

PITTSBURGH chapter spotlight 2017



Heinz Field | Pittsburgh, PA
April 8, 2017



2017 New Scholars: **82**

2017 Recognized Scholars: **173**

Cumulative Pennsylvania/Ohio Scholars: **1,248 (1,203 Pennsylvania)**

Highlights: During the Pittsburgh Awards Banquet, scholars and their families were delighted by a surprise appearance by NFL Hall of Famer Jerome “The Bus” Bettis, who spoke to scholars about the importance of pursuing education. Lisa Stabryla, a CSF alumna and 2-time Carson Scholar, was inducted into the CSF Hall of Fame. Guests enjoyed a violin performance by 6-time Carson Scholar Neeloy Chakraborty, and Mairi Cooper, 2015 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year, was presented with the Power of Excellence Award.

\$762,338.92* have been paid out to colleges on behalf of the scholars who won their awards in Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas.

**As of fiscal year 2017*



Commitment in Pittsburgh

“It means that I have to take more opportunities in influencing others to lead others the same way the Carson Scholars Fund leads me to do great things in life.”

Katherine Marks, 2-time Carson Scholar, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart



Vivian Shao

2017 Carson Scholar
Dorseyville Middle School
Pittsburgh, PA

Vivian has a knack for science both inside and outside of the classroom. Hoping to become an engineer, Vivian participates on the Girls of Steel team, competing at Carnegie Mellon University’s National Robotics Engineering Center. Vivian is also an experienced swimmer, winning several gold and silver medals throughout her career while also serving as a volunteer during swim meets. She loves singing for her school’s honors chorus and dancing for the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater School. With the help of her friends, Vivian raised money for the Animal Rescue League by selling homemade dog biscuits and hosting Pet Dollar Days at school.

William strives to be a role model for future generations. As co-president of Student Council, he organizes fundraisers for Backpacks for Hunger and Blessings in a Backpack. Through Backpacks for Hunger, William and other members of Student Council assemble weekend meals for children whose families cannot afford food. He is also very involved in sports as a member of his school’s soccer, basketball, cross country and swimming teams. With dreams of becoming an engineer or architect, William’s passion for science began at an early age, winning first place at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science at Dueschne University and Penn State. In his free time, he enjoys playing the clarinet and reading.



William Koloc

2017 Carson Scholar
Christ the Divine Teacher Catholic Academy
Pittsburgh, PA



Lucy Pearsall-Finch

6-time Carson Scholar
Pittsburgh Barack Obama
Academy of International Studies
Pittsburgh, PA

Lucy’s desire to help others is evident in her service to her community. As a member of the executive council for the African American Centers for Advanced Studies, she helps to organize an annual symposium with speakers and teen forum presentations. Lucy also served on the student committee to help select the next superintendent for her school district, where she was able to have a voice in the future of Pittsburgh Public Schools. When she is not advocating in the community, she enjoys being a member of the school marching band. Lucy plans to pursue a career in international business to continue helping others.