

Thank you!

We are sincerely grateful to our donors, business sponsors, and supporters for their generosity, engagement, and ongoing contributions!

2020
Dean LaDue
Memorial
Scholarship
Winners
Congratulations!

Claire Alexander
Emma Nolan
Claire Brundage
Ana Quispe Yeren
Alexis Calkins
Andrew Bishuk



2019 - 2020

Auburn
Education Foundation
Discover the Opportunities

Annual Report

For information about
serving on a committee,
making a donation, or our other
activities, please visit our
website at
www.auburnedfoundation.org.

★ don't forget!
Fall grant applications
due by Thursday,
October 15, 2020

Letter from the President

At the risk of stating the obvious: it has been quite a year!



We are grateful to Mrs. Michelle Rivoli, without whom the very successful Cavern Club Beatles fundraising concert would not have been possible, and to Mr. Guy Cosentino, who moderated the board’s discussions during our retreat.

AEF received a number of teacher applications for its fall and spring grant cycles, funding several projects in October 2019; teacher grants awarded in March will remain fully funded for fall implementation. Our fall Gobble ’n Go event, which has become an anticipated opportunity for social interaction for AEF supporters and friends, was a resounding success. We are grateful for the restaurants that donated their space and specialty dish for those in attendance.

The 2020 Hall of Distinction inductees (HoD) were selected and honorees notified in early spring. We forged ahead with plans for our 2020 Gobble ’n Go event. As with the rest of the world, it became obvious to us in March that Covid-19 would put a hold on all plans. The 2020 HoD alumni class will instead be inducted in 2021. Social distancing and uncertainty about the course of Covid-19 have made it necessary to cancel Gobble’n Go; however, this event will also return in 2021.

The LaDue and DeSocio scholarships winners were selected and honored along with other district scholarship winners, via a virtual awards ceremony sponsored by the district, AEF has continued to conduct business and pursue its mission to support an enriched learning environment for Auburn Enlarged City School District students. We, like so many other individuals and organizations, embraced Zoom as a means to conduct business. We continue to hold committee and monthly board meetings using the Zoom platform.

Thanks to the unwavering support and generosity of individuals, business sponsors, and foundations, we remain able to support teachers’ initiatives that make students’ experiences richer. Thank you to the AEF board, district teachers, and administrators, AECS D Board of Education, and most especially, to all the students of the Auburn Enlarged City School district. Your resilience and determination has shone through these challenging times. I could not be prouder!

My deep appreciation to each member of the AEF Board of Directors. It is truly one of the most committed group of individuals I have ever had the pleasure to work with, with a single purpose and focus - the students of the AECS D. Thank you to Karen Macier for her 6 years of service as a member of the board of directors. We will miss her, but know that she is but a phone call away.

Finally, my sincere gratitude to Janie Hutchinson, Immediate Past President of the AEF Board of Directors. Janie served as president for several years, overseeing the transition to an all-volunteer board, strengthening existing relationships between the board, the district, and the community, and building new relationships. She has served as a wonderful model, and has answered my call each and every time I have sought her wisdom. Thank you, Janie, for allowing me to tap into your knowledge of institutional history, for providing support and commitment to the community, and continuing to be a member of the board as we navigate through these difficult times.

Yours in education,
Miguelina Cuevas-Post

What we accomplished in 2019-2020

- ✓ Co-sponsored our 2nd Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce’s Business After 5 event, in collaboration with the District and BOCES. Held at Auburn High School, this event featured the work of the technology department and allowed those in attendance to see the work created by students, using resources acquired through AEF grants.
- ✓ Continued to feature articles published in the Auburn Citizen; promoted the goals and events sponsored by AEF through radio and television appearances.
- ✓ The all 70’s reunion committee, which we attended, designated AEF as a beneficiary. Unfortunately, given the Covid-19 pandemic, the reunion has been put on hold. We promoted the goals of AEF, and the work of teachers and students through alumni reunions. We are hoping that these reunions will return in 2021.
- ✓ Addressed the district teachers in September to inform the staff of the availability of grants, and to encourage submission of application for these grants.
- ✓ Continued to seek input from teachers and administrators in an effort to identify another signature project. The board had solicited ideas from teachers and administrators; however, the closing of schools postponed the planning. Given the anticipated budgetary constraints that the district will face, this goal will take on a more critical urgency in 2020-2021.
- ✓ Held annual retreat in August, to prioritize strategies, review accomplishments, and set goals for 2020-2021.

Looking ahead: 2020 - 2021 goals

- ☐ Explore fundraising options to include virtual opportunities, and other options to reach the greater community.
- ☐ Expand contact with, and involvement of a greater number of alumni, and parents of current students.
- ☐ Continue to reach out to teachers to encourage submission of grants. Address teachers at convocation; attend faculty meetings in the fall to answer questions and reach out personally to the faculty of each school.
- ☐ Revise By-Laws, with emphasis on a realignment of current committee structure.
- ☐ Solicit suggestions from the AECS D staff and administrators to identify a signature project that will support the needs caused by Covid-19 related reduction of funding, including potential alternatives to traditional classroom instruction.

2020 Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction Inductees

Auburn Education Foundation is committed to recognizing alumni accomplishments, and the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction Selection Committee accepts nominations for inductees at any time. Nominations are kept on file and reviewed each year, and inductees are selected from among all nominations received. To date, 48 Auburn Enlarged City School District graduates have been inducted into the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction.

Dr. Marc Brown Class of 1971 (AHS)

Dr. Marc Brown (AHS 1971) became the first Director of the Division of Dermatologic Surgery, Oncology and Mohs Surgery at the University of Rochester. He lectures and teaches peers and students at local and national meetings focusing on Mohs surgery, a precise surgical technique used to treat skin cancer. Dr. Brown has published numerous articles and has written two books as well as serving as an editorial reviewer for several major dermatologic journals.

Susan Taylor-Brown, Ph.D., MPH, ACSW Class of 1972 (AHS)

Susan Taylor-Brown, Ph.D., MPH, ACSW (AHS 1972) is a recognized social worker and an expert on mental health issues of chronic illnesses. She was invited to serve on the care-giving and mental health expert panel for the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Human Development. Dr. Taylor-Brown has also developed services for the HIV affected community and family members and was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for Developing Services for HIV women and their children, New York State Department of Health, World AIDS Day, 1999. Dr. Taylor-Brown is dedicated to promoting social equity and supports those organizations that promote the active participation of individuals and groups confronting barriers to full inclusion in today’s society.

Brian Kreydatus Class of 1987 (AHS)

Brian Kreydatus (AHS 1987) is a practicing artist and a Professor who teaches studio art classes at the College of William and Mary. His areas of specialization are printmaking and life drawings. A Fulbright Scholar, Brian has participated in numerous solo exhibitions and group shows throughout the world. His many honors and awards include an Artist Residency at “la Cite Internationale des Arts” in Paris, France.

William Snee (posthumously) Best known as Bill Carey Class of 1971 (AHS)

William Snee (AHS 1971), professionally known as Bill Carey, is being honored posthumously. Bill was one of Central New York’s most honored television news journalists. His career began in radio at WMBO in Auburn and he rose to the position of Executive Producer of WTVH. He also worked at WIXT and then helped to put Time Warner Cable’s all-news channel on the air. Bill was a Syracuse Press Club Wall of Distinction honoree. He won three Emmys, six RTNDA Murrow Awards and numerous awards from the Syracuse Press Club and New York Associated Press Broadcasters Association.

Martha Gallo Class of 1975 (AHS)

Martha Gallow (AHS 1975) is a senior executive with over 30 years experience at some of the world’s largest and most complex global financial institutions. In her latest role at AIG, Martha served as executive vice president and chief information officer. Martha also has a long-standing commitment to the advancement of women and girls and serves as board co-chair of the Women’s Refugee Commission. She believes that women’s contributions play a critical role in business, government and the broader community.

Chief Warrant Officer Jared Tuxill Class of 1989 (AHS)

Chief Warrant Officer Jared Tuxill (AHS 1989) enlisted in the US Navy after graduating from SUNY Maritime. Following training, he was assigned to SEAL Team Eight and deployed twice to the Persian Gulf. Beginning in 2001, Jared conducted numerous deployments in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. His personal decorations include the Silver Star, six Bronze Stars with V, two Purple Hearts, two Defense Meritorious Service Medals and numerous individual and unit decorations.



Auburn Education Foundation 2019-2020 Grant Projects

Through a competitive grants process, Auburn Education Foundation (AEF) awards funding to educators who have creative project ideas that capture the attention and imagination of Auburn Enlarged City School District students, but which cannot be supported through the regular district budget. To date, AEF has funded more than 135 creative educational projects in grades K-12. During the 2019/20 school year, AEF supported several projects—examples of which are highlighted below—that enabled students to learn in unique and innovative ways.

Drone Building Project

Students involved in the Auburn Junior High School technology department will build a drone from scratch. Students will be challenged to design, build, program and operate a fully functional drone. This project was funded through a grant secured by Kenneth and Camille Johnson from the Nine Mile Point Exelon Generation.

Track Motion Kits for Physics

Students at Auburn High School will gain a better conceptual understanding and use associated math skills in studying the motion of objects. Students will use the kits to explore how the change in position affects velocity, acceleration, and force acting on an object in real time.

Podcast Studio

Auburn High students will build a podcast studio and then create podcasts for class assignments or for personal engagement on a topic. Students will learn how to work collaboratively together to develop a space that they will then maintain.

Reading to Rise Above the Ordinary

World language teachers at Auburn Junior High School will incorporate leveled readers, in target languages, to expand student exposure to authentic reading material. Classroom sets of high interest titles will be purchased and used to improve fluency, reading comprehension skills and to increase vocabulary.

Student Mindfulness Using Yoga

Students in secondary Academic Intervention Services (AIS) classes will participate in weekly yoga lessons. Research shows that the implementation of yoga practices improve student resilience to stress as well as show improvement in student concentration, self-awareness, and self-confidence.

Egg Timer Review Game Materials

Auburn Junior High eighth graders will review content materials in a game format using these timers. While using these during debate/whole group discussions, students will gain confidence in public speaking and begin to better articulate their thoughts and opinions.

Heat Transfer Press

The purchase of a heat press will allow Auburn Junior High students to make T-shirts supporting school organizations and philosophies that they embrace. Students will be engaged in both the design and production of T-shirts.

Junior High Musical

The Junior High School will receive funding to cover some of this year's production costs for the annual musical. This funding will help the group recover from an unexpected expense encountered by the group last year.



I Spy Sensory Boxes and Sorting Bins

Owasco Elementary School K-3 students will use sensory and sorting bins to encourage creative thinking and develop observation and fine motor skills. A sensory bin is a tactile, hands-on learning experience for students and can be filled with objects with different textures, colors, sounds and smell.

Author Visit

Author Marcie Colleen will present an assembly to Genesee Elementary School 4th, 5th and 6th grade students. The presentation includes a look into the writing process, including revision. Learning and understanding the writing process from an author's point of view will help motivate students to use these skills in their own writing.

\$22,503.97 in teacher grants
were awarded for the
2019-2020 school year!

Fall GRANTS
Spring GRANTS

Casey Park Courtyard Renovation

A local architect, contractor, Casey Park students and staff, AHS Z-Club and AECSO maintenance staff will come together to renovate the courtyard space located at Casey Park Elementary School. This will give the students an outdoor space where they can learn about and enjoy nature. Students involved in this project will be exposed to multiple career opportunities and will gain first-hand experience working with professionals.

March Book Series by John Lewis

A classroom set of *March*, a three book series, will be purchased for Auburn Junior High School. The books cover the entire Civil Rights movement that began in the 1950s and are engaging and historically accurate. Students will create their own 10 page graphic novel detailing an incident in American history related to social justice.

Book Vending Machine

Funds were awarded to Seward Elementary School to purchase a book vending machine. The machine will be stocked with a variety of fiction and non-fiction books that will include appropriate reading levels for students in K-6. Through the Positive Behavior Incentive and Supports program, students will earn Bee Bucks to then be able to "purchase" tokens for the machine.

Social Justice Speaker and Books

A classroom set of *Refugee* by Alan Gratz will be purchased for student use at Auburn Junior High School. A speaker who himself is a refugee, will visit the school to engage with students. This will help students develop a social-emotional understanding of the refugee crisis on a more personal level.

Escape Room

Auburn Junior High School will purchase "The Disappearance of Mr. George," a digital program where the owner can create puzzles for the players to solve using any content of their choosing. Students will work in teams to crack the code. Students will be highly engaged in this competitive format and will need to use deductive thinking and cooperative learning to solve the puzzle.

Engineering Brightness

This grant will be used to sponsor a free community event that will include a presentation by John Howe and Tracey Winey, co-founders of the organization, Engineering Brightness. The community will learn what this organization does to combat light poverty around the world. At the event, 3D printers will be running to demonstrate how the printers can be utilized to solve global problems. Student projects will be featured at the event.

Operation Healthy Heart/Healthy Mind

Funding will be provided to purchase heart rate monitors for use at Auburn High School. Students will begin the semester with their pre-assessments including heart rate recovery, blood pressure, and target heart rate for cardiovascular exercises. Students will participate in class activities to improve heart health and monitor results with the heart rate monitors.

Dear Auburn High School 2020 Graduate,

June 2020 begins a new chapter in your life.

It seems inconceivable that you began the passage into your formal educational journey - the first day in Kindergarten - 13 years ago! For some, the journey will continue another two or four years; others will grace the halls of higher education institutions a bit longer, through graduate programs, medical school, or law school. Some will be entering the world of work, take time to travel or expand their experiences as young adults.

Regardless of your immediate plans, this is a moment to pause, inhale deeply, and celebrate your many accomplishments.

You are entering this new phase in your life facing challenges not encountered by any previous generation. Yes, each generation has its obstacles to conquer, but the class of 2020 has had multiple new barriers to success surface before you had the chance to fully enjoy senior year— something that you have been looking forward to since kindergarten.

Yet, you have succeeded gracefully, courageously, proudly, and stronger!

Auburn Education Foundation Board of Directors celebrates you! We congratulate your parents, teachers, and school administrators for helping you overcome the hurdles you have faced but pushed away to accomplish your graduation goal. We join in expressing pride, and stand behind you as you continue on life's journey.

Congratulations, Auburn Enlarged City School 2020 graduate! Follow your dreams!

Wishing you a bright and healthy future,

Auburn Education Foundation Board of Directors



We Gratefully Acknowledge Our Partners, Sponsors & Donors



We are grateful to all of our sponsors, partners, and funders and in-kind donors. Your generosity has made it possible for AEF to continue as a strong, viable organization working to provide experiences for students that are not funded through the district budget.

Cavern Club Beatles Sponsors

- Wegmans
- Greater Syracuse Area Honda Dealers
- Aflac/Joseph Calarco
- Auburn Community Hospital
- BOND Schoeneck & King PLLC
- Byrne Dairy
- C&S Companies
- Chemung Canal Trust Company
- Ferrara Fiorenza PC
- Law Offices of Jordan DiPalma PLLC
- Nucor Steel
- Prentice Charitable Fund
- RCJB Consultants
- SWBR
- Tessy Plastics
- The Dr. Joseph F. Karpinski Sr. Foundation

In-Kind

- Big D's Limousine
- Coca-Cola
- Elizabeth and Dr. Paul Koenig
- George and Mary Cuthbert
- Mooney Marketing Group
- The Citizen
- WSEN Radio Station/The Dinosaur

Gobble 'n Go IV sponsors and participating venues

- DJ Puff
- Refinery Modern Fare at the Hilton Inn
- Savannah Bank
- A.T. Walley & Co.
- Burger Theory at Holiday Inn
- Good Shepherd's Brewing Co.
- Knights of Columbus
- Mesa Grande Taqueria
- Moondog's Lounge
- Moro's Table
- Next Chapter Brewpub
- Octane Social House
- Parker's Grille & Tap House
- Prison City Pub & Brewery
- Regenerations
- Refinery Modern Fare
- Taste NY Market
- Thirsty Pug Tap Room
- Wild's Eats & Sweets
- 3 Leaf Tea

In-Kind

- Auburn Downtown BID
- Big D's Limousine
- Jacob's Press
- The Citizen

Foundation Support

- American Endowment Fund
- DE French Foundation
- NAYGN Foundation
- Stanley Metcalf Foundation

Other

- SantaCon
- The Estate of Patricia Palmer

There were 10 new donors, and 8 new sponsors, excluding our Gobble 'n Go sponsors!



Cavern Club Beatles Concert

In the spring of 2019, the Auburn Education Foundation was presented with an intriguing opportunity to sponsor a phenomenal concert featuring the Cavern Club Beatles hailing from Liverpool, England and considered to be "the most authentic Beatles experience short of seeing the original Fab Four", according to Geoff Emerick, the legendary Beatles sound engineer. With determined commitment and teamwork from our foundation board members, as well as outstanding financial support from community sponsors, we were able to make this dream a reality when the "Beatles" took the stage on a picture perfect day at Emerson Park, surrounded by the gorgeous backdrop of Owasco Lake.

1,400 concert goers enthusiastically gathered to savor the sounds of "Perform for Purpose", comprised of area students donating their talents, the Tom Petty tribute band, "Petty Thieves" and the iconic "Joe Whiting Band". The real magic occurred, however, when the Cavern Club Beatles took the stage, and by the end of the concert 1,400 dancing fans shouted for "MORE!". Three curtain calls later, the evening was complete and we heard nothing but rave reviews and comment after comment saying what a wonderful event this was for our community, as well as many requests for more concerts on Deauville Island.

Since then, the Auburn Education Foundation has received some wonderful educator-designed grant requests, and has worked to select and allocate funds for these grants, in order to give our students some extraordinary opportunities that otherwise would never be possible.

Gobble 'n Go

For several years, Auburn Education Foundation (AEF) has partnered with the Downtown Auburn Business Improvement District and several restaurants and businesses to conduct its annual restaurant crawl fundraiser. The sale of tickets to the event supports AEF's mission to enhance learning for all students in the Auburn Enlarged City School District, while providing participants with a variety of opportunities to sample tasty treats from local establishments – from cauliflower bites and pizza samples, yummy desserts to savory soups and even a full buffet. AEF is thankful for all participating venues for making the event the largest and most successful to date.



★ By the numbers:

AEF funded 10 grants in the fall, and 7 grants in the spring.

There were 90 Annual Appeal donors in 2019.

AEF received \$13,600 in donations from our Annual Appeal.

AEF was founded in 2003.

8 seniors received LaDue Scholarships, totaling \$4,000.

Who We Are

Founded in 2003, the Auburn Education Foundation mission statement seeks to support an enriched learning environment for Auburn Enlarged City School students through collaboration, gifts, and grants. We value diversity, support educators who have creative and innovative ideas that capture students' attention and ignite their imagination; and celebrate the accomplishments of students and alumni.



Community Partners

Paul DelPiano
Hall of Distinction Committee

Jennifer Forcey
Hall of Distinction Committee

Board of Directors

The board of Directors consists of 15 member volunteers. Through its volunteer force, and community partners, AEF implements its mission through teacher grants, administration of the La Due and DeSoccio scholarships, Hall of Distinction to honor graduates of Auburn High School, among many other activities that enrich the educational opportunities of students in the AECSD.

Miguelina Cuevas-Post
President

Janie Hutchinson
Immediate Past President

William Tenity
Vice President

Denise Pellegrino
Secretary

Marianne O'Connor
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Ex-Officio Members

Jeffrey Pirozzolo
Superintendent of Schools

Kathy Rhodes
School Board Representative

Lisa Green
Business Administrator

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A copy of the Auburn Education Foundation's annual financial reports may be obtained upon request by calling us at (315) 255-8827, or by contacting the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau, Attn: FOIL Officer, 120 Broadway, New York, New York 10271.

A registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that provides significant resources to champion enrichment programs of Auburn Enlarged City School District students which elevate the educational experiences of from average to extraordinary.

Annual Report
2019-2020