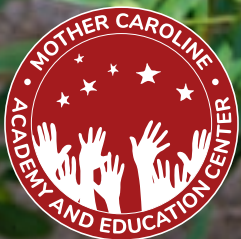


MOTHER
CAROLINE
ACADEMY
AND
EDUCATION
CENTER



Annual Report 2020

WE MATTER

Our Mission

Founded in 1993, Mother Caroline Academy is a tuition-free, independent school for girls grades 4-8. We serve Boston families with limited resources.

Our mission is to provide a high quality education that develops the individual gifts of each student and prepares her for success in competitive secondary schools and colleges.

Originally created in the Catholic tradition, the school is now fully independent. We recognize the dignity, value, and assets of each person.

The Academy emphasizes the importance of scholarship, leadership, and social and moral development.



We Matter

What a year this has been! With the abrupt school closings on March 15, 2020, our ability to come together as a team was imperative for our students and their families. We quickly realized we would not be returning to school for some time and made every effort to stay true to our mission: “by focusing on the needs of the whole family and by preserving a spirit of volunteerism and commitment among all those who aid, support and benefit from MCAEC”.

In the days after the school closing, we were able to connect with many donors committing to continued support. Additionally, Phill and Elizabeth Gross offered to help us to achieve our gala goal through a match challenge. This funding, coupled with a Covid Emergency Fund, provided us the opportunity to supply each student with a computer, upgrade our school building with a Nurse’s pod and isolation rooms, new floors, PPE, handwashing stations, and sneeze guards. We were also able to provide families with gift certificates for basic needs. More importantly, for the first time ever in the history of the school, we were able to hire an registered nurse and licensed mental health counselor. The social and emotional struggles of our students, as well as medical concerns, will finally be supported by these full-time staff members.

We find post pandemic glimmers of hope that have evolved from students learning virtually at their homes for the past six months. One of our students mentioned that she and her mother had begun weekly virtual visits to the area library. Another student arrived at our pre-opening day with a self portrait of herself and an essay she wrote on love. Our students, supported by the faculty and staff, have embraced self-efficacy at the moment it is most needed.

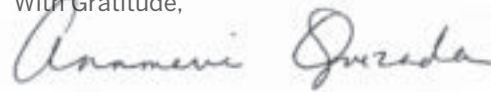
In this pandemic we realize that 21st century skills such as digital citizenship, math, and comprehensive writing continue to be essential, but also that students need regular intermissions from academics. Creative outlets and innovative classes such as drama, art, social-emotional well-being, and trauma-informed yoga have all been added to the schedule.

We are so proud of our students and families who stepped up to meet the challenges of managing work schedules, food security issues, illness, and unemployment. They have managed all of this while supporting their student’s education at MCAEC.

As we enter our 28th year of bringing students out of poverty and propelling them toward a bright educational future, we pause to thank all of our donors. We simply could not do our work without you.

One of my favorite quotes is by the educator Angela Duckworth who said, “Enthusiasm is common, endurance is rare”. We at MCAEC have certainly endured with great pride and hope for the future before us. Thank you all for your support.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Annmarie Quezada". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Annmarie" and last name "Quezada" clearly distinguishable.

Annmarie Quezada, Head of School



Who We Serve

Mother Caroline Academy educates girls in grades 4-8. In the current pandemic, we did not accept a new fourth grade as virtual onboarding was not possible. Our student body for the 2020-2021 school year is comprised of girls that identify as **Black (73%)**, **Latina (7%)**, and **Mixed Race (20%)**. Students and their families fall under an income of \$50,000 (with at least four family members.)

Families come from Boston neighborhoods such as Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, Hyde Park, Roslindale, Fenway/Mission Hill, and Jamaica Plain. MCAEC is located in the Grove Hall section of Boston, where Roxbury and Dorchester meet. Potential students are welcome to apply to the school if they: **1)** live within the City of Boston, **2)** meet the income guidelines for a tuition-free school and **3)** have a caregiver or guardian willing to partner with the school. MCAEC is an equal opportunity employer and admits girls to the school from all faiths, races, and family systems.

“My role model is myself. It may not seem like a good idea of a role model, but it isn’t what you think it is. When I say myself, not my personality at the moment, but myself as in the person I want to be.”

An MCAEC 6th Grade Student



COMMUNITY



Opportunity Gap

In recent years, the phrase Opportunity Gap, as opposed to Achievement Gap, has become the appropriate wording to express the inequality in education due to outside factors such as race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, English proficiency, community wealth, or familial situations. The unequal distribution of resources contributes to the opportunity gap seen in students such as ours at MCAEC. In seeking to support the needs of the whole child, MCAEC addresses each of the many factors that contribute to this gap.

Students from lower income families do not have the financial resources that support their more affluent peers. Poor nutrition, lack of healthcare, an inability to pay for preschool, for tutoring, for test prep, and for college tuition contribute greatly to the gap. At MCAEC, students are provided breakfast and lunch daily, have access to a school nurse and licensed mental health counselor, are provided one-on-one tutoring, mentoring, and test prep, and are given high school and college counseling along with financial aid assistance from our staff.

Students from lower income families, and indeed specifically minority students, may be subject to bias and prejudice in their education and access to learning opportunities. At MCAEC, students are encouraged to “reach for the stars,” as the pathway out of poverty, beginning at MCAEC, is through education.

Students from lower income families may be the first in their family to attend college. The encouragement and support affluent families give to their children, especially regarding the family’s educational experience, may be an unknown for our students. At MCAEC, all students participate in an intensive, individualized two year test prep and secondary school application process. Our Assistant Principal works with each family to match each student to private high schools all over the US, based on academic achievement, socio-emotional needs, and family proclivity.



100%

of MCAEC alumnae graduate
from high school

96%

enroll in college.

85%

graduate from college
within 6 years.

For comparison, national education statistics for economically disadvantaged women of color show a 79% high school graduation rate, a 55% college enrollment rate, and a 12% college graduation rate.

Schools in economically disadvantaged communities may have a high student to teacher ratio, overcrowding, less effective teaching methods, rundown facilities, and a dearth of extracurricular activities. At MCAEC, the student to teacher ratio is 6 to 1. Our large building at 515 Blue Hill Avenue has been fully updated as of Summer 2020 and students have access to sports, music, drama, and other extracurriculars, even virtually in the current pandemic.

Lower income communities may have reduced access to internet connectivity, computers, and overall technology. At MCAEC, part of the pandemic response consisted of providing students a fully updated laptop to keep at home, along with help with internet access for families.

MCAEC provides a safe environment where girls are empowered to find a path out of poverty through education. Students, with a caring and committed faculty and staff, develop self esteem, self confidence, self advocacy, and healthy decision making. Extended day access to athletics, STEAM, art, music, experiential opportunities such as camps and field trips, and service learning create a full circle approach to meet the needs of the whole child. Wrap-around services such as health and hygiene, nutrition, parenting classes, service referrals and assistance, social work and family crisis response meet the needs of the student and her family.

MCAEC faculty and staff commit to compassion, respect, and high standards for all students with a recognition of culturally relevant care and an understanding of diversity and inclusion.

*“My favorite thing about my school is my classmates ...
all of us are sisters.”*

An MCAEC 6th Grade Student

Student Work

“Ode to a Shakespearean Sonnet”

As I wake up its half past dawn.
After multiple minutes I get out, into the car.
I enter school with blurry eyes, still I yawn.
Classes may have started, but the end is still far.

I go to school to learn.
I may have rough mornings but musn't be sad.
For I know me and my peers, our dreams we yearn.
But of course there are days where little things still make me feel bad.

Yet I am still a little kid still filled with glee.
I'm very passionate and I stay very strong .
Pinned to my heart, that happiness has no fee.
I am not perfect; but for a change in the world I long.

You may ask what a kid knows.
I try my hardest, because all I know is that things come and go.

An MCAEC Grade 6 Student



100% of MCAEC students
received chromebooks.

Lower School Students read
500 books this summer!

MCAEC provides **8.5% more**
instructional days than Boston
Public Schools, and **7% more**
instructional hours per day.

91% attendance rate for
2020 school year.

100% participation in
optional mindfulness class in
Spring 2020.



MCAEC students want to grow up to be:

A singer

A fashion designer

A baker

A chef

A teacher

A doctor

A photographer

An artist

A pilot

An architect

A police officer

MCAEC Alumnae are lawyers, executives, principals, teachers, accountants, business owners, and financial advisors.

Focus on 2020

Social Emotional Curriculum

For the first time at MCAEC, we have a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, and School Adjustment Counselor through DESE, on staff. Gabriella Pesce comes to us after years of experience in urban schools. She has connected with students with acute mental health needs this summer, and created, with Principal Michelle Brito, our new SEL (social emotional learning) curriculum. Students now have access to daily one-on-one counseling, with the addition of dedicated time in the Wednesday Advisory period. In Advisory, students meet in small groups with the curriculum including an introduction to the brain and central nervous system with an emphasis on understanding how emotions can affect decision making, learning the zones of emotional regulation, self-regulation and the body/mind relationship, maladaptive coping strategies versus healthy coping strategies, mindfulness implemented in daily routines, and empathy and ways to avoid social conflict. This important addition to MCAEC's wraparound services for students provides an opportunity to be ahead of the curve, as our students are struggling with the trauma of the pandemic, along with other life stressors. Additionally, Ms. Pesce has been providing monthly virtual learning best practices and stress relieving self care tips for staff, faculty, and families.

School Nurse and Infirmary Update

MCAEC now has a full-time Registered Nurse on staff. Thank you to The Boston Foundation for seed funding for Health and Wellness at MCAEC which contributed to this important addition. Jillian LaFond, RN, comes to MCAEC after working as a school nurse in a private school in New Jersey. Over the summer, Ms. LaFond helped to inform and create along with the Covid-19 Task Force consisting of staff and board members, the MCAEC Covid-19 Addendum to our Family and Student handbook. This has been published on our website. Ms. LaFond also worked with our new Operations Manager, Raymonde Alcindor, to order all PPE needed for our expanded infirmary. Match challenge funding enabled MCAEC to expand our infirmary with capacity for two isolation rooms. Ms. LaFond continuously monitors the Covid-19 rates in the City of Boston and in our zip code 02121, and participates with Mrs. Quezada on weekly calls with the Boston Public Health Commission. She has been providing guidance and recommendations to both staff and families regularly.

Extracurricular Additions

Through the efforts of Assistant Principal Jennifer Munoz, MCAEC expanded our Physical Education and Athletic Programming through dedicated partnerships. Students now can participate in expanded offerings such as Valeo Soccer, Sportsman's Tennis, Sole Train (track), Basketball through a dedicated team and through the BPD Women in Blue program, and trauma-informed yoga taught by our dedicated drama teacher, LaToya Robinson. Ms. Robinson is certified in Youth Online Yoga Training. Additionally, she became MCAEC's drama teacher in the 2019-2020 school year. She has a BA in Theater Arts and is currently pursuing her Master's in Drama Therapy. Students were also able to participate in The City Lights Writing Collaborative, Stage Stories through Ms. Robinson's connections. Other additions or reconnections in the afterschool program include STEAM/STEM opportunities through Science Club for Girls, BioBuilders, the Boston University CREM Program, and the Tufts University PA program.

Focus on 2020

EVkids

MCAEC is proud to partner with EVkids to create a mentoring opportunity for our students with the added benefit of one on one tutoring. We are their first school site. Tutors come to EVkids via various colleges and universities in Boston. Tutors become advocates and one-on-one mentors for multiple years after they are matched with a student. In the first year of engagement, the 2019-2020 school year, MCAEC students who were matched with a tutor saw an improvement average of 60% in Math, a 75% improvement in ELA (English Language Arts), and a 50% improvement in Social Studies and Science. In the current year, EVkids will continue to serve MCAEC students virtually.



PERSISTENCE

Focus on 2020

Class Sponsorships

For the first time in many years, all classes at MCAEC had a class sponsor. Thank you to the **Barry, Gross, Morales, Pallotta,** and **Quirk** families for this important support. Thanks to the generosity of their sponsors, this year students went to The Nutcracker, Kings Bowling, ice skating, a Cupcake Wars bake-off, rock climbing, and to see the film "Harriet" thanks to the generosity of their sponsors. We are grateful for these experiential learning opportunities!



COMMITMENT

Focus on 2020

Summer Camp

Summer Camp 2020 proceeded virtually this year. Faculty understood that students needed a break from virtual learning and instead created a curriculum with hands-on-learning opportunities. It was important to maintain connections to school and their class and to keep the growing going:

5th Grade: *Plant the Seeds and Watch Them Grow* engaged students in a 3-week gardening project. Students received materials to grow a small plant at home, and learned about the importance of gardening in various communities, especially urban communities. They used math, science, reading and writing skills to perform measurements, make predictions, and write reflections about gardening.

6th Grade: *Playwright Extraordinaire* allowed students to resume work on the short plays they had started writing in trimester 3, building upon the process students have embarked upon while learning the basics of playwriting: The project also included podcasting/recording for students to develop technology skills that are even more essential during remote learning.

7th Grade: *Thinking Through Art* gave students the opportunity to create their own art based on various themes and topics. Students were able to collaborate on their art and learn from peer feedback and perspectives. Students and faculty also worked together to discover art through other lenses, and learned how to provide written and oral critiques on art and content.

8th Grade: *MCAEC on the Air* had our students creating podcasts or recordings, focused on world events with an aim towards happiness/positivity (not the covid-19 pandemic) that either spreads awareness or works with statistics/people or animals affected.

Boston Chapter of the LINKS, Inc.

MCAEC is grateful for the partnership and advocacy as provided by the Boston Chapter of the LINKS, Inc. This year's many sponsored opportunities consisted of BioBuilders, biology and genetics based projects with scientists, seed funding for our drama program and contributions to our Parenting Journey class for caregivers, a Women's Empowerment Speaker Series with LINKS members, self esteem workshops, career opportunity workshops at Fidelity Investments and Massachusetts General Hospital, tickets to The Lion King in the Boston Broadway series, a transition to high school program and gifts for our graduating 8th graders, a trip to see the film "Just Mercy", lunch bunches with topics such as natural hair care, and the opportunity to observe a naturalization ceremony.



High School Acceptances 2010 – Present

Archbishop Williams	John D. O'Bryant School for Math and Sciences
Arlington Catholic High School	Lexington Christian Academy
Beacon Academy	Marianapolis Preparatory School
Beaver Country Day School	Matignon High School
Boston Arts Academy	Milton Academy
Boston Latin Academy	Miss Hall's School
Boston Latin School	Miss Porter's School
Boston Trinity Academy	Monsignor Ryan High School
Brimmer & May School	Mount Alvernia High School
Brighton High School	Newton Country Day School
Brooks School	Newman School
Buckingham, Browne and Nichols	Noble & Greenough School
Buxton School	North Cambridge Catholic High School
Cambridge Rindge & Latin	Proctor Academy
Cambridge School of Weston	Prospect Hill Academy
Cathedral High School	Putney School
Cate School	Rivers School
CATS Academy	St. Andrew's School
Chapel Hill Chauncy-Hall School	St. George's School
Commonwealth School	St. Joseph's Preparatory High School
Concord Academy	Stoneleigh Burnham School
Cristo Rey High School	St. Paul's School
Cushing Academy	Trinity Catholic High School
Dana Hall School	Waldorf School
Elizabeth Seton Academy	White Mountain School
EMK Health Careers Academy	Woodward School for Girls
Emma Willard School	
Fenway High School	
Fontbonne Academy	
Holderness School	



Colleges Attended 2010 – Present

Amherst College	Lafayette College
Babson College	Lake Forest
Barry University	Lasell College
Bates College	Lincoln University
Bay State College	Middlebury College
Becker College	Mt. Ida College
Bennett College	New York University
Boston College	Northeastern University
Bowdoin College	Ohio Wesleyan University
Brandeis University	Pine Manor College
Bridgewater State University	Providence College
Bunker Hill Community College	Quincy College
Clark Atlanta University	Regis College
Clark University	Roxbury Community College
College of the Holy Cross	Salem State College
Connecticut College	Salve Regina University
Community College of Rhode Island	Simmons College
Cornell University	Smith College
Curry College	Southern New Hampshire University
Dartmouth College	Spelman College
Dean College	St. John's University
Duke University	St. Leo's University
Emerson College	Stonehill College
Emmanuel College	Suffolk University
Endicott College	Towson University
Fairfield University	Trinity College
Fisher College	Tufts University
Georgia State College	University of Delaware
Gordon College	University of Hartford
Hampton University	University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Harvard University	University of Massachusetts - Boston
Howard University	University of Massachusetts - Lowell

University of Rhode Island
Wellesley College
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wesleyan College
Westfield State College
Wheelock College
Williams College
Worcester State College





24

graduating classes in
the history of MCAEC

325

total alumnae since 2004



"I just wanted to say thank you for helping me get through my last year at Mother Caroline. I am very grateful for each and every one of you. Even though I wasn't able to spend a day in the classroom with all of you this year, you all were there to help me through my learning and growth experience, so for that I would like to say thank you."

An MCAEC Class of 2020 Graduate

75%



of MCAEC families have been directly affected by Covid-19

\$7,000

in food assistance provided to current families in the pandemic

100%

of MCAEC parents who responded to a survey feel supported by the school during the pandemic

4

UCTC teachers from the Boston College Lynch School of Education

12



Alumnae Advisory members

13th

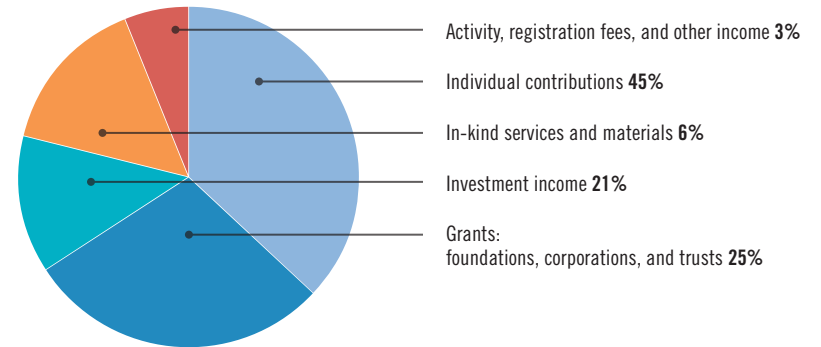


year of Alumnae representation on the Board of Trustees

FY 2019 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020)

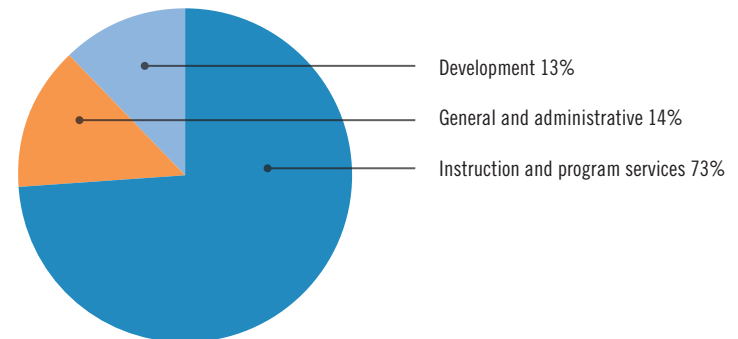
Revenue:

Individual contributions	\$ 1,216,749
Foundations and trust grants	347,608
Corporate and business grants	307,220
Investment income	559,489
In-kind services and materials	159,305
Activity, registration fees, and other income	78,222
Total resources available (before support from endowment)	\$ 2,668,593



Expenses:

Instruction and program services	\$ 1,619,136
General and administrative	316,234
Development	299,267
Total expenses	\$ 2,234,637



PARTNERSHIPS

Maximizing Outcomes Through Partnerships

BioBuilders
Big Sisters via John Hancock
Boston Chapter of the LINKS, Inc.
Boston College School of Education
Boston College School of Nursing
Boston College School of Social Work
Boston College Council of Women
Boston Compact
Boston Police Department School Safety and Trauma Training
Boston Police Department - Women In Blue Basketball
Boston Public Library - Grove Hall Branch
Boston Shakespeare Project
Boston University Center for Regenerative Medicine
Bridgewater State University
Center for Women and Enterprise
Citylights Stage Stories
City Year Boston
College of the Holy Cross
Discovering Justice - Moakley Courthouse
Emmanuel College Community Service and Service Learning
EVkids
Finding One's Voice
Girls Rock Campaign
Greater Grove Hall Main Streets
Handel and Haydn Society
I2 Stem
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
Jose Mateo Dance Studio
LTR Unlimited

Massachusetts Department of Public Health School Health Unit
Massachusetts General Hospital
Massachusetts Historical Society 1619 Speaker Series
MA Mentoring Partnership
Max Warburg Courage Curriculum
Northeastern University Bouve School of Nursing
Science Club for Girls
Shepley Bulfinch
Sole Train
Sportsmen's Tennis Club
Step into Art
Tufts University Physician Assistant Program
Tony Williams Dance Studio
Urban Catholic Teacher Corps
Valeo Soccer
Vincent Thomas Dance
Wellesley College
Women in Nonprofit Network





LEADERSHIP

Faculty and Staff 2019-2020

Behind the success of each student is our committed faculty and staff. Their talents, expertise, compassion, and commitment make a huge difference in student success and the experience of MCAEC families.

Olumide Adebo, IT Consultant

Raymonde Alcindor, Operations Manager/ Nutrition Program Director

Lousillia Bailey, Art Teacher

Michelle Brito, Principal

Carrie Coughlin, Director of Development

Eddy Dacius, Facilities Manager

Megan Dillon, AmeriCorps Associate, Student Academic Support

Sarah Harrison, 7th and 8th Grade English Language Arts

Isabelle Hattan, AmeriCorps Associate, 5th Grade Math and Science,
6th grade Science

Katherine Hernandez, Executive Assistant and Receptionist

Robin Horgan, 5th Grade English Language Arts and World Religions

Jillian LaFond, RN, School Nurse

Hannah McGowan 7th and 8th Grade Science, UCTC

Julianna Montminy, 5th Grade Math and Science, 6th Grade Science,
UCTC

Jennifer Munoz Piatelli, Assistant Principal

Taylor Parker, Teaching Assistant, 5th Grade English Language Arts and
Social Studies

Gabriella Pesce, Licensed Mental Health Counselor and School
Adjustment Counselor

Annmarie Quezada, Head of School

LaToya Robinson, Drama Teacher

Darwing Rodriguez, IT Technician

Dr. Thomas Savas, PhD, 5th and 6th Grade English Language Arts

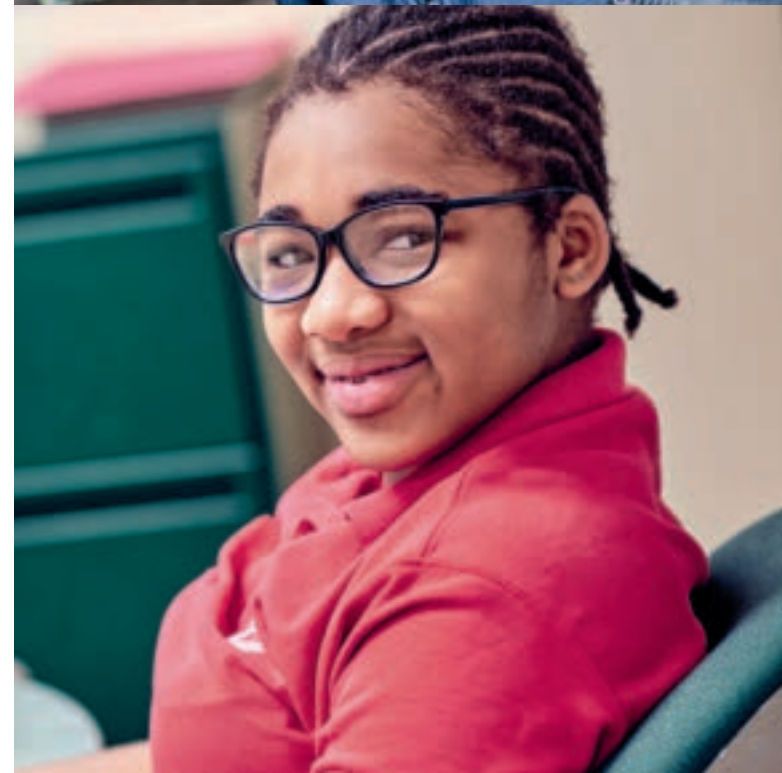
Hanna Shibles, 6th and 7th Grade English Language Arts, UCTC

Peter Squires, 6th and 7th Grade Math and Mentor Teacher

Gloria Wilkins, Business Manager

Liam Wintroath, 7th and 8th Grade Social Studies, UCTC

Rebecca Wyczalek, Coordinator EVkids/MCAEC, 6th Grade Social
Studies, 7th and 8th Spanish and 8th grade Math



Investors' Fiscal Year 2020

July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020

\$100,000 and Above

Markey and Thomas Burke
Phillip and Elizabeth Gross*

\$50,000-\$99,999

The Estate of JoAnn Fitzpatrick
The Gracen Mosby Harris Fund**
The George T. Lewis, Jr. 2001 Foundation
Loomis, Sayles & Company, L.P.

\$25,000-\$49,999

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\$10,000-\$24,999

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Scully Family Foundation
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The Women's Foundation of Boston
The Yawkey Foundations

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Margaret Shepherd
Matthew J. and Gilda F. Strazzula Foundation
William and Julie Yandow

26% of major donors are new since FY19

49% of foundation donors are new since FY19

\$1,000-\$2,499

Kathy and Gregory Abate
Peter and Mary Lee Aldrich
Christina Olayon Baker
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\$500-\$999

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\$250-\$499

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Nicholas and Amy Welch

\$100-\$249

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***Thank you to John and Jessie Harris and the Harris Family for releasing funds from the Gracen Mosby Harris Fund for our new school nurse and licensed mental health counselor.*

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The Founders' Society - Leave a Lasting Legacy for Mother Caroline Academy

Mother Caroline Academy has formed a Planned Giving program in order to recognize those who have designated the school in their estate planning. In 2020, MCAEC was the recipient of two bequests, one from a longtime volunteer at the school, and one from an alumna of the school. We are grateful for these legacy gifts which provide financial support and sustainability needed for the school's continued growth. The most common legacy gifts are bequests made in a will, as a beneficiary designation of a retirement fund, or a life insurance policy. Gifts can be restricted or unrestricted. Unrestricted gifts provide for the school's greatest needs while restricted gifts can go towards the endowment, academic programs, capital improvements, athletics, etc.

Becoming a member of The Founders' Society is simple, establishing an estate plan creates membership. Planned giving is not just for the wealthy, anyone can create a lasting legacy for MCAEC students.

- **Name Mother Caroline Academy in your will or living trust**
- **Designate Mother Caroline Academy as the beneficiary of your IRA or retirement plan.**
- **Make Mother Caroline Academy the beneficiary of your life insurance policy.**

Should you or your attorney like Mother Caroline Academy to provide you with customized beneficiary language that is specific to your goal and interest, please contact Director of Development, Carrie Coughlin, or Head of School, Annmarie Quezada.

In Memoriam



Aviana Dickerson (1989 - 2019)

Aviana Nicole Dickerson had a true impact on those she came into contact with for her 29 years on the earth. She was a graduate of MCAEC (Class of 2004), of Newman Prep, and of UMass Amherst. A true artist with an appreciation of beauty, she worked in the industry for Sephora, Beauty & Main, and Bluemercury. Her artistry can be seen on many models in the pages of Boston Magazine. Avi saw the best in everyone. We are grateful for her bequest, which contributed to the MCAEC library update. Thank you to her mother, Carol Dickerson, and her sister, Amber T. Dickerson, for thinking of MCAEC when so many felt compelled to donate in Avi's name.



JoAnn Fitzpatrick (1941 - 2019)

JoAnn is remembered by students, faculty, and staff as an energetic and enthusiastic volunteer. We all miss her smiling face in the building at 515 Blue Hill Avenue. Her bequest contributed to our library, student textbooks, and teacher professional development, entirely meaningful and intentional from the woman who was the editorial page editor at The Patriot Ledger for more than two decades. We thank the Wakeman family for visiting the school in summer of 2019 to see JoAnn's impact on so many.



Thank you Phill and Elizabeth Gross

“With the onset of the pandemic and all of its challenges, I reached out to our long time class sponsors and angel donors, Phill and Elizabeth Gross. In response, they funded a 1.5x match for our cancelled gala, and, additionally supported the school with a Covid Emergency Fund. This fund allowed us to build a nurses pod, order PPE, remove unsafe carpeting, and provide funding towards the hiring of our RN and LMHW. We are thankful to the Gross Family for enabling us to move forward as MCAEC is needed now more than ever in the community.”

– Annmarie Quezada



Our Alumnae Network

Created with seed funding in 2019 from The Hazard Family Foundation, The Alumnae Advisory Board serves as a means to engage alumnae, connect with the school's past, and stay engaged with the school's mission. Our Advisory Board meets quarterly here at the school, and volunteers at school events throughout the year. An Alumnae Reunion was planned for March 2020 but unfortunately has been postponed due to the pandemic. Our Advisory Board Co-Chairs are Elaines Pena, a graduate of Newton Country Day and College of the Holy Cross after Mother Caroline, and Anny Arias Peguero, a graduate of Beaver Country Day and College of the Holy Cross after Mother Caroline.

We are proud to report that alumnae engagement is up in the past two years, and alumnae collectively donated \$10,000 to the Gross match challenge, 5% of the overall matched funds. Alumnae serve in leadership and faculty positions at MCAEC, and we are currently in the 13th year of alumnae presentation on our Board of Trustees.



*“This was a fresh start
for me and my family.
A way for me to get a
better education and
meet new people I’ve
never seen before.
A chance to be better
and do better”*

An MCAEC 7th Grade Student



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