

## **ECOTEK Student to Attend Pre-Med Program at Vanderbilt University**



Students in ECOTEK Lab have big dreams and lofty goals. Some want to grow up to be an astronaut like Mae Jemison, while others have aspirations of becoming a neurologist like Ben Carson. Regardless of their background, student scientists in ECOTEK Lab know that it is the place where their dreams can take flight.

Janay Johnson, a 11th grader at Grand Blanc High School in Grand Blanc, Michigan, and a senior student scientist in ECOTEK Lab, will be attending the pre-med program at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. While there, she will be working with research staff to hone her skills in biomedicine. Janay's career goal is to be a neonatologist, which is a subspecialty of pediatrics that consists of the medical care of newborn infants, especially the ill or premature newborn infant. While in ECOTEK Lab Janay

has done research on cardiovascular disease as well as regenerative medicine using stem cells. She has also presented her work at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

Janay has special gifts that enable her to take on multiple projects. She is currently working on growing cardiovascular stem cells that can be used to treat hypoplastic left heart syndrome, while at the same time, developing forensic experiments for an upcoming visit to the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. What's more, she is participating in several academic competitions to enhance her understanding of medicine (i.e. Michigan Society for Medical Research Essay Contest, International Brain Bee, Junior Science and Humanities Symposia).

### About the Ecotek Science Program

Ecotek is a science research lab program for young inventors and researchers in grades 5 thru 12. Student scientists work on projects aligned with the issues being addressed by world leaders at the United Nations. The goal of the ECOTEK experience is to help students better understand the role that science plays in solving global problems and shaping international policy.

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### Contact Information

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