

REQUIRED READING

Children's Scholarship Fund Newsletter



CSF Honors 2016 Champions for Children

In March, CSF honored Lewis S. Ranieri and New York State Assemblyman Marcos A. Crespo at our third annual Champions for Children benefit at Bryant Park Grill in Midtown Manhattan.

Known as the “father” of the securitized mortgage market for his work on Wall Street, Mr. Ranieri has helped thousands of Long Island children receive a quality education as founder and chairman of Tomorrow's Hope Foundation, CSF's partner program on Long Island.

“These scholarships are life-changing for both the students and families,” Mr. Ranieri said. “In the end, this is all about love. We do our best to heal our families, to defend the rights of our children to educational choice, despite economic circumstances or language barriers. And, increasingly, in a country divided by wealth, we, [Tomorrow's Hope], and you,

Special Thanks to Our Champions for Children Sponsors

PLATINUM

The Ranieri Family
(on behalf of Tomorrow's Hope Foundation)
Speedwell Foundation
(Jenny and Michael Messner, Trustees)

GOLD

Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP

SILVER

American Federation for Children
Tony and Christie de Nicola
Invest in Education Coalition
Northwell Health
Shellpoint Partners
Dr. Jeanne and Rex Sinquefeld

BRONZE

Cushman & Wakefield
Joseph A. Ferrara & Joan Ferrara Family Foundation
Grant Thornton
PSAV
Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation



CSF board member Remy Trafelet, CSF President Darla Romfo, and CSF Scholar Jalen Monroe (far right) presented Mr. Lewis S. Ranieri with his award at the Third Annual CSF Champions for Children benefit.

CSF, stand in the middle saying, “These are all our children.”

Assemblyman Crespo, a co-sponsor and stalwart supporter of New York's education tax credit legislation, said “Education shouldn't be a partisan issue. It's about children who don't have the luxury of time to wait for everybody else to get it right. It should be about parents being able to dictate what is best for their kids.” Assemblyman Crespo appeared by video due to legislative business in Albany.

CSF is extremely grateful to our honorees, sponsors, and all our guests. All proceeds from the event will support CSF scholarships in New York City.



Guests were welcomed with musical performances from the choir and violin ensemble of East Harlem's Mt. Carmel-Holy Rosary School.



THE CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND aims to maximize educational opportunity for all children: for those in need by offering tuition assistance in grades K-8 for alternatives to faltering conventional schools, and for all children by supporting and cultivating education reform and parental choice efforts.

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CSF Families Benefit from Literacy Program

This spring, CSF joined forces with the literacy non-profit, LitWorld, to offer a text-messaging literacy program to our scholarship families in New York.

Every Monday for fourteen weeks, parents who opted into the program received texts with questions and discussion topics designed to initiate meaningful conversations with their children. For example, one of the texts read, "Share stories of when someone in your family was brave. Stories of small and big moments of courage help your child to feel strong and connected."

One mother told us after the program, "It was a great excuse for my daughter and me to have a conversation that didn't revolve around pop culture. Thank you!" Another parent shared, "Wonderful program with great suggestions to open a dialogue with my daughter. We shared laughter, information, and many a story."

We look forward to continuing our partnership with LitWorld in the 2016-17 school year.

Partners Share Ideas at CSF Partner Summit

Executive directors from CSF partner programs nationwide gathered in Jersey City, NJ, earlier this year to share ideas and best practices that will strengthen our scholarship programs as we build for the future.



CSF partners, staff, and guest speakers posed for a group picture at the CSF Partner Summit in Jersey City.

New Study Finds CSF Alumni Persist in College

Dr. Eric Bettinger and a team from Stanford University recently analyzed the college enrollment, persistence, and graduation rates of a sample of more than 5,000 CSF New York and CSF of Omaha alumni who used scholarships between 1999 and 2010 and were old enough to have graduated from high school.

Despite coming from socio-economic backgrounds associated with much lower rates of college enrollment and graduation, CSF alumni enroll and persist in college and earn degrees at rates similar to or higher than the general population and much higher than low-income students generally, according to the study. Read more on our website at www.scholarshipfund.org/research.

CSF Partner Programs Around the Nation



MEMPHIS

Three graduating seniors who received scholarships from CSF's Memphis partner, Memphis Opportunity Scholarship Trust (MOST), celebrated at MOST's Senior Reception this spring.



DENVER

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani gave the keynote address at the ACE Scholarships Annual Luncheon in Denver in May.



NEWARK

At the recent Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children's Annual Gala, honorees Angelo J. Genova, Esq. and Chris Canty of the Baltimore Ravens posed with student speaker Erika Llivicota Guaman.



PHILADELPHIA

Former Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell met with families at CSF Philadelphia's (CSFP) Student Award Ceremony in June. The event marked the culmination of the Campaign for 10,000 Children, during which CSFP awarded 2,000 new scholarships a year for five years.



CHARLOTTE

Olympian Dan O'Brien joined teams representing Charlotte financial firms in the Charlotte Heptathlon this May. The event, featuring seven athletic challenges, raised more than \$200,000 for CSF-Charlotte.



TOLEDO

Students at more than 20 Toledo area schools took part in Northwest Ohio Scholarship Fund's recent Pennies to Dollars for Scholars penny drive, sponsored by Taylor Automotive. The drive raised more than \$15,000 for scholarships – that's more than one million pennies!

CSF Donor Q & A: Julianne Voll Member, Young Leaders Board



Julianne Voll has been a CSF supporter and member of our Young Leaders (YL) Board for several years. During that time, she has raised money for CSF by running in three half-marathons and helped plan several events.

How did you get involved with Children's Scholarship Fund and the Young Leaders Board?

I was introduced to CSF through friends who invited me to an event years ago. At the event, a group of CSF students performed a song, and my heart melted. It was obvious as I researched CSF further that many children in my own neighborhood and nearby needed help securing a better education. I have found the YL board to be an active and inspiring way to make a difference and meet great people with similar goals and respect for education.

What is your favorite part of being involved with CSF and the Young Leaders?

My favorite part of being involved with CSF and the YL Board is knowing that we are making a difference and changing lives! When you visit a CSF partner school or speak to a CSF Scholar, it all makes sense. The more CSF stories I hear, the more I am motivated to spread the word about the organization and to get others involved. Learning is so important to all of us and every person in this world deserves the opportunity to be educated.

To learn more about CSF's Young Leaders, contact Jane Lee at jlee@scholarshipfund.org or visit bit.ly/csfnewyork.

NYC Events Bring CSF Supporters Together

CSF Young Leaders hosted two enjoyable events this spring that brought together current Young Leaders and prospective new members to raise money for scholarships in New York City.

In addition, in April, CSF Scholars, families, and supporters gathered at Arader Galleries for a reception and silent auction that included paintings by CSF Scholars.

CSF is grateful to our generous event hosts, Graham Arader and Arader Galleries, Trunk Club, and Proper West, as well as our other donors and supporters who helped make these events a success.



CSF Young Leaders Board Member Dan Parolin (second from right) with friends at the Young Leaders 2016 Kick-Off, held at the Trunk Club's New York City Clubhouse in February.



CSF Alumnus Alex Olea and Young Leaders Co-Chair Eric Ferson at the Young Leaders' School's Out event at Proper West in June.



Marcus Burr, Phil Weaver, Siya Madikane, Lamar Ballard, Julianne Voll, and Dominic Gatt posed with CSF Scholars from Our Lady Queen of Angels School at the Arader Galleries event.



Gail Badillo (l) and Leslie Carranza enjoyed CSF's reception at Arader Galleries in April.

CSF Celebrates Success with Recent Graduates

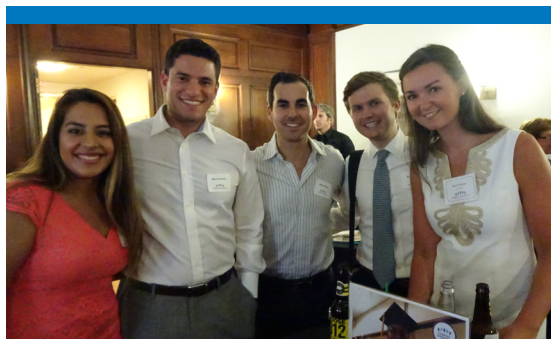
This July, CSF families, alumni, and supporters gathered at the Roosevelt House at Hunter College in New York to salute the hundreds of CSF Scholars in New York City (and thousands nationwide) who graduated from eighth grade and high school this year.

Guests heard from CSF Alumna Sharonee Vaca, a rising sophomore at Cornell University, and two eighth grade graduates. Shaila Cuellar will be a freshman at St. Jean Baptiste High School this fall, while Bernard Kramarchuk has earned a spot at the prestigious Regis High School.

The many CSF alumni at the reception impressed and inspired our supporters with their talent, determination, and optimism. Thank you to all who help make their success possible!



At the Celebrate Success event (from l-r): Marjorie Fajardo, Andrew Fernandez, Candida Martinez, CSF President Darla Romfo, Alex Olea, and Jane Lee.



Celebrating Success with CSF (from l-r): CSF Alumna Sharonee Vaca, Mike Pastrich, Jason Weber, CSF Young Leaders Co-Chair Russell Reed, and Kerri O'Keefe.



One of our alumni speakers, Bernard Kramarchuk, enjoyed the celebration with his family.

CSF Begins Offering Scholarships in New Hampshire

New Hampshire joined the list of areas with CSF partner programs this year when CSF took over administration of the state's Education Tax Credit scholarships, formerly managed by the Network for Educational Opportunity (NEO). Kate Baker and Kathy Lauer Rago, former NEO employees, are now Executive Director and Program Manager respectively of CSF's New Hampshire operations.

Kate and Kathy continue to work with New Hampshire businesses, schools, and families to fund scholarships that allow low and moderate-income children statewide to attend the K-12 schools that best meet their needs, including private schools, out-of-district public schools, and homeschools.

"Children's Scholarship Fund welcomes our New Hampshire partner to the CSF network and looks forward to giving expanded educational opportunities to many more New Hampshire families," said CSF President Darla M. Romfo.

During the 2015-16 school year, 91 New Hampshire students used scholarships funded through the Education Tax Credit program. We look forward to increasing the number of Granite State children who benefit from the program in the year ahead!



New Hampshire State Rep. Gregory Hill, who serves as an advisory board member for CSF in New Hampshire, spoke at a CSF reception held in Concord during School Choice Week.



Children's Scholarship Fund

8 West 38th Street, 9th Floor
New York, NY 10018



Hear CSF families and alumni discuss the impact of their scholarships in CSF's new video at bit.ly/CSFvideo2016.

Last Word

"Scholarships are the golden ticket for many families. Personally, the reason I am here now is because of scholarships, and I will eternally be grateful for that. To all CSF supporters, thank you for opening the doors to an education that gave me the chance to chase my dreams."

**CSF Alumna Sharonee Vaca,
Cornell University '19**



Children's Scholarship Fund
8 West 38th Street
9th Floor
New York, NY 10018
Phone: 212-515-7100
www.scholarshipfund.org

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