

**FRIENDS
OF CRLS**

FOCRLS

**FRIENDS OF CAMBRIDGE
RINDGE AND LATIN SCHOOL**

SCHOLARSHIPS



Annual Report

**2014 /
2015**

**FACULTY
INNOVATION
GRANTS**



**FACULTY
DISTINCTION
AWARDS**



**STUDENT TRAVEL
FELLOWSHIPS**



**"IT TAKES A VILLAGE"
COLLEGE SUCCESS PROGRAM**



UNSUNG HEROES



*Creating opportunities for CRLS students, faculty, and graduates.
Investing in the power of their ideas.*

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FROM THE PRESIDENT
An Important Year of Change and Growth

Dear Friends,

As the new President of Friends of CRLS, it is my pleasure to invite you to read our 9th Annual Report, the story of an important year of change and growth.

In many ways change and growth has been a constant for FoCRLS. Founded in December 2006, with the mission of supporting academic and social development at CRLS, in its first year, FoCRLS raised \$4,743 and launched its first two programs—Faculty Innovation Grants and Faculty Distinction Awards. Nine years later, in 2014/2015, FoCRLS raised over \$130,000 to support a broad array of programs—including Faculty Innovation Grants, Student Travel Fellowships, Faculty Distinction Awards, Unsung Heroes Student Awards, Scholarships, and the "It Takes a Village" College Success Program, in order to expand opportunities for all CRLS students, and allow all students to reach their potential. The growth of our scholarship program is an area of particular pride. In 2015, FoCRLS presented 24 scholarships and awards totaling \$24,700 to graduating seniors, both funded by FoCRLS and others created by community members under the FoCRLS umbrella.

This progress came thanks to the engagement of many—parents, alumni, business owners, and Cambridge community members at large. The beaming faces of students—on Scholarship night, receiving an Unsung Hero award, or recounting the trip of a lifetime that they were able to take because of a Student Travel Fellowship—the enthusiasm of teachers reporting back on their Faculty Innovation Grant projects that provided new opportunities to students, and the support of those who made it happen, all these things made the year special.

But 2015 was also the year of a special kind of change and growth for FoCRLS, as we took key steps to ensure our ability to continue to serve as a resource for CRLS students well into the future. The first was the hiring of an Executive Director. As part of the FoCRLS strategic plan process, the Board determined that having leadership-level staff person was a critical element for long-term sustainability. The Board underwent an intensive open search process, and came to the decision to select Elaine Schear, former FoCRLS President and one of the FoCRLS co-founders, as its choice to take the helm of FoCRLS as its first Executive Director as of January 2015. As you will read in the pages ahead, Elaine hit the ground running, launching the "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative to great success. A second important step was the creation of a FoCRLS investment policy for scholarship funds, to make sure that these funds entrusted to FoCRLS would be handled responsibly and transparently, and would grow as a resource.

Such organizational changes are not glamorous, but are deeply important. We believe that FoCRLS came out of the year 2014/2015 stronger than it entered it. We are grateful for the support and trust of the Cambridge community, and look forward to working with you in the year and years ahead to continue to expand opportunities for all of our students.

Warmly,

Elizabeth Vernon
President, Friends of CRLS

MISSION

The mission of Friends of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (FoCRLS) is to develop, support, and enrich the academic and social development programs at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and to support the alumni of CRLS and its predecessor schools. In so doing, FoCRLS promotes achievement and a greater community investment in the future of CRLS, its current students, and its graduates.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During 2014/15, our ninth fiscal year, Friends of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School (FoCRLS) raised \$130,702 primarily in donations from CRLS families, Cambridge/corporate businesses, foundations, alumni, and generous community members, bringing the grand total of our funds raised so far to over \$550K!

Accomplishments of Friends of CRLS during the past year include:

- **Faculty Innovation Grants** of up to \$1,000 each were awarded to 12 teachers and staff for projects to enrich course and extracurricular activities and augment services.
- **Unsung Heroes** awards, funded by FoCRLS and administered by the CRLS Deans of Students, were presented to 16 emerging student achievers each term for their efforts in citizenship, stewardship, gains in attendance, athletic leadership, academic improvement, and contributions to a positive school climate, bringing the current total to 416 Heroes.
- **Student Travel Fellowships** were awarded to 4 students for a service and learning trip to El Salvador (in partnership with City Links), participation in the Model UN in New York City, and an environmental learning trip to the Galapagos Islands.
- **Faculty Distinction Awards** were presented on the graduation stage to four teachers and staff members nominated by seniors for their positive influence on students' experience at CRLS.
- **The "It Takes a Village" College Success Program (ITAV)** had a very active year, which saw the creation of the training program for its Mentoring Program component and the start of mentor/mentee recruitment and the launch of the ITAV College Coach program which proved to be so successful that it was taken on by UMass-Boston.
- **Scholarships** totaling \$24,700 were awarded via Friends of CRLS in 2015, a significant dollar increase of 63% over the previous year.
- **The "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative** launched, with the goal of raising \$10,000 or more annually from local businesses.
- The position of **Executive Director**, a key element of the Friends of CRLS FY2014-FY2016 strategic plan, was created with the hiring of Elaine Schear in this role.

GOVERNANCE

The year 2014/2015 was one of great change for FoCRLS with the hiring of FoCRLS first Executive Director, Elaine Schear, FoCRLS co-founder and then-President. The hiring of an Executive Director was a key element in the Board's strategic plan for long-term sustainability for the organization, previously wholly volunteer-led. This was an intensive process, involving drawing up the job description, reaching out to key community players, conducting an open search, and a two-tiered set of candidate interviews, involving both the FoCRLS Board and other stakeholders.

As part of that process, the Board analyzed those elements of Board responsibility that should remain with the Board, and those that would be taken on as part of this new staff leadership role. This has been a very energizing process, with the FoCRLS Board not only remaining the body for planning and oversight, but with Board members expanding their engagement in fundraising, program-building, and outreach.

Elaine Schear's hire as Executive Director brought with it changes in Board leadership, with former FoCRLS Treasurer Jamie Sabino, who led the organization through its strategic planning process, stepping up to serve as President, and Board member Neil Rosenberg stepped up to take on the position of Treasurer, bringing his vast experience as Director of Finance at UMass Boston to bear on FoCRLS finances.

The end of the year brought another milestone with the stepping down of Donna Spiegelman, from the Board. As one of the two co-founders of the organization, Donna dedicated countless hours into building Friends of CRLS as a resource that would serve our students. Donna served as the organization's first President, then Treasurer, and then for many years as a member of the Board. Donna visioned and created FoCRLS' innovative "It Takes a Village" College Success Program (ITAV), first launched in 2011, and served as the ITAV Program Director until June 2015. The FoCRLS Board honored Donna Spiegelman and her accomplishments at the 2015/16 Annual Meeting.

Also stepping down in 2015/2016 was Board member Sandra Lima, CRLS '98, who contributed to FoCRLS in a variety of ways, including coordinating two alumni gatherings & raffle events at Flatbread Pizza in 2013 and 2014. In spearheading these events, Sandra raised \$2,200 for FoCRLS programs while providing networking opportunities for alumni. We wish her the best and look forward to her continued involvement in FoCRLS.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2014/2015

Jamie Sabino (Treasurer—Jul.-Dec. 2014, President—Jan.-Jun. 2015) is a parent of a CRLS Class of '14 grad. Jamie served as Treasurer since 2011. Upon the selection of Elaine Schear by the Board to serve as Executive Director, Jamie was elected by the Board in the role of FoCRLS President. Jamie has been also been active on the CRLS Arts Committee. Previously, she served as president of Friends of King Open. An attorney, Jamie is a partner in Klibaner & Sabino and a consulting attorney for Mass. Law Reform Institute on issues of family law and domestic violence.

Neil Rosenberg (Treasurer—Jan.-June 2015; FoCRLS Scholarship Committee Chair) is an alumnus of Cambridge High and Latin School (Class of '76) and a parent of a CRLS alum (Class of '12). Neil is Director of Capital Finance at the University of Massachusetts Boston and has extensive experience on boards of several nonprofit organizations. Since 2008, he has involved himself in FoCRLS with particular emphasis on publicity, fundraising and helping to develop partnerships for "It Takes a Village." He is currently active in the expansion of the FoCRLS scholarship fund. In 2014, Neil established the Mary Frances Monti Scholarship in honor of his mother, awarded to a student demonstrating academic and personal growth.

Elizabeth Vernon (Secretary) has a doctorate in Library Administration and is Lee M. Friedman Judaica Technical Services Librarian in the Harvard College Library at Harvard University. She has over two decades of experience as a data management and database design consultant, including extensive pro bono work with nonprofit organizations. Elizabeth established the FoCRLS database system and provides data management training and advice to FoCRLS staff.

Dawn Baxter (Board), Dawn Baxter is the parent of a CRLS senior and an 8th grader at Cambridge Street Upper School (CSUS). She was an active member of the Cambridgeport School community for many years and currently serves on the School Council at CSUS. Dawn works as an independent consultant to public and nonprofit agencies in the health and human services arena, focusing on planning, communications and research. She holds an MBA from Columbia Business School.

Ted Darling (Board), an extremely active alumnus of the Rindge Technical School (Class of '72), served as President of the Rindge Alumni Association for three years and has been Executive Secretary since 1995. Since 1983, Ted has served as Treasurer of the John Wood Scholarship Fund and since 2011, as Treasurer of the Cambridge Athletic Hall of Fame. Ted was inducted into the Cambridge Alumni Association Hall of Fame in 1996 and the Rindge Alumni Hall of Fame in 2003. He was Rindge Man of the Year in 1988, and a Rindge Conference was named after him in 2002. Ted is a member of FoCRLS' "It Takes a Village" College Success Program Advisory Committee.

Victoria Harris (Board and FoCRLS Business Community Outreach Coordinator) is a parent of two CRLS students, Classes of '15 and '17. Victoria serves as the Learning Community C representative on the CRLS School Council and as a member of the CRLS Arts Committee and Friends of the Peabody School. She earned Masters' Degrees in social work and public health

from Boston University and currently works in project management and evaluation. As the FoCRLS Business Community Outreach Coordinator, Victoria reaches out to business leaders to explore partnerships in which both CRLS and the businesses can benefit.

Marguerite Hicks-Gyewu (Board) is a parent of a current CRLS student, Class of '16 and a CPS seventh grader. She is the Family Liaison at the Martin Luther King Jr. School, teaches first grade at Horizons National, and has had an extensive teaching history in early childhood education. Marguerite recently established The Calvin Hicks Award for Music Study in memory of her father. She is a graduate of CRLS's Pilot School (Class of '84), Mass College of Art, and Cambridge College. She serves as a member of the FoCRLS Scholarship Committee and has served on the Faculty Innovation Grants Committee.

Paula Paris (Board) is an alumna of Cambridge High and Latin School (Class of '74) and a parent of a CRLS alum (Class of '01). Paula is a co-chair of the CRLS Alumni Association and a member of the "It Takes a Village" Advisory Committee. She is the Deputy Director of JFYNetWorks and has been Development Chair and President of Brandeis's Heller School Alumni Board. She is currently a Trustee of Cambridge Health Alliance and has volunteered with the Boston Women's Fund, Cambridge Historical Society, Cambridge Arts Council, and Cambridge Montessori School. Paula holds a Master of Management in Human Services from Brandeis and Bachelor of Music from the University of Hartford.

Damon Smith, (Board, *Ex Officio*) is the Principal of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. Damon was previously Dean of Curriculum at CRLS for 6 years and has served as coordinator of the History Department and advisor to the CRLS Environmental Action Club. Known among students, faculty, and families for his accessibility, Damon is an insightful leader who brings new programs and best practices to the high school. A native of New York City, graduate of Wesleyan University and the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and the son of public school teachers, Damon Smith has a strong history as a successful educator.

Donna Spiegelman (Board and FoCRLS "It Takes a Village" College Success Program Director) is Professor of Epidemiologic Methods at the Harvard School of Public Health in the Departments of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, Nutrition, and Global Health. She is Chair Emerita of the Boston Chapter of J Street. As a co-founder of FoCRLS, she served as the organization's first President and later as Treasurer. She served as the FoCRLS "It Takes a Village" Program Director and Chair of the "It Takes a Village" Advisory Committee through June 2015. She is a parent of two CRLS alumnae, Classes of '10 and '14.

David Vogel (Board and FoCRLS Alumni Outreach Coordinator) is an alumnus of Cambridge High and Latin School (Class of '74) and parent of 4 graduates of CRLS. David is a co-chair of the CRLS Alumni Association and a member of the "It Takes a Village" Advisory Committee. He lectures in the Psychology Department at Merrimack College and has a private practice as a Forensic Mental Health Consultant. David has been President of the Burn Survivors of New England since 2009. He joined the FoCRLS Board in 2011, served on the steering and advisory committees of Celebrate CRLS, and now focuses on alumni relations.

STAFF

The work of Friends of CRLS volunteers is supported by a small but talented and dedicated staff. This year saw a major milestone for the organization, with the hiring of Elaine Schear as Friends of CRLS' first Executive Director, officially starting in January 2015. Hiring an Executive Director was a key element in the organization's strategic plan to build long-term sustainability.



Elaine Schear, Ed.D., the FoCRLS Executive Director, is co-founder of FoCRLS and the organization's first Treasurer and later its President. Elaine's career spans public school teaching, faculty positions in teacher education at Emmanuel and Wheelock; Director of Roxbury Community College's Teaching-Learning Center; and social work in juvenile services at Roxbury District Court, and instructor of writing at area colleges and universities. She is a recipient of the Cambridge School Volunteers Mack Davis Award for excellence in tutoring at CRLS and a recipient of the Cambridge NAACP Education Award, along with Donna Spiegelman, co-founders of FoCRLS, for their work promoting equity. Elaine is the parent of two CRLS alumnae, Classes of '10 and '14. As Executive Director, Elaine interfaces on behalf of FoCRLS within and outside of CRLS. She oversees FoCRLS programs, works closely with the Board of Directors and with the Administrative Coordinator, and has major responsibility for fundraising, daily operations, and community engagement.



Janis Navikas, the FoCRLS Administrative Coordinator, is a graduate of CRLS (Class of '83) and UMass Boston (College of Public and Community Service, Class of '03). Janis is a native Cantabrigian. Her employment history includes nine years as the Administrative Assistant of Cambridge-Ellis School. Janis is a long-time volunteer working with animals, currently at the MSPCA. As Administrative Coordinator Janis manages the FoCRLS office, and supports the organization in myriad ways, including database management, correspondence, and design and preparation of event and meeting materials.



Rachel Deleveaux, a CRLS alumna (Class of '97) who holds an M. Ed. in Educational Administration from Suffolk University, serves as **ITAV Mentoring Coordinator**. Formerly both a mentee and a mentor, Rachel has worked on developing the mentor/mentee training program and recruiting mentees and mentors for ITAV. In FY2015, in addition to working with ITAV, Rachel was director of the City of Cambridge's Moore Youth Center.



Kwame Dance, who served as **"It Takes a Village" College Coach** (September 2014-March 2015), is a graduate of CRLS (Class of '02) and Trinity College (Hartford, CT). From 2012 to 2015, Kwame also held the position of Program Director of the Willis D. Moore Youth Center. Kwame serves on several boards, including Cambridge Alumni Association, Cambridge Football Alumni Association, Cambridge Community Center, and the City of Cambridge Civic Unity Committee.

FoCRLS PROGRAMS

Friends of CRLS offers six programs providing opportunities to CRLS faculty, students, and graduates:

Faculty Innovation Grants

Faculty Innovation Grants comprise the FoCRLS flagship program first developed in 2007. To date, 151 faculty and staff have received grants. The Faculty Innovation Grants enhance curriculum, enrich activities, augment services, and encourage innovation among diverse programs and students of many different capacities, talents, and interests.

Faculty grant proposals are requested school-wide in the fall, followed by the convening of a review committee composed of CRLS parents, FoCRLS volunteers, and community members closely connected to, but not employed by, CPSD.

Photo: Carpentry student Saleh Jiddawi-Nunley (Class of 2015) builds rolling planters with materials supplied through a Faculty Innovation Grant. Saleh went on to receive the Fresh Start Contracting Award for Carpentry presented by FoCRLS.



Faculty Innovation Grants awardees are required to submit evaluation and financial reporting materials developed by FoCRLS. Evaluations written with the input of students, along with digital photos and videos illustrating the project, are particularly encouraged.

Eleven grants of up to \$1,000 were awarded in Fall 2014 to the faculty listed below to support individually-led and collaborative projects. A total of \$8,144 was disbursed among grant-funded projects reflecting a broad range of disciplines and creative leadership. Additionally, FoCRLS Executive Director Elaine Schear worked closely with CRLS Principal Damon Smith to access school funding for several more proposals.

Fall 2014 Faculty Innovation Grantees

- **Douglas Carey, Carpentry Teacher** — *Rolling Planters for Physically Disabled Nursing Home Residents*
- **Kimberly Parker, English Teacher** — *The Achievement Gap Literacy Initiative*
- **Elisabeth Macias, World History Teacher** — *Funding for CRLS Model Congress*
- **Marlin Kann, History Teacher** — *Beacon Hill's African American History Experience*
- **Janet O'Reilly, STEP Team Advisor** — *CRLS Steppers are Stepping Out!*

- **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*
- **Jennifer Sarmiento, English Teacher/Advisor, Literary Arts Magazine** — *CRLS Literary Arts Magazine*
- **Kate Greene, Special Education Teacher, High School Extension Program (HSEP)** — *HSEP Community Building*
- **Jack Haverty, Senior Class Advisor** — *Prom Funding Needs*
- **Jesse Kaplan, Office of Student Support** — *Food for Thought: Providing Healthful Snacks to Improve Student Achievement*

Unsung Heroes

The Unsung Heroes program, begun in 2007, recognizes emerging student achievers whose progress and efforts may go unnoticed – if it were not for the vigilance of deans of students, counselors, and teachers. Criteria for recognition include but are not limited to academic accomplishment and athletic leadership, citizenship, stewardship, gains in attendance, academic improvement, and contributions to a positive school climate. Students may be recognized for going beyond their personal best as students, for helping a classmate in distress, or for services they perform within or outside of CRLS. Heroes' names are displayed in each learning community on perpetual plaques made possible by the FoCRLS partnership.



Photos from the May 2015 Unsung Heroes celebration breakfast: above, Randi Petrillo shares her proud moment with her family; at left, three generations come together

A total of 416 Unsung Heroes were recognized to through the end of academic year 2014/2015. Each term, 16 are chosen: one from each of four Learning Communities, from each of four grades, along with 4 seniors honored at a pre-graduation senior breakfasts. In what has become a tradition, awardees are presented with certificates and customized watches with the CRLS Falcon logo during a breakfast presentation attended by family members and key staff from each learning community.

Student Travel Fellowships

Since 2010 FoCRLS has played a part in sending students who would otherwise not be able to participate, on journeys to domestic and distant lands for life-changing adventures in learning. These trips, authorized by CRLS and Cambridge Public Schools, are opportunities for students to see fascinating places, volunteer with members of the global community, and participate in experiences that open their eyes and broaden their minds.

Because many students lack the financial resources needed to participate in these trips, FoCRLS sponsors Student Travel Fellows. In addition to meeting family income criteria, prospective fellows must raise part of the funds for the trip themselves, have at least a B average, complete a thoughtful application, and submit letters of recommendation. This year, FoCRLS awarded \$9,529 in Student Travel Fellows, supporting travel by 15 students.



Photo: (far left) City Links Director Sandra Canas, and FoCRLS Executive Director Elaine Schear join travelers and (far right) Executive Director of CCS Ben Clark, to celebrate the partnership in which FoCRLS helped make participation in the trip to El Salvador possible for 13 students.

An exciting element of this year's Student Travel Fellowships program was a gratifying partnership. FoCRLS joined the CRLS Bilingual Department and City Links, an extensive multi-service program for new immigrant youth overseen by Cambridge Community Services (CCS), in supporting 13 of the 15 CRLS students now on a CRLS/CCS service learning trip to El Salvador, June 19 through July 1. The travelers participated in an extensive roster of service activities, ranging from assisting with English at an elementary school to

helping with reforestation of a mangrove. The applicants, including students from Haiti, Togo, Ethiopia, the U.S., and more, met every one of FoCRLS requirements for academics, recommendations, and income. Each student received \$550-600—nearly half of the \$1,350 cost per student. The rest of their expenses were covered by a combination of their own contributions, CCS funds, and fundraising events, including an international dinner and celebration. Not only does this joint adventure make possible an extraordinary experience for a large group of students, but it also marks a partnership between FoCRLS and CCS to expand opportunities for CRLS students.

In addition, Friends of CRLS was able to provide travel grants to two other students for high impact trips, one to participate in the Galapagos Island trip, and the other to attend the Model UN in New York City.

The Galapagos Islands trip was an unforgettable experience that I will cherish for years to come. While learning about the environment and wildlife of Ecuador, I also learned the values and morals of its people, which I choose to follow daily now. The wisdom of Ecuador's natives and the extreme care and pride they have in their daily lives is something I hugely admire. I hope to one day pursue my new found love of Spanish culture and hopefully see the Galapagos again, this time with a new view.

Student Travel Fellowship recipient about the trip to the Galapagos Islands FoCRLS helped make possible

Model UN is a unique high school experience—not only are we expected to act like adults, but we are challenged to come across difference and debate seemingly insolvable world issues... Representing Sudan, students at CRLS embraced the opportunity to meet students from all over the world... Throughout the conference, we got a taste of how difficult negotiating peace treaties and resolutions are in the real world, which is extremely important for students in our generation to see up close. Soon, it will be the real thing....

Student Travel Fellowship recipient about the trip to New York City FoCRLS helped make possible

Faculty Distinction Awards

The Class of 2015 chose four beloved and admired CRLS staff members to honor at their graduation on June 4 as those who made the most impact on their years at CRLS. This was the ninth year Friends of CRLS has sponsored the Faculty Distinction Awards, bringing the total of honorees to so far 36. The 2015 Faculty Distinction Awards honorees:

Aral Lecorps is a native of Haiti who migrated to the United States in 1974. He has lived in Massachusetts since 1977 and is married with three children. Since 1992, Aral has been a Security Specialist at Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School, assuring the school buildings are safe for staff and students. He enjoys communicating the value of education and providing words of encouragement to CRLS students.

Janet O'Reilly, who teaches freshman algebra at CRLS, received her Masters of Education degree from Lesley University. She is academic advisor to the CRLS Boys' Basketball Team and advisor to the Step Team, for which she has received Faculty Innovation Grant funding from FoCRLS. She has worked for Teach for America Corps in Baltimore, Maryland. From this experience, Ms. O'Reilly learned that no matter how challenging life may be for many children, the love of learning and feeling smart prevails and must be nourished.

Dr. Kimberly N. Parker, who teaches English at CRLS, is a graduate of Colby College. She holds an M.Ed. in Secondary English Teaching from Boston College and a Ph.D. from the University of

Illinois-Urbana Champaign. Dr. Parker, who is the current President of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), publishes in the area of improving the literacy outcomes for young people. She is the recipient of two FoCRLS Faculty Innovation Grants for projects adding dimension to her English Language Arts classes at CRLS.



Greg Racki is a psychology and history teacher finishing his first year at CRLS and his sixth year in the profession. He holds a law degree from Boston University and practiced for three years before deciding to pursue his passion and become a teacher. He has no regrets.

Photo: Principal Damon Smith, Greg Racki, Class of 2015 president Sydney Fisher (Photo by Larry Aaronson; cover photo with Aral Lecorps also by Larry Aaronson)

“It Takes a Village” College Success Program (ITAV)

The “It Takes a Village” College Success Program (ITAV), which aims to maximize CRLS graduates’ college achievement, particularly low-income students attending Massachusetts public and community colleges, entered its fourth year, made possible in part by grants in FY2014 from the Cambridge-Agassiz-Harvard Fund and the City of Cambridge. The ITAV program has been a multi-pronged one, attempting to address the different challenges to college success via different initiatives, including the Accuplacer college placement exam preparation, college coaching, career mentoring, and scholarships. The ITAV Program benefitted from the guidance of an Advisory Committee and is an active participant in the Cambridge College Success Initiative.

This was an exciting year for the ITAV program, which proved itself to be a successful program incubator. The results of the Accuplacer college exam preparation workshop held at CRLS in conjunction with the JFYNetWorks in June 2013 and June 2014 proved the need for and value of Accuplacer exam preparation to the CRLS administration, so that CRLS now administers Accuplacer exam preparation during the school year. The FoCRLS ITAV College Coach program similarly proved its worth, leading to the decision of UMass Boston and the City of Cambridge to take it on and fund it, incorporating it into the UMass Boston college coaching program.

Academic year 2014/2015 was a building year for the ITAV Alumni and Community Mentoring Program, with particular focus put on building training, including training materials, and a recruitment and tracking system, as well as recruiting mentors and mentees. The ITAV Mentoring program provides the “social capital” for students by providing support and guidance for career preparation while in college, by being matched with a mentor in their career area of interest. The ITAV Mentoring program model garnered the confidence of the Balfour Foundation, with news of a \$20,000 grant coming in June 2015, which would provide the funding to continue and expand the program in academic year 2015/2016.

The ITAV program awarded CRLS alumnae Ashley Correia and Lamia (Lily) Sater the second \$500 installments of their two-part awards upon fulfilling their enrollment requirements.

“It Takes a Village” College Success Program (ITAV) Advisory Committee 2014/2015

- **Donna Spiegelman** – ITAV Director and Chair of the ITAV Advisory Committee; FoCRLS Board member; professor at Harvard School of Public Health
- **Ted Darling** – FoCRLS Board member; Executive Secretary of Rindge Alumni Association
- **Steven Flythe** Consultant to the Cambridge College Success Initiative
- **Roland Gibson** Former Weston Field School principal and Weston-METCO Coordinator
- **Evelynn Hammonds** Harvard University professor; former Dean of Harvard College
- **Rene Meshon** Cambridge School Volunteers Tutoring Center Manager at CRLS
- **Liliana Mickle** Special Assistant to the Vice Provost for Academic Services and Undergraduate Studies at UMass Boston; Coordinator of Success Boston initiative at UMass Boston
- **Marshall Milner** Vice Provost for Academic Support Services, UMass Boston
- **Paula Paris** FoCRLS Board member; Deputy Director of JFY NetWorks; Co-Chair of the CRLS Alumni Association
- **Jamie Sabino** FoCRLS Treasurer [Jul-Dec 2014] / President [Jan-June 2015] ; Trial Court attorney
- **Gail Stubbs** Director of Undergraduate Advising at UMass Boston
- **David Vogel** FoCRLS Board member; professor at Merrimack College; Co-Chair of CRLS Alumni Association
- **Sue Walsh** Assistant Director for Adult and Family Services, Department of Human Services, Cambridge; Co-Chair of Cambridge College Success Initiative

Scholarships and Awards

As a result of concerted efforts by the FoCRLS Scholarship Committee, the scholarships offered via FoCRLS expanded significantly in 2015. FoCRLS presented a record number of scholarships this year! In 2015 we presented 24 scholarships and awards totaling \$24,700 to graduating seniors — a dollar increase of 63%. (In 2014, FoCRLS presented 19 scholarships and awards totaling \$15,600.)

All scholarship awardees must have demonstrated academic achievement, excellent character, motivation for success in college and beyond, and financial need. The scholarship applications showed the caliber of CRLS students and the depth of their aspirations, and scholarship review committee members agreed that reading the applications provided the motivation to expand the FoCRLS scholarship program even further.

And indeed, even as students were applying for 2015 scholarships, new scholarships were in the works for 2016. Spring 2015 saw the launch of the "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative. Outreach began in Spring 2015 for a fund of \$10,000 to be offered in Spring 2016. More details about the enthusiastic response by the Cambridge business community to this initiative can be found later in this report in a section dedicated to the launch of the "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative. In addition, two sponsored new scholarships were created: The Calvin Hicks Memorial Award for the Study of Music, and The Rose and Victor Rifkin Family Scholarship.

All certificates for scholarships and graduate awards were presented on June 22, 2015 at the CRLS Community Awards and Scholarship Night ceremony held in the Fitzgerald Theater. Immediately following the ceremony, FoCRLS recipients, accompanied by their guests, gathered outside the auditorium at the FoCRLS reception, featuring roses courtesy of Brattle Square Florist, and cake.



Photo: Four FoCRLS awardees commemorate the Class of 2015 Scholarship Night in June (L to R) Elo Deneus, now attending Bryant University; Lucy Sternbach, Yale University; Isabelle Stephen, McGill University; and Abdullahi Dirir, Bates College

2015 FoCRLS Sponsored or Administered Scholarships and Awards

The First Scholars awards are given to seniors who are the first in their immediate family to attend college (\$1,000 each). The 2015 recipients: Etianna Alcius-Etienne, Abdoulaye Barry, and Marisol Melendez.

The Dr. Christopher Saheed Future Educators Scholarships, in honor of retired CRLS Principal (2006-2011) are awarded to seniors with a demonstrated commitment to a career in education (\$1,000 each). The 2015 recipients: Arianna Saunders and Isabelle Stephen.

The CRLS Core Values Scholarship is presented to students demonstrating commitment to "Opportunity, Diversity, Respect" (\$1,000 each) The 2015 recipients: Lara Adekeye, Linda Mindaye, and Lucy Sternbach.

The “It Takes a Village” Scholarship is specific to alumni enrolled in Massachusetts 2-year community and 4-year public colleges (2-year scholarship totaling \$1,000). Ashley Correia and Lamia (Lily) Sater recently received their second installments.

Additionally, FoCRLS administered these scholarships for generous sponsors:

The Dr. David A. Link Scholarship for the Health Professions, in honor of Dr. David A. Link, former Chief of Pediatrics at The Cambridge Health Alliance, is awarded to a student who is committed to social justice and interested in pursuing a career in health care (\$1,000). Awarded to: Prapti Koirala.

The Mary Frances Monti Scholarship, established by FoCRLS Board member and Scholarship Committee Chair Neil Rosenberg to honor his mother (\$1,000). Awarded to: Sophia Roderick

The Daphne S. Powell Scholarship, made possible by Coleen Kay for an African American student of outstanding character demonstrating academic improvement (\$1,000). Awarded to: Abdullahi Dirir.

The CRLS/Children’s Hospital Basketball Fundraiser Scholarships, for students participating in athletics, organized by Elissa and William Warner (\$1,000 each). Awarded to: Carlos Aquino-Navarro, Logan Chen, and Elorpheton Deneus.

Scholarship Honoring Allan Gehant and Janani Nathan — established by Bill and Elissa Warner, for students to students committed to helping fellow CRLS students or Cambridge residents (\$1,000). Awarded to: Betelhem Tesfaye.

Betty Curry Scholarship for Mathematics — established by Bill and Elissa Warner, for students dedicated to mathematics, work ethic, class participation, and positive interactions (\$1,000). Awarded to: Sheikh Nasher.

Fresh Start Contracting Award for Carpentry — sponsored by Fresh Start Contracting for students excelling for two years in the RSTA carpentry program (\$500). Awarded to: Saleh Jiddawi-Nunley.

Maria J. Tavares Memorial Scholarship — established by Mary Tavares Sutula, for a first-generation college-bound student (\$1,000). Awarded to: Sandro Lafontant.

Colonel and Mrs. Henry Bayard McCoy Memorial Scholarship — established by the New York Community Trust, for exemplary male U.S. History students performing community service (\$2,200 each). Awarded to: Chhoyang Cheshatsang, Jasper Jeffrey, and Mohammed Uddin.

The Charlene Holmes Memorial Award — Awarded in memory of CRLS student Charlene Holmes; students were nominated by teachers and guidance counselors for their compassion and caring, reminiscent of Charlene’s (\$200 each). Awarded to: Brett McFarland, Taysia Holmes-Maxwell, and James Yearwood.

DONATIONS AND GIFTS

Summary of Giving

\$108,247 was raised this year in donations from all sources, including individual donations, corporate donations, grants, and raffle sales, excluding fiscal sponsorship donations (see further below for information on fiscal sponsorships), an impressive vote of confidence for FoCRLS from the Cambridge community. In addition, FoCRLS received over \$3,000 in in-kind donations of goods and services during the course of the year.

Individual Donations

Gifts from individuals – CRLS parents, alumni, and community members – constitute the backbone of FoCRLS support, totaling \$78,606 in 2014/2015.

Friends of CRLS gratefully received contributions from the following donors:

\$5,000+

Lisa M. Campoli

Gerald & Kate Chertavian

\$1,000 – \$4,999

Anonymous

Elizabeth & Kelly Conlin

Alison Field-Juma and Calestous Juma

Susan Hall & David Bass

Patricia Intrieri & Alison Muyskens

Greg & Maria Jobin-Leeds

Winifred Lenihan

Jill Lepore & Timothy Leek

Joy Lucas

John & Kristin Macomber

James Maloney & Anne Greenwood

Judy Polacheck & Jonathan Rosand

Elaine Schear & Donna Spiegelman

Martha & Thomas Sieniewicz

Karl Sims & Pattie Maes

Harvey I. Steinberg

Elizabeth Vernon

William & Elissa Warner

\$250 – \$999

Eleanor Andrews
Anonymous (5)
Christopher & Ingrid Wright
Steve Atlas & Lestra Litchfield
Natalie Beaumont-Smith
Lucian A. Bebachuk & Alma Cohen
William Bennett & Jonathan Rich
Susan Bernstein
Robert Birnbaum & Jessica Miller
Gwendolyn Brooks
Brian Burke
Stace D. Lindsay & Lisa A. Ceremsak
Armond Cohen & Emily Dexter
Jon Come & Alexandra Gould
Cozy Street Writers
Dede Danforth & Geoffrey Underwood
Jean & Sylvia De Valpine
Laura & Gill Deford
Gabriel Feld & Ana Vaisenstein
Aaron Fortus & Tchiya Rotem Fortus
Kate Ginnis & Ed Tekeian
Avra Goldman & Steven Greenberg
Margaret Graff & Peter Woodhouse
Eric Grunebaum & Miriam Tender
Victoria Harris & William Blanchard
Donna & Peter Hollinger
Robert & Catherine Hornstein
Joseph Bouscaren & Helen Hunt-Bouscaren
Lillian Jen & David O'Connor

Anwar & Cate Kashem
Elizabeth Keating
Adam & Phebe Kiryk
Mary LaClair
Anika Larsen
Jonathan Lupfer & Susan Berseth
Michael Lyman
Maureen Manning & Michael Walsh
Rowan Murphy & Andus Baker
Michele Nathan
Heather Nelson & Lawrence Kolodney
Randy Peeler & Kate Kellogg
Neil & Kathleen Rosenberg
Timothy & Amy Rowe
Jamie Sabino & Richard Klibaner
Carol Sandstrom & Christopher Small
Dennis Scannell & Jane Kamensky
Melissa J. Scott
Sarah Sikowitz
Michele Sprengnether & Ramon Gonzalez
Kara Swanson & Washington Taylor
Nancy & Tony Tauber
Amy L. Domini Thornton
Timothy Toomey
David G. Vogel
Charles & Louise Weed
Mary Rita Weschler & Douglass Payne
Benjamin Wilson & Amy Nadel
Timothy A. Wise

Up To \$250

David & Lynne Adamian, Tom & Nancy Akbari, Rebecca Altepeter, Holly & David Ambler, Anonymous (5), Stana & Nikola Arnaudova, Gordon C. Axtman, Harry & Carol Azadian, Melissa Bartick, Dawn Baxter & Spence Smith, Richard Bayly & Mary Waters, Aleza Beauvais, Dwight Bell, Susan Bellows, Eli & Vered Ben-Anat, Noah Berger & Ann Marie Leshkowich, Michael & Elizabeth Bierer, Marcela Kalina & Julian Bonder, Martha Born, Jonathan Bowker & Emma Dench, Diane & David Brancazio, Ann Braude & Andy Adler, Richard Brennan, Peter Levine & Laura Broach, Bari Brodsky & David Gunther, Bill & Barbara Bryant, Hilliard Hughes & Jennifer Bump, Martin Burrridge, Charles & Kimberly Burke, Charles Burlingham Jr., Loni Butera, Ruth Butler, Isabel Caceres & Lino Becerra, Sarah Callahan & David Armstrong, Melinda Camara, John & Kathleen (Tracy) Carlisle, Dennis Carlone, Isabel Carreras, Maria Helena (Moura) Carvalho, Ann & Mark Cason-Snow, Susan Chasen & Dan Mazur, Donald & Dorothy Chaulk, Larry Childs & Alice Heller, Virginia Childs & Amory Atkin, Sara Chimene Weiss, Bronia Clifton & Jason Burns,

Nancy Cole & Catherine Brady, Marcia L. (Burnett) Collymore, Kevin F. Corrigan, Anthony Cortese, Kim Courtney, James B. Cox, John Croll & Linda Dunn, James P. Cronin, Judy & Chris Cupas, Jessica Daniels & Paul Blackborow, Albert T. Darling, Steven & Isabel Darwin, Henrietta Davis & Richard Bock, Jens Deerberg Wittram, Edward Denny & Jennifer Miles, Jan Devereaux, Janet Domenitz & Jonathan Scarlett, Jane Donohue & Matthew Austin, Robert Downing & Heather Graham, Barry & Ismartilah Drummond, Irena Druzba-Lobsenz, Kim Ducharme & Robert Cowherd, Darlene Dumont, Felton Earls & Mary Carlson Earls, Andrew Eccles & Robin Streit, Judith Elstein, Wayne E. Emerson, Robert Emslie, Raymond & Donna Erikson, Corinne Espinoza, Alfred B. Fantini, Eleanor Arcanjo Farinato, Deborah Favreau & Daniel Penrice, Mary Elisabeth Field & Melvin David, Mary C. Foley, Jane & Phillip Fontana, Henry & Pricilla Frisch, Hull Fulweiler & Catherine Chute, Deb Gallagher & Pete Traversy, Agnes & Cliff Gallant, Sarah Gallivan & Gopalakrishna Kadagathur, Lauren Gibbs, Lauren Gibbs, Porter & Serena Wilkie Gifford, Kim & Rick Goldstein, Kate Goodale & Karen Fortoul, Harriet Ely Griesinger, Dorothy (O'Neil) Griffin & Joseph R. Griffin, Janet Griffin, James Gussen, Joy Hackel & Robin Lubbock, Rose Hanig, Robert & Patricia Harrington, William & Marcia Harris, Jack Haverty Jr. & Margaret Haverty, James & Nancy Hays, Richard & Doris Held, Richard & Deborah Henry, Ronald Hoffeld, Anna Holt, Gerald & Nisha Holton, Joel Howe & Jennifer Peace, Anne Hubbard & Michael Floreak, Judith & Eric Huenneke, Kimball Hull & Deborah Steenland, Roger Hurwitz & Karen Propp, Nancy Ishihara & John Zinky, Mekonnen Jeju, Robb W. Johnson, Rosemary Jones, Patrick & Rajee Joyce, Nyssa Matson-Keats & Shane Keats, Kathleen Kelly & Brian Corr, Richard Kelly, Sam Kendall & Cathie Zusy, Laura Kershner, Shirley (Kramer) London Kestenbaum, Jonathan & Jacqueline King, Peter & Kyoko Kirby, Debra & Abram Klein, Andrea Kramer & Timothy Roach, Paul S. Kramer, Jennie Kwo, Richard Lacoss & Cynthia Oldham, Alvin P. Lafon, Mary Laitres-Campbell & Patrick Laitres, Darlene S. Lamothe, Susan Lanzoni & Bruce Fischl, William & Lisa Laskin, Judy & Steve Leff, Patricia Marie Leger, Rena Leib, Akim Lennhoff & Andrea Lelievre, Anker & Mary Lerret, Maggie Levenstein & David Arsen, Mara Levine & David Tiu, Victoria Lewis, Wilhelmina M. Lewis, Natasha Lifton, Monica Llano, David P. Maher, John F. Maher Jr. & Ellen Sarkisian, Gavin & Janet Malenfant, Dina Mardell & David Sandberg, Jessica Mark Welch, Michele Markarian & Jason Taylor, Jayne E. Marquedaut, David & Karan Marsh, Jessica & Joachim Martin, Kevin Massey & Dita Obler, Lisa Matsko, Patricia Flaherty & Charles McDermott, Barbara & Edward McDonald, Mary McDonough, Andrew McLaughlin, Joseph R. McNamara, Sheila A. (Villemaire) Meehan, Peter & Rene Meshon, Kathleen Moore, Adrienne Mundy-Shephard, Carla Munsat, Nicole & David, Diane & Charles Norris, Natan Noviski, Eric D. Olick, Jonathan and Linda Olken, Elaine O'Reilly & Ron Benham, Elizabeth & Curt Paden, Shippen Page & Anne F. St. Goar, Paula Paris, Paul & Margaret Pearlson, Elisa Pepe, Frances A. Perkins, David & Lori Perry, Pat & Jeanne Peterson, Steve & Carol Pieper, Wayde Porrovecchio, Marva J. Porter, Adriana Prat, Berit Pratt & Cornelia Smith, Christopher & Esther Pullman, David Quigley & Megan DeMott-Quigley, Samuel Rabison & Ronnie Fuchs, Tara Raman & Jumbi Edulbehram, Randall MacLaren, Cate Reavis, Hank Reisen & Scheri Fultineer, Edward & Dianne Rice, Abby Rockefeller & Lee Halprin, Anthony & Tamara Rogers, Margaret & John Ronna, Stephen Spitz & Diane Roseman, Mindy Roseman, Francis Donovan & Jessica Roth, Alex Rothenberg & Emily Mather, Leah Rugen & Andy Boral, Jayati & Ramkrishna Sadhukham, Anthony P. Sager, Karen Sagna, David J. Salomon, Elaine Schear, Richard Schooler & Chantal Eide, Daniel & Frederique Schutzberg, Shirley (Rogert) Scimone, Alejandro Seden, Alice J. (Costa) Seeley, Mary-Margaret Segraves, Tim & Martha Shaw, Laura Sheffield & Jonathan Austin, Anne R. Shumway, Jodie Siegel, Elsa Dorfman & Harvey Silvergate, Walter & Connie

Silvers, Kenneth J. Simmons, David V. Soeiro, Carol Smith & Niels Sokol, Maxwell & Jo Solet, Eileen Span & Mark Vanger, Steven Spitz & Diane Roseman, Matthew & Betsey St. Onge, Gail Stein, Alexander & Abigail Steinberg, Henry & Pamela Steiner, Jennifer & Guy Stuart, Daniel & Gail Stubbs, Peter Sturges & Sasha Lauterbach, Irma N. (Munoz) Sullivan, Michael J. Sullivan, Mannan Syed, Annette E. Terzian, Susan Tiersch, Paul & Susan Toner, Robert Travers Jr., William Traynor & Debra Fox, Karen & Moshe Tsalah, Carolyn L. Turk, Ariadne Valsamis & Daniel Levitt, Romana Vysatova & Eric Ingersoll, Jarlath Waldron & Nancy Heims, Donald & Susan Ware, Steve Watt and Jessie Wenning, Mariana Webb & Sean McDonnell, Boudewijn DeJonge & Josefine Wendel, Charles & Alissa Whiteman, Andrea Williams, Brian & Leah Williams, Martha Williams & Honora Willcutts, Jesse Winch & Cynthia Carpenter, Alice Wolf, Edwin M. Wolf, Jack Mikhail Wolfson, Nancy Woods, Susan Woskie & Deborah Rosenkrantz, Geri Zagarella, Dorothy S. Zinberg

Grants and Special Gifts

Friends of CRLS is honored by the confidence and trust conveyed by grants from the following foundations:

- \$2,000 from the Lars Foundation.
- \$1,000 from New York Community Trust.

Business Community Donations

"100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative

The Cambridge business community has long been a strong supporter of our high school, and of Friends of CRLS. In FY2014/15 they engaged with FoCRLS in a major way, via the FoCRLS "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative. The "100 by 100" name is a tip of the hat to the program goal of raising \$10,000 or more annually in scholarships, through gifts of \$100 or more from 100 or more Cambridge businesses. The initiative launched in late Spring 2015, and already by June 30 the first \$2,500 had been raised, from the following businesses:

Barrell Plumbing & Heating Co.
Beat Brasserie
Black Ink
Cambridge Auto Center
Carlone & Associates
Club Passim

Gnomon Copy
Grendel's Den Restaurant and Bar
Harvard Book Store
Harvard Square Business Association
Irving House / Harding House
S & H Construction, Inc.

Note: Unlike other FoCRLS fundraising, "100 by 100" fundraising goals are made along the calendar year (rather than the academic year), in order to meet school scholarship submission deadlines, the \$10K first year goal target date was December 31, 2015, in mid-FY2016.

Spoiler alert: The "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative exceeded its first-year goals—read about it in the 2015/2016 annual report to come!

Other Business Community Donations

In FY2015, Friends of CRLS received a very special \$5,000 gift from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, made in honor of Paul Toner as he stepped down from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Board of Directors. We are honored that Paul Toner, a CRLS parent, chose Friends of CRLS as the recipient of this gift.

Additional Business and Academic Community donations were received in FY2015 from:

\$250 – \$999

Cambridge Seven Associates <i>(via Adam Mitchell)</i>	Irving House / Harding House
Cambridge Seven Associates <i>(via Patricia Intrieri)</i>	MIT - Office of Government and Community Relations
Hong Kong Restaurant	

Up To \$250

Bonny's Garden Center
Thelonious Monkfish Restaurant

Matching Donations

Friends of CRLS received a very generous \$4,784 in matching donations from Microsoft on behalf of several employees.

Fiscal Sponsorship Donations

During FY2014, \$22,455 was raised for activities at CRLS via FoCRLS fiscal sponsorships, for Friends of Cambridge Athletics, CRLS Media Arts Studio, CRLS Debate Team, the Galapagos Trip, and the following scholarships: Fresh Start Contracting Corp. Award for Carpentry, the Calvin Hicks Memorial Award for Music, Dr. David A. Link Scholarship for the Health Professions, the Mary Francis Monti Memorial Scholarship, the Daphne S. Powell Scholarship, the Rose and Victor Rifkin Family Scholarship, and the Maria J. Tavares Memorial Scholarship.

We appreciate the support of the following donors to our fiscal sponsorees:

\$5,000+

484 Phi Alpha Foundation

\$1,000+

Coleen Kay
Paul McGuinness
Neil & Kathleen Rosenberg
Donna Spiegelman & Elaine Schear
Francis & Mary Sutula
William & Elissa Warner

\$250 – \$999

Anonymous (2)

Margaret Coleman

David & Margaret Link

Nathaniel Link

Judith Lippke

Brian O’Sullivan-Pierce and Nick Stamos

Elizabeth Ross

Up to \$250

Silvia Andrade, Anonymous, Nancy Baskin, Nazmin S. Bhuiya, Kathryn Biehl, Roger & Elizabeth Borghesani, Harriet Brinen, Mitali Chakrabarti, Anna Chakravarti, McCall Credle Rosenthal, Kathleen Dolley, Madelyn & Bruce Donoff, Elaine Erichson, Judy Fishman, Audrey Frankenberg, Elaine & Edward Gilbert, Rhona Gilbert, Peter Greenspan, Craig and Karen Halvorson, Ilona Horwitz, Philip E. Karmel & Barbara Ann Landress, Lyra S. Kent, Dorothy Rein Kessler, Caryl Komornik, Joan Kranz, Robert & Dorothy Landress, Alice Lichtenstein, Judith Liebeskind, Eva Mayer, Marcia Mellett, Marlene Mendelsohn, Nahid F. Meriwether, Elizabeth Miller, Lila Miller, Deborah Milligan, Joel T. Patterson & Catherine R. Cabrera, Suzanne Pianin, Ellen Rifkin, Jennifer Rollins, Frieda C. & Eugene Shapiro, Roberta Shapiro, Burton & Estelle Silbert, Marcy Silbert, Rae Silbert, Shelley Silbert, Nihaad Suby, Robert J. & Marcia D. Turcotte, Marvin & Marian Weinberg, David Zucker

FUNDRAISING PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Fundraising for Friends of CRLS takes place in many forms:

Solicitation Letters

For the eighth consecutive year, the major source of donations to FoCRLS were two mailed and email solicitations in December (2014 end-of-year/holiday) and in May (2015 pre-graduation). Both mailings went to the wider CRLS community: parents of students in grades 9 – 12, and to subsets of Cambridge homeowners, CRLS alumni, and other community supporters. An email solicitation was sent out through the Friends of CRLS listserv as well. These two seasonal solicitations drew contributions of \$57,549. Additionally, we received \$2,025 this year from last year's May solicitation, for a total of \$59,574.

A strong factor in the success of our solicitations was the help of volunteers who labeled envelopes and who participated in the FoCRLS Winter Phonathon to reinforce the message of the letter and email solicitations.

House Party

CRLS parents Amy Munsat and Harry Flamm, along with other members of the host committee – Sarah Bell, Andy Eccles, Alison Field-Juma, Marguerite Hicks-Gyewu, Calestous Juma, Pattie Maes, Karl Sims, Robin Streit, Karen Tsalah, and Sally Watermulder – welcomed the community into their home for a festive afternoon to benefit FoCRLS on Sunday, May 17, 2015. The House Party, attended by a lively crowd of approximately 50 guests raised over \$4,000 for FoCRLS programs.



Besides delicious food and the opportunity to connect with CRLS parents, faculty and staff, and other community members, the afternoon featured presentations from CRLS Principal Damon Smith; FoCRLS Executive Director Elaine Schear; Marjorie Hicks (aunt of FoCRLS Board Member Marguerite Hicks-Gyewu), who announced The Calvin Hicks Memorial Award for the Study of Music; and three recipients of FoCRLS opportunities. Nicole Hart, CRLS Instructional Technology Specialist and Documentarian, accompanied by CRLS student intern Will McArthur, explained the Faculty Innovation Grant funded "The CRLS Legacy Project: An interactive portrait of Cambridge's 366 year-old public high school." CRLS Carpentry Teacher Douglas Carey described his Faculty Innovation Grant project, "Rolling Planters for Physically Disabled Nursing Home Residents." CRLS alum Akhi Begum (Class of 2014), now at UMass Boston, shared her perspective as a Student Travel Fellow and an Unsung Hero. FoCRLS is very grateful for the work of all who made the event such a great success.

Photo: House Party hosts Harry Flamm and Amy Munsat listen to speaker Akhi Begum

MayFair Raffle

Under the leadership of FoCRLS Mayfair Raffle Coordinator Karen Tsalah, the 2015 MayFair Raffle Coordinators surpassed previous year totals, breaking the \$8K mark at a whopping \$8,001 dollars! The raffle again showed that CRLS students benefit when the whole community comes together. The raffle featured 64 prizes from 53 local businesses. A team of 39 volunteers engaged in all aspects of the raffle, from soliciting prizes, updating the raffle website, and in particular selling raffle tickets at various Cambridge locations—this year we had 19 tablings at multiple locations, including next to the Central Square Post Office, Cambridge Public Library, Fresh Pond Market, Shaws Supermarket Porter Square, and at CRLS arts performances.

Tickets were also sold online at focrls.org and via personal outreach. The raffle culminated in a day of brisk ticket sales at the MayFair on Sunday, May 3, at a table station provided pro bono by the Harvard Square Business Association (HSBA).



Photo: FoCRLS volunteer and CRLS parent Dede Danforth welcomes raffle ticket buyers outside the Cambridge Public Library

MayFair Raffle Prize Donors

Restaurants

Cambridge Common
Courthouse Seafood
East Coast Grill
Fire & Ice
Flatbread Company
Fuji Sushi
Life Alive Urban Oasis and Organic Cafe
Middle East Restaurant
Mike's Food & Spirits
Panera Bread
Scoopsies Ice Cream
Simon's Coffee Shop
Toscanini's Ice Cream
Voltage Coffee & Art

Services

B Cummings Hair Salon
Beauty by Karen
Boston Super Tours

Cambridge YMCA
Cuisine en Locale
Farmers to You
Flowers by Karen
H&R Block
HealthWorks
Hollywood Express
Jeana's Dirty Dog Salon
Simply Erinn's Unisex Hair Salon
Sparkle Cleaners (Concord Ave)
Wear Power
Wet Paint Nail Spa

Shops

Artist & Craftsman Supply
Black Ink
Bonny's Garden Center
Capone Foods
Coady Florist
Formaggio Kitchen

GreatCitees
Harvard Book Store
Henry Bear's Park
Joie de Vivre
Marathon Sports
Nick & Lizzie's Sweet Surprise
Nomad
Paper Source
Porter Square Books
Salt & Olive
Seven Stars Bookstore
Stellabella Toys
Tayrona – crafted jewelry and gifts

Urban Village Home
Whole Foods Fresh Pond

Arts

Brattle Theater
Somerville Theater

Accommodations

Hyatt Regency Hotel Cambridge

Teams

Boston Red Sox

Fundraiser at Henry Bear's Park

The holidays brought generous offers by businesses for FoCRLS to connect with Cantabridgians doing their holiday shopping at two Cambridge institutions: Henry Bear's Park and Stellabella Toys. For the fifth year, FoCRLS volunteers wrapped gifts at Henry Bear's Park in the Porter Square Mall. For the service of wrapping purchases, FoCRLS received \$383 in donations from shoppers, which Henry Bear's Park matched with \$383 in gift cards for us to use as raffle prizes for our Mayfair Raffle. Just as important as the money raised at this event was the valuable opportunity at both children's stores to introduce Friends of CRLS to members of the community and to answer questions about our wonderful high school.

COMMUNICATIONS

The CRLS Community

The 2014/15 school year began with communication about Friends of CRLS to all CRLS families. A full-page informational insert was included with Principal Smith's "Welcome to CRLS" letter to parents, thus underwriting FoCRLS as an integral part of the school community and as an organization worth joining and supporting.

Throughout the course of the year, announcements went out in the weekly internal CRLS newsletter, *Did You Know? (DYK)*, as well as in the emailed CRLS parents' newsletter produced by CRLS Family Liaison Greta Hardina. Flyers created to promote ITAV, Student Travel Fellowships, and Scholarships were posted on bulletin boards, distributed to appropriate representatives, and featured on the electronic bulletin boards (computer screens) in the lobbies of the main and arts buildings. Multiple requests for Faculty Innovation Grants proposals were sent to all CRLS staff through the school's email system.

While our electronic reach continued to deepen, FoCRLS maintained its belief in the value of face-to-face contact in our community. FoCRLS had tables at various CRLS events over the course of the year, and the FoCRLS office was a magnet for students and faculty alike, providing information about FoCRLS programs.

Community Meetings

FoCRLS holds community meetings at CRLS twice a year – a School Year Kickoff to welcome parents at the beginning of the year and an end-of-year wrap-up, enabling CRLS parents and other interested members of the community to come together, hear about FoCRLS activities, and find out how to get involved. Held in September and May, these two meetings framed the year. The September meeting was a lively mix of new CRLS parents and returning veterans, giving the opportunity for parent-to-parent information sharing. The May meeting was a celebratory year-in-review, acknowledgement of our many volunteers, and an "ask the principal" session with Principal Damon Smith.



Photo: CRLS Principal Damon Smith, who is an ex officio FoCRLS Board member, speaks at FoCRLS's May community meeting.

Business Community Engagement

This year saw the launch of an exciting new partnership with the Cambridge business community, spearheaded by FoCRLS Executive Director Elaine Schear, the "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative. The goal of this initiative is to raise \$10,000 or more annually, through an annual commitment of \$100 or more from 100 or more Cambridge businesses. Response was enthusiastic, with endorsement by Cambridge Local First and the support of the Harvard Square Business Association, and initial contributions totaling \$2,500 arriving in just the first few months, with more pledges obtained. *(The \$10K goal for 2015 goal was indeed met and surpassed – you'll have to wait for the 2015/2016 annual report for more details!)*

A list of the FY2015 "100 by 100" business donors can be found in the Donations and Gifts section of this report.

What is important to note is that this has proved to not just be a fundraising endeavor; FoCRLS's growing relationship with the business community has provided us with an opportunity to learn from and explore our mutual goals and to answer the question, "What can FoCRLS give to the Cambridge business community and what can our diverse and engaged businesses give to our school? There has been great interest shown by Cambridge business owners in what happens within the walls of CRLS, and it has been a wonderful opportunity to showcase the activities of the high school of which we are so proud.

FoCRLS is a proud nonprofit member of these business associations:

- Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
- Cambridge Local First
- Central Square Business Association
- Harvard Square Business Association

FoCRLS Visibility

Our organization's online presence continued to increase the visibility of FoCRLS and CRLS, thanks to two special volunteers. Our webmaster, CRLS parent Elisa Pepe, keeps our website up-to-date, informative, and attractive – visit it at focrls.org and you're sure to learn something new! Another CRLS parent, journalist Beena Sarwar, kept people talking about FoCRLS events and programs via social media through the FoCRLS Facebook page and Twitter feed. FoCRLS also continued to actively build its outreach via the Cambridge community media, with a range of articles and notices in the *Cambridge Chronicle*, both in the newspaper and online, and articles on the City of Cambridge website and the web-only news source *Cambridge Day*.

FoCRLS Administrative Coordinator Janis Navikas also deserves a particular shout-out for enhancing FoCRLS visibility both at CRLS and in the media, with her engaging writing, compelling graphics, and in being able to effectively connect with students and faculty who visit the FoCRLS office, as well as the many more members of the broader community that "visit" FoCRLS by email and over the phone.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

INCOME		Actuals 2015	Actuals 2014
	Donations		
	Graduation Solicitation Previous FY	\$2,025	\$2,070
	Holiday Solicitation	\$51,391	\$34,783
	Graduation Solicitation	\$6,158	\$7,330
	House Parties	\$4,505	\$5,435
	Other Donations from Individuals	\$14,527	\$16,886
	Business Donations	\$6,900	\$2,250
	TOTAL Donations	\$85,506	\$68,754
	Grants		
	ITAV	\$0	\$15,250
	Other	\$3,000	\$2,000
	Total Grants	\$3,000	\$17,250
	Other Income		
	Raffle	\$8,001	\$7,205
	Targeted Gifts – ITAV (\$5,085 grant writer)	\$5,185	\$0
	Targeted Gifts – Scholarships	\$1,200	\$0
	Targeted Gifts 100 x 100	\$2,500	\$0
	Events – (GOOGLE, Flatbread)	\$0	\$2,756
	Contract City Cambridge for Counselor	\$0	\$3,121
	FoCRLS Fiscal Sponsorship Overhead %	\$1,303	\$1,759
	Other	\$1,552	\$298
	TOTAL Other Income	\$19,741	\$15,139
	Total Unrestricted Income	\$108,247	\$101,143
	RESTRICTED FUNDS		
	Fiscal Sponsorships Income net of FoCRLS %	\$22,455	\$33,430
	TOTAL INCOME	\$130,702	\$134,573

EXPENSES		Actuals 2015		Actuals 2014
	Grants and Projects			
	Faculty Distinction Awards	\$139		\$0
	Faculty Grants	\$8,144		\$8,126
	Holmes Award	\$600		\$600
	Scholarships	\$16,000		\$12,600
	Student Travel Grants	\$9,529		\$5,499
	Unsung Heroes	\$2,000		\$2,000
	Special One-Time Grants	\$350		\$350
	"It Takes a Village"	\$32,024		\$22,930
	Alumni activities	\$1,197		\$0
	CRLS Strong Emergency Grant	\$800		\$250
	TOTAL Grants/Projects	\$70,783		\$52,355
	Operating Expenses			
	Fundraising Expenses	\$5,792		\$11,585
	Staff	\$35,812		\$17,461
	General operating Expenses	\$5,977		\$6,534
	TOTAL Operating Expenses	\$47,581		\$35,580
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$118,363		\$87,936
	NET REVENUE	\$12,339		\$46,638
	Encumbered	\$11,674		\$19,000
	TOTAL NET INCOME minus encumbered funds	\$665		\$27,638

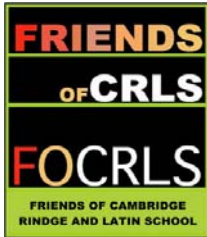
NET ASSETS				
	UNRESTRICTED	\$66,742		\$79,791
	RESTRICTED	<u>\$43,146</u>		<u>\$29,432</u>
	TOTAL	\$109,888		\$109,223

INDIVIDUAL THANKS

As an organization driven primarily by volunteer energy, our success could not have happened without the work of many hands: current and former parents of CRLS students; current CRLS students; alumni of CRLS, Cambridge High and Latin School, and Rindge Tech; community members and leaders; and CRLS staff members. (It really does take a village!) Many thanks to these individuals for their generous and caring efforts:

Dawn Baxter	Nicole Hart	Dan Penrice
Akhi Begum	Edwidge L. Hercule	Elisa Pepe
Sarah Bell	Pattie Heyman	Natalie Reed
Loni Butera	Marjorie Hicks	Barbara Robinson
Douglas Carey	Marguerite Hicks-Gyewu	Neil Rosenberg
Hae Kyung Chung	Arlene Holtzman	Jamie Sabino
Kwame Dance	Calestous Juma	Jayati Sadhukhan
Ted Darling	Kim Kaufman	Beena Sarwar
DeDe Danforth	Kathleen Kelly	Elaine Schear
Gil Deford	Margaret Kelner	Laurie Sheffield
Laura Deford	Jacob Klibaner	Karl Sims
Janet Domenitz	Sandra Lima	Damon Smith
Jane Donohue	Melissa Ludtke	Robin Streit
Ruby Pierce Donohue	Will MacArthur	Nancy Tauber
Andy Eccles	Pattie Maes	Karen Tsalah
Mihir Edulbehram	Trish Marti	Geoffrey Underwood
Donna Erickson	Beth McCann	Elizabeth Vernon
Fred Fantini	Kathleen Moore	David Vogel
Alison Field-Juma	Liz McNerney	Sally Watermulder
Harry Flamm	Zoe McNerney	Kathy Watkins
Joyce Gerber	Jessica Miller	Micah Wilson
Serena Wilkie Gifford	Amy Munsat	Mike Wolfson
Avra Goldman	Michelle Nathan	Cathie Zusy
Shelley Gross	Patty Nolan	
Victoria Harris	Paula Paris	

If you volunteered with Friends of CRLS during the 2014/15 school year but your name does not appear on the list, please accept our sincere gratitude and apologies – and please email us at info@focrls.org so we may add you to our revised list.



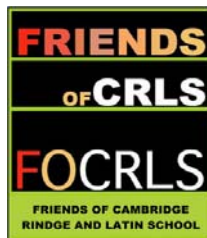
BECOME A FRIEND OF CRLS

Here are some ways you can be involved:

- **Learn more!** Go to **focrls.org** – to read more and to sign up for our update emails.
- **Visit in person!** Contact us at **info@focrls.org** or **857-235-9290** to arrange to tour CRLS's state-of-the-art facility and meet some of the school's exemplary faculty and staff. If you happen to be at CRLS, please feel free to drop by the FoCRLS office, Room 2136 on the 2nd floor in the main (Rindge) building.
- **Donate!** Whatever the amount, your financial support will make a lasting difference. We're a 501(c)3 nonprofit, so your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law.
 - ★ Donate by credit card online at **focrls.org**
 - ★ Donate by check payable to FoCRLS and mail to:
FoCRLS, P.O. Box 39-1541, Cambridge, MA 02139
 - ★ Learn more about starting a scholarship or sponsoring a grant by contacting us at **info@focrls.org** or **857-235-9290**.
- **Volunteer!** No major commitment is required – any amount of time you can give, we can put to good use. Go to **focrls.org** or contact us at **info@focrls.org** or **857-235-9290** to get started. Here are some of our volunteer areas:
 - ◆ Publicity and Communications – social media, articles, newsletters, displays
 - ◆ Photography – at events and meetings
 - ◆ Informational Tabling – at CRLS or community events
 - ◆ Hosting – hold a house party benefit in your home
 - ◆ Fundraising – events, mailings, or new ideas
 - ◆ MayFair Raffle – ticket sales/tabling or outreach for gift cards as prizes
 - ◆ Alumni Outreach
 - ◆ Business Outreach – for the "100 by 100" Cambridge Business Community Scholarship Initiative and other business community engagement
 - ◆ Volunteer Outreach – contacting volunteers for specific events
 - ◆ Career Mentoring – working one-on-one with a CRLS grad interested in your current field through our "It Takes a Village" College Success Program
- **Partner with us!** If you are a business leader and would like to be involved with FoCRLS, please contact us at **857-235-9290** or **info@focrls.org** so we can explore ways you can join our network of community supporters.

Have another idea for involvement?
Contact us at 857-235-9290 or info@focrls.org.

THANK YOU!



**Friends of CRLS
P.O. Box 39-1541
Cambridge, MA 02139**

**857-235-9290
info@focrls.org**

www.focrls.org