

IMPACT

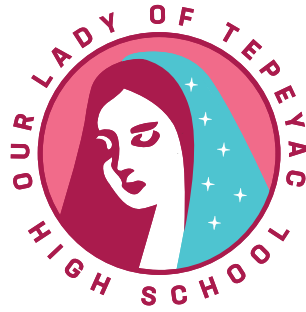
REPORT • 2021



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2228 SOUTH WHIPPLE STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60623
773.522.0023 | OURLADYOFTEPEYAC.ORG



MISSION

Our Lady of Tepeyac High School is a Roman Catholic girls' secondary school deeply rooted in the Little Village neighborhood that provides a multicultural educational experience, developing each young woman to her full intellectual and spiritual potential in an environment that values learning, linked to faith, family and community.

VALUES

Tepeyac embraces its core values selected by our students, faculty, alums, and board members. These values are an integral part of our school community, anchoring faculty, administration and students in living out the importance of Tepeyac's mission.

TEPEYAC PLEDGE

We are Tepeyac Girls
We seek opportunity
We are college bound
We are united
We will be of service to each other and our world
We will strive for excellence
We believe in ourselves
We believe in each other
We believe in
Our Lady of Tepeyac!

TEPEYAC CORE VALUES
OPPORTUNITY — UNITY
SERVICE — EXCELLENCE

COMING TOGETHER President's Letter

Dear Our Lady of Tepeyac Community,

This past year brought new challenges for us all but more so for the Little Village and south side communities of our City of Chicago. The COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing economic hardships, a nation wide racial reckoning and a polarized society all tested our resilience in ways never experienced before.

Amidst it all, our amazing teachers and staff came together and gave of their time and energy in any way that was needed, all while tending to their own families and loved ones. They came together to continue to educate our young women, offering both in person and remote instruction, full time, five days a week. Tepeyac teachers came in early and stayed late to call students and parents at home to check in. They met virtually and in person for extra tutoring sessions and continued to provide an outlet for our girls, many of whom have experienced personal losses during this pandemic. I am truly in awe of the women and men that serve our school.

Our girls persevered through this year of learning with strength, creativity and optimism. Tepeyac girls came together to continue to live our mission and be of service to the Little Village community, volunteering at food pantries, leading a clothing and winter coat drive, performing office work at local non-profits and raising funds for Catholic Relief Services, totaling 2,150 service hours even in the middle of a pandemic.

Tepeyac's family of donors came together in a year where 63% of our families lost jobs or had hours cut, creating a need for an additional \$100,000 in need-based scholarships. Foundations made sure that programming remained intact. From College Readiness, to technology resources, retreats and athletics—all of the essential components to the quality college prep education that Tepeyac has delivered for 93 years—all remained because of these generous institutions.

Tepeyac is a place where girls find their voice and tell their story. It is a place of mission and faith. It is a place where girls support and empower one another; they learn that their story and their challenges allow them to stand up and shout, *"This is where I come from and this is where I'm going!"* despite the challenges they've faced. In the Class of 2021, 100% of the seniors were accepted to college, 31% are the first in their families to graduate high school and 81% are the first to attend college. This year the Tepeyac school community came together to give each other the support needed and the strength to not give up—but this has always been the Tepeyac way.

Thank you for being a part of the Tepeyac way. For coming together so that we all can move forward.

With gratitude,



Joni Thompson
President



Our Lady of Tepeyac High School 2020-2021
ADVISORY BOARD

Dalia Almanza

Greater Chicago Food Depository, Supervisor of Member Services, OLT Alumna

Julie Berggren

Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, Chaplain

Summer Mary Krysiak Bittar, PhD.

Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness and Educational Technology, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, Assistant Professor & Director

Irene Camacho

BNP Paribas, Administrative Assistant OLT Alumna and Parent

Estela Cervantes, Secretary

El Valor, Quality Assurance Manager, OLT Alumna and Parent

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Helen Dumas

St. Sabina School, President/Principal Emeritus

Jim Earner

The Big Shoulders Fund Financial Consultant

Citlaly Gonzalez, Ph.D

United Stand Family Center, Clinical Psychologist

Patricia Gutekanst, Chair

Cove School, Vocation Coordinator

Louis Marohn

Lieutenant Commander, United States Navy, Retired

Pat Marohn

Teacher/Librarian, Retired

Kathleen

Graham Messina

Spiritual Direction Institute of Houston, Director

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YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago, Chief Executive Officer, Retired

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Vern Sebby

Give Central, Senior Account Executive

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Stephanie Rodriguez

John Marshall Law School, Program Coordinator, OLT Alumna

Jennifer Rhoades

Alden Management Services, Inc., Assistant General Counsel

Gayle Scahill

Curie High School, World Languages Educator, Department Chair (Retired)

Dan Thompson, Vice Chair

Matteson District 159 Director of Special Education and Pupil Services, Retired

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Dalia Almanza, 2004

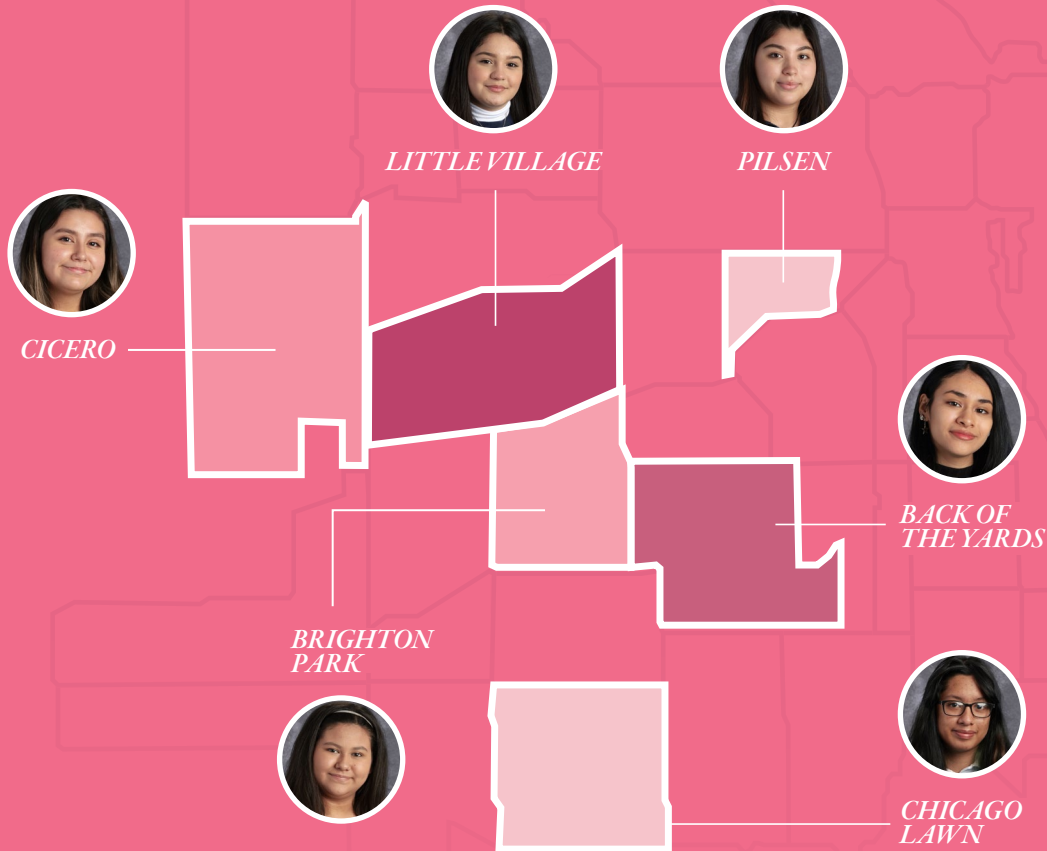
Board Member, Greater Chicago Food Depository Associate Manager of Public Benefits Outreach

Dalia Almanza is a Tepeyac graduate, Class of 2004. She earned her Bachelor's degree from DePaul University. Post-graduation she began a career in the nonprofit arena. She currently serves as the Associate Manager of Public Benefits Outreach at the Great Chicago Food Depository. She shares, "working for the Food Depository has allowed me to take on different roles that impact our communities in Cook County, especially our Brown and Black communities. It also means that I work with mission driven colleagues to ensure our communities are aware of resources near them."

Dalia joined Tepeyac's Advisory Board in 2018. We were thrilled to have her join us in this important role. She has contributed her wisdom and endless ideas. "Serving on the board is important to me as it allows me to positively affect change and support the mission of Tepeyac. Having a diverse board is important to better serve the young women of OLT. As an alum it is important to share my perspective as an immigrant navigating high school at OLT and being a first-generation college graduate. It is also important that I continue to support OLT, as it was a place where I gained confidence that helped me become the leader that I am today. I hope to encourage young women that they can also support OLT and that they too belong in these spaces," says Dalia.

WHO WE SERVE

TOP 6 NEIGHBORHOODS OUR STUDENTS COME FROM:



TEPEYAC STUDENTS COME FROM 22 DIFFERENT ZIP CODES



90%
LATINX



10%
AFRICAN
AMERICAN



87.5%
FREE AND
REDUCED LUNCH



20%
RECEIVE ACADEMIC
SUPPORT SERVICES



97%
RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP/
FINANCIAL AID

\$33,331

Average
Family
Income

\$4,100

Average
Financial Aid
Award

\$9,625

Cost to educate
a student at
Tepeyac

\$6,200

Tuition rate

\$2,100

Average Family
Contribution
(to tuition)

WELCOME TO LITTLE VILLAGE



Our neighborhood home of Little Village has been making headlines this year. Our zipcode housed the highest number of COVID-19 cases in the City of Chicago in the first months of the pandemic and continued to be exponentially affected up until the distribution of the vaccine. The killing of 13 year old Adam Toledo by a Chicago Police officer occurred blocks from our school building and highlighted an already tenuous relationship with law enforcement in our neighborhood. Coming off of a year of racial reckoning, sparked by the killing of George Floyd, Brianna Taylor and many, many others our hearts are heavy as we work and pray for healing and justice.

Despite this news and the barriers that our families face as a result of institutional racism and a lack of community resources and investment, **we celebrate our home.** We celebrate our families who rely on their strong faith, loving relationships and cultural bonds. Situated between the Stevenson Expressway at our southern limits and stretching roughly along Cermak Road to the north, with Western Avenue and Cicero as our east to west boundaries, we celebrate that this section of Chicago, our "La Villita", is now the main port of entry for Mexican immigrants to the Midwest. We celebrate our thriving local business district, the second highest tax-generating district in the city after the Magnificent Mile. We celebrate our rich history of activism and organizing that has led to significant community progress, creating more green space as well as increased social services and educational opportunities.

Our Lady of Tepeyac has called Little Village home since 1927. Starting with the Sisters of the Resurrection, to our lay leaders today, we have been witness to many changes. From the predominantly Eastern European population of St. Casimir to what is now the largest Mexican American community in the United States, through the struggles and successes, Little Village has always been **home.** We celebrate the good work of our school, our parish and our many partners that live and work in Little Village. We are all committed to making our home a safe and healthy place for all, brimming with possibility and optimism.

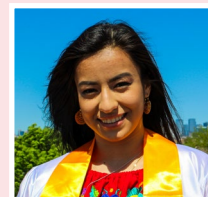
LITTLE VILLAGE RESIDENTS



"I moved to Little Village a year ago, and walking to work has been one of the joys of this experience—it has helped me feel so much more a part of the community that I serve. I can walk to the volleyball game or hear, "Hey, Ms. Kelsey!" as I pop into Dunkin' Donuts for a coffee. I love it here!"

Heather Kelsey

Campus Minister & Religion, Teacher,
Our Lady of Tepeyac High School



"Little Village is a community with a strong standing. Living, working, and attending schools in Little Village has influenced my perspective on my future. I have dedicated my time to become the best role model for my community and family. My neighborhood has shaped me to become hardworking, independent, resourceful, and a leader."

Yajaira Raygoza

Alum, Class of 2019
Loyola University of Chicago



COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Esmeralda De La Luz graduated from Our Lady of Tepeyac in 2014 and Valparaiso University in 2018. In college, she majored in Communications with a concentration in Public Relations and a minor in Spanish.

Always active in the OLT school community, Esme joined our Recruitment team for 2 years before going on to work as a Social Media Manager for the Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council. In her current role, Esme brings awareness through social media platforms on programs and assistance that the Neighborhood Council offers to the community. During the summer she focuses on

Youth Programs that create a safe place for the children in the community.

“OLT has tremendously impacted my work,” says Esme. “As a student, my interest in photography and design started when I took 2 years of publications; the class allowed me to discover a passion to learn how to story-tell through a lens and design. I am truly grateful for the opportunities OLT gave me as a student and now an alumna. Being a part of a community like OLT taught me the importance of service and unity. As a Back of the Yards native, I am proud to now play a small part in giving back to the neighborhood I grew up in. I feel right at home in this organization; I have met wonderful people and helping my community is priceless.”



FROM THE BACK ROW TO SPOTLIGHT

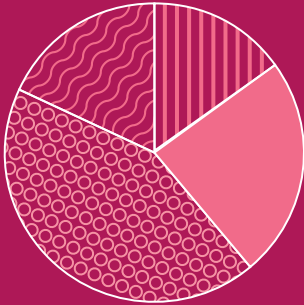
Stephanie Rodriguez, Class of 2006, graduated from Saint Xavier University. She is the Program Coordinator at the UIC Law School, supporting students working towards their law degree and helping to secure internships across the country. When she came to Tepeyac in 2002, she was a shy freshman, and four years later, Stephanie was a strong student, superb athlete and respected leader. Now, she is giving back by serving as an OLT board member.

“Tepeyac provided me with the confidence and determination to take on any task, project, and role. The small all-girls environment helped shape me into a well-rounded, mature, and determined woman who is not afraid to ask questions. OLT taught me to be brave, stay true to myself, and step into the spotlight. The teachers, staff and coaches all taught me to challenge myself and move forward, never backward. It’s my turn to give back and that is why I serve on the board.

Having a seat at the table where strategic plans and leadership decisions are discussed is important. Serving on the board, I can provide first hand experience, contributing to keeping OLT’s mission in the forefront of our efforts. The board allows my voice to be heard, as I represent my fellow alums and rejoice in the growth I see at my alma mater. I want to help the next generation grow in their appreciation of their education, set goals for their future and always give back for what they have received.”

FY 2021

INCOME & EXPENSES



INCOME

Total 100%

- Tuition & Fees (15%)
- Fundraisers (26%)
- Scholarship Grants (44%)
- Program Grants (15%)

Interest & Investment Income (>1%)
Misc. (>1%)

Total Income:

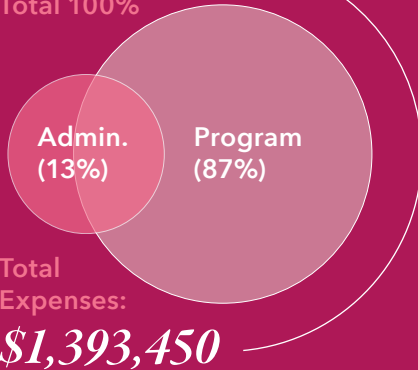
\$1,746,594

85%

of our income is a direct result of generous donations from individuals and foundations

EXPENSES

Total 100%



87% of expenses are dedicated to providing a quality, Catholic education to young women

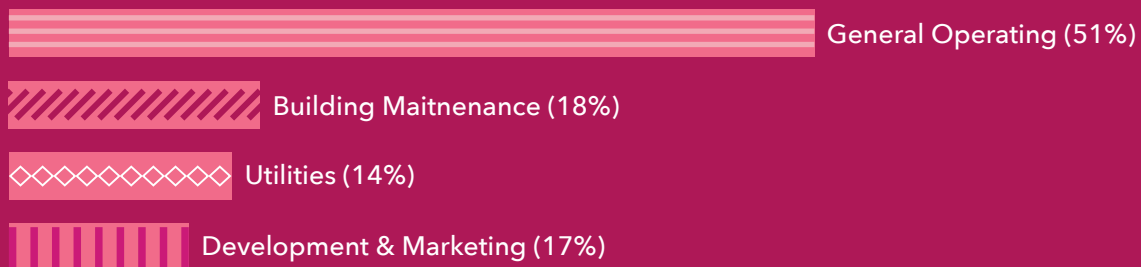
PROGRAM EXPENSES

By Category—Total 100%



- Academics (89%)
- College Readiness (2%)
- Technology (3%)
- Classroom Supplies (2%)
- Student Activities (4%)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES Total 100%



FAITH & SERVICE

The COVID-19 pandemic created numerous scheduling revisions this past school year, rearranging our typical day and greatly impacting our ability to perform service to our community. Service is one of our core values—it's a big part of who we are at Tepeyac. With so many in person health and safety restrictions put in place, we had to rethink our service requirement for students. Our partners at DePaul University's Egan Office for Urban Education and Community Partnerships were instrumental in helping host service opportunities both virtually and in person.

TEPEYAC STUDENTS:

- Transcribed documents for The Smithsonian Museum
- Made cards for kids in hospitals
- Tutored junior high students
- Created art kits for kids experiencing homelessness
- Assisted Pilsen Clothes Closet
- Worked in the food pantry at the Mission of Our Lady of the Angels
- Served hot meals at Care for Friends in Lincoln Park
- Participated in Earth Day park clean ups
- Senior Service Project: students hosted a clothing drive to help the school and community families in the Fall and Spring

Students found ways to make an impact in Little Village and the greater Chicago community at a time when it was most needed. Our girls stepped up to the challenge—even in this COVID year, completing 2,250 hours of service!



*EVEN DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC,
OUR GIRLS STEPPED UP TO THE CHALLENGE.
TOTAL SERVICE/HOURS: 2,250*

TOGETHER WE ROSE To the Challenge



The COVID-19 pandemic greatly affected the residents of Little Village and the surrounding South Side Chicago communities, highlighting gaps in our healthcare system and creating financial hardships that will be long lasting for many Tepeyac families. In the spring and early summer of 2020, our immediate neighborhood zip code of 60623, had the highest number of coronavirus cases across the state of Illinois (source: Department of Public Health). **63% percent of Tepeyac families experienced a reduction in hours or have lost a job, instigated by this health crisis.** Families who were struggling before, were in need of our assistance more than ever. Tepeyac accompanied our girls as they struggled to overcome the new obstacles that they faced.

Our Lady of Tepeyac quickly established an Emergency Fund to assist our families. The Fund raised over \$30,000. With the help of the Big Shoulders Fund, we provided meals, groceries and PPE over the course of the past year, all while continuing to offer a robust academic education and an emotionally supportive, mission driven network for 151 girls.

None of this would have been possible without our amazing teachers. This school year was defined by words like "ADAPTABILITY", "CREATIVITY", "NEW NORMAL" and above all "RESILIENCE". When called into action in March of 2020, Tepeyac teachers took their classes online over the course of one weekend. We supplied laptops, made sure everyone had access to the internet and quickly got up to speed with Zoom. They continued to serve full time and in person throughout this past 2020-2021 school year.

This year, our Tepeyac community has been forced to rely on one another's strength—but this has always been the Tepeyac way. Together, we are Tepeyac.

OUR EMERGENCY FUND PROVIDED:

- Chromebooks
- Giftcards
- Groceries
- Tuition Assistance
- Vaccination Clinic at the school
- Hot Meals
- Holiday Meals
- PPE materials
- Christmas gifts for families

*ADAPTABILITY. CREATIVITY.
NEW NORMAL. RESILIENCE.*

¡CREEMOS! WAS A SUCCESS!



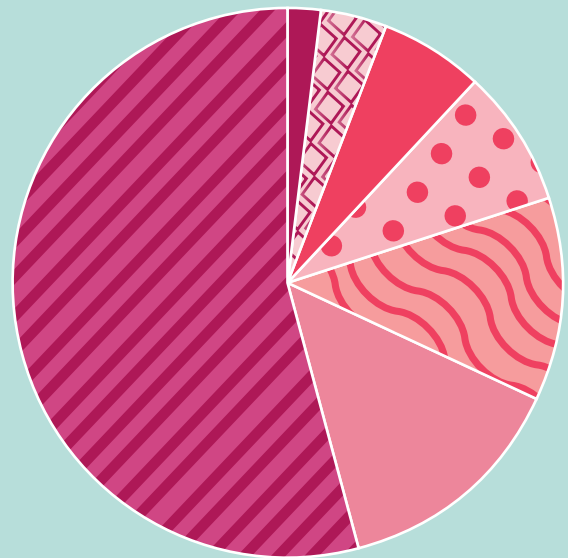
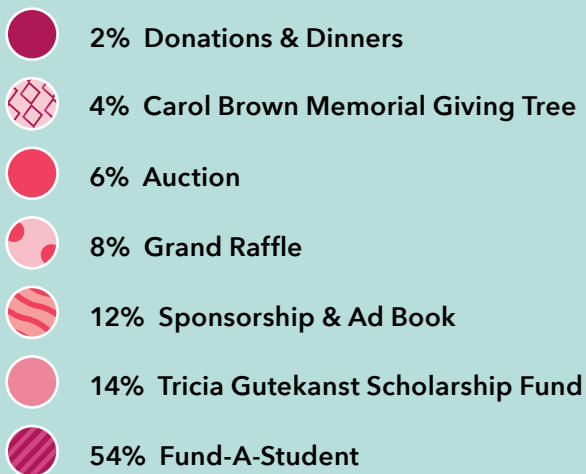
Each year we gather our friends to raise funds for need based scholarships at our ¡Creemos! Benefit. This year, like last, the gathering took place online. Our guests picked up dinner from local restaurants, tuned in online, and made ¡Creemos! a huge success!

*TOGETHER WE EXCEEDED
OUR BUDGET GOAL AND
WE ARE GRATEFUL TO BE
ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE THE
NEEDS OF OUR FAMILIES.*

Together supporters, board members, staff, students, and friends of the school shared our unique Tepeyac stories.

¡CREEMOS!

Total 100%



TOGETHER ¡CREEMOS! WE BELIEVE

CLASS OF 2021



31%
First in family
to graduate
high school

81%
First generation
to attend college

521
College
acceptance
letters

5.97M
Earned in
scholarships
& grants

1,000+
Hours of service
performed by the
Senior class

**18 COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES
AND 2 PROFESSIONAL
TRAINING PROGRAMS**

Colleges Tepeyac Grads are Currently Attending

Agnes Scott College
American University
Arrupe College of Loyola
Beloit College
Bradley University
Cameron University
Clark Atlanta University
College of DuPage
Columbia College, Chicago
DePaul University
Dominican University
Elmhurst College
Flashpoint College
Grand Canyon University
Harold Washington College
Hope College
Lake Forest College
Lawrence University
Lincoln College
Loras College
Malcolm X
Marian University
Millikin University
Moraine Valley Community College
Morton College
National Louis University
Northeastern Illinois University
Richard J Daley College
Robert Morris University
Roosevelt University
Saint Xavier University
South Suburban College
Southern Illinois University -
Edwardsville
St. Augustine College
St. Mary's College Notre Dame, IN
St. Olaf College
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign
University of Wisconsin, Parkside
Wenatchee Valley College

FY21 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

BENEFACTORS:

\$100,000 +

Big Shoulders Fund
Empower Illinois
Sisters of the Resurrection
& the Hermitage
Charitable Trust

PATRONS:

\$50,000-\$99,999

Anonymous
Ann & Richard Carr

STEWARDS:

\$20,000-\$49,999

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W.P. & H.B. White Foundation

SUPPORTERS:

\$10,000-\$19,999

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Namur-Ohio Province
Perry Family Charitable Trust
The Sanbon Family Foundation
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FRIENDS:

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Mary Vihon
Joanne Viola
Adrienne & Paul Virgilio
Wicklander Foundation

SNAPSHOT OF 2021 DONORS

Total Donors: 623

141 NEW DONORS

52 ALUMNAE DONORS

23 FOUNDATIONS

06 COMMUNITIES OF SISTERS

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS



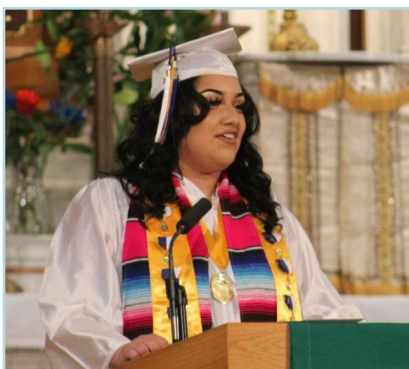
DONORS:

\$1,000-\$4,999

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 Dan & Anne Campbell
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 Connie & Bob Carr
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 Christy Young
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“FOR MANY OF US, TEPEYAC IS A SECOND HOME. IT IS OUR FAMILY AND WE ARE EACH OTHER'S SISTERS...”

—Penny Romero, Class of 2021, Valedictorian

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

ANGELS:

\$1-\$999

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Adrian Dominican Sisters
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Lily De La Luz
Esmeralda De La luz
Wanda Deckwiel-Avila
Jim & Joanne Defervino
Miryam Delgado
Mari Lynn Dempsey
Donna DeSpain

**CLASS
OF 2025
STATS:**

**50 INCOMING
FRESHWOMEN**

18 ZIP CODES

**36 SCHOOLS
REPRESENTED:
13 PUBLIC
17 CATHOLIC
06 CHARTER**

Peter & Linda DiDonato
Patricia DiGangi
Gloria DiGennaro
Martha Dion
Mario DiVito
Nancy DiVito
Robert Dixon
Alice E. Dolan
Margaret M. Dolan
Millicent Donahue
Flannery Donahue
Caelinn Donahue
Maeve Donahue
Addy Donahue
Mary Ellyn Donnell
Joe & Cindy Donnell
Timothy & Kathleen Doron
Tim Doubek
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Adisa Gray & April Dumas-Gray
Martin L. Dumas, III
Mary Kay Dunleavy
Cheri Dwyer
John Dyble
Janet Each Cullina
Joan Each Rowan
Jim & Kathy Earner
Myron Eberle
Loretta Ebert
Gregory Eisin
Cheryl Elish
Joanne Emerson
Everything's Relative Salon & Spa
Michelle Fallon
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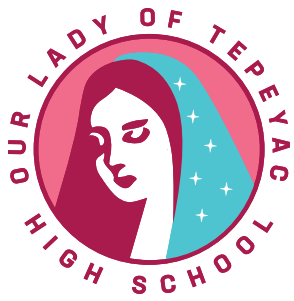
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