



2021-2022 Annual Fund Campaign Connected in Giving



Dear Families and Community Members:

This year serves as an opportunity for each of us to connect with new friends, reconnect with your Aspen Academy community, and engage once again through giving your time, talents, and resources. Alongside the beginning of a new school year, so begins our Annual Fund. We ask for your participation by contributing and confirming your commitment to our school and to each other.

Your donations to the Annual Fund allow us to continue the programs that benefit all of our extraordinary students, their learning, and your teachers.

- **Students & Community:** Student scholarships are the foundation of recruiting and accepting all mission-fit students. Funding this program supports our expansive reach to include more students who will receive a nationally recognized education at Aspen Academy.
- **Teachers:** Your donation dollars enable us to continue to offer a robust, on-going professional development program for our faculty. Aspen Academy teachers are invested in your student's individual path of growing, learning and leading. And we connect in support of their Professional Development path.
- **Learning:** Our continuous curriculum development and improvement is supported by your generous participation in the Annual Fund. Guided by our elected Academic Chairs, Aspen Academy researches, adopts and implements the highest quality curriculum in all content areas of education.

Thank you in advance for your partnership and generous support to continue these three vital program components. Our Annual Fund goal is \$420,000 which is an average of \$1,000 per student. We understand this is a personal decision and some families will find this a stretch, while other families may be in the unique situation to contribute more to support our community. Regardless of your gift, we ask for you to connect to Aspen Academy, to your children and to their future by volunteering, engaging in community events and being part of creating our community.

Be Kind, Do Good, Work Hard. Make the World Better. These are the values that connect us tried and true.



We thank you in advance for your partnership.

Love,

Kristina Scala, Founder & President of Aspen Academy



The Annual Fund Provides Important Resources For Teachers, Learning and Students

TEACHERS

"High quality professional development for teachers is essential if we are to give our students the best education possible."

Your generous support of the Annual Fund helps us to attract, recruit and grow the nation's finest and most expert teachers. Their continuous learning tracks will improve teaching strategies, instruction, planning and individual classroom support. At Aspen Academy, teachers present a mastery of challenging content, and model critical thinking, complex problem-solving, effective communication, collaboration and self-direction for our students.

"Teachers love learning! We not only love helping others grow, but we are doing our best to grow as well. Professional development is an essential part of all of that. It is our opportunity to hone in on a topic we feel passionate about. Just like you would want your doctor to do, we want to make sure we are up to date with the latest research and practices." - Katie Hamel, 2nd Grade Teacher

LEARNING

Today's learners face a rapidly changing future that demands far different skills and knowledge than we needed in the 20th century. At Aspen Academy, we continually invest in the curriculum, tools and technology necessary to provide next generation education. The Annual Fund allows for this critical research, development, purchasing and implementation work to occur in all academic domains. Generating and sustaining an environment in which this kind of relevant, cutting-edge learning that is preparing our students to have the knowledge, skills and habits they need to succeed in their future is made possible by your generous investments in the Annual Fund.

"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning?" - Brad Henry

STUDENTS & COMMUNITY

At Aspen Academy, we are committed to full and diverse enrollment, providing an education of consequence for all mission fit families. To this end, our Annual Fund supports families in our community with need-based, financial aid programs that allow the cost to be affordable. By offering this program, we are building important socio-economic diversity as well as recognizing and rewarding the talents and potential of all children.

"Aspen Academy has been our daughter's family and community since we moved to the States (and she started pre-K). She learned to speak English at this school and to navigate a new culture in a safe place. Since then, she has been thriving both academically and personally.... so this means the world to us!"
THANK YOU! We are extremely thankful for financial aid and that our daughter gets the opportunity to finish her education at Aspen Academy.

Annual Fund FAQs

What does the Annual Fund Support?

The Annual Fund supports three buckets that are necessary to our success; financial aid for students in need, teacher professional development and curriculum enhancement.

Why am I being asked to support the Annual Fund in addition to paying tuition?

Tuition alone does not cover the full expense for a student to attend Aspen Academy. As an independent school and 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Aspen Academy relies on the generous support of our community to improve and fund these critical areas that cannot be covered by tuition and fees.

Why not raise tuition?

Aspen Academy maintains the lowest tuition of the state's Association of Colorado Independent Schools. At our tuition levels, the school is able to make an Aspen Academy education more affordable to more families. Like every independent school, we conduct an Annual Fund. Many families appreciate the opportunity to claim a federal tax deduction and in some cases, a state tax credit. Gifts to the school are tax deductible, but tuition is not.

Who donates to the Annual Fund?

Everyone! All of our constituents participate in our Annual Fund Giving Campaign. We strive to receive 100% participation from current families, trustees, faculty, staff, administrators, grandparents and alumni. Your contribution is essential to our success.

How much should I give?

You are the only one who knows how much you are able to give. We strive to reach an average of \$1,000 per student and gifts range from \$50-\$50,000. For reference, the median annual giving per student at a Colorado independent school in 2019-2020 was \$1,936. We encourage each family to make the school a philanthropic priority especially while your children are in attendance.

Why is participation important?

The school's financial strength is dependent upon the participation of all members of its constituency. Participation sends a strong message of support for the school and our students. The only way we will continue to support our commitment to our teachers, our students, and our program is through your donations.

May I make a pledge in fulfillment of an Annual Fund Gift?

Yes. Gifts to the Annual Fund Campaign may be fulfilled by pledges and you may pay in installments scheduled throughout the school year.

I'd like to learn more about the Annual Fund and get more details about the allocation. Who can help me?

Our team is ready to help with anything you need. Please contact Debbie Cordero for more information: debbie.codero@aspenacademy.org.

GIVING LEVELS

Associated Benefits

(include all benefits up to your giving level)

Founder's Circle	\$10,000 and above	Attendance requested at annual donor Head Of School event in May
Leadership Circle	\$5,000 - \$9,999	Name displayed on Dedication Plaque
Head of School Circle	\$2,500 - \$4,999	Exclusive Aspen Academy thank you gift
Scholar's Circle	\$2,499 - \$1,000	Acknowledgement on our website
Honor's Circle	Up to \$999	Name listed in weekly newsletter

GIFTS CAN BE MADE:

- Securely online via credit card at www.aspenacademy.org/giving Click "Donate Now" or scan QR code below.
- Via check payable to Aspen Academy sent to 5859 S University Blvd, Greenwood Village, CO 80121.
- A Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA (which may satisfy your required minimum distribution)
- Via stock transfer
- Via Venmo: [@Aspen-Academy](https://www.venmo.com/Aspen-Academy)

Donate Today at aspenacademy.org/giving

