



Kiana Wilkins, a graduating senior of Cedar Creek Christian School is one of eleven 2017 Summer Internship Program award recipients! Kiana aspires to become an elementary school teacher. With this in mind, Kiana was placed at Biltmore Elementary school under the leadership of Principal, Sabrina Sessions-Jones.

Mrs. Jones had this to say about Kiana's experience, "It was a pleasure to work with Kiana this summer. Kiana always demonstrated professionalism in her dress and interactions with stakeholders. She has a 'can do' attitude and was always willing to assist whenever and wherever needed.

Kiana supported our summer school campers, as well as students enrolled in the Summer Recovery Program. She was an integral part of our daily operations. She worked alongside the administrators, camp staff, and classroom teachers. Kiana participated in activities such as instructional material distribution, computer lab support, student academic support, and teacher observations. She played an important role in our success this summer. Kiana has the potential to be a great educator in the future.

Thank you, AnnieRuth Foundation, for providing our youth an opportunity to begin their journey along their desired career path."

When asked her thoughts regarding her summer experience, Kiana responded, "I had a great summer experience working at Biltmore Elementary school! I learned methods of how to deal with misbehaving children and how to deal with frustration that comes about when dealing with such situations. I even had opportunities to shadow the principal and assistant principle so that I could understand their roles in the whole scheme of things. Keeping an entire school together is hard work but Ms. Session-Jones and Ms. Morris handled their day-to-day tasks with poise and a high level of professionalism which made the job look super easy.

What I enjoyed most was interacting with the children and helping them with their reading and writing skills. I was able to connect with some of the students pretty quickly which reinforced my decision to become a teacher. I'm looking forward to making a positive difference in the lives of youth.

I would like to thank the AnnieRuth Foundation for giving me this wonderful opportunity to participate in the summer internship program and for pairing me with such a great school. Because of this program, not only am I able to immediately add this experience on my resume but I now have the experience needed to be a strong candidate for future employment opportunities after I obtain my degree."

[Click here](#) to see photos from my amazing summer internship experience.