

FCE Summer 2024 Newsletter

Dear FCE Community,

I hope that you are all enjoying the long summer days and have time to relax with friends and family! I want to thank each of you for your continued support and partnership during our 2023-24 school year! We had a wonderful fourth quarter with many successes to report. Here are a few highlights!

Achievement Reception

Last month, we had the privilege of celebrating our high school and college graduates at our annual Achievement Reception. We heard from College Bound graduate **Betsabe Acosta**, College Success rising 3rd year **Laysa Velasquez Moreno**, College Success graduate **Dylan Duncan**, and **Lucila Medrano**, parent of College Bound graduate Johann Garcia. We were inspired by their words as they shared the tremendous impact FCE has had on their lives.

We are so proud of Dylan for fulfilling FCE's mission by earning his bachelor's degree and are excited to welcome him into our alumni group!



College Success graduate class of 2024

"I would like to thank FCE for providing me with scholarship opportunities and academic support because without this program and all our generous donors, I would've never been able to have the opportunity of leaving home and expanding my horizons."

-Dylan Duncan



"It is very important to involve parents for support during class meetings once a month to hear about resources that could benefit my family and the rest of my community. Johann has more confidence in himself. FCE helped him in everything to achieve his dreams and motivated him to achieve something bigger."

-Lucila Medrano

Parent of College Bound graduate

FCE Scholarship Recipients

Over 90% of our FCE students are from low-income families. Financial aid is essential for most to be able to attend college. Each year, FCE supports a number of our students through our competitive scholarships. These students submit an application that is evaluated by multiple volunteer scholarship application evaluators. We are proud to recognize the scholastic achievement of these outstanding students.



2024 scholarship recipients and graduates



We awarded 31 scholarships and awards totaling over \$111,000. This year, we also awarded the inaugural Jim & June Diller Family STEM Scholarship to four stellar students. We are grateful to all of our scholarship donors for their generosity and support of our students.

Summer Career Exploration Panels and College Tours

We are excited to continue to partner with several corporations, local government departments, universities, and community organizations to provide career exploration opportunities and college tours. FCE high school and college students have visited Guide Dogs for the Blind, USF, and Stanford Law School. We are grateful to all our partners for providing our students with these opportunities.



2024 career panels and college tour (Guide Dogs for the Blind, USF, and Stanford Law School)

FCE is moving to a new home!

We are excited to announce that we are moving to a new location at 687 Bay Road in East Menlo Park. At our new larger space, we will be able to offer additional programs to more students and families. We look forward to welcoming supporters and community partners at our Open House soon. Please keep an eye out for your invitation.



FCE's future home!

Looking forward

We have convened a Strategic Planning Committee to help us plan how we will use the grant from Yield Giving, as well as to prioritize objectives for future years. We are excited for the multitude of opportunities ahead!

We have more summer programming planned for the coming weeks: Grade level orientations, more career exploration days and plans are already underway to welcome students and families back for the start of the 2024-25 school year.

With gratitude,

Elizabeth Wells

Elizabeth Wells
Executive Director

FCE is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that relies on the generosity of individual, foundation, corporate and other donors to fulfill our mission. Together with your support and partnership, we are making the dream of a four-year college degree a reality for our students and transforming the lives of our students, their families and our community.

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Foundation for a College Education | 1950 Bay Road | East Palo Alto, CA 94303 US

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