



OLIVER
SCHOLARS

**Annual
Report 2022**

WELCOME



Dr. Danielle R. Moss Cox
Chief Executive Officer



Dorothea Schlosser
Board Chair

Dear Friends of Oliver Scholars,

In 2022, as our nation transitioned back to an in-person world semi-post-pandemic, Oliver Scholars continued its time-tested mission of identifying and supporting the brightest students in New York City and creating a clear pathway into the nation's most competitive colleges and universities. We hit the ground running reconnecting with our community, alumni, scholars, partner schools, families, and friends. We reconstituted in-person classes, workshops, reunions, our internship program, college tours, the CEO salon series, and events.

We doubled down on the relevance of our mission to nurture and educate Black and Latinx students who've been historically excluded from and underserved by most educational institutions and systems, expanding our admission and placement partnerships.

We took time to reevaluate our mission and offerings, broadening our brand to include new terminology that clearly articulates how we not only unlock opportunity for our youth but help them to Outdream, Outdo and Outshine through our pillars of Scholarship, Leadership, and Service. The new brand launch was just the beginning of a myriad of ideas we have cultivated to expand Oliver's capacity and critical work throughout the city, nation, and the world.

Our scholars' hard work paid off and led to \$9.9 million in scholarships and grant offers for the Class of 2022! Additionally, with the help of the Oliver Scholars community and generous supporters, we were able to raise a historic \$824K at our annual gala - a record for us.

As you peruse the pages of this annual report, you'll hear from our scholars and their families the profound impact on the lives of our scholars. When you uplift an Oliver Scholar, you don't just uplift an individual student. You are making an investment that has social and economic generational impact. You're not just changing that student's life; you're transforming the trajectory of their lives in ways that have allowed so many of our scholars to pay it forward.

From finance to government to television to medicine - our alumni are opening doors of opportunity for themselves and holding those doors open for the Black and Latinx scholars who will follow in their footsteps. There is no greater return on investment in philanthropy. As we always say, anyone who isn't partnering with Oliver Scholars simply hasn't heard of us yet.

Danielle R. Moss 



MISSION

The Oliver Scholars Program prepares high-achieving Black and Latinx students from underserved New York City communities for success at top 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, social, and mental wellness 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.

A SCHOLAR'S STORY: JAYLYNN CORTES



Jaylynn Cortes is a senior at the Nightingale-Bamford School in New York City. She joined the Oliver Scholars Program in 2017, gaining the necessary tools to become an active member in her community and a strong force in the classroom. She became proficient in critical reading, time management, and productive studying skills. During the 14-month program, the relationships she formed with both fellow students and staff was vital in helping her pursue her passions. At Nightingale, she is co-head of the Athletic Board, captain of the Varsity Basketball and Varsity Softball teams, member of the History Student Advisory Council, head of Tour Guides, and is a Freshman Peer Leader. Through her school's career readiness summer program, she interned at Atalaya Capital Management, a wealth management firm. After experiencing the tight-knit community at the Nightingale-Bamford School (populated with only 200 Upper Schoolers) she feels prepared to attend the bustling campus life of Yale University, where she will study Ethics, Politics, and Economics. She chose Yale for its emphasis on community building through residential colleges, as well as its liberal arts focus. Although she loves the city, she's excited for the change of environment and pace that college will offer. Jaylynn is immensely grateful for Oliver Scholars' guidance and support; the program has truly shaped who she is today and helped her realize her full potential.



OLIVER SCHOLARS PROVIDES 10 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS SUPPORT FOR GIFTED STUDENTS FROM 7TH GRADE THROUGH COLLEGE GRADUATION.

Our work began in 1984, and to date, we have served more than 1,200 students. With our signature Scholar Immersion and Placement curriculum, we are one of the most successful, preeminent college access organizations in the country.

100%

of students accepted into at least one higher education institution

100%

of students visited at least two colleges they applied to

100%

of students applied to at least one CUNY and one SUNY school

61%

of students attend a Top 50 College or University

40%

of students attend a Top 25 College or University

SCHOLAR SUCCESS

The Third Annual Virtual College Admissions week was held in October, with 20 colleges and universities present and many scholars and families testifying how helpful this was to their college application journey. Morgan Johnson '22 was ultimately accepted into five Ivy League schools - proof of Oliver Scholar's efficacy. Despite any adversity our youth may face in the slow recovery from the pandemic, Oliver Scholars' has reported the highest rate of enrollments and acceptance into specialized and independent schools this year. These scholars are dreaming of a bright future ahead.





outdream.

A SCHOLAR'S JOURNEY

START



500

Nominations received

150

Hours of community service in high school

79%

Enrolled at the top schools in the country

RECRUITMENT & OLIVER ADMISSIONS *7th Graders*

- Nominations
- Admission Information Meetings
- Application Submission
- Interviews
- Acceptance

SCHOLAR IMMERSION & PLACEMENT *Rising 8th and Rising 9th Graders*

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

SUCCESS



90%

Average cumulative GPA of Scholars

70

Acceptances into Scholar Immersion Program



\$9M

Financial aid was leveraged for new Scholars in 2022



100%

Class of 2022 were admitted into 4 year colleges



SCHOLAR SUCCESS *Grades 9 - 12*

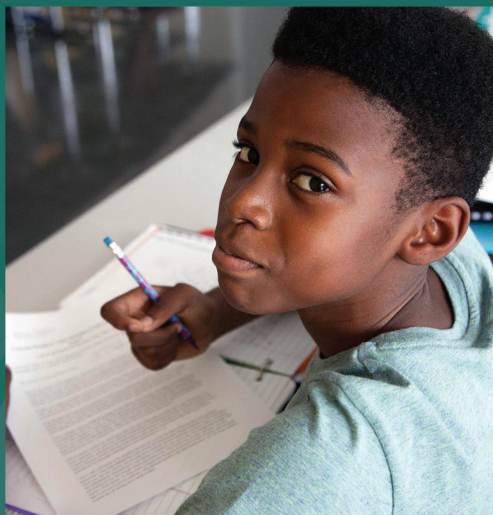
Academic and Social-Emotional Support
Leadership Development
Community Engagement
Summer Enrichment
Career exploration and Intern placement

COLLEGE & CAREER SUPPORT *College Students & Alumni*

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

SCHOLAR IMMERSION PROGRAM

Our scholars, having completed the 14-month placement program, participated in the first in-person summer school program since before pandemic restrictions were in place. With full academic course loads, test prep for high school admissions tests, performing arts, film, and art electives, scholars spent most of their weeks at Grace Church and one immersive boarding school week at The Berkshire School. We officially honored them at the annual Recognition Ceremony, where they transitioned into full-fledged Oliver Scholars, and will continue to dream bigger for the future.



62%

of students experienced a 15% point increase from initial benchmark score to first official high school entrance exam at the end of Summer SIP



100%

of students reported feeling academically and emotionally prepared to enter independent school



69%

of students showed improved grades: midterm to end of term (89% SIP I; 45% SIP II)

A SCHOLAR'S STORY: SULAYMAN BAH

Sulayman Bah is a senior attending the Kiski School in Saltsburgs, Pennsylvania. After joining Oliver Scholars in 2017, he immediately experienced first hand how different and life-changing the program was going to be for him. When choosing to attend the Kiski School, Oliver Scholars was such a crucial piece of this process. His parents were notified whenever schools were in the area so he could easily complete in person interviews and as a result, he has developed better habits of note taking, studying, and was better prepared and motivated for high school. His passion and dedication to wrestling has opened so many doors and given him many opportunities that he is so grateful for. During his time at Kiski, he has held the roles of Wrestling Captain, Culture Pot Vice President, Dorm Head RA, Prefect, and now is currently the Head Prefect. As he wraps up his senior year Sulayman shared how excited he is to come back home to New York City and to attend Columbia University. One of the primary reasons he chose Columbia was because of the opportunity to make history for New York City in New York City. All in all, Sulayman expresses his gratitude that all of this is possible because his parents believed in Oliver Scholars, which in turn made him believe.





outlook



**“When I tell
people
about Oliver,
sometimes
they don’t
understand
how it could
be that
great. But it
actually is –
and more!”**

**Reinaldo Maristany
Princeton University**



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 TO OUR PARTNERS—WE COULD NOT DO THIS WORK WITHOUT YOU.

96%

of pre-scholars received an offer from Partner schools



CLASS OF 2022 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Adelphi University
American University
Amherst College
Babson College
Babson University
Bangor University
Bard College
Barnard College
Bates College
Bentley University
Bethune Cookman University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Canisius College
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark Atlanta
Clark University
Clarkson University
Colgate University
College of Mount Saint Vincent
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado College
Columbia University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
CUNY
Baruch College
Brooklyn College
City College - Macaulay Honors

College of Staten Island
Hunter College
John Jay - Macaulay Honors College
Lehman College
Medgar Evers College
Queens College
York College
Curry College
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Delaware Valley
Denison University
DePaul University
Dickinson University
Drexel University
Duke University
Emerson College
Emory University
Fairfield University
Franklin & Marshall College
Fordham University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia State University
Gettysburg College
Goucher College
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Hampshire College
Hampton University
Hartwick College
Harvard University
Haverford College
Hobart & William
Howard University
Indiana University
Iona College
Ithaca College
John Cabot University

Johns Hopkins University
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lincoln University City
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University
Lynn University
Macalester College
Manhattan College
Marist College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mercy College
Montclair State University
Morgan State University
Mount Holyoke College
New York University
Norfolk State University
North Carolina A&T
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Ohio State University
Pace University
Pennsylvania State University
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rice University
Robert Morris University
Rochester Institute of

Technology
Rutgers University
Saint John's University
Saint Louis University
San Diego State University
Seton Hall University
Shippensburg University
Siena College
Simmons University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
St. John's University
St. Lawrence University
St. Thomas Aquinas College
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SUNY
Albany
Binghamton University
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Oneonta
Oswego
Plattsburgh
Potsdam
Purchase
Stony Brook University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
Tennessee State University
The New School
The Oberlin Conservatory
Trinity College

Tufts University
Tulane University
Union College
University of Alabama
University of Bridgeport
University of Chicago
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Illinois
University of Maryland
University of Mass Amherst
University of Massachusetts
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of New Haven
University of North Carolina
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
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University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Virginia State University
Virginia Tech
Washington University
Washington University
Wesleyan University
Williams College
Williams University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University



COLLEGE BOUND INITIATIVES

Our goal for this year was to outdo last year's acceptance rates and increase college interest for our scholars. We hosted the first in-person College Tour for our Juniors since 2019, visiting eight colleges & universities in seven days and receiving college admissions advice from specialists and current college students. Our Alumni Council Scholar Support Committee members, Melvin Boone '10 and Johnny Araujo '09, developed the College Coach Program, designed to guide Oliver Scholars through the college experience by providing an alumni mentor; the program will officially launch in Fall 2023. Lastly, we hosted our annual Career Exposure Conference to provide insight into educational paths and careers in varying fields, ranging from law to STEM.

99%

of students have matriculated to college – up to 4 times national rate for Black and Latinx students

90%

of students attend Top Colleges and Universities

100%

of students accepted into at least one higher education institution

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, LinkedIn and the Oliver Scholars YouTube channel 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, Admissions Mock Interviews, Career Exposure Conference, and Brand Camp.

ENGAGE: From our Open Houses to our signature CEO Salon Series, we offer a myriad of opportunities to learn more about Oliver's program and the broader impact of our mission. Check out our website oliverscholars.org to learn more.

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 experience for our scholars. To make a monthly gift or one time 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.



“The Oliver Scholars Program is simply incredible. I am grateful for all the support and encouragement I have received so far. Being part of this program has allowed me to dream bigger, and work towards reaching my fullest potential with confidence. In these few years, Oliver has become a family to me.”

**Nathalia Benitez '17
Riverdale Country School**



outshine.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2022

In 2022, we served youth by providing resource staples such as professional skills training, practice-oriented instruction, and other key tools necessary in their career journey. As a result, Oliver Scholars creates important professional relationships and solid career development opportunities to outdo what was previously possible.



“Having worked as a Human Resources and Operations intern, I learned so much from the Oliver Scholars team. I hope to use my education in psychology and my experience with Oliver Scholars to serve underprivileged communities!”

**Gabrielle Sylvester,
New York University**

A SCHOLAR'S STORY: ANAKHU HERU GRENCCH

Becoming an Oliver Scholar was one of the best decisions I could've made in my academic journey. When I first entered the program, I was challenged both academically and socially and came out with lifelong friendships. My family and I committed to commuting from the Bronx to Connecticut every day, making sacrifices to ensure I had the best educational opportunity. Entering high school I realized the program not only prepared me for the rigorous academics, but also for the challenges of social transition that comes with being a new student of color in a predominantly white institution. I didn't let these challenges stop me from exploring my passions and taking advantage of all of the opportunities that had been afforded to me as soon as I entered the space. Since beginning at Greenwich Academy I have been a Vice President of my school's Varsity Dance Company, President of the Hip Hop Dance Club and Diversity Outreach Project and Enrichment (D.O.P.E.) Club, run for student government every year since freshman year and was elected as Community Service Board Representative and Diversity Equity and Inclusion Board Representative. I have been a School Ambassador, a Peer leader, a member of Tyne Gospel Choir, and a Makeup Designer for my school's theater program, all this whilst taking Honors Courses and APs and maintaining Honor Roll and High Honor Roll all four years. Oliver was a constant support and had ingrained in us early on the importance of taking advantage of all of these opportunities and keeping Scholarship, Leadership, and Service at the core of it all. Without people like my Scholar Counselor Massiel and other staff I've built relationships with like Dr. Franklin, Randy, and the rest of the Oliver team, I would not be here reflecting on my accomplishments and realizing that I am an example of an Oliver Scholar that Outdreams, Outdoes, and Outshines.



PARENTS POINT OF VIEW: ISABELLA ORDONEZ & ISABELLA REYES-FAMOUS



Isabella Ordonez

As a parent of a current Oliver Scholar attending a boarding school, I can testify that the program not only prepared my daughter since day one to get into an independent school but has also been supporting her academic success and well-being. While attending Deerfield Academy, she had the opportunity to travel to London to improve and learn new painting and drawing techniques. Furthermore, the program still guides my daughter in continuing a higher education advising and providing guidance with the college application process. Thanks to all members of the Oliver Program who have been working harder to maintain a partnership with independent schools. I am so grateful to be part of Oliver's family because they have always been very informative and supportive. My daughter is receiving a better education and great opportunities as a result of Oliver Scholars' dedication to her success.

Isabella Ordonez - Deerfield Academy '24



Isabella Reyes-Famous

Being an Oliver Scholar has allowed our daughter to be a part of a legacy connecting her to other students of color, instilled with a strong sense of cultural pride and an active commitment to the community. The boarding school experience has broadened her horizons to include international friendships, a place of leadership as a dorm monitor, and fostered her independence as a critical thinker in an evolving world. The prospects of Ivy League and out-of-state HBCU (Historically Black College/University) higher education now seem obtainable after striving in an academic environment that traditionally has only been available to those of a higher income bracket.

Kim Famous & Cesar Reyes, parents of Isabella Reyes-Famous, Taft School '24

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

BENEFACTORS (\$100,000+)

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Kimberly Whitehead '95
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Jan Zlotnick

Tribute gifts are special ways to remember & celebrate the key moments in your loved ones' lives while also supporting the mission of Oliver Scholars for future generations. During 2022, gifts were made in honor of or in memory of the following:

Azuka Anunkor '05
Kavita Bafana
Keith Canton '93
Dr. Danielle Moss Cox
Alex Doñé
Gabrielle Gilliam
John Hoffman
Olivia Irby '14
Linda Korsgaard
Dr. Jasmine Mitchell '99
Edward & Lauren Olanow
Naudia Bryan Pickens '94
Amanda Pitkin
Michael Simon
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Arjun Vijayshankar
Amanda Pitkin

**2022 Gala Donation*

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Kenya Paul
Tawanda Sambou
Jamaal Scott
Ibrahim Shah '09
Owen Uscher
Michael Warner
Bella Wright
Simo Zerrifi

ADMISSIONS & PLACEMENT

ROAD TO ENROLLMENT

Nominations:
500

Applications:
165

Invited to
Entrance Exam:
137

Invited to Interview:
120

Admitted:
75

PLACEMENT

95%
of students received
an offer from a
partner school

98%
of students enrolled
in rigorous high
schools





“Making a difference in other peoples’ lives gives me a great sense of accomplishment, and I know that what we are doing is actually making a difference in my community. Kids have the power to take control and make change happen. Service is not only a tenet of Oliver, but an essential quality in being a leader. I believe that I am setting a good example for other kids who also want to give back to their community.”

Garrett Gomez '17
The Dalton School

GALA 2022

The Annual Oliver Scholars Gala celebrated our scholars, alumni, and generous donors with a night of entertainment and fun. Having raised \$824,000, this year's event was the highest grossing Gala in Oliver history! Special thanks to honorees Alex Doñe and Keith Canton '93, as well as Platinum Equity and the Kwanza Jones & José E. Feliciano Initiative for underwriting the event.



2022 FINANCIALS



REVENUE

Foundations	\$325,813
Corporations	\$10,850
Individuals	\$390,388
Special Events	\$840,684
Net Assets	\$3,265,000
Total Revenue	\$4,832,735



PROGRAM EXPENSES

Program Services Placement	\$420,638
Admissions and Recruitment	\$482,988
Scholar Immersion Program	\$947,731
College Program	\$204,001
Scholar Services	\$1,096,850
Total Program Services	\$3,152,208



SUPPORT SERVICES

Fundraising	\$491,914
Management and General	\$654,056
Total Supporting Services	\$1,145,970

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$4,298,178



#COMEHOME 2OLIVER

Oliver Scholars held its first in-person annual Alumni Reunion, celebrating alumni' successes and accomplishments. The event featured activities, games, raffle prizes, and music by DJ Big Lex. The reunion allowed alumni to reconnect with classmates and mingle with CEO Dr. Danielle Moss Cox and Founder John Hoffman.





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!**

137 LLC
Mallory Aldrich
Anonymous
Johnny Araujo '09
Hubert Attah
Camille Avestruz '05
Husani Barnwell '94
Jennifer Bellamy
Barry Bhola '92 &
Nadine Bhola
Melvin Boone '10
Ethan Boyer
Clayton Brisson '95
Tiffany Caton '02
Millicent King Channell '91
John Colla-Negri
Charles Crow
Kevin Cummings '97
Marjorie Dambreville '91

Valerin Lopez DeFrank '01
Zache Desire
Barthelemy &
Stephanie Dieme
Irving Dominguez '07
Beth & Peter Doyle
Drs. Benjeil Edghill '94 &
Mary Ann Edghill
Ronald Ellis
Yuri Francis '95
Jordan Fudge
Jeffrey Garcia '09
Anastacia Gordon '07
Bill & Leita Hamill
Dr. Lissa Hirsch
Michele Holcomb
Mark Horowitz &
Jennifer Senior
Rebecca Hoskins

Denise Hurley
Ene Idoko
Raymond Joseph '90
Marlon Key '95
Steven Klugman
Sharon Korsgaard Kalita &
Arthur Kalita
Yang Kou
Valerin Lopez DeFrank '01
Alicia & John Martine
Clarissa Marzan '10
Poojan Mehta
Victor Mejia '91
Drs. Liza & Fred Murrell
Lisanne Edwards
Norman '94
Nan & Donn O'Brien
Nicholas Olmo '98
Hannah Pardue

Edward Peña '98
Edwin Prosper
Griffin Py
Michelle Rand
Kolb Raymond
Josina Reaves '91
Tyrone Rhabb '06
Ryan Rodriguez-
Wiggins '01
Freddy Rolon '92
Sandra Smith-Davis
Francisco Tezen '93
Paul Van Duyn
Mina & Stephen Weiner
Shawna-Gay White '02
Paul Williams '02
Ronald Ellis
Ron Yorrick '00

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.

STRONGER EVERY YEAR

2022 was a banner year for Oliver's fundraising efforts. With continued and robust support from our loyal donors as well as generous contributions from new individual and institutional partners, we successfully met our ambitious goals, resulting in a 37% increase in fundraising over the prior year.

As we emerged from the pandemic, we were able to again engage our community with more in-person stewardship, cultivation, and fundraising events. Notably, we held our first in-person Gala since 2019 which became our most successful event to date, bringing in a whopping \$824,000!

This success was only possible with the generous participation of our supporters and volunteers. THANK YOU to everyone who has partnered with us to invest in and advance our critical mission!

OLIVER SCHOLARS

14 Wall Street | New York, NY 10005

