Words For The Largest Promise Student Cohort

To. Through. And Back. This is the message Promise Scholars heard at the 4th New Haven Promise Scholar Celebration. “Investment made in the future of these students is ultimately an investment in the development of our workforce and city,” says Patricia Melton, Executive Director. “Celebrated scholars are being rewarded for their academic achievement and hard work with financial assistance, as well as having access to a supportive network to help them succeed while in college and to attract them back to New Haven to build productive, contributing lives here.” That support is the newly developed Promise Ambassador Program being piloted at college campuses across Connecticut this Fall. Learn more at newhavenpromise.org/promise-scholars-we-want-you-back

Empowering River Advocacy

Did you know that New Haven has three rivers that run through it? The West River, Mill River and Quinnipiac River. The rivers flow through a dozen other towns and municipalities before entering New Haven, including Bethany and Woodbridge to the west and Meriden and Wallingford to the northeast. Although stricter regulations and mandatory permitting has helped to protect rivers to some degree in recent decades, questions persist as to their impact. Supported with a $20,000 grant from the Quinnipiac River Fund, the Mill River Watershed Association’s Urban Rivers Permit Project will provide a comprehensive catalog of permits and permit-related regulations for the entire length of each river to empower river advocates to identify areas of concern and speak out for stronger regulation.

For more information, visit www.thequinnipiacriver.com
Mark Your Calendars for These Exciting Fall Events

Feminisms Frankensteins: The Future of Gender Justice

Tuesday, October 28th  5–7 pm
New Haven Lawn Club,  New Haven, CT

Join supporters of The Community Fund for Women & Girls for an evening of inspiration with author, blogger, speaker and activist, Courtney Martin. Courtney is an outspoken and prolific writer whose work has been featured in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Newsweek, the Christian Science Monitor and many other prominent publications. She has also appeared on Good Morning America, The TODAY Show, The O’Reilly Factor, CNN, and MSNBC.

The Community Foundation’s Annual Meeting

Tuesday, November 5th  5–8 pm
Long Wharf Theatre,  New Haven, CT

The Community Foundation’s Annual Meeting will take place at the Long Wharf Theatre at One Sargent Drive in New Haven from 5pm to 8pm on November 5th. In addition to a report of our year’s activities, guests will be treated to a segment of this year’s production of Our Town.
Teaching Youth to “Own Their Economic Success”

What can you teach a 2nd grader about entrepreneurship, mass production and taxes? Quite a bit, actually, as proven in programs coordinated by Junior Achievement of Southwest New England, with support from The Community Foundation. Junior Achievement recruits business and community volunteers in Greater New Haven and matches them up with K–12 classrooms in Guilford, Hamden, Madison, New Haven, North Haven, Orange, Wallingford and West Haven. These volunteers help students understand money management, how to start a business and many other aspects of financial literacy and workforce readiness.

Relaxation Made Possible for Adults Coping with Chronic Mental Illness

Over the summer, several members of Fellowship Place Inc. attended Camp CONNRI, an adult retreat and vacation center located on more than 250 acres overlooking a lake in eastern Connecticut. “The chance to get away to a peaceful place revived my spirits and makes me feel ready to deal with my many challenges,” remarked one member. Fellowship Place, a nonprofit that helps adults with chronic mental illness lead more satisfying lives, will provide three camperships a year for Fellowship members through the newly-created Birgitta Johnson Campership Fund. The Fund was created by Fellowship Place to honor the years of dedication Birgitta gave to the agency as a volunteer and Board member.

For more information, visit www.cfgnh.org/johnsoncamperfund
Professional Advisor Partners

Many attorneys, bankers, accountants and financial planners have found The Community Foundation to be the ideal vehicle through which their clients can achieve their philanthropic objectives. We are proud to partner with the professionals listed to build effective philanthropy in Greater New Haven.

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For more information, contact Dotty Weston-Murphy at 203-777-7081, or Amy Goldman at 203-777-7083 or visit www.cfgnh.org/advisors
New Funding Will Improve Maternal & Child Health and Father Engagement

The Community Foundation has been awarded $5.4 Million for 2014–2019 from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to continue its New Haven Healthy Start Program, an initiative that coordinates the systems of care for women, children, and families in New Haven to ensure healthy birth outcomes and community wellbeing. New Haven Healthy Start was among 87 programs across the nation to successfully compete for $65 Million in total federal aid to reduce high infant mortality rates and improve maternal care in high risk communities. It achieves its work through community partnerships with primary care health centers, such as Yale-New Haven Hospital, and other community organizations.

For more information, visit www.nhhealthystart.org

Success in Building Community Partnerships Results in $5.4 Million for New Haven

Maternal & Child Health Issues & Opportunities in New Haven

Many factors play a role in fueling maternal health disparities, including: poverty, unemployment, domestic violence, higher teenage birth rates, lower education levels and higher levels of mental health needs as a consequence of stressful life circumstances.

Black and Hispanic women in New Haven have worse health outcomes overall than the City’s White women, particularly on indicators of maternal health, according to DataHaven’s Community Wellbeing Index (2013). New Haven’s Black women have the highest rates of infant mortality and babies born at low birth weight, and Black and Hispanic women in the City are less likely than White women to have adequate prenatal care. These disparities mirror State and National rates.

Over the next five years, New Haven Healthy Start will use its new grant funds to continue:
1. improving women’s health,
2. promoting quality services,
3. strengthening family resilience,
4. achieving collective impact, and
5. increasing accountability.
A Dramatic Dedication to Community

Combine professional actors and youth from the Greater New Haven area, add a little music and choreography, and you have the next production from The Whitney Players Theater Company. Since 2001, The Whitney Players has produced full-length musicals featuring youth from Hamden and the surrounding towns, teaching them the basics about acting and helping them appreciate theatre. The result is an affordable evening of entertainment for the community. A nonprofit organization co-sponsored by the Hamden Arts Commission, The Whitney Players is also a participating nonprofit on giveGreater.org®, The Community Foundation’s resource for learning and giving in Greater New Haven.

Rejuvenating Structures, Improving Civic Vitality through the Arts

In 1924, the Little Theatre on Lincoln Street raised its first curtain. Later converted to a movie house, the Little Theatre building narrowly escaped being torn down for condominiums. Instead, it survived to become part of the Educational Center for the Arts, a high school arts program located in the Audubon Arts District, an enclave of arts education spaces that are a vital part of the City’s reputation as a place of opportunities for artists of all ages. Learn more about the inspirational spaces near you, such as the Legacy Theatre in Branford’s Stony Creek, Cheshire’s proposed Ball & Socket Arts complex and New Haven’s City-Wide Open Studios.

For more information, visit www.cfgnh.org/creativeplacemaking

For a list of arts organizations serving our region, visit www.giveGreater.org®
A Wonderful Life Remembered

In August, The Community Foundation and the Greater New Haven region lost a dear friend and advocate, Foundation Board member, Jim Perillo, pictured above with his wife Eileen. Jim was a great community leader and a devoted son of New Haven, with a record of community service extending back four decades, including service as the executive director of the New Haven Colliseum, a Democratic Alderman to New Haven’s Seventh Ward in “The Hill,” and a mathematics teacher in Guilford High School. As a Foundation Board member, Jim was a long-time leader of our scholarship work and served as Board Vice-Chair in 2013. He pushed all of us to do our best work and was a person with a very big heart. He is very much missed.

To make a gift in his memory, visit www.cfgnh.org/perillofund