



# ACCESS OPPORTUNITY

**Students today. Leaders tomorrow.**

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ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019





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Thanks to them,  
our future is bright.





Thanks to you, we are  
celebrating **5 years**  
of investing in  
Colorado's future.

**D**EAR COMMUNITY,

Our program turns 5 this year!

I am so proud of where Access Opportunity's students stand 5 years in, and that we have an amazing team of supporters and staff who inspire, educate, and partner with our students. Please enjoy reading about some of our community's successes in the pages of this Annual Report. We would not have achieved these results without you and I am grateful.

5 things about this past year to especially celebrate:

- 1 **Our student-led approach** that is incorporating student leadership into all we do - from our new Student Advisory Board to our new Student Research Group.
- 2 **Our latest class** of 16 students.
- 3 **Our new partnerships** with CU-Boulder's Psychology and Neuroscience department and with Outward Bound to further develop our social and emotional learning.
- 4 **Our 114 volunteers** who supported us this past year.
- 5 **Our community** who continues to be so generous in helping us grow in size and impact.

Thank you for making our past five years possible, for making our students' growth possible. We look forward to celebrating the next 5 with you.

With my gratitude,



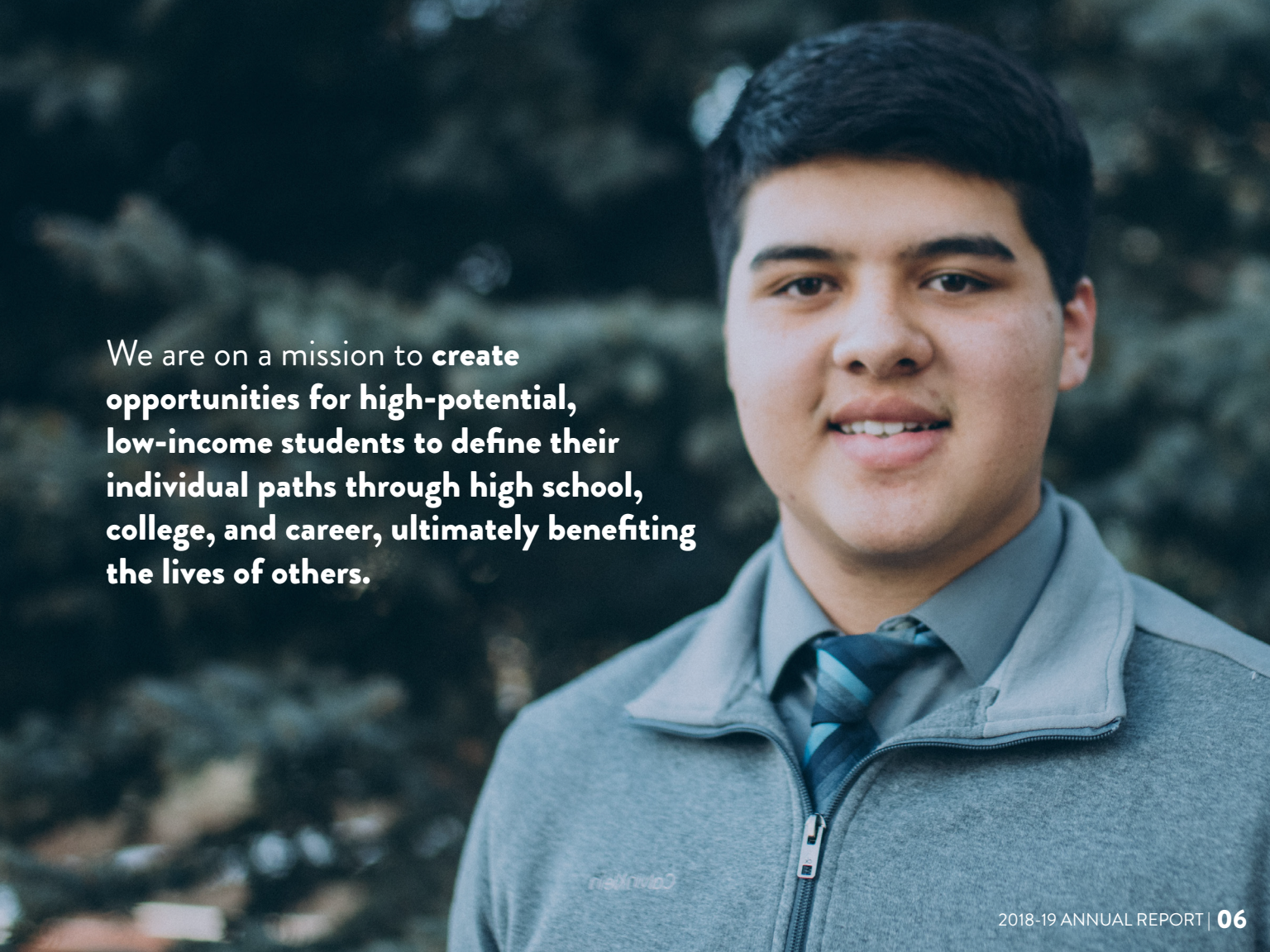
**Yuri Shane**  
Executive Director



# Equity in opportunity for all students.

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Equity is our students standing as themselves, dreaming without limits, accessing opportunities, helping their families, lifting their communities, impacting their world. Equity is our reason for being, our solution, and the world we want to live in.

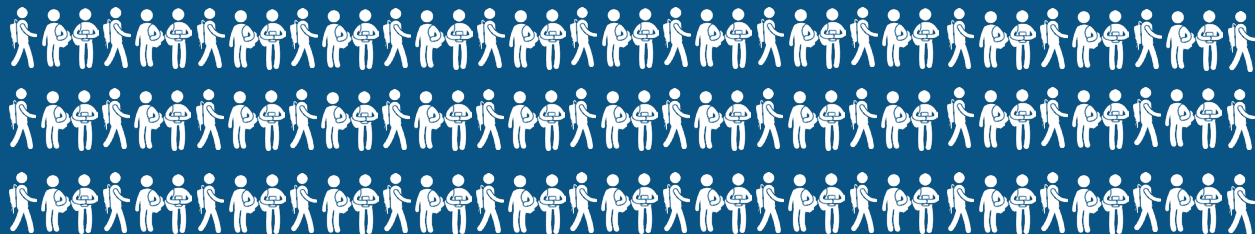


We are on a mission to **create opportunities for high-potential, low-income students to define their individual paths through high school, college, and career, ultimately benefiting the lives of others.**



# OUR WHY

Meet **120** low-income students not in Access Opportunity.



**64%** will graduate from high school. Of those graduates, **33%** will enroll in a four-year college.



Only **11%** of those who enroll will graduate with a Bachelor's degree by age 25.



## Together, we're rewriting the story.

**100%** of Access Opportunity's students graduate from high school and enroll in a four-year college, and **98%** are on track to graduate and launch a career. **Our program is part of the solution.**



# OUR PROGRAM



## ACCESS COLLEGE

### GRADE 10

*Creating Your AO Family*

- Bonding on our Outward Bound trip
- Welcoming new families at our Family Social
- Volunteering together

### GRADE 11

*Getting College Ready*

- Going to test prep tutoring weekly during spring semester
- Touring colleges and meeting college reps from around the country at our College Connect fair

### GRADE 12

*Setting Your College Course*

- Working 1:1 with counselors on college, financial aid and scholarships (parents included in process)
- Receiving \$10,000 for college from us upon high school graduation







# ACCESS CAREER

## 1ST YEAR

*Building Your Foundation*

- Counseling and peer advising support for transition to college
- Celebrating college enrollments with families at our Family Social

## 2ND YEAR

*Exploring & Defining Your Path*

- Engaging in Job Shadow program
- Learning “soft skills” at workshops and through networking

## 3RD YEAR

*Getting Career Ready*

- Interning and volunteering with partner organizations
- Continuing to participate in career development workshops

## 4TH YEAR

*Ready to Launch*

- Stepping into leadership as peer advisor
- Getting job search support





# OUR KEY RESULTS



**100%**  
GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL  
COMPARED TO 64% FOR THEIR PEERS

**100%**

ENROLL INTO  
4-YEAR COLLEGES  
COMPARED TO 33% FOR  
THEIR PEERS

AVERAGE HIGH  
SCHOOL GPA  
**4.16**



AVERAGE  
INCREASE ON  
ACT TEST OF  
**5**  
POINTS ON A  
36-POINT SCALE

AVERAGE COLLEGE GPA  
**3.22**  
COMPARED TO 2.6 FOR FIRST-  
GENERATION STUDENTS NATIONALLY<sup>1</sup>



**87%**  
OF OUR COLLEGE  
STUDENTS WORK

**\$2,422**  
NET COST OF COLLEGE FOR ALL  
OF OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS  
COMPARED TO \$15,680 FOR THE AVERAGE COLORADO STUDENT  
AND \$6,000 FOR THE AVERAGE FIRST-GENERATION STUDENT<sup>1</sup>




**87%**  
COLLEGE PERSISTENCE RATE  
COMPARED TO 48% FOR FIRST-GENERATION  
STUDENTS NATIONALLY



**91%**  
HAVE PARTICIPATED IN AN  
ACCESS OPPORTUNITY  
CAREER READINESS  
PROGRAM





Together, we're creating  
a new generation of  
leaders who will make a  
significant impact.

**STEVEN**  
CLASS OF 2023

Steven received a full-ride  
to Brown University.



**MICHELLE**  
CLASS OF 2023

Michelle received a  
full-ride to Washington  
University in St. Louis.



**EMILY**  
CLASS OF 2023

Emily is a 2019 Coca-Cola Scholar and a recipient of a  
Hispanic Scholarship Fund award. She will be attending  
Harvard University this fall.





## **ANANDA** CLASS OF 2024

Ananda is a Bank of America intern at City Year in Denver.



## **JULIA** CLASS OF 2023

Julia was recognized by CBS Denver for excellence in STEM with a Future Leaders Award and is heading to Mines.



## **NIK** CLASS OF 2023

Nik is heading to Colgate University with a Daniels Fund Scholarship.

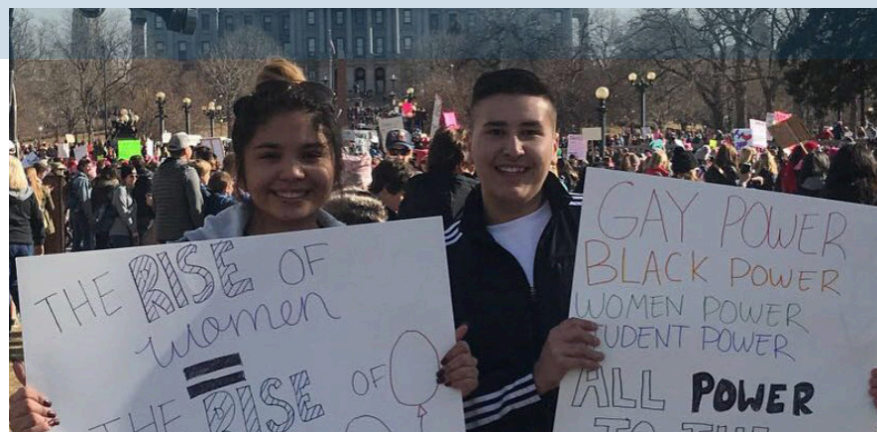
## **YATZARI** CLASS OF 2023

Yatzari was awarded the McKinsey Diverse Young Leaders Scholarship and will be at DU.



## **NICKY** CLASS OF 2022

Nicky volunteers with One Colorado, an organization committed to creating a fair and just Colorado for all people.



## **MANNY** CLASS OF 2023

Manny will be a BOLD Engineering Scholar at CU-Boulder this fall.





# IVAN'S STORY

Joined his father on a landscaping crew. Realized the love it took for his Dad to do this challenging, physical work to support his family.

Got his first laptop, which was refurbished and donated through an Access Opportunity sponsor, and then decided to become a software developer.

Got his first job at McDonalds. The first thing he purchased after saving up was a cell phone for his father. The second thing was braces, on a monthly payment plan.

Immigrated to Denver with his mother and little brother. Reconnected with his father who had been working hard to bring his family to the US.

Started playing soccer and stretched by several inches. Was surprised to find himself lanky.

Was our featured speaker at Raise a Class and a graduation speaker for his class at STRIVE Prep.

Became the first person in his family to enroll in college and started his first year at the Colorado School of Mines.

Got his braces removed and grew another inch. Kept his amazing, early-80s scientist glasses.

Representatives from a new school, STRIVE Prep, knocked on Ivan's door and talked to his parents about the benefits of their educational approach.

Tackled the challenging intro classes at Mines, and crushed his first year in Computer Science and Physics with a 3.8 GPA.

After an introduction by an Access Opportunity supporter, started his first internship at a tech start-up.





# STUDENT-LED INITIATIVES

## STUDENT ADVISORY GROUP

Our inaugural Student Advisory Group members are motivated AO college students who applied and were chosen to lead through insight and advice on matters concerning current and future programming, operations, and student communications.



ALEX | CLASS OF 2021



CARLOS | CLASS OF 2021



JASMINE | CLASS OF 2021



JOCELYN | CLASS OF 2022



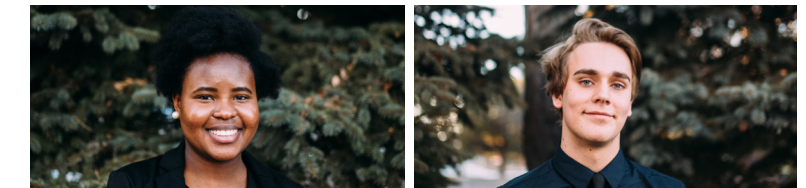
JULIA | CLASS OF 2023



YATZARI | CLASS OF 2023


## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING FELLOWS

Fellows were selected through an application process, are paid through grant funding, and are supervised by Dr. Leah Teeters from CU-Boulder's Psychology and Neuroscience department. They meet monthly to conduct research on SEL programs, survey peers, and develop curriculum for AO's SEL program. Their goal is to address students' self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making skills.



SEL FELLOWS 2019-2020: Gregg, Jasmine, Luis, and Miguel with Dr. Leah Teeters; Ananda, Kellan

**None of this is possible  
without you. Thank you.**







Thank you to our partners,  
for inspiring and  
challenging our students.



“Every Access Opportunity event leaves me feeling inspired and supported. Thank you for helping us grow while making it fun at the same time. Access Opportunity has done such an amazing job at making us a family and I always look forward to our workshops.”

- Yatzari





# OUR NETWORK



**ADCLUB** is AO's partner in the first annual "AdCademy," a Career-Readiness workshop focused on helping students with professional development and self-marketing skills. 2019 AdCademy partners include Amelie & Co., Barkley Agency, Karsh Hagan, Philosophy Communication, Revel Interactive, The Moore Agency, and Transamerica.



**THE BESTU** is a group of college admissions experts that help our students identify best-fit colleges and continuously advise the AO team on the latest in college counseling.



**COLORADO OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL** hosts an annual bonding trip that helps our students develop compassion, tenacity, sacrifice, spirit, and curiosity as they support each other in a wilderness environment.



**DENVER TEST PREP** provides our students with effective and personalized ACT test tutoring.



University of Colorado  
Boulder

**CU'S PSYCHOLOGY AND NEUROSCIENCE DEPARTMENT (CREST)** is helping us develop our Social Emotional Learning program, applying the methods of clinical psychological science to reduce suffering and enhance well-being in the lives of individuals and communities.



**DU PATHWAYS SCHOLARSHIP**, a need-based scholarship designed to attract and retain academically talented undergrad students, has been awarded to some of our students in addition to institutional merit and need-based awards.

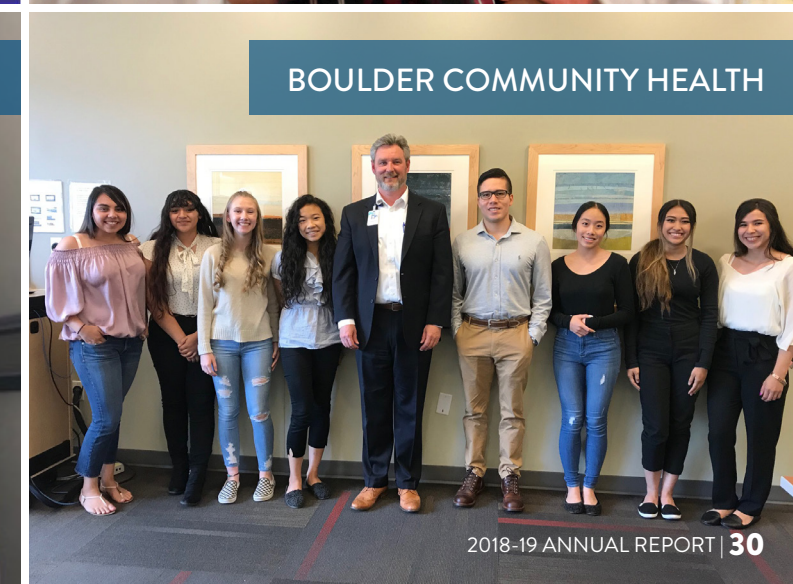


# OUR CAREER PARTNERS

We match our students with job shadowing opportunities to help them explore career paths.

So far in 2019, our students have explored a wide variety of fields, including education, science, art, business, and health.


**Thank you to our partners for making this program possible.**







Thank you to our  
**generous supporters  
and volunteers.**



We are so grateful for your time, skills, and generosity. You are writing a new future for low-income students in Colorado.



# RAISE A CLASS



## OUR WORK IS POWERED BY OUR COMMUNITY OF SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS.

In 2019, our community continued to grow. We're thrilled to share that you helped us raise over **\$503,000** at Raise a Class this year. Thank you for allowing our students to dream bigger.

## EVENT SPONSORS

### Summa Cum Laude

Goldman Sachs  
Zayo

### Magna Cum Laude

Cigna  
The Kidconscious Project

### Cum Laude

AMG National Trust Bank  
Broe Family Foundation  
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner  
Crestone Capital  
DaVita  
Deloitte  
EY  
KPMG

MAXX Properties  
Medtronic  
Mercer  
Price & Co. Real Estate  
PwC  
Ready Foods  
Law Offices of Dianne Sawaya  
Stewart Title  
Trailhead Wealth Management  
Trimble  
Westland Development  
Willis Towers Watson

### In-Kind

Ball Corporation  
Denver Test Prep  
Imprint Events

## EVENT COMMITTEE

Marco and Cathy Abarca  
Lalenia and Peter Aweida  
Sarah Ahn and Chris Moody  
Jennifer and Shawn Barker  
Janie Bracken  
Karen and Bobby Braun  
Cat Carris and Dave Adams  
Cindy and Dan Caruso  
Debbie and Chip Coppola  
Allison and Ted Doering

Nancy and Rick George  
Lisa and Doug Granat  
Susie and John Hayes  
Sarah and Colin Kirby  
Shannon and Jeff Knobel  
Sarah and Dan Kozlowski  
Pam and Michael Kruteck  
Amy and Andrew Larson  
Laura and Robert Leland  
Cheryl McBay and Jay Prassl

Georgia Montoya and Zeyen Wu  
Becky and Andrew Morley  
Tamsin and Andy Nathan  
Juan Padro  
Francesca and Rob Painter  
Lisa and Jamie Pentz  
Trista Pitre and Dan Fisher  
Pam and Lee Reichert  
Celia and Steve Rogers  
Lisa and Jim Scatena

Pam and Michael Sousa  
Yuri Shane and Rob Martin  
Tracey and David Stover  
Tracey Thiele  
Karen and Gordon Van Dusen  
Kara and Eric Vinton  
Zoe and Brian Wedel  
Patti and John Wells  
Maria and Celso White  
Chally and Rick Wiener





# OUR SUPPORTERS

## DOCTORATE (\$10,000+)

The Benevity Community Impact Fund  
The Caruso Foundation  
Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company  
Daniels Fund  
Deloitte Services LP  
Susan and Scott Drake  
Foundry Group  
Goldman Sachs  
Lisa and Doug Granat  
Susie and John Hayes  
Karen and Robert Herz  
Suzanne and Dave Hoover  
Sarah and Dan Kozlowski  
Lisa Pauley and Dave Taylor  
Perlman Family Foundation/  
All Ways Up Foundation  
Mary Sharoff and Doug Bradford  
Wiener Family Philanthropy

## MASTER'S (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Cat Carris and Dave Adams  
Sarah Ahn and Chris Moody  
AMG Charitable Gift Foundation  
Jennifer and Shawn Barker  
Broe Family Foundation  
Jennifer Herz Clark  
CoBiz Bank  
Crestone Capital LLC

DaVita  
Ernst & Young U.S. LLP  
The Farrior Family Fund  
Granat Family Foundation  
Mary Hayes  
Tina James and Dom Grazioli  
Sarah and Colin Kirby  
KPMG LLP  
The Law Offices of Dianne L Sawaya, LLC  
Kellie and Frank Mendicino  
Mercer  
Becky and Andrew Morley  
Trista Pitre and Dan Fisher  
Ready Foods, Inc.  
Dianne Sawaya  
Stewart Title  
Tracey and David Stover  
Trailhead Wealth Management  
Trimble Inc.  
Patti and John Wells  
Westland Development Services, Inc.  
Chally and Rick Wiener  
Willis Towers Watson PLC

## BACHELOR'S (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Becky and Dave Anderson  
Anonymous  
Joanne and Herb Belgrad  
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

Melissa and Nate Carey  
Debbie and Chip Coppola  
Lindsay and Tom Konkel  
Kaye and Bernd Krebs  
Medtronic  
Chris and Scott Morrison  
Andrea Price  
Celia and Steve Rogers  
Heather and Jamie Sabatier  
Lisa and Jim Scatena  
Ann and RJ Scott  
Yuri Shane and Robert Martin  
Deepti Sharma and Matt Leach  
Carin and Eugene Smit

## DEAN'S LIST (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Christy and Craig Andrisen  
Morgen and Roy Banes  
Sarah and David Barnes  
Jay Behringer  
Mary and Ron Bisio  
Janie Bracken  
Sally and Sandy Bracken  
Karen and Robert Braun  
Paula Burns  
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Carol Ciluffo  
Barb and Tim Coletta  
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Amy Creech  
Monica and Matthew DeGraff  
Allison and Ted Doering

Elizabeth and Michael Galvin  
Becky and Bruce Gamble  
Nancy and Rick George  
Deron and Marion Goodwin  
Ronda and Don Goulart  
Ryan Harris  
Barbara Herz  
Christy and Tom Holman  
Liz Kah  
Elizabeth and David Kaufman  
Kristen and Kevin Kelly  
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Amanda Kendrick  
Jenifer and Aaron Kennedy  
Shannon and Jeff Knobel  
Pamela and Michael Kruteck  
Suzie Kupiec  
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Erin and Mike Macguire  
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Jill and John Olson  
Oneseven Advisors, LLC  
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Francesca and Robert Painter  
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Sandy and Leslie Rothe  
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Kara and Eric Vinton  
Zoe and Brian Wedel  
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Tish and John Winsor  
Carol and Gary Woeste

## HIGH HONORS (\$500-\$999)

Lalenia and Peter Aweida  
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The Ekoniak Family Fund  
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 Darya and John Prassl  
 Jane and Joseph Printz  
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 Julie and Dan Seaman

Shell Oil Company Foundation  
 Barb Siegel  
 Jessica and Yancey Spruill  
 Jenn and Jim Todd  
 Kathryn Valdez  
 Karen and Gordon Van Dusen  
 Nick Vehorn  
 Andrea Walker  
 Women's International Niwot Club  
 Jeff Yeatman  
 Virginia and Wayne Yee

#### HONORS (\$250-\$499)

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 Autodesk Foundation  
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 David Herz  
 Max Herz  
 Molly Herz  
 Rachel Herz

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 Ethan Kirkwood  
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 Katherine and Dan Wittenberg  
 Molly and Eric Wittenberg

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 Linda Glass  
 Maggie and Lawrence Glueck  
 Fabrizia Hadlow  
 Monica Haenselman and  
 Kevin Pykkonen  
 Codi Haigney

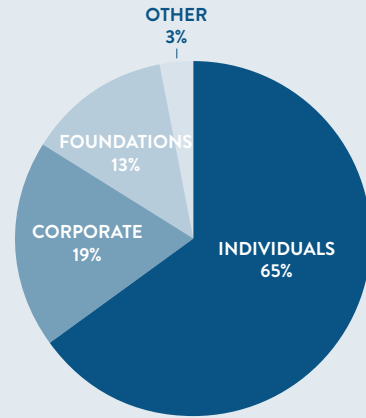
Velora Halgren  
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 Niki Robins  
 Matthew Rogers  
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 Victoria Rosenbaum  
 Lila Rosenman  
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 Sumi Shane and R. Ashle Baxter  
 Julia Shively  
 Erin Smith  
 Margaret St. Jean  
 Joshua Stein  
 Margaret and Kevin Sullivan  
 Jessica Sword  
 Maria Eugenia Tapia  
 Angie Taylor  
 Marion Taylor and Tim Rastello  
 Michelle Torres  
 Shirley Verrette and Mike Berg  
 Richard Woodruff  
 Jesse Zamora  
 Anita Zonker  
 Katherine Zuber

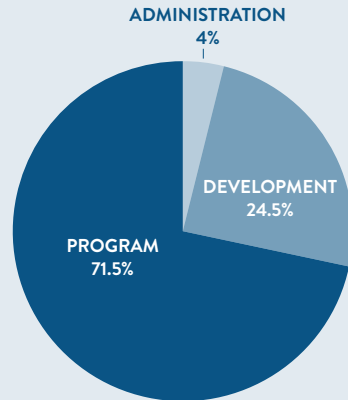


# FINANCIALS

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

### REVENUE: July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Individuals	\$459,770
Corporate	\$136,116
Foundations	\$93,569
Other	\$22,196
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$711,651</b>

### EXPENSES: July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Program	\$292,237
Scholarship Liability	\$95,185
Development	\$133,828
Administration	\$23,260
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$544,510</b>

### SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE FUND

\$331,667<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Our excitement continues as we, again, raised more than we spent during our fourth year of programming. As scholarship payments have started to be made, the positive cash flow is extremely important to the success of our program and students.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(as of 6/30/2019)

Total Current Assets	\$1,329,216
Total Fixed Assets	\$6,437
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,335,653</b>
Total Liabilities	\$336,210 <sup>2</sup>
Total Equity	\$999,443
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$1,335,653</b>

<sup>2</sup>\$336K of scholarship liability has been booked for our two classes of college students.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Dave Adams

Senior Financial Advisor  
AMG National Trust Bank

### Shawn Barker

VP, Finance & Transformation  
Ball Corporation

### John Hayes

CEO  
Ball Corporation

### Tom Holman

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PwC

### Georgia Montoya

Deputy Legal Counsel  
Denver Public Schools

### Becky Morley

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### Kathy Schultz

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University of Colorado, Boulder

### Eric Vinton

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### Chally Wiener

Broker Associate  
Colorado Landmark Realtors

## STAFF

### Yuri Shane

Co-Founder/Executive Director

### Susie Hayes

Co-Founder/Head of Development

### Molly Brooks

Communications Manager

### Natalee Deaette

Program Coordinator

### Caroline Foley

Program Manager

### Leslie Maddocks

Director of Community Relations

### Maggie O'Brien

Program Coordinator

### Celia Rogers

College & Career Counselor

### Patti Wells

Operations Manager

Special thanks to Francesca Painter for her coaching and leadership development support, and to Poppy & Co. Photography and John Snelson for the photos in our Annual Report.





# IN CONCLUSION: KELLAN.

**WHAT IS YOUR IDEA OF PERFECT HAPPINESS?**  
Witnessing the change I hope to make in the world.

**WHAT ARE YOU INSPIRED BY TODAY?**

My inspirations stem from my realization of the human race's relative insignificance. This pushes me to aim high.

**HOW DO YOU THINK YOU INSPIRE THOSE CLOSEST TO YOU?**  
Through my curiosity and yearning for knowledge.

**WHICH HISTORICAL FIGURE DO YOU MOST IDENTIFY WITH?**  
Nikola Tesla's independence, solitude, thought, and reason.

**WHICH LIVING PERSON DO YOU MOST ADMIRE?**  
Elon Musk is possibly the best example of a genius with the means and methods to make an impact.

**WHAT IS THE TRAIT YOU MOST ADMIRE IN YOURSELF?**  
It's not that I believe I'm smarter or more capable than anyone else—it's just that I appreciate my intellect and intuition, regardless of what "level" I'm at.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE JOURNEY, THUS FAR?**

Very first was herbalism, which developed into neuroscience, which became general science, which became mathematics, which became astrophysics. This journey through passions has been a great time.

**WHAT OR WHO IS THE GREATEST LOVE OF YOUR LIFE?**

The way things work, causes and effects, properties and characteristics.

**WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU HAPPIEST?**

In the womb.

**WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT STATE OF MIND?**

Motivated and happy!

**WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT?**

As the internet joke goes, "If you're ever feeling unaccomplished or dumb, remember that you were the sperm cell that fertilized your mother's egg."

**WHAT IS YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION?**

My brain! Trillions of neurons firing, countless neurotransmitters sent and received, the brain is a marvelous feat.

**WHAT DO YOU MOST VALUE IN YOUR FRIENDS?**

I am an introvert so having friends who can mutually benefit from alone time is crucial.

**WHO ARE YOUR FAVORITE WRITERS?**

Ray Bradbury and Sage Dougherty, my sister.

**WHO ARE YOUR HEROES IN REAL LIFE?**

Stephen Hawking. He's revolutionized the world of physics through his work on black holes, most notably Hawking Radiation, and left an everlasting mark.





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