

Carson Scholars Fund **n**ews

IMPORTANT DATES

October 19, 2015

Nomination form/online application available

November 16, 2015

Ben Carson Reading Day

December 1, 2015

Hard copy application request deadline

December 22, 2015

Nomination deadline

January 8, 2016

Application deadline

Reading Room Openings

Bakerfield Elementary School
Aberdeen, MD

Grove Park Elementary School
Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Indian Pines Elementary School
Lake Worth, FL

Lookout Valley Elementary School
Chattanooga, TN

Pittsburgh Dilworth PreK-5
Pittsburgh, PA

Fifth District Elementary School
Upperco, MD

Westward Elementary School
West Palm Beach, FL

Happy 2016 Scholarship Season!

We're excited to announce the start of the 2016 scholarship season! Here's important information that you need to know to make this year's application process a success...[continue reading](#)

Special Announcement for Previous Scholars

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Chapter Highlights

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CSF Gives Back!

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news

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Happy 2016 Scholarship Season!

We're excited to announce the start of the 2016 scholarship season! Here's important information that you need to know to make this year's application process a success:

If you are an educator...

- If you would like to nominate a student for the 2016 scholarship season and be added to our application distribution list, please submit an [application request form](#). Our scholarship program is available to students in grades 4 through 11 at an accredited K-12 school in the United States. Students must meet eligibility requirements including a minimum 3.75 GPA on a 4.0 scale and a commitment to community service.
- The nomination form/online application will be distributed to principals and school officials on/around October 19, 2015. Each school can only nominate one student. Within 48 hours of being nominated, students will receive an email with a link to the online application. Schools will have until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 to nominate a student.
- After a student is nominated, they will need to complete the online application which includes an essay, report card and teacher recommendation. All components of the application must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, January 8, 2016.
- On or around January 12, 2016, principals will receive an email with a link for them to review and verify the student's application. Applications are not considered complete without principal verification. Principals will have until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, January 15, 2016 to complete the verification process. Please note that while schools can only nominate one new student to compete for the Carson Scholarship, schools may have multiple previous scholars applying for Scholar Recognition and therefore principals may receive more than one email requesting verification.



- For more information, please visit the 'Educator' page on our website: <http://carsonscholars.org/scholarships/educators>.



If you are a previous Carson Scholar...

- The application for Carson Scholar Recognition is online. We will distribute this application directly to previous scholars via email. Please send an email to Kaylee confirming your email address. Be sure to include your name and date of birth in the email. The Carson Scholar Recognition Application will be distributed by early November.
- You will have until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, January 8, 2016 to complete your application, which includes a description of your community service activities and report card.
- On or around January 12, 2016 your principal will receive an email with a link for them to review and verify your application. Your application is not considered complete without principal verification. Principals will have until 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, January 15, 2016 to complete the verification process.
- For more information, please visit the 'Current Scholars' page on our website: <http://carsonscholars.org/current-scholars>.

If you believe the online application is not right for you/your school/your nominated student, hard copy applications are available by request only (first come, first serve). To request a hard copy of the new or recognized application, please email katie@carsonscholars.org by December 1, 2015. Hard copy applications will not be mailed after December 7, 2015.

Don't forget! The deadline for submitting both new and recognized applications will be Friday, January 8, 2016. Please plan ahead – our deadlines are final and no exceptions will be made because of weather, illness or other reasons.

Please check our website often during the scholarship season for updates. We will be posting videos showing how to complete the online application and addressing frequently asked questions. If at any time during the scholarship process you have questions, please feel free to contact our scholarship staff.



- Katie Damaroda, Scholarship Director – Katie@carsonscholars.org
- Sade' Diggs, Scholarship Development Associate – Sdiggs@carsonscholars.org
- Kaylee Dougherty, Scholarship and Communications Coordinator – Kdougherty@carsonscholars.org

Special Announcement for Previous Carson Scholars

Every year, the Carson Scholars Fund recognizes hundreds of students for continuing to meet the high standards of being a Carson Scholar. Thanks to the generosity of the Richard Lumsden Foundation, the CSF will begin a pilot program to recognize these students who have year after year demonstrated their commitment to academic excellence and humanitarianism. "The Richard Lumsden Foundation is proud to reward the years of hard work and academic success of these students! We hope this additional support will allow them to thrive in college" said a spokesperson from the Foundation. The Richard Lumsden Foundation has been a significant supporter of the Carson Scholar Fund programs since 2011.



We are thrilled to announce that upon graduating high school, Carson Scholars who are six or more time scholars* will receive an additional \$1,000 award. This pilot program will begin with Carson Scholars who are graduating in 2016 and is currently slated to be available to those scholars meeting the requirements and graduating in 2017 and 2018. The additional \$1,000 award will be held to the same restrictions** as the original award.

If you have any questions regarding this special opportunity, please contact katie@carsonscholars.org

Thanks again to the vision of the Richard Lumsden Foundation for its commitment to recognizing and rewarding future leaders.

**A six-time Carson Scholar has won the Carson Scholarship and was recognized five times in subsequent years. It is not required that the scholar be recognized in consecutive years.*

***Payouts can be used towards academic expenses at a four-year college or university within the United States in which the student is enrolled full-time in a bachelor-degree-track program.*



Sponsor an Annual Scholarship

We are excited to announce the start of the 2016 scholarship season – which marks our 20th anniversary of awarding scholarships. To date, we have awarded nearly 7,000 scholarships to high achieving students supported by the generosity of individuals and businesses. Help us continue to make an impact and foster a community of role models by supporting an annual scholarship for the 2016 scholarship season.

For an investment of \$1,500, one student will be recognized as a Carson Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship. Carson Scholars also receive a recognition package where they are honored at one of our regional award banquets, receive an Olympic-sized medal for their accomplishment and their school receives a trophy/nameplate to recognize their achievement. Your donation will be used to award one of our best applicants nationally.



For more information, please visit the 'Sponsor a Scholarship' page on our website: <http://carsonscholars.org/store/product/annual-scholarships>

Scholarship Payouts



The Carson Scholars Fund is proud to announce that to date, we have paid out over \$4.2 million to nearly 600 colleges on behalf of our scholars.

The next time CSF will make payouts is for the spring 2016 semester. Eligible scholars will be mailed and emailed the Payout Request Form in October.

Payout forms will be due back to the CSF office by November 23, 2015. Checks will be mailed to colleges on December 4, 2015, in time for the spring semester. Any Payout Request Forms received between now and then will be held until November. Any Payout Request Forms received after November 23, 2015 will be held for payout in the Fall 2016 semester.

Please note that payouts can only be made after verifying that the scholar is a full-time accepted and enrolled student at an accredited institution within the United States for the upcoming semester. Students must be enrolled in a bachelor's-degree-track (four-year) program.

If any of your contact information (mailing address, email address, or phone number) has changed since we last heard from you, please get in touch! We can only mail Payout Request Forms to addresses we have. To update your information, call 410.828.1005 or send an email to katie@carsonscholars.org.

Carson Scholar Hall of Fame

Thank you to all of our alumni scholars who completed the “top 20 under thirty” Hall of Fame application. The response was enormous! In celebration of the 20th anniversary of awarding scholarships at the Carson Scholars Fund, the CSF announced the introduction of the Hall of Fame. This program is designed to highlight the accomplishments of our stellar Carson Scholar alumni and to recognize the “top 20 under thirty.” The applications are in and ready to be judged! We are honored to have incredible alumni who are doing extraordinary things in their career fields and communities.

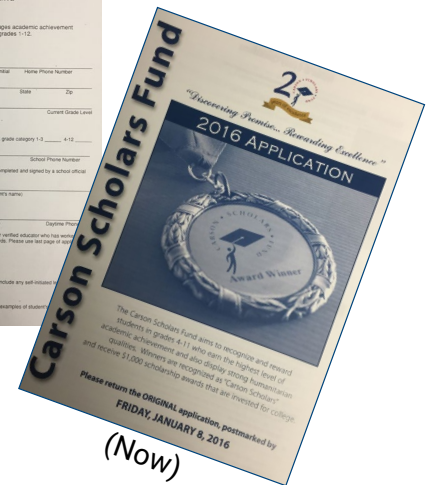


If you have any questions regarding the Hall of Fame, please visit the [FAQ page](#), or contact Scholarship Director, Katie Damaroda, at Katie@carsonscholars.org.



Celebrating our 20th Anniversary then and now this scholarship season!

(Then)



(Now)

CSF Welcomes New Advisory Board Member



Hailey Cramer is a two-time Carson Scholar, first receiving the award in 2010. In May 2015, she graduated from the University of Delaware with an honors bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. She currently works as a new product development engineer for W.L. Gore & Associates in Elkton, MD. At Gore, Hailey is involved in projects to develop new garments for the U.S. Military, as well as the Fire & Public Safety Services.

Hailey is an active member of her community and enjoys doing science and engineering outreach. She goes grocery shopping once a week for an elderly couple with chronic illnesses and is also a member of P.E.O., a philanthropic educational organization that promotes women's education.

Chapter Highlights

Chicago, Illinois



Inspiring medicine. Changing lives.

The Carson Scholars Fund is proud to partner for the sixth year in a row with Advocate Christ Medical Center to grow the Carson Scholars Fund program in Chicago. It is through this partnership that our program continues to develop strong and positive relationships in Chicagoland. Not only has the chapter awarded 120 scholarships throughout Illinois, but it has also opened seven Ben Carson Reading Rooms in the central community. Through the steadfast leadership from Advocate Christ Medical Center, the chapter continues to stimulate support within various sectors of the community.

Greensboro, North Carolina

The Piedmont Triad North Carolina area is pleased to welcome a new Carson Scholars Fund chapter in Greensboro! The chapter held a highly successful fundraiser in April to engage the community in a series of events supporting education and closed with a speech delivered by Dr. Benjamin Carson. In 2016, the new Greensboro Chapter will award exceptional students with college scholarships and plans to open one Ben Carson Reading Room.



Palm Beach County, Florida



Congratulations to the Palm Beach County Carson Scholars Fund Chapter on receiving the Bronze Award from Palm Beach County Schools for sponsoring the first Ben Carson Reading Room at Allamanda Elementary School in 2014. The Palm Beach County Chapter is sponsoring three additional reading rooms at Grove Park, Westward and Indian Pines Elementary Schools. We salute the chapter for their outstanding accomplishment of establishing a total of four Ben Carson Reading Rooms!

12th Annual Pittsburgh Charity Event

The Pittsburgh Carson Scholars Fund is excited to announce its annual Charity Auction and Cocktail Event, being held on December 3, 2015 at the Andy Warhol Museum. Chapter President, Dr. Alfonso A. Costa, and Hall of Famer, Jerome Bettis, will co-host this fun-filled event.

The Pittsburgh chapter is seeking new sponsors at any donation level. Sponsor packages for the December event range from \$1,000 - \$20,000 and include tickets to the event. Event volunteers are also needed to help secure silent auction items, such as tickets to local events, overnight hotel stays and restaurant gift cards, to name a few.

The December auction is Pittsburgh's sole fundraising opportunity. Please help honor and award as many deserving Pittsburgh children as possible by contributing to this event. To volunteer for or sponsor this event, please call 412.394.9803 or email Samantha Hirshberg at samantha@costalandco.com.



#GivingTuesday 2015



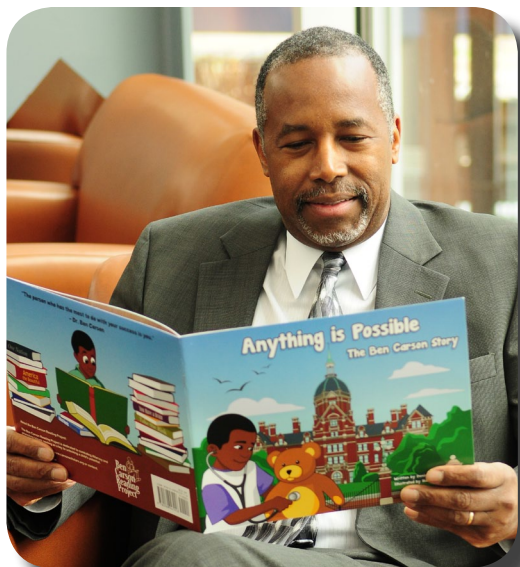
Last year, the Carson Scholars Fund helped Maryland earn the "Most Generous State" title on #GivingTuesday and this year we plan to do the same thing!

#GivingTuesday was launched three years ago as a response to commercialization and consumerism in the post-Thanksgiving season. #GivingTuesday is a movement to create a national day of giving. It celebrates and encourages charitable activities that support nonprofit organizations. It also inspires participants to give their time, talents and resources, and to leverage the power of social media to share their passion for giving with friends, family and colleagues.

We are proud to be a #GivingTuesday partner again this year. Please save the date for December 1, 2015 and share our commitment to #GivingTuesday on social media so that we can spread the word about the Carson Scholars Fund!

#GI ING TUESDAY™

The Ben Carson Reading Project Is Off and Running...



Ben Carson Reading Day:

Now that the pencils have been sharpened and schools are back in session, it's time to turn our attention to Ben Carson Reading Day. This annual literacy event is held in conjunction with American Education Week and is designed to raise awareness of the importance of everyday, leisure reading. This year's celebration is being held on Monday, November 16. To kick off the event, Ben Carson Reading Room school partners will be receiving copies of the newly published children's picture book *Anything is Possible: The Ben Carson Story*. The story, told through the eyes of one of Dr. Carson's former patients, chronicles Dr. Carson's struggles as a young student living in Detroit to becoming a world-renowned neurosurgeon. Students will also view a recorded narration of the book, read by some of the important people in Dr. Carson's life. For students not attending a Ben Carson Reading Room school, the book

narration will be available on the CSF website during the week of November 16. The *Anything is Possible* book is available, for purchase, on the CSF website. In addition to the book narration, many schools will host special guest readers and have the students participate in literacy enriched activities.



12th Annual Ben Carson Reading Room Workshop:

The 12th Annual Ben Carson Reading Room Workshop is being held on Wednesday, October 28 at the Mt. Washington Conference Center in Baltimore, MD. This annual event is designed to bring reading room coordinators together to discuss best practices and build comradery. For reading room coordinators unable to attend, the workshop will be available via a live webinar. This year's special guest speakers include book reviewer and librarian, Paula Willey, and motivational speaker, Sylvia Baffour.



The Ben Carson Reading Project (cont.)

Upcoming Ben Carson Reading Rooms:

Upcoming Openings:

Grove Park Elementary School

October 2, 2015

Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Sponsored by: Palm Beach County Chapter of the CSF

Westward Elementary School

October 2, 2015

West Palm Beach, FL

Sponsored by: Palm Beach County Chapter of the CSF

Bakerfield Elementary School

October 5, 2015

Aberdeen, MD

Sponsored by: Stack & Store Mini Storage

Pittsburgh Dilworth PreK - 5

October 21, 2015

Pittsburgh, PA

Sponsored by: Caring Members of the Community

Recently Opened:

Boca Raton Elementary School

Boca Raton, FL

Sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Donald Janower

Rooms Under Construction:

Indian Pines Elementary School

Lake Worth, FL

Sponsored by: Palm Beach County Chapter of the CSF

Fifth District Elementary School

Upperco, MD

Sponsored by: The Votta Family

Lookout Valley Elementary School

Chattanooga, TN

Sponsored by: The Deaver Phoenix Foundation



Through the generosity of our supporters, we have commitments to build reading rooms in the following areas:

Northern California

Sponsored by John Kendall

Flagler County, FL

Sponsored by United Way Volusia-Flagler Counties, Seminole Feed, Garth and Jennifer McDonald and Karen Welden

2 Ben Carson Reading Rooms in the Greater Chicago Area

Sponsored by Advocate Christ Medical Center

Columbia, MD

Sponsored by the Kahlert Foundation

High Point, NC

Sponsored by the Piedmont Triad NC Chapter

10 Ben Carson Reading Rooms throughout the United States

Sponsored by Domtar and their vendors

Domtar Tees It Up For Reading



On Tuesday, October 20, 2015, Domtar will host its 5th Annual Charity Golf Event at The Golf Club at Ballantyne, a championship PGA golf course, in beautiful Charlotte, North Carolina. Funding raised from this event will benefit the Ben Carson Reading Project. In 2012, Domtar demonstrated its commitment to education and literacy by sponsoring a Ben Carson Reading Room at Johnsonburg Area Elementary School in Johnsonburg, Pennsylvania. Contributions from this event will be used to create ten new Ben Carson

Reading Rooms in communities Domtar and its partners are engaged with. Domtar Corporation is the largest integrated producer of uncoated freesheet paper in North America and the second largest in the world.

CSF Gives Back!



On Wednesday, August 19, 2015, the CSF staff volunteered their time and energy at Norwood Elementary School, a Baltimore County Public School and Ben Carson Reading Room school. Norwood principal, Pat Goldys, had a clear vision in mind on what she wanted the CSF staff to help with. The first task was to paint large flowers, which included dandelions, sunflowers, daffodils and tulips, on outside classroom doors in the school's garden area. Next, the CSF staff painted large poles as pencils and wrote phrases such as "Let's Read" or "Let's Create" on high white beams in the front of the school. The last task was to paint inside classroom doors with chalkboard paint. Students will be able to use the doors as a station center, whether it is used for solving math problems or drawing imaginative pictures.

Thank you to principal Pat Goldys and the entire Norwood Elementary staff for welcoming CSF. We wish the students at Norwood a happy and productive upcoming school year! [View pictures from the event here.](#)



Help Select the Next Generation of Carson Scholars!

As we begin the 2016 scholarship season, we need your help to make it a success!

We rely on volunteers to help process applications, calculate GPAs and score essays. We receive thousands of applications from students across the country and we would not be able to judge of all those applications without the help of our dedicated volunteers.

If you, or someone you know, are interested in volunteering with the Carson Scholars Fund please email katie@carsonscholars.org. The greatest need for volunteers is from January through April. Volunteers are welcome every week, Monday through Friday. Exact hours vary day by day. Evening and weekend hours can be arranged as well.

Many of our applications are sent online. This means that there is the option to score applications online. After you have volunteered at our office (Towson, MD), you will have the option of scoring applications online remotely.

If you are interested in this, please contact katie@carsonscholars.org for more details.

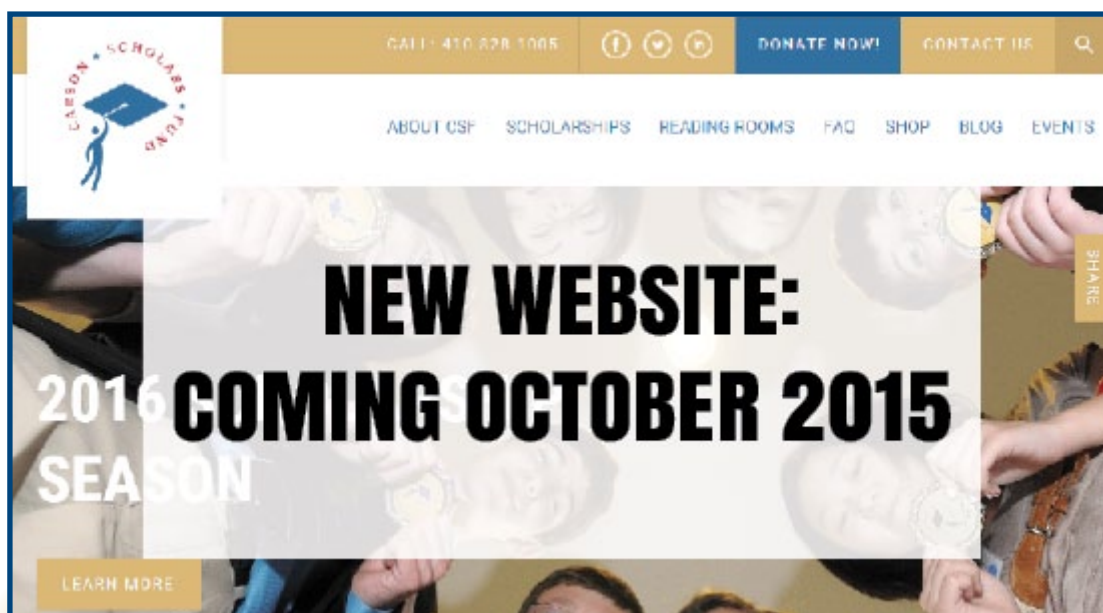


Carson Scholars Fund © 2015 Annual Report

Take a look at our
2015 Annual Report!



Click to view Dr. Grasmick's
interview with
TheBestSchools.org



CALL: 410.278.1005

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NEW WEBSITE:
COMING OCTOBER 2015

2016 SEASON

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