

**YES**

YOUNG EISNER SCHOLARS

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2020**



# INTRODUCTION

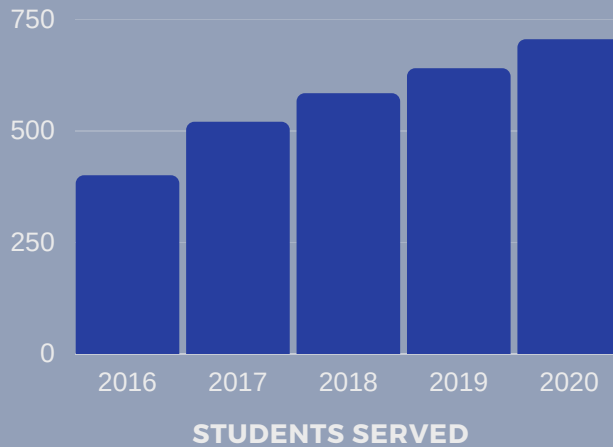
Educational inequality limits life choices, career options and income opportunity. For bright, ambitious students from under-resourced neighborhoods, a college degree represents a clear path out of the crippling cycle of generational poverty. But this potential is stifled by a lack of exposure and opportunity due to financial, educational, and social inequality. YES works to address the multitude of challenges that historically have prevented low-income students from accessing academic, social, & 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 & physical health, financial - from the 6th grade through high school, college, and career. 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. More significantly, YES Scholars have a 93% college graduation rate.

## MISSION

YES identifies promising students from low-income communities in Los Angeles, New York City, Chicago, and rural Appalachian North Carolina, and equips them with the resources, support, and skills required for success through high school, college, and career.

## VISION

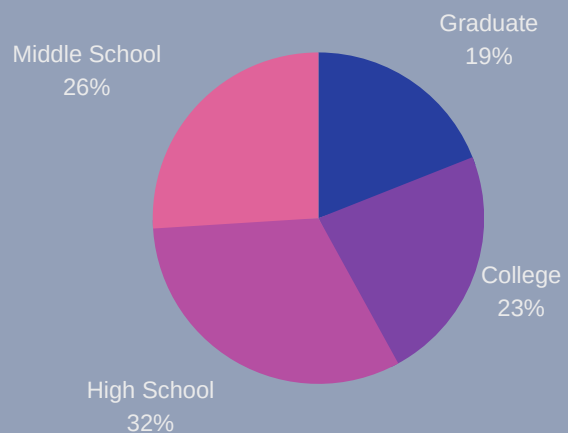
Dedicated to promoting America's promise of equal opportunity for equal talent, YES works to increase educational access and opportunity for these high-achieving students in order to make college and career success an attainable goal. Our long-term holistic support services meet students' needs at every milestone along their journey, beginning in middle school and continuing beyond career placement. We aim for each student to have the opportunity to make choices about their educational and professional pursuits that are not restricted by their socio-economic limitations.



## IMPACT & GROWTH

YES-LA serves scholars across Greater Los Angeles County, from Watts, Inglewood, & the South Bay to East LA, Boyle Heights, & DTLA. We identify scholars from 14 Title I middle schools and currently work with 50 independent and boarding school partners. In NYC, scholars are identified from 6 public schools in Harlem's District 5. YES Chicago serves students from the South Side, and our Appalachian scholars are identified in rural public schools in Watauga & Ashe Counties in Western NC. We now have 16 full-time staff members across all branches (8 in our national/LA office), and serve approximately 700 students, adding roughly 75 new scholars annually. In order to ensure that we meet our increased population with the same high level of holistic, individualized support, we recently added new staff in all four of our national offices. 69% of our total staff are people of color.

### 2020 YES SCHOLAR BREAKDOWN





93%

COLLEGE GRADUATION  
RATE

100%

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE  
RATE

## OUTCOMES

73% of current YES college and graduate students are attending schools on the *US News & World Report* Top 100 List. In total, YES scholars are attending or have graduated from 115 colleges and universities in 29 states. Graduate students are in dental, medical, and law school, as well as various graduate programs spanning all fields.

This year, we are thrilled to announce that Luis Ventura has become the first YES scholar to earn his DDS, and Natalie Camacho has become YES' first female lawyer! Across the board, our grads are excelling in careers spanning every field and are employed at companies including **Apple, PitchBook, Morgan Stanley, Google, NPR, Teach for America, KPMG, Goldman Sachs, Grandview/Automatik, The Whitney Museum, Boeing, UTA, Mercedes Benz, Lucid Motors, Americorps, Thomson Reuters, Gore, Hogan Lovells LLP, Autodesk, The National Park Service, Banijay Studios, Northrop Grumman, & Warner Media.**

### 2020 Scholar Summer Internships

Google  
The United Nations  
The Brooklyn Museum  
Morgan Stanley  
Amazon  
Moody's Investor Service  
John Deere  
The Akanksha Foundation  
David Zwirner Gallery  
Marmol Radziner  
Georgetown Public Real Estate Fund  
Magis Industries  
Multiscale Muscle Mechanophysiology Lab -- UVA  
Cummins Engineering  
Yale Free Clinic



# HIGH SCHOOL PARTNERS

Harvard Westlake  
Windward  
Columbia Secondary School  
The Center for Early Education  
Exeter  
Thacher School  
Chadwick  
Westridge School for Girls  
Andover  
Manhattan Center for Science & Math  
Geffen Academy at UCLA  
Sequoyah  
Chicago Lab School  
Oakwood  
Lennox Academy  
Brentwood  
John Thomas Dye School  
Cate  
Lindblom Math & Science  
Bronx Science  
Vistamar  
Beacon School  
Choate  
Fountain Valley School of Colorado  
Polytechnic  
Whitney Young  
Curtis School  
Hotchkiss  
Episcopal School of Los Angeles  
Chatham Hall  
Marlborough  
Buckley  
Webb School  
Archer School for Girls  
Loomis Chaffee  
New Roads  
Lawrenceville School  
Crossroads  
Muse School  
California Academy of Math & Science  
Loyola  
Wildwood  
NC School of Science & Math  
LaSalle  
Viewpoint  
Culver Academies  
DaVinci School



## YES COLLEGE SCHOLARS ARE CURRENTLY ATTENDING

- Amherst
- Bard College
- Barnard
- Bates
- Beloit
- Boston University
- Bowdoin
- CA College of the Arts
- California Institute of Arts
- Carnegie Mellon
- Centre College
- Chapman University
- City College of New York
- Claremont McKenna
- Colgate
- Colorado College
- Columbia
- Connecticut College
- Cornell
- CSU Dominguez Hills
- CSULA
- CSU Fullerton
- CSULB
- CSUN
- CSUSM
- CUNY Macaulay Honors
- Davidson
- Denison University
- Dickinson
- Duke
- Emory University
- Georgetown
- Hampshire College
- Harvard
- Harvey Mudd
- Hunter College
- Indiana Tech
- Indiana University
- Kent State
- Johns Hopkins
- Lafayette College
- LMU
- MIT
- Middlebury
- Morehouse
- Mount St. Mary's University
- Mt. Holyoke College
- NYU
- Pitzer College
- Pomona
- Regis University
- Rhodes College
- Santa Monica College
- Spelman College
- Stanford
- Swarthmore
- Syracuse
- Tufts
- Tulane
- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Merced
- UC Riverside
- UC San Diego
- UC Santa Barbara
- UC Santa Cruz
- UCLA
- Union College
- University of Chicago
- University of Illinois
- University of Michigan
- University of Richmond
- UNLV
- USC
- Vanderbilt
- Washington Univ in St. Louis
- Wesleyan
- Williams
- Yale

90%

of YES Scholars are  
first-generation  
college students



# SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHTS



## **LUIS VENTURA, DDS**

*Brentwood, LMU '14, UCLA School of Dentistry '20*

Luis graduated from UCLA School of Dentistry and completed the AEGD Residency, a one-year post-grad training program with an emphasis in clinical restorative and surgical dentistry. The residency is for those highly motivated dental school graduates who wish for additional intensive training in treating various complex and comprehensive cases. Luis was Chapter President of UCLA's Hispanic Dental Association and throughout dental school volunteered at clinics across LA to provide low-cost dental care in underserved communities. He is now YES' first practicing dentist!



## **JENNIFER SARABIA**

*Archer, University of Chicago '19, Boston University MA '21*

Jennifer began BU's MS in Medical Sciences Program this fall - the next step in her journey to med school. While at the University of Chicago, she spent 3 years working with Peer Health Exchange, serving as both a health educator in South Side high schools as well as a PHE Leadership Council Member. She was a student intern in the Department of Organismal Biology & Anatomy and a Research Assistant at the School of Social Service. After medical school, she plans to give back to communities of color in order to help push the medical field towards greater health equity.



## **FATOUMATA BARRY**

*TMA, Spelman '20*

A senior Health Science major planning to attend medical school, Fatou is passionate about immigrant women's health. Born in Guinea, West Africa, she witnessed the devastating effects of female genital mutilation and is committed to reforming health care for women across the world. Over the past year, she completed the rigorous Undergraduate Health Sciences Academy at Morehouse College, spent a summer completing a healthcare research project at UPenn's Summer Undergraduate Minority Research Program, and recently took the MCAT.

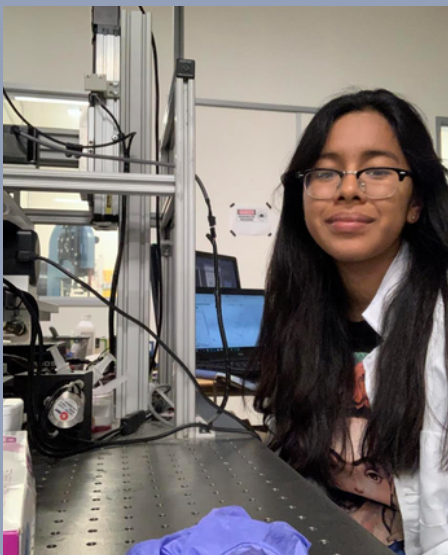
# SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHTS



## QUINTON SIMMONDS

*Harvard Westlake, Duke '21*

A senior Computer Science major, Quinton recently accepted a full time job offer from Google in their Software Development department. He spent the last two summers interning at Google headquarters as part of their highly competitive Engineering Practicum program. He worked with Google's GMail Intelligence Team and developed his own feature for GMail Android. He is also a member of the National Society of Black Engineers, and Duke for Cube Entrepreneurship Group.



## KELLY LOPEZ

*Harvard Westlake, UPenn '22*

A BioEngineering major, this summer Kelly conducted research at UVA with Dr. Silvia Blemker to address Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), a fatal genetic disorder. She created a 3D finite element model of a simplified muscle in active contraction. Kelly hopes to pursue a career in pediatric orthopedics focusing on muscular dystrophies and to work on computational models to better understand these conditions, to develop treatment options & create medical devices to assist patients.

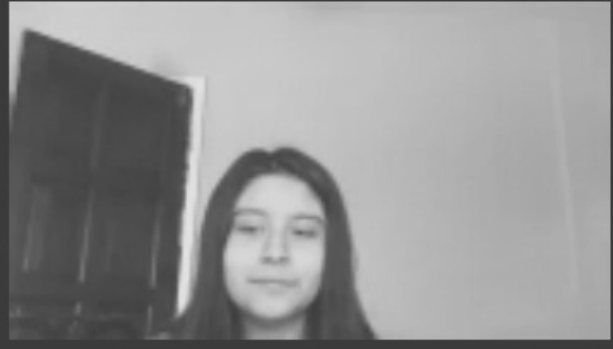


## CHRISTOPHER VARGAS

*Animo Charter, Yale '18, Yale School of Nursing '21*

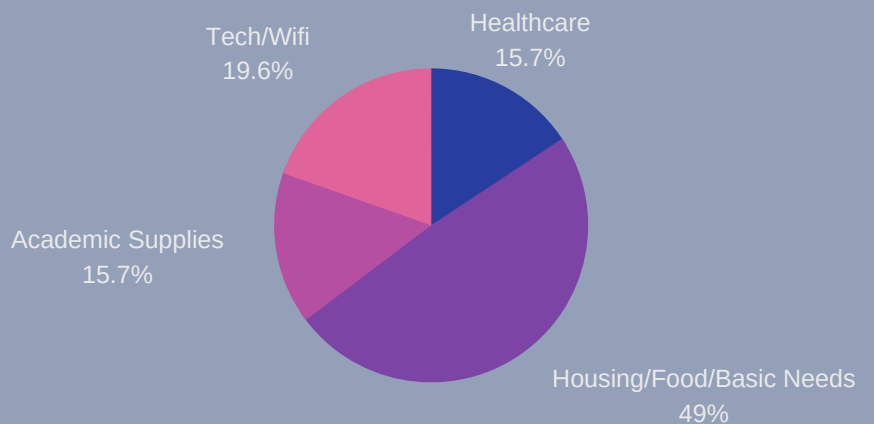
Christopher is in his last year at Yale School of Nursing's Graduate Entry Pre-specialty in Nursing (GEPN) program, under the Family Nurse Practitioner track. Upon completion, he plans to return to his home neighborhood in Lennox to run a health clinic for low-income residents. Christopher developed and presented to the Lennox City Council a Youth Health and Wellness Program tailored to the specific struggles of his home community.





## YES & COVID-19

The pandemic has created incredible upheaval and insecurity for our scholars and families. It is clear that the landscape of education will be forever changed, and will impact no one more than low-income first-generation students, who were already facing greater challenges in the pre-pandemic world. As our vulnerable students and families lost vital income and resources due to unemployment, YES saw the need for and scope of our services grow rapidly. In response, we have we shifted all of our standard programming to virtual platforms, and added additional assistance and resources to provide a backbone of emergency support for our families in crisis.



### YES COVID SUPPORT HAS INCLUDED

- Tech needs, such as wifi, hotspots, computers, and tablets, to enable scholars to attend virtual classes and facilitate online learning, as well as online academic tutors
- Flights/transportation for students to & from college campuses, and packing and storage costs for their belongings
- Housing for displaced college students with no safe or possible home to return to
- First annual YES Project Symposium
- Rent payments, groceries, electricity bills & other life supplies for families whose incomes have been severely impacted and are experiencing extreme financial insecurity
- Housing & healthcare costs for families with acute need - many of whom contracted covid and could not be safely treated at home
- Mental health resources & support
- Stipends to compensate for the cancelled internships & summer jobs that our students rely on to help pay for college & support their families

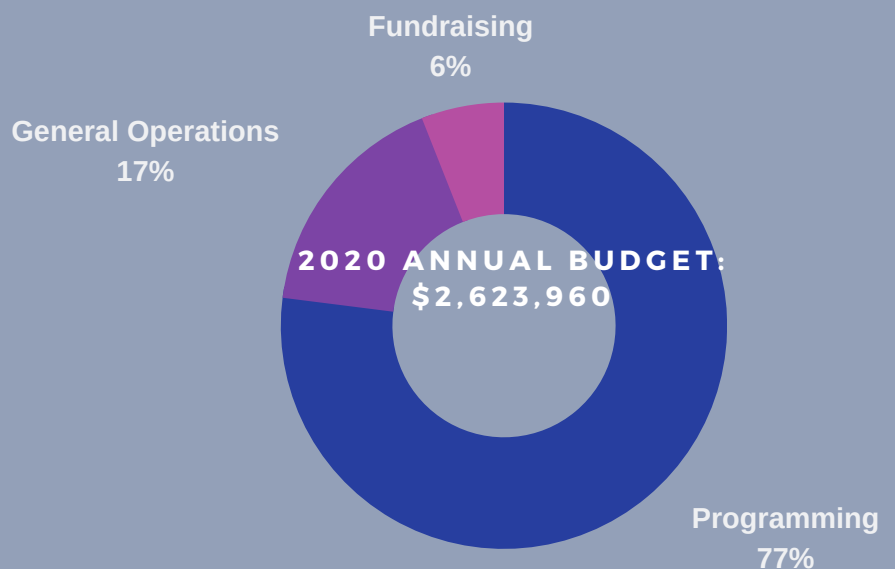




## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

YES spends an average of \$40,000 to financially support a YES Scholar from the 6th grade through college graduation. That amount leverages an additional \$300,000 in financial aid and scholarships from each scholar's independent school & university.

**Almost 80% of our annual budget goes directly to programming costs.**





## OUR CORPORATE & FOUNDATION PARTNERS

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Ahmanson Foundation

All Ways Up

Borchard Foundation

The Chuck Lorre Family Foundation

Steven & Alexandra Cohen Family  
Foundation

Disney

Edison International

Fineberg Foundation

The David Geffen Foundation

Google

HBO

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation

Joseph Drown Foundation

LAWP Employees' Association

Lakers Youth Foundation

The Leonetti O'Connell Foundation

Katie McGrath & JJ Abrams Foundation

Moss Foundation

Cheryl Saban Self Worth for Girls Foundation

Refinitiv

The Rosenthal Family Foundation

Singing For Change

Southern California Edison



## OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS

YES prioritizes creating strategic partnerships with other like-minded organizations, in order to achieve a greater impact on students from underserved communities around Los Angeles, NYC, Chicago, & NC.

idTech

Google

The Princeton Review

Anthony Green Test Prep

YMCA Camp Whittle

GEAR UP

High Mountain Institute

David Zwirner Gallery

NY Times Summer Academy

Jewish Free Loan Association

Disney

Appalachian State University

Scholar Match

Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth

Camp Out for Kids

Southern California Edison

UCLA Unicamp

Ichan School of Medicine

Teach for America

Columbia University

NPEA

Appalachian Mountain Leadership

Bespoke Education

Posse Foundation

Summer Institute for the Gifted

Brown Pre-College Programs

Urban Debate League

The Pantheon Institute

Vanderbilt Programs for Talented Youth

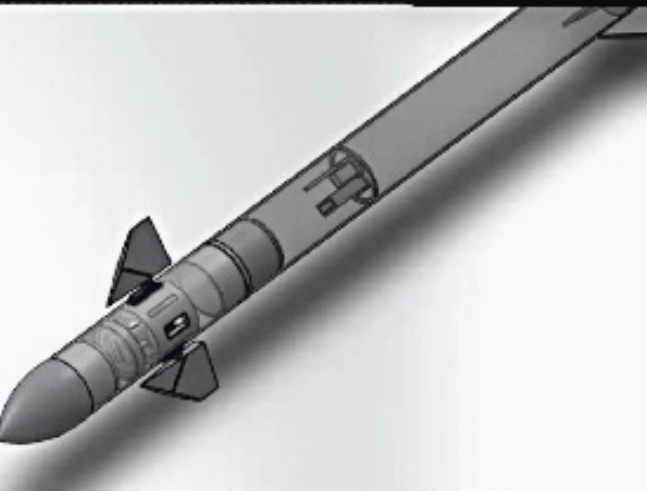
Yale Young Global Scholars

QuestBridge

True Star Foundation

530 Scholars

ChiChat



## 2020 YES SYMPOSIUM

We are proud to announce that this year marked our inaugural YES Summer Symposium, which offered our scholars of all ages the opportunity to pursue an extended creative, skill-building, or research project over the summer, and then present it in a virtual symposium in late August. Our aim was to help prevent summer learning loss and fill gaps in resumes that concerned many of our students, in addition to providing a structure for their time in a newly chaotic world, and allowing them to explore areas of interest they may not otherwise have had a chance to in the normal run of events.

### SYMPOSIUM PROJECTS

- Learning how to play Steel String Acoustic guitar
- Anti-Racist K-6 School Curriculum
- COVID-19 Data Analysis: The Outbreak's Effect on Different Racial Groups
- Learning to Play the Cello
- Resin Art
- Learning to Cook
- Elite Locker Project
- Learning Basic ASL
- Constitutional Law: Baker vs Carr
- Polygel Nails & Nail Art
- Photo Analysis: Space & Change, March-August
- Original Play Reading
- My Life Through Art (Paint Series)
- Uke Out with Angela
- Voices Through Art (Using historical art research to reflect the modern day)
- Deciphering the Physics Behind Artificially Intelligent Multi-Stage VTL Rockets with PID Vector Control & Machine-Learning Projectile Analysis
- My First Video Game Design
- Original Comic Book
- Photo Collage: Moments to Remember
- Fiction Anthology
- Kemet: Exploring Ancient Egypt