

## Annual Update 2023



**OVER \$127,800 RAISED  
AT THE MARCH 2023 GALA**

Your contributions have supported opportunities for ACES students and staff



Jungle Book Performance



Lion King Jr. Performance



Lion King Jr. Performance

**Save the date-20<sup>th</sup> annual Gala-March 21, 2024**

Special thanks to our 2023 Gala Top Sponsors



F+F Mechanical



# 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Highlights



Dr. Joe Bertolino



Silver, Petrucelli & Associates



Carlos Pagan

On March 23, 2023, the ACES Education Foundation celebrated its annual gala at Anthony's Ocean View, New Haven, CT. The Foundation honored Dr. Joseph Bertolino, President of Southern CT State University; Silver, Petrucelli & Associates and Carlos Pagan-Alumni, ACES Whitney Academy.

Thank you to all the gala volunteers who helped make the event a success!

## 2023-24 Foundation Grant Awards

Due to your support, \$70,587.13 will be awarded during the 2023-24 school year to benefit ACES students.

### ACES at Mead

- Ansonia Classroom Libraries-\$2,500

### ACES at Chase

- Full STEAM Ahead-\$12,500
- Podcast Studio-\$2,598.28
- Sierra Leone Friendship Initiative-\$663.00

### Nursing Department

- School Nurse Emergency Preparedness-\$5,387

### Pupil Services

- Practical Functional Assessment Skills-\$12,000

### Village

- Outdoor Sensory Motor Pathway-\$1,680
- Teaching Movements for Communication-\$3,800

### Whitney Academy

- Drama Club Lighting Project-\$1,800
- Reading Room-\$2,275
- Spirit Team-\$1,349.85

### Whitney North

- Auto Shop Technology Upgrade-\$13,509
- Lift Every Voice & Write-\$10,525



### Outdoor Sensory Motor Pathway Grant

Pictured are: Kathy Hassen-Stack (physical therapist) & Marci Rizzo (teacher assistant/driver)

Work began on the outdoor sensory motor pathway, which will integrate motor skills and basic educational concepts. Without the vision and work of Kathy & Marci, this pathway would not happen for our students.



### Auto Shop Technology Upgrade Grant Shane McGehee, teacher

"We are thrilled to have this new technology for our students to utilize! It's honestly going to revolutionize what we can teach and the types of repairs that we can perform. We are going to be able to have our students utilize TODAY'S technology to be able to access not just vehicle "check engine lights", but also access the hundreds of data points that today's vehicles have. In order to perform a proper diagnosis on vehicles today, you need a platform such as this one made by Snap On in order to access these data points that only the car dealer would be able to otherwise. Without something such as this, we are a generation or more behind, not to mention the inability to teach emerging technologies."



## 2022-23 Foundation Grant Awards

ACES students that benefited from some of the grants awarded during the 2022-23 school year.



Jungle Book Performance-Whitney Academy



Gardening Grant-ACES at Chase



Bicycle Grant-Whitney High School North

## Scholarship Fund

### Alfred E. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship Fund for Advanced Study in the Arts



**Congratulations to our 2023 scholarship recipients!  
Noah Brown  
& Genevieve Fontana**

Pictured from left to right: Tom Danehy, Genevieve Fontana, Noah Brown, Andy Skarzynski & William Rice.

The ACES Education Foundation's Alfred E. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship Fund for Advanced Study in the Arts was established in memory of Alfred E. Hopkins, a beloved ACES central office administrator who appreciated and collected art. The scholarship began in June 2012.

The 2023 scholarship awarded two students \$1,000 each at the ECA graduation in June. Since its inception, the Hopkins Scholarship has awarded \$52,500 in grant funding to students pursuing the arts. Principal Leslie Abbatiello is grateful for the recognition her students received.

ACES ECA Student, **Noah Brown**, New Haven, will be attending Bard College (NY).  
ACES ECA Student, **Genevieve Fontana**, Southbury, will be attending Roanoke College (VA).

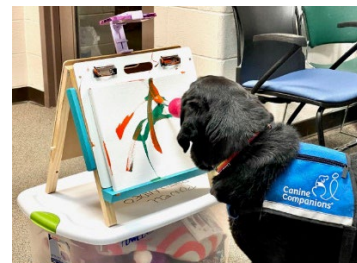
## Fund-a-Need

The 2023 ACES Education Foundation's Fund-A-Need appeal raised \$13,950.00 for Dog Therapy. This service has proven to be highly beneficial to many of our students. Thank you to all who contributed to the therapy appeal at the gala with special thanks to Town Fair Tire Foundation and Performance Environmental Services for their very generous donations!



Stephanie Swan, ACES Speech/Language Pathologist with Preston demonstrating his artistic talent to students at Wintergreen.

Preston was one of the therapy dogs that joined us at the gala in March.



# The Mission of the ACES Education Foundation

The ACES Education Foundation exists to support the educational purposes of ACES, educate the public about the programs & services that ACES provides.

## About ACES

Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) is the regional educational service center for twenty-five communities in New Haven and Middlesex Counties. ACES is both a non-profit service organization and a school district that serves over 2,000 students in three magnet and nine special education schools. Established in 1969, ACES strives each day to fulfill its vision of creating an equitable and socially just world, one life at a time. ACES serves its member districts and others through an ever-growing array of programs, services and schools that meet the needs of a changing educational landscape. For more information, go to: [www.aces.org](http://www.aces.org).

## About the Foundation

The ACES Education Foundation exists to support high-quality programming that strengthens the academic achievement and social skills of ACES students, consumers and staff by providing grant opportunities to ACES schools and programs. Since its inception, the ACES Education Foundation has raised more than \$1,295,000 benefitting thousands of ACES students and families.

## ACES Education Foundation Board of Directors

<p><b>James Barber</b> Former SCSU Administrator</p>	<p><b>Karen DuBois-Walton, Ph.D.</b> Elm City Communities</p>	<p><b>Nicholas Onnembo</b> USC Information Sciences Institute</p>
<p><b>Carol Bunk</b> Former ACES Administrator</p>	<p><b>Stephen J. Hegedus, Ph.D.</b> Southern Connecticut State University</p>	<p><b>Cheryl S. Saloom, Ed.D.</b> Former ACES Executive Director &amp; Founding President, AEF</p>
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	<p><b>Michael O'Malley, Ph.D.</b> Pearl Meyer</p>	



To make a donation, contact Janice Saunders,  
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