



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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TO OUR YES SCHOLARS COMMUNITY,

Thanks to your support over the last year, YES Scholars of all ages have continued to achieve significant milestones and successes - from winning statewide debate competitions and being voted Student Body President at Cate School to conducting groundbreaking cancer research and designing AI models for Microsoft.

However, the year was not without its challenges. The academic and socio-emotional impacts of the pandemic continue to interfere with all aspects of education. Additionally, the rising costs of college and increased food and housing insecurity have created new hurdles for low-income students to achieve a college degree.

Despite the formidable challenges of the last three years, in 2023, YES' college graduation rate, which had consistently stood at an impressive 93%, rose to an exceptional **94%**!

For over two decades, YES has addressed the challenges preventing low-income students from accessing academic, social, and career opportunities. We believe in a holistic approach to education, and our programming meets the needs of our scholars at every level - academic, socio-emotional, mental and physical health, and financial - beginning in middle school and continuing beyond career placement.

From neighborhoods where fewer than 10% of adults have a college degree, 100% of YES Scholars are accepted to the finest universities across the country.

OUR MISSION

Young Eisner Scholars (YES Scholars) identifies high-potential students from low-income communities in Los Angeles, New York City, Chicago, and rural Appalachian North Carolina and provides them with the long-term support, resources, and educational access required for success through high school, college, and career.

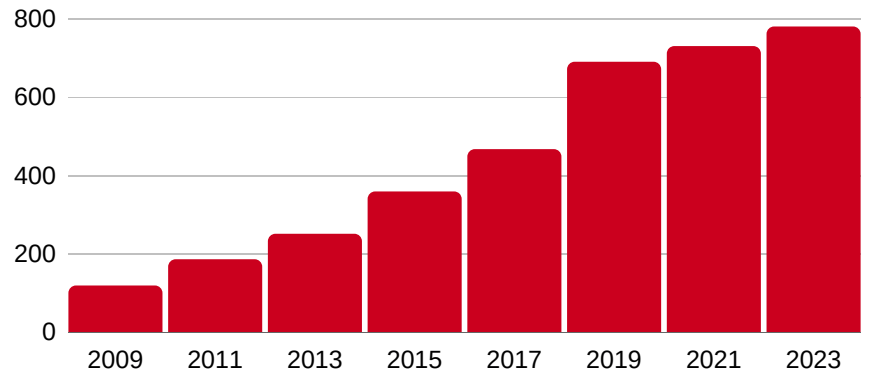
OUR VISION

Equal Opportunity for Equal Talent

YES envisions a future where students can make choices about their educational and professional pursuits that are not restricted by their socioeconomic circumstances.



STUDENTS SERVED

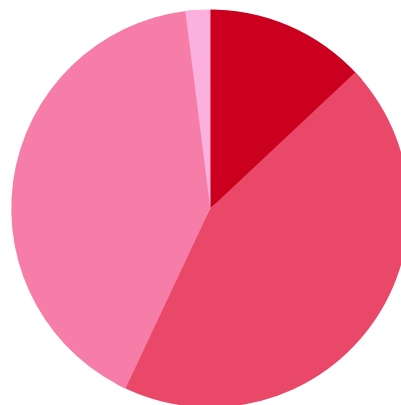


YES Los Angeles serves Scholars from 60 zip codes across Greater Los Angeles County, identified from 14 Title I middle schools.

YES New York City Scholars are identified from 6 public middle schools in Harlem's District 5.

YES Chicago Scholars are identified from public middle schools on the South Side & West Side of Chicago.

YES Appalachia Scholars are identified from 8 rural public middle schools in Watauga & Ashe Counties in Western NC.



13% = MIDDLE SCHOOL

44% = HIGH SCHOOL

41% = COLLEGE

2% = GRADUATE SCHOOL

After pausing our national recruitment in 2022 to ensure we could properly address the pandemic-related academic and socio-emotional challenges affecting our Scholars, this spring marked a significant milestone as YES identified two new cohorts for the first time—both in 6th and 7th grades.



Middle School Spotlights

Adan participated in YES' Middle School Robotics and Rocketry Programs. He built a VEX robot, which he coded to navigate a maze, and learned the concepts of flight to build and launch his own model rocket.



Amy received the Lindsey Vonn Foundation Enrichment Scholarship, which she used to start violin lessons through White Hall Arts Academy. YES now funds the costs of her continued lessons.

In addition to intensive in-school and weekend academic enrichment sessions, YES provides opportunities for our middle school Scholars to engage in impactful programming including

Curious Cardinals
Vanderbilt Program for Talented Youth
idTech
Appalachian Mountain Leadership
530 Scholars

UCLA UniCamp
Girls Who Code
YMCA Camp Whittle
NCSSM Summer Accelerator Program
YES Summer Symposium

HIGH SCHOOL

YES Scholars have successfully transitioned to top private, public, charter, and boarding high schools around the country, including Harvard Westlake, Andover, The North Carolina School of Science & Mathematics, Columbia Secondary School, Marlborough School, Geffen Academy at UCLA, Hotchkiss, Manhattan Hunter Science High School, Brentwood School, Bronx Science, Le Lycee de Francais.

YES provides robust college admissions preparation, including national college tours for our high school juniors. This year, Scholars visited colleges and universities across the country, including Duke, Stanford, Tufts, UC Berkeley, USC, Boston College, Swarthmore, UPenn, UNC, Johns Hopkins, Dickinson, UC Davis, Howard, Davidson, and Georgetown.



Once again,
100%
 of YES Scholars were
 accepted to college!

This fall, YES freshmen began their college careers at **35** schools in **12** states.

California: UC Berkeley, Pomona, UC Riverside, UC Davis, USC, Scripps, UC Irvine, Santa Clara, Cal Poly SLO, Santa Monica College, Pitzer, UC Merced, El Camino College

Connecticut: Yale

Georgia: Emory University

Massachusetts: Boston University, Mount Holyoke

Missouri: Washington University in St. Louis

Pennsylvania: Brandeis, Swarthmore, Gettysburg College

New York: Fashion Institute of Technology, University of Rochester, City College of New York, Stoneybrook

New Jersey: Rutgers University

North Carolina: UNC Chapel Hill, NC A&T, UNC Charlotte, Appalachian State University, Caldwell Technical Institute

Ohio: Oberlin, Case Western Reserve

Washington DC: Howard University

Maine: Bowdoin College



YES Scholars are attending **101** colleges and universities in **24** states.



Scholars are attending graduate programs spanning every field, including



Fatoumata (Spelman '21)
UCLA Geffen School of
Medicine/Drew Medical University



Juan (Amherst '17)
University of Chicago MBA



Andrea (Columbia '20, M.A., '22)
William & Mary, Virginia Institute of
Marine Science Ph.D



Javier (NYU '21)
NYU Grossman School of
Medicine



Emily (USC '19)
USC Herman Ostrow School
of Dentistry



Matthew (Tufts '20)
Suffolk University Law School

To ensure that Scholars can remain competitive with their higher-income peers, YES offers hi

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Santa Barbara Adventure Camp

Scholars camped, kayaked, and explored the marine life along California’s coast. They participated in team-building activities, including high ropes and zip-lining courses.

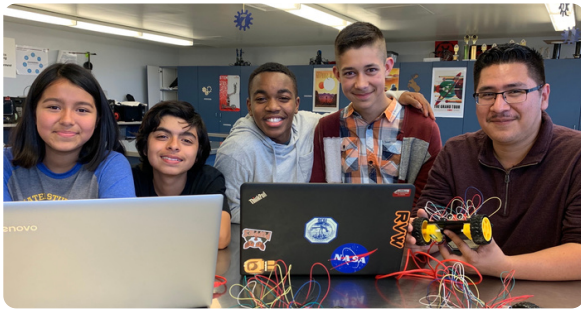
Chill Foundation

Chill offers lessons in board sports to build a more inclusive outdoor community. NYC Scholars stepped outside of their comfort zones to learn the basics of skateboarding.



Robotics & Rocketry

Cases taught Scholars the fundamentals of electronics and coding, and the concepts of aerodynamics and flight through hands-on learning, building VEX robots, and designing and launching model rockets.

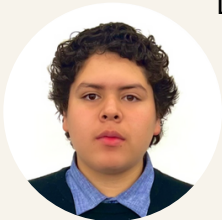


HIGH SCHOOL

Andrea (Harvard Westlake ‘25) studied for a month at Oxford University in the UK as part of their International Relations and Law Summer High School Program.



Andy (Cate ‘24) spent three weeks at The School of the New York Times Summer Academy, where he studied journalism as part of “Writing the Big City: Reporting in New York”



Ixil (Chadwick ‘24) attended Grammy Camp, a summer program on the campus of USC for high school students interested in pursuing careers in the music industry.



Allie (Brentwood ‘24) attended the Harvard Pre-College Program, where she spent two weeks living and taking college-level courses on the Harvard campus.



HIGHLIGHTS

high-impact summer opportunities to help them build social, academic, and cultural capital

COLLEGE



Abby (Yale '25)

A sophomore majoring in Environmental Studies, Abby interned at Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture, which supports a sustainable and equitable food system in the High Country of North Carolina. BRWA ensures that everyone has access to high-quality local food and provides local farmers and producers the support they need.

Aaron (Claremont McKenna College '24)

A Data Science and Financial Economics major, Aaron spent his second summer interning with JPMorgan Chase in the Renewable Energy Division. At the conclusion of the internship, he was offered a full time position after graduation as an Investment Banking Analyst, working on EV Tech and Renewable Energy.

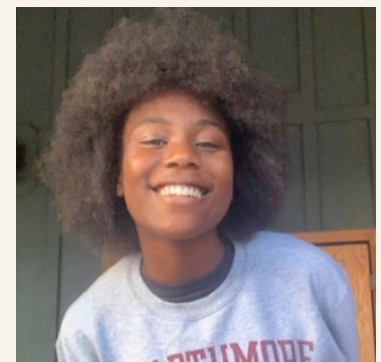


Abdhel (Columbia '25)

A BioMechanical Engineering major, Abdel hopes to pursue a career in pharmaceutical research for stem cell treatments. This summer he worked in Columbia's Neuroscience Lab developing procedures for gene reorganization. He shadowed a lab member to learn the CUT&Tag (Cleavage Under Target and Tagmentation)) protocol.

Chisom (Swarthmore College '25)

An Engineering and Computer Science major, Chisom was chosen to participate in the Stanford Summer Undergraduate Energy Research Program (SURF) as part of the Engineering program. Her research focused on the functionality of wind turbines, including data analysis on the efficiency loss on wind farms.



YES' recent college graduates are thriving in diverse professions



Diana (Tulane '19)

Coordinator, Creative & Cultural Diversity
F/X Networks



Richard (Columbia '22)

Software Engineer
Google



Patrick (Georgetown '23)

Real Estate Credit Analyst
KKR



Kelly (UPenn '22)

Consulting Analyst
Accenture



Josue (Wesleyan '22)

Film Development Intern
Blumhouse Pictures



Mina (U of Richmond '20)

Digital Content Coordinator
LA Philharmonic

GRADUATES

...nal fields and excelling across a wide spectrum of industries



Jesus (Columbia '21)

Private Wealth Management Analyst
Morgan Stanley



Estephany (Occidental '19)

Assistant Admissions Director
The Center for Early Education



Olivia (Emory '23)

Associate
Boston Consulting Group



Fritz (Lafayette '22)

Associate Scientist, Vaccines
Pfizer



Quinton (Duke '21)

Software Engineer
Google Maps



Isabel (Barnard '21)

Product Manager
Moody's Analytics

YOUR SUPPORT HAS THE POWER

This year, YES received grants to fund all aspects of



The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation

The Foundation provides funding for STEM Programs - from Early Exposure Rocketry and Robotics Classes to college and graduate school costs for Scholars pursuing STEM careers.

Thierno (Cal Tech '25), a Computer Science and Business major, interned with Microsoft as a Software Engineer on the National Council for Artificial Intelligence (NCAI) Team, as well as the ALC Power Automate Team. YES covered the costs of flights, local transportation, and living expenses.

Leonetti/O'Connell Family Foundation

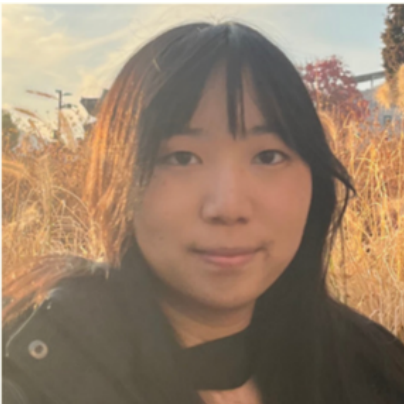
The Foundation's "Transformative Experiences" Grant allows high school and college students to take advantage of educational and cultural experiences that might otherwise be financially inaccessible. Opportunities include internships, study abroad programs, capstone projects, and research opportunities worldwide.

Emiliano (Andover '26) is a member of Andover's elite Mock Trial Team. YES covered his travel costs to the Massachusetts Bar Association High School Mock Trial Tournament state finals in Boston.



LA County Department of Arts & Culture

Creative Career Pathways for Youth Grant - This funding allows YES to facilitate opportunities for our Scholars who have historically experienced barriers to accessing careers in Arts and Culture.



Nami (UC Santa Cruz '23) studied abroad at Kookmin University in Seoul, Korea, where she learned traditional Korean woodblock printmaking methods. This fall she began an internship at Gagosian Galleries and received the California Arts Council's Individual Artist Fellowship! YES covered costs including flights, housing, and living expenses.

R TO CHANGE SCHOLARS' LIVES

of programming and student support, including...



Jack Kent Cooke Foundation

The Foundation's multi-year grants support YES Appalachia. Established in 2015 to address the large population of high-achieving, underserved students in rural communities, YES' Rural Talent Initiative works to increase educational access and opportunity for students in isolated and insular communities in the High Country of Western NC to facilitate a cultural shift towards higher academic goals.

Riley (Watagua High School '24) attended the Semester School at the School of Ethics and Global Leadership (SEGL) in Washington DC. A selective residential program for 11th graders, students take a full course load of Honors/AP level courses, along with immersive Ethics and Leadership programming.



Camp Out for Kids

This grant allows YES to facilitate high-quality summer programs that provide opportunities for Scholars to step outside of their comfort zones, explore the world, interact with peers from diverse social environments, and build the cultural capital and awareness that directly affects the ease of their transition to high school and college.

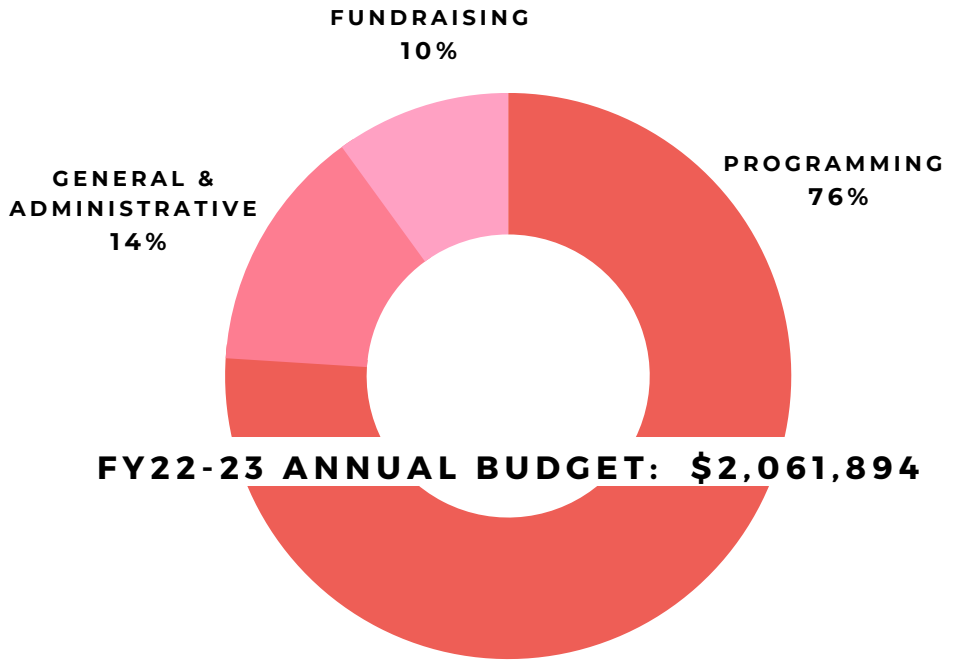


This summer, YES brought together rising 9th-grade Scholars from Los Angeles, NYC, and Appalachia to attend Keystone Science Camp in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. This traditional summer camp experience centered around a science theme - "Watershed and Water Management." Scholars hiked to the Continental Divide to learn about water management, tested water from a local river for pollutants, and participated in a high-ropes course, stand-up paddleboarding, backpacking, and campfires.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

YES invests an average of \$40,000 to support one YES Scholar from sixth grade through and beyond college graduation.



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Adán C. Acevedo as the new Chairman of the YES Board of Directors. Adán, a distinguished YES alumni, has been serving as a board member since 2016. A graduate of Brentwood School in Los Angeles, Adan received his BA from Harvard, his MBA from Harvard Business School, and is a Los Angeles-based Consultant with Boston Consulting Group. He served as the co-president of the Harvard Latino Alumni Association, and served as an 8th grade History teacher with Teach For America, a Data Scientist at Warner Media, and a Quantitative Research Manager at MarketCast. A passionate advocate for educational equity, his writing has been featured in The New York Times and the Washington Post.