

Friends of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (FoCRLS) Winter's End 2015

Winter Appeal Brings Hot Response!

THANK YOU to all who responded to the appeal we sent this winter! Our contribution total is at \$50,000 (with donations still arriving) an increase of a stunning 47% over



last year's appeal! The generosity of our community means that we can expand and sustain opportunities at CRLS — through FoCRLS Scholarships, the "It Takes a Village" College Success Program (ITAV), Student Travel

Fellowships, Faculty Innovation Grants, Unsung Heroes Awards, and Faculty Distinction Awards.

It's always the right season to make a difference. To donate, please go to focrls.org.

Come Party with Us!

Sunday, May 17th from 3 to 5 p.m.

Please mark your calendars for our next parent-hosted wine and cheese House Party! Mix and mingle with special guests Principal Damon Smith and a bevy of faculty and student recipients of FoCRLS support. These popular events are a great way to socialize and to catch up on the latest from CRLS/FoCRLS. Donations are encouraged but not required. Please contact FoCRLS at info@focrls.org or call our CRLS office at (857) 235-9290 for details or to RSVP.

Scholarships Shipshape — Numbers Up

As a result of our scholarship expansion efforts, FoCRLS will present a record number of scholarships this year! In 2014, we presented 19 scholarships and awards totaling \$15,600. This year we will present 23 scholarships and awards totaling \$24,600 to graduating seniors — a dollar increase of 63%!

These scholarships will be awarded to members of the CRLS Class of 2015 demonstrating academic merit and financial need as well as the criteria specific to the scholarships:

Friends of CRLS First Scholars Award — first in families to attend 4-year colleges (three at \$1,000)

CRLS Core Values Scholarship — committed to *Opportunity, Diversity, Respect* (two at \$1,000)

"It Takes a Village" College Success Program Scholarship — enrolling in a Massachusetts public 2- or 4- year college or university (one 2-year scholarship totaling \$1,000)

Dr. Christopher Saheed Future Educator Scholarship — pursuing careers in education (two at \$1,000)

Dr. David A. Link Scholarship for the Health Professions — committed to social justice in Cambridge and pursuing a career in health care (one at \$1,000)

Mary Frances Monti Scholarship — growing both academically and personally (one at \$1,000)

Daphne S. Powell Scholarship — African American student showing academic improvement (one at \$1,000)

CRLS/Children's Hospital Basketball Fundraiser Scholarship — participating in school athletics (three at \$1,000)

Scholarship Honoring Allan Gehant and Janani Nathan — committed to helping fellow CRLS students or Cambridge residents (New — one at \$1,000)

Betty Curry Scholarship for Mathematics — dedicated to mathematics, work ethic, class participation, and positive interactions with classmates (New — one at \$1,000)

Fresh Start Construction Corp. Award for Carpentry — excelling for two years in the RSTA carpentry program (New — one at \$500)

Maria J. Tavares Memorial Scholarship — first-generation college-bound student with immigrant parents (New — one at \$1,000)

Colonel and Mrs. Henry Bayard McCoy Memorial Scholarship — exemplary male U.S. History students who have performed community service (New — three at \$2,200)

Charlene Holmes Memorial Award — best exemplifying Charlene's generosity, caring, and aspirations (non-scholarship; one at \$500)

To learn more about Scholarships and other FOCRLS programs, to become involved, or to donate, please visit <http://focrls.org/>.

From the Executive Director

InvestCRLS: A New Community-Opportunity Campaign



It's my great pleasure to announce "InvestCRLS", a FoCRLS campaign to close in on the opportunity and achievement gaps at CRLS and unleash the diverse and extraordinary talents of our 1800+ students.

Community Investment = Opportunity, Growth, Success

The goals of "InvestCRLS" are to expand student resources and to sustain our programs. While continuing our annual fundraising projects and events, we have added:

- **a new major donor campaign** that aims to increase individual donations of \$1,000 and above (currently our individual donations range from \$5 to \$6,000) and round out our "InvestCRLS" leadership circle with donors of \$5,000 or more
- **a new "100 by 100" initiative**, increasing our partnerships in the business community by seeking the support of 100 Cambridge businesses to each contribute \$100 or more annually to a new scholarship fund, for a total of \$10,000 each year

InvestCRLS has begun, and the response is thumbs up! Parents, alumni, businesses, and Cambridge residents who wish to play a role in our public school students' success, are stepping up to take part in the action.

Together, we are making it possible for every Rindge student to become a productive, innovative, confident, self-sustaining, and caring young adult.

Elaine Schear
Elaine Schear, Ed.D.

Be 1 of 100 by 100

If your entrepreneurial spirit sparks you to be among our first 100, to reach out to a prospective business donor, or to become a member of our "100 by 100" Committee, please email info@focrls.org to get started.



Pictured: Lily Sater, an ITAV Scholarship awardee majoring in Social Psychology at UMass Boston

MayFair Raffle Springs Off

The FoCRLS's MayFair Raffle has begun!

Look for Raffle tables in locations around town continuing through the MayFair in Harvard Square on May 3rd.



Pictured: Perle the Raffle Mascot

Enter the FoCRLS MayFair Raffle online: <http://focrls.org/raffle/>.

“It Takes a Village” Building a Community

FoCRLS's "[It Takes a Village](#)" College Success Program (ITAV) is a multi-approach support system to help CRLS alumni achieve degrees and meaningful careers.

- **Mentorship:** Under the leadership of coordinator Rachel Deleveaux, the [Alumni and Community ITAV Mentoring Program](#) is flourishing. Mentor Orientation will be held March 30, and more ITAV mixers are being planned. If you are interested in mentoring or know a CRLS alum attending a local college who could benefit from career mentorship, please email Rachel at mentor@focrls.org.

Pictured:
Kwame Dance (left)
with a CRLS alum
attending UMB and
participating in ITAV



- **College Coaching:** Kwame Dance, our [UMass Boston ITAV College Coach](#), supports 66 CRLS alumni attending UMB with issues ranging from academic to financial to work-life balance to self-advocacy. ITAV has had such an impact on CRLS alums' success that it has inspired UMB to create a new position, with partial funding from the City of Cambridge's Office of College Success, for a college coach dedicated specifically to CRLS alumni enrolled at UMB!
- **ITAV and “CRLS Strong” Scholarships:** Three [“It Takes a Village” scholarships](#) have been awarded on the basis of academic progress and financial need to CRLS alumni attending UMass Boston and Clark University. In addition, a [CRL Strong Emergency Fund](#) allocation was made to a CRLS alumna attending UMass Boston.

To learn more about ITAV and other FOCRLS programs, to become involved, or to donate, please visit <http://focrls.org/>.

WHATEVER YOUR INTERESTS, SKILLS, AND TIME AVAILABILITY,
YOUR EFFORTS CAN CONTRIBUTE TO OPPORTUNITY!
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING WITH FOCRLS,
PLEASE EMAIL INFO@FOCRLS.ORG OR CALL 857-235-9290.

FoCRLS Student Travel Fellowships Applications Flying Through the Door

We recently awarded two Student Travel Fellowships — for the Marine Biology trip in the Galapagos Islands and the Model UN trip in NYC — and we have 15 more applications in progress. These trips give CRLS students exciting opportunities to think globally, to learn about themselves and others, and to be inspired to pursue studies and careers related to their travels.

The trip to the Island School in the Bahamas was an amazing learning experience. I was able to learn more about marine biology in the Bahamas, and each day was loaded with activities and learning Without FOCRLS, I would've missed out. I hope FOCRLS can give opportunities like this to many more students. — A FoCRLS Student Travel Fellow



Pictured: Turtles including this one are studied in their natural habitat at The Island School in the Bahamas

To learn more about Student Travel Fellowships and other FoCRLS programs, to become involved, or to donate, please visit <http://focrls.org/>.

Board Post-its



Congratulations to Jamie Sabino, named FoCRLS's Board President. Jamie has a long history with FoCRLS, including serving as Treasurer from 2011 to 2015 and leading FoCRLS in a strategic planning process. Jamie is an attorney with the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute. She has two sons, one of whom is a CRLS alum (Class of '14).



Neil Rosenburg becomes FoCRLS's Treasurer. Neil serves as FoCRLS's Scholarship Committee Chair. In 2014, Neil established the Mary Frances Monti Scholarship in honor of his mother. Neil is the Director of Finance at UMass Boston. He is an alum of Cambridge High and Latin School (Class of '76) and a parent of a CRLS alum (Class of '12).

FoCRLS welcomes new Board member Marguerite Hicks. Marguerite is a member of the FoCRLS Scholarship Committee and has served on the Faculty Innovation Grants Committee. She is the Family Liaison at Martin Luther King Jr. School and teaches first grade at Horizons National. She is an alum of CRLS's Pilot School (Class of '84) and the parent of a current CRLS student (Class of '16) and a CPS 6th grader.



Best wishes to Sandra Lima, who stepped off FoCRLS's Board in December to pursue graduate studies. Sandra, CRLS '98, contributed to FoCRLS in various ways, including coordinating two alumni networking & raffle events at Flatbread Pizza. We wish her the best and look forward to her continued involvement in FoCRLS.

CRLS Faculty: Innovation on the Rise

Each year since 2007, FoCRLS has awarded Faculty Innovation Grants of up to \$1,000 each to help teachers and staff energize curriculum by providing creative experiences and opportunities.

The 2015 selection committee chose these faculty members who, along with many others, submitted extraordinary proposals through a highly competitive, blind review process:



Douglas Carey, Carpentry Teacher — *Rolling Planters for Physically Disabled Nursing Home Residents*
Pictured: Carpentry student building planter

Nicole Hart, Instructional Technology Specialist, and Ginny Berkowitz, Media Arts Manager — *The CRLS Legacy Project: An Interactive Portrait of Cambridge's 366 Year-old Public High School*

Conrad Hauck, Engineering Instructor, Rindge School of Technical Arts — *Funding for 2015 FIRST Robotics Team 97*

Kimberly Parker, English Teacher — *The Achievement Gap Literacy Initiative*

Janet O'Reilly, STEP Team Advisor — *Steppers are Stepping Out!*

Jennifer Sarmiento, English Teacher/Advisor, Literary Arts Magazine — *CRLS Literary Arts Magazine*

Elisabeth Macias, World History Teacher — *CRLS Model Congress*

Kate Greene, Special Education Teacher, High School Extension Program (HSEP) — *HSEP Community Building*

Marlin Kann, History Teacher — *Beacon Hill's African American History Experience*

Jack Haverty, Senior Class Advisor — *Prom Funding Needs*

Jesse Kaplan, Office of Student Support — *Food for Thought: Providing Healthful Snacks to Improve Student Achievement*

To learn more about Faculty Innovation Grants and other FoCRLS programs, to become involved, or to donate, please visit <http://focrls.org/>.

LOOKING FOR A GOOD NON-FICTION READ FOR YOUR BOOK CLUB?
THE FOCRLS ANNUAL REPORT IS ONLINE AT [HTTP://FOCRLS.ORG/ABOUT/](http://focrls.org/about/).
WE'RE ALREADY PLANNING A SEQUEL!