

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

In 2010 the Gainesville City Commission adopted the Gainesville Enrichment Mentoring (GEM) Program. The GEM Program is housed and operated by the City's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO).

The program recruits dedicated mentors from community advocacy groups, fraternal organizations, community associations, city and county governments, business organizations and churches to provide one-on-one mentoring to middle and high school students for at least one hour each week. Tow income and at-risk students enter the program at the 7th grade level and remain until graduation from high school at which time they will be awarded a 2-year college scholarship. In 2010, the first seven students selected to be GEM Scholars were announced. We proudly announce that on December 8, 2011 seven more middle school students signed contracts and were designated as GEM Scholars. The students are:

Aiyanna Carey-Howard Bishop
Gerala Campbell-Lincoln
Quichana Foster- Howard Bishop
Trey Milne-Westwood
Dedrick Johnson-Lincoln
Maria Bautista-Lincoln
Renisha Boston-Lincoln

Congratulations to each of you! Your commitment to "do the right thing" at all times and work towards academic success is a testament to your true character. We look forward to working with each of you to help you achieve your every goal.

Craig Lowe Graig Lowe Mayor