Dear Friends of Oliver Scholars,

When the Oliver Scholars team left the office in March 2020 and began to put the building blocks for remote learning in place, we wholeheartedly expected that we would be back in the office within a matter of weeks. As the days dragged on, we found ourselves questioning the efficacy of our in-person gala - a major source of unrestricted funding - and rethinking our entire summer programming model. And, just when we thought we had a handle on remote learning and virtual fundraising, our nation exploded into action around issues of race, class, and culture and a new reckoning on matters of racial justice emerged.

Many members of our community experienced difficult losses and consequences as a result of the pandemic. Our families shared stories of job loss, housing instability, and personal battles against the COVID-19 virus. Our students struggled with the disappearance of milestone events like proms, graduations, sport competitions, and just plain old fun with friends and family. In the midst of all the loss, they found themselves scrambling to adjust to remote learning. 2020 wasn’t easy. Still, Oliver Scholars stood strong. We deepened our connections with our students via Community Town Halls, we took our famous “Interview Weekend” virtual, increased the number of support hours for current Scholars, and expanded our outreach across the Oliver Scholars alumni community.

We have marveled at how seamlessly the Oliver Scholars staff adjusted to every curve ball thrown their way in 2020. We’ve been inspired by the resilience of our Scholars. When we couldn’t host our annual Community Service Day, they found a way to connect with senior citizens across the city and hosted a virtual caroling event for the holidays. They hosted virtual social events for their Oliver Scholars peers. They’ve maintained their focus on education as the key to unlocking futures filled with possibilities - the proof is in their college acceptances!

We are grateful to the Board Trustees who rallied behind this organization and its leadership, and who worked tirelessly to ensure we had the resources to give our Scholars the academic and social-emotional support they deserved. Sometimes a crisis helps you to clarify who you are, why you exist, and what you stand for. We are proud that Oliver Scholars continues to stand steadfastly on its three foundational pillars of Scholarship, Leadership, and Service. We know that whatever 2021 brings, Oliver Scholars will be ready!
MISSION

The Oliver Scholars Program prepares high-achieving Black and Latinx students from underserved New York City communities for success at top independent high schools and prestigious colleges. We provide crucial support for both the Scholars and their families so they can realize their full potential and ultimately give back to the city, the nation, and the world.

WHAT WE DO

• Provide skills, strategies, and resources for students to navigate the independent school admissions process, including the SSAT exam.

• Prepare Scholars for high school by equipping them with the academic and social tools that ensure success in independent school environments.

• Foster a sense of community among cohorts with leadership activities, community building opportunities, and service projects.

• Provide guidance and support to Scholars in high school and college.
The year 2020 hit me harder than I could have ever imagined. I was enjoying spring break in March of 2020, and never in my wildest dreams did I think that I wouldn’t be able to return to school because of a global pandemic. It was a difficult transition for me, but with Oliver Scholars by my side, I was able to make it through. My name is Jason Abreu, and I am a part of Oliver’s Class of 2021.

The rise of COVID-19 was life changing to say the least especially with regard to school, but one thing is for certain, I would not have made it through all the transitions without my Scholar Counselor, James. James was there for me every step of the way! He checked on not only my academic status, but how I was doing in general. He was genuinely concerned for my well being. James supported me through my college application process and encouraged me to attend the School of New York Times virtually. Attending the New York Times program was beneficial for me as a writer and as a student.

I was able to make connections with students that shared similar interests as me, and learn from some of the best writers affiliated with the New York Times. And although at times I felt drained from having school online, James was there to support me in completion of the program.

Ultimately, Oliver Scholars has played an important role in helping me maintain consistency in the work I do inside and outside of the classroom. Presently, I am not only a part of a student-run poetry/prose magazine called the Qualia Review, but I am also a part of Oliver’s first student-run council that works with our CEO and staff to plan events and actions that the organization can take to keep Scholars involved. I look forward to being a part of Oliver as I matriculate into college next year. I am beyond grateful to be a part of the Oliver Scholars Program.
OLIVER SCHOLARS PROVIDES UP TO 10 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SUPPORT FOR GIFTED STUDENTS FROM 7TH GRADE THROUGH COLLEGE GRADUATION. Our work began in 1984. Since then, we have served more than 1,200 students. With our signature Scholar Immersion and Placement Program curriculum, we are one of the most preeminent education access organizations in the country.

100% of students are accepted in at least one higher education institution.

53% of students attend a college ranked in the top 50%.

40% attend a private college or university.

83% attend a college or university in the Northeastern Region.

63% of Oliver Scholars participated in Oliver SAT/ACT Test.
The last year demonstrated the importance of Oliver’s commitment to high-quality: academic, social and emotional programming and support of our scholars. The worst pandemic in over a century brought the nation to a stand still.

Only months into the COVID-19 crisis a historic level of racial and social unrest was sparked by the racially charged murder of Ahmaud Arbery, and the killings of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd by police officers. Scholar Services understood we had a role to play for our students, which required us to dig deep into the unique emotional support we give our students. Scholar Services hosted a virtual town hall where middle school and high school scholars used the space to support and uplift each other. Apart from the crisis related events, we had a duty to maintain a sense of normalcy for our Scholars and their families – and that meant carrying out our mission. Scholar Services hosted the Freshman Mingle, Winter College Conference, and annual College Bound Initiatives Admissions Panel. Scholar Counselors visited 87% of day and boarding students in 64 schools across 8 different states and conducted bi-weekly virtual visits throughout the remainder of the year. Saturday Academy and the end of year Scholar Recognition Event were successful virtual programs.

2020 was truly a year that demonstrated our staff’s and Scholars’ strength and resilience.
Should I send my SAT scores? How will I receive enough financial aid? What exactly does Restrictive Early Action mean? These are some of the questions that Oliver Scholars have dealt with throughout 2020. Because of the pandemic, the college admissions landscape changed drastically. Our students had to apply to schools without standardized test scores and several other metrics admissions officers at selective schools have long relied on. Despite these challenges our scholars never faltered—instead they innovated to make it work.

Our Scholars pushed beyond the norm and found new ways to stand out in their applications. They organized and participated in various community service initiatives or advocated for social justice and racial equity on different platforms. They stayed connected, involved and remained committed to upholding the Oliver mission and its tenets of Scholarship, Leadership, and Service. It is for this reason that 100% of our Scholars were admitted to at least two 4-year colleges or universities and many were accepted to their first choice. Despite the pandemic our Scholars received impressive financial support from the colleges that accepted them.
2020 proved to be a year like no other, with a heavy political climate, the start of a global pandemic, and welcoming our first woman of color as Vice President, Kamala Harris. We collectively experienced highs and lows internationally as well as right here at Oliver Scholars. However, we never stopped fighting for our students.

Our Admissions Department embraced the challenges in front of us with resilience and determination. With the shock and magnitude of the pandemic becoming apparent, we strategized how to transition our programming to virtual platforms. Moving quickly and promptly, we facilitated this transition for our SSAT tests and Interview Weekend with much success. Oliver also transitioned to Apricot 360 through Social Solutions and implemented the new database design in time to open the application process in September. This is just another example of the hard work and dedication happening here at Oliver Scholars! We love our students.

As the pandemic hit, our admissions department tirelessly searched for ways to make sure all students were placed. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, our placement team placed 98% of the 2025 cohort in independent, specialized, or selective high schools! Our Admissions Department met this year with undeniable tenacity and developed grit through the trials and triumphs we faced.

We continue to stand committed to our students and to unlocking opportunities for all!
Oliver prepared me to tackle new and challenging issues at a young age and showed me how to act upon the values of Scholarship, Leadership, and Service. I hold those tenets as central to the work I do every day.

-Elizabeth Angeles, Dalton ’09
2020: THE DEVELOPMENT YEAR IN REVIEW
The challenges of 2020 were many. The year opened with an unprecedented global health crisis, creating an uncertainty that would only be further fueled by a spring and summer of national racial reckoning. As the year wore on and came to a close, we witnessed dramatic shifts in the political tide across the country.

With so many literal life and death matters taking our focus - day after day and month after month - we had to wonder and worry: would we continue to find the support we needed to keep our services and programming afloat?

Fortunately, the answer was yes. Because of YOU, we could. And we did.

YOUR GENEROSITY MEANS THE WORLD TO OLIVER.
Thank you to our loyal friends and our institutional partners for generously renewing your support. Thank you to our new donors who saw the need and ensured we would not fall short of the resources required to continue serving our Scholars.

A special thanks to our volunteer leaders - our Trustees, our Alumni Council, and our Oliver Fest Benefit Committee! You met the moment with your service and time and for that, we are most grateful.

Our Scholars need us and our commitment to them must not waver. Thanks to you, it did not. Because of you and your support, we have remained #OliverStrong.
TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH MORE!

HERE’S HOW YOU CAN LEAD CHANGE WITH OLIVER SCHOLARS:

CONNECT AND SPREAD THE WORD: Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn to stay on top of the latest news from Oliver and share our updates with others.

VOLUNTEER & PARTNER: We are always looking for individual professionals and company partners to support our outreach activities, connect with our Scholars and young alumni, and participate in key programs such as Interview Weekend and Admissions Mock Interviews.

ENGAGE: From our Open Houses and CEO Salon Series, we offer a myriad of opportunities to learn more about Oliver’s program and the broader impact of our mission. Come see Oliver in action!

CONTRIBUTE: Our critical, comprehensive programming depends on considerable financial resources to operate. Your generous contributions provide Oliver with the financial security needed to continue offering a robust, uninterrupted experience for our Scholars. To make a gift, please visit oliverScholars.org/donate.

JOIN THE CLUB 1984 GIFT CIRCLE: Consider a monthly gift of $19.84 or more in honor of our founding year. Small gifts, when multiplied, make a huge impact! Visit us online and be sure to click the “recurring gift” box.

For more ways to get involved contact development@oliverscholars.org.
OFFICERS
Dorothea Schlosser, Chair
Louisa Troubh, Vice Chair
Rob Guimento, Treasurer
Keith Canton ’93, Secretary

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Jon Fox
Michael Kessler
Kimberly King ’93
Don Lemon
Dr. Lisa Long
Adrian Millan ’94
Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad
Raina Oberoi
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Paul Gottlieb
Leita Hamill
Mark Horowitz
Sharon Korsgaard Kalita
Marcus Mabry, Past Board Chair
* Socrates Nicholas
Donn O’Brien, Past Board Chair
*deceased
Named for our founding year, Club 1984 recognizes sustaining supporters of Oliver Scholars.

Recurring contributions provide predictable support, allowing Oliver to comfortably plan our programming. These critical funds also strengthen our ability to meet unanticipated needs of our Scholars and their families.

Your support ensures that Oliver can maintain and innovate, creating the kinds of academic opportunities and experiences that are essential for our Scholars to continue to excel and keep us #OliverStrong!

WELCOME TO THE CLUB!

Johnny Araujo ’09
Carl Brown ’92
Melvin Boone ’10
Marjorie Dambreville ’91
Allen Felix ’99

Nicole Fields ’00
Yuri Francis ’95
Rehea Gomez
Ama Karikari-Yawson ’98
Clarissa Marzan ’10

Eva McKend
Lisanne Norman ’94
Elizabeth Weissman
Tracey Woodberry
Ron Yorrick ’00
RECRUITMENT & ADMISSION
Nominations
Admission Information Meetings
Application Submission
Interview Weekend
Acceptance

SCHOLAR IMMERSION & PLACEMENT
Summer Program
Fall, Winter, Spring: Saturday Academy
Placement Support & Decisions
Summer Program II
Recognition Ceremony

A Scholar’s Journey

START

1,105
Nominations received

50
Hours of community service in high school

70
Acceptances into Scholar Immersion Program

1,105
Nominations received
**SCHOLAR SUCCESS**
- Guidance and Support & Bi-annual School Visits
- Individual Academic & Social Emotional Support
- Summer Engagement & Internship Placement
- Mentoring & Career Exploration
- Leadership Development

**COLLEGE & CAREER SUPPORT**
- SAT/ACT Classes
- College Tours
- College & Financial Aid Applications
- Internships & Career Guidance

- **79%** Enrolled at the top schools in the country
- **$3M** Financial aid was leveraged for new Scholars in 2020
- **90%** Average cumulative GPA of Scholars
- **100%** Class of 2020 were admitted into 4 year colleges
Partner Schools are vital to unlocking opportunity for our Scholars. Since its founding, Oliver has been committed to building long-term relationships with rigorous and prestigious college preparatory schools.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP—WE COULD NOT DO THIS WORK WITHOUT YOU.

98% of students were admitted to an independent school (includes boarding and day) or selective high school

54% of students were admitted to boarding school (52% enrolled to boarding school)

33% of students were admitted to day schools (33% enrolled in day schools)
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
The Allen-Stevenson School
Avenues School
Bay Ridge Prep School
The Berkeley Carroll School
Berkshire School
Blair Academy
Blue School
The Brearley School
Brooklyn Friends School
Brooks School
The Browning School
The Calhoun School
Canterbury School
Cate School
Cathedral School
The Chapin School
Cheshire Academy
Choate Rosemary Hall
Church Farm School
Collegiate School
Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School
Concord Academy
Convent of the Sacred Heart
Cushing Academy
The Dalton School
Dana Hall School
Deerfield Academy
Dwight-Englewood School
Emma Willard School
Episcopal High School
The Ethel Walker School
Ethical Culture Fieldston School
Foxcroft School
Friends Seminary
George School
The Governor’s Academy
Grace Church School
Greenwich Academy
Groton School
Hackley School
The Hewitt School
The Hill School
Horace Mann School
The Hotchkiss School
Hun School of Princeton
Kent School
The Kew Forest School
Kimball Union Academy
The Kiski School
Lawrence-Woodmere (Day)
The Lawrenceville School
Léman Manhattan
Preparatory School
The Loomis Chaffee School
LREI
Maderia School
Marymount School of New York
The Masters School
Middlesex School
Midland School
Milbrook School
Milton Academy
Miss Hall’s School
Miss Porter’s School
The Nightingale-Barnard School
Northfield Mount Hermon School
Oldfields School
The Packer Collegiate Institute
The Peddie School
Phillips Academy Andover
Phillips Exeter Academy
Poly Prep Country Day School
Pomfret School
Portsmouth Abbey School
Regis High School
Riverdale Country School
Rockland Country Day School
The Ross School
Rudolf Steiner School
Rye Country Day School
Saint Ann’s School
Santa Catalina School
Solebury School
The Spence School
St. Andrew’s School
St. Ann’s School
St. George’s School
St. Hilda’s & St. Hugh’s School
St. James School
St. Mark’s School
St. Paul’s School
Suffield Academy
Taft School
Thacher School
Town School
Trevor Day School
Trinity School
Trinity-Pawling School
United Nations International School
Villanova Preparatory School
Webb Schools
Western Reserve Academy
Westminster School
Westminster Academy
Westtown School
The White Mountain School
Woodberry Forest School
Worcester Academy
York Prep

COLLEGES
Amherst College
Bard College
Barnard College*
Bates College
Boston College
Boston University*
Bowdoin College*
Brown University*
Carnegie Mellon University*
Case Western Reserve*
Colgate University*
Columbia University*
Cornell University*
Dartmouth College*
Davidson College
Emory University*
Franklin and Marshall*
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College*
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University*
Middlebury College*
MIT
Mount Holyoke College*
New York University*
Northeastern*
Northwestern
Oberlin College
Pitzer College
Princeton University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*
Scripps College
Skidmore College*
Swarthmore College*
Trinity College
Tufts University*
University of Pennsylvania*
University of Richmond*
University of Southern California
University of Virginia
US Military Academy at West Point
Vassar College*
Wesleyan University*
Williams College*
Yale University*

*indicates multiple Scholars matriculated
### 2020 FINANCIALS*

#### REVENUE
- Foundations: $165,316
- Corporations: $328,054
- Individuals: $188,259
- Special Events: $76,591
- Investment Income: $499,500
- Other Income: $1,924
- Net Assets: $2,848,190

**Total Revenue**: $4,225,086

#### PROGRAM EXPENSES
- Program Services Placement: $464,929
- Admissions and Recruitment: $509,049
- Scholar Immersion Program: $678,228
- College Program: $205,988
- Scholar Services: $986,852

**Total Program Services**: $2,845,046

#### SUPPORT SERVICES
- Fundraising: $379,393
- Management and General: $603,126

**Total Supporting Services**: $982,519

**TOTAL EXPENSES**: $3,827,565

*final audited numbers pending
DREAM MAKERS ($25,000+)
ASI America
Keith Canton '93
Henry and Alexia Fernandez
Cartier Foundation
JetBlue Foundation
Mike Lee and Amy Bricker
Lower Manhattan Community Church
Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
MSCI Inc.
The Pinkerton Foundation
Yvonne S. Quinn
The Robin Hood Foundation
Dorothea Schlosser and Thomas Kopczynski
Gustavo Schwed and Lucy Harrington
Shippy Foundation
John and Louisa Troubh

VISIONARIES ($10,000+)
The Bud Frankel Family Foundation
Jonathan Fox
Sharon Korsgaard Kalita and Arthur Kalita
Michael and Katherine Kessler
Adrian Millan '94 and Wendy Millan
Vardé Partners

LEARNING PARTNERS ($5,000+)
Robert A. Guimento and Adrian Gilbey
Arie and Johanna Nugteren
The Mary and Solomon Family Fund
Patrick J. Smith and Charlotte Tenorio

MENTORS SOCIETY ($2,500+)
The Berkeley Carroll School
The Dalton School
Paul S. Gottlieb and Sara Adler
Mark Horowitz and Jennifer Senior
Mary B. Horowitz
Albert and Julie Lee
Adam Ilffelder
Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad
Reed Family Foundation
William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund

ADVOCATES CIRCLE ($1,000+)
Jessica Bagby
John N. Blackman Foundation
Ryan Burrell
Chuck Crow, IV and Katherin Devlin
Christine Curtin-Barnes and Michael Barnes
George Davison and Judith Rivkin
Dedica Group
Abiola Dele-Michael '97
Benjie Edghill '94 and Mary Ann Edghill
Sean Fitzgerald
Yuri Francis '95
Robert Gutmann
Corey Hajim
Leita & William Hamill Family Foundation
Malika Hinkson Mene '92
Allyson Hugley '93
Marion Key '95
Kimberly King '93
Millicent King Channel '91
Marcus Mabry and Christopher Hubis
Liza and Fred Murrell
Deborah Nungester and Michael de Asla
Raina Oberoi and Avinash Vijaysankar
Leslie Rankow
Reed Family Foundation
Riverdale Country School

SCHOLARS COUNCIL ($500+)
American Fundraising Foundation, Inc.
Avenues: The World School
Sarah Page Barea
Barry Bholia '92
Collegiate School
Kevin Cummings '97
Paula Gantz
Rachael and Josh Gottlieb
The Governor's Academy
Mark Hall
Michele Holcomb
Mary and Stephen Hunt
Barbara Jacobs
Jamesbeck
Stacey and David Leibowitz
Lisa Long
Pratik Mehta
Jorge Mina
Navin Nagaraj
Sokhna Ndione
Darwin Rodriguez '99 and Marvia Nazif
Jaine O'Neill
Neva Oulikion '92
Erin Perzov and John Halliday
Marc Rosa
The White Mountain School
Rahul Tripathi
Emily and Thomas Vitale
The White Mountain School

FRIENDS (<$500)
Taishya Adams
Dola Adebayo
Andre Alicea '93
Aynied Alleyne '11
America Alleyne
Saro Alemeyda and Ana Cohen-Alemeyda
Lilian Alston
Teri Alexander
Gloria Anderson
Johnny Araujo '09
Erika Atkins
Jenna Azar
John and Madeline Baer
David Banks
Khalid Barnwell '92
Jeremy Baskin
David Bayer
Julie Bender
Taekia Blackwell
Jordan Bloom
Melvin Boone '10
Peter Bordonaro
Alexandra Bovey
Ida Brannon and Jerome Aaron
Jean Brincka
Janine Brooks '00
Linda and Linzee Brown
Elizabeth Brown and Mark Smith
Linda Brown
Carl Brown '92
Nicole Brown '02
Rise and Howard Brown
Jennifer Buri da Cunha
Tanya Butler Holder '94
Lori Candelman

THANK YOU for helping unlock opportunity for New York City students of color.
VISIONARIES ($10,000+)
Bradford Bernstein
Grantmakers For Girls of Color

MENTORS SOCIETY ($2,500+)
Zachè Desire
Sean Keene
Albert Lee
PJT Partners

ADVOCATES CIRCLE ($1,000+)
Mercedes and Matthew Abramo
Nicholas Doering-Dorival ’98
Kimberly King ’93 and Rodney King
Akash & Mamta Oberoi
Naudia Pickens
Dayrel S. Sewell ’96

SCHOLARS COUNCIL ($500+)
Kimberly Cummings
Thomas Eglin
Ethical Culture Fieldston School
Jaine O’Neil
Trevor Day School

FRIENDS (<$500)
Addepar, Inc.
Cheryl Bodian
Melissa Cassis
Kefira Clinton
Natasha Cobb
The Cole Family
Charisse Collier-Cooper
Marcia Davis-DiLorenzo
Jose DeJesus
Lisette DeJesus
Yolanda Diaz
Diana Diroy
Allen Feliz ’99 and Sandra Feliz
Nicole Fields
Lori A. Candelmo and Luis Garcia
Mona Girotrav
Lina Gonzalez
Kimberly Granja-Molina
Jason Hall
Joanne Harrison
Kimberly Hartvigsen

Josephine Healy
Benaldo Hernandez
Soribel Holguin
Dwight and Linet Howard
Shenique Joseph
Mary Faucher and Steve Klugman
Christine Ko
Charles Margiotta
Megin McKechnie
Eva McKend
Joshua Miller
Freddy and Marjorie Mvemba
Chris Nicholas
Victor Nunez
Gabriela Reyes
Freddy Rolon ’92
Kathryn Rosenblum
Leslie Russell
Caryn Schenewerk
James Scoolis
Marie and Alex Seiler
Brian ’91 and Jill Sowell
Linzee Troubh
Troy and Ann Wagner

THANK YOU
for helping unlock opportunity for New York City students of color.
“Oliver has been a monumental help, to say the least. The programs and academic work gave me the opportunity to reach my full potential. And, not only did the staff guide me through the processes of applying to prestigious institutions like my high school and my college, but they provided support to help me get through difficult situations and choices.”

— OLIVER SCHOLAR
The Nightingale-Bamford School, Georgetown University
Thanks to everyone who gathered with us for a special two-day weekend of virtual events honoring the mission and legacy of Oliver Scholars.

We are humbled over the outpouring of generosity and donations to help gifted Black and Latinx students unlock opportunity during these critical times.

Even in this challenging and ever-changing year, your Gala support helped raise over $300,000 in funds that will go directly toward supporting our Scholars!

We hope you were inspired and empowered by the words of our panelists, Alumni, Scholars, Honorees, and Special Guests.
HONOREES

Henry* & Alexia Fernandez
*Chairman and CEO, MSCI

Dr. Khalil Gibran Muhammad
Professor, Harvard University

Gabrielle Pesantez ’20
Scholar Excellence Award

The White Mountain School
Partner School of the Year

We are deeply appreciative of the generosity of our donors and thanks to our Trustees, Alumni, Parents, and Friends who were able to join us for the evening.