

## HOMEBLOG

# The First Lady Hosts the "Beating the Odds" Summit

JULY 24, 2015 AT 4:27 PM ET BY KELSEY DONOHUE

---

Summary: The First Lady welcomes 140 college-bound students to the White House for the Reach Higher "Beating the Odds" Summit.

---

[Watch on YouTube](#)

Yesterday, the First Lady welcomed 140 college-bound students to the White House for the Reach Higher "Beating the Odds" Summit.

These young people represented a wide range of communities -- urban, rural, foster, homeless, immigrant, special needs, and more. All of them have overcome great odds to go to college, and many are even first in their family to pursue further education after high school.

[[nid:344366]]

The summit celebrated these students' accomplishments, while also providing them with tips and resources to better prepare them for when they step on campus this fall.

The attendees had the opportunity to hear advice from the First Lady; Secretary of Education Arne Duncan; Google EDU's Jaime Casap; first-generation student and co-founder of 1vyG, Manuel Contreras; a panel of rising sophomores who met with the First Lady last year; and even musical artist Wale, who has a unique education story of his own.