



Together *Believing.*
Together **ACHIEVING.**

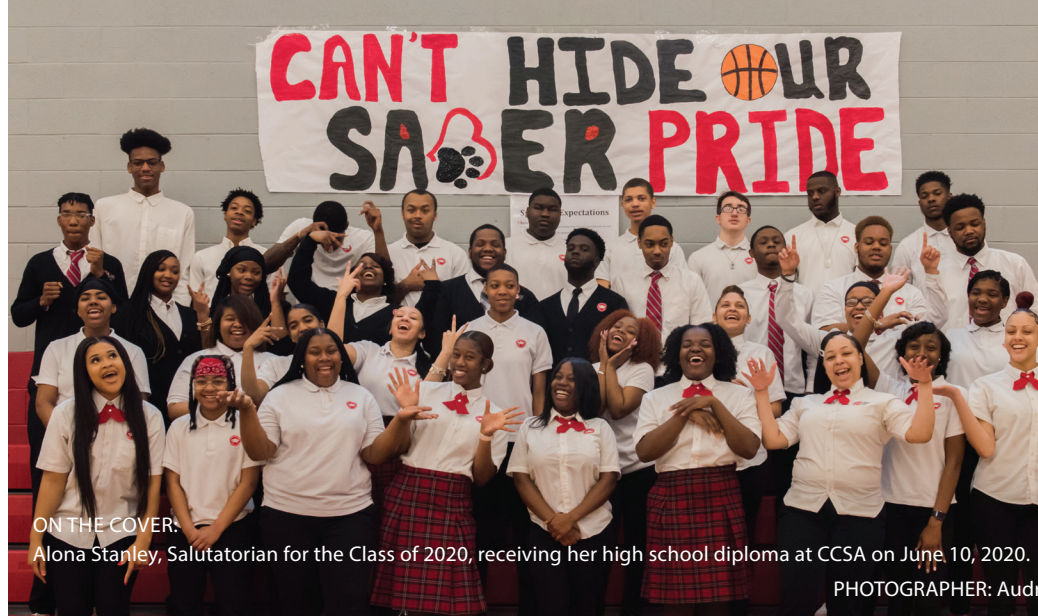


2019-2020
Donor Report

Can't hide our Saber pride!

From K to 12, scholars are proud to be a part of the family at Chester Charter Scholars Academy (CCSA).

CCSA is successfully preparing our children for their futures. As the only K-12 school in Chester, we are able to reinforce a culture of responsibility, respect, high expectations, and love of learning over the course of a child's years at CCSA. We have the opportunity to build year-over-year on these values as the children develop and grow.



ON THE COVER:

Alona Stanley, Salutatorian for the Class of 2020, receiving her high school diploma at CCSA on June 10, 2020.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Aud

CCSA FOUNDATION'S MISSION is to support Chester Charter Scholars Academy (CCSA), an arts-integrated, K-12, public charter school serving children from the Chester Upland School District.

Dear Friends of CCSA:

Thank you for your support of Chester Charter Scholars Academy (CCSA) and your help in creating a vibrant future for Chester's youth. It is an honor to be associated with such an impactful program and to work with so many dedicated and generous donors.

Statistics do not tell the whole story, but here are a few that reflect the level of engagement at CCSA:

- 100% graduation rate for the Class of 2019 (45 graduates) and Class of 2020 (47 graduates)
- 93.7% annual student attendance rate
- 500+ students on current waitlist

Now in our thirteenth year, CCSA has stayed true to its vision that "one hundred percent of CCSA graduates will be prepared for college, conservatory, technical school, the military or gainful employment." We accomplish this through our arts-integrated curriculum and helping our students develop scholarship, strong character, craftsmanship and purpose.

CCSA is a great example of "it takes a village to raise a child." None of the above would be possible without your help and support. You have enabled CCSA to offer academic and career opportunities to the children of Chester not otherwise available in the district.

I hope you share my pride in what has been accomplished to date. However, the challenge continues and we look forward to working together to provide a quality education to our students.

With sincere thanks,



Robert N. Speare
Chair, CCSA Foundation



CCSA's ANNUAL FUND builds and sustains essential educational opportunities for CCSA Scholars in grades K-12. In Fiscal Year 2020, 385 donors contributed over \$865,000 to the Annual Fund, positively impacting the lives of Chester's children.



Solidifying Foundational Skills

Incoming kindergartners continue to receive targeted support through our Ready to Succeed Summer Programing. As a result of these resources, first-grade reading proficiency has risen from 25% in 2012 to 77% in 2019.



Building Strong Character & Strong Athletes

The CCSA community took great pride when both our boys and girls Varsity Basketball teams qualified for the Pennsylvania High School State Championships. The Sabers continued to set the bar high for future generations of CCSA scholar-athletes.



Enriching Cultural Experience

Meaningful external partnerships with cultural arts and community organizations continue to enhance CCSA's educational program through field trips and visiting teaching artists. Some of our partners include:

- Arden Theatre Company
- Art Smart
- Barnes Foundation
- Dancing Classrooms Philly
- Darlington Arts Center
- Greener Partners
- People's Light Theatre
- Tyler Arboretum
- Community Arts Center
- West Chester University Department of Theatre and Dance
- Delaware County Community College

Donor Support Building Bright Futures

FISCAL YEAR 2020 (JULY 2019 - JUNE 2020)



Setting Aspirational Career Goals

Last year 34 students enrolled in the Health Science Elective Program, a selective program for high school students in grades 9-12, taking place during school hours, on Saturdays, and over the summer. This program equips students with knowledge and the tools to pursue diverse career opportunities in the healthcare industry when they graduate.



Fostering Positive Relationships

'Saber Siblings' expanded to connect 8th graders with 1st graders for one hour each week to read, learn and play together. This mentorship program fosters a sense of community within our school and promotes the development of social and emotional skills that lead to long-term success.



Facing the Future with Purpose and a Plan

On June 10, 2020, 100% of the Class of 2020, 47 young adults, received their high school diploma.

- 30 are attending 2 or 4-year colleges.
- 11 are attending technical school
- 4 are employed in the workforce
- 2 are enlisted in the military

CCSA became fully enrolled as a K-12 school in 2018. The Class of 2020 is CCSA's second senior class to achieve a 100% graduation rate!

THANK YOU!

CCSA's success – indeed its very existence – would not be possible without the generosity of our donors – individuals and institutions who believe in our mission.

We are pleased to recognize donors of monetary gifts for restricted and unrestricted annual program support between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020. Every gift is greatly appreciated and every attempt was made to ensure the accuracy of this listing. In the event of an error or omission, please contact Amy Komarnicki at info@ccsafoundation.org or 610-859-2988.

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✧ Recognizes our sustaining donors, individuals who have contributed for five or more years consecutively.

* Recognizes donors who made a Campaign pledge gift in FY '20.

♦ Recognizes donors who qualified for the Trustees Challenge, unlocking a dollar-for-dollar match by CCSA Foundation Board of Trustees.

* Recognizes donors who have recently passed away.

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You Rose to the Challenge!

Thank you for investing in the CCSA Annual Fund and
 leveraging the impact of your gift through the Trustees Challenge.

Between November 15, 2019 and June 30, 2020,
 82 donors made new or increased gifts between \$250 and \$10,000.
 Through your generosity, a total of \$119,800 was matched
 dollar-for-dollar by CCSA Foundation Trustees.



“CCSA is providing a safe space with caring adults who deliver a robust arts-integrated curriculum that aligns with the Foundation’s goal to positively impact the long-term success of the youth of Chester.”

–Frances Sheehan, Executive Director
The Foundation for Delaware County



Frances Sheehan has extensive experience as a community organizer and leader within the non-profit community driving impact on the overall well-being of communities. As the President of The Foundation for Delaware County she is at the forefront of the fight to address the social determinants behind so many needs of Delaware County residents, all through a racial equity lens. As a long-time resident of Delaware County herself, Sheehan takes pride in the fact that the Foundation is taking a lead to address many issues that the pandemic has presented for communities like Chester, including the needs of children, adolescents, teens and young adults. CCSA Foundation was one of forty-four nonprofit organizations to receive a 2020 Impact Grant from the Foundation for Delaware County to improve the wellbeing of residents. Reflecting upon our partnership Sheehan commented, “CCSA is providing a safe space with caring adults who deliver a robust arts-integrated curriculum that aligns with the Foundation’s goal to positively impact the long-term success of the youth of Chester.”

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\$25,000 & above

Anonymous * ✧

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The Covid-19 Arts Aid PHL Fund of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, the Philadelphia Cultural Fund, and the City of Philadelphia's Office of Arts, Culture and the Creative Economy

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To learn more, visit:

ccsafoundation.org/matching-gifts

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Through the PA-EITC program,
it costs a dime to give a dollar!

Tax credits up to 90% of your contribution are available in PA for businesses to designate funding to educational improvement organizations including CCSA Foundation. If your business is interested in supporting CCSA through the EITC program, please contact Chris Hanlon at chanlon@ccsaoundation.org or 610-859-2988.

Founder's Society

The Founder's Society is a growing community that honors CCSA Foundation's most loyal supporters: donors whose lifetime cumulative giving to CCSA Foundation totals \$100,000 or more.

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Gifts were made to CCSA
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Edgar Boggs
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Lillian H. Griffin
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If you have included CCSA Foundation in your will,
please let us know. Contact Amy Komarnicki



Living Faithfully a Hidden Life

We celebrate the life of Katharine ("Kathy") Margaret Downing Myers, a courageous philanthropist, creative visionary, and advocate for social justice. A leadership donor to Chester Charter Scholars Academy (CCSA), Kathy passed away at the age of 93 on January 30, 2020 in her home in the senior community of Kendal at Longwood in Kennett Square, PA.

Moving to Swarthmore as a young child, Kathy formed close ties to the city of Chester. Her mother, recently widowed, became personal secretary to Thomas McCabe at Scott Paper when the company was core to the city's industrial strength. As a highschool teen, Kathy tutored in Chester before receiving a scholarship to study at Vassar College where she played on the All-American Lacrosse team and graduated with a major in Economics in 1946 at the age of 20.

A leader in her time, Katharine pushed through barriers, once challenging a dean at University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School when she was told a business degree would be wasted on a young woman. Dispelling this notion, Kathy persisted and went on to complete graduate classes within the business school. While raising four children, she later went on to complete a master's degree in human development from Bryn Mawr College.

During Kathy's life, she directed her passions as a teacher, guidance counselor, and civil rights leader, working on projects to achieve school racial integration for the American Friends Service. Kathy found her true professional calling when she dedicated herself to enhance the scientific integrity of the Myers Briggs Type Indicator [MBTI] that her then mother-in-law Isabel Myers first developed.

CCSA's founding members are honored to have known Kathy since her initial involvement in 2008, when the vision to start an arts-integrated school for Chester's children was just coming to fruition. Reflecting upon what led her to become deeply involved with CCSA, Kathy expressed, "I have a strong sense of what is right." Her conviction matched by a generosity provided the affirmation for CCSA's founders to push through challenges and ultimately build a school from the ground up. She provided critical seed funding and was a faithful leadership donor to the Annual Fund over the last twelve years.

Kathy was the first to make a planned gift to CCSA Foundation and a founding member of the Thompson Society, CCSA's planned giving program. We acknowledge her legacy gift which will continue to have a great impact in the lives of children at CCSA for years to come. Thank you, Katharine, for believing in CCSA from the outset, and for living faithfully a hidden life, and adding to the growing good of the world, especially here in Chester.

"The growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life..."

—Quoted often by Katharine Myers, from the closing lines of *Middlemarch*

e planned for CCSA's future by naming CCSA
ll, retirement plan or life-insurance policy.

Katharine Myers
Peggy & Peter Thompson
Lana & Joe Turner
Julia & Guy Welbon
Martin J. Whitman
Marjean R. Willett

our estate plans or are interested in doing so,
at info@ccsafoundation.org or (610) 859-2988.

Made Stronger through a COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS

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Recognizing classroom volunteers, reading partners, and mentors who worked alongside CCSA scholars to enhance early literacy, math and post-secondary programming in the 2019-2020 academic school year.

Jeannine Anckaitis
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