Progreso Latino Fund Turns 15

New Scholarship Announced at Gala
The Progreso Latino Fund (PLF) marked its quinceañera with a spectacular gala on September 15, the start of Hispanic Heritage Month. More than 175 individuals and sponsoring organizations celebrated PLF’s work to build this region’s Latino leadership and bring people together around important issues. Guests danced to Latin sounds until the clock struck midnight. PLF Advisory Committee Chair Fernando Muñiz announced the creation of a new annual scholarship for Latino students established in honor of PLF founders and charter members. PLF’s next event will be a forum on November 15, featuring Dr. Nelson Colón Tarrats, President and CEO of the Puerto Rico Community Foundation, and Hon. Julia Nazario Fuentes, Mayor of Loíza, Puerto Rico. They will talk about restoration efforts in Puerto Rico since last year’s hurricanes devastated the island. Visit progresolatinofund.org to register and learn more.
Salute to Fellow Nonagenarians

Honored to Be in the Company of These Amazing 90(plus)-Year-Old Donors

If you want to see evidence of the adage “to stay young, stay active,” look no further than Dr. Harold (“Hal”) D. Bornstein Jr. Hal is a Yale School of Medicine graduate whose pediatric practice spanned five decades. Philanthropy has been an integral part of Hal’s life. His philosophy is, “There are no pockets in caskets. You can’t take the money with you.” Together with Maureen, his wife of 47 years (pictured above) who died in 2015, Hal has contributed to countless organizations in the community. The couple established 15 charitable gift annuities (CGAs) during their life together, and Hal has established four more since Maureen’s passing to benefit Elm Shakespeare Company, Connecticut Food Bank, Connecticut Children’s Museum and Youth Continuum. “It’s a win-win,” says Hal. Celebrate The Foundation’s 90th anniversary through stories like Hal’s. Visit cfgnh.org/90years where you can take our “From the Start” trivia challenge for a chance to designate $250 to your favorite nonprofits!

Ninety Years of Being There “From the Start”

New Haven Promise is nearing $4 million in scholarship disbursement monies per year, and New Haven public schools have 50 percent more graduates than when the program launched in 2010. After successfully incorporating internship opportunities into the program, President Patricia Melton turned her attention to ensuring second chances for struggling high school students. Promise is now partnered with the national model called Gateway to College. The goal is to reconnect 50 students per year to their education, earning dual college course credits on the path to a diploma. From the start, Promise has been supported by The Foundation and continues to be our largest programmatic commitment.
For the Love of the Game

Little League Builds Friendships, Teaches Life Lessons

Walter “Pop” Smith has been bringing New Haven kids to the game of baseball since 1952. And baseball isn’t the only thing these young people are learning. “I consider it an outdoor classroom,” says Lynair Walker, League president. “It teaches patience. You have to do so much critical thinking. And, you have to have a love for the game.” Walter “Pop” Smith has a long and storied history, having sent an all-star team to the Little League World Series in 1974. About 300 boys and girls, largely from the Hill, Dixwell, Newhallville and Westville neighborhoods, play in the League. Kids can start playing T-ball as young as age 4, and can continue up to the “majors” division at age 12. The League has been supported by unrestricted funds and receives grants annually from the William Henry Taylor Fund, a designated fund established at The Community Foundation in 2009. This past spring, The Foundation provided the League with a small grant enabling it to purchase new bats and upgrade its concessions stand.

GNH Vote 2018 Aims to Increase Voter Turnout

After facilitating a dynamic Gubernatorial Candidate Forum in July, Greater New Haven Vote (GNH Vote 2018), a nonpartisan collaborative effort initiated and administered by The Community Foundation, continued its work by hosting a “Get Out & Vote! Rally and Canvass” on September 22 in partnership with Arte, Inc. The goal: to strengthen voter turnout and register new voters, specifically targeting populations with low voter turnout in the August primary. As the collaborative continues to increase voter engagement, it also continues to grow its number of community partners signed on to support its efforts. More than 20 local partners are currently involved.
Donation Dollars Go Further on Campaign Days

To help strengthen the local nonprofit sector, The Community Foundation is once again offering Campaign Days. A Campaign Day is one day a year in which gifts (up to $5,000 total) made through giveGreater.org® to a designated nonprofit are eligible to have credit card and host fees underwritten by The Community Foundation. Some organizations choose a date to maximize the success of an existing appeal, gala or other event on the fundraising calendar (for example, New Haven Reads opted for Sept. 8, International Literacy Day; the Women & Family Life Center chose Nov. 15, its 25th Anniversary, etc.). Campaign Days run through December 31, 2018. See giveGreater.org® for a complete list.

Derby Native Leads the Charge

On a warm evening in July, elected officials and community volunteers gathered on the Derby Green to celebrate the restoration of the Derby-Shelton Civil War monument. Derby native and former Valley Community Foundation (VCF) President Jamie Cohen raised money to restore the monument to its former glory through a fund created at VCF. The restoration included replacing the bronze plaques of the names of the 82 soldiers who served from Derby and “Huntington” (as Shelton was then known) as well as installing lights so the site is visible at night. Cohen encourages visitors of all ages, and says he hopes “people bring their children and grandchildren to welcome it home.” If you’re interested in learning how to support the monument’s preservation for years to come, or have a special cause in the Valley that’s dear to you that you would like to support, please contact VCF staff at 203-751-9162.

Legacy Restored for Future Generations
Circle Members Memorialize Their Beliefs

The Nettie J. Dayton Circle members below have included The Foundation in their wills or made other planned giving arrangements through retirement plans, personal trusts and life income gifts that will benefit our community in perpetuity. To join this list of visionaries, contact Sharon Cappetta at 203-777-7071.

Anonymous (32)  
Amy & Doug Allen  
Elaine R. Anderson  
Lisa F. Arpaia, Esq.  
Louis G. Audette II  
Dr. Leon Bailey, Jr.  
Henry E.* & Nancy H. Bartels  
Myrna F. Baskin  
Ronald Bell  
Edward Bennett III*  
Rita D. Berkson & Randolph B. Reinhold  
The Berry Hulin Family  
Carla A. Birmingham  
Richard Blacher  
Pamela C. Boller  
Richard J. & Joan Bonomi  
Dr. Harold D. & Maureen L.* Bornstein  
Robert & Kathleen Bradley  
Jay Bright  
William Brink  
Tony Cafero & Heather Rife  
Mary Carey  
Barbara W. Carlson  
Elizabeth Ann Ceccarelli  
Phyllis E. Ceccarelli  
Peter Ciardiello  
Brad Collins & Nancy Clayton  
William S. Colwell  
Bob & Mary Beth Congdon  
Louisa Cunningham  
Ann S. Dahl*  
Elizabeth Demir  
Ann Pecora Diamond  
Severio & Janice Fodero  
Susan I. Fowler  
Christopher & Toddie Getman  
Lindy Lee Gold  
Ruth B. Grannick  
Henry S. Harrison  
Paul Hermes  
John & Lesley Higgins-Biddle  
Ralph C. Jones  
Annie Garcia Kaplan  
James Kasper  
John P.W. Kelly  
Frank Kenna Jr.* & Joan Kenna  
John D. Kernan Jr. & Karen Kernan  
Harvey* & Ruth Koizim  
Edward Konowitz  
David A. Krett Jr.  
Richard B. Larson  
William & Carolyn Lieber  
Lawrence & Susan Liebman  
Bruce R. Lively  
Mary F. Lowery  
Robert* & Joyce Mailhouse  
Jean B. & M. Anne* Mauro  
Carolyn M. Mazure  
Phyllis McDowell  
Marcia Mersey*  
Maria Mojica & Edgar Colon  
Carol Nardini  
Minot & Alycyn Nettleton  
Barbara Nicolazzo  
Jim & Mimi Niederman  
David O’Sullivan  
Maryann Ott  
Margaret L. Ottenbreit  
Cynthia Parker  
Fred J. Pasqualonii  
Barbara Pearce & Norman Fleming  
Catherine P. & Edward* Petraluolo Jr.  
Dagobert & Nancy Pfeiffer  
Katharine C. Pierce  
Ed & Margie Pikaart  
Angela G. Powers  
Douglas W. Rae  
Jean M. Richards  
Patrick B. Rowland & Lisa A. Kvesell  
Shelly & Richard Saczynski  
David R. Schaefer  
Irene Scheld  
Judith Schurman  
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony P. Scillia  
Jane Steidley Shaw  
Teresa M. Sirico  
Carol Lynn Sirot  
Jane Snider  
Kerala & Richard Snyder  
Sara R. Studler  
David Stagg & Suzanne Lagarde  
Patsy Taylor  
Marcia & Tom Turner  
Anne Rodrigues Voloshin  
Jeffery T. Wack  
Patricia L. Wales  
Glenn & Dotty Weston-Murphy  
Vivien K. White  
Mary Elizabeth Wiedersheim  
Kimberly P. Williams Family Fund  
Pug & Dee Winokur  
George Zdru  
* deceased

“The Foundation’s priorities reflect my values. I enjoy making my own choices with giving, but I know there will be a time when I cannot. The Foundation is the best option for the social return I want for my hard-earned money.”

— Lindy Lee Gold
Local Watershed Monitored, Thanks to Grant

Quinnipiac River Fund Continues to Preserve, Educate

The Quinnipiac River Fund Advisory Committee recommended seven organizations to receive a total of $120,600 in competitive grants in 2018. Funding was awarded to the New Haven Land Trust for expanding the River trail network; CT Audubon Society for designing and implementing bioswales; and to Quinnipiac University for monitoring the ecology of songbirds that breed in the watershed and assessing the effects of industrial pollutants in the water and on fish. The River Advocates of South Central Connecticut received funding to make improvements to public access to the Little River, a Quinnipiac tributary. Yale University received support to monitor marsh surface elevations and analyze vegetation change, while North Guilford Studios was funded to create 3,600 panoramic images along the Quinnipiac and its passive recreation trails. The Canal Dock Boathouse (pictured above), which opened this summer, also received general operating support.

Environmental Stewardship Alive and Well Along the Quinnipiac

For nearly 40 years, the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association (QRWA) semi-annual cleanups have helped remove the flood of rubbish assailing the Quinnipiac River and its tributaries. This year, the event spanned five locations in five towns — Meriden, New Haven, Cheshire, Wallingford and Plainville. More than 100 volunteers pulled, picked and dragged more than 3,000 pounds of garbage out of bushes, banks, trails and beaches — from candy wrappers and soda cans to old tires, radiators and couches. Thankfully the QRWA and a revolving army of concerned citizens are steadfast stewards of our community’s precious resource.
Foundation Strategic Grants Support a Welcoming Community

Formerly-incarcerated men, like Johnny, earn a paycheck while receiving job training, literacy skills and other support. “This is my chance to start giving back,” says Johnny, a foreman at EMERGE Connecticut. Meanwhile, Sister Mary Ellen Burns provides a client with the paperwork needed to keep her family intact at Apostle Immigrant Services. “Strengthening families and strengthening communities. That’s what happens here,” says Burns. Johnny and Sister Mary Ellen are among the many people behind the $1.8 million in Foundation grants made over the last four years to help immigrants and those returning from prison successfully integrate into a welcoming community.

Foundation Invests in Software Engineering School

The digital revolution is here and employers’ demand for tech skills is far greater than the supply of qualified applicants. Holberton, a software engineering school that started in Silicon Valley, has ambitious plans to meet this gap. Set to open in January 2019 at District, a creative coworking space in Fair Haven, Holberton School New Haven aims to have 1,000 graduates in five years. The program is designed to attract more women and minorities to the tech industry through an application process that does not require a college degree and strives, as much as possible, to remove human bias. Holberton boasts that 100% of graduates acquire jobs, and defers tuition payments until graduates are employed. The Community Foundation, seeing Holberton’s potential to build the talent and entrepreneurial drive in the region, has made a Mission Related Investment in the training center.

Creating Opportunity in the New Economy
Neighborhood Leaders Improve City

The best ideas for making a city a better place often come from local residents. The Community Foundation launched its Neighborhood Program 27 years ago to address this. The program offers training and makes funding available for projects that cut across generations and bridge economic and cultural differences to unite neighborhoods in positive action. Orientation sessions begin this fall. For more information, visit cfgnh.org/neighborhoodleadership or contact Lee Cruz at 203-777-7074.