

Access Academies 13th Annual
CELEBRATION DINNER

June 2, 2022 • The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis

Making
our
MARK



Access

Every student. Every chance. Every day



Proud to support Access Academies in its efforts to ensure every student has every chance to thrive every day.

Making An Impact Across the St. Louis Region

Our Mission

Access propels middle school students who have been historically underserved through high school and on to college and career success with enrichment, counseling, and scholarships.

This year, Access Academies:



Supported 512 students — from middle school through college — with individualized mentoring, guidance, and advocacy.



Funded over \$759,411 in high school tuition scholarships and registration, technology, and testing fees so that 191 students could attend one of our 20 private, scholarship-partner high schools.



Launched Access 2 College (A2C), an exciting new college-prep initiative that guided Access high school juniors and seniors through four critical areas: writing, leadership, career exploration, and college planning.



Awarded 44 collegians the Access College Scholarship — worth up to \$3,500 per student over the course of their college career. We have provided over \$33,754 in scholarship funding since 2020.



Helped Access students and their families apply for the My Missouri Scholarship Promise Program and set up MOST 529 college savings accounts.

Program Schedule

6:30 PM

Welcome

Invocation

Jayvonte Hughes
St. Louis Catholic Academy 2022

7:30 PM

Chairman's Remarks and Program Introduction

Brian Day, Board Chair
Shelly Williams, Executive Director

Partnership Update

Gary W. Ritter, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean
Saint Louis University School of Education

Student Perspective

Madison Washington
Cardinal Ritter College Prep 2022
St. Louis Catholic Academy 2018

Enrichment Program Performance

Sister Thea Bowman Liturgical Dancers
Directed by Reverend Tracy Holloway-Wiggins

Access "Making Our Mark" Alumni/Student Panel Discussion

Lead by Shelly Williams
Panelists: Kyra Harris, Aaron Tucker, Vivian Garcia

Founders Award

Presented by Joan and John Vatterott

8:15 PM

Mission Appeal

Shelly Williams
Chris Schmidt, Access Board Member

8:30 PM

Thank You For Your Support

Menu

FIRST COURSE

Roasted Artichoke
Baby Kale

Castelvetro Olive
Herbed Goat Cheese

"Everything" Tuille
Calabrian Aioli

SECOND COURSE

Braised Short Rib of Beef
with Sherry Gastrique

Roasted Breast of Chicken
with Thyme Jus

Black Pepper and
Parmesan Risotto

Broccoli, Baby Peppers,
and Brussels Sprouts

DESSERT

Triple Chocolate
Mousse Cake

Raspberry Sorbet

Freshly Brewed Coffee,
Decaffeinated Coffee,
and
Taylor's Harrogate
Tea Selection



Speakers



Invocation

Jayvonte Hughes

St. Louis Catholic Academy '22

A natural artist with an infectious personality, Jayvonte is a recent graduate of St. Louis Catholic Academy and will be attending either Christian Brothers College High School or St. John Vianney High School in the fall. He was one of two recipients of this year's Top Flight Service Award for his service, love, and support of SLCA. An aspiring surgeon, Jayvonte hopes to attend Harvard University.

Keynote

Madison Washington

Cardinal Ritter College Prep
High School '22
St. Louis Catholic Academy '18

A graduate of Cardinal Ritter College Prep and an alumna of St. Louis Catholic Academy, Madison was accepted to 16 colleges and universities this spring and received over \$647,000 in scholarship offers. She also won an Archbishop May Service Award for her outstanding leadership, community service, and volunteer achievements.



Performance



Sister Thea Bowman Liturgical Dancers

The Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School Liturgical Dancers were founded in 1998 to share the gospel by using dance as prayer, praise, and worship. The group has been under the direction of Reverend Tracy Holloway-Wiggins since 2001 and is a popular offering in Access' extended-day enrichment program.

Alumni Panel



Vivian Garcia

Graduate Support Counselor,
Access Academies
Fontbonne University '21
Rosati-Kain High School '17
St. Cecilia School
& Academy '13

"My Access Graduate Support Counselor always stood by my side encouraging me and giving me the resources to keep going. I truly know that the Access program works."



Kyra Harris

Pediatric Nurse,
St. Louis Children's Hospital
Avila University '19
Rosati-Kain High School '15
Most Holy Trinity '11

"The Access program gave me skills that I wouldn't have had otherwise. They do a good job of making kids learn responsibility early."



Aaron Tucker

Senior at
Missouri University of
Science and Technology '22
Bishop DuBourg
High School '17
St. Louis the King '13

"I would not be where I am today without this program."

Featured Access Alumni



Jarred Hall

Admissions Counselor,
Mount Mercy University

Mount Mercy University '20
Bishop DuBourg High School '16
Central Catholic Academy '12



Gabe Garcia

Lead Lab Processing Assistant,
Mayo Clinic

Saint Louis University '18
SLUH '13
St. Cecilia School & Academy '09



Andrea Garcia

Clinical Laboratory Technologist,
Mayo Clinic

University of San Diego '20
Villa Duchesne '16
St. Cecilia School & Academy '12



Reana Elder

Recent Graduate (Master of Social
Work), Brown School of Social Work
at Washington University '22

Washington University '20
St. Joseph's Academy '16
Most Holy Trinity '20



Did you know?

We spent over 130 hours counseling high school seniors and college students during weekly office hours as part of our College & Career Success Initiative.

Our Board of Directors

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Executive Director



Did you know?

We guided 41 Access 8th graders from our three partner middle schools into their top-choice college-prep high schools.

Your Donation Provides Critical Support

Counseling

Individualized Support Increases Academic Success

Research proves that strong relationships are the foundation for student success. At Access, every student is embraced and supported by a community of trusted, caring adults who help them succeed in and persist in school, work, and life. Our individualized counseling ensures every student's academic, social, financial, and emotional needs are met.

Enrichment

Challenging Our Youth to Dream

Access provides 1,179 hours of high-quality after-school and summer enrichment programming to our middle school students each year, a support that promotes student achievement, encourages positive behavior, and expands their definition of success. Our donors can be confident that their support is making a lasting difference. According to the Afterschool Alliance, "Afterschool programs also provide a significant return-on-investment, with every \$1 invested saving at least \$3 through increasing youth's earning potential, improving their performance at school, and reducing crime and juvenile delinquency."*

* 'This is Afterschool' Fact Sheet. Afterschool Alliance. (2020, March). <http://afterschoolalliance.org/documents/National-One-Pager-2020.pdf>

Change Makers

Scholarships

Illuminating a Path by Eliminating Financial Barriers

At Access, we believe in equity: that every student should have every chance to thrive every day. Since our founding in 2005, Access has contributed more than \$8,182,020 in financial scholarships to high school and college students. It's an investment that eliminates financial barriers for our families and uplifts the St. Louis region.

Inspiring
EMPOWERED

RESILIENT

Scholars
LEADERS

Empowering Students Across the St. Louis Region Since 2005

Access Academies partners with **26** private, college-preparatory schools and has supported students in more than **47** local high schools across the St. Louis region. This academic year, Access served a total of **512** students in **3** partner middle schools, **39** area high schools — including **20** private, college-preparatory schools — and **46** colleges and post-secondary institutions across the country.

Our Impact



99%
ACCEPTED
to college-preparatory
high schools



98%
GRADUATED
high school on-time
(compared to 86%
nationwide)



96%
ACCEPTED
to college or other
post-secondary
institution



Did you know?

We sent over 150 care packages to Access collegians across the country to help them through final exams.

Partner Middle Schools

St. Cecilia School & Academy (South St. Louis)
St. Louis Catholic Academy (North St. Louis)
Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School (East St. Louis)

High Schools

Althoff Catholic High School*	Lutheran High School South*
Belleville High School East	Marquette Catholic High School*
Bishop DuBourg High School*	McCluer South-Berkeley High School
Cahokia High School	McKinley Classical Leadership Academy
Cardinal Ritter College Prep*	Nerinx Hall*
Carnahan High School of the Future	Normandy High School
Chaminade College Prep*	Notre Dame High School*
Charles H. Sumner High School	Principia School
Christian Brothers College High School*	Purpose Driven Academy
Cleveland Junior Naval Academy	Ritenour High School
Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience	Rosati-Kain High School*
Confluence Academy	Saint Louis Priory School*
Cor Jesu Academy*	Saint Louis University High*
De Smet Jesuit High School*	Soldan High School
Duchesne High School*	South Technical High School
Gibault Catholic High School*	SIUE East St. Louis Charter High School
The Grand Center Arts Academy	St. John Vianney High School*
Granite City High School	St. Joseph's Academy*
Hazelwood East High School	St. Mary's High School*
Incarinate Word Academy*	Ursuline Academy*
Jennings Senior High School & College Prep Academy	Villa Duchesne*
KIPP	Visitation Academy*
Lift For Life Academy	Westminster Christian Academy*
Lutheran High School North*	

**Denotes Scholarship Partner*

Post-Secondary Acceptances

Congratulations to our graduating high school seniors who have been accepted to the following 42 colleges and universities.

Alabama A&M University	Prairie View A&M University
Claflin University	Ranken Technical College
Clark Atlanta University	Rockhurst University
Drake University	Saint Louis University
Drury University	Savannah State University
Fontbonne University	Southeast Missouri State University
Georgia Highland College	Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
Hampton University	Southwestern Community College
Harris Stowe State University	St. Louis Community College
Houston Baptist University	Tennessee State University
Howard University	Texas Southern University
Jackson State University	The University of Memphis
Jacksonville University	Truman State University
Langston University	University of Missouri Columbia
Lincoln University	University of Missouri Kansas City
Maryville University	University of Tulsa
McKendree University	Washington University
Missouri Baptist University	Wilberforce University
Missouri Southern University	Xavier University Louisiana
Missouri State University	
Missouri University of Science and Technology	
Norfolk State University	
Pace University-New York	

Thank You To Our Sponsors and Supporters



Joan & John
Vatterott Family
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John and Margie Simon



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MONETA

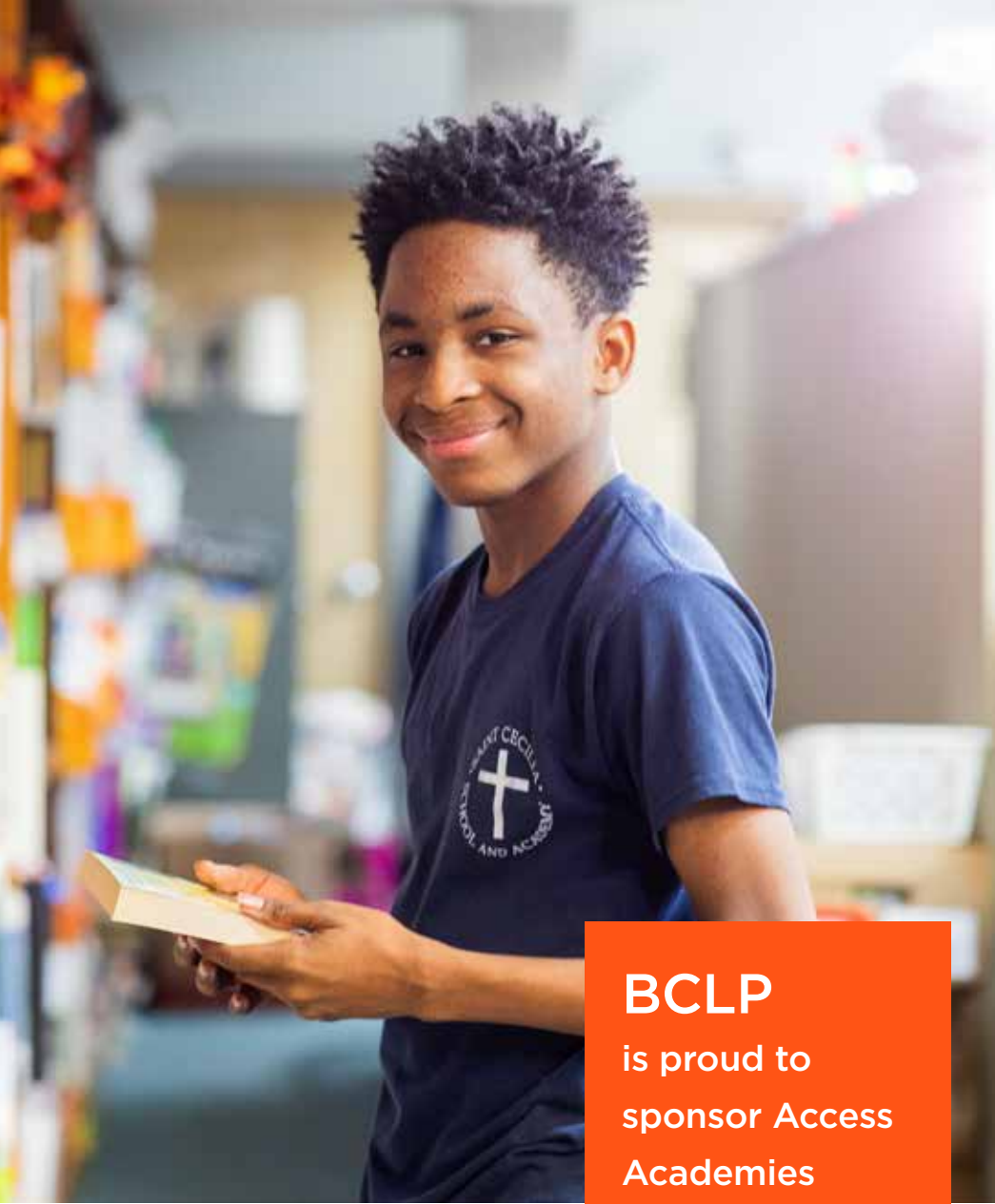
EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY

Moneta is proud to support Access Academies, an organization that believes education is the most enduring path to success. Their impact on the community and the students they support is inspiring and widely felt, having provided over 1,300 students with enrichment programs, counseling, and scholarships. Like Access Academies, Moneta believes in enriching the lives of those in our community.

Moneta Momentum is the collective effort of our employees who volunteer hundreds of hours every year to impact our community positively. In addition to time, Moneta's Charitable Foundation, now in its 23rd year, has granted more than \$4 million to local nonprofits to date. We do more – so our community can too.



Gast Freeman Troyer Team
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is proud to
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to develop
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future leaders.



Thank you to Access
for giving every student, every chance, every day.

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We Find Winners.
And then we invest for strong returns.



"We are proud to be associated and to invest with the winners of Access Academies. Good education pays the best returns of all."

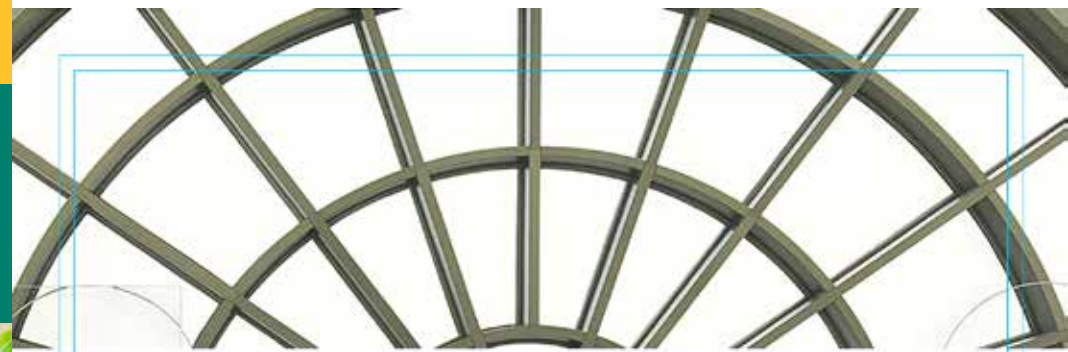
- Charlie Erker, Merrill Lynch Advisor



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Thank you to Access Academies for working towards equity in education in the St. Louis region.

FORV/S



We are proud to support
Access
and its mission to propel underserved middle school students through high school and on to college and career success.

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CONGRATULATIONS
to the students of Access Academies



JOHN SIMON
• AND •
MARGIE SIMON

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OF THE ACCESS
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THANK YOU

to the Access Academies
Graduate Support and
College & Career Teams for
leading their students on a
path to success.



**The Joan and John Vatterott
Family Foundation**