

MOTHER  
CAROLINE  
ACADEMY  
AND  
EDUCATION  
CENTER



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

# Open Doors Transform Lives

**Miriam Alves '01**

Accountant

The Newman School '05  
Lasell College '09  
Currently preparing for CPA exams

*“MCA planted the seed of tenacity. Our motto was to reach for the stars and that’s how I live my life. Graduates of MCA are tenacious, motivated, fun and determined and we are prepared to be leaders in the world.”*

**Sandra Genere '97**

Assistant Director  
Alumni Clubs & Associations  
Harvard Business School

Newton Country Day School '01  
College of the Holy Cross '05  
Harvard University '11, M.A.  
Member of MCAEC's Board of Trustees  
Mentor to MCA student

*“Looking back on my time at MCA, building a foundation of confidence at 10 and 11 years old has really made a difference in the type of woman I am today. MCA was also very special to my mother. She was able to drop off her daughter each day and feel like MCA was a really good investment in her daughter’s future.”*

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to present Mother Caroline Academy and Education Center’s (MCAEC) 2015-2016 Annual Report. This past year’s achievements would not have been possible without your generous financial support and enduring commitment to MCAEC’s families.

Last year we spent much time reconnecting with Mother Caroline Academy (MCA) alumnae. Between hearing inspiring stories from alumnae while in awe of our current students’ determination, the phrase “opening doors, transforming lives” seemed to vividly capture the impact of MCA on the lives of students and their families.

Hearing the voices and experiences of alumnae only strengthens our collective commitment to current students as we prepare them for a path of promise and opportunity. On the opposite page, there are quotes from two alumnae. As you read the contents of this report, we trust that you will continue to invest in the future generation of MCA women.

With Gratitude,



**Ed Hudner**  
Head of School



**Diana Monteith**  
Board Chair



# What We Do – Open Doors, Transform Lives

An extraordinary community of teachers, families, volunteers, and supporters invest in setting MCA students on a path of educational promise that may have otherwise been out of reach. Simply put, our collective efforts open doors and transform lives.



## How We Do It

### Set High Standards, Invest in Each Student

Building the path to high school requires high standards and an in-depth understanding of each student's individual gifts and challenges. As a school accredited by the Association of Independent Schools of New England (AISNE), we hold students to a high set of academic standards across Math, Science, English, History, World Religions and Art.

- **We utilize project based learning** to fully engage students in content and develop skills in collaboration, critical thinking, communication and problem-solving.
- **Outside of the classroom, we offer experiences** that build skills and knowledge needed for life through extended day programming that includes athletics, arts, STEM, student clubs, field trips and service learning.
- **We are devoted to providing a safe environment** where each girl can develop self-esteem, self-confidence and the ability to advocate and make healthy decisions for herself.
- **We partner with parents and adult caregivers** to help students develop a moral compass and sense of self needed to navigate life's opportunities and challenges.

Founded in 1993, Mother Caroline Academy is a tuition free, all girls independent school, grades 4-8, serving Boston families with limited resources. Our mission is to provide a high quality education that develops the individual gifts of each student and prepares her for success in competitive secondary schools and colleges.



# INVEST



# How We Do It

## Partnerships

Since its founding Mother Caroline Academy and Education Center has strengthened its impact on the lives of students and their families through a range of partnerships.

**i2.** i2 is a program developed to engage middle school children in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). i2 staff trained an interdisciplinary team of MCA teachers to deliver a comprehensive, weeklong STEM program in November to the 7th grade. Students read *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson, a novel written through the eyes of an adolescent girl about a flu epidemic that sweeps through Philadelphia in 1793. During the week, students were tasked with engineering, testing and presenting a system to respond to the Philadelphia outbreak and prevent a pandemic.

**Handel + Haydn Society.** The choral program made possible through a partnership with the Handel + Haydn Society, has grown into a cornerstone of MCA's arts program. The spirited Sonja Tengblad, otherwise known as "Ms. T" and a renown soprano, provides choral training to MCA students. Last year, with encouragement from H&HS, seven 4th and 5th graders were accepted into Handel +Hayden's Youth Chorus that performs throughout the City of Boston and at Symphony Hall.

**Step into Art.** In partnership with ELA and art teachers, Step into Art's talented staff engage students with the great works of art from Boston museums. Inspired by these works, each year 6th grade students create and exhibit their own paintings accompanied by a literary piece rich with emotion, personality and meaning.

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.** For the past eight years, 4th and 5th grade students with their teachers have participated in a partnership with the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Gardner staff train MCA teachers in a method for discussing works of art focused on generating meaning versus telling students what the work of art means. Over the course of the year, the teachers attend one-on-one trainings and observations with Gardner educators. Students visit the Gardner four times throughout the year with the fourth visit including families and a dinner. Students and their families receive a free year-long membership to the Museum.

**Science Club for Girls.** Each year the Science Club for Girls works with 4th and 5th graders to foster excitement, confidence and literacy in STEM for girls. MCA students have the chance to interact with women studying or working in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Mentors work with students to develop a strong self-concept regarding their abilities in math or science through hands-on projects.

**Merrowvista in New Hampshire's Ossipee Mountains.** Merrowvista's program is designed to develop individual skills, enhance group effectiveness and provide a formative experience. Customized for MCA, each May Merrowvista staff lead MCA students and staff through a 3-day May retreat using experiential activities as metaphors for real world challenges. The program encourages students to stretch beyond what is comfortable, to see what is possible, and discover more about their unique capacities.

**826 Boston.** As 8th graders dedicate themselves to preparing for interviews and writing high school applications, students have the good fortune of working with 826 Boston, a group of volunteers helping students to write high school application essays that express their ideas effectively, confidently, and in their own voices.



## How We Do It

### Program Events

With the goal of extending learning beyond the traditional classroom and building community, each year MCA stages events designed to further engage and develop students' passion for lifelong learning.

**Eighth Grade Debate.** After eighth graders have submitted their high school applications, they turn their attention to the Annual 8th Grade Debate. With guidance from teachers, students determine which controversial topics will be debated as well as what side of the topic students will represent. Students then spend two months researching topics and preparing for the debates. The debates demonstrate the best in civil discourse as seen through students use of data to substantiate arguments, form effective rebuttals, and present with confidence and skill.

**MCA's Annual Spring Science Fair.** Every May students participate in a competitive school-wide Science Fair. After weeks of preparation, students stage their projects in the gymnasium. Not only does the range of projects showcase student's knowledge about the sciences, they demonstrate students' skills in analyzing and visually presenting data as well as their ability to present information. Students' creativity, energy and passion for their projects is inspiring.

**Girl Power.** On March 13, 2016, MCA's Mentoring Program in partnership with Northeastern University Torch Scholars, hosted Girl Power. The goal of Girl Power is to engage women across ages and backgrounds in sharing experiences and strategies for taking charge of their lives and pursuing their passions. With a spirited and engaged group of participants, the program was kicked off by Elizabeth Thorton, author of *The Objective Leader* and Professor of Management Practice at Babson's Executive Education Program. Following Ms. Thorton was a performance by Franny Choi and Jamila Woods of Project VOICE who used spoken word poetry to entertain, educate, inspire and empower participants.

**March Gladness.** Our first annual March Gladness Basketball Tournament was held on March 4, 2016 with the goal of introducing, adult basketball players to the spirited, determined and enterprising young players of MCA. Using the collegiate March Madness format, eight teams consisting of MCA students and alumnae, family members, volunteers and local community members played in the tournament. The winning team was awarded 10 premium seats for a Celtics game. In addition to showcasing student players and introducing new people to MCA, the tournament reinforced the importance of athletics as a lifelong contributor to physical, mental and emotional health.



# RESULTS

### High School Acceptances – Class of 2016

The class of 2016 did exceptionally well in gaining acceptance to a range of quality high schools including the exam schools Boston Latin School, Boston Latin Academy, and the O'Byrant School as well as independent schools Boston Trinity Academy, Buxton School, CATS Academy, The Cate School (California), Commonwealth School, Fontbonne Academy, The Newman School, Newton Country Day School, Noble & Greenough School, St. Joseph's Preparatory, St. Paul's School, Ursuline Academy, The White Mountain School and The Woodward School.

The total value of scholarships awarded to the Class of 2016 by high schools is \$310,000 per year, or \$1,240,000 over four years.

### Beyond High School

100% of alumnae graduate from high school

96% of alumnae enroll in college

4 alumnae have been or are on MCAEC's Board of Trustees

4 alumnae are currently mentors to MCA students or young alumnae

The first generation of alumnae hold positions within a variety of fields including healthcare, finance, education, marketing, social services, retail, and high tech.

## Alumnae

An emerging generation of MCA women with the intellect, resilience, and confidence to pursue fulfilling and productive lives



### Jackie Burgo '97

Newton Country Day School '01  
Bowdoin College '05, BA in Art History, Minor: Government and Legal Studies  
Senior Manager, National Multicultural Marketing /Events  
Macy's Incorporated, New York, NY



### Nia Millington '97

Dana Hall School '01  
Emerson College '05, B.S. Marketing Communications  
Walden University '16, M.S. Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Account Supervisor  
Havas Edge, Boston, MA



### Stephanie Lopes '01

The Newman School '05  
Lasell College '09, BA in Accounting  
Lasell College '10 Masters in Accounting  
Staff Accountant  
Brightcove, Boston, MA



### Tiye N. Cort '02

Boston Latin Academy '06  
Wentworth Institute of Technology '11, B.S.M.  
MCA Teaching Fellow 2012-2014  
Emmanuel College '14, M.A. Secondary Education  
The University of Texas at Austin '18, Ph.D. Education



### Amber Dickerson '07

Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart '11  
Wellesley College '15  
Neighborhood Client Services Coordinator  
ABCD East Boston, MA



### Nandy Barbosa '09

Boston Arts Academy '13  
Colby-Sawyer College '17, B.A. Global Multidisciplinary Studies



*"This incredible community of devoted faculty, staff, volunteers and financial supporters affirms my belief that equity and access in our educational system is possible, and together we can transform lives."*

#### Alumna Spotlight

### Michelle A. Brito '98

My life has been changed by Mother Caroline Academy in ways that I couldn't have imagined when I first arrived at the school as a 5th grader in 1995. Upon leaving MCA in 1997, my world became exponentially larger when I attended Groton School and then Middlebury College.

After graduating from Middlebury, I returned to Boston to pursue my interest in education. After a few years teaching in both independent and public schools, I returned to MCA in 2008. At MCA I have been a teacher, mentor, principal, and a secondary school counselor to a new generation of MCA students. During this time, I earned my M.Ed.

Having been the first in my immediate family to graduate high school and attend college, the door that MCA opened for me has been the access to exceptional educational opportunities and experiences. My story is one of persistence and achievement with the help of amazing educators and mentors along the way including advocates from the MCA community. This incredible community of devoted faculty, staff, volunteers and financial supporters affirms my belief that equity and access in our educational system is possible, and together we can transform lives.

# Why We Do it

We believe that education has the power to transform lives. Parents of our students are invested in setting their daughters on a path of promise that leads to high school, college and a life of opportunity. MCA opens a door to lifelong opportunity for girls and their families that may have otherwise been out of their reach. Investment in MCA girls is an investment in families, communities and future workforce of Greater Boston.

## Recent High Schools Attended

- Beaver Country Day School
- Boston Arts Academy
- Brimmer & May School
- Brooks School
- Cambridge School of Weston
- Cate School of California
- Cathedral High School
- CATS Academy Boston
- Cushing Academy
- Dana Hall School
- Emma Willard School
- Fenway High School
- Fontbonne Academy
- Holderness School
- Lexington Christian Academy
- The Newman School
- Newton Country Day School
- Noble and Greenough
- St. Joseph Academy
- Ursuline Academy
- Williston-Northampton School
- The White Mountain School
- The Woodward School

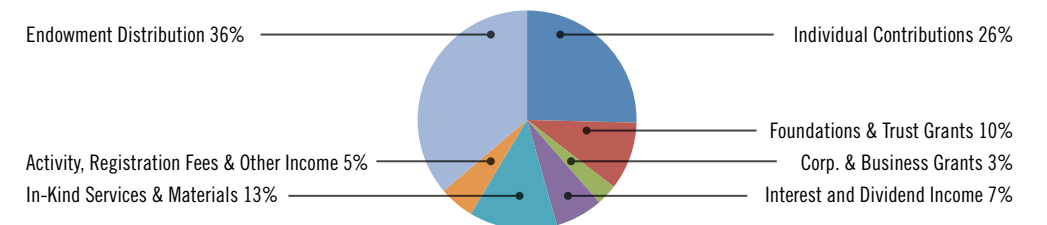
## Recent Colleges Attended

- Amherst College
- Babson College
- Boston College
- Bowdoin College
- Bunker Hill Community College
- Clark University
- College of the Holy Cross
- Duke University
- Emerson College
- Emmanuel College
- Fairfield University
- Hampton University
- Harvard University
- Lasell College
- Middlebury College
- Mt. Ida College
- Northeastern University
- Regis College
- Simmons College
- Smith College
- Spelman College
- University of Delaware
- University of Massachusetts-Amherst
- University of Massachusetts-Boston
- St. John's University
- Stonehill College
- Suffolk University
- Tufts University
- Wellesley College

## FY 2015 (July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016)

### Revenue:

Individual contributions	701,167
Foundations & trust grants	277,588
Corporate & business grants	85,605
Investment income	194,347
In-kind services & materials	358,621
Activity, registration fees & other income	143,215
<b>Total resources available</b> (before support from endowment)	<b>1,760,543</b>



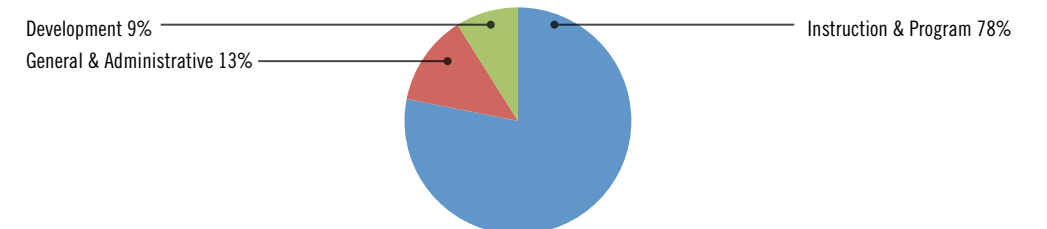
### Expenses:

Instruction & program services	2,278,778
General & administrative	379,055
Development	260,837
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,918,670</b>

Deficit before support from endowment (1,158,127)

Distribution from Board endowment 1,000,000

Deficit before designation of unrestricted reserves (158,127)



## Faculty and Staff

Behind the success of each student are committed faculty and staff. Their talents, expertise and compassion make a huge difference in student success and the experience of MCAEC families.

Olumide Adebo, *Information Technology*  
Kristin Allison, *School Nurse*  
Olivia Belofsky, *English Teacher 6th and 7th Grade*  
Justin Blocker, *Facilities Staff*  
Michelle Brito, *Director of High School Placement and Social Studies Chair*  
Uche Egbuchulam, *Academy Administrative Coordinator*  
Lisa Fauman, *Science 6th and 7th Grade*  
Connie Forbes, *Development Coordinator*  
Julie Gehring, *Director of Mentoring and Community Engagement*  
Beverly Gill, *Receptionist*  
Rebecca Hibbert-Kapler, *Math Teacher 4th and 5th Grade*  
Ed Hudner, *Head of School*  
Stan McLaren, *Director of Finance and Operations*  
Jessaca Michaelson, *Assistant Head of School – Academic Program*  
Nancy Merrill, *English Language Arts Teacher – 4th and 5th Grade*  
Tracie Peaks-Sandy, *Executive Assistant and Accounting Assistant*  
Amy Perrault, *Director of STEM and Math Teacher*  
Karen Ricketts, *Assistant Head of School – Student Life and Parent Engagement*  
Peter Squires, *Math Teacher 6th and 7th Grade*  
Nate Smith, *Facilities Manager*  
Angela Williams-Mitchell, *Special Events Coordinator*

## Teaching Fellows

A hallmark of MCA is the Teaching Fellows Program. Each year, a group of Americorp Volunteers commit to two years of teaching at the Academy. They share their enthusiasm, talent, and a sincere desire to make a difference in the lives of young girls. The Fellows receive teacher training with room and board in our 4th floor residence. 2015-2016 teaching fellows included:

Zoe Isabella  
Jordan Koerber  
Mary Meas  
Tiffany Pena  
Katie Plant  
Erica Roberts  
Kat Sanford  
Victoria Valencia  
Kayleigh Wanzer  
Rebecca Wyczalek





# Investors Fiscal Year 2016

July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

## \$50,000 and Above

Anonymous  
The George T. Lewis, Jr. 2001 Foundation  
Phill and Elizabeth Gross  
Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P.  
Martin and Tristin Mannion  
James and Kimberly Pallotta  
The Philanthropic Initiative, Inc.

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Kathy Haller  
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Bronwyn and Jeffrey Lamont  
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Robert Lewis  
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Andrea and Peter Marber  
Missionary Society of St Paul  
Frank and Jean Navratil  
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Peabody Properties  
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Shepard Perkins  
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Paul and Orlyn Reese  
Patricia and Michael Reilly  
RhumbLine Advisers  
Mike Sakala  
Merhi Sater  
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Nicholas and Mary Scobbo  
Rebecca and Kevin Sheehan  
Lucy Sherman  
David Solimine  
Elizabeth K. Frantz and Jon E. Steffensen  
Ann Marie and Bill Teuber  
Vineeta Vijayaraghavan  
Kathy Wallace  
Wellesley College  
West Insurance Agency

## \$250- 499

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Melinda and David Anderson  
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Guillermo E. Bahamon  
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Janet Beaven  
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Paige Brodie  
Emily Brown  
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Paula Connolly  
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Deirdre A. Cunnane  
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Julie Gehring and Richard Lincoln  
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Susan Harris and Liza Reynolds  
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Karen and Richard Hudner  
Stephanie Hudner  
Kenneth and Traci Johnson  
Robert and Elizabeth Kent  
Katherine and James McHugh  
Jean and Kevin McNamara  
Sue and John Meade

Thalia Meehan  
Nancy Merrill  
Susan M. Murray and Wayne J. Merritt  
John and Kathleen Moriarty  
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Mary Mullin  
Lisa and Derek Navracruz  
Atheline Nixon  
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Abigail Rischin and David Moss  
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Jason Saul  
Ellen Scerbo  
Matthew Shakespeare and Fritz Backus  
Andrew and Anja Spencer  
Deborah Spirio  
Kathleen Stansky  
Kristin and Philip Stashenko  
Serrin Turner  
Adele and John Urbas  
Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts  
Susan Viano  
Laura Wood

## \$100 - \$249

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Jaclyne and Jesse Ainlay  
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Alville T. Atherley  
Robert Baldi  
Carol Bergenhien  
Samuel Black  
Steven Bocamazo  
Michael Bonadio  
Christine Botica  
Nancy Braase  
Barb and Stu Brown  
Paul and Katie Buttenwieser  
Jesus Cabrera  
Mark Cahill  
Nancy and Stephen Calderwood  
Patricia Caldwell  
Christine and Paul Carter  
Patricia A. Casey  
Leonard and Janice Chace  
John and Peggy Chapman  
Michael Charles  
Alicia and Phil Chernin  
Marilyn Claise  
Gretchen Colby  
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Honorable Thomas E. Connolly  
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 Catherine F. Logue  
 Cheryl Lombard  
 Johanna Longnecker  
 Janet Lothrop  
 Phyllis Maddox  
 Charles J. Maneikis  
 Stephanie and Gordon Martin  
 Karen Masterson  
 Thomas Mauro and Kathleen Lynch

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 John A. McDonough  
 Robert and Ellen McGarty  
 Tom and Mimi McGrath  
 G. Robert McLaughlin  
 Margaret and Daniel Miley  
 Margaret Miller and Allen Miller  
 Susan and Chris Mitchell  
 Margaret Morrison  
 Anne Moynihan  
 Stephen Mudge  
 Lisa Mullan Perkins  
 Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Murray  
 Margaret Nicholson  
 Mr. and Mrs. John O'Connell  
 Daniel and Cynthia O'Connor  
 Jane E. O'Connor  
 Marie and Wayne Oliver  
 Elizabeth and Pete Palmer  
 Alan Pampanin  
 Camay and Matthew Pascucci  
 Ellen Plapinger  
 Charles Plunkett and Tim Mullins  
 Joanne and James Poage  
 Leo and Kathleen Power  
 Betty Prescott  
 Wallis and Daniel Raemer  
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 Pauline and William Reynolds  
 Mary Jo Ricketson  
 Patricia and Romeo-Gilbert  
 Joan K. Rubin  
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 Sarah Schermerhorn  
 Fred Scholz  
 Lynda Schweitzer- Wood  
 Judy Scicchitano  
 Beatrice Semexant  
 Refaat Shehata  
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 Lynne Smith  
 Priscilla Spagnoli  
 Karen and Stephen Stulck  
 Lindsay Sullivan  
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 James Supple  
 James and Patricia Tarpey  
 Jeanne Tiedemann  
 Patricia Toney  
 Mary Tornabene  
 Mary F. Townsend  
 Ingrid and Phillip Tucker  
 Sonia and Bill Valentine  
 Ralph Wales  
 Ellen D. Warwick  
 Elizabeth H. Weaver  
 Richard G. Wells, Jr.  
 Erika Wight  
 Mary A. Wilkes  
 Daniel Williams  
 Mr. and Mrs. Andy Winton  
 Jane Wiseman  
 Stephen and Helenann Wright

Blair and John Wylie  
 Wilson M. Yi  
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 Aleksandar Zorovic

### Gifts to \$99

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*If there are any inaccuracies or omissions, we regret those errors. We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of listed gifts.*

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We are grateful to the following alumnae for giving back and investing in MCA's current students and families.

Sandra E. Genere '97  
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## Donations in Memory of Past Supporters, Volunteers and Friends

We thank those who have made donations in memory of past supporters, volunteers and friends.

Phillip Bowe  
 James and Florence Hudner  
 Charles and Anne Kent  
 Patricia Merrill  
 Alan Stone  
 Hale Sturges (former Board member)

## Joe Flynn Memorial Scholarship Fund

The following donations were made to the Joseph F. Flynn, Jr. Scholarship Fund. Joe Flynn was a founding Board member who was deeply committed to providing MCA students and their families with access to a high quality education. Each year several students are recognized as Joseph F. Flynn, Jr. scholars who demonstrate a love of learning; show leadership by being respectful, compassionate and responsible; and participate in community service.

Guillermo E. Bahamon  
 Paul Carter  
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 John P. Moss  
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 Charles Smart

## Gracen Mosby Harris Scholarship Fund

Student field trips including MCA's annual 8th grade trip to Philadelphia are made possible with support from the Gracen Mosby Harris Scholarship fund. Established by Jessie and John Harris in loving memory of their daughter Gracen, we thank those who have contributed to this fund during the past fiscal year.

Anne Beaven  
 John and Elin Harris

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