## Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award Salar Rafieetary

"In fall 2011, the student body elected Salar Rafieetary Mr. Rhodes, and he has lived up to this title beyond expectation. He truly embodies everything that is important to the Rhodes College campus, while also going above and beyond to give back to the community," writes one nominator.

One student speaks about Salar's efforts to increase school spirit. "Anything Salar commits to, he does well and with his whole heart. During his leadership in Rhodes Student Government, Salar brought back the Homecoming Parade. He also has been an essential part of creating The Pack, an initiative to garner more school spirit and attendance at sporting events." Not only did he envision these plans, but he was one of the first fans at the game, fully painted, or dressed in red for the Red Riot event! Clearly, Salar never asked anyone else to do something he wasn't willing to do himself!

Salar's commitments extend beyond the Rhodes campus. One person writes, "I think of Salar's work with Streets Ministries, where he combines his passion for athletics and his desire to help young men see the potential they have for success. He brought three young men to campus for this year's Novemberfest so they could see how great the college environment could be."

Another student says, "Salar is easily the 'Mayor' of the Middle Ground Coffee Shop in addition to President of the student body." The person goes on to say that Salar "takes time out of his incredibly busy schedule to have a conversation with a friend, or even someone he doesn't know that well (and they tend to end up being friends by the end of the conversation). Another student speaks about Salar's attitude: "His résumé alone speaks for itself: RSG president, student trustee, Admission Diplomat, Sigma Nu fraternity, RUF, numerous honor societies, and the list goes on, but what really sets Salar apart is the way he approaches his commitments. He always appreciates learning new things about himself and the community through those experiences. He is not afraid to ask for help, and he fosters other peoples' ideas."

Last, it was stated that, "Though winning this award is one of the highest honors at Rhodes, I'm not sure that there is any award that can truly capture everything that Salar has done for us (the students). He is a fabulous leader, role model, and friend, to say the very least."

For the change he has initiated and his demeanor in working with others, it is my pleasure to recognize Salar Rafieetary as the male Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award recipient for the class of 2012.

## William E. Troutt President

May 12, 2012