



**New Leader Scholarship Announcement
September 1, 2007**

**Christyna Serrano Chosen as Opening Plenary Speaker for Fifteenth
Annual National McNair Scholar Symposium**

Christyna Serrano was the opening plenary speaker for the 15th annual McNair Scholars Symposium presenting her research to over two hundred attendees from 30 universities across the country. Attendees including fellow scholars, faculty mentors and invited guests come together at Berkeley to share the results of their research.

The McNair Scholars Program provides mentoring for first generation and low income students in preparation for doctoral studies. Mentors and course work are offered to the selected scholars to assist them in developing their research skills and other scholarly activities.

As a single parent and woman of color from an impoverished background, Christyna is dedicated to helping others like herself. She believes that through her education she can help change policies to give under-represented people better access to higher education. She has begun research in this area under the mentorship of the Dean of the Graduate Division. Christyna concluded her junior year at U.C., Berkeley with honors.