

A S H E V I L L E C I T Y S C H O O L S  
F O U N D A T I O N

2009-10

ANNUAL REPORT



PROMOTING ACHIEVEMENT, ENGAGING COMMUNITY

# Overview

## Letter from the Directors:

The 2009-10 school year was extremely exciting for the Foundation. We launched the Asheville City Schools Foundation Fellows program, generously funded by the Z Smith Reynolds Foundation and we brought the community together around the issue of serving youth 11-14 after school. Throughout the course of the year we laid the foundation for the IRL (In Real Life) after school program serving students from Asheville Middle School and the Randolph Learning Center. In 2009-10 we also provided more resources to teachers and doubled the number of VISTAs serving organizations across Asheville in the Asheville Learning Links program. We revamped our look to show that the Asheville City Schools Foundation is more than one or two people; it is a collection of many hands working together to lift students and teachers up. None of this work could be done without the amazing Foundation team of Terri Wells, Joanne O'Sullivan, and volunteer staff member-Kern Parker. We also thank our VISTAs Hanna Woody, Katy Nelson & Ashley McFarland.

Sincerely,  
Kate & Leah

## Impact & Strategy:

The mission of the Asheville City Schools Foundation is to promote the success of all Asheville City Schools students by mobilizing the community to support innovative educational activities. We employ three primary strategies to achieve this mission.



UNCA Partners



Foundation Fellows



Student Scholarships

## **Strategy 1**

**Mobilizing Our Community:** Increase public understanding and engage the community to ensure all young people succeed in college, work and citizenship. We do this by:

Inspiring parents, citizens, and businesses to devote resources to the task of improving our city schools.

Partnering with Community-Based Organizations to expand out-of-school learning opportunities for all students.

## **Strategy 2**

**Supporting excellent teaching and life long learning:** Support innovations that promote equity and excellence in public education by:

Investing in Asheville's public schools to close the achievement gap.

Investing in teacher leadership through providing funds for projects and professional development, as well as opportunities to develop into and act as leaders.

## **Strategy 3**

**Providing support and opportunities for students:** Ensuring that students have the support they need to succeed by:

Investing in their future through providing them with scholarships.

Pairing them with trained, caring adults as mentors and tutors during and after school.

## Programs

### **Listening to Our Teens Network & IRL**

A significant accomplishment of the 2009-10 school year was laying the ground work for the IRL (In Real Life) program at Asheville Middle School by promoting the findings from the Listening to Our Teens Report. The full report can be found on our website at [www.acsf.org](http://www.acsf.org). We owe a debt of gratitude to the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina for seeing the vision behind this listening project and for putting their financial resources towards its completion. Over 20 community partners joined the effort to extend the learning day for our youth ages 11-14. They are: Americorps Project Power, Americorps VISTA, Asheville City Schools, Asheville Arts Museum, AB-Tech, Asheville Middle School Parent Team, Asheville Parks & Recreation, Asheville City Police Department, Asheville City 21st Century Community Learning Center, AVID, Building Bridges, Buncombe County Department of Juvenile Justice, The City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy, Collaborative-By-Design, the Health Adventure, Judy Futch Consulting, LEAF in Schools and Streets, The Mediation Center, Western Carolina University, Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, YWCA

### **Asheville Learning Links VISTA**

One of the roles of the ACS Foundation is to connect the school district with the community. The Asheville Learning Links Americorps VISTA project places full-time volunteers at local non-profit agencies to help build capacity and strengthen their service to school-age children and their families. During 2009-10, eleven Asheville Learning Links VISTA volunteers recruited and trained 640 community volunteers and helped their project sites raise over \$75,000. They developed over three dozen new connections between community organizations.

With the help of our VISTA volunteers, local partners were able to establish new sources of volunteer recruitment, offer new programs or build upon those that had been successfully developed, and identify and pursue new sources of funding. Infrastructure was built, including new databases to help project sites keep track of funding and volunteer resources. Several partner organizations received assistance in developing web sites, social networking tools, and multi-media presentations. And the Listening To Our Teens project was transformed into the Listening To Our Teens Network which today supports the In Real Life after-school program at Asheville Middle School.

The Asheville City Schools Foundation's VISTA partners for 2009-10 were:

*Asheville Greenworks, Asheville Homeless Initiative, Center for Diversity Education, Eagle Market Street Development Corporation, The Listening to Our Teens Network, NC Stage Company, Our VOICE, and Western North Carolina Alliance.*

## **Grants & Scholarships**

During the 2009-10 school year the Asheville City Schools Foundation granted over \$60,000 to classroom teachers and schools across the district through our Innovation Grants, Progress Energy E-Education Grants, Micro Grants, Deborah Sizemore Arts Integration Grants, and the Foundation Fellows Program. Our thanks to the generous support of The Z Smith Reynolds Foundation, Progress Energy, Brooks Sizemore, Google, and all our individual donors who make this essential program possible. Grants across the district impacted nearly all 3500 students.

### **Highlights included:**

The Bard Comes to Claxton Elementary written by John Pruett that integrated theater lessons in 11 different classes in partnership with the North Carolina Stage Company.

Bringing Words to Life Awarded to Helga Graff, Chrysal Hendrix, Martha Hayes, Beverly McBryer, & Linda Geer this program brought Award winning African-American author Carol Boston Weatherford to present to all third, fourth and fifth graders across our district.

The Kindergarten Conscious Discipline Project written by Gaelyn Lei Evengreene. This project increased the knowledge of brain-based discipline and classroom management techniques at Isaac Dickson Elementary.

Growing with the Greens: Educational Garden for Exceptional Students at Asheville Middle School. The grant was written by Kristalyn Bunyan, James Rogers, and Patti Griffin.

See all the projects on line at [acsf.org](http://acsf.org).

### **Foundation Fellows Program**

Our congratulations to the 2009-10 Foundation Fellows: *Moira Bradford, Shelva Burt, Ruafika Cobb, Erica Engel, Dacia Harris, Jennifer Hartman, Melissa Hedt, John Pruett, Lizzie Rogers, Amy Sheeler, Melanie Slimko, Angie Tranthum, Shambra Watkins, & Ted Williams*

The Foundation Fellows project allows teachers four to fifteen years into their careers to participate in a program that allows them to craft an action research project that will address a need they see in their class or school. Fellows receive a grant that allows them to pursue professional

development, plan their lessons or unit, implement their new strategy and share the results with colleagues and district leadership.

This program was made possible through the generous support of the Z Smith Reynolds Foundation.

### **Student Academic Coaching Program**

In 2009-10 the Ribbon of hope Award from the Glaxo-Smith-Kline Foundation enabled our Academic Coach program to grow and improve reaching more students than ever before. We forged partnerships with three after-school programs (Delta House Life Development Center, Youthful Hand, and the YWCA of Asheville). In total the Academic Coaching program recruited, trained, and placed 91 volunteers with 111 students during and after school. One of the most valuable and sustainable components of the program is the training. Highlights of the training for this school year were workshops on Math & Literacy Skill Building, Strategies for Working with ADHD Youth, & Communication Skills & Diversity Awareness.

### **Student Scholarship for College**

The Asheville City Schools Foundation awarded over \$125,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors at Asheville High and SILSA to pursue their college study. With criteria as varied as the donors, the 2010 scholarships were awarded as follows:

**Asheville High School Memorial Scholarships** awarded to **Eric Brenner**, son of Mark Brenner and Mary Weber, to attend the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio and to **Claire Rachel Neatherway**, daughter of Mrs. Tracy Thomas Neatherway and the late Ian Neatherway., to attend NC State University.

**Dr. Keith Black Scholarship** awarded to **Taylor Haynes**, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William Lee Haynes, to attend Duke University.

**Commander Guy Bostain ROTC** awarded to **Ethan Moore**, son of Amy Jones and Roy Moore, to attend Western Carolina University.

**Mitchell Carlisle Memorial Scholarship** awarded to **Patrick Thomas Bohan**, son of Michael and Judy Bohan, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Deutsch Family Scholarship** awarded to **Janeé Moore**, daughter of Freda Moore, to attend Mars Hill College.

**William E. Drake Scholarship** awarded to **Katie Myrick**, daughter of Skye and Ken Myrick, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Lee H. Edwards High School Class of '48 Scholarship** awarded to **Pierre Lamont Griffin Jr.**, son of Geraldine McLendez and Pierre L. Griffin Sr., to attend UNC-Asheville.

**Lee H. Edwards High School Class of '51 Career and Technical Scholarship** awarded to **Aja Cobbs**, daughter of Catherine and Allen Cobbs to attend Catawba Valley Community College in Hickory, NC.

**Mel Hetland Scholarships** awarded to **Jarrett Jerrell Vernon**, son of Deborah and Jerry Vernon, to attend Asheville-Buncombe Technical College and to **Ariana Mari Weaver**, daughter of Forrest and Janice Weaver, to attend NC A&T University.

**Josten's Scholarship** awarded to **Frances Barrett**, daughter of Jim and Sharon Barrett, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Marjorie Kunze Scholarship** awarded to **Cynthia Molina**, daughter of Ambrosio and Aida Molina, to attend UNC-Asheville.

**Bruce and Jean Larson Community Service Scholarship** awarded to **Raminta Holden**, daughter of Greg and Audra Holden, to attend Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, PA.

**John B. Lewis Scholarship** awarded to **Rachel Bradshaw Nash**, daughter of Janice and Jim Nash, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill.

**McElroy Engineering Scholarship** awarded to **Leif Reinert**, son of Marianne Reinert, to attend NC State University and study engineering.

**Seth David Shillcock Olson Scholarship** awarded to **Thomas Maxwell Hays**, son of Connie and Tommy Hays, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill.

**Paddison Family Foundation Scholarships** awarded to

**Isabel Alcalá Williams**, daughter of Marta Alcalá-Williams and Dwaine Williams, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill

**Alex Bourdreau**, son of Barbara Toth and Mark Boudreau, to attend UNC-Chapel Hill

**Dreama Davis**, granddaughter of Leroy and Patricia Simpson, to attend NC A&T University

**Tessa Anäis Crespo**, daughter of Nanette and Francisco Crespo, to attend University of Oregon

**Tyler Briauna Jeffries**, daughter of Sharon Mapp and Darryl Jeffries, to attend AC A&T University

**Spencer Kelly**, son of Bonne and Bruce Kelly, to attend Appalachian State University

**Victoria Simone Knotts**, daughter of Lahoma Campbell, to attend NC Central University

**Cynthia Alessandra Molina**, daughter of Ambrosio and Aida Molina, to attend UNC-Asheville

**Leif Reinert**, son of Marianne Reinert, to attend NC State University

**Anice Smith**, daughter of Angela James, to attend East Carolina University

**People Helping People State Employees Credit Union Scholarship** awarded to **Travis D. Whiteside**, son of Barbara Wilson and Thomas Whiteside Jr., to attend East Carolina University.

**Pepsi Cola Scholarship** awarded to **Jacqueline DeJournett**, daughter of Leon DeJournett and Carole Saltzman, to attend University of Texas at Austin.

**Deborah Sizemore Scholarship** awarded to **Allijah Motika**, son of Althea Gonzalez and Wind Motika, to attend Catawba College in Salisbury NC

**Col. Alfred Thomas ROTC Scholarship** awarded to **Ethan Moore**, son of Amy Jones and Roy Moore, to attend Western Carolina University.

**Eleanor and Charles Wykle Scholarship** awarded to **Sarah Smith**, daughter of George Truett Smith Jr. and Dena Smith, to attend Berea College in Berea, KY.

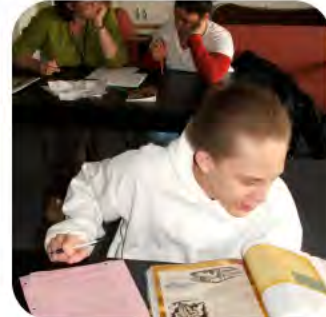
**City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy Scholarships** awarded to **Chelsea Finley, Jordan Link, Tyrell Mauldin, Nina Reynolds, Bianca Scott, James Smith, Alyssia Ciera Woo**



Tee-Up For Education Golf Tournament



Innovation Grants span the District



Student engagement

## CHAMPIONS FOR CHILDREN



**Board of Directors 2009-10:** President: Monica Koerschner, Treasurer: Kern Parker, Secretary: Rebecca Nelms Keil

Members: Shelly Blackburn, Rachel Friel, Julie Furdyna, Jo Peterson Gibbs, Tarik Glenn, Sallie Graves, Helen Hairston, Lewis Isaac, Christine Sykes Lowe, Jean McKinnon, Randy Nuss, Jocelyn Reese, Elizabeth Russell, Peggy Hughes Weil, Verita Woods,

Ex Officio: Superintendent, Allen Johnson and School Board Member, Jacquelyn Hallum

### **Academic Coaches 2009-10**

Jim Abbott, Pat Bailey, Keevon Baten Dave Blumlo, Sally Booher, Cecil Bothwell, John Brigham, Amy Brown, Nancy Burns, Evelyn Carter, Tommie Carter, John Churchill, Kristin Compton, Al-

ice Cook, Shelia Dail, Kathy Dawkins, Casey Dean, Elizabeth Desmules, Michele Dohse, Lynnette Easley, Anthony Fast, Leah Ferguson, Joy Flora, Cheryl Funderburk, Jan Garver, Erika Germer, Lisa Gibson, Robert Glenn, Tarik Glenn, Laura Greeley, Tyrone Greenlee, Andrea Griffin, Lingia Guinea, Helen Hairston, Jordan Hamlin, Nakia Harrell, Louise Harrison, Taylor Haynes, Ian Hewitt, Adam Hill, Patricia Hodgson, Hardy Holland, Allen Johnson, Joanna Johnson, Lars Johnson, Anne Jones, Doug Jones, Rona Kappalman, Mandi Kilgore, Robin Kenep, Karen Kropp, John Kuhlman, Eryn Lake, Michele Lemell, Megan Leschak, Rebecca Levy, Anthony Magee, Carolyn Mann, Jackson Martel, Kim Masnick, Linda McCrea, Wanda Meeks, Renee Melchiorre, Louise Miracle, Morgan Nirenstein, Samantha Noe, Judy Olevnik, Emma Peiris, Kate Pett, Richard Pigossi, Adrienne Pomeroy, Michael Poulos, Eleanor Power, Terry Rafinski, Sarah Reeves, Libby Riker, William Riley, Laura Schleicher, Paige Sergeant, Phyllis Shelton, Matt Shepard, John Siddall, Muriel Siddall, Muriel Smith, Susan Sparboe-Derry, Cynthia Stewart, Libby Stone, Kimberly Talbot, Willem Tax, Angela Taylor, Marvin Thomas, Sarah Thornburg, Jennifer VanDersteur, Jennifer Ward, Jake Widgeon, Susan Wilson. Community Agencies, Foundations & Corporations

**Our thanks to these Foundations and Corporations who have provided major support:**

The 12-Day Project, The Asheville Affiliates, The Asheville City Police Department, The City of Asheville, The Beattie Foundation, The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, Glaxo-Smith-Kline Ribbon of Hope, The Governors Crime Commission, Progress Energy, Sisters of Mercy Foundation, The Wachovia- Wells Fargo Foundation, The Corporation for National Service, Z Smith Reynolds

Go Public! Businesses: AmSan, The BioNetwork, Clear Channel, Dixon Hughes, Dining Innovations, Double Tree Hotel, Gutter Helmet, Highland Brewing Company, HighTouch HighTech, HomeTrust Bank, The Hop Ice Cream Shop, Dr. Jenny Jackson D.D.S, Morgan Stanley-Smith Barney, McGuire, Wood & Bissette, OpenDoors of Asheville, Preferred Properties- Monica Korschner, Raymond James Financial, Roberts & Stevens, Sante Wine Bar, Sims Group Consulting, SolTherm, Urban Burrito, & WestEnd Bakery

**Teacher To Teacher Supporters**

M. Ackerman, M. Allan, S. Allman, C. Anderson, J. Andrews, K. Baisley, P. Baker, C. Buchanan, B. Butler, C. Butner, C. Byron, S. Caffrey, A. Cannon, E. Carter, T. Carter, S. Cartwright, A. Cathart, C. Cicotello, L. Clement, P. Cocke, N. Costello, P. Crowe, S. Cyrus, H. Davis, X. Del Corral Smith, S. Dick, J. Doherty, J. Drummond, M. Dyson, L. Ebey, J. Edwards, A. Ellison, K. Ferris, S. Fields, V. Floriani, F. Franklin, R. Franklin, R. Gilleran, J. Peterson-Gibbs, C. Glazener, M. Good-

rich, G. Grant, B. Groome, V. Hall, K. Hall, H. Hairston, M. Holland, J. Hughes, C. Ingam, S. Jayne, A. Johnson, R. Johnson, L. Johnson, B. Johnston, P. Johnston, L. Jones, K. King, M. Lemel, A. Leonard, P. Lewis, R. Lipe, J. Lutz, S. Mannow, R. McGrattan, J. Mercer, S. Monson, S. Montgomery, A. Olson, P. Parpan, Anonymous, J. Pitt, E. Preneta, K. Proctor, J. Reese, E. Rogers, T. Rudd, R. Schuyler, L. Session, S. Sharar, S. Shillcock, R. Sizemore, N. Smith, D. Stewart, M. Sullivan, J. Taylor, M. Turner, R. Tweed, B. VanCleve, R. Walker-Sams, A. Ward, J. Warren, J. Weaver, S. Wells, Y. Williams, B. Williams Jr., A. Wood, W. Yeiser

### **Families and Community Members**

Champions:

Designated gift via the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, Meg & Win Word-Sims, Kern Parker & Betsey Wilson and the Sutherland Foundation Inc.

Leaders: Judith & Michael Bohan, Leah Ferguson, Susan Landis & William McKenna, Betsey & Mitch Russell and Maureen & Jonathan Sherman

Donors:

Lance Ball & Kathryn Langwell, William & Christine Barber, Judith Beck & Jerome Hay, Heather Blair & Michael Casterline, Aimee & William Buchanan, Eve Burton, Brooks Bulter, Shelagh & William Byrne, Eva Chazo, Mark Cobb & Linda Alfredson, Rachel & Brian Friel. Julie Furdyna, Lisa-Gaye Hall & Michael Congleton, Dorothy Hamill, Dorothy Hayes, Barbara & William Haynes, Marc Hunt & Catherine Potts, Nancy & Gregory Hutchins, Jennifer Jackson, Susan & William Jameson, Andrew Jones & Anne Fitten, Lisa & Daniel Kayser, Angela & David Kemper, Edward Kizer, Monica & Michael Koerschner, Kenneth Kubitschek, Sheri & Michael Lalumondier, Travis Lamb, Christine & Fielding Lowe, Gary MacPeek & Ellen Kaczmarek, John Menkes & Honor Moor, Elizabeth Mills, Deborah Morgenthal, Madeline & Merritt Moseley, Kathy Skye Myrick, Joanne O'Sullivan, Sarah Oram & Stephen Grabenstien, Susan & Michael Presson, Sean Read & Jacquelyn Hammond, Elizabeth Rogers, Maria & Antonio Sanchez, Kerri Ann Saum, Gregory Schulz & Sharon Baker, Traci & Ricky Silver, Pat & Philip Smith, Elizabeth & Stephen Stoneberg, Nancy & Virgil Thrash, Shannon Tuch, Madge & Jack Vining, Catherine Herbert & Daniel Waldman, Debra Cooper & Laurence Weiss, Jackie & Stephen Wellons, Carol Rovello & Douglas Wetherill, Diane & Charles Whitehead, Tracey & James Whitehouse, Dina & David Wiggins, Jon Wilson, Richard Wood, Verita Woods, Christine & Paul Yngve and Lisa Yoffe.