# OLIVER SCHOLARS

October 2021 Fall Edition

Oliver News



## THE IMPACT REPORT

Oliver Scholars made significant strides at school and in their communities. Check out the stats here in our Impact Report:

CLICK HERE

## NOMINATION SEASON IS HERE!

Starting October 1st nominate a deserving student for the Oliver Scholars program and unlock opportunity for our youth!

CLICK HERE to apply.

### COME HOME TO OLIVER!

The Alumni Council welcomes you to #ComeHome 2Oliver. Volunteer, attend an event, or become a social media ambassador.

To access the alumni hub



### **OLIVER STRONG, OLIVER PROUD!**

This year, with your support, Oliver Scholars welcomed 70 new students to begin their journey through the 14-month Scholar Immersion Program! Students dedicated 25 hours per week to academic enrichment, critical conversations in navigating the independent school landscape, and laying a foundation for college success. High school students received individualized college prep support, including an internship with our newest partners at ABC Food Tours.

We are incredibly proud of the work of our Scholars and we hope you are too! Your support this year helped to aid Oliver's mission to transform lives and unlock opportunity for our Scholars and we are not finished yet!

### SUMMER AT OLIVER

This Summer, Oliver Scholars held its annual Recognition Ceremony virtually to commemorate and induct the incoming Oliver Class of 2025. During the ceremony, 52 scholars were recognized for completing the 14-month Scholar Immersion Program (SIP). Some scholars including Melanie Sabino and Aviel Alexander were honored for exemplary demonstrations of scholarship and leadership.

## **Melanie Sabino**

**Leadership Award** 

The Leadership Award went to a scholar who has embodied and illustrated leadership qualities and has served as a role model amongst class throughout the journey. The members of the Class of 2025 elected Melanie year's (Deerfield (25) as this Leadership Award recipient. Melanie wrote and presented a speech at the Recognition Ceremony.



## **Aviel Alexander**

**Scholarship Award** 

Aviel Alexander (Deerfield '25) received the Scholarship Award for maintaining the highest grade average throughout the June 2020 to August 2021 Scholar Immersion Program.

#### **OLIVER HONORS**

RECOGNITION CEREMONY | 2021



October 2021 Fall

Oliver Scholars also recognized the Berkeley Carroll School as Partner School of the Year and Paul Williams, Loomis Chaffee '02 as Alumnus of the Year.

## PAUL WILLIAMS '02

Alumnus of The Year

Paul Williams '02 is recognized as Alumnus of the Year for his continuous support and dedication to the Oliver Scholar organization and for continuously giving back to the Oliver community.



## The Berkeley Carroll School

Partner School of The Year

Oliver Scholars recognizes The Berkeley Carrol School as Partner School of the Year for their support and commitment to admitting and welcoming our scholars and providing an outstanding education, ensuring equity and supporting the Oliver Scholars throughout their educational journey.

OLIVER OLIVER OLIVER SCHOLARS SCHOLARS



OLIVER OLIVER OLIVER SCHOLARS SCHOLARS

October 2021 Fall

### OLIVER SCHOLARS & ABC FOOD TOURS

13 Scholars living the mission

This summer, Oliver Scholars partnered with ABC Food Tours to create a fun summer learning experience for students at PS 188 in New York City. From July 12th-July 22nd Scholars worked collaboratively with Oliver scholar counselors and the ABC Food Tours team to successfully plan, facilitate, and execute engaging lessons for students in Camp F.L.A.SH.



The lessons focused on nutrition, fitness and career exploration with a heavy emphasis on positive peer mentorship. Daily, scholars debriefed to identify ways they could improve the next lesson and worked together to find solutions. ABC Food tours was in search of positive peer mentors and our scholars sought to serve their community and make a difference. Mission Accomplished!

# MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!

Each year, Oliver serves 250 Scholars and more than 1,100 alumni. Volunteers are critical to this work. From interviewing applicants, to sharing expertise and wisdom as panelists, to hosting fundraising events, THANK YOU to all who have offered their time, energy, and resources in support of our mission! We are always looking for more volunteers!

To learn about opportunities to work with Scholars, visit our <u>VOLUNTEER HUB</u> Alumni are encouraged <u>JOIN THE ALUMNI COUNCIL</u> to connect with one another and to learn more about mentoring opportunities.

Join the <u>ASSOCIATE BOARD</u>, our career-centered, leadership-minded volunteer group that works to raise funds and elevate Oliver's profile.

\*For more information on the Associate Board, please contact Gabrielle Gilliam, CDO

A special thanks to Oliver's leadership volunteers – our Board of Trustees – for their generosity and dedication.

October 2021 Fall

Get Involved at Oliver Scholars

#### **MOCK INTERVIEWS**



Join Oliver Scholars for our annual Mock Interview preparatory sessions. Come help us prepare our scholars for success.

#### **CEO SALON SERIES**



Mark your calendars! The CEO Salon Series is back! Join us Tuesday, October 26th at 6:00pm on Facebook and YouTube Live



### A WORD FROM OUR CEO

Dr. Danielle R. Moss

This fall, Oliver Scholars is going "back to normal" after a year and a half of having to reimagine what we do and how we do it.



Our Scholar Immersion Program resumes in-person Saturday programming for our middle school students and our high school students are getting back into the flow of in-person instruction. I've got a wonderful feeling about this school year!

Of course, we recognize that "normal" will look different from here on out. One of the most valuable take-aways from this pandemic has been that technology in the right hands is a powerful and expansive tool. Our move into virtual events and program delivery gave me a deeper sense of what these platforms can and cannot do. I learned that virtual platforms expanded engagement opportunities for scholars, alumni and friends who aren't in the New York City area, and who were often left out of in-person only approaches to engagement.

But, I also learned that technology has it's limits - a reality that wasn't lost on me when a group of students requested a meeting and asked me and the senior leadership team to explore ways that students who'd never met their friends or our staff in person could come together in the same physical space. Yes, you read that correctly - some of our scholars went through their entire admissions, SIP, and placement process virtually! And, think about the fact that our current high school seniors haven't had a "normal" school year since 9th grade!

I don't know what tomorrow, next month or next year will bring when it comes to this pandemic. But, I'm grateful for a Board and team that managed to always put the needs of our scholars first. If the pandemic did anything, it deepened our connection to this mission and this community.