



inner-city



Save the Dates!

The 26th Annual Lawyers Luncheon
Cipriani 42nd Street
Thursday, November 5, 2015

The 39th Annual Award Dinner
Mandarin Oriental
Tuesday, December 14, 2015

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Fax 212-371-6461
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Newsletter of Inner-City Scholarship Fund | Summer/Fall 2015

Edward Cardinal Egan, Frank Rooney, and Ann Mara

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SAYING GOODBYE TO GREAT FRIENDS

This year, Inner-City Scholarship Fund lost four great champions of Catholic education: His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Egan, James B. "Jimmy" Lee, Jr., Ann Mara, and Francis C. "Frank" Rooney, Jr. Throughout their lives, these four outstanding individuals made Catholic education a viable option for thousands of underprivileged children in New York City.

On March 10th, over 2,500 guests, including Governor Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio, gathered at St. Patrick's Cathedral to pay their respects to Edward Cardinal Egan. During his tenure as Archbishop of New York and Chairman of Inner-City Scholarship Fund, over \$100

million in scholarships were awarded to underprivileged children to attend Catholic school in the Archdiocese of New York. His Eminence was a firm believer that all children should have access to a quality education and fought passionately for them throughout his episcopal career.

Known as "The First Lady of Football," New York Giants owner Ann Mara passed away at the age of 85. A funeral mass was held at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, the same church where she was baptized and both met and married her late husband, Wellington Mara. Ann played a significant role in providing scholarship support for children to attend Catholic school. Her generosity toward

(continued on page 8)

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Dear Friends,

As fall approaches, grateful students reflect on the many lessons that have marked their growth over the past year and look forward to the new challenges ahead. At Inner-City, we are taking this time to remember four champions of education: His Eminence, Edward Cardinal Egan, James B. “Jimmy” Lee, Jr., Ann Mara, and Francis C. “Frank” Rooney, Jr. Through their commitment to Catholic schools, they have taught us all a lesson in kindness, deliberation and effecting change.

For over 43 years, Inner-City Scholarship Fund and its donors have worked together to provide underprivileged children with the enormous opportunity to attend Catholic school. Their enrollment is the driving force that will break the cycle of poverty—and the key that will open up countless doors in their futures. We, like the students at Inner-City supported schools, have a lot to be grateful for.

- **Over 7,000** students receive a scholarship to attend Catholic school
- **98%** of high school seniors graduate
- **96%** of graduates pursue higher education

Please read on for a glimpse into the changing lives of the students and families at Inner-City supported schools. Their stories, along with our featured Class of 2015 graduates, demonstrate the impact of our mission far better than I can explain. Thank you for your support—it is the reason why so many students are able to make their dreams a reality.

Sincerely,

Susan George
Executive Director

STAFF

Susan George
Executive Director
Lucson Andre
Controller
Christine Berko
Office Manager
Camille Brown
Deputy Director
Christine Desposito
Coordinator, Job Opportunities Program
Alexandra Failla
Development Associate
Godwin Francis
Data Associate

Kelvin Gentles
Director, Development and Scholarship Programs
Michael Goldberg
Manager, Donor Communications
Mindy Goldstein
Executive Assistant
Vanessa Luciano
Coordinator, Sponsorship Program
Daniel Mileno
Director, Marketing and Communications
Katharine Muccia
Coordinator, Events

Daniel Peters
Development Associate
Ryan Quick
Director, Institutional Support
Mark Robinson
Manager, Institutional Support
Caitlan Rossi
Coordinator, Direct Marketing
Alyson Vetter
Director, Development and Special Events
Jennifer Ward
Gift Processing Associate

Amanda Pellerano
St. Joseph’s College

Shavanna Persaud
Nassau Community College

Carrie Ann Sapinoso
Iona College

Tonya Turner
Barry University

Heather Valerio
Manhattan College

LA SALLE ACADEMY

Johnhairo Dilone
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Leonardo Lamboglia
Hope College

Davonte McLain
St. Francis College

MONSIGNOR SCANLAN
HIGH SCHOOL

Egypt Chambers
Iona College

Destiny Charles
Mount Saint Mary College

Mia Crooms
Undecided

Emily Estrella
*Borough of Manhattan
Community College*

Luis Madrigal
Lehman College

Leslie Parra
Babson College

Alex Peart
Pace University

Delvin Sweeney
Five Towns College

Luis Torres
*Southern Connecticut
State University*

Nina Vazquez
Bronx Community College

MOORE CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL

Erick Anderson
Undecided

MOUNT ST. MICHAEL
ACADEMY

Ta Juane Burnes
Manhattan College

Marcos Cruz
University at Buffalo - SUNY

David Dominguez
SUNY Buffalo State

Addrian Ferrarie
University at Buffalo - SUNY

Bernard Ferris
Hostos Community College

Darius Hodges
Hampton University

Dondre Lemon
Long Island University

Justin Martinez
Utica College

Robert Tejeda
*John Jay College
of Criminal Justice*

Gregory Vives
American University

NOTRE DAME SCHOOL
OF MANHATTAN

Joralysa Conley
Barnard College

Brianna Cook
Morgan State University

Diomercy Espinal
University of New Haven

Princess Gordon
Cornell University

Zoraima Holguin
CUNY - Undecided

Ourania Katehis
Adelphi University

Alyssa Roldan
Pace University

PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL

Anelis Acevedo
St. John’s University

Maria Acosta-Scagnelli
Iona College

Kaylynn Alicea
LaSalle University

Alicia Ballinas
Manhattan College

Aida Castro
Mercy College

Cres Guillen Ceralde
*Pace University -
Pleasantville Campus*

Olivera Kalaj
Fordham University

Keyra Navas
Cornell University

Juliette Nivar
Fordham University

Victoria Rose Rivera
College of New Rochelle

SACRED HEART
HIGH SCHOOL

Stephanie Mendez
Mount Saint Mary College

ST. BARNABAS HIGH SCHOOL

Chelsea Bellamy
St. John’s University

Ericka Miranda
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Zahra Naroor
Manhattan College

Sobrel Allison Okpo
Harvard University

Sarah Owusu
St. John’s University

Rohana Sosa
Pace University

ST. CATHARINE ACADEMY

Janelle Classpeter-Williams
Undecided

Priscilla Dilone
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Cindy Hidalgo
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Nina Hodge
*Borough of Manhattan
Community College*

Sabrina LoMedico
Pace University

Kimberly Pena
Dominican College

ST. GEORGE ACADEMY

Miles Nieves
St. John’s University

ST. JEAN BAPTISTE
HIGH SCHOOL

Amber Boncenor
Bronx Community College

Kimberly Castillo
Baruch College

Tiffany Colon
New York University

Sabrina Cruz
SUNY Oswego

Christy Enama
City College of New York

Ana Maria Espinal
Ithaca College

Escarleth Fernandez
Stony Brook University

Ajia Gardner
SUNY Buffalo State

Mya Gonzalez
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Johanna Hernandez
University at Albany - SUNY

Francheska Romero
*John Jay College
of Criminal Justice*

Joselis Salazar
New York University

Kaelyn Swensen
Mercy College

Laura Willson
Hunter College

ST. RAYMOND ACADEMY
FOR GIRLS

Leigha Gonzalez
*Borough of Manhattan
Community College*

Faith Healy
Saint Leo University

Alexis Pillot
SUNY New Paltz

Kristine Ramirez
Hartwick College

Teniesea Russell
New York University

Victoria Urizar
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Justine Valentine
*Borough of Manhattan
Community College*

ST. RAYMOND HIGH SCHOOL
FOR BOYS

Justin Concepcion
Nyack College

Bryant Jimenez
CUNY - Undecided

Pedro Jimenez
Iona College

Arturo Perez
CUNY - Undecided

Jesse Rolon
*Borough of Manhattan
Community College*

Matthew Valencia
*New York City College
of Technology*

Robert Velasquez
Fashion Institute of Technology

ST. VINCENT FERRER
HIGH SCHOOL

Precious Ortega
SUNY Geneseo, ROTC

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2015



ACADEMY OF MOUNT ST. URSULA

Shelandah Brissett
The College of Saint Rose

Loraine Castillo
Sage College of Albany

Alexis Cumba
SUNY New Paltz

Channel De La Cruz
LIU Brooklyn

Zandra Hernandez
College of Mount Saint Vincent

Kathy Huot
New York University

Maria Madera
Undecided

Brianna Morris
New England College

Karla Ortiz
Manhattan College

Aimee Roman
Dominican College

Celeste Rosario
Rutgers University

ALL HALLOWS HIGH SCHOOL

Mario Cabrera
Camden County College

Anthony Gomez
University at Albany - SUNY

Justin Guzman
York College

Cleavon Hampson
SUNY Binghamton

Mishaël Lopez
Undecided

Fidel Lozano
Fordham University

Ramfis Minaya
University at Buffalo - SUNY

Wander Molier
Berkeley College

Joseph Nguyen
University at Albany - SUNY

Christopher Olivo
SUNY Oswego

Khalil Perry
Virginia State University

Zachary Ramirez
Manhattanville College

Michael Rodriguez
New York Film Academy

Jalen Smith
University at Albany - SUNY

Jose Troche
St. John's University

Jorge Vargas
Iona College

Terrence Williams
Monroe College

AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL

Tyra Campbell
SUNY Purchase College

Jaylene Castillo
Dominican College

Kaylah Clark
College of Staten Island

Kiah Clarke
University of Connecticut

Jenna Feliz
Hunter College

Carmen Gonzalez
Stony Brook University

Liechelle Hernandez
Syracuse University

Melissa Kalaj
Hunter College

Imani Luke
Undecided

Isaura Martinez
Berkeley College

Stephanie Mercado
College of Staten Island

Madeline Ogaldez
New York University

Jeritzel Reynoso
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Natalie Rodriguez
Borough of Manhattan Community College

Zobeida Rosario
Clarkson University

Yanna Sanchez
College of Staten Island

Danielle Serrano
College of Staten Island

CARDINAL HAYES HIGH SCHOOL

Francisco Agostini
Lehman College

Eduardo Aguilar
Dominican College

Jason Bariffe
College at Brockport - SUNY

Jhovanny Bisoño
Brooklyn College

Ariel Corozo
Fordham University

Basit Dar
Siena College

Alex Flores
LaGuardia Community College

Devyn Flores
SUNY Adirondack

Yakubu Gana
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Alfred Garcia Escamilla
Borough of Manhattan Community College

Kevin Gonzalez
Hunter College

Romello Gonzalez
Borough of Manhattan Community College

Jayson Hernandez
LaGuardia Community College

David Le
Pace University

Gerickson Lopez
Cornell University

Joyner Meregildo
Fordham University

Joseph Morales
Siena College

Christian Panora
SUNY New Paltz

Jeffrey Perez
SUNY Canton

Oscar Ricketts
Bronx Community College

Albert Smith
Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Sebastian Sugrimsingh
Mercy College

Devon Williams
Utica College

CARDINAL SPELLMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Alexis Ademisoye
Virginia Commonwealth University

Bryana Barnes
Dominican College

Eric Chavez
Saint Peter's University

Natavia Crandall
Cornell University

Faith Heredia
University of New Hampshire

Romina Jaramillo
Westchester Community College

Bryan Parahoy
Berkeley College

Emily Perez
Westchester Community College

Lenin Young
St. John's University

CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Chanel Burgess
St. John's University

Margarita Cardozo
Boston University

Ceairra Carr
Rhode Island College

Britney Cuevas
Borough of Manhattan Community College

Tiffany Guerrero
Columbia University

Ashley Martinez
Borough of Manhattan Community College

FRIENDS OF INNER-CITY RAISE OVER \$900,000



Timothy Cardinal Dolan with Gala Chairs Katherine and John Doyle

On Tuesday, May 12th, supporters of Inner-City Scholarship Fund raised over \$900,000 at the 39th Annual FRIENDS Gala at Cipriani 42nd Street in Manhattan. 425 guests attended the event to help provide tuition assistance for low-income students attending inner-city Catholic schools within the Archdiocese of New York.

His Eminence, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, and Gala Chairs, Katherine and John Doyle of Rye, NY attended the event where Fox 5 news anchor Dari Alexander served as the Master of Ceremonies.

“Providing the children of New York a quality education is not only important for the students themselves, but for the future of our city,” said Susan George, Executive Director of Inner-City. “Today’s students are our future leaders and it is wonderful to bring together so many champions of education to ensure that the gift of an excellent Catholic school education continues to be an option for students of all faiths both today and in the future.”

Scholarship recipient Joralysa Conley, a senior at Notre Dame School of Manhattan, who will attend Barnard College in the fall, followed these

remarks with a moving speech. She emphasized the importance of education and how her scholarship changed her life by allowing her to overcome traumatic family experiences.

In addition to dinner and dancing, guests enjoyed a performance by choirs from St. Raymond Academy for Girls and St. Raymond High School for Boys.

Next up on our event calendar, Inner-City will host the 26th Annual Lawyers Luncheon on Thursday, November 5, 2015 and the 39th Annual Award Dinner on Tuesday, December 14, 2015. **Please Save the Dates.**

To learn more about our future events, please contact Alyson Vetter at Vetter@innercitynyc.org.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE RAISES OVER \$414,000

Nearly 200 guests, including NBA Hall of Famer Chris Mullen, joined His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan on Tuesday, June 2nd for the Capital Improvements Committee (formerly Project YESS) annual reception at Top of the Rock Observation Deck at Rockefeller Center. The event provided more than just stunning views, as over \$414,000 was raised through an extensive silent auction that included VIP tickets to the Good Morning America Concert Series, New York Giants tickets, and a VIP package to attend the world famous Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree lighting ceremony.

Proceeds from the event will help St. Ann School, St. Ignatius School and Corpus Christi School replace broken doors and fix a communications system that will make their students safer and create an environment more conducive for learning.

Led by co-chairs Jeff Mullen and Timothy Dempsey, the Capital



Corpus Christi School students join NBA Hall of Famer Chris Mullen to present a St. John's basketball jersey to Timothy Cardinal Dolan

Improvements Leadership Committee is comprised of a dedicated group of business leaders who volunteer their time to ensure Catholic schools remain safe havens for inner-city students. Since its inception, the committee has granted over \$5.1 million to fund 280 projects providing necessary repairs

and renovations that help increase enrollment and keep students safe.

To learn more about the Capital Improvements Committee and how to get involved, please contact Mark Robinson at Robinson@innercitynyc.org.

MEET A STUDENT ON OUR WAIT-LIST



Andres, a 6th grade student at St. Anselm School

Andres is a 6th grader at St. Anselm School. He lives in the Bronx with his older brother and his parents, who support the family on an annual income of \$21,083. Andres is a first honors student whose favorite subject is history. He is extremely active at his school and belongs to the choir, science club, and band.

When he's not in school, Andres plays clarinet as a member of the New York Honor Band ensemble. He also volunteers at a local soup kitchen and lends a helping hand to his elderly neighbor. During his spare time, Andres also loves to play basketball and read.

His father worked at a restaurant in the Bronx for 35 years, but since a fire destroyed the restaurant he has struggled to support the family.

Andres is currently on the wait-list to receive an Inner-City scholarship. Won't you help by becoming his sponsor?

Please contact Kelvin Gentles at Gentles@innercitynyc.org to learn how you can Be A Student's Friend by sponsoring a portion of Andres' tuition.

SPONSORS AND STUDENTS MEET AT GRADUATION RECEPTION

On Tuesday, May 5th, 35 Inner-City supported students from the 2015 graduation class joined their sponsors in Dillon Hall at the Archdiocese of New York for the annual Be A Student's Friend graduation reception. For many of the sponsors and students in attendance, the reception marked the first time they were meeting each other. It provided an opportunity for students to share their accomplishments and for sponsors to have a firsthand look at the impact a Catholic education had on their students.

Inner-City scholarship recipient Gerickson Lopez, a senior at Cardinal Hayes High School, spoke on behalf of the graduating class. Gerickson is valedictorian of his class and received four full scholarship offers from prestigious colleges, including Cornell University, where he will be attending school in the fall. His sponsors, Susan and Edward Reilly also attended the event. Gerickson said "I had never met my sponsors until today, but I know they believed in me wholeheartedly. They aided me in making my dream a reality. Without Mr.



Graduating student Gerickson Lopez addresses sponsors and students at the Be A Student's Friend graduation reception

and Mrs. Reilly, I don't know if I would be where I am today."

Inner-City Executive Director Susan George closed the event by presenting the longest sponsor award to Sabina Wu, who sponsored her student Francheska Romero for 10 years since she was in 2nd grade.

To learn more about Inner-City's sponsorship program, please contact Kelvin Gentles at Gentles@innercitynyc.org.

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS OFFER LIFE-CHANGING OPPORTUNITIES

On April 10, 2015, nearly 200 young professionals enjoyed an open bar and buffet dinner at the Inner-City Scholarship Fund Junior Committee's annual Spring Soiree at Mutual of America's 34th floor lounge overlooking Park Avenue. With the help of a silent auction and raffle tickets, close to \$20,000 was raised to support volunteer enrichment programs and scholarships for Inner-City students.

The Junior Committee is comprised of young professionals who volunteer their time to provide over 5,000 underprivileged students with access to a number of programs, including tutoring, basketball, field trips and holiday parties. In addition, the Committee hosts several social events throughout the year to give its volunteers an opportunity to network with other young professionals.



Junior Committee volunteers take 6th graders from Corpus Christi School to the American Museum of Natural History

The Juniors provide hands-on experiences to students who would otherwise lack the opportunities to receive invaluable experiences outside of the classroom and beyond their neighborhoods.

For more information about how to get involved with the Junior Committee, please contact Michael Goldberg at Goldberg@innercitynyc.org.

INNER-CITY STUDENTS RECEIVE REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE



High school juniors participate in job-readiness workshops through the Job Opportunities Program

On Saturday, May 16th, volunteers and Inner-City supported students completed the last of this semester's six Job Opportunities Program workshops. During each session, volunteers help guide students through a job-readiness curriculum

that includes lessons in resume writing, email and Facebook etiquette, time and money management and mock interviews. At the conclusion of the workshops, students are placed in paid internships at premier corporations and organizations throughout New York City.

Bill Creamer, a sponsor of the Job Opportunities Program and manager at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP says, "The interns we get from the Job Opportunities Program are always highly motivated and of the highest quality overall. I look forward to summers knowing that I'll have some quality interns to work with on our more interesting projects."

Each year, 130 high school juniors participate in the program and 55 companies and non-profits in New York City provide paid summer internships. 100% of program participants graduate high school and pursue higher education.

For more information about the Job Opportunities Program, please contact Christine Desposito at Desposito@innercitynyc.org.

SAYING GOODBYE TO GREAT FRIENDS (CONTINUED)



Jimmy Lee with Christine and Stephen Schwarzman

pastoral, educational and charitable endeavors touched so many lives and her legacy will live on for generations to come.

Frank Rooney was a business giant and philanthropic leader. He served as Chief Executive Officer of the Melville Corporation, where he transformed a shoe company into a retail behemoth embracing CVS, Thom McAn and Marshall's. As a founding trustee of Inner-City Scholarship Fund, he left a legacy as part of the first generation of business leaders led by His Eminence, Terrence Cardinal Cooke to help preserve Catholic schools in New York City's inner-city neighborhoods. Frank was a treasured member of the Inner-City family for more than three decades and helped thousands of low income children receive a Catholic education.

Jimmy Lee, the Vice Chairman of JP Morgan Chase & Co and head of its Investment Bank was more than just an industry legend. As a former Inner-City trustee, Jimmy founded the organization's Corporate Committee, which has engaged countless companies in New York City to raise

millions of dollars. He and his wife Beth also served as chairs of Inner-City's annual Gala in 2010 and he was co-chair of the 2014 Award Dinner, which raised an event record \$2.3 million. Inner-City and JP Morgan established a \$1 million scholarship endowment called the "Jimmy Lee Fund," which continues to build on donations provided by Jimmy's friends, family and colleagues after his death. To learn more about this endowment please visit www.jimmyleefund.org.

Inner-City Scholarship Fund offers its deepest condolences to the Egan, Lee, Mara and Rooney families as we remember and celebrate their lives that had a tremendous impact on inner-city students and the Catholic schools they attended.

To make a gift in memory of Edward Cardinal Egan, Jimmy Lee, Ann Mara, or Frank Rooney, please call 212-753-8583 or visit InnerCityScholarshipFund.org/donate.



Edward Cardinal Egan with Catholic school students

A GLANCE AT A SPONSORSHIP

Inner-City donor Eileen Solomon recently shared the story of Talaysia Griffin, a sixth-grader she sponsors at Mount Carmel - Holy Rosary. Eileen became involved in the scholarship program in 2009 at the insistence of a friend who is also a sponsor. A graduate of public school herself, Eileen believes in the value of a Catholic education. Through Inner-City, she was matched with Talaysia.

Now, Eileen visits Mount Carmel up to four times a year and enjoys attending Talaysia's school concerts. Determined to see Talaysia succeed, she encourages her to work hard and notes her many academic accomplishments. Eileen

reports that Talaysia has become a confident student who loves reading, writing, and art. Talaysia even sends her the book reviews that she writes as a hobby.

This sponsorship experience has been one filled with lessons for both sponsor and student. For Eileen, it has been an opportunity to learn about the Catholic school system in the Archdiocese of New York. For Talaysia, it has been the motivation behind scholastic achievement and personal growth. These mutually positive outcomes serve as a testament to Catholic schools and their potential to change lives in the classroom and beyond.



Sponsor Eileen Solomon with her student, Talaysia Griffin

FACTS AND NUMBERS

\$11,000,000

in scholarship awards provided each year

98%

of high school seniors attending Inner-City Scholarship Fund supported schools graduate

7,000+

students are currently receiving scholarships

69%

of inner-city Catholic school students live near or below the federal poverty level

92%

of inner-city Catholic school students are minorities

96%

of graduates pursue post-secondary education



1) The de Nicola family enjoying the 39th FRIENDS Gala
2) Blackstone volunteers paint St. Ann School in Harlem
3) Sponsor Eloise Donofrio with her graduating student, Amanda Pellerano
4) Sponsors Christine and Stephen Schwarzman with graduating students Alicia Ballinas, Cres Guillen Ceralde, Sabrina Cruz, Bernard Ferris, Luis Madrigal, Emily Perez, Alexis Pillot, Luis Torres and Victoria Urizar
5) Capital Improvements Committee member Andrea Baker with guests at Top of the Rock
6) Sponsors Edward and Kathleen Ludwig with graduating student, Tonya Turner



7) Sponsors Rosemarie and Leighton Longhi with graduating student, Princess Gordon
8) Junior Committee executive co-chair Alyssa Beachum and other young professionals enjoying the Junior Committee Spring Gala
9) Volunteers from Viacom take Ascension School 4th graders on a field trip to the Intrepid Museum
10) Sponsor Theresa Carballal with graduating student, Stephanie Mercado
11) Inner-City President Peter Grauer with his wife Laurie, Trustees Patricia and Thomas Quick and family, and friend Helen Lowe

