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Prominent attorney Willie Gary, along with legendary boxing champion, Floyd Mayweather and award-winning music artist 50 Cent recently co-sponsored "Succeeding against the Odds – Dream Big Dreams."

Pictured: Attorney Willie Gary (far right) and award-winning artist 50 Cent (far left) take a moment to pose with Ayanna Mayweather (second from right), and her mother Melissa (second from left) during the "Succeeding against the Odds – Dream Big Dreams" event in Las Vegas

The youth event was hosted by Willie Gary and 50 Cent and took place during the 87th Annual National Bar Association's Annual Convention in Las Vegas. Over 1000 children from various organizations like the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Stupak Community Center, Doolittle Community Center, and Cimmaron Community Center, listened attentively to messages of encouragement from featured speakers.

The program featured national and local dignitaries including award-winning music artist 50 Cent; Las Vegas Fire Chief, Al Gillespie and National Bar Association President, Darryl Parks. Children enjoyed live music by DJ So Hype, who played the latest and greatest music hits and entertained the students with dance contests and prizes. After hearing from the speakers, the children enjoyed a pizza lunch and the opportunity to talk to and take pictures with the dignitaries.

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Perhaps the most exciting part of the morning was the presentation of college scholarships. Kenneth Gary, President and CEO of the Gary Foundation and Ayanna Mayweather awarded seven college scholarships to lucky students. The children were on the edge of their seats with excitement as Kenneth and Ayanna announced the winning names. The scholarships were awarded to students of various ages and will be used towards tuition upon acceptance into an institution of higher learning.

"We're excited about being able to reach back and touch the lives of young people," said Gary. "It's so important for them to hear from people who have achieved success despite life's obstacles. Everyone on this stage has a story to tell - each comes from a different background and each has faced and overcome challenges to achieve success. This is our way of communicating to them that no matter what your circumstances are in life, if you dream big dreams, you can achieve great things."

"It's an honor to be a part of this worthwhile event. I hope that my story and my journey will inspire some young boy or girl to strive for excellence," stated 50 Cent.

"Even though I cannot be in attendance, I want the kids to feel my presence and know that they can succeed against the odds," said Mayweather.

Known for his philanthropic endeavors, Willie Gary and his wife, Gloria Gary, founded The Gary Foundation, which provides college scholarships to at-risk students who wish to attend college. The Gary's have donated millions of dollars to help Historically Black Colleges and Universities – including their alma mater, Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina.