

Our Vision

is that Latino students and families achieve life-long self-sufficiency.



Our Mission

is to prepare
Latino students
and families for
success through
academic and
life enrichment
programs.

Dear Friends,

LaAmistad's 16th year has proven to be among the most impactful yet. We experienced tremendous growth in the number of people served, the depth of services offered, and the partnerships developed. As community members, LaAmistad felt a stronger connection to both the Latino population as well as Atlantans in general. As individuals, we were touched as we witnessed the progress of students, the dedication of parents seeking the best for their children, and the commitment of volunteers who week after week gave of their time and talent.

Expansion was a theme this year with the addition of two Afterschool locations, three ESL locations, and one Anímate Summer Academy to our citywide offerings. This report contains stories of the achievement and contribution of those we serve and the community that makes it possible.

What began 16 years ago as one man's idea to help neighborhood kids reached over 1,500 individuals this year. We are grateful and humbled to walk alongside you and we are filled with optimism about our bright future, together.

Yours in service,

Cost Mc alex

Cat McAfee
Executive Director

Alex Hodges Board Chair







1,507

2016

1,157

2015

906





Volunteers are the lifeblood of LaAmistad. This past year, more than 18,000 hours were provided by over 800 active volunteers. Offering the gift of their time, volunteers are the mission's boots on the ground and their impact is direct. One of the hallmarks of our programs is the relationship that is built between volunteer and student.

Consistently volunteers report that they have received far more in the relationship than they've given and they have learned more than they've taught. The volume of volunteers who return year in and year out is a testament to this.

On April 29, 2017 LaAmistad hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast to recognize Volunteers of the Year and celebrate all volunteers for their remarkable work.

953 **VOLUNTEERS GAVE** HOURS

LaAmistad Volunteers of the Year

Ellen McGrail Peachtree Presbyterian Church (Elementary)
Beth Micek Peachtree Presbyterian Church (Teen Center)

David Jonas Church of the Redeemer

Tricia Bloch Westminster Presbyterian Church

Sofia Eidizadeh The Cathedral of St. Philip
Gretchen Turner Church of the New Covenant
Micah Duwell Crossroads Church of Dunwoody

Pearl Sullivan Clairmont Presbyterian Church

Frances Pughsley Trinity Anglican Church

Pat Fischer Centro Católico, the Mission of Holy Spirit

Catholic Church

Jeanne Marie Marcil Shallowford Presbyterian Church

Nick Gozza Peachtree Presbyterian Church (Sunday Study Hall)

Elizabeth Trense Anímate Summer Academy

Kelli Colter Young Professionals

Adriana Sola Capifali Estrellitas

Stephanie Ford Marietta City Schools

Justine Dalke Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church Ana Benites Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church India Graden Yells Community Action Café

Syra Pethel Trinity Anglican Church

We are grateful for all of our exceptional volunteers!



GIVING SOCIETY

Compañeros Giving Society

The Compañeros Giving Society is LaAmistad's monthly giving program. Compañeros givers commit to a recurring gift, allowing the organization to plan based on having a consistent stream of financial support and flexibility to meet the community's needs.

Compañeros Giving Society members receive special recognition and benefits. For information about joining this group, please visit laamistadinc.org/Giving/Donate.







The Suzanne W. Schirber LaAmistad Scholarship

The relationship between students and the volunteers that help them is very special. This year, LaAmistad received a beautiful and impactful reminder of that. Suzanne Schirber was a longtime LaAmistad volunteer whose legacy of service will live on.

"Suzanne spent a lot of time with the LaAmistad students and formed an emotional bond with many of them", says husband Greg Schirber. "Her wish was to see LaAmistad students prosper and her hope was that this gift could help these students pursue higher education." The Suzanne W. Schirber LaAmistad Scholarship is open to any student who has attended LaAmistad for at least one school year and is either a high school senior or enrolled in college.

The 2016-17 school year was the inaugural year of the scholarship and two awardees were selected. Joshua Duarte, a freshman at the University of Georgia, attended LaAmistad from 4th grade through 8th grade. Ramiro Juarez, a freshman at Oglethorpe University attended LaAmistad from Kindergarten through 8th grade at which time he entered Pace Academy. Both recipients cite LaAmistad as highly influential on their success in school and life. Congratulations to Joshua and Ramiro and our profound gratitude to the family of Suzanne W. Schirber for creating this exceptional opportunity.

Thank you so much to all of the Scholarship Committee Members: Kevin Amaya, Alexandra Campos, Marie Cruzado, Pat Fischer, Mariangeles Gutierrez, Jon Naphin, Maria Rivera, Roger Trueba, Karla Umana.

A Holistic Approach to Afterschool

Nationwide high quality afterschool programs are recognized as a vital resource for a student's development. Studies have shown that they help improve students' attendance, behavior and coursework. For low-income students, these programs frequently eliminate the achievement gap that typically exists between them and their high-income peers.

With these benefits in mind, the concept behind LaAmistad Afterschool is simple: pair a small number of students with a volunteer who will guide them through homework and learning activities. Add curated content such as character-building and study skills, and multiply by two to four days a week at eight locations across Atlanta. The product is LaAmistad Afterschool as it stands today.

That product is supported by a comprehensive approach that engages not only students but their families, schools, and communities. Through our Parent Partnership program, LaAmistad offers a variety of education workshops aimed at the needs of Latino families. Our extensive resource center offers information and connects families with local organizations that provide assistance with subjects such as health insurance, scholarships, domestic violence, and financial services. Moreover, LaAmistad staff also serves as advocates for students in Atlanta public schools to help raise awareness about the needs and circumstances of Latino children.



Kevin is a rising 3rd grader who attends Garden Hills Elementary School and has attended LaAmistad Afterschool since he was in 1st grade. Over the two years Kevin has enjoyed interacting with the various volunteers who encourage him to work hard and strive for good grades. This individualized attention has had a positive impact on his learning since he is better able to understand his math homework when an adult explains it to him personally. Yet LaAmistad's influence goes beyond his scholastic achievements. Kevin shares that "LaAmistad is like my family because I have grown up here and learned a lot about myself and others." Way to go Kevin!



Reading fluency scores improved by an average of

25%



Math scores improved by an average of

25%



Unique Students

347(2017)

259 (2016)

247 (2015)



Afterschool Locations

10 (2017)

8 (2016)

7 (2015)

Volunteer Spotlight

Nicole Bramwell Shallowford Presbyterian Church

Nicole became involved with LaAmistad as a way to make connections and serve children in her community. "I relate to the students in so many ways. I really struggled academically when I was young and felt frustrated that I had to work so much harder than other people to get by." Now a nursing student, Nicole says that she sees the students' faces light up when she shares this experience. She can tell that her story makes them feel like they too can be successful if they work hard.

Nicole is inspired by the parents and students she meets, all dedicated to a prosperous future for their families, despite what can feel like enormous obstacles. "Honestly, if you can have the humility to be okay not knowing all the answers, then volunteering with these students is really easy and fun. When you are authentic and treat them with respect, they respond with the same. It's important to show them that we are all still learning."





Partner Spotlight

PlayWorks Group

LaAmistad is proud to spotlight PlayWorks Group as an outstanding community partner. For nearly a decade this organization has been responsible for linking LaAmistad with corporate clients in search of an avenue to give back to underserved populations of Metro Atlanta. Recently, they were able to secure over 20 bicycles that were gifted to students that demonstrated the most improved math scores from each of our ten afterschool locations.

When asked about their motivations for sustaining this ongoing relationship, PlayWorks founder and CEO Meredith Martini shared that they value LaAmistad's targeted focus. "The impact on the Latino community is evident. We see the vision for what can be accomplished through LaAmistad's efforts. We respect the holistic approach, working with the whole person and the whole family. This aligns directly with PlayWorks Group's undergirding values."

In addition, the personal rapport developed with the leadership of LaAmistad has facilitated a flexibility for meeting the specific needs of PlayWorks' clients. In return, although companies may be partial to different causes, whenever PlayWorks is asked for their input in selecting a nonprofit to serve, they most often choose LaAmistad. Our sincere thanks to our partners at PlayWorks!

LAAMISTAD ENGLISH FOR SUCCESSFUL LIVING

Building Opportunity One Student at a Time

English for Successful Living became a part of LaAmistad in 2011 and continues to be one of the largest community-based adult English as a Second Language program in Georgia.

Exciting changes have taken place. Classes are now offered on weeknights and Saturday mornings comprising a full 3 year course of study. LaAmistad ESL grew from 2 to 7 locations this year and through the support of our volunteers and partners, student enrollment tripled for the 2016-2017. Over 400 unique students were enrolled in ESL classes this year.

Additionally, we have established new partnerships with like-minded organizations who believe in our mission and who desire to offer the immigrant population in their community the opportunity to become self-sufficient and learn English through LaAmistad ESL.



David Castro Marietta City Schools

David Castro has been studying with LaAmistad ESL since the Marietta program first started in December of 2015. He has had perfect attendance and is now a level 2 student who is seeing the tremendous benefits of his dedication and sacrifice. Due to his notable language improvement, he was offered a promotion to a supervisor at his workplace. David now manages a team of 6 employees and can more easily communicate with his staff and managers.

66

Because of what I have learned with the program, I received a raise and a promotion at work. I am able to run errands for my family and communicate better with others. I am now able to write a sentence. I could not write when I started studying.

"

-David Castro, LaAmistad ESL Student

David explains that it takes commitment and sacrifice to learn English. He is grateful for the opportunity to study English and better his life through LaAmistad. He believes that whatever goal you put forth can be achieved if you work hard. He plans on continuing with the program until he completes the advanced levels and graduates. We are very proud of David and are looking forward to celebrating his future triumphs and successes as he takes yet another step to achieving life-long self-sufficiency!



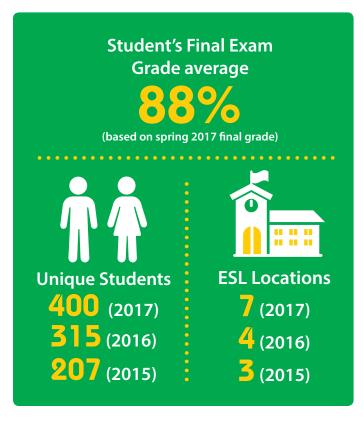
Volunteer Spotlight

Justine Dalke Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church

Justine has volunteered with LaAmistad ESL at Holy Innocents' for over a year. Justine's experience has been transformative: after a year of being a volunteer teacher, she and her fiancé are certified to teach English and are moving to Japan to take teaching positions.



"I really got to know my students and consider many of them friends. Through what they learned in the class, they were able to improve relationships with their children's schools and be more connected to the community. It's very rewarding."





Partner Spotlight

YELLS, Inc.

LaAmistad's partnership with Marietta-based nonprofit Youth Empowerment through Learning, Leading, and Serving, Inc. (YELLS) began during the summer of 2016. Already well regarded for their successful youth development programs, YELLS sought to further expand their capacity by serving entire families. That's when Executive Director Laura Keefe contacted LaAmistad to lend their expertise in creating an ESL program on their behalf. YELLS committed their facilities and funding while LaAmistad agreed to share its curriculum and train a qualified group of eager volunteers.

Ms. Keefe has said that she is eternally grateful for this endeavor, expressing that it has been an "amazing undertaking and we are honored to have partnered with LaAmistad!"

LaAmistad's English for Successful Living is an amazing opportunity, both for students and volunteer teachers. There is no requirement that teachers speak another language and no teaching experience is necessary. If you are interested in serving adult learners of English, please visit laamistadinc.org/programs/english forsuccessfulliving or call Johanne Jean, ESL Director, at 678-752-1144.

LAAMISTAD'S ANÍMATE SUMMER ACADEMY

Learning and Fun in the Sun

LaAmistad's Anímate Summer Academy began in partnership with The Westminster Schools in June 2012. The goals were to provide LaAmistad Afterschool students the chance to continue in their studies while school was not in session. Additionally, Anímate would provide participants a summer camp experience, something that low-income families can rarely afford.

We are pleased to report that LaAmistad Anímate Summer Academy expanded this year, from one location to two and increased in participants from 73 to 116. With a new partner in St. Martin's Episcopal School, this second location gave 41 students the opportunity to be campers.

Mornings at Anímate are filled with academic lessons in both English and Spanish and afternoons are spent enjoying traditional summer camp activities like swimming, arts, and games. Trying new things, making new friends, and having new experiences builds confidence and self-awareness that serves students well as they start back to school.





Volunteer Spotlight

Josie Palisoc The Westminster Schools

Josie is a high school sophomore with aspirations to become a math teacher. Following in the footsteps of her older siblings who were also summer camp counselors, Josie dedicated part of her summer break to volunteering for LaAmistad's Anímate Summer.

Among the most memorable moments of her four weeks was the time when one of her students was recognized for having the most improved math scores and gifted a bicycle as a result. At the beginning of the camp, Josie noticed Yelin, a rising 2nd grader, struggling to complete even one problem in the allotted two minutes. She says she made it her mission to help her succeed, asking the supervising teacher for permission to work oneon-one with her. Despite periods of discouragement, eventually their work paid off when Yelin was able to answer an incredible sixteen problems correctly for the final math assessment. Josie remembers that "... she definitely deserved it, I was so proud of the effort and the determination she showed in fully grasping something that she had truly struggled with."

This experience left such an impression on Josie that she is already looking forward to working with LaAmistad Anímate again next summer!

Isaac

Isaac is a rising 5th grader that attends LaAmistad Afterschool at Shallowford Presbyterian Church. He participated in LaAmistad's Animate Summer Academy for the first time this year. During his time there Isaac showed himself to be an outstanding student who exhibited the utmost respect for his teachers, counselors, and peers. Embodying the values of self-discipline, honesty, and gratitude, his teachers described him as "a leader both inside and outside of the classroom, and someone who was always willing to help others." For his excellent behavioral track record, LaAmistad was proud to reward Isaac with a Nintendo Wii gaming system and recognize his positive character with the Anímate Virtue Award.





Partner Spotlight

Your Pie Perimeter

LaAmistad's Anímate Summer Academy at St. Martins was blessed by a partnership with Your Pie Perimeter (YPP). At the franchise's annual meeting, the generous owners of YPP were challenged by their company executives to donate 1,000 pies to hungry people in the community and were happy to engage with Anímate campers in that effort.

Once a week, YPP provided fresh, hot, custom pizzas to the Anímate campers at St. Martin's, even accommodating food allergies. Our sincere thanks to Your Pie Perimeter for their partnership and generosity!



Reading fluency scores improved by an average of

32%

+

Math scores improved by an average of

47%

00

Sight Words scores improved by an average of

28%



Unique students
116 (2017)

73 (2016)

70 (2015)

The Annual Gala is LaAmistad's largest fundraising event of the year and the proceeds benefit all aspects of the organization's work. Through the generosity of donors and sponsors, over \$68,000 was raised through the Gala to carry LaAmistad's work further in the community.

Thank you so much to all of the Silent Auction contributors: Affairs To Remember, Alliance Theatre, Ask Howard, Atlanta Ballet, Atlanta Braves, Atlanta Rocks, Bart Lamberson, Becca Klein, Beth Micek, Big John's Christmas Trees, Blue Heron, Bob Biedrzycki, Brock Cassidie, Capital Grill, City Pass, CNN Tour, Corner Pizza, Fifth Group Restaurant, Fire Dept, Flour Union, Four Seasons Hotel, High Museum of Art Atlanta, HollyBeth Organics, Ian Meadows, Inkspot, Jackson Durham, Janet Gannon, Kenny Rogers, Michael Moore, Muss & Turners, Novica, Oaxaca Tourism Board, Ormsby's, Peachtree Road United Methodist Church Sports & Recreation, Piece of Cake, Pink Barre, Sandy Springs, Prudential, Randy Roberson, Rene Diaz, The Children's Museum of Atlanta, Tucson Resort, W Buckhead, World of Coca-Cola, Zulu Nyala. Thank you to our Compañeros Gala Sponsors: Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Cagle, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Don Dennard, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Hodges, Mr. and Mrs. Bart Lamberson, Ms. Lillian Rodriguez Lopez, The Lovett School, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Maner, Mr. and Mrs. Tim McAfee, Ms. Deborah Walker.





LaAmistad Estrellitas

Established in 2007, Estrellitas ("Little Stars") is a Junior League of Atlanta (JLA) program whose mission is to educate, empower, support and inspire young Latina girls by teaching them life skills and equipping them to be confident and good decision makers.

After identifying a lack of programs in the Atlanta community to address the high numbers of Latina teen pregnancies and high school dropout rates, the JLA created this educational program to offer support to Atlanta's Latina girls during the critical period of transition from adolescence into early adulthood. It consists of a series of workshops coordinated by JLA volunteers built on maintaining the young woman's sense of identity, which is grounded firmly in an understanding of their cultural heritage. Programming topics include self-esteem, education/career planning and leadership development. In 2013, Estrellitas merged with LaAmistad, Inc. and now leverages the support and expertise of both organizations.



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Gonzalez-Lamerson
Development
Director



Leigh Ann Griswold Business Manager



Alba Nuñez Parent Educator

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	June 30, 2017
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$388,049
Certificates of deposit	120,000
Grants receivable, net	85,000
Prepaid expenses	9,615
Equipment, net	13,102
Total assets	\$615,766
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$62,053
Deferred revenue	7,300
Total liabilities	\$69,353
Net assets:	
Unrestricted net assets	\$164,109
Temporarily restricted net assets	382,304
Total net assets	\$546,413
Total liabilities and net assets	\$615,766



INCOME STATEMENTS1

	FYE June 30, 2017
Revenue, Gains and Support	
Donations (including in-kind)	\$ 782,702
Grants and Awards	317,669
Special Event Revenue (net of expenses)	35,410
Program Fees and Other Revenue	80,276
Total Revenue	\$1,216,057
Expenses	
Program (84% of total expenses)	\$1, 260,961
General and Administrative (11% of total expenses)	159,827
Fundraising (5% of total expenses)	75,951
Total Expenses	1,496,739
Decrease in Net Assets	(280,682)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Decrease in Net Assets	\$ (280,682)
Reconciling Adjustments:	
Decrease in Grants Receivable	\$255,000
Depreciation expense & other changes in working capital, n	
Total Reconciling Adjustments	266,595
Net Cash from (used in) operating activities	(14,087)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Acquisition of Equipment	(12,080)
Note: NET DECREASE IN CASH EQUIVALENTS	
(Before purchase of certificates of deposit)	(26,167)
Purchase of Certificates of Deposit	(120,000)
Net Cash used in investing activities	(132,080)
NET DECREASE IN CASH & EQUIVALENTS	(146,167)
Cash and Equivalents - beginning of year	534,216
Cash and Equivalents - end of year	\$ 388,049

⁽¹⁾ The Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows above reconciles to the Statement of Activities and Statement of Functional Activities included in the 2017 audited financial statements, which is available upon request.

With the support of our donors and partners, our students learn today, lead tomorrow. Thank you!

Ms. Sheila Cohen

Mr. & Mrs. James Confer

Ms. Alessandra Lobos

\$50,000+

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\$500+

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Your Pie Perimeter

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Church

Church of the Redeemer Clairmont Presbyterian Church Covenant Presbyterian Church Crossroads Church of Dunwoody Holy Innocents' Episcopal Church Holy Spirit Catholic Church Passion City Church Peachtree Presbyterian Church Shallowford Presbyterian Church The Cathedral of St. Philip Trinity Anglican Church Westminster Presbyterian



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