About the Foundation

Since its inception, the Foundation has raised more than $700,000 benefitting 30,000 ACES students and families. In 2016-17, the ACES Education Foundation raised $109,000, and awarded $90,500 in grants and Fund-A-Need initiatives to support programs in the 2017-18 school year. The Al Hopkins Memorial Scholarship Fund for Advanced Studies in the Arts awarded a total of $3,000 in scholarships to two ACES Educational Center for the Arts students entering college.
On Thursday, March 23, 2017, the ACES Education Foundation honored corporate and community partners Brown & Brown Insurance and NASPco, and ACES alumni Lana Ivanova, Michelle Johnson and Trevor Neal. Heidi Voigt, ACES Alumna of NBC-CT served as Mistress of Ceremonies.

Close to 300 people attended the event held at WoodWinds in Branford. Special thanks to the Gala 2017 Committee: Carol Bunk, Gene Crocco, Thomas M. Danehy, Gina Drury, Karen DuBois-Walton, Co-Chair; Sharyn A. Esdaile, Nancy Hill, Sonia Kaminsky, David Litvinoff, Cheryl S. Saloom, Co-Chair and Judith Terrill, and to the Gala 2017 Auction Committee: Anna DeAngelis, Joan Hillo, Sonia Kaminsky, Nadine Savage, and Stephen Shymansky. A special thanks to ACES ECA’s Jazz Ensemble for their performance, and to Jeffrey Arnold, Marie Manson and the ACES Whitney High School North Culinary Program for providing dessert.

Special Thanks to our 2017 Gala Sponsors

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- Louis and Cheryl Saloom
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- Jeffrey and Pam Ryan


It is such a pleasure and honor to work with the ACES community. I am fortunate to spend a lot of time working directly with the extraordinarily dedicated educators, care providers and administrators of the organization. Giving back to the Foundation is the easiest and most rewarding decision I make each year.

- David Quast, VALIC
In 2017, the ACES Education Foundation awarded eighteen grants that will impact 1,500 students. The projects funded are as follows:

**ACES Educational Center for the Arts**
- A Day in the Life, theater workshops and performances to acquaint students with ACES ECA: $4,750

**ACES Mill Road School**
- ALIVE, a trauma-informed, prevention-based support program: $9,090
- 3D Printer to enhance STEM education: $5,060
- Mentor Program: $4,800
- Hands-On Robotic Learning Experience: $3,359
- Mindful Education: $3,050
- iPad Learning Station: $1,600
- Coping Skills, a pilot program supporting classroom coping skills: $1,500
- Therapeutic Garden: $925
- Outdoor Labyrinth, garden expansion: $615

**ACES Thomas Edison Middle School**
- Hot Spots, student-safe WiFi devices: $5,541
- STEAM-based Makerspace, a space for students to learn through hands-on, inquiry-based lessons: $6,000
- Robotic Learning, a program to provide hands-on robotic learning experiences to K – 5 students: $2,310

**ACES Village School**
- Mindful Education: $9,902
- The Switches, a sensory and communications enhancement kit: $1,750

**ACES Whitney High School East/West**
- Drama Program: $7,374
- Mindful Education: $3,780
- Pinewood Derby: $2,850

**ACES Wintergreen Interdistrict Magnet School**
- OSMO, an educational game system for iPods and iPhones: $3,357

**ACES Alfred E. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship Fund for Advanced Study in the Arts**
The ACES Alfred E. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship Fund for Advanced Study in the Arts was established in memory of Alfred E. Hopkins, a beloved and brilliant ACES central office administrator who appreciated and collected art. The 2017 scholarship recipients were ACES Educational Center for the Arts students Alexa LaBaw of Shelton who will be pursuing a major in bassoon performance and a minor in business at Northwestern University, and Clementine Wurzbach of Killingworth who will be pursuing a major in drama at Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama.

"I’ve been working with ACES for nearly 20 years, and the incredible work the entire staff does is awe-inspiring. As a volunteer on the gala committee for a decade, I get to see the dedication first hand, and it’s truly an honor to help in any way that I can. This “Fund-A-Need” helped all of our employees that want to help see a specific need met.

-Sonia Kaminsky, Brown and Brown"
Our Mission
The ACES Education Foundation exists to support the educational purposes of ACES; advance ACES educational programs, plans, and goals; educate the public about ACES mission and the services ACES offers; and raise funds on behalf of ACES in order to support its programs and enable it to carry out programs and activities not otherwise possible.

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Former, ACES Executive Director

SAVE-THE-DATE
Celebrate the Foundation’s 15th Anniversary at our Annual Gala
Honoring Peter C. Young and Roger Joyce on Thursday, March 22, 2018, 5:30 pm at WoodWinds
For more information, contact Evelyn Rossetti-Ryan at erossetti-ryan@aces.org or visit www.aces.org/foundation