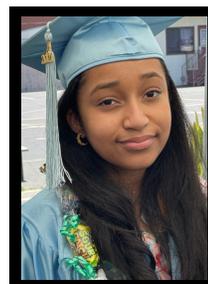
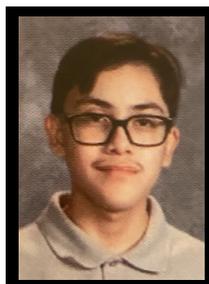
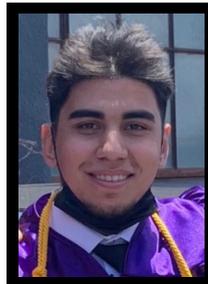
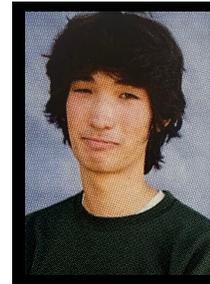
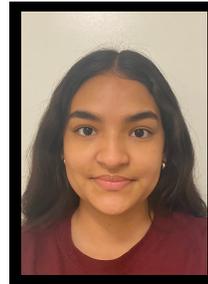




LOS ANGELES CHALLENGE

Fall 2021 Newsletter

Gratitude



Thank You!

We thank you for your impact.
What research found, on average,
children whose education was
sponsored were:

more likely to apply for secondary education.

27 - 40%

more likely to graduate from college.

50 - 80%



I would like to give a huge thanks to the Los Angeles Challenge for being able to give me the opportunity to go into a private catholic school. In my area there are many kids that are unable to attend private schools due to financial instability but LAC was able to help me and my family overcome that obstacle. I am very grateful that I was chosen since junior high and was accompanied till the end of high school. Also Greg and Barbara were a huge factor of my accomplishments since they always were keeping in touch with me, and they believed I would do my very best. Thank you very much once again.

-Octavio Serrano



I am very thankful to receive the LAC scholarship because it helps my family financially and benefits my learning. This upcoming school year my 3 siblings and I will be attending Saints Peter and Paul School and this scholarship will help my parents carry the financial burden indeed. Another reason I am grateful for this scholarship is because it motivates me to do my best at school in order to keep my scholarship and maintain my 4.0 grade point average. I am also grateful this scholarship is offered to catholic students and allows them to practice their faith in schools while not having to pay as much as they normally would. I am very grateful for this scholarship and grateful for the people that offer this scholarship.

-Stephanie Aguilar



I'd like to take this time to thank you for your encouragement and support for all of us LA challenge students. I'd like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to strive and have a better education. Because of your gracious generosity, us students are able to study at great schools, make great memories with close friends, participate in school functions/activities, and always know that the LAC is always there for us when we need you. My name is Alyssa Camacho and the LA Challenge has given my family their generosity, their time, their support, and their comfort. The LA challenge has helped my family in so many ways not just economically, but personally with their support and reassurance that we can always count on them. Thank you to everyone that supports the LA Challenge because without you students and families like mine would not be able to receive the education that we do today. Thank you!

-Alyssa Camacho





Letter from our Board



CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Greg Alessandra

Dear Friends of The Los Angeles Challenge,

As we approach Thanksgiving, I am filled with many feelings of gratitude. I am eternally thankful to have been born in, raised in, and to reside in the greatest country on Earth. I am especially thankful for all of the brave men and women who have made sacrifices from small to infinite so that people all over the world can experience freedom and achieve to their fullest potential.

While our country isn't perfect, we do have what I think is the perfect solution: freedom to disagree, discuss, and affect change. At the Los Angeles Challenge, we believe that education is the foundation for such intelligent analysis, thoughtful and respectful discussion, and change that is fair and effective. Our students are acquiring these skills, and this augments my optimism for our country's future.

For nearly 20 years the Los Angeles Challenge has received generous assistance from you, our supporters and friends, to help promote the education of motivated students whose education can be optimized with some financial help. Our Board is extremely grateful for your donations, volunteerism, guidance, and encouragement.

I recently had the privilege of being part of the committee that interviewed students and families for new scholarships beginning this Fall. When calling some of the new scholarship recipients, I witnessed heartfelt gratitude! Tears of joy, whoops and yells, "ohh-yeah!'s", and prayers. Imagine trying to raise a family as a single parent on an income under \$15,000 per year for example. How hopeful must it feel to be told that not only will your son or daughter will receive scholarships of thousands of dollars through grade school and high school, but also will receive mentoring and assistance in applying to and selecting a college?

As I reflect on this, all of us—Board members and families alike—are proud of our organization and grateful for the opportunities we are able to provide each of our amazing students. Looking toward our 20th anniversary of the Los Angeles Challenge, we look forward to at least twenty more years of continued growth and whoops of joy.

Have a wonderful Fall, and please keep our students and their families in your hearts.

- Greg

Annual Report

- 2020 -

Income: \$219,677

Expenses: \$176,367

Number of Students: 31

Number of Schools: 11



Happy 20th Anniversary!

- 2022 -

Los Angeles Challenge is thrilled to announce that we are celebrating our 20th anniversary in 2022! Throughout that year you will be receiving information about our history, our alumni, and our future. We are so grateful and appreciative for all of you for giving us the opportunity to help so many children and families during these past two decades.



Number of Scholarship Recipients: 394

Number of High School Graduates: 394

\$ \$ Funds Raised: \$1.4 Million \$ \$

Hours of Mentoring:

Indescribable





LAC Alumni



KRISTIN TATUM



Saint Mary's University

I met the Los Angeles Challenge while attending St. Mary's Academy 2014-2018 and they supported me tremendously during the college application process in addition to tuition at St. Mary's Academy. During the application process LAC helped me prepare for my SAT and proofread my personal statement, this helped me curate a better personal statement as I was able to produce more articulate ideas. I was also able to accomplish graduating from high school with a Magna Cum Laude honor and awards in English, Religion, and several other academic awards. As an LAC student I accomplished applying and being accepted by several universities and becoming a college freshman.

When my acceptance letters arrived, LAC helped me look through them and pick the school that best fits my interests and needs, including an institution that embraced diversity and encouraged me to pursue my interests such as Psychology and English. LAC helped me pick by doing research on each school with me and showing me some how to do research on my own including looking at the mission statement of school's, exploring the services they offer student's, and what programs they had to help minorities.

Today, I am a first-generation college student at St. Mary's University in Los Angeles. LAC helped me better understand the financial aid packages I received from each school to which I was accepted and ultimately decide on attending St. Mary's University. This fall, I entered my senior year of college and am currently applying to graduate programs for Psychology. My goal is to become a Child Psychologist and complete work providing counseling and mental health services to youth, in particular adolescents that are a part of minorities such as LGBT youth and Latinx youth. My experience with LAC helped me make an informed decision about pursuing college because I found the work they do inspiring. I am a first-generation college student and they helped me navigate the college application process and there are many others who have been a part of LAC. I found that I wanted to do similar work in providing counseling services to youth.

Aside from my studies, I work as a Community Student Ambassador at St. Mary's University and was inspired by LAC's mission of support to apply for the position. As the manager of the organization, I work with High School students to help them navigate the college application process. I am able to provide support through educating students about the college admissions process, financial aid, and presenting to their families in order for them to be able to provide support to their child. to students, just as LAC provided me support in high school. To future LAC students, the work that LAC does is amazing and I hope that you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.



Saint Mary's Academy





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