

BERKELEY COMMUNITY FUND

Improving the Berkeley community through our High Hopes Scholarship Program that encourages Berkeley High School students attending four-year colleges with scholarships, and mentoring support.

BCF Fall 2009

BCF AWARDS 14 HIGH HOPES SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2009



2009 BCF High Hopes Scholarship Recipients

In May, 2009, the Berkeley Community Fund held its Second Annual High Hopes Scholarship Award Ceremony at the Aurora Theatre to honor and celebrate Berkeley High School seniors who each received a \$16,000 4-year scholarship. Even with the grim economic climate last spring, through the generosity of our community, BCF was able to increase the number of scholarships awarded from 10 in 2008 to 14 in 2009.

BCF's ability to award these scholarships is the direct result of Berkeley's focus on the future and its hope for the young people who have grown up in our city. As a local community organization, BCF would like to be able to provide financial support to help even more talented, deserving local high school seniors attend four-year colleges and mature into involved, committed and forward-looking citizens of Berkeley, of California and of the larger national and international community.

As in 2008, the 2009 scholarship recipients were selected based on financial need, academic accomplishment, leadership and demonstrated personal commitment to succeed in the face of difficult life circumstances. Many of our High Hope Scholars are the first in their families to attend college and a large number come from single-parent homes. They have already shown great resilience and focus, which will help propel them to achieve their dreams of becoming doctors, nurses,

engineers, architects, teachers, social workers, business owners, environmentalists, politicians and lawyers. At this year's ceremony, Keith Carson, of the Alameda Board of Supervisors, provided a moving and inspiring keynote address to a riveted audience of students, parents, donors and members of the Berkeley community. Each of the 2009 High Hopes Scholars made a brief speech thanking BCF for its support and giving the audience a great sense of optimism.

During the first two years of our scholarship program, BCF has been able to help support 24 Berkeley High School graduates who are now attending University of California campuses, California state colleges and private universities throughout the country. In addition to the financial support, BCF pairs each student with a mentor from the community to help the student deal with the inevitable issues and problems they will face. Our mentors are a diverse group of doctors, lawyers, judges, architects, educators and film makers. They have all taken the time to get to know one of our students and have helped many of them through the difficult transition between high school and college.

We are excited about our program and the students we are supporting. We hope you join us so we can continue to grow and help more students in 2010.



Jessica Pers, BCF's incoming Board President with 2008 High Hopes Scholar and Cal student, Zulma Munoz.

A note from our President:

To the Berkeley Community: I have just taken over as President of the Berkeley Community Fund Board of Directors and am excited as we begin the third year of our High Hopes Scholarship program. As college has becoming increasingly expensive and scholarship funds more limited, our efforts have become even more important. There are many deserving, impressive students at Berkeley High School who can use our help to finance their college educations – and can benefit from having a mentor help them through their college years. Many of you have contributed to support our first two groups of scholars but we need your help to increase the number of students that we can support in 2010. As we work together, we will not only be helping individual students but also contributing to our community and its future. In our next newsletter, we will introduce some of our High Hopes Scholars and mentors.



A heartfelt 'Thank You' and farewell to our outgoing President, Martin Paley, for leading us by example, and inspiring us to search always for our better selves.

BCF HIGH HOPES SCHOLARS

<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2009 cont.</u>
Berhan T. Bayeh UC Riverside	Arai Buendia San Francisco State	Marissa Sanchez UC Irvine
Jia W. Chen UC Riverside	Nigel Calhoun UC Riverside	Bisrat Tekie Sarah Lawrence College
Mario J. Figueroa San Jose State	Morris Callegari UC Riverside	Mika Kubo UC Davis
Sandra A. Velazquez UC Davis	Elizabeth Cortez Humboldt State	Diepriye Olali USC
Courtney C. Knott Berklee School of Music	Simone Davenport San Francisco State	Humaira Shah UC Davis
Zulma A. Munoz UC Berkeley	Shahidah Lacy Holy Names College	
David M. Thompson UC Davis	Maria Mendoza Cordero UC Davis	
Stephanie Phonvongsa UC San Diego	Brissa Mendoza UC Santa Cruz	

THANK YOU!

The BCF thanks all our donors, and especially those who have pledged \$4,000 a year for 4 years to support a High Hopes Scholar. The BCF also thanks Ask.com, its Founding Corporate Sponsor for continued support.

2008 High Hopes Scholarships

Ask.com Scholarship
Berkeley High School Class of 1951 Scholarship
Narsai David Scholarship
Maggie Gee Scholarship
Jessica Pers and Robert Stein Scholarship
Shirley and Michael Traynor Scholarship
Berkeley Community Fund Scholarship (4)

2009 High Hopes Scholarships

Alafi Family Scholarship
Ask.com Scholarship
Berkeley High School Class of 1951 Scholarship
Maxwell Family Scholarship
Marion Marshall Scholarship
Meckfessel Family Scholarship
Nancy and Steven Oliver Scholarship
Martin Paley Scholarship
Diane and Larry Rosenberger Scholarship
Tubach Singhal Family Scholarship
Dorothy Walker Scholarship
Berkeley Community Fund Scholarship (3)

GET INVOLVED

Donate

BCF welcomes community donations of any amount for the High Hopes Scholarship program. Our Board covers the cost of administering the program, so every dollar contributed will go to a scholarship or other academic support program for our Scholars.

To support a specific student, you can give at the following levels:

High Hopes "Doctorate": \$4,000 for 4 years = \$16,000

- Naming Rights
- Invitation to December party
- Invitation to High Hopes Awards Ceremony and acknowledgement in program materials.

High Hopes "Masters": \$2,000 for 4 years = \$8,000

High Hopes "Graduate": \$1,000 for 4 years = \$4,000

Interview

Let us know if you are interested in interviewing applicants in May 2010. We will be in touch when the time and place are finalized.

Mentor

The BCF connects scholarship recipients with mentors to help with issues that come up in college. Because most of our scholars are the first in their families to attend college, the mentor can be an important source of support. Mentors attend an orientation session, an event in December and are in contact with their student via phone or e-mail during the school year.



BCF DEBUTS ONLINE

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February 2010

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February 2010



THE 2009 BERKELEY COMMUNITY FUND AWARDS DINNER

The 2009 Benjamin Ide Wheeler Award

From 1929 to 1991, the Service Council of Berkeley presented an award biennially to "Berkeley's Most Useful Citizen." This award, the Benjamin Ide Wheeler Medal, is named after one of the greatest presidents of the University of California. Wheeler led and fostered a close, supportive relationship between the campus and the community. The Board of the Berkeley Community Fund carries forward the great tradition of the Service Council Clubs of Berkeley, recognizing annually an outstanding member of the Berkeley community for distinguished long time nonpartisan service in any field of activity that has benefited the quality of life for a significant number of people in Berkeley.

This year, we held our Awards Dinner on June 4, 2009 and the Benjamin Ide Wheeler Medal went to Steven H. Oliver, civic leader extraordinaire, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. Steven's award winning construction firm, Oliver & Company, played a major role in the building and development of non-profit enterprises in Berkeley such as the Over 60 Health Center, the Berkeley YMCA, the Aurora Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and Freight & Salvage Coffee House. Steven's interest in civic values has also included his active involvement in healthcare issues. He has served in leadership capacities on the Board of the Alta Bates System, Sutter Health and California Healthcare System.

The 2009 BCF Group Achievement Award

This award was given to the Berkeley Scholars to Cal Program at Stiles Hall. This outstanding program provides 75 African American and Chicano/Latino 5th, 9th and



Steven Oliver of Oliver & Co., recipient of the 2009 Benjamin Ide Wheeler Medal, with Narsai David, Chairman of the BCF and Martin Paley, former BCF President.

12th grade students with comprehensive academic and social support as preparation to gain admission to a 4-year University by senior year. The program offers each student 250 hours of direct service per year through study sessions, mentor relationships and a caring environment involving parents and college mentors to reinforce a college-bound culture.

The 2009 BCF Individual Achievement Award

Anne Cooper won the 2009 award for transforming meals at 16 Berkeley public schools with a population of over 9,000 students. Until mid-2009, Chef Ann was the director of nutrition services for the Berkeley Unified School District and was at the forefront of the movement to transform the

National School Lunch Program into one that places greater emphasis on the health of students. Cooper made friends with local farmers who would sell the district fresh, seasonal produce at a good price, contacted local bakers and got a deal to buy their wholegrain breads. Through her dedication, Ann Cooper has improved the health of Berkeley's children and also supported the community of Berkeley by buying locally.

**Nominate your candidates for the
2010
Benjamin Ide Wheeler Medalist,
and the Group and Individual
Achievement Awards.
Call 510-525-5272**

I'M INTERESTED IN THE BERKELEY COMMUNITY FUND!

- Yes, I want a "Doctorate" and will pledge \$4,000 per year for 4 years. *
- Yes, I want a "Master's" and will pledge \$2,000 per year for 4 years.
- Yes, I want a "Bachelor's" and will pledge \$1,000 per year for 4 years.
- I would like to contribute \$_____ to support a High Hopes Scholar.
- I would like to be added to your email list; here is my email address _____
- Check here if you would like to interview applicants in 2010.
- Check here if you are interested in being a mentor.

* Doctorate contributors can name their scholarship, will be assigned a specific student and will be honored at the 2010 High Hopes Scholar Awards Ceremony in June 2010.

NAME(S) (PLEASE PRINT)

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BERKELEY COMMUNITY FUND

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BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94710

WHO WE ARE

The Berkeley Community Fund is one of more than 500 community foundations in America seeking to improve the quality of life in our communities.

The Berkeley Community Fund is governed by a diverse Board of Directors of distinguished civic leaders who bring expertise in business, government, philanthropy, academia, and community service.

The Fund is an independent, tax-exempt, non-profit organization, incorporated under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Place stamp
here

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