



WELCOME



Dr. Danielle R. Moss Chief Executive Officer



Dorothea Schlosser Board Chair

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!

Samielle R. Moss DM

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.

JASON ABREU, CLASS OF 2021





JAMES HA, SCHOLAR COUNSELOR



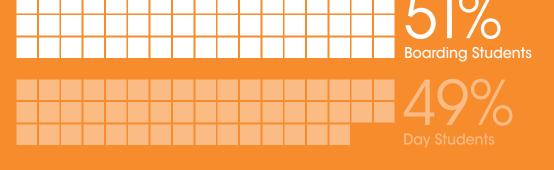


The last year demonstrated the importance of Oliver's commitment to high-quality: academic, social and emotional programming and support of our scholars. The worst pandemic in over a century brought the nation to a stand still.

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.

Middle & High School Students







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 tenents 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!



PLACEMENT NUMBERS 2020-2020:

ADMITTED Boarding 29 Day 18 Specialized 3 Selective 2 Total 52

Boarding 28 Day 18 Specialized 3 Selective 2 Total 51

ENROLLED



27 Admissions Information Meetings 387 AIM Attendees 203 Completed Applications 205 SSAT Invites

199 SSAT Completed 120 Students invited to Interview Week 70 Students Enrolled



"

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



Gabrielle Gilliam Chief Development Officer

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.



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*deceased

CLUB 1984

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 Feliz '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



START

Hours of community service in high school







Acceptances into **Scholar Immersion** Program

















Nominations received

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











79% Enrolled at the top schools in the country















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

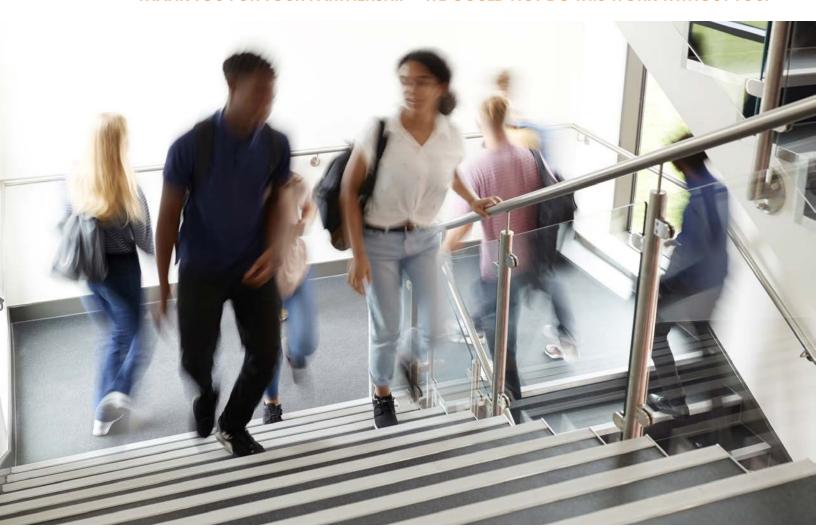
SAT/ACT Classes
College Tours
College & Financial Aid Applications
Internships & Career Guidance



PARTNER SCHOOLS

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

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

Foxcroff 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-Bamford 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

Westminister 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

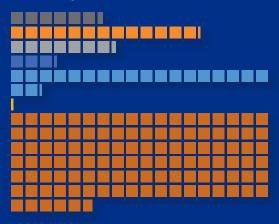
US Military Academy at West Point

Vassar College*
Wesleyan University*
Williams College*
Yale University*

*indicates multiple Scholars matriculated

FINANCIALS*

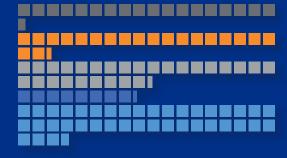
REVENUE



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

EXPENSES



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



SUPPORT SERVICES

Fundraising	\$379,393
Management and General	\$603,126
Total Supporting Services	\$982,519

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$3,827,565

THANK YOU

for helping unlock opportunity for New York City students of color.

DREAM MAKERS (\$25,000+)

ASI America

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THANK YOU

for helping unlock opportunity for New York City students of color.

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Bradford Bernstein Grantmakers For Girls of Color

MENTORS SOCIETY (\$2,500+)

Zachè Desire Sean Keene Albert Lee PJT Partners

ADVOCATES CIRCLE (\$1,000+)

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Kimberly King '93 and
Rodney King
Akash & Mamta Oberoi
Naudia Pickens
Dayrel S. Sewell '96

SCHOLARS COUNCIL (\$500+)

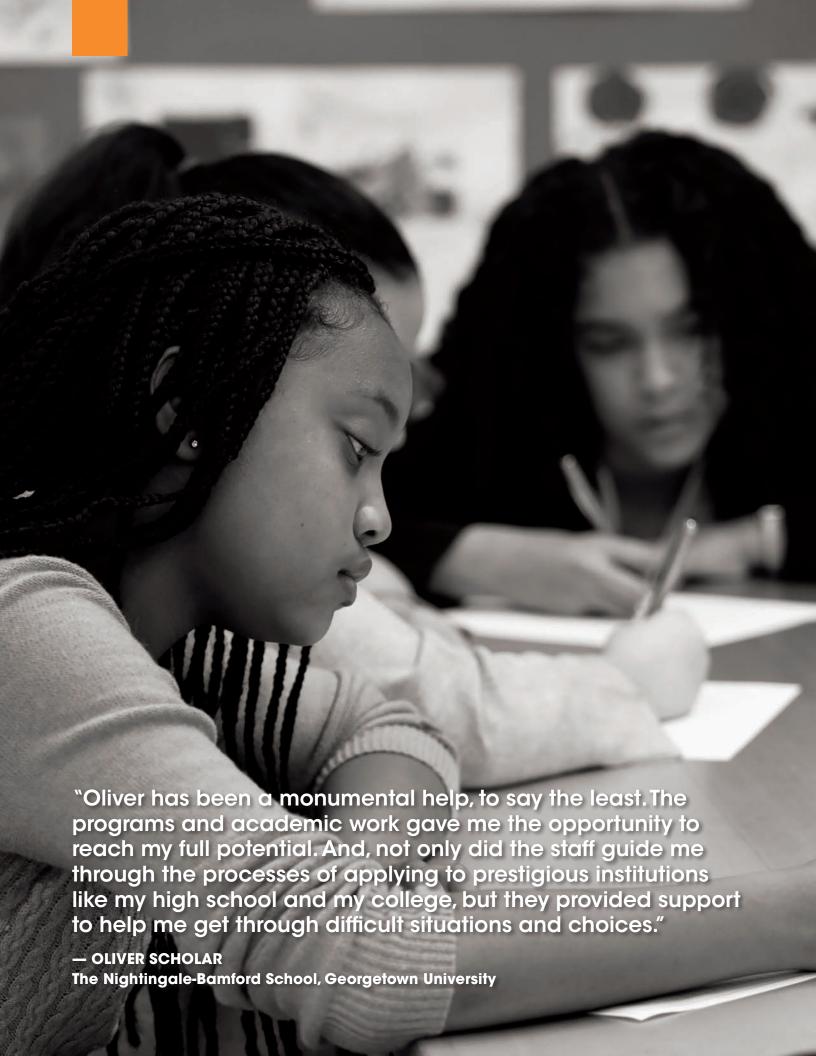
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GALA 2020



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 raised 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.



