

APS Education Foundation

Paying it Forward Giving Back

Annual Report 2010

www.apseducationfoundation.org



Board Members 2009-2010



Qwest veterans donate \$5,000 for literacy.



Members of the Desert Ridge Middle School Choir help kick off the Horizon Campaign.

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About Us

Horizon Campaign

n September 2009, the Albuquerque Public Schools Education Foundation embarked on its first-ever fund raising drive, an effort we call the Horizon Campaign.

Skeptics told us we were crazy. Positively nuts. They said you couldn't raise money – let alone \$1 million – in this difficult economy. They said businesses and individuals wouldn't be able to commit to making our schools better as private-sector budgets got tighter. They questioned whether Albuquerque would really invest in its public schools.

We are happy – thrilled, actually – to report the skeptics were dead wrong. Our community is stepping up in a big way, and the momentum is real. In less than a year, the Horizon Campaign has raised nearly a half-million dollars from individual donors, small and big businesses and even schoolchildren as we work to put money into four key programs: Fine Arts, Literacy, Classroom Teacher Mini-Grants and Middle/High School Activities.

It's the kind of help that will make a difference in the daily lives of our students – and improve their chances to graduate from one of the best urban school districts in the nation. It's our goal to make the Horizon Campaign and the APS Education Foundation a daily topic when people ask about our schools.

We have a board of two dozen leaders in our community, many of them APS graduates. For too long, the Foundation was a well-kept secret, but thanks to our partners, our board, our teachers, kids and parents, we're raising the profile.

Our message is simple and consistent: We want to help kids reach their full potential, and we won't rest until we raise the educational bar even higher in Albuquerque and Bernalillo County. Our horizons are limitless, and you can help us shoot for the stars.

To learn more or to contribute to the Horizon Campaign, go to our website at www.apseducationfoundation.org.









ABOVE: McKinley Middle School English teacher Justin Landis, left, was named the Pepsi/APS Education Foundation Teacher of the Month in December. He was recognized during a school assembly by Foundation Executive Director Phill Casaus, right, McKinley Principal Jane Sichler and students.

TOP RIGHT: The Foundation supported 30 students from the Black Student Unions at Highland and Albuquerque high schools who traveled to eight locations of the Civil Rights Movement including Central High School in Little Rock, Ark., where they met a member of the Little Rock Nine.

BOTTOM RIGHT: All APS middle schools have an after-school track and field program during the spring semester thanks in part to funding provided by the Foundation.

How We're Helping

he APS Education Foundation put thousands of dollars back into the schools during the 2009-2010 school year, and partnered with many community organizations to improve the fortunes of Albuquerque Public Schools students.

It's a wide-ranging list of projects that we've helped – and to be honest, they are too numerous to list here. But with each partnership, both the Foundation staff and our Board of Directors have student achievement and community engagement guiding their decisions.

United Way

The Foundation operated the district's United Way employee campaign, which raised a record 275,000 from APS personnel. With the help of Superintendent Winston Brooks, the United Way staff and caring teachers, administrators, staff and students, the campaign helped put money back into schools – and into worthy charities throughout the city.

Fine Arts

Thanks to the generosity of William and Lillian Dolde, community members who created a trust fund to support fine arts in the district, the Foundation has been able to provide supplemental funds for music, visual arts and performing programs. Those kinds of efforts help built a broad-based educational path.

Scholarships

The Foundation manages more than a dozen separate scholarship funds made possible by the generosity of people throughout the city. These scholarships are provided to graduating seniors, so they may continue their education. New this year is the Frank Frost Scholarship, which goes to a graduating APS senior interested in continuing his or her education in the visual arts. The scholarship honors Frank Frost, a noted local photographer and West Mesa High School graduate who has helped make the Foundation's Selfless Seniors program a reality.

Middle School Sports

The Foundation helps support the APS Sports Fund's annual Golf Extravaganza, which in 2010 raised \$68,000 to support middle school athletics and high school sports in their developmental stages, including freshmen and junior varsity programs.







ABOVE: More than 700 APS students took the stage in February, showing off their singing, dancing and instrumental talents at the two-day Festival de Bellas Artes.

CENTER: APS employees gave generously to the United Way Campaign, which puts money back into schools.

RIGHT: Adrianna Lucero of Valley High School was one of 26 Selfless Seniors honored in the spring for giving back to their community.

And There's More...

Among many other projects, the Foundation this year

- » Recognized some of Albuquerque's best teachers. With our friends at Pepsi, the Foundation honored top teachers with the APS Foundation/Pepsi teacher of the month event. Teachers received city-wide acclaim for their work in our classrooms, along with a \$50 check from Pepsi.
- » Honored 26 of the city's high school seniors during the APS Education Foundation/Frank Frost "Selfless Seniors" event, sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank. Seniors were recognized for their community- minded work both inside and outside of school during the annual awards ceremony, and received a \$100 check from Wells Fargo as a way of honoring their service.
- » Supported 30 students from Albuquerque and Highland high schools who visited Civil Rights Movement memorials, museums and historical sites during a Black Student Union trip to the South.
- » Helped send JROTC teams from six APS schools to Anniston, Ala., to participate in the National JROTC Shooting Championships.
- » Funded a De Colores Inc. project in which APS students were encouraged to write and illustrate points of pride during Hispanic Heritage Month.
- » Backed Valle Vista Elementary School's "Once Upon A Theater" performance.
- » Supported the Festival Bellas Artes performances at the New Mexico Hispanic Cultural Center.
- » Provided support for Junior Achievement's efforts to make kids more career ready.
- » Sponsored Harrison Middle School and other schools in Albuquerque's South Valley invigorate their music programs in collaboration with the New Mexico Jazz Workshop.
- » Helped the student senate at Albuquerque High School host the New Mexico student council organization, an event that drew more than 700 kids from around the state and nearly 300 of the top students in the city to talk about issues that face young people today.

TAMARA DUNHAM

A 6th-grade teacher at Van Buren Middle School and recipient of the prestigious 2009 Milken Educator Award, Tamara Dunham reflects on education and the value of service learning.



THERESE CARROLL

In 2009-10, Manzano High's staff raised \$11,000 during the United Way campaign. Principal Therese Carroll takes a moment to reflect on education, community and the value of teamwork.



SALMAN HAJI

Salman, a 2010 graduate of Cibola High, was one of the Foundation's Selfless Seniors. This is the speech he delivered at the Selfless Seniors event in the spring.



Children naturally strive to be academically and physically competent. Their motivation, though, can wane at times. Fortunately, their innate desire for mastery can be encouraged and fostered by what we do in the classroom.

One of the best ways to support mastery of skills is to implement a service learning project. Service learning helps to cultivate this behavior by instilling a sense of purpose.

This sense of significance then fuels their continued desire to master skills and techniques. William Shakespeare described it this way: "It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself."

It is a positive and fulfilling cycle. When classrooms participate in service-learning projects, students not only master skills and find a sense of purpose, they also begin to contemplate their own future and start to consider possible career paths. In addition to creating their own identity, studies show that when students engage in meaningful and proactive service learning, they are half as likely to participate in "at-risk" behaviors.

Service learning is an incredibly powerful tool and is being used in classrooms across Albuquerque Public Schools. Van Buren Middle School, where I teach, has begun a cross-age tutoring program where sixth grade students teach reading strategies to younger students at nearby Emerson Elementary.

Sixth graders at Van Buren also participate in the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program, collecting research for the University of New Mexico. A fourth-grade class at Zia Elementary worked to have a school zone put in place this winter.

These participants are gaining a greater sense of pride and accomplishment along with helping to create a legacy for themselves and their community. Service-learning projects are growing the next generation of compassionate and engaged citizens. Join in and help to leave a legacy.

I love coming to work every day as the principal at Manzano High School. It's a job in which I benefit from past experience. Before becoming an administrator, I taught Spanish in two different high schools. It's great being able to use my Spanish to help community members who are learning English. I also find myself using some of my second-language instructional approaches for communicating ideas with students and staff.

In the Manzano community we are big on tradition, and we value our school's 50-year history in Albuquerque. However, we also advance 21st century ideas through the use of technology applications that are state-of-the-art. By increasing hardware, software, and networking capacity on campus, we have initiated instructional improvements, facilitated better collaboration among the faculty, and dramatically improved parent communication and participation in school-wide decision-making.

We wear our purple and silver colors proudly, and attend competitive events faithfully, but we're also likely to be forwarding the results of those competitions electronically to our colleagues back at school.

As an educator, my vision for education involves preparing staff and students to be self-directed, lifelong learners who are accountable to the community and care about the people with whom we live and work. The creativity and camaraderie that have developed within smaller groups of educators meeting together during collaboration periods has been a wonderful surprise for my teachers and myself.

I love sitting among teachers and other principals reading a book on Robert Marzano's high yield strategies, or discussing a student's work and the standards she has achieved versus those which require additional instruction. The level of reflection about instructional practices that we've all been engaged in this year has been remarkable. I look forward to next year already.

The British artist Banksy once said, "There's nothing more dangerous than someone who wants to make the world a better place." Truly, a person with a mind-set focused to positively impact the lives of his global community has a magnificent, powerful ideal.

Working from the roots, too, has a great value. Planting seeds in a small section, I have learned, has the potential to bear grand, succulent fruits. These seeds of motivation, of determination, of care, of love, and of peace will grow into an astounding, towering tree with fruits and flowers blooming and flourishing for all to share.

I haven't just had the dream of impacting my community, but also empowering it so that one day, I will be able to see this astounding, towering tree stretch its branches all over the globe, touching the hearts of people worldwide.

"In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love." Mother Teresa's warm advice has inspired me to plant a small seed in the people around me and irrigate this seed with heed. I do what I am able to achieve to assist those in need, but I also expect to have a positive impact on them. I hope to empower them to become astonishing and illustrative citizens who would also have the motive to plant inspirational seeds in their societies.

By cultivating the roots of a community – certainly by encouraging those who make up the community – I aspire to not only tend to a beautiful, blossoming tree, but also to lend a hand to fertilize an entire orchard of astounding, towering trees, with fine fruits and fantastic flowers blooming for our world to grasp – fruits and flowers of motivation, of determination, of care, of love, and of peace.



WINSTON BROOKS APS SUPERINTENDENT

I've always believed that success breeds success.

You see it with championship sports teams; you see it with young kids as they learn to read; you see it as entire schools make academic progress. One great moment leads to another, which then leads to yet another, and so on.

Before you know it, that confidence multiplies and you've got a tradition you can be proud of.

I think that's what we are seeing with the Albuquerque Public Schools Education Foundation, which captured the public's imagination with the Horizon Campaign last year. The Foundation's outreach to the community has begun to change how we'll be able to help our kids – even in the midst of the worst economic downturn any of us have ever experienced.

The Horizon Campaign invites donors, both big and small, to help inject money into four successful but financially vulnerable APS efforts: Fine Arts, Middle/High School Activities, Literacy and Classroom Teacher Mini-Grants. The goal in 2009-10 was to attract \$1 million in cash and in-kind donations, and our community bought into the goal, big-time.

Companies as varied as PNM, Intel, Wells Fargo Bank, Comcast, Don Chalmers Ford and Sandia National Labs helped provide positive inertia, and within months, other firms, including Anchor Built, Bradbury Stamm, Westwind Landscaping and Gerald Martin began making this dream attainable.

Every day, every way, every year, the Foundation will tell our community that the horizons are limitless. But the unvarnished truth is, we need your help more than ever.

If ever there was a time when you can make a difference, it is now.

Join the Horizon Campaign. Learn more about the Foundation – and the district. You'll see that together, step by step, we can add to a wonderful tradition.



PHILL CASAUS APSEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's not hard to write good things about the APS Education Foundation, if only because we serve a fabulous group – this district's 90,000 students.

And while I could probably go on an on about all our kids, I'd like to tell you about one in particular. His name is Michael Martinez.

Michael, you probably don't know. He's a 2010 graduate of West Mesa High, and was honored as one of our Selfless Seniors last spring. If you met him, you'd like him: he is polite, polished, personable. He did plenty in his four years at West Mesa, both in school and in the community. But he was by no means the stereotype of a high school "star." He wasn't the quarterback of the football team; wasn't the valedictorian; wasn't quoted in the newspaper.

All Michael did was succeed. Sometimes, in the face of some fairly long odds.

These are the kids who drive us here – the students who make Albuquerque a better place because of their heart and their drive. That's why we look at 2010-11 as a critical year for both the district and the Foundation. If we continue to make progress with the Horizon Campaign, we will do plenty of good for that silent majority of kids who need just a little help to reach their full potential.

In Michael's case, it was Junior ROTC that helped him dream. It's the kind of middle/high school activity the Foundation wants to help. But there are other worthy causes – Fine Arts, Classroom Teacher Mini-Grants, Literacy – that will be fostered by the Horizon Campaign. And in our quest to reach our goal of \$1 million (and beyond), we'll need your help.

You can do it with a small donation; you can be part of the United Way campaign; you can ask your employer to support Albuquerque kids by helping the Foundation.

Oh, yes, I forgot to mention one thing, a huge thing. Michael Martinez is going to college.



LIZ SHIPLEY APSEF BOARD PRESIDENT

It's easy to talk about the APS Education Foundation because it's an organization that is centered on one thing – helping kids.

That's never been more important – and in some ways more difficult – than now. As we enter the 2010-11 school year, Albuquerque's commitment to its children is crucial.

That's where the Foundation comes in. Our successful Horizon Campaign will continue during this school year, and the generosity that Albuquerque citizens and businesses showed during 2009-2010 will begin making a difference in our classrooms this year.

You'll see grants that go directly toward four key programs – Literacy, Fine Arts, Classroom Teacher Mini-Grants and Middle/High School Activities. Your support will improve education, reduce our dropout rate and help make certain that our kids not only get a diploma, but are career- and collegeready.

Our board of two dozen community leaders is thrilled by the progress we're making. We invite you to join our team. Together, we can do wonderful things for the kids of Albuquerque.

2009 Financial Statements



Students at Kirtland Elementary gathered in their school library, along with members of the local media, during a presentation of a \$5,000 donation for literacy from Qwest veterans.



Zuni Elementary students received a a generous donation of \$50,000 from PNM to be used to help purchase books and other literary materials for the school.

REVENUES

Individual and corporate contributions	\$2,150,706
Inkind contributions	203,752
Administrative fees	35,745
United Way contributions	70,360

ASSETS	
Current Assets	61 452 744
Cash and cash equivalents - unrestricted	\$1,453,744
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	79,152
Investments	2,065,788
Total Current Assets	3,598,684
Noncurrent assets, restricted	
Endowment investments	415,975
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	1,633,023
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$2,048,998
Total Assets	\$5,647,682
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 11,004
Accrued wages and benefits	5,775
Total Liabilities	\$ 16,779
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted	a ((0 (0F
Officstricted	\$ 669,685
	\$ 669,685 4,539,932
Restricted, expendable Restricted, unexpendable	,

EXPENSES

Total net assets

Total liabilities and net assets

Program	\$1,730,024
General and administrative	198,065

421,286

5,630,903

\$5,647,682

On the Horizon



















Inaugural Foundation Gala Celebrates Fine Arts

rt is Albuquerque. And art is key to Albuquerque Public Schools.

With that in mind, the APS Education Foundation is creating its first ever A is for Art! celebration on Sept. 24, 2010, at the Albuquerque Museum.

The event will feature a live and silent auction of student artwork from the annual APS Metro Youth Art Exhibit – a professionally juried show of student artwork in a variety of media from APS high school students. Students will receive a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of their work, with the remainder going toward the Foundation's efforts to support the district's Fine Arts program. Art from several well-known local artists will be included in the auction as well.

The celebration will also include live music performances from schools throughout the district including jazz groups, vocal groups and string

ensembles to name a few.

"We've never done this kind of event, but we want it to become the signature fund-raiser the Foundation is known for," says Foundation Executive Director Phill Casaus. "I know for a fact that you simply won't believe the talent and skill these kids display – whether it's painting, photography, sculpture, poetry, singing or musicianship. They're just fantastic."

Sponsorships for the event are available, beginning at \$500 and going up to \$10,000. For information on the event, see the Foundation's website, www.apseducationfoundation.org, or call the Foundation at 881-0841, extension 1.

A is for Art! You won't believe your eyes. Or ears.



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