

# THE BRIDGE BUILDERS

*"The program is important because you learn from men what it means to be a man."*



**Nathaniel Kenneth  
Bibles**  
Passage Name  
Foluke

**Age:** 18  
**Family:** Parents, Robin and Kenneth Bibles; Sister, Danelle, 27; Brothers, Aaron, 25, and Mason, 17  
**School:** Fort Valley State University  
**What I value most in Life:** The person who has had the most impact on my life: "My sister, Danelle." "There was a love between everybody. I can honestly say I know how each one of the Gents thinks. It all promotes the unity within your group that is absolutely essential"



**Brian Aranza  
Coakley**  
Passage Name  
Aldon

**Age:** 17  
**Family:** Parents, Paul and Carlus; Brother, Paul Coakley Jr., 22  
**School:** Harvard University  
**What I value most:** "Probably God and family would be my two most important things. Also, wisdom. One thing I'm learning is that you can learn your eye-balls out but you have to know how to use it."  
The person who has had the most impact on my life: "One person that sticks out is my grandmother."  
"The atmosphere was so positive. The bond we have between us is strong."



**Jesse Pettis  
Jackson**  
Passage Name  
Yero

**Age:** 19  
**Family:** Mother, Gloria Jackson; Brothers, Curtis, 33, Frank, 29, and Freddie, 20; Sisters, Renee, 35, Selena, 27, Hope, 26, Chakila, 24, and Quantina, 23  
**School:** Oregon State University  
**Major:** Engineering  
**What I value most:** Family and friends  
The person who has had the most impact on my life: Leonard Lamberth, who has been Jesse's surrogate father of sorts. "Ever since my father died, he's been there for me. He's wanted to be there for me. That meant a lot to me."



**Mohammed Alpha  
Jalloh**  
Passage Name  
Ade

**Age:** 18  
**Family:** Mother, Sunkarie Yanka; Brothers, Karifa Koroma, 8, and Komeh Koroma, 6  
**School:** Portland Community College  
**Major:** Philosophy  
**What I value most:** Family and friends  
The person who has had the most impact on my life: "My Uncle Sheku because he was the closest thing I had to a father."  
"Through Bridge Builders, I slowly began to transform from the adolescent tenn who didn't care what people thought about him to someone who wanted to make a difference."



**Bashone Lamonte  
Johnson**  
Passage Name  
Shumba

**Age:** 19  
**Family:** Parents, Emma Jean Johnson and Richard Johnson; Grandparents, Thelma Lee Johnson and Lester Johnson; and Brother, Dustin, 17  
**School:** United States Army  
**What I value most:** "My work, because in today's world that's all a person has. Secondly, it's being truthful and trying your best. I try my hardest now so people can't say: "You can't trust Besh." the person who has had the most impact on my life: Kevin Fuller



**Omarr Jerrell  
Johnson**  
Passage Name  
Ade

**Age:** 18  
**Family:** Mother, Isabelle Robertson; Sister, Kemile Jones, 6  
**School:** Tuskegee University  
**Major:** Business Management  
**What I value most:** "My family. It's just rich and strong. I have a strong, supportive mom."  
The person who has had the most impact on my life: Olatunde Sobomehin "Coming together with so many other males who were actually trying to make something of their lives was good. It's sort of hard to find. We had to be one group. It brought us all a lot closer."



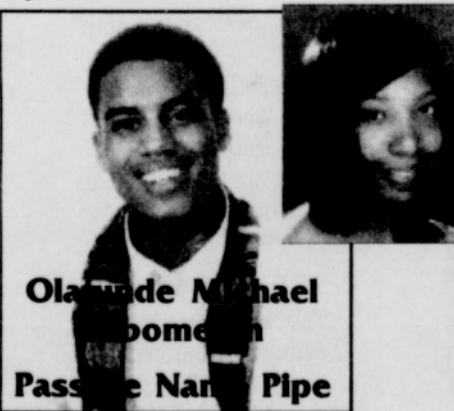
**Eric LaVon Mashia**  
Passage Name  
Magogo

**Age:** 18  
**Family:** Father, Eric W. Mashia; Mother, Mary Gill; Sisters, Erica, 21, and Britany, 3  
**School:** University of Portland  
**What I value most:** "My family and friends because they seem to be the people who are always there for you."  
The person who has had the most impact on my life: Not a person, but a program. "Self Enhancement has been there for me on a personal level and an academic level."  
"I'll never forget my experiences with the club or the friends I made."



**Patrick Wayne  
Patterson**  
Passage Name  
Kane

**Age:** 19  
**Family:** Parents, Deborah and Gary Patterson  
**School:** Portland State University  
**Major:** computer sciences  
**What I value most:** Knowledge and family  
The person who has had the most impact on my life: Mark Faust "I think it makes you touch on your innermost thoughts, your spirituality. Because everyone needs to be in touch with God or whoever your spiritual guide is."



**Olatunde Michael  
Sobomehin**  
Passage Name  
Pipe

**Age:** 18  
**Family:** Parents, Dapo and Lisa Sobomehin; Brothers, Oladele, 16, Olaniyi, 14, and Olaremi 10  
**School:** Stanford University  
**What I value most:** "My relationship with God. I am able to wake up with a sense of purpose. I am given a sense of hope in this cold world. I am able to love people with the same love Jesus Christ has loved me with."

## The Oshun

Placed beside the honorees. These young ladies have been specially selected to give a Song of Praise for each of the honorees. They are: Kimberly Brooks for Nathan Bibles, Alisha Moreland for Brian Coakley, Tolu Sosonya for Jesse Pettis Jackson, Humu Kim Jabbie for Mohammed Jalloh, Cyreana Boston for Bashone Johnson, Brandy Alexander for Omarr Johnson, Karis Stoudamire for Eric Mashia, Bahia Cross for Patrick Patterson, Shauna Dixon for Drake Shelton