

# REQUIRED READING

## Children's Scholarship Fund Newsletter

Summer  
2017

## CSF Honors 2017 Champions for Children

In April, CSF celebrated our fourth annual Champions for Children event, honoring Richard R. Hough III, Chairman and CEO of Silvercrest Asset Management Group, and New York State Senator Chris Jacobs.

Accepting his Champions award, Rick Hough recalled serving as CSF's first National Program Director and how much it meant to know more than 158,000 children have now benefited from scholarships. Rick expressed his delight in meeting and talking that evening with Yvonne Peña, who was one of the first CSF lottery winners in 1999 and a name he actually remembered from his time at CSF. Yvonne now works for a social services non-profit, and was the first in her family to graduate from college and earn a graduate degree!

Senator Jacobs, co-founder of CSF's Buffalo partner, BISON Children's Scholarship Fund, appeared by video due to

business in Albany, noting, "What we are really celebrating tonight is CSF and BISON helping low-income children escape poverty through the most powerful tool we can make available to them – a quality education. Simply put, we have and we are changing lives." His mother, Pam Jacobs, and BISON Executive Director Amy Popadick accepted the award on his behalf.

All proceeds from this annual event will support CSF scholarships in New York City. Thank you to our honorees, sponsors, in-kind donors, parent speakers Melissa Osborne and Ayana Rich, the choir and staff at Our Lady of Lourdes School, and all our guests for a wonderful evening. A special thank you goes to Douglas Dewey, CSF's Founding Executive Vice President and managing partner at Evercore Wealth Management, who served as master of ceremonies.



2017 CSF Champion for Children Richard R. Hough III (second from left) with master of ceremonies Douglas Dewey, CSF Alumnus Alex Olea, and CSF President Darla Romfo.



Pam Jacobs (left) and Amy Popadick of the BISON Children's Scholarship Fund accepted the CSF Champion award on behalf of NYS Senator Chris Jacobs.

## Special Thanks to Our Champions for Children Sponsors

### SILVER

Tony and Christie de Nicola, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, Silvercrest Asset Management Group

### BRONZE

American Federation for Children, Rick and Vera Hough, Richard S. Pechter

### FRIEND

BISON Children's Scholarship Fund, Fiera Capital, Wilmot H. Kidd, Pershing Advisor Solutions, Mr. and Mrs. William Vrattos



CSF Moms Melissa Osborne and Ayana Rich shared how CSF scholarships are making a difference for their families.

**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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## Meet CSF Alumna and Intern Shaiann Frazier



*CSF Alumna Shaiann Frazier, a journalism major at Lehman College, spent this summer interning at CSF.*

**Internship duties:** Surveying CSF alumni and parents, interviewing fellow alumni, filing, and data entry.

**Internship highlight:** "Interviewing a CSF alum. It felt like I was talking to a friend – we had a lot of similarities. He's going to Iona and I got accepted there too. We talked about college and things like where to find cheaper books."

**Most surprising part:** "I didn't realize you guys had so many scholarship recipients! Also, I wasn't expecting my own desk. I thought I would be doing coffee runs, like in the movies!"

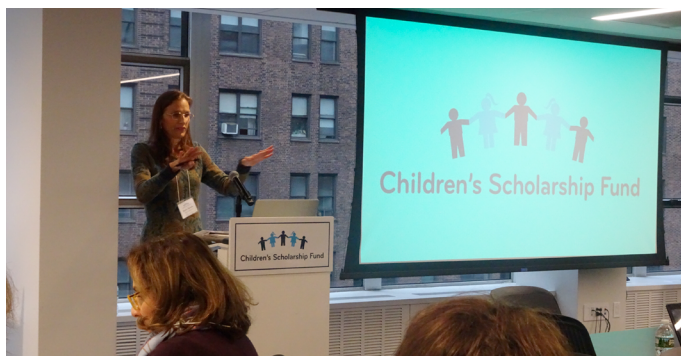
**On connecting with CSF families and alumni:** "I like it – we have this thing in common. I talked to one mom who told me her son was behind in math, but when he got a scholarship, he improved. I remember when I first switched schools [with my scholarship] I had trouble with math too, but after a year I got the hang of it and started to like it."

**What's next:** Internships at her college newspaper and daycare center, and a full course load.

**Dream job:** News anchor for Channel 7. "That's been my dream since I was little, but I don't want to limit myself. I have so many dreams."

**Philanthropic goal:** "Hopefully one day I will give back to organizations like this [CSF] because it's important to put money into something that's going to be worthwhile."

## CSF Partners Convene to Share Best Practices



Earlier this year, CSF partners from across the country gathered in New York to share best practices and inspiration at our second annual CSF Partner Summit. The enthusiasm was contagious as partners discussed new opportunities to bring better educational choice to more families in their communities. Special thanks to Grant Thornton for giving CSF space for the day.



# CSF Partner Programs Around the Nation



## ST. LOUIS

*This April, scholarship recipients gathered in celebration at Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation's 8th Annual Archbishop's Gala, which raised money for scholarships in the St. Louis area.*



## NEWARK

*At the recent Scholarship Fund for Inner-City Children's Annual Gala, honorees John C. Walton, Christie de Nicola, and Tony de Nicola posed with Gala Chairman Henry J. Amoroso.*



## DENVER

*Carly Fiorina gave the keynote address at the ACE Scholarships Annual Luncheon in Denver in May.*



## NEW HAMPSHIRE

*New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu (center) was among those celebrating National School Choice Week with CSF at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester.*



## OMAHA

*CSF Omaha honored Cardinal Blase J. Cupich (center) at their annual CHANCE Luncheon this June. Pictured with the Cardinal are CSF Honorary Chairs Nancy and Mike McCarthy, several student honorees, and CSF Omaha Scholars from Sts. Peter and Paul School, the Cardinal's alma mater.*



## CHARLOTTE

*Olympic decathlon champion Dan O'Brien took time out at the recent Charlotte Heptathlon to award medals to the youngest participants. The event brought teams together to raise money for CSF-Charlotte scholarships.*



## CSF Young Leader Bikes from NYC to Montreal for Scholarships

While others relaxed at barbecues and beaches over Independence Day weekend, CSF Young Leaders Board Member Andres Menocal and a friend cycled all the way from Manhattan to Montreal, raising almost \$3,000 - more than enough to fund one scholarship for a CSF New York Scholar!

The 420-mile journey consisted of six days of biking, and the route took Andres along the Hudson River and Lake George, with stops in Cold Springs, Coxsack, Saratoga Springs, Ticonderoga, and Plattsburgh, before reaching Montreal.

Averaging about 71 miles biked and 2,500 calories burned a day, Andres reported a total of six flat tires and many terrific views of Lake George. In contrast to the long hours of cycling, the return flight from Montreal to New York's LaGuardia Airport only lasted 55 minutes!

This year's trip is Andres' second biking expedition to Montreal, and he hopes to recruit a larger group to join him next summer. We are extremely grateful to Andres and everyone who supported him in this challenge.



CSF Young Leader Andres Menocal cycled 420 miles from Manhattan to Montreal over six days this July, raising money for CSF scholarships!

## Morgan Stanley Volunteers Host Workshop for CSF Grads

This June, CSF invited a group of recent eighth grade graduates to attend a financial literacy and resume-building workshop staffed by CSF Young Leaders Board Member Priscilla Habeeb Sankar and a team of volunteers from Morgan Stanley.

Big thank yous to Priscilla and the Morgan Stanley team for offering this resource to CSF alumni. We look forward to continuing to provide opportunities to our current and former CSF Scholars to complement what they learn in school and assist them as they prepare for college and/or careers.



CSF Scholars who recently graduated from eighth grade joined Morgan Stanley volunteers for a financial literacy/resume workshop in June.

## CSF Earns Four Stars from Charity Navigator



This year, once again, Charity Navigator awarded CSF a four-star rating (the highest possible) for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

According to Charity Navigator, "This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets Children's Scholarship Fund apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness."

If you are interested in finding out more about the Young Leaders Board or undertaking a fundraising challenge or volunteer activity on behalf of CSF, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Jane Lee at [jlee@scholarshipfund.org](mailto:jlee@scholarshipfund.org).



# CSF's Celebrate Success Event Honors Recent Graduates

CSF's third annual Celebrate Success event, held at the Roosevelt House in June, brought together scholarship families, alumni, and supporters to honor CSF Scholars and alumni who recently graduated from eighth grade, high school, and college.

Guests heard from CSF Alumnus Hansel Lopez, who shared how the CSF scholarship he received in 2000 set him on a path to graduate from Cornell University and become National Digital Sales Director at Time Inc./People en Español. He also encouraged our newest alumni to build bridges and expand their networks and to help others whenever and however they can.



Hansel Lopez shared his path from CSF Scholar to Cornell graduate working at Time Inc./People en Español, and encouraged our newest alumni to expand their networks.

CSF Alumna Valentina Perez, Aquinas High School's 2017 valedictorian and future Yale University freshman, also addressed the group, challenging fellow alumni to push beyond their comfort zones. "Although the thought of going to Yale is a little scary, I think fear is good sometimes, because if you're not at least a little scared of where you're going, then you aren't reaching far enough," she said.

Special thanks to Lamar James Ballard for serving as emcee. Best of luck to all our CSF alumni as they move forward in life, and thank you to all the CSF supporters who make their success stories possible!



CSF Alumnus and recent eighth grade graduate Julian Garcia was congratulated by Siya Madikane, CSF Young Leaders Board member Julian Voll, and emcee Lamar James Ballard at the Celebrate Success event.

## CSF Salutes the Class of 2017

More than 2,300 CSF Scholars nationwide (including more than 860 students in New York City) graduated from eighth grade this June and are heading to high school this fall.

Based on past surveys of CSF alumni, we are confident this year's eighth graders have an excellent chance of graduating from high school and going on to college. For example, last year we found that **95 percent of CSF alumni in New York graduated high school on time**, compared to the average New York City public school graduation rate of 72.6 percent. Congratulations, graduates!



Number of CSF Scholars in 2016-17 school year



Number of CSF Scholars graduating from 8th grade in 2017



Current and former CSF Scholars enjoyed networking with each other at CSF's Celebrate Success event this June.



CSF Alumnus Kevin Quiroz (right) attended Celebrate Success with his mom, Saray, and younger sister, CSF Scholar Melanie.





## Children's Scholarship Fund

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# Last Word

"This scholarship was the catalyst for my lifelong appreciation for learning, hard work, giving back to communities, and wanting to do better for myself."

**CSF Alumna Yvonne Peña**



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