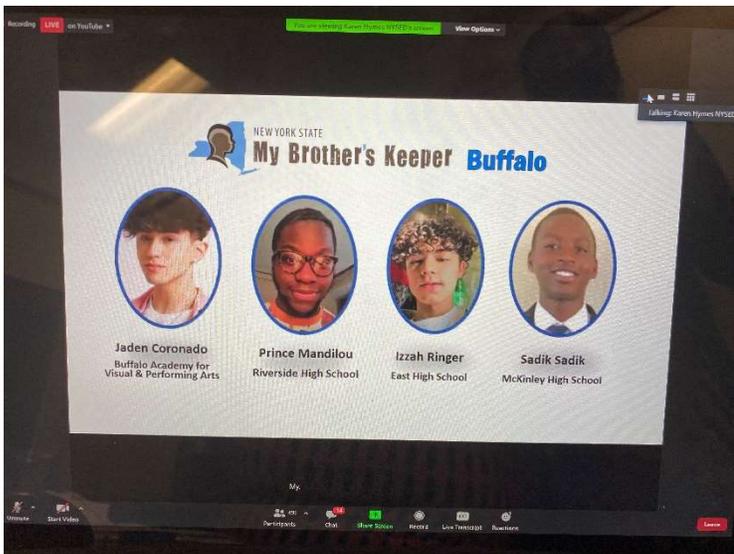


This week was a momentous time for Buffalo Public School's MBK Fellows.

On April 29th, 2021, four BPS high school scholars were virtually inducted into the NYS MBK Fellows at the My Brother's Keeper 2021 Symposium. They were welcomed into the program by Chancellor Lester W. Young, Commissioner Betty A. Rosa and Assistant Commissioner Anael Alston. These Fellows will represent Buffalo at various statewide events and workshops as they are developed as youth leaders in the upcoming school year.

Omar Pizarro, Jr., from McKinley High School and Izzah Ringer from East Community High School, participated in the 2021 Symposium as MBK Fellow panelists, where they spoke about their experiences in My Brother's Keeper, as well as how MBK has helped them find their voice and identity as a leaders, why it is an important program for young men of color, and how MBK has helped them cope during the current pandemic and climate of our nation, among several other topics of discussion.



The action didn't stop there. MBK Fellow, Don'te Delaney from McKinley High School spoke at the annual NYS event Stand and Deliver, as well. Don'te spoke about the impact that the MBK Fellows program has had on his personal growth and development as a young man.

MBK Fellows is a program that aims to empower young men of color to realize their full potential. Participation in the program includes, but is not limited to, supporting scholars with their educational goals and future aspirations; providing network opportunities with exceptional men in our community and across New York State; expanding their understanding of current event issues; and enhancing their leadership skills. Scholars are also connected to a mentor, provided by Say Yes and complete a community service project.



We are truly proud of Don'te, Omar and Izzah for representing Buffalo Public Schools and demonstrating their speaking skills and leadership to over 500 participants. Big round of applause to our newest 2021 inductees to the New York State MBK Fellows:

Jaden Coronado, Grade 10, Buffalo Academy for the Visual and Performing Arts

Prince Mandilou, Grade 10, Riverside High School

Izzah Ringer, Grade 10, East Community High School

Sadik Sadik, Grade 10, McKinley High School