was facing, she would always show acts of selflessness to complete her mission in supporting others. By receiving this scholarship, I plan to continue my mission to create something bigger than me, so this opportunity will help me take my first steps to doing so by pursuing my education at Tuskegee University."

Named in memory of Kim Rizzo Penway, the \$5,000 scholarship honors and celebrates the life and legacy of Kim which was cut short by ALS in 2020. In her adult life, she was faced with many challenges and obstacles, which were all met with her incredible strength and will. She dedicated her life to raising a son with special needs – always advocating for his care and personal development. Through these and more challenges, Kim always showcased extraordinary kindness, determination, and a positive attitude.

To learn more about the Rizzo Family Foundation, please visit rizkids.com.