

FCE Winter 2025 Newsletter

Dear FCE Community,

I hope the start of 2025 has been wonderful for each of you! I want to express my sincere gratitude for your generous support throughout 2024. Thanks to your unwavering commitment, we were able to experience significant growth and deepen our impact within the local community. Your contributions have made a profound difference in the lives of our students, and we are truly thankful for your dedication to our mission.

College Bound and Ready!

Our Seniors Are College Bound!

It is certainly an exciting time at FCE. We are so proud of our College Bound seniors.

Over the past few months, they diligently applied to **71** different colleges and universities, receiving acceptances from **26 unique** schools thus far, including Santa Clara University, Loyola University Chicago, Pepperdine University, Oregon State University and Lewis and Clark University. We know there will certainly be more good news to celebrate in the weeks and months to come as this group of bright stars continues to see the results of their diligence and determination!

[Watch FCE 2024 College Application Submissions Video](#)



College Rep Visits

Throughout the fall, college representatives from 11 schools all over the country visited FCE! We want to extend our gratitude to Sarah Yoon (Princeton University), Jordan Papula (Boston College), Nichole Reynolds (Bryn Mawr), Erick Lopez

(Northwestern), Sydney Gerteis (Pitzer College), Robin Summers (Syracuse University), Kyle Dembart (Davidson College), Derek Nido (Vanderbilt University), Sabrina Najarian (Wellesley College), Raymond Weber (University of the Pacific), and Justin Klein (University of Chicago). Their insights inspired our students and helped our seniors as they finalized their college applications. Together, we are empowering the next generation of scholars to dream big and achieve their goals!



FCE Fall College Rep Visits 2024

Community Building and Celebrating

Town Hall 2024

In November, we hosted our annual Town Hall. Families had a chance to connect, learn more about our programs, hear from Program Managers, and enjoy some food and games together. It was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen bonds and share updates. It is also a time for our programs team to conduct surveys and collect feedback from students and parents about our services. The Town Hall is a great opportunity for us to do a mid-year assessment of what is working well and what we can improve. Just like our students, our team is always striving to learn and grow.



Town Hall 2024

Mid-Year Celebration

Neither rain nor wind could stop our community from enjoying our annual Holiday Faire. We heard students from College Bound and College Success share their accomplishments from the fall, including landing a summer 2025 internship at Apple, earning straight As, and receiving an acceptance at a top choice college. Students and parents also enjoyed a spirited game of "Name that Tune." A special thank you to the

Palo Alto Kiwanis and several FCE Board members for volunteering at this fun event. They braved the rain to help prepare and serve tasty treats. We appreciate each of you!



Holiday Faire 2024

Empowering Our Students Through Skill Building and Wellness

Our College Success Program is Thriving!

Students continue to acquire additional skills and resources to help them as they navigate college and career decisions. During the Fall Semester, our program managers coordinated workshops on Resume and Cover Letter Writing, Finding Your Career Compass, LinkedIn for College Students, Financial Literacy: Wealth Building and Hands On Banking, Finals Prep & Study Skills, UC Application & PIQ Workshop, and a virtual year end mixer. Thank you to all of our corporate and community based partners who facilitated these informative workshops for our CS students!

LINKEDIN FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Sponsored by:
FOUNDATION
FOR A COLLEGE
EDUCATION

In partnership with:
LinkedIn



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024
4:45 - 6 PM PST | LOCATION: ZOOM

Join us and learn:



- The basics of LinkedIn such as creating a profile
- What to include in your LinkedIn summary
- How to create your professional brand
- How to create a strong network
- Strategies for job and internship search

Benefits:



- Develop career readiness and job seeking skills
- Find tailored job and internship opportunities
- Build your personal brand
- Expand your network



Presented by:
Billy Rohaly
Senior Client Solutions
Manager, Global
Strategic Accounts at
LinkedIn



RSVP Here:
bit.ly/cswfall24



For more info, contact: wia@collegefoundation.org
Participants: FCE & College Success Collaborative Students

Wellness Workshops

Without good health, everything else becomes more difficult. That is why our Wellness Program includes a dedicated space in our learning center where students can attend wellness workshops or enjoy a quiet, calming environment to recharge. We are thrilled that our FCE alumni, Antwon and Sean Chatmon, continue to facilitate our Wellness Workshops. College Bound students meet with Antwon weekly and appreciate the opportunity to discuss challenges and ways to manage them.

“I found it really helpful that it was an open and welcoming space to talk.”

“The topics that relate to what I am feeling in high school.”

“I enjoy how the space is very open. It's also very supportive.”

We also had the privilege of hosting a group of Stanford students to assess and provide recommendations to help us improve our Wellness program. This is such a critical resource for our students as they work to overcome many barriers.

FCE WELLNESS WORKSHOPS

FCE Wellness Workshops are a safe space for students to take a break, relax, and practice wellness.

- ✔ Help relieve stress!
- ✔ Health & nutrition tips
- ✔ Self love & acceptance
- ✔ Understanding boundaries
- ✔ Meditation / Mindfulness
- ✔ Healthy relationships

Mental health app Scout will be available for participants.

Free

You can join at any point

Every Tuesday 6 PM to 7 PM

687 Bay Rd., Menlo Park, CA (New location!)
More info: adeo@collegefoundation.org
Important: Please bring Consent Form signed by a parent or guardian



Parent Consent Form



Facilitated by
Artwan Chatman
Marriage and Family
Therapist (LMFT)
Former FCE student

Help Make an Impact

Learn More About Our Amazing Students and Programs!

If you have not had a chance to see our [2023-2024 Impact Report](#), please take a look! We hope that you will enjoy seeing the impact of your generosity and support! Thank you to everyone who contributed to FCE this past Fall Semester. We are so proud of the three students featured in our [2024 Fall Appeal Letter](#): Iris, Hector, and Brisa. Iris and Brisa are part of our CS Professional Mentoring Program (PMP). PMP has doubled this year and students are thriving! We are already preparing for another full summer of our Career Learning, Exploration and Readiness (CLEAR) programming. If your company or organization would like to host a career panel, please contact us. We would love to collaborate with you.



Career Panel & Shadow Days with Foundation for a College Education

FCE is actively seeking to partner with Bay Area corporations to host career exploration and networking opportunities for our FCE students!

- Mid-June - Mid-August 2024
- Invite students to visit your company to meet and possibly shadow employees
- Organize a career panel or professional development workshop for students
- Provide students exposure to different career opportunities within your industry
- We encourage companies in tech, finance/banking, law, medicine, performing/visual arts, media, & more to partner with us!

Mission Statement:

Foundation for a College Education's mission is to increase the number of first-generation, low-income students of color from East Palo Alto and similar communities who graduate from a four-year college or university.

Interested in partnering with us?
Please contact:

Elizabeth Wells, Executive Director,
ewells@collegefoundation.org



Save the Date - March Success Celebration

30th Anniversary Celebration!

Please mark your calendars for our March to Success fundraising event on March 15, 2025! We hope that you will join us as we celebrate 30 years of impact!



MARCH TO SUCCESS CELEBRATION

MARCH 15, 2025 · 3:00PM TO 6:00PM
PALO ALTO HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

JOIN US! BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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2025 Sponsorship Opportunities

\$2,500 Scholars

Logo or name on Gala program and Gala signage
Up to 4 (a half table) Gala tickets if desired

\$5,000 Graduates

Logo or name on Gala program and Gala signage
Up to 8 (a full table) Gala tickets if desired

\$10,000 Cum Laude

Logo or name on Gala program and Gala signage
Up to 16 Gala tickets if desired (two full tables)

\$15,000 Magna Cum Laude

Logo or name on Gala program and Gala signage
Up to 16 Gala tickets if desired (two full tables)
Logo and 1/4 page ad on our website for duration of 2025

\$30,000 Valedictorian

Logo or name on Gala program and Gala signage
Up to 16 Gala tickets if desired (two full tables)
Logo and 1/2 page ad on our website for duration of 2025

All sponsors will be recognized on social media



Scan the QR code or visit
<https://fce.ejoinme.org/sponsorships>
to sponsor today!

Details:

March 15th, 2025
3 pm - 5:30 pm
Palo Alto Hills Golf
& Country Club



Thank You

Thank you for your overwhelming support and commitment to our mission and students!

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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