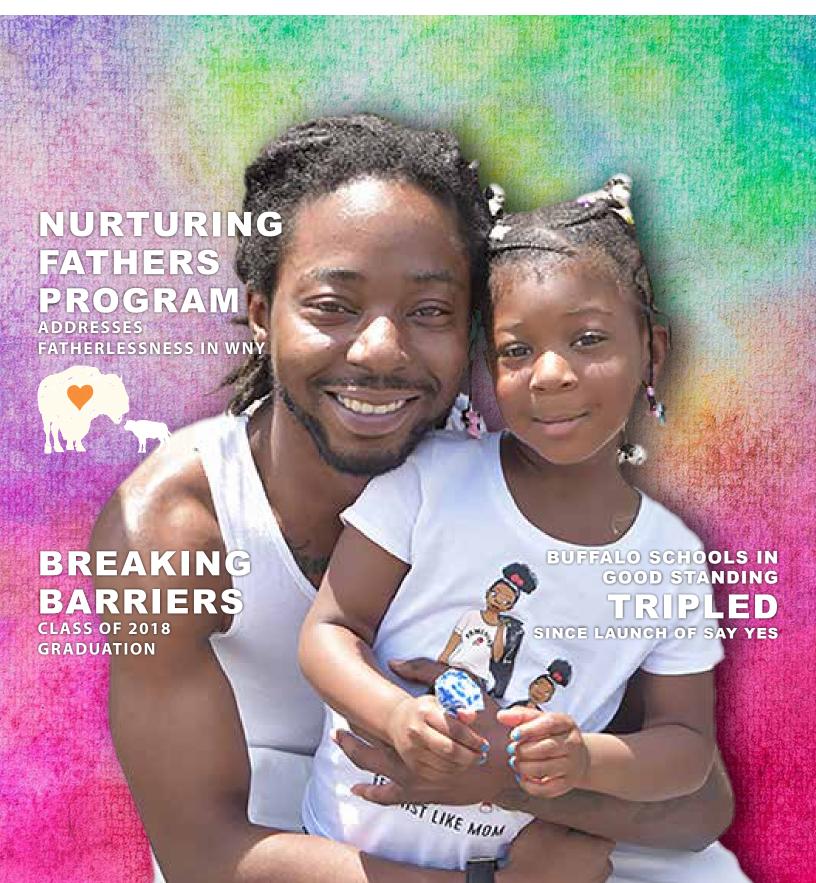


A Magazine For Investors & Donors To The Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship



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Cover: Nurturing Fathers Program participants

#### Say Yes Forever Endowment Campaign **Committee Chairs**



**NICK SINATRA** Sinatra and Co. Real Estate



COURTNEY SINATRA Key Bank

#### **Committee Members**



**JAMIL CREWS** City of Buffalo



BURRUSS Northwest



LEAH HALTON-POPE Roswell Park



LAUREN BAYNES 43 North



ALICE **JACOBS** Delaware North



DR. JEANETTE JURASEK Retired President, Medaille College



DR. WENDY **MISTRETTA Buffalo Public** Schools District Parent Coordinating Council



**TANYA** STAPLES Say Yes Buffalo



LINDA RAY Consultant



REV. **RACHELLE** ROBINSON Deep Wells Ministry



REV. VICKI ZUST St. Paul's Episcopal Church



**TED WALSH** Walsh Duffield Cos., Inc.



**SHANNON** PATCH Delaware North



STEVE SWIFT BlueCross BlueShield of WNY



**NICOLE SWIFT** Community Volunteer



**JERRY** TURCOTTE Buffalo Parent-Teacher Organization



REV. JONATHAN STAPLES First Shiloh Baptist Church



MORGAN WILLIAMS-BRYANT Girl Scouts of WNY



#### SAY YES FOREVER ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

Say Yes Buffalo recently launched the Say Yes...Forever Endowment Campaign to fund our scholarship promise for all Buffalo Public and Charter School graduates in perpetuity. The five-year, \$100 million campaign was seeded with an anonymous \$25 million challenge gift and is being chaired by Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board member Nick Sinatra and wife Courtney Sinatra. Say Yes Buffalo is grateful for the efforts of the Say Yes Forever Endowment Committee who hosted the campaign's Kick Off Dinner at the Darwin Martin House in March.











Say Yes Forever Endowment campaign launch dinner at the Darwin Martin House in March

#### A Letter from the Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Chair

Happy spring! We have had a busy fall and winter with a lot of good news to share. On May 16, we celebrated our graduating scholars at our biannual fundraiser – "Commencement Cocktails," at Five Hundred Seneca presented by Northwest. Thank you to all of our sponsors and guests for celebrating our young people as they achieve this life milestone – because of the generosity of our Angel Donors.

The Say Yes Forever Endowment Campaign is underway thanks to the leadership of our co-chairs, Nick and Courtney Sinatra, and our Endowment Campaign Committee. The Campaign Kick Off Dinner was held in March at the Darwin Martin House – stay tuned for a variety of events in support of this five-year initiative in the coming months.

This summer we are planning for the groundbreaking of our new building on Jefferson Avenue which we will share with other non-profits, forming a non-profit hub on Buffalo's East Side. Say Yes has outgrown its current location as it currently employs over 100 staff who work across our various programs in support of young people in Buffalo. We look forward to new beginnings and contributing to the renaissance of the East Side neighborhood institutions.

And finally, it is with mixed emotions that I announce that this will be my last letter as Scholarship Chair as I am stepping down as of June 30, 2019. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with our partners and all of you on behalf of Buffalo's young people and their families. I will continue to serve on the Scholarship Board and know the Board will be in good hands under the leadership of Bill Joyce, the Chair for 2019/20.

I hope you enjoy reading this new update, and again, we thank you for your generous support which makes all of this progress possible.

With gratitude,

Alphonso O'Neil-White Chair, Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board



#### Say Yes Buffalo New Office TO BE LOCATED ON JEFFERSON AVE

In January at the State of the City of Buffalo, Mayor Byron Brown announced the construction of 1200 Jefferson, a new nonprofit hub that will house the Say Yes Buffalo administrative offices. Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board member, Endowment Chair, and Angel Donor Nick Sinatra of Sinatra & Company Real Estate and David Pawlik of Creative Structures Services Construction are partnering with the construction of the 35,000 sq. ft. three-story building. Construction will begin this year and will be complete in 2020.

Having outgrown the current office space at 712 Main Street in Downtown Buffalo, the move to Jefferson Avenue is in line with our mission, core values and belief that everyone deserves access to education, and we are excited to join the neighborhood!

A groundbreaking for the new office will take place over the summer.

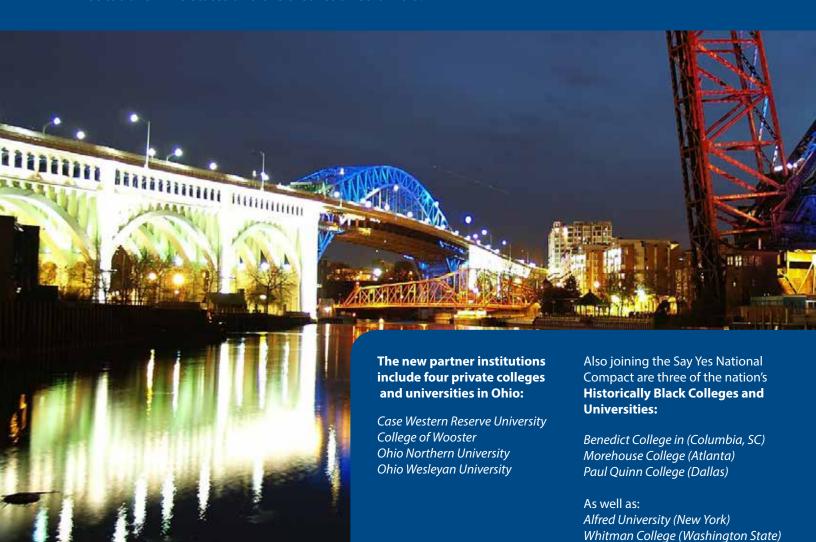
#### 1200 JEFFERSON AVE.



#### 9 INSTITUTIONS JOIN THE HIGHER EDUCATION COMPACT

In January, Say Yes to Education announced Cleveland, Ohio, as the site of its next community chapter. With a public school enrollment of nearly 39,000 students, Cleveland now joins Buffalo, Syracuse and Guilford County, NC in committing to make college and other postsecondary scholarships accessible to all eligible public high school graduates for years to come. With the addition of the Cleveland Metropolitan City School District, a district that is the second largest in Ohio, the support services and scholarships of Say Yes to Education will now be available to more than 168,000 students in three states. That represents an increase of 30 percent over the last year – and growth of 1,500x from the original 112 students served at the organization's inception.

In announcing its Say Yes Cleveland chapter, the Say Yes National organization announced that 9 private colleges and universities were joining its National Higher Education Compact – increasing its membership to 117 institutions in 26 states and the District of Columbia.



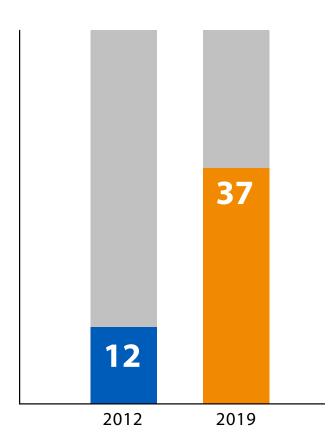
#### NUMBER OF SCHOOLS IN GOOD STANDING HAS TRIPLED SINCE LAUNCH OF SAY YES

When the Say Yes Buffalo Partnership launched, only 12 of the Buffalo Public School District's 56 schools were ranked "In Good Standing" by the New York State Department of Education; today, that number has tripled to 37. New York State annually ranks all schools across the state as either in Good Standing, needing improvement or persistently failing.

Credit for this incredible transformation goes to everyone in the community who has come together during the past few years to refocus a collective lens on strengthening the educational outcomes for Buffalo students. Say Yes is proud of the role we've played to grow existing and create new services and supports to meet the varied needs of our city's young people so that they can focus on their academics. We're grateful to our Angel Donors without whom we would not be able to do this critical work.

But, the work doesn't stop here. Incredible strides have been made but there is still much work to be done! While we celebrate these successes. we are also redoubling our efforts to create the circumstances necessary for all of our schools to be in Good Standing.

#### SCHOOLS IN GOOD STANDING





## BREAKING BARRIERS GRADUATES ITS FIRST YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

January 19, 2019 saw the graduation of the first cohort of Breaking Barriers. Launched in January of 2018, Breaking Barriers is a leadership council of young men of color from ages 12 – 24 years old. The goal of the council is to expand the capacity of boys and young men of color and empower them to become agents of change in their community, and advocate for social justice, racial equity and policy change, and ultimately, improved life outcomes.

More than 25 young men graduated from the first year of the council after the yearlong program that met twice per month on Saturdays. The young men were celebrated with their family, friends and the community and each received a Breaking Barriers jacket to commemorate this accomplishment.



Graduates received a Breaking Barriers sweatshirt

The young men who graduated are staying on the council for year two to mentor the new cohort of young men that joined this past February.

In 2017, Say Yes Buffalo was designated by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable to convene the City of Buffalo's work in the advancement of equitable outcomes for boys and men of color in the policy target areas of early childhood, college access and readiness, career pathways and economic opportunities and criminal justice and public safety.

Through a city-wide, collective effort, the fouraforementioned key policy target areas are explored with a lens on their effects on boys and men of color. Where identified, policies that exist that negatively impact boys and men of color will be lobbied for change.

2018 Breaking Barriers graduates, mentors, staff and community leaders



# NURTURING FATHERSES EATHER LESSNESS IN WNY

Today, the US Census Bureau has found that an estimated 17 million children in America – 1 of every 4 – are living without their biological father in the home. In Erie County, the School Based Preventive Program (SBPP) of Say Yes Buffalo has seen this to be true, as per the overwhelming number of missing fathers in literally hundreds of children's lives (approximately 90%).

When fathers are not present and involved in their children's lives, research shows there are six domains of a child's life that can be significantly impacted:

- Socioeconomic status: four times greater risk of living in poverty
- •Use of substances: more likely to abuse drugs & alcohol
- •Physical & emotional health: two times greater risk of infant mortality; two times more likely to suffer obesity; more likely to have behavioral problems; more

likely to face abuse and neglect

- •Educational achievement: two times more likely to drop out of school
- •Citizenship: more likely to commit crime, later going to prison
- •Sexuality: more likely to become sexually active at an early age; 7 times more likely to become pregnant as a teen

The solution to this problem of fatherlessness is multi-faceted and multi-layered. A culture of affirming, educating, advocating for and expecting responsible fatherhood must be created, and that takes time, energy, and a substantial investment of resources and labor. It will require developing and supporting fatherhood parenting programs, support groups, and advocacy at all levels. Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network (BPPN) has begun to lay the

foundation for this work, with support from the John R. Oishei Foundation, and collaboration with Say Yes Buffalo.

With Oishei's support, BPPN created Erie County's first Fatherhood Coordinator position, and a short time later launched "Nurturing Fathers," an evidence-based parenting program geared towards fathers. This 13 week program has since graduated three groups of fathers and father figures, helping them to become more responsible, accountable, and involved family-oriented men.

At the present time, two new cohorts are underway in 2019, with one group of fathers (and fathers to be) at the Lafayette School Parent Center, and another group in the community at Saints Home Church in the University District area. Through Buffalo Prenatal Perinatal Network's partnership with Say Yes Buffalo, Buffalo Public Schools, and the Parent



A Buffalo Public School father engaged in the Nurturing Fathers program pictured with his children

Centers, these men are learning how to improve their parenting skills, increase their personal accountability, deepen their relationships with their children and learn how important it is to be their fathers and father figures a positive, contributing co-parent - even when they may no longer be in a romantic relationship with their child's mother.

Since day one (Feb. 26th, 2019), the fathers at the Lafayette Parent Center have positively engaged in very frank and vulnerable discussions, admitting that while they may have adapted their present parenting style to be different than what they saw in their own fathers (the ones who were fortunate enough to have one present), more work needed to be done. For example, many agreed that their father or father figure was often harsh in their disciplinary practices, and therefore always appeared to be angry and overly punitive. They also agreed that their dad yelled at them more often as a measure

of attempting to control them or their behavior, rather than talking to them. Additionally, as they got older, they agreed that the message they often received from was reminiscent of the saying, "Do as I say, not as I do", which really caused them to connect with the fact that they must intentionally model what they want their children to do—not just tell them.

Moreover, many resonated with the feeling that while their father or father figure was a good provider economically, they were either unable or unwilling to understand them as children, unavailable to emotionally connect with them, and mostly illequipped to be nurturing. When asked why they thought this was such a prevalent issue, the general most often quoted group lesson consensus among the men pointed to the societal norms and roles of the day that were imposed more self-aware and intentional upon their fathers. One participant in how they decide what parental stated, "my father always told me that men don't cry, and he never

even once said the words 'I love you' to me as a child."

In a group whose diversity makeup is 62.5% African-American, 25% White, and 12.5% Hispanic or Asian-American, an important note to acknowledge here is that these sentiments were expressed across all cultures and races present.

Alumni and present participants alike note that the safe environment created within the groups causes the participating fathers to transparently share childhood memories and current experiences, causing all to collectively support each other, encourage each other to grow, adapt, and overcome any previous parental deficiencies. In fact, the is that of "keep, toss, add" which essentially helps each father to be characteristics from their fathers they will imitate (keep), which



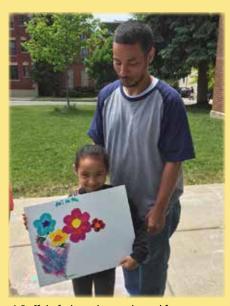
A Buffalo father engaging with his child and other students during a Bring Your Dad to School Day event

ones they will dismiss (toss), and what new characteristics or practices they will include with their children (add).

The current group of fathers' and their commitment to change has become evident in a number of other ways as well. Several have successfully navigated potentially confrontational scenarios involving their co-parent, all have identified positive alternatives to managing their self-nurturing needs, and many have begun to truly engage their children in play and conversation. All are more actively communicating the phrase "I love you" to their children—regardless of their age (we have found that adult children want that from their parents as well). Two fathers have seen the need for an advocate, and have been connected to one in the community, and one father even

wrote a letter to his 17 year old adopted daughter who no longer communicates with him—and mailed it to her. Since that time, they have talked more and thus have reconnected.

These gentlemen met the requirements for graduation on June 1st, and the Nurturing Fathers program fully expects they all have been imbued with a newfound sense of parental accountability, improved coparenting skills and fatherchild engagement, and most importantly, improved nurturing and relational connection to their child or children.



A Buffalo father who graduated from *Nurturing Fathers with his daughter* 

#### Parent Center Hosts PARENT RECOGNITION DINNERS

The Buffalo Public Schools Parent Centers held their first ever family appreciation dinners this spring. More than 150 families were awarded certificates for their participation in evening and Saturday Academy programs. Some of the awards included: Grandparents Engagement, Volunteer Award, Saturday Academy Engagement and Participation in three or more Parent Center Academy Learning Sessions. Parent Center staff made personal phone calls to all awardees to share the great news.

The uniqueness of each event was special and speaks to the amazing work and the relationships that have been established. "I'm 71 years old and this is the first time anyone has ever given me an award." was the response given by Ms. Margaret Brinkworth who was honored for her commitment, advocacy, and collaboration. Mr. Sal and his sister Sarah, two of our South Zone community members, were honored for attending 112 programs during our 2017-2018 school year.

Moving forward, a family appreciation dinner will take place every semester to show these families that we care and recognize the valuable time they have invested. In 2016, Say Yes Buffalo was chosen by the Buffalo Public Schools to lead the Parent Center launch and programming.



The first parent recognition dinner was held to celebrate family participation in evening and Saturday Academy programs.



Free summer camp is offered for Pre-K through 6th grade

#### THANK YOU TO THE CULLEN FOUNDATION FOR SUPPORTING **SUMMER CAMP 2019**

Planning for summer camp 2019, in partnership with Buffalo Public Schools and the City of Buffalo, is underway. This year's summer camp will give 1,345 students Pre-K through 6th grade students access to free summer programming from July 8 through August 16. Camps will focus on academic support, enrichment activities and at least two fun fields trips! Programming runs from 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Monday through Friday, but more than half of the 31 camp locations will be extended to free full-day programming thanks to Prime Time funding from Erie County.

Funding from the program is shared by Buffalo Public Schools, Erie County and a significant contribution from the Cullen Foundation.



#### Say Yes Buffalo AMBASSADOR PROGRAM RELAUNCHED

The Say Yes Buffalo Ambassador Leadership Program is having a successful year since the program was relaunched in 2018! Six Say Yes Buffalo Scholars have completed workshops on: leadership styles; work ethic & public speaking; resume, cover letters & interview skills; diversity; networking, social media & headshots; and meet a leader. They are also working as a group to plan a community service project, which will include speaking to the incoming class of Say Yes Scholars on how to be a student leader. Ambassadors have also done a fantastic job of speaking at community events!

Following the completion of this year, they will become Say Yes Ambassador graduates and continue to be our student ambassadors on their respective college campuses and in the community. We are so proud of our students and the progress they have made this year. We are also grateful to the community partners who have helped to facilitate these workshops.



Say Yes Buffalo student ambassadors with Internship and Career Pathways Program Supervisors Johanna Caplan and Stephanie Peete

#### Say Yes Buffalo Launches **NEW SERVICES TO SUPPORT** STUDENTS AND **FAMILIES**

With the intention to diversify services provided by our school-based services, the Care Coordination program rolled out officially in January 2019, with a team of six Care Coordination Supervisors. Five Care Coordination Supervisors remain housed in Buffalo Public Schools while the sixth is now located at Tapestry Charter School. A Care Coordinator addresses mental and medical needs through comprehensive case management services. A second Care Coordination team will be established in June 2019, with six additional Family Support Specialists.



The Care Coordination program launched in January 2019 with a team of six Care Coordination Supervisors.

For more information, visit sayyesbuffalo.org/ care coordination

#### New Development Team Members

We are excited to welcome **Tanice Pendergrass** and **Ellen Dubie** to our development team. Tanice has been with Say Yes for over 4 years as a Family Support Specialist and Family Support Specialist Supervisor. Last year, she was promoted to Development and Strategic Partnerships Manager and is now leading work to increase community support of Say Yes, as well as launching the Say Yes alumni network. Ellen joins Say Yes as Executive Assistant to Say Yes Buffalo Executive Director David Rust as well as support to Emily Wyckoff, Senior Director for Development and Strategic Partnerships.



**Tanice Pendergrass** Development and Strategic Partnerships Manager



**Ellen Dubie Executive Assistant** 

#### Farewell, Luke Jacobs

We'd like to thank Luke Jacobs for his years of service to the Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board. Since 2011 Luke has served the board as a founding member and has been a true advocate for advancing the mission of Say Yes Buffalo.



**Luke Jacobs** 



Say Yes staff were inaugural participants in the Emerging Leaders Program (Not pictured: Tom Cranston)

#### Say Yes Buffalo Graduates Its FIRST CLASS OF "EMERGING LEADERS"

This April, Say Yes Buffalo graduated the inaugural class of the "Emerging Leaders" leadership program. The program invests in the organization's collective capacity to deliver skilled and insightful leadership and teaches participants how to convene partners in support of a common goal while becoming dealers in hope. The program requires an 18-month commitment and has monthly sessions which examine leadership styles and areas for professional growth.

#### The Inaugural Participants In the Program were:

LeRondra Byrd

Family Support Specialist Supervisor

Johanna Caplan

Internship and Career Pathways Program Supervisor

**Tom Cranston** 

Family Support Specialist

Wil Green

Community Schools East Zone Leader

Elizabeth Minns

Family Support Specialist

Ta-Tanisha Palmer

Family Support Specialist

Stephanie Peete

Internship and Career Pathways Program Supervisor

**Tiffany Swink** 

Family Support Specialist Supervisor

**Hope Tuck** 

Former Family Support Specialist







Students and mentors from the Scholar Mentoring Program engaging in the events at the National Mentoring Month Celebration

#### Say Yes Celebrates NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

The Say Yes Buffalo Mentoring Program held a special event in January 2019, during National Mentoring Month, to celebrate the mentoring relationships that form and thrive each day, to thank the mentors who inspire us, and to show our appreciation to the partners of the Say Yes Buffalo Scholar Mentoring Program.

This year's annual event was held on January 24th at D'youville College's Academic Center. Situated on the 6th floor, the donated space comfortably accommodated over 50 event attendees, and provided panoramic views of our wonderful city.

Say Yes Buffalo mentors, mentees and partners enjoyed refreshments and hor d'oeuvres before participating in either a painting or speed matching activity. Currently matched mentors and mentees partook in a painting activity. Matched participants socialized, helped one another realize their creative potential, and laughed a lot! Individuals not currently matched in the Mentoring Program participated in "speed matching". During speed matching, mentees were given the opportunity to speak with many different potential mentors and organically choose who they'd like to be their one-to-one match.

The event concluded with a "Why Mentoring Works" panel discussion. Moderated by Daniel Robertson, Manager of the Say Yes Buffalo Boys and Men of Color, four mentor and mentee matches talked about the benefits and the impact mentoring has had on their lives.

Overall, everyone who attended the event had a wonderful time learning, laughing and enjoying each other's company.

## 43 EMPLOYERS

80+
INTERNSHIPS

NEW LEGAL INTERNSHIPS



## Internship & Career Pathways Program

### EXPANDS WITH SECOND GRANT FROM CITI FOUNDATION

In the fall of 2018, the Internship & Career Pathways Program received a second grant from Citi Foundation to further expand internships and professional experiences for our scholars.

In the 2017-2018 school year, 43 employers offered over eighty positions to Say Yes Buffalo scholars and fifteen employers were new partners to the program. For the first time, internships were offered in the legal community thanks to sponsorships from the Minority Bar Foundation, Hodgson Russ LLP, and the Erie County Bar Foundation.

Fifty-one students were hired for 2018 summer and fall and of those scholars, five were offered a permanent position or an extension of their internship.
Students attended a full-day professional skills seminar staffed by volunteers from Citi and Remedy Staffing on June 2nd.

The first annual career exploration fair was hosted at Rich Products on October 17th which featured sixteen employers, free professional headshots, on-site resume review, and speed mock interviewing. Also, to better meet the needs of students, a professional clothing closet was established. Students are now able to make an appointment with program staff and browse for attire as often as needed.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and employers for supporting our scholars. If you would like to learn more about the Internship & Career Pathways Program, please contact Stephanie Peete at 716-335-7520 or speete@sayyestoeducation.org or visit **SayYestoYourCareer.org**.



Say Yes Scholars and employers at Internship & Career Pathways Program event



Press announcement of Citi Foundation's grant to the Say Yes Internship and Career Pathways Program

#### CITI FOUNDATION LEADS **CAREER READINESS SERIES**

In addition to making a \$250,000 contribution to Say Yes Buffalo in 2018 as part of its "Youth Workforce Fund", Citi has adopted Bennett Community School and facilitated a 4-part Career Readiness workshop series. The sessions began mid-March and ran through May 18 at the high school. The final session on May 18 was a city-wide high school career readiness fair for Buffalo Public School Students titled, "Say Yes to the Job!"

The workshop covered topics of:

- •Building an Excel Spreadsheet
- Exposure to Banking
- Career Exploration
- •"Say Yes to the Job!" fair

Because of the success of this partnership Say Yes is exploring the possibility of engaging other community partners to run similar sessions.



**ESTHER ANNAN Program Director** 





**Temara Cross** Say Yes Scholar and Ambassador

#### 2019 Athena Awards Honor Say Yes's Esther Annan & Say Yes Scholar Temara Cross

We are thrilled to announce that this year's Athena Awards will honor two members of the Say Yes Buffalo family. Esther Annan, Program Director, has been selected as a 2019 ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award® finalist.

The ATHENA Awards® honor exceptional individuals who have achieved the highest level of professional excellence, work to improve the quality of life for others in our community, and actively assist others—particularly women—in realizing their full leadership potential. The award is celebrated around the world in more than 500 communities and 8 countries.

Additionally, every year The Buffalo News awards the "B'Nspired Award" at the Athena Awards Luncheon to a Say Yes scholar, where we select one of our female scholars who has "achieved the highest levels of academic, community and personal success;" this year we are proud to announce that the award will be presented to Say Yes Scholar Temara Cross. Temara, a member of the Say Yes Ambassador Program, is a sophomore at University at Buffalo pursuing a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts in Pre-Medicine, Public Health and Anthropology, and graduated from Hutch Tech with High Honors. Temara is involved in various extracurricular activities on and off campus, including the Open Buffalo Emerging Leaders Program, and Peer Mentoring Program and the CSTEP Programs at UB. We look forward to celebrating with Esther and Temara at the 29th Annual Athena Awards Luncheon on June 4th. Congratulations Esther and Temara!



#### **EVERY DOLLAR INVESTED BY** ANGEL DONORS

#### Goes Toward College Scholarships

Made possible by more than 500 Angel Donors, Say Yes Buffalo's scholarships are the fuel that make the entire initiative viable.

Every dollar invested by our Angels goes toward postsecondary scholarships for Buffalo students including two-and four-year and certificate programs.

Our Angel Donors have helped us attract investors in our programs, including:

- BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York
- Buffalo Niagara Partnership
- Buffalo Public School District
- Casey Family Programs
- Catholic Charities of WNY
- Citi Foundation
- Cities United (in-kind)
- City of Buffalo
- Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo
- Cullen Foundation
- •The Education Trust New York
- Erie County
- Erie County Bar Association's Volunteer Lawyers Project
- Executives' Alliance for Boys and Men of Color
- John R. Oishei Foundation
- Lumina Foundation
- Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation
- Policy Link (in-kind)
- Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation
- RISE For Boys and Men of Color
- Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
- · Say Yes to Education-National
- United Way of Buffalo and Erie County
- Wallace Foundation
- Western New York Mentoring Collaborative

If at any time you have questions about how Say Yes Buffalo scholarships and supports are funded please do not hesitate to contact David Rust at 716.247.5310 ext. 200 or drust@sayyestoeducation.org or Emily Wyckoff at 716-247-5310 ext. 207 or ewyckoff@sayyestoeducation.org.

Thank you for your continued support!

#### Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board

**Melissa Baumgart R&P Oak Hill** 

**Gene Chasin** Say Yes to Education

Clotilde Perez-Bode Dedecker Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

Danis J. Gehl, Ph.D. Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board

**Roger Hungerford Amgis Foundation** 

**Peter F. Hunt HUNT Real Estate Corp.** 

Jeremy Jacobs Jr. **Delaware North Companies** 

William L. Joyce James H. Cummings Foundation

**Daniel Lewis Lewis Family Foundation** 

Alphonso O'Neil-White Say Yes Buffalo Scholarship Board

**Gary Quenneville** KeyBank

**Reverend Rachelle Robinson Deep Wells Ministries** 

**Hugh Russ III** Hodgson Russ LLP

**Katie Schneider** Kate Schneider Photography

**Hon. Hugh Scott United States Magistrate Judge** 

**Nick Sinatra** Sinatra and Company Real Estate

**Stephen Swift** BlueCross BlueShield of WNY

#### **ABOUT SAY YES BUFFALO**

Say Yes Buffalo is a partnership between the local community and Say Yes to Education, Inc., a national organization dedicated to improving postsecondary completion rates. The Western New York community has committed to fund and fundraise for the scholarship and Say Yes to Education, Inc. has made an initial commitment of \$15 million to finance the development of a coordinated system of comprehensive supports and school district improvements to ensure our young people successfully graduate high school and are prepared to succeed in college.

To date Say Yes Buffalo Donors have pledged over \$60 million in support for the scholarship.

