



UNITED SCHOOLS NETWORK

2023 IMPACT REPORT

est. 2008

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CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

The vision for United Schools Network began in 2008 with a powerful idea: every child, regardless of zip code, deserves an excellent education. Over our 15-year history, our community transformed a school in a church basement, serving 57 students and led by just six staff members, into a thriving network of four campuses, serving nearly 1,000 students and 1,000 alumni with a team of over 100 staff. Through this growth, your support for our mission has remained.



INTRODUCING

Kathryn Anstaett
as USN's President

Kathryn Anstaett was named USN President & Chief Schools Officer, where she leads the strategy and the day-to-day operations of our network. Over the last 14 years, Kathryn has built strong relationships with USN staff, scholars, and families, and she will continue to serve as a fierce advocate for our community. Congratulations, Kathryn!

YEAR ONE



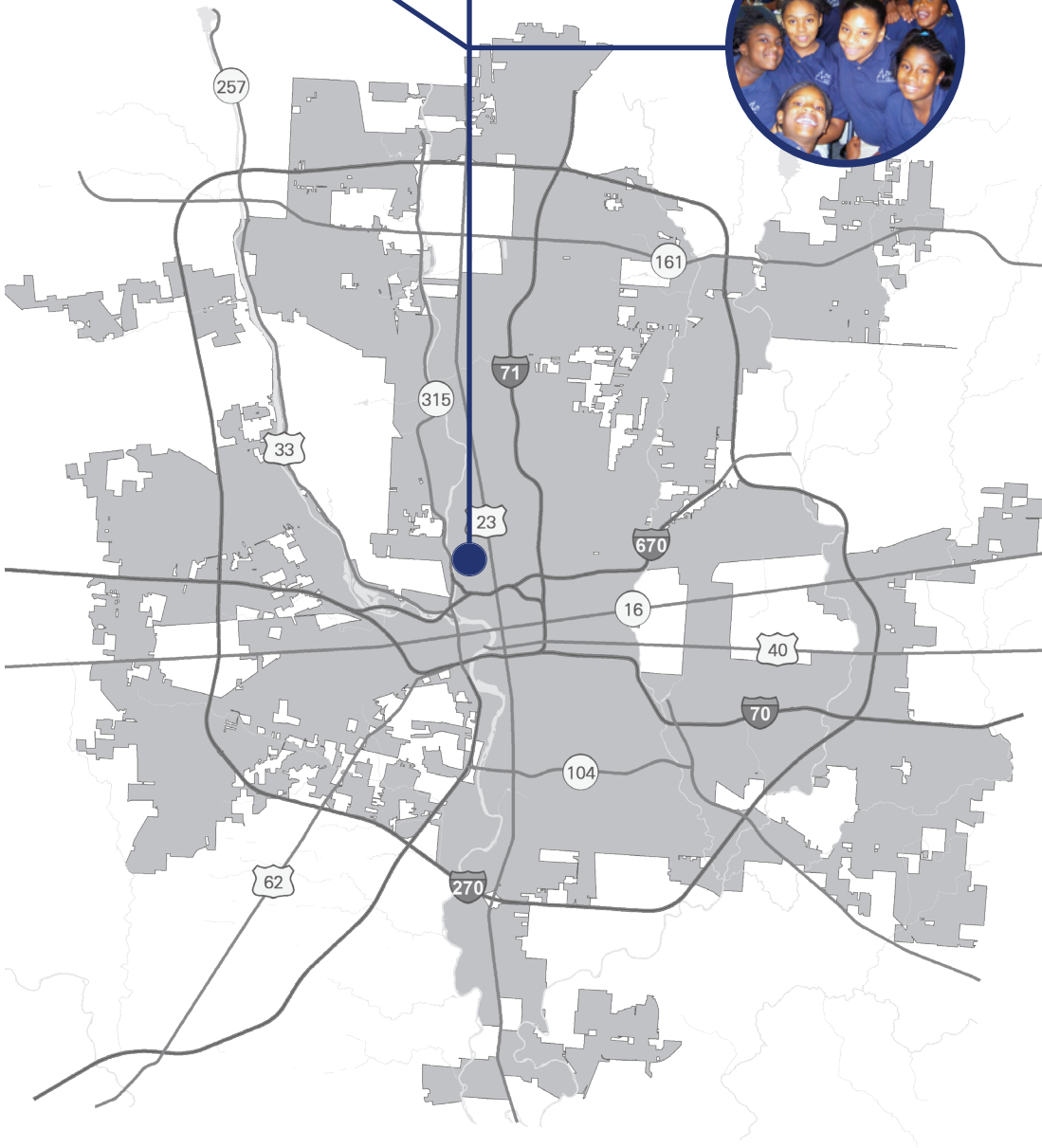
OUR NETWORK | YEAR 1, 2008



COLUMBUS COLLEGIATE
ACADEMY
*Serving 57 Students
Grade 6*



Jen Felbaum
CCA-Main St.
Founding Teacher



“ I remember walking into the church – our school! – for the first time. Hunter green carpet, three flights of stairs, and a doorbell that sometimes worked. Creating classrooms out of the space took some creativity. Our classrooms on the top floor were divided, not with a wall, but with a heavy theater curtain. Every day during my reading class, I had the pleasure of hearing Ms. Anstaett teach 6th-grade social studies on the other side of the curtain. Even still, we made it work, giving our students the highest quality education we could each and every day. When I remember my desk in the basement of the church, 15 years doesn't seem so long ago for all USN has managed to do.”

— OUR NETWORK | YEAR 15, 2022

UNITED PREPARATORY
ACADEMY - STATE ST.

*Serving 269 Students
Grades K-5*



COLUMBUS COLLEGIATE
ACADEMY - MAIN ST.

*Serving 223 Students
Grades 6-8*



COLUMBUS COLLEGIATE
ACADEMY - DANA AVE.

*Serving 246 Students
Grades 6-8*



UNITED PREPARATORY
ACADEMY - EAST

*Serving 283 Students
Grades K-5*



YEAR BY THE NUMBERS



23
FIELD
TRIPS

2022
vs.
2008

2
FIELD
TRIPS



15,960
BOOKS
READ

vs.
684
BOOKS
READ



44
DAYS OF
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT



vs.
6
STAFF

133
STAFF



vs.
57
STUDENTS

1,021
STUDENTS

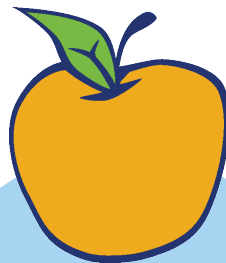


1,062
ALUMNI



1.8M
MATH PROBLEMS
COMPLETED

vs.
85,500
MATH
PROBLEMS
COMPLETED



358,092
MEALS
SHARED

vs.
19,835
MEALS
SHARED



66
COLLEGES
ATTENDED
BY ALUMNI

GIVING BY THE NUMBERS



\$765,119
ANNUAL FUNDS
DONATED



\$25,131
VALUE OF
IN-KIND GIFTS



\$5,947
VALUE OF
VOLUNTEER
TIME



190
DONORS



38
NEW DONORS



100%
BOARD GIVING
PARTICIPATION

Corporations
24%

Government
Grants
23%

GIFTS
RECEIVED
FROM

Alumni Services
41%

Individuals
48%

Foundations
6%

Student
Programming
3%

Misc. School Needs
2%

YOUR
GIFT
SUPPORTS

Services for
Schools
(Coaching,
Talent, etc.)
25%

School Safety
Upgrades
23%

Non-Academic
Barriers
6%

HATS OFF TO THE GRADS

We are delighted to see our 5th- and 8th-grade scholars move on to their next adventure. For the first time ever, all four of our campuses had scholars graduating from 5th or 8th grade. **Congratulations to our 2023 graduates!**

87
5TH GRADERS
GRADUATED

112
8TH GRADERS
GRADUATED

55
COLLEGE-PREP HIGH
SCHOOL
ENROLLMENTS



Marai B.
UPrep-East Class of 2023
CCA-Main St. Class of 2026

“ I have technically been to this campus my entire life, the only tiny gap was 4th to 5th grade [when we moved to the new UPrep-East building]! I would always look at the 6th graders just walking in the hallway, I would be like, 'Wow, that's so cool — I'm going to be like that one day. I'm going to be so good so I get there one day.' This year, I am one of those 6th graders. ”

ALUMNI SERVICES



Thanks to the Harry C. Moores Foundation, Huntington Foundation, KeyBank, Bob Evans Farms, Frank and Linda Kass, and individual donors like you, Alumni Services supports USN alumni to and through high school and on their unique post-secondary journey through college, the military, skilled trades or employment. Our programs offer the support alumni need to succeed, such as individualized advising, scholarship help, college tours, internship opportunities, workshops, and microgrants that move alumni closer to their goals. USN alumni continue to shine, getting into top high schools, colleges, and careers locally and around the country. We cannot wait to see what they do next!



\$53,211
IN MICRO
GRANTS
DISTRIBUTED

66
COLLEGES
ATTENDED BY
ALUMNI

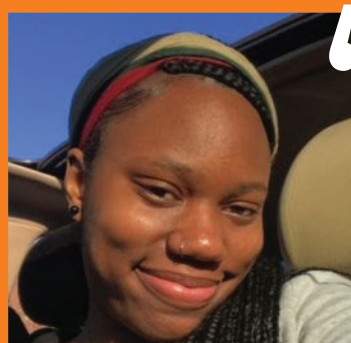
STUDENTS to ALUMNI to STAFF MEMBERS

Over the last year, our staff has grown to include USN alumni! Former students are returning and working in our buildings in all kinds of roles including teaching, operations, and in our alumni services department. Here's what two of them had to say:



Ciana Lawhead
Alumni Services Associate
CCA-Dana Ave. Alumna

“ I knew what a difference USN had on me as a little middle schooler and I was thrilled to go back into an environment that I knew was dedicated to serving youth from the same community I grew up in. ”



Shamyra Hamm
Operations Associate
CCA-Main St. Alumna

“ I want to be able to have relationships with the students like I had with my middle school teachers. Some kids' physical or mental escape is school and you never know what a person is going through - my teachers made it fun to come to school. I just want to be able to give that same feeling back. ”

PARTNERING IN EXCELLENCE

FINANCIAL LITERACY

The Huntington Foundation and Columbus Blue Jackets brought financial literacy fun to our elementary students. These two events offered students an opportunity to meet Stinger and a CBJ player alum as they read a book about financial literacy. Thank you for bringing this joyful opportunity to our students!



GETTING SCIENTIFIC

COSI, in partnership with the Human Service Chamber of Franklin County, generously donated a COSI Connects Kit to every USN scholar. Fourteen volunteers filled their cars with more than 1,000 kits for scholars to enjoy during their winter break. Then, in the spring, Bob Evans Farms and COSI teamed up to provide learning lunchboxes to 252 more students!

Thank you to COSI, the Human Service Chamber, Bob Evans Farms, and our enthusiastic volunteers who made it possible for students to enjoy these engaging, hands-on STEM activities at home!

OUR PARTNERS BY THE NUMBERS



14
CHEERS
CREATED



527
STUDENT
MUSICIANS



638
HOURS OF
BEFORE &
AFTER CARE



4
ROTO
EXHIBITS
TESTED

OUR COMMUNITY CARES

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT

We are so grateful to be able to partner with local universities like The Ohio State University. At the start of the year, we knew that OSU would make a significant impact on our schools and students, and they did not disappoint. Take a look at just a few of the ways OSU has supported USN students.

OPERATION WARM

As winter blew into Columbus, Brutus and The Ohio State University Office of Student Life visited UPrep-East to distribute coats and shoes to scholars. Scholars met Brutus, then paired up with OSU students to pick their favorite coat and shoes, all while learning more about college life. In the words of one UPrep scholar — “You’re a good man, Brutus. Keep up the good work!”



BIRTHDAY BACKPACKS

Thank you to The Ohio State University Office of Student Life for stuffing birthday backpacks for our scholars as part of their Buckeye Love Celebration! OSU students, staff, and faculty filled backpacks with school supplies, gratitude journals, OSU stickers, birthday cards, and birthday cake supplies for ingredients to USN families.



354
WINTER COATS
DISTRIBUTED



62
BIRTHDAY
BACKPACKS
DISTRIBUTED



4
MASCOT
VISITS

ON "BOARD" WITH THE MISSION —

UNITED SCHOOLS NETWORK 2023-24 BOARD

Aisha Allen | OhioHealth

Adam Gonsiorowski | Bob Evans Farms

Ciare James | Bob Evans Farms

Linda C. Kaufmann | Retired

Amy Kuhlman | Encova Insurance

Ian Labitue | Ice Miller LLP

David Martin | Retired

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Gina Ormond | Nationwide

John Petro | Together & Co./Sweet Carrot

Scott Pickett | Pickett Companies

Heather Svetek | Huntington National Bank



John Petro
USN Board Chair

“ I am involved with USN and their schools because I truly believe that education is critical to helping transform the lives of young people and their communities. The work being done by everyone involved provides amazing learning opportunities and experiences, enriching the students and their chance to learn and grow and positively impact their own lives and those around them. ”

2023-24 SCHOOL BOARD

Emily Armstrong | Huntington National Bank

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Ryan Elliott | Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP

Meredith Graham | Collegewise

David Schermerhorn | Vineyard Columbus

John Shockley | PNC Bank

Cara Vendeville | Drive Capital

Doug Vonderhaar | BakerHostetler

Bill Weger | Lifeline of Ohio

Chelsea Wilson | Northwestern Mutual

UNITED NETWORK

This summer, our four school campuses and four school boards merged into one school, governed by one ten-person school board! This structure reflects the reality of our work -- [we're one network with one mission, operating at four campuses](#). Stay tuned for more updates next summer!

“ I began my education at a highly diverse elementary school within a neighborhood where most residents (and many students) were living below the poverty line. I gained an appreciation for inequity in education; supporting the USN community in making a difference for our families is incredibly fulfilling. ”

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS

All year, volunteers rallied behind students to provide the reinforcement and spaces that will make all the difference on the path to the colleges and careers of their dreams. **Thank you for giving USN scholars the time, effort, and commitment all students deserve!**



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT USN ALUMNI

For a second year in a row, our alumni have taken time out of their summer breaks to participate in days of service at USN. Thirteen alumni visited each middle school to clean, organize, and refresh the buildings before students returned for the year. **Thank you to all of our alumni volunteers for giving back to the next generation of USN students.**



THANK YOU TO
OUR CORPORATE
VOLUNTEERS!

**AVISON
YOUNG**



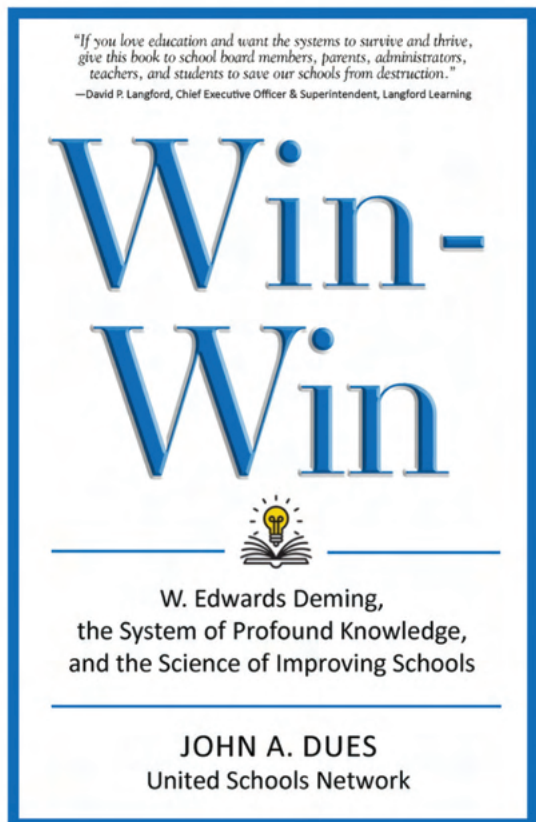
**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

GROWING MINDS

This year, our campuses have blossomed, both academically and through outdoor spaces at each campus. Thanks to The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation and ALDI — teachers, administrators, volunteers, and students planted pumpkins and flowers native to Ohio in campus gardens during their science classes and after school clubs. East-side students planted 15 new plants in their gardens and, with the help of the Gardening Club, west-side students grew 50 different plants!



WIN-WIN: STAFF ON THE SHELVES



Chief Learning Officer John A. Dues released *Win-Win: W. Edwards Deming, the System of Profound Knowledge, and the Science of Improving Schools* earlier this year. In his book, John shares the methods, tools, and strategies (backed by real-world examples from his experience at USN) to equip readers with the knowledge and skills needed to harness the power of the System of Profound Knowledge in school improvement efforts.

“This is essential reading for any school leader who truly wants to improve education for our students, and for our future.”
- Amazon Review

Click [here](#) to order your copy of *Win-Win* today!

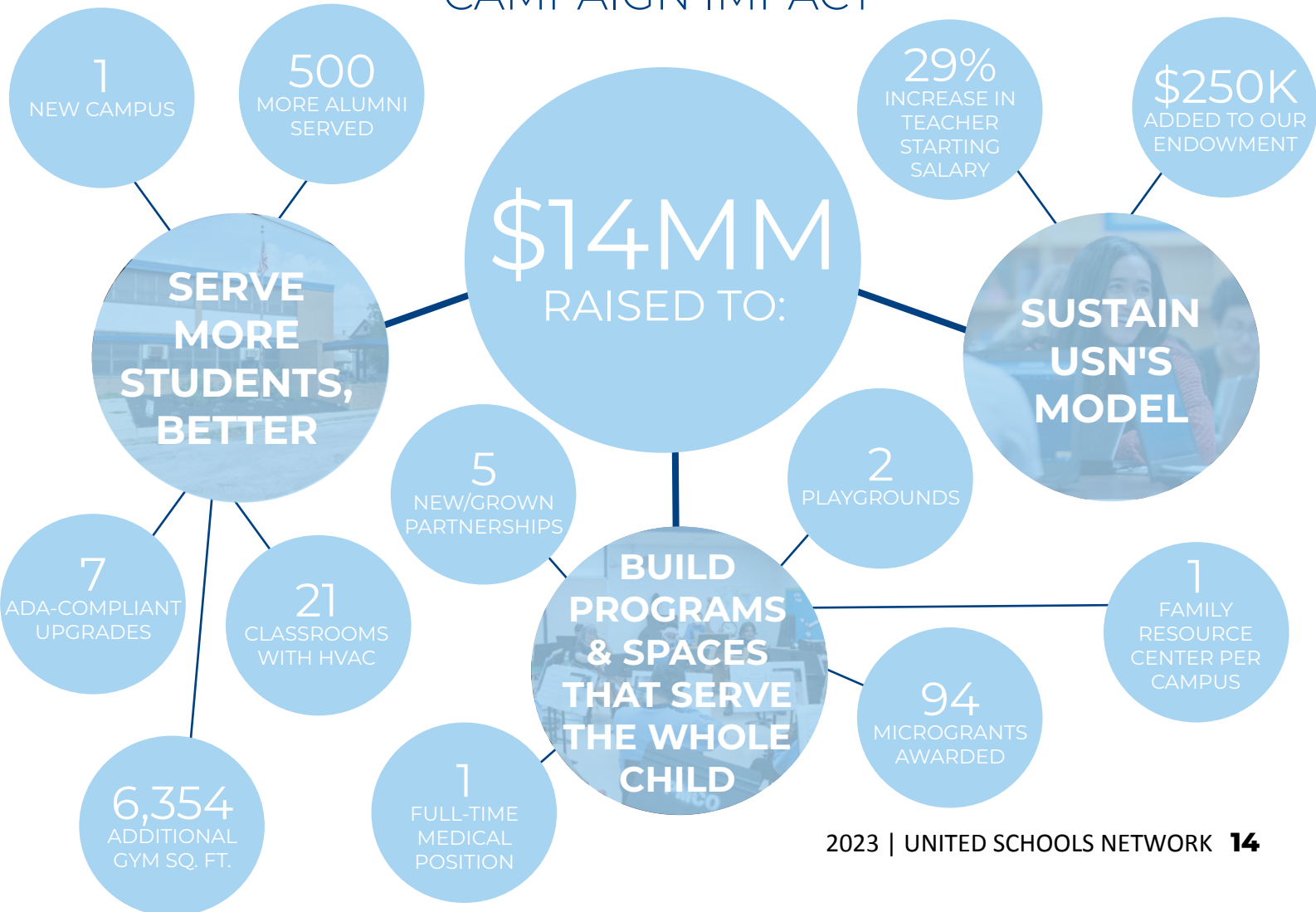
BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Since January 2020, 171 donors have driven the success of a comprehensive campaign intended to meet three priorities: **serve more students, better**; **build programs and spaces that serve the whole child**; and **sustain USN's model**. Take a look at how our donors are advancing success at USN!

THANK YOU!

- AEP Foundation
- Bob Evans Farms
- James S. and Amy L. Chapman Family Fund
- Archie and Bonita Griffin Foundation Fund of The Columbus Foundation
- Joy and Michael Gonsiorowski Philanthropic Fund of The Columbus Jewish Foundation
- The Huntington Foundation
- Ingram-White Castle Foundation
- Linda and Frank Kass Philanthropic Fund of The Columbus Jewish Foundation
- Ann and Michael LaRocco
- Mary and Robert Lazarus Jr. Fund of The Columbus Foundation
- Trip and Lexie Lazarus Fund of The Columbus Foundation
- Peter and Jennifer McCaffrey Fund of Coastal Community Foundation of SC
- Nationwide Foundation
- Nationwide Realty Investors
- Eric and Karen Pacht
- The Siemer Family Foundation
- Margaret and Robert Walter Foundation
- Robert F. Wolfe and Edgar T. Wolfe Foundation

CAMPAIGN IMPACT



BRAIN BOOSTERS

Fifteen years ago, six hopeful staff members took a deep breath and welcomed 57 students into the basement of a church for USN's first-ever day of school. Last August, over 130 staff members brushed off similar first-day-of-school jitters, this time welcoming over 1,000 students across USN's four campuses. **Brain Boosters donors like you** made sure that every student had the supplies needed to thrive! You said yes and invested in opening doors for the next generation of Columbus children - **thank YOU!**

103
DONORS

\$88,688
RAISED

100%
BOARD MATCH
UNLOCKED



A'Niyah W.
CCA-Dana Ave.
Class of 2023

Thank you So much for supporting my School!
My School is accepting of all and diverse which I love. Mr. Mcquaid and Ms. Hughes are the best. They are there for me, help me learn, and are funny. When I grow up I plan to go to college, and in 15 years I will be an actress.

Thank you for helping me get there!

A'Niyah W

#UNITED4SCHOLARS

Over the last 15 years, USN staff have stood #United4Scholars. Last May, we celebrated this milestone during National Charter School Week with the USN giving day #United4Scholars. Community members like you joined together to support USN students, staff, and alumni in the areas they need most with a gift of \$20.08 or more to honor our founding year of 2008. Thank you for investing in our community and standing #United4Scholars!



Jameece W.
CCA-Dana Ave.
Class of 2026



I love my school because teachers care about you a lot and show us opportunities. Ms. Sennott told us about the work of scientists and because of that one day I hope to go to OSU or Miami University to become a scientist. Thank you for helping students like me learn new things.



Every donor making a gift of \$20.08 was honored with a bookplate placed in a USN library book.



ACCELERATORS IN EDUCATION —

This year we held our fourth annual Accelerators in Education event as we celebrated 15 school years! Attendees saw firsthand the impact of the accelerators in our school community as they mingled with staff, students, and alumni. **Thank you to our guests and sponsors who accelerated the education of Columbus' future leaders and made this event a success. Hope to see you all again May 9th, 2024!**

Missed the event? Check out all the testimonials [HERE](#).

185
GUESTS

\$60,917
RAISED



Jeaneen Hooks
USN Founding Staff Member
and Parent

“ I recall one clear purpose: to be an advocate for the underserved middle school youth of Columbus and to change the trajectory of their lives through delivering the education they deserved and needed to compete in our community and in the world. ”

Read Jeaneen's full testimonial [HERE](#).

THANK YOU TO OUR EVENT SPONSORS!



Nationwide[®]
is on your side



Larry &
Julie King



LETTERS FROM OUR LEADERS

With our 16th year in full swing, I want to personally thank you for continuing to believe in USN and our students.

Your unwavering commitment to high-quality education for students is what makes everything we've accomplished this year possible. Over our 15-year history of excellence, we have expanded from a school in the basement of a local church to a sprawling network of four high-achieving campuses with that same underdog spirit.

The future holds the promise of serving even more students and leading the way in changing the educational landscape of our communities.

Thank you for transforming lives and our communities through the power of education this year.

Cheers,
Andy

Thank you so much for your support this school year! Your gifts, time, and talents have provided our students and school community with the resources they need for continued access to a high-quality education.

Best,
Dr. Sue Brennan

Donors and friends,

Thank you for choosing to be a part of the USN community.

Our students, families, and staff

are grateful for your partnership!

Jeff Kuhne

Thank you to everyone for all of your support. We cannot fulfill our mission to put scholars on the path to college without your generosity + support. With gratitude, Kimberly

We greatly appreciate your support. Our scholars benefit most when we work together as a community for our community!

Dr. Rebecca Castro
UPAE



THANK YOU, DONORS

DOCTORATE OF PHILANTHROPY | 10+ YEARS DONATING

Helen Anstaett

Joe and Nikki Baszynski

Ed and DeDe Boy

Gail and Kathryn Clark

Martha Dale

John and Beth Dues

Monica Durbin

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John Shockley *(B)* and Megan McAlister

Rick and Gretchen McQuown

Amber *(B)* and Geoff Merl

Gina Ormond *(B)* and Don Montgomery

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Kathryn Anstaett *(E)* and Michael Nau

Eric and Karen Pacht

Joseph Saverimuttu

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CORPORATE & FOUNDATION DONORS



THE COLUMBUS
FOUNDATION



First Merchants



(B) DENOTES 2022-23 BOARD MEMBER

(E) DENOTES 2022-23 NETWORK EMPLOYEE

WE APPRECIATE YOU

MASTER'S | 8-9 YEARS DONATING

CORPORATE & FOUNDATION DONORS



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James S. and Amy L. Chapman Family Fund

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Ann Dodson

Kim and Dan Dressel

Mark Ogden and Megan Francis

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Randall and Brenda Hastedt Foundation of The Columbus Foundation

William Weger (*B*) and Caitlin Hughes (*E*)

Mary and Robert Lazarus Jr. Fund of The Columbus Foundation

Trip and Lexie Lazarus Fund of The Columbus Foundation

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BACHELOR'S | 6-7 YEARS DONATING

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Shawn Parry

Mark and Sue Real

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Al and Barbara Siemer Family Foundation

Mike and Linda Stickney

Amanda Williams

THANK YOU, DONORS

ASSOCIATE'S | 2-5 YEARS DONATING

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CORPORATE & FOUNDATION DONORS



WE APPRECIATE YOU

DEAN'S LIST | 1 YEAR DONATING

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Katelyn Byram (E)

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Stephen and Susan Dackin

Tamara Dosch

Daniel Drennen

Matt Dues

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Michele Gregory

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Bob LeBoeuf

Doug and Barb Mangen

Mikhala (E) and Nick Manocchio

David (B) and Pat Martin

Chris Matousek

Sarah Sanchez (E) and Alison McGucken

Kerri Mollard

Sarah Olivieri

Alexis Pierce (E)

Matthew Plain

Melissa Shivers

Frederick and Susan Wakim

Andrew and Jacqueline Walker

Larry Wendling

Kordell Wiley

Lisa and Ronald Wilson




I give to USN because I attended USN's Accelerators in Education event and met an incredible 3rd grade student full of confidence and poise. His mom glowed sharing how USN is helping their whole family dream bigger dreams.





THANK

YOU



Camila C. S
CCA DANA
7th