



FACE

FAMILY AID – CATHOLIC EDUCATION



FACE Newsletter | Fall 2021
Diocese of Oakland

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Director, FACE

TO MAKE A GIFT

Please contact Terri Porter at 510-267-8314 or email at tporter@oakdiocese.org or oakdiocese.org/face



From the Director



Being thankful is such an important practice to hold onto in this fast paced world in which we live... simply noticing the things we are thankful of.

This past year has given us a lot of time to be reflective, grateful, and understand what's important in life. It's times like these that I am proud to be the Director of FACE. Working to advance equity, reduce disparities and support underserved families across Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, is embedded in FACE's mission. With you, our generous donors, we are making a difference, one student at a time.

As I enter my fourth year with FACE, I am still humbled and blessed to be a part of such a loving and loyal community of donors. On behalf of the FACE Board, FACE Staff and FACE Families thank you for your support.

We enter the 2021-2022 school year coming out of our best fundraising year to date. Because of you, our generous donors, we awarded 906 students including those in partnership with The Basic Fund. 610 elementary students were awarded \$2,500.00 per year and 296 high school students were awarded \$3,500.00. We are also pleased to announce we maintained our 5 Named Scholarship awards.

But despite financial awards to 906 students, we still have almost 400 students on our waitlist. As we continued to navigate through COVID-19, I hope you and your family remain healthy, and continue to learn ways to contribute to improving humanity. We pledge our continued support to all the students regardless of race, gender, or religion and believe value of a great education is invaluable to our adolescents, communities, and the world.

One of my favorite quotes from Mother Teresa "One thing that I ask of you: Never be afraid of giving. There is a deep joy in giving, since what we receive is much more than what we give."

Please consider donating to FACE by visiting the FACE website at oakdiocese.org/face or contact me at 510-267-8314; TPorter@oakdiocese.org

The Barroso-Branco Family

Our family is truly blessed to have been a recipient of the FACE scholarship. This generous scholarship allowed us to send our daughter, Mattea to Our Lady of Grace Catholic School. Working for the Diocese of Oakland for almost 15 years, it has always been my prayer to be able to send my child to a school where they offer education that combines strong Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence. Sincere gratitude and prayers to all the benefactors and the FACE leadership for providing opportunities to many children in our diocese. May God's blessings come to you a thousand fold.



Named Scholarship

Establishing a named annual scholarship is an act of generosity that allows you to make a difference in a particular student's educational path. This program allows the donor to name the scholarship and to select whether they wish to fund a grammar school or high school student. They can name a specific student, or have FACE select the student most in need.

For an elementary school student, the initial gift is \$5,000 and \$7,500 for a high school student.

Scholarships are restricted to those students who demonstrate financial need defined by FACE granting guidelines and meet academic eligibility.

Thank you to our Named Scholarship donors for the 2021-2022 school year!

THE KELLY FAMILY FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Aniya Lewis, 11th Grade, Bishop O'Dowd High School

THE KARLESKIND FAMILY FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Genesis Finley, 7th Grade, St. Leo the Great School

THE GARD FAMILY FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Andrew Garcia-Valencia, 5th Grade, St. David School

THE O'GRADY FAMILY FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Gianna Rubio, 2nd Grade, Queen of All Saints

THE BLACK FAMILY FACE OF THE FUTURE ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Nathaniel Tejano, 9th Grade, Salesian High School

If you would like more information about the FACE of the Future Named Scholarship, please call Terri Porter at 510-267-8314 or email tporter@oakdiocese.org

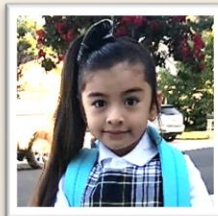
MEET OUR NEW BOARD CHAIR

Keith Cosbey is excited to be kicking off the 21-22 school year as the Board Chair after having been an active board member since 2010. Keith is originally from Buffalo, New York and was Catholic educated in the Diocese of Buffalo at a Diocesan elementary school and a Christian Brothers High School, St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. He then began his western migration by completing his undergraduate degree at The University of Notre Dame in Indiana and subsequently consulted for Accenture in their downtown Chicago office. In the late 90s, Keith first visited the Diocese of Oakland to sing with the ND Glee Club at St. Isidore Parish and later moved to Danville in 2003 with fellow Glee Club members Justin Gagnon and Ryan Mariotti to co-found Choicelunch, the school lunch program that takes care of over 300 schools throughout California. While working with many of our schools, Keith witnessed school closures in the early 2000s and wanted to get involved in some way to prevent additional closures. His search to help led him to FACE and he hasn't left since.



In 2008, Keith joined the Cathedral of Christ the Light dedication choir and met a talented soprano and his future wife, Christine Wong. Christine graduated from St. Mary's College in Moraga and also completed her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential from SMC. She was a teacher aide at St. Theresa in Oakland and later taught her own classroom at St. Jerome School in El Cerrito. The Cosbys have three children: Christopher (8) and Olivia (6) attend St. Isidore School while Nicholas (4) attends St. Raymond Preschool in Dublin. With Catholic education being a cornerstone to their family's past, present, and future - the Cosbys know first-hand the blessings and benefits that come from a Catholic education. Supporting FACE helps bring these opportunities to families throughout the Diocese of Oakland and also increases enrollment at schools that rely on FACE grants. We have schools that need these students and students that need our schools. Thank you for your help bridging that gap!

2021-2022 Named Scholarship Recipients



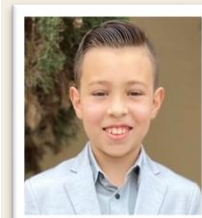
My name is Gianna Rubio and I am going into the second grade at Queen of All Saints. I am seven years old. I have been going to Queen of All Saints since preschool and I love going to school here. I like going to class to see my teachers and classmates and playing with them during recess.

Hi my name is Genesis Nicole Finley. I am a student at Saint Leo the Great school entering into the 7th grade. I love to play basketball and board games. I enjoy hanging out with my friends, going outside, making videos, and taking pictures. When I grow up I want to be a photographer as I enjoy taking pictures.



Hello. My name is Nathaniel Tejano and I was born and raised in the bay area of Contra Costa. My hobbies are computer games, going to Disneyland, playing basketball, watching movies, and connecting with friends. My father is an instructor for martial arts. Everyone in my family holds a black belt and I received mine last year. My plans for the future is to become a veterinary or a mechanical engineer.

My name is Aniya Lewis. I attended Saint Leo the Great School from Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade and I am currently a junior at Bishop O'Dowd High School. I am a member of the varsity cheerleading team at O'Dowd. Cheerleading has provided me with the chance to bond with an amazing group of women and build a strong bond of sisterhood. I am honored to be a FACE Named Scholarship recipient.



My name is Andrew Garcia-Valencia. I am entering 5th grade at St. David Catholic School. My goal is to complete my middle school years at St. David's and attend Salesian Preparatory High School in Richmond, CA. One of my favorite things I like to do is design and build. Legos are my favorite. Perhaps I may become an Engineer one day! My academic interest is Science: Facts of the world. I find it very interesting. Pre-COVID my extra-curricular activities were soccer, basketball, and karate.

A Message from Executive Director of Lumen Christi Academies



In August, a wonderful scene played out in Catholic school parking lots across the Diocese of Oakland. Carpool lines were at a standstill as students joyfully reunited with classmates clad in their school uniforms, new backpacks and with twinkling eyes full of light that let you know of their broad and wide smiles beneath the masks. What a blessing is for them to be together once again for another year of formation, God is Good! All the Time.

As communities of faith, we place our trust in God, in all things. Through His grace, Catholic schools throughout the Diocese of Oakland successfully navigated and overcame the challenges of the past 19 months. During these unprecedented times, our students, parents, teachers, staff, pastors, diocesan leadership and the FACE team were united in mission and demonstrated extraordinary resilience, faith, and courage as we transitioned back to in-person instruction last year. Their collective resolve was buoyed by a renewed sense of solidarity and an unwavering hope in shared ministry.

In the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, our partnership with FACE was simply a Godsend. The pandemic exacerbated hardships for many of the low income families we serve. Furloughs and layoffs increased the need for assistance as families struggled to pay for necessities like housing, food and medical care. In the midst of these hardships, FACE was there to step up and assist our schools with critical tuition assistance. Tuition assistance from FACE helped keep children in the classes they love, with teachers who are devoted to their holistic formation and academic success. If it were not for FACE, many students would have been omitted from the August scene I described and the wonderful growth experiences taking place each day in our schools.

As you can imagine, a plethora of protocols are in place to reduce the risk of transmission of illness and maintain safe and healthy environments for our students and staff. More importantly, we are prioritizing the social emotional well-being of our students and staff. Our Christ-centered communities are being strengthened as empathy, resilience and relationship building are intentionally woven into each classroom's daily programming. Teachers are also continuing to leverage many of the innovative strategies and adaptive technology we utilized last year to meet the differentiated needs of students. These approaches provide students a balance of fun and learning while increasing growth and proficiency through standards-based skill development.

We journey forward through another year of ministry together, remembering how connected we are to the rest of the human family, to the created world, and to those who will come after us in future generations. In the words of Pope Francis, "We are one human family and have a shared responsibility for others and for creation." With that in mind, we invite you to join Pope Francis, our students, staff, teachers, principals and pastors in praying for "Our Common Home".

- For those that are, or have been, impacted by the pandemic, war, violence and the devastating natural disasters that have plagued our world. May God's grace bring comfort and healing to those in need, now and always.
- In thanksgiving for FACE and the generous benefactors whose gifts of time, talent and treasure help ensure equitable access to an excellent Catholic education.
- For another fruitful school year and God's protection for the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, families, volunteers and partners who will be part of our school communities this year.

May God fill you and your family with his peace.

In Solidarity,
Rodney

Principal's Corner

Alison Wilkie from St. Michael School

The Butler Family are no strangers to Catholic education, in fact their mother, Laura McKinney, is an alumna of St. Michael School. Each school year alumni families choose to potentially make sacrifices to send their children to the school in which they themselves attended. FACE scholarships help to close the gap and make the dream of Catholic education a reality.

108 years ago, the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael founded St. Michael School as an integral part of the St. Michael Church community. For the past 108 years including throughout the pandemic, Prayer, Service, Community, and Study, the four Dominican pillars all continue to thrive along with the school's Mission. St. Michael School has blossomed during the pandemic season. Several Catholic families from both St. Michael and St. Charles have chosen to join the St. Michael School community in the last two years.

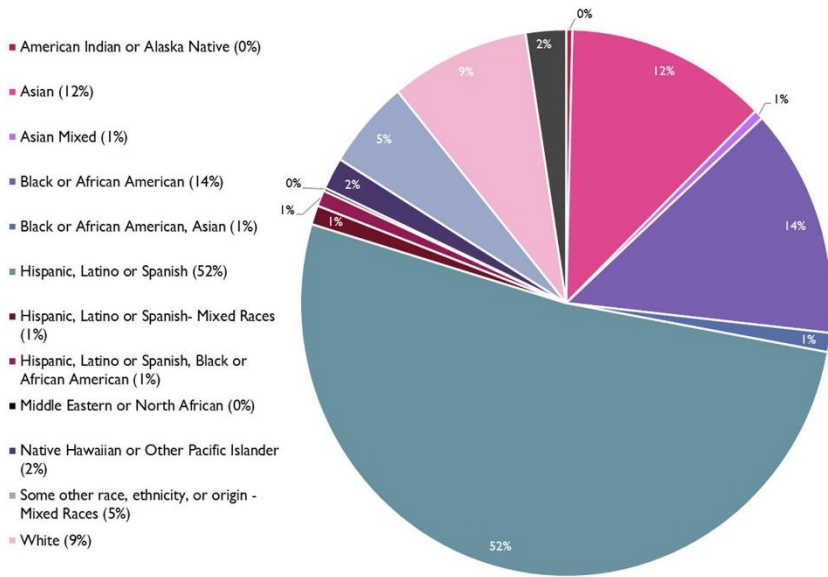
For the last 10 years, Vanessa Silva, the St. Michael School 1st grade teacher, and Principal, Alison Wilkie, have been serving the FACE community as volunteers during the annual Gala. It has been wonderful to meet so many amazing donors who care deeply about Catholic education. The donations have made it possible for families in the Diocese of Oakland to attend a Catholic school of their choice, including St. Michael School.

Please prayerfully consider making a donation to FACE, so that the legacy of FACE in the Diocese of Oakland may continue to support students who live out their faith as both saints and scholars. Your generosity and your prayers are much appreciated.

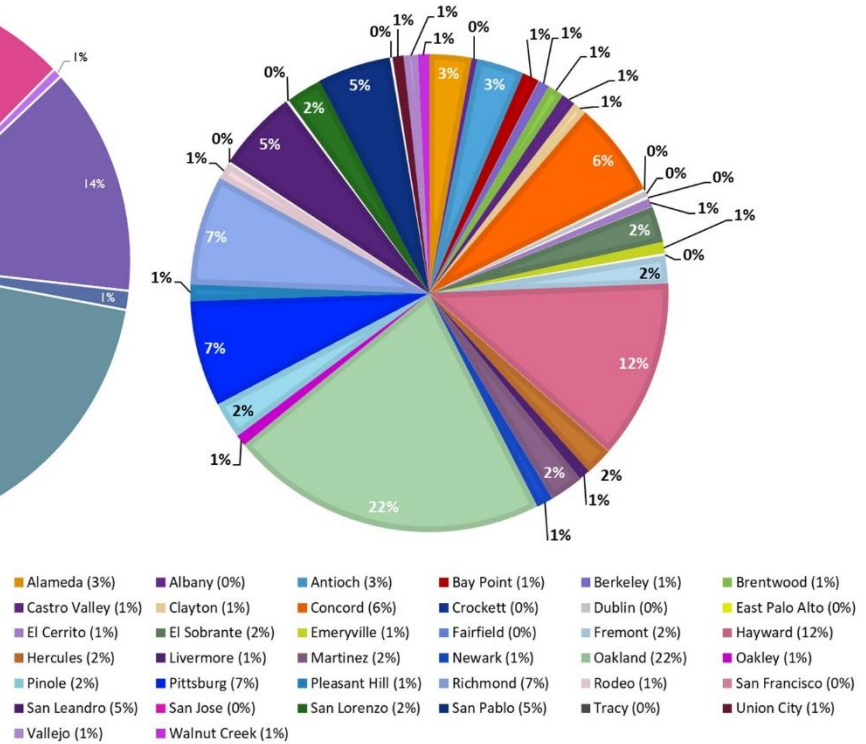


2021-2022 Giving Breakdown

2021-2022 FACE Students by Ethnicity



2021-2022 FACE STUDENTS BY CITY



SAVE THE DATE

FACE 2022 Gala

Blackhawk Museum, Danville | April 23, 2022

SAVE THE DATE
November 30, 2021

GIVING TUESDAY

Please join us for our 3rd Annual #GivingTuesday on November 30th

You can give anytime on our website at oakdiocese.org/face

#GIVING TUESDAY



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