



## When you envision the SEEDS experience, what do you see?

Do you see the seventh grader from Plainfield, NJ waking up early on Saturday mornings to catch the bus to class? Maybe you see a family rallying to support this student competing at the Track and Field state championship for the high school he dreamed of attending back on that Saturday morning bus. How about the well-read copy of *The Catcher in the Rye*, a constant companion ever since the balmy summer day that SEEDS sparked this student's love of literature?

I was that seventh grader. My name is Jamil McClintock - I am a father, husband, son, brother, friend and a proud SEEDS Alum and donor. I am excited to share my SEEDS story with you. In charting my journey from Scholar to Alum, I am sure you will agree that SEEDS' positive impact is undeniable.

I first heard about SEEDS through my middle school English teacher. Mrs. Lucky handed me an application and shared how SEEDS would give me the opportunity to attend more challenging school and engage with like-minded students.

My response was clear - why not? I applied, got into the program and in the following months worked extremely hard to ensure I remained a SEEDS scholar following the demanding four-week summer program. It was not easy. My middle school was not terribly rigorous, and I was used to being a top achiever, but upon being surrounded by other highly motivated students and faced with a challenging SEEDS curriculum and instructors, I developed better academic skills which prepared me for the challenge of enrolling at an independent school.

As it happened, The Pingry School, which was my SEEDS summer site, was the school I chose to enroll at for high school. Pingry was unlike any other school I had ever seen. Through my thirteen-year-old eyes, its grandness and open spaces inspired me to challenge myself academically to make attending such a school a real possibility.





SEEDS helped me bridge the gap between the knowns and unknowns of expanding my horizons. Whether it was academic preparation or social emotional readiness, I felt confident about navigating my next four years at Pingry, and whatever came next! Since graduating from the program, I remained connected with SEEDS, not only because my mother is a proud SEEDS team member, but my sister, Diamond McClintock-Cox, is a proud graduate of the Young Scholars Program.

With mentors among the SEEDS Board of Trustees, staff, partners, and donors, I successfully navigated Brown University, where I majored in Economics and graduated with the highest honors from Golden Gate University School of Law, before embarking on a career as a corporate attorney. I am currently a Principal and Associate General Counsel at Deloitte.

I owe my SEEDS experience to the generosity of donors like you. **Will you join me to ensure that more students experience the SEEDS program and go on to have fulfilling careers and lives? Please join me in making a donation this season to help more students experience the life changing opportunity of SEEDS.**

Each day, we are reminded that our commitment to educational equity can change the trajectory of a student's life. It took one seventh grader from Plainfield, NJ and set him on a path that would take him further north for an Ivy League education, out west to San Francisco for a legal education and career, further west to Hong Kong to advance his career, and back home eager to help set similar students on their own path. As a member of the SEEDS community, your support has meant the difference in so many SEEDS stories. Your gifts have made my story possible.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jamil McClintock". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Jamil McClintock  
SEEDS '00  
The Pingry School '04  
Brown University '08  
Golden Gate University – School of Law '13

