



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Contact:

Rick Jackson, Public Relations Manager  
Birmingham Water Works  
Phone: 205.244.4221  
Email: Rick.Jackson@bwwb.org

### **Birmingham Water Works Celebrates Partnership with Birmingham Promise to Foster Future Professionals**

Birmingham, [February 14, 2024] – Birmingham Water Works is thrilled to announce the continuation of its fruitful partnership with Birmingham Promise, marking the second year of collaboration aimed at nurturing the city’s young talent into future professionals. This partnership embodies our commitment to the community and our belief in the potential of our youth.

This year, we have had the privilege of supporting several talented and ambitious students through an early internship program designed to give them a head start in their professional journeys. The program involves an in-depth interview process, after which selected students are matched with local businesses. This opportunity provides these aspiring professionals with invaluable hands-on experience and a network of connections that will serve them beyond their high school years.

We are especially proud to feature students from the Birmingham Promise internship program this month, showcasing their hard work, dedication, and achievements. These students represent the bright future of Birmingham:

- **Aniya Erskine**, a senior at Woodlawn High School and a member of the Future Business Leaders of America, has made significant strides in her education by participating in the Academy of Business and Finance and engaging with Birmingham’s business and legal professionals.
- **Alaylah Robinson**, a junior at Ramsay High School, exemplifies determination and leadership. Currently in her first semester of dual enrollment at Lawson State Community College, Alaylah is also a student athlete and an active member of the Key Club, dedicating her time to community service.
- **Cha’ Riel Brown** from Wenonah High School has showcased her leadership and tutoring skills in English, alongside gaining practical experience through jobs in the food industry. Her diverse skill set and commitment to service highlight her as a multifaceted future leader.

- **Jaise Ward**, a promising student at Woodlawn High School, has honed his passion for accounting through the Academy of Business and Finance. Jaise is focused on building a career in Accounting or Marketing, with a keen interest in achieving work-life balance.
- **Lauren Robinson**, a junior at Ramsay High School, has already made her mark by being inducted into several honor societies and actively participating in community service. Her interest in pediatric psychology is driven by her volunteer work and her ambition to improve mental health treatment for children.

Our partnership with Birmingham Promise is a testament to the incredible potential and hard work of these students. BWW is proud to host several youth programs aimed at fostering knowledge and skills in water conservation and management. The Young Water Ambassadors program invites 70 high school juniors and seniors for a four-week summer experience annually, specifically designed for students interested in STEM and environmental studies. Additionally, the BWW Internship Program offers nine college students practical experience in their chosen fields, allowing them to work with professionals and earn college credit. The Water Apprenticeship Program (WAP) further empowers high school seniors by providing a five-month training in essential skills and professional development, with the potential for employment upon successful completion.

Together, these programs underscore the Birmingham Water Works' commitment to educating and preparing the next generation for leadership roles in water management and conservation.

**About Birmingham Water Works:**

Founded in 1951, Birmingham Water Works (BWW) serves nearly 770,000 people in Jefferson, Shelby, Blount, St. Clair, and Walker counties. The BWWB operates four filtration plants, a certified testing laboratory, and has more than 4,000 miles of pipe in its distribution network; it ranked among the top five water systems in the United States.