

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

2018

Dean LaDue  
Memorial Scholarships

James Bennink  
Hunter Dugar  
Karleigh Harris  
Kennedy Wilson



2017-2018

**Auburn  
Education Foundation**

Discover the Opportunities

## Annual Report



**THANK YOU!**

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

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.



## Letter from the President

During the 2017/18 year, volunteer members of the Auburn Education Foundation Board of Directors and others serving on committees worked tirelessly to undertake activities that will ultimately enhance the learning of all students within the Auburn Enlarged City School District. I can humbly say that it is gratifying to have achieved the goals we outlined in last year's Annual Report. These accomplishments—which could only have been achieved through the generosity and engagement of our donors and business sponsors—will help students in our district to meet their full potential.

- ✓ Awarded and/or administered more than \$21,850 in scholarship, grant, and special project funding, including monies allocated for the outdoor space at Auburn High School for the preschool program—a 16% increase in awarded funds from the 2016/17 year!
- ✓ Successfully raised awareness throughout, and engaged with, the community through presentations at schools, columns in *The Citizen* and on-line *Maroon Monthly*, appearances on television and radio, and outreach to retired teachers, resulting in increased donations during the Annual Appeal.
- ✓ Completed launch of new website and, as a result of its ease-of-use, experienced greater staff use and increased grant applications, as well as more out-of-town nominations for Hall of Distinction awards.
- ✓ Generated \$38,000 through donations and fundraising activities, including Gobble 'n Go and the Restaurant Gift Card Fundraiser.
- ✓ Administered a \$500 special grant from the Columbian Foundation to support the Odyssey of the Mind team at Genesee Elementary School "Kindness Boxes" project, which sent boxes designed to help those in poverty in countries such as Cote d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Mexico, and Singapore.
- ✓ Executed sound resource development planning to ensure financial viability and strengthened implementation of administrative duties. For example, outsourced tasks associated with Annual Report and website management.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you all for enabling us to provide Auburn Enlarged City School District educators with grants to help them realize their vision for enriched learning opportunities for our students. We are grateful for the support you have demonstrated, and we look forward to a stellar 2018/19 year!



*Jane Hutchinson*

P.S. For information about serving on a committee, making a donation, or our other activities, please visit our website at [www.auburnedfoundation.org](http://www.auburnedfoundation.org).

## 2018 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, 37 Auburn Enlarged City School District graduates have been inducted into the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction.



**Kevin J. Corcoran**  
Class of 1972

*Internationally recognized speaker and marketing expert/consultant who has also been honored by LeMoyne College with the naming of the Corcoran Student Lounge.*



**Dr. Larry Ellison**  
Class of 1971

*Highly respected educator/administrator in the Rochester City School District who has been recognized for his work with youth.*



**Pauline Copes Johnson**  
Class of 1945

*Great-great grandniece of Harriet Tubman and a tireless advocate for the preservation of the rich history of Harriet Tubman at local, state, and national levels.*



**Kevin Murphy**  
Class of 1997

*Educator and founder of Ocean Cure, a not-for-profit whose unique mission is "to better the quality of life for those with disabilities through surfing."*



**Dr. Peter Usowski**  
Class of 1973

*Director of the Center for the Study of Intelligence at the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).*



**Thommie Walsh**  
(Posthumously)  
Class of 1968

*Tony award-winning dancer, choreographer, director, and advocate for the arts.*

## 2017-2018 Grant Projects

Through a competitive grants process, Auburn Education Foundation 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. Projects fall within at least one of the following six areas—Academics, Arts, Life Skills, Character Education, Physical Education & Wellness, and Technology—and enable students to learn in unique and innovative ways.



### Fitness to the Beat of a Different Drum

To improve fitness, rhythm, and behavior, several national and state physical education (PE) conferences have featured drumming in fitness programs. Using drums purchased by AEF in a previous grant cycle, music and PE teachers will collaborate to relate music and rhythm to fitness by implementing POUND and Drums Alive, two types of drumming-for-fitness programs.

### iPod's for Reluctant Readers

Several Auburn Junior High School 7th graders are reluctant and below grade level readers, making innovative ideas for engaging these students necessary. Access to audio books on iPods they can listen to as they read will help students who have difficulty reading independently for any length of time to advance their literacy.

### Audubon Ecosystem Phenomenon

To provide students with first-hand, experiential-based understanding and awareness of how local ecosystems and biodiversity are impacted by invasive species, 7th graders took a trip to the Montezuma Audubon Center. All activities focused on engaging students according to the new state and national science standards for phenomena-based learning.

### Math Board Game Library

To enhance the existing curriculum and engage students in fun and relevant learning activities, a series of math games was housed in the library of each elementary school. Teachers were able to sign out the games for use in small group instruction.

### MakerSpace

Students applied concepts of STEAM by combining coding, fashion, and micro-computers to create electronic functioning textiles. To design and electronically code functional textile that is operable by the wearer or user, students collaborated in teams and were able to explain and present the process to the community.

### "The Most Beautiful Roof in the World"

Seward Elementary School fifth graders in Mr. Losani and Mr. Vail's classroom conducted several projects while completing a unit on the rainforest. Guiding them were the vivid encounter of famous conservationist Meg Lowman and her escapades into the canopy of Central and South American rainforests, as described in her book, "The Most Beautiful Roof in the World."

### Sustainability Workshops

Through a series of hands-on, interactive lessons conducted by Cayuga County Cornell Cooperative Extension educators during class time, all 5th grade students throughout the district learned about sustainability and the environment, including recycling, repurposing, composting, and more. District 5th grade teachers were also trained in order to continue the program annually.

### Breakout Boxes & Kits

Breakout boxes and kits are immersive and interactive learning games and tools that engage students in their own learning by requiring their use of cooperation, critical thinking, communication, and problem solving skills to ultimately "break in" to a locked box. Unlike merely sitting in their seats, reading from a book, looking at a screen, or listening to their teacher, students demonstrate their understanding of a topic and collaborate with each other to analyze clues and solve puzzles. In addition to breakout boxes for Seward Elementary School that can be used with any curriculum at any grade level, AEF also awarded grants to support the following breakout boxes:

**Auburn Junior High School**  
Eight complete kits housed in the library for school-wide use.

**Auburn High School**  
Five cross-curricular breakout kits for use in any subject area.

**Auburn High School**  
Six chemistry class breakout boxes were constructed by students in Brian Bealer's chemistry classes.

**Don't Forget!**

Fall grant applications due by  
**October 15, 2018.**

Spring grant applications due by  
**February 15, 2019.**



## Auburn Education Foundation Mission

To support an enriched learning environment for Auburn Enlarged City School District students through collaborations, gifts, and grants. We value diversity; support educators who have creative and innovative ideas for capturing students' attention and igniting their imagination; and celebrate the accomplishments of students and alumni.

## Board of Directors

Our 15-member volunteer board builds Auburn Education Foundation's presence and relevance as an educational leadership organization throughout our community.

Janie Hutchinson, President  
Denise Pelligrino, Vice President  
Lisa Carr, Secretary  
Marianne O'Connor, Treasurer  
Tracy Bellerdine  
Bonny Blair  
Kathie Collier  
Miguelina Cuevas-Post  
Jennifer Forcey  
Marybeth Galka  
Karen Macier  
JD Pabis  
Ian Phillips  
Andy Tehan  
William Tenity

## Ex-Officio Members

Jeffrey Pirozzolo  
*Superintendent of Schools*  
Kathy Rhodes  
*School Board Representative*  
Lisa Green  
*Business Administrator*

## Community Partners

Paul DelPiano  
*Hall of Distinction Committee*  
Karol Soules  
*Awards Committee Chair*

## We Gratefully Acknowledge Our Partners, Sponsors & Donors!

Auburn Education Foundation relies on the success of its fundraising efforts—as well as private donations and guidance and insights from the school district—to fulfill our mission. Throughout our history, and in particular the 2017/18 year, our achievements were made possible because others supported and inspired creatively effective programs for our students.

### Foundation Support

Columbian Foundation  
D.E. French Foundation  
Emerson Foundation  
Stanley W. Metcalf Foundation

### Business Support

Auburn Discount Liquor & Wine  
Auburn Downtown BID  
Buffington & Hoatland CPAs, PLLC  
Bank of America  
Edward J. Nolan, DDS  
Grant Ave. Development  
Heieck-Pelc Funeral Home  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Jacob's Press  
J & J Limousine  
Lesch & Bechtel Family Dentistry  
Lifespan Physical Therapy  
Paul M Koenig, MD, PC  
Post Beef and Pork  
RG Wright Insurance  
Refinery Modern Fare at Hilton Garden Inn  
Ryan CJ Blair Energy Consultant Services, LLC  
Savannah Bank  
SWBR  
The Citizen  
Thomas A. Hogan, DDS  
Tompkins Trust  
Xylem



## We're Excited About What's Ahead for 2018/19!

We have an ambitious agenda for the 2018/19 year, and we're excited about the possibilities that achieving each of these goals represents.

- ☐ Update and revise the AEF Strategic Plan during a Board of Directors retreat in August
- ☐ Launch community education and awareness initiatives—inclusive of print columns, television, and radio appearances—that highlight the Auburn Alumni Hall of Distinction award recipients to demonstrate the many successful individuals who began with an Auburn public school education
- ☐ Continue partnership with the Auburn Enlarged City School District to conduct more signature projects that enhance learning for all students
- ☐ Further engage with Auburn Enlarged City School District faculty and staff to encourage increased applications for grants, scholarships, and program funding
- ☐ Raise awareness of Auburn Education Foundation throughout the business community by hosting a Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce Business After 5 event in November, in partnership with the Auburn Enlarged City School District; grant recipients and their projects will be showcased
- ☐ Sustain momentum and continue successful fundraising initiatives, including Hall of Distinction, Restaurant Gift Card Fundraiser, and Gobble 'n Go, as well as the Annual Appeal.