



BACK TO SCHOOL 2019

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Terri Porter,
 Director, FACE

TO MAKE A GIFT

Please contact Terri Porter:
 510.267.8314 or email at
tporter@oakdiocese.org

FROM THE DIRECTOR



On behalf of myself and the entire FACE (Family Aid – Catholic Education) community, we welcome you back to school! We ended the 2018-2019 school year with upward mobility and are continuing to move forward.

None of this would be possible without the generosity of our loyal FACE supporters. Whether you are one of our generous donors, a regular attendee at our annual Gala, or one of our many volunteers, we thank you for your continued support. Together, we are making a difference, one student and family at a time.

I am humbled and honored to serve as the new Director of FACE effective June 1, 2019. After coming off one of our most successful Galas in the past five years, introducing the Named Scholarship, and granting the 2019-20 FACE scholarships, my tenure at FACE has been very exciting thus far.

The 2019-2020 FACE scholarship award amount was increased by \$500.00 for elementary school students and \$450.00 for high school students. We awarded 689 scholarships throughout Contra Costa and Alameda Counties, including those in partnership with The Basic Fund. Currently, we have 831 students on our wait list.

We believe the value of a great education is invaluable to our kids, our communities and the world. We fund many student scholarships in the East Bay, and there are so many more students in need of our aid as our population continues to grow. Our goal is to award education scholarships wherever they are needed in our FACE community. We've done well, but we still have more to do. With your help, we know we can ensure those 831 students can come off our wait list.

The late activist and former South African President Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Please join me in helping change the world for the better with your contributions and support of FACE students and families. Please consider making a donation to FACE by visiting the FACE website at www.faceoakland.org or contact me at 510-267-8314; tporter@oakdiocese.org.

MEET COLETTE SAMIMI



Colette Samimi, the new Development Associate for FACE has 20 years of experience in K-12 education, specifically in after-school and expanded learning programs through the Federal 21st Century Community Learning

Centers and California After School Education and Safety Program (ASES) grants. Colette has worked with the Mt. Diablo School District as well as the UC Berkeley Graduate School of Education in the role of Program Manager for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, which are currently in place at St. Anthony, St. Cornelius, and St. Elizabeth schools. She most recently led the 21st Century Expanded Learning Program at St. Anthony School in Oakland.

Colette holds both a Master of Arts and a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Ashford University, and serves as an Alumni member of Sigma Epsilon Kappa where she mentors Ashford University college students in pursuit of their degrees. Since 2009, she has been a trainer for the California School Age Consortium (CalSAC) and the National Partnership for After School Science (NPASS), and most recently has served as a member of the Alameda County Region 4 - Site Visitor Cadre, which offers peer coaching and professional development to expanded learning programs throughout the county. ■

TO 2020/21 FACE APPLICANTS:
 Beginning Jan 1, 2020, you can apply for a FACE grant. Please contact your school for more information.

Save the Environment and help more children by sharing your email address with us. Our future newsletters will be delivered via email so every dollar we save can help fund a scholarship. Please send your email to tporter@oakdiocese.org. **Thank you for your help.**

NAMED SCHOLARSHIP

FACE of the Future Annual Name Scholarship program, launched at the 2019 FACE Gala in April, began with a bang!

This program allows the donor to name the scholarship and to select whether they wish to fund a grammar school or high school student. They can name a specific student, or have FACE select the student most in need.

For an elementary school student, the initial gift is \$5,000.00 and \$7,500.00 for a high school student.

Scholarships are restricted to those students who demonstrate financial need defined by FACE granting guidelines and meet academic eligibility.

Here are the generous donors who kicked off this great program:

THE TINA TYLER FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Genesis Finley, 5th Grade, St. Leo the Great School

THE KELLY FAMILY FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Aniya Lewis, 9th Grade, Bishop O'Dowd High School

THE EPSILON BETA BOULE FOUNDATION FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Cardell Rankin, 12th Grade, De La Salle High School

THE EPSILON BETA BOULE FOUNDATION FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Miguel Cabrera, 1st Grade, St. Peter Martyr School

THE EPSILON BETA BOULE FOUNDATION FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Deshawn Geronimo 6th Grade, St. Peter Martyr School

If you would like more information about the FACE of the Future Named Scholarships, please call Terri Porter at 510.267.8314 or email at tporter@oakdiocese.com. ■

GIVE TODAY

Whether you are one of our generous donors, a regular attendee at our annual gala or one of our many volunteers, you belong here. With your support, we can educate a new generation of students. Together we are making a difference, one student at a time.

Save the date for #iGiveCatholic on #GivingTuesday, December 3, 2019.

WHY WE GIVE

Eric and Valarie Kelly know first-hand the value of a Catholic education and the importance of supporting the FACE mission: their youngest daughter attended Bishop O'Dowd High School, where she received a remarkable education. As a result, the Kellys wanted to provide the same opportunity to another student. The FACE of the Future Name Scholarship program provided that opportunity.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelly's generosity didn't end with a scholarship for the year. They have pledged funding for all four years of high school, to ensure their recipient, Aniya Lewis, a 9th grader at Bishop O'Dowd High School, will have the continuity and confidence she needs to succeed all the way through graduation.

The Kellys received a beautiful letter from Aniya Lewis, and they hope to meet her soon.

Valarie Kelly described it best: "It takes a village to raise children, and we had a wide village of support when we came up. We wanted to pay it forward and to contribute to developing a young person in total, not just academically. Our daughter received an outstanding academic education and so much more. Her perspective changed, and she learned that her role in the world is bigger than just herself. And that it takes all of us, together, to make change in the world."

Mr. and Mrs. Kelly, God bless you. ■

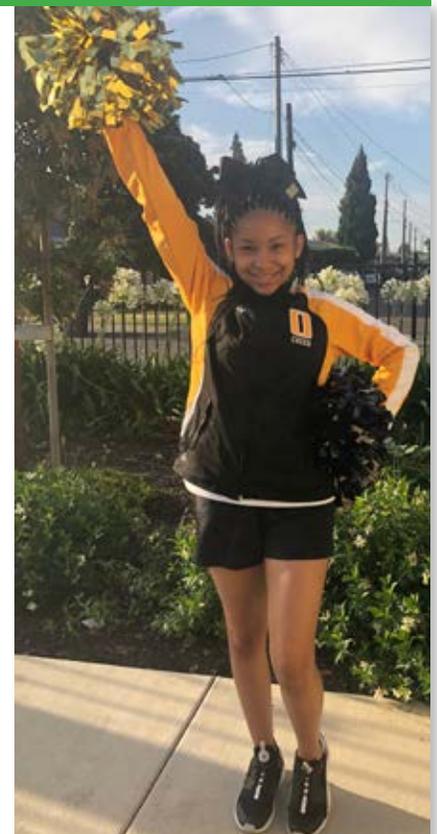


WHAT FACE MEANS TO ME

MEET ANIYA LEWIS

"Receiving this scholarship will assist my mom with being able to send me to Bishop O'Dowd High School, which is my dream school. My mom is a graduate of Bishop O'Dowd and I never thought in a million years that I would be able to go to this amazing school, too. I have attended Catholic Schools from Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grade and truly benefited from receiving an education with high academic standards and strong spiritual foundation.

Your scholarship will allow me to continue to receive such an education in high school. My field of interest is science and I can't wait to explore the Living Lab and state of the art science lab. This is truly a dream come true. I can't thank you enough for your support." ■



LUMEN CHRISTI ACADEMIES

On July 1, 2018, Bishop Barber established Lumen Christi Academies (LCA) as part of a national movement representing a renaissance of Catholic education. This newly formed network consists of seven Diocese of Oakland schools serving low-to-moderate income families. Collectively, LCA (Queen of All Saints, Concord; St. Anthony, Oakland, St. Catherine of Siena, Martinez; St. Cornelius, Richmond; St. Elizabeth, Oakland; St. Paul, San Pablo; and St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg) educates close to 1,200 students, offering Catholic school environments that ignite students to be the light of Christ in the world.



From 2018-2019, the LCA team's efforts centered on developing an intentional organizational culture to unify the seven communities which

included drafts of a vision, mission, root beliefs and core values. We plan to engage stakeholders across the network this year to revise and streamline these core elements.

A range of initiatives have been implemented to improve academic outcomes, strengthen financial operations, and enhance development efforts to bridge the financial gap created by tuition assistance needs. We are incredibly grateful to FACE for being an instrumental force in bridging this gap. Last year, FACE provided \$158,875 in scholarships to students LCA students. These critical dollars made Catholic education accessible to families who otherwise would not be able to afford the rising costs of this ministry.

In 2019-2020, LCA teachers and leaders will focus on three goals:

- 1. Strengthen our Professional Learning Community:** A shared professional calendar was designed to enhance cross-school collaboration centered on equitable and rigorous instructional practices that prepare students for college, career and life success.
- 2. Promote a Culture of Connection:** LCA teachers and leaders are cultivating caring and equitable environments by infusing social and emotional learning strategies. Students and teachers are being empowered with practical tools and techniques around self-awareness and relationship skills that incorporate the teachings and values of our faith. Daily classroom community meetings remind students of their connectedness while cultivating compassion and empathy.
- 3. Integrate Blended Learning Strategies:** Blended learning provides students opportunities to learn at their own pace, at their own level, through small group instruction, individual and collaborative practice and using adaptive and assignable software. Through this approach teachers get immediate data on student learning and are able to differentiate instruction to maximize student success. To support this work, LCA established a partnership with Loyola Marymount University. Our LMU partners provide on-site coaching to LCA teachers as they integrate these new strategies.

A Whole New World at St. Anthony and St. Peter Martyr Schools

This past year LCA secured \$2.8 million in grant funds to support massive renovations at St. Anthony and St. Peter Martyr Schools. Each facility now features open classroom spaces with flexible seating more conducive to the collaborative, student-centered instructional practices. IT infrastructural enhancements and the purchase of devices for students and teachers have streamlined the integration of blending learning practices. The transformation at both campuses is incredible.

We are excited to see how our focus on Strengthening our Professional Learning Community, Promoting a Culture of Connection, and Integrating Blended Learning Strategies will improve academic performance, student engagement and enrollment across our LCA communities.

Come Holy Spirit! ■

SPECIAL THANKS



SPECIAL THANKS TO MR. BERG

Everett Berg is a longtime friend to FACE. He believes that providing kids with a Catholic education is a way to change their lives – and to also

change the world – for the better. Mr. Berg believes character building is just as important as great academic training, and as we give kids a great education, we need to also give them the tools to be great citizens.

When he heard how many children were on the wait list for FACE grants, Mr. Berg asked, "What would it take to get 100 kids off that list?" FACE Executive Director Terri Porter gave him the answer, and Mr. Berg wrote that check. He's very clear that he doesn't want any notoriety for his generosity. He simply believes that if we can, we must help in whatever way we can. It's simply about doing the right thing.

This "right thing," means 100 more students will receive grants to attend Catholic Schools in the Oakland Diocese this coming school year.

God bless you, Mr. Berg. ■



2019 FACE GALA

The 2019 Annual FACE Gala at the Blackhawk Museum was an night to remember. From the beautiful venue and wonderful food, to the amazing generosity of the attendees, donors and volunteers, we were all touched by the grace of a community coming together at its best – serving the mission of providing tuition assistance that enables diverse low-income children to attend Catholic schools and help families break the cycle of poverty by supporting access to quality Catholic education in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties in the Diocese of Oakland.

The new FACE of the Future Annual Name Scholarship was introduced with resounding results.

We heard heartfelt stories from two remarkable grant recipients, Sharlene Halog from Saint Joseph Notre Dame High School, and Nataly Torres from Bishop O'Dowd High School, whose successes and heartfelt gratitude brought tears to the eyes of many of those present.

FACE was able to raise \$350,000.00 for grants in the 2019/2020 school year.

Special thanks to to everyone who made this possible: those who contributed their time, money and their belief in the mission. And special thanks to the kids who receive these grants and work so hard to become the people they want to be. ■



Gala greeters: Superintendent Kathleen Radecke and student volunteers from St. Cornelius Elementary School



Tracy Lickiss and friends



Director Terri Porter



Student speakers Sharlene Halog and Nataly Torres



Bishop Barber



Kathy Gannon-Briggs and Jasmine Dartz



Bidding paddles held high!



Freddy Silveria, Auctioneer



Ron Courtney and friends



Student volunteers from St. Joseph Notre Dame High School

SAVE THE DATE!
FACE GALA | APRIL 4, 2020
Scott's, Jack London Square, Oakland