

ASSISTING MENTORING MOTIVATING



Presented By

South Central Scholars Foundation

The Program...

SCS Mission

Our mission is to assist highly motivated high school students from economically depressed South Central Los Angeles to achieve success in college, graduate school, and their careers in life.

The Program...

SCS History

Founded in **2001**, the efforts of the organization began with one scholarship and has since increased to over **540 scholars** recruited from **35 high schools** in or around **South Central Los Angeles**. The program provides scholarships, mentorship, and internships, throughout the country local to colleges that our students matriculate.

To date, South Central Scholars have given over **\$2 Million** in college and graduate school scholarships.

**Scholarship commitments do not include monies provided to students for: prep classes and test fees (MCAT, LSAT, GRE, etc.), airfare and travel expenses, dental/medical expenses, school supplies, personal supplies such as winter clothing, equipment such as computers, or internship stipends.*

The Program...

Why SCS is unique

100% of donations fund student programs and scholarships, as opposed to funding administrative expenses. The board of directors funds overhead costs!

Through an established network of volunteer executives, **scholars are provided one-on-one guidance**, addressing such challenges as homelessness, rape, incest, abuse, parental drug and alcohol addiction, and poverty.

SCS offers **financial, professional, and personal assistance, mentorship, and internship/job placement assistance**, in order to provide scholars with a holistic approach to academic and personal development and success.

The Program...

Why SCS is important

Inner city motivated students lack role models –10% or less of our scholars have had a parent attend college and over 60% of our scholars were raised in a single-parent household, with a large minority either orphaned or homeless.

More male students in the community matriculate from high school to prison than to college.

Alternative holistic programs for motivated inner city youth are lacking; financial grants without mentoring is unsuccessful and mentoring without a focus on obtaining meaningful work experience is insufficient.

Over 400 Scholars in our program...



Over 67% of our scholars attend universities ranked among the top 50 nationally. To date, the scholar graduation rate is **96%.**

South Central LA: The Need...

South Central Los Angeles students experience:

- ❖ The high school graduation rate for this population is 30-35%
- ❖ Limited or no support from a stable family or a family with an academic tradition
- ❖ Limited access to mentorship and positive role models
- ❖ Little evidence of a strong educational history in their communities
- ❖ Poor records on high school completion and post-secondary educational attainment, coupled with enormous barriers to economic and financial stability
- ❖ Severe poverty, high crime rates, extreme gang violence, and low employment rates

The Program: Goals and Objectives...

- 1) Assisting high school students from South Central LA to achieve academic success in college and graduate/law/medical school
- 2) Assisting sophomore and junior high school students in learning about universities by providing annual college fairs, and providing students with the assistance and resources necessary to apply to these universities
- 3) Providing students with financial aid and FAFSA workshops and one-on-one assistance to encourage students to analyze and attend universities best suited to their career goals as well as offering them the best financial aid packages



The Program: Goals and Objectives...



4) Working with students and colleges/universities to identify liaisons that students can access to help improve the students' financial aid packages, find on-campus resources for academic assistance, develop relationships with faculty and staff to promote retention



5) Provide meaningful job and internship opportunities to the students for basic support, to contribute to their career development, education, and entrepreneurial opportunities, and to begin the process of networking with professionals within the community



6) Link students with mentors and current scholars who have succeeded in academic disciplines and careers in which the student has an interest

The Program: Goals and Objectives...

- 7) Teach our students financial concepts including planning, budgeting, and saving
- 8) Teach our students academic skills concepts such as study skills, time-management, note-taking, and researching
- 9) Providing our current students with a family of volunteers, scholars, and mentors as a resource. We encourage continued participation post-graduation to promote the development of a growing SCS community for future students from South Central Los Angeles



The Process: Our Strategy...

SCS targets a limited geography in order to provide rich program services and achieve awareness.

- ❖ Direct access to each of the 35 high school principals that we recruit from
- ❖ Rapidly growing inbound inquiries from middle school staff, students, parents, community leaders, and churches

SCS creates a “high-touch” environment

- ❖ Our central goal of creating a community, rather than a financial support program, encourages students to “give back” and allows staff to leverage scholars when assisting incoming students
- ❖ Mentors address problems that interfere with a scholar’s success in college and in obtaining employment
- ❖ Regular contact with every student from the moment they become a scholar, through graduation, and beyond

The Process: Our Criteria...

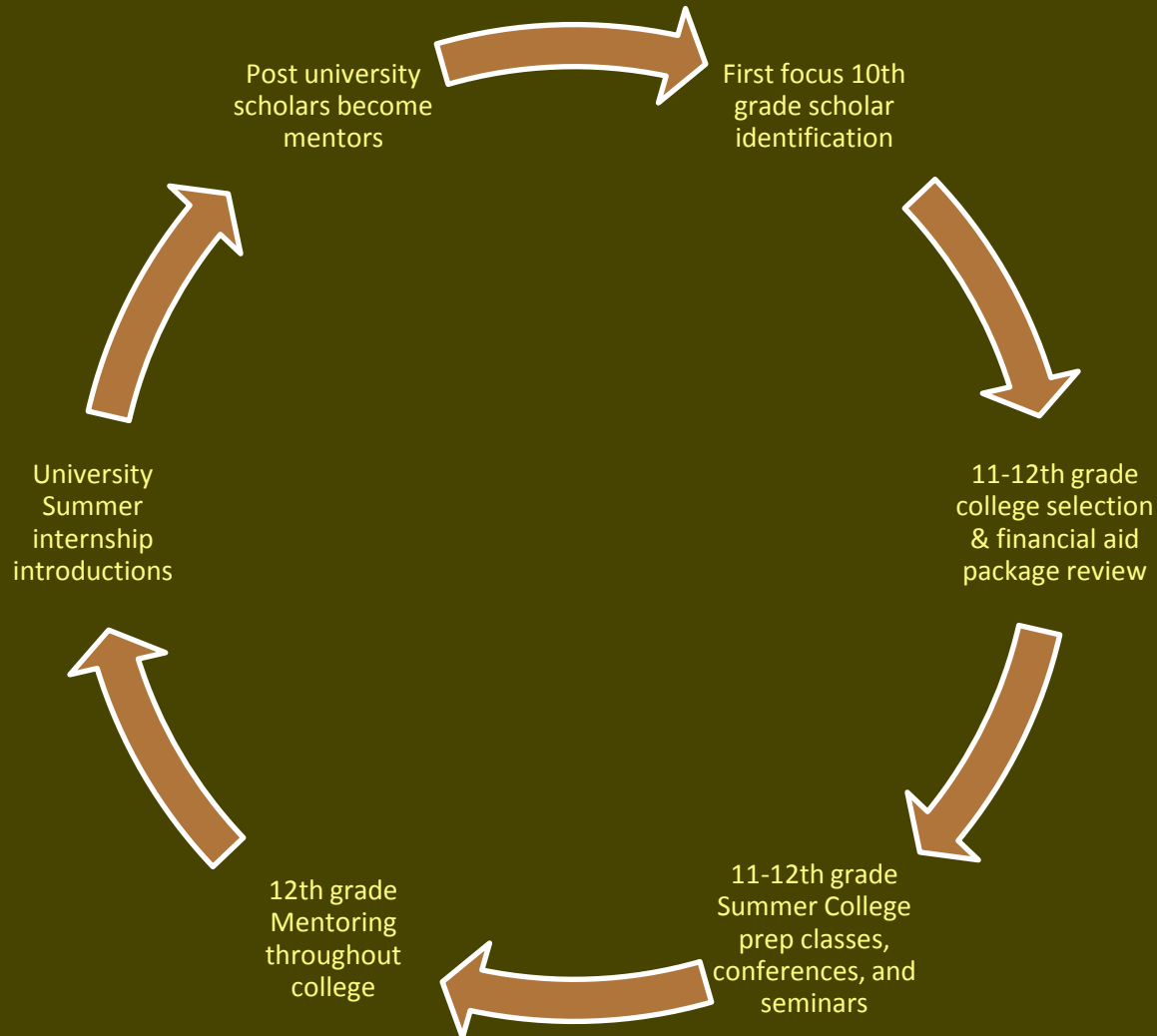
Scholars are identified as juniors in high school based on recommendations from school faculty and the counseling department at their high schools, and general outreach by SCS staff. Students then apply to our scholarship in the Spring semester of their senior year. Students are chosen based on the following:

- ❖ Academic success in high school (GPA, AP classes, and SAT/ACT scores)
- ❖ Extracurricular involvement and leadership (list of activities and hobbies)
- ❖ Personal circumstances (essay/personal statement submission)
- ❖ Academic plans (major, future plans after college)
- ❖ Financial need (college financial aid package, SAR, and other awards)

Program Services: Highlights...

- ❖ Receive an average of 275 scholarship applications each year and choose 70-75 scholars to enter our program.
- ❖ We have liaisons at each university that our students attend
- ❖ Nearly 1,500 students have completed SCS's college preparation seminar, covering study techniques, financial literacy and planning, career counseling, and networking skill development.
- ❖ Over 75% of scholars have utilized our mentoring services, receiving career guidance and life counseling (i.e. academic and financial issues, health issues, depression/anxiety, parental abuse, and other issues)

Program Services: Support Lifecycle

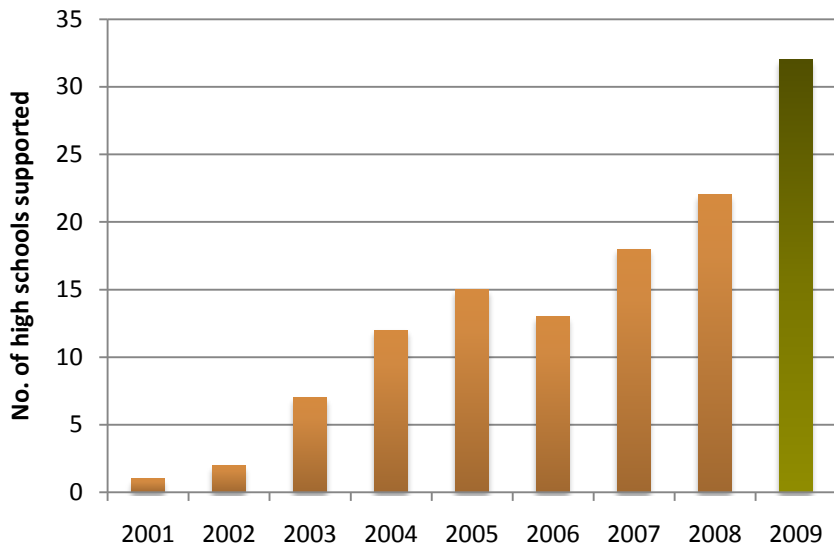


Program Services: Program Growth

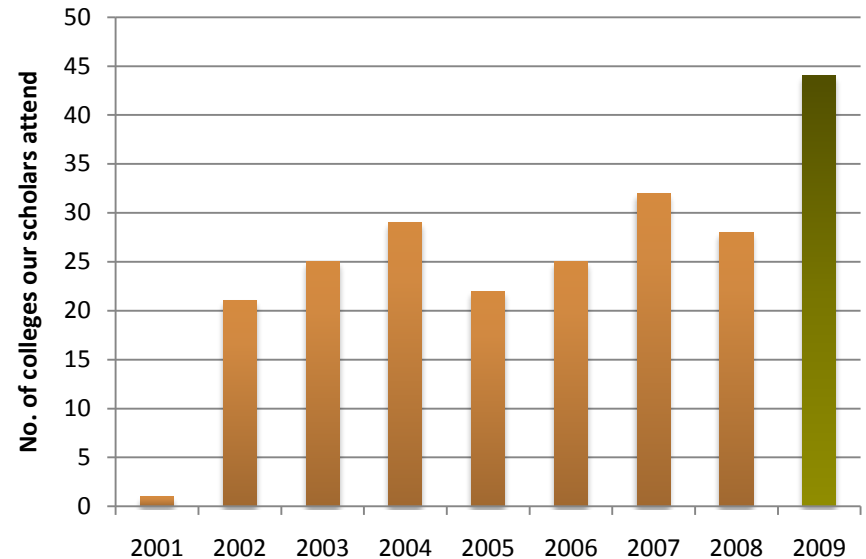
SCS has achieved impressive growth targets in each important aspect of the program, as shown below:

Note: Data has not been updated to reflect information for the Class of 2010

High School Representation



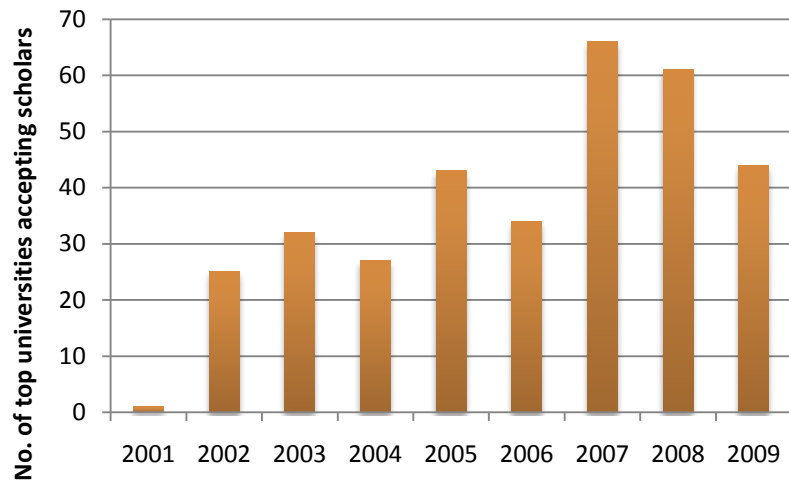
College Enrollment



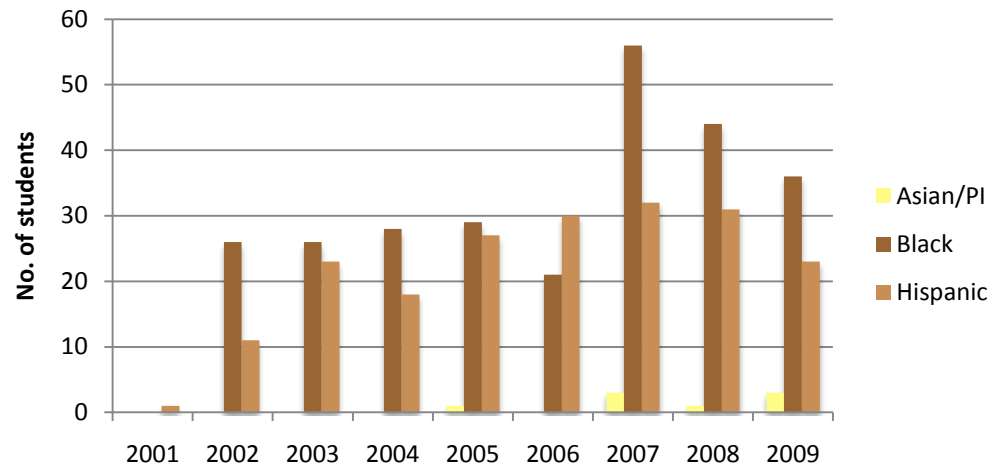
Program Services: Program Growth

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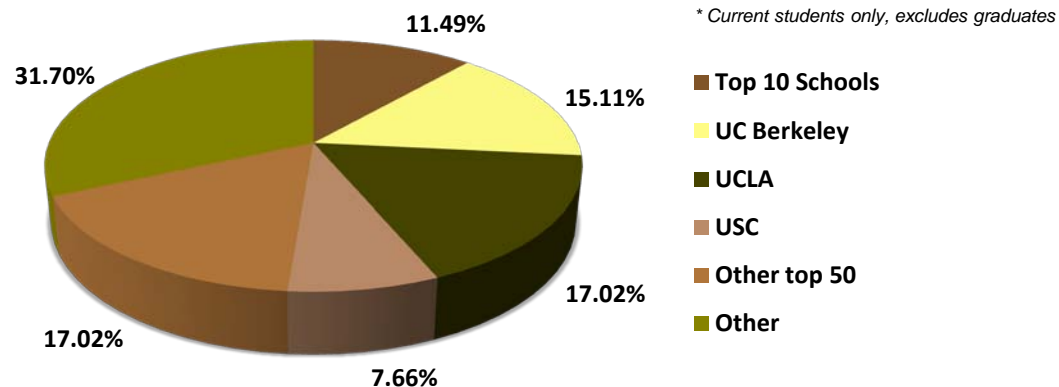
Access to Top 50 Schools



Diverse Demographic Representation



Scholar Enrollment by University



The Population: Scholar Profile

Our 540 scholars have a common background

- ❖ 100% are minorities; approximately 55% African American, 41% Hispanic, and 4% Asian/other ethnicities
- ❖ 80% attend one of 18 public high schools and 20% attend parochial schools in South Los Angeles
- ❖ 60% of students have an average combined household annual income of \$35,000
- ❖ 100% of students attend high schools in areas with routine violent crime and low graduation rates
- ❖ 65% of the students have no healthcare
- ❖ Over 97% are first-generation college students

And yet...

- ❖ Approx. 96% of our scholars graduate from college, while the national university graduation rate is 54%
- ❖ Over 77% of our scholars received a 3.5 GPA or higher upon graduating high school
- ❖ 100% received university-provided academic scholarships and grants

Current Programs: Scholarships...

Annual financial grants throughout university enrollment; average scholarship commitment is 4 years. Typical grants range from \$500-5,000 p/year.

In 2006, this program was expanded to students pursuing graduate and professional schools.

To date, South Central Scholars has provided \$2 Million in grants to approximately 470 high school seniors enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the country.

2010 scholarships will be distributed in August of 2010.



Current Programs: Scholarships...

SCS funding covers such expenses as:

1. College entrance tests, application fees, and graduate school examination fees (i.e. LSAT, MCAT, GRE)
2. Travel to visit/interview on campus
3. Clothing and incidentals necessary to attend universities located where there is inclement weather
4. Part or total of expected family contribution
5. Textbooks and school supplies
6. Local travel (i.e. bus passes) expenses
7. Professional clothes for summer and year-round internships

Current Programs: Mentoring...

Individualized mentoring by professionals linked to scholars based on specific criteria such as academic interest, employment interest, skill set strength/weakness matching, etc. Mentorship also happens in the form of workshops and college/employment preparation seminars which provide study techniques, budgeting skills, career counseling, and networking skills development.

96% of our students graduate from college and 30% of our students are attending or plan to attend post graduate schools.

Current Programs: Jobs & Internships...

Individualized approach to connecting students with jobs and internships that create opportunities for students in a specific field or to be placed part/full-time with an employer in their industry of interest. Representative employers include:



Management: What we have learned

Critical importance of early intervention. Issues such as gang-involvement and other negative peer pressure on college-bound students becomes more influential by the freshman year.

“High touch” involvement, providing financial support, mentoring, and job introductions, has proven to be a winning formula.

Creating a community with a cycle of involvement leads to sustainability and better outcomes; high and continuous scholar involvement creates a thriving cycle.

Winning the trust of students, parents, and school administrators dictates staffing and partnerships from within the community.

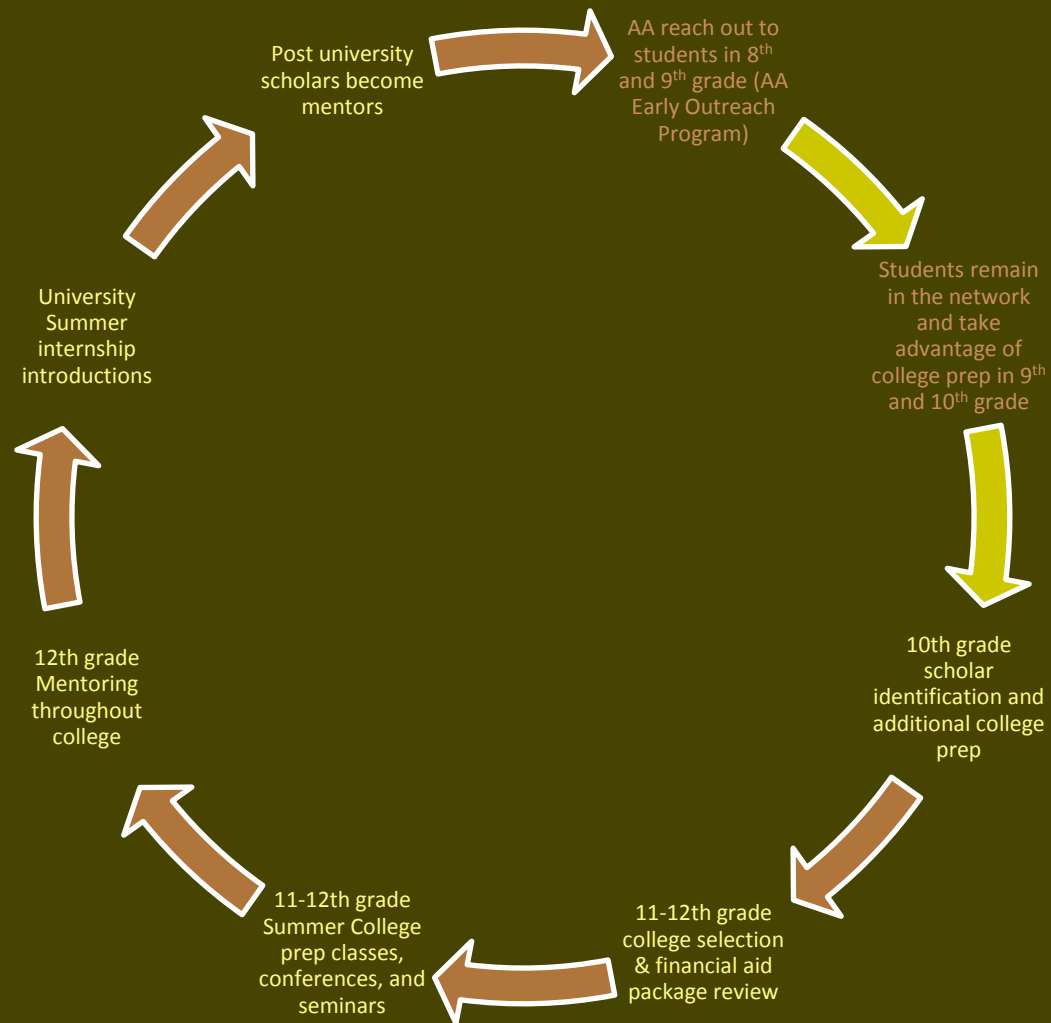
Next Steps: An Alumni Association

Alumni Association (AA)

By leveraging our growing network of graduated scholars, SCS's Alumni Association (AA) will provide mentorship to new and current scholars. SCS will increase participation in all programs and promote the encouragement of a college-going tradition in South Central Los Angeles.

Initiatives include AA-run college prep/awareness seminars and workshops for middle school and early high school students.

Impact of AA: Extended Lifecycle



A Word from our Scholars...

DARRYN LEE

Temple University, '11 graduation

“SCS has been able to immerse me in the financial services industry at a young age, in that I was able to intern at an \$85mm hedge fund as a Summer Analyst, during the summer preceding my Sophomore year. I wouldn't have been able to have such an opportunity if it wasn't for SCS.

I love how SCS is an organization specifically geared towards assisting inner-city youth, whether the support is monetary or emotional; they do a great job!”

DOMINIQUE REESE

Princeton University, '06 graduate

“As a SCS alumna, currently residing in NYC, I am not a forgotten memory of SCS. The Londons have made it a priority to maintain contact with me and other alumni, but most importantly, have engaged our interest in giving back to SCS. With their blessing and their assistance, recent alum will create a SCS Alumni Group, which will further extend SCS's mission and commitment to foster our success. Not only was I a proud SCS scholar, but now, I am able to say I am a proud alum as well, continuing our mission to educate and develop the great minds of inner city youth.”

A Word from our Scholars...continued

KARMEN PATTON

USC, '07 graduate

“SCS is unique in its focus on the person and not the money. When I was in college I had no contact with my parents and really needed some advice. More importantly, I needed to know someone cared. SCS was there for me. During summers I have worked for the foundation and have seen how other students access mentoring and services. The sheer volume of students that have some type of personal or family crisis and are assisted by SCS. It is remarkable. Most of the scholars have no other adult they can turn to, so the support is invaluable.”

DORIS L. LEE

Pomona College, '07 graduate

“I worked hard and was fortunate to receive a scholarship to Pomona College. My SCS advisors Jeff & Chris Weiss bought dorm furnishings and provided college preparedness counseling for me. More important, they gave me confidence and ongoing support. I received birthday cards, e-mails, calls and constant reminders that the foundation is there for me.

SCS provides a critical parental role to us since so many are first in our family to attend college.”

A Word from our Partners...

MERRILL LYNCH

“Merrill Lynch, whose employees have been involved with SCS for a number of years, is proud to partner with SCS in continuing to meet the needs of the SCS students by providing them financial skills and leadership development that will ensure their level of success in college and in life. The foundation we have created together will provide long-lasting impact on the lives of the students. The fact that Merrill Lynch has hired SCS alumni, who are now serving as volunteers and mentors to other students, is a testament to the change we are bringing to our communities.”

HEWLETT PACKARD

“Pedro was introduced by SCS but the hiring manager had no idea that he had a challenged background and hired him through a competitive interviewing process. HP makes interns really think through their projects and Pedro impressed everyone with his organizational and people management skills. At the end of the summer we offered him an internship for the following summer in our printer design group, which hires only one intern a summer and recruits nationally.”

A Word from our Partners...continued

UC, LOS ANGELES

“The carefully integrated program developed by SCS since its inception in 2001 could serve as the model for programs in many communities. The comprehensive combination of early outreach, academic support and college preparatory activities, mentorship during the college years, the career placement program, and donor gifts that assist these young scholars matches and surpasses the ‘best practices’ of most programs in the nation.”

AMHERST COLLEGE

“South Central Scholars hasn't taken the "buckshot" approach to providing educational opportunities in southern California. The group has focused its attention on a specific area of Los Angeles where many other programs have failed and it has INVESTED in the community. I believe that this investment will create long-term economic and social benefits to the South Central community, in addition to providing broader educational opportunities to individual students.”

A Word from our Volunteers...

SCS BOARD MEMBER

"Getting involved with the South Central Scholars as a board member has been very energizing - from being able to help students as a mentor, to helping with job opportunities, to introducing them to my network of contacts" *SCS Board Member*

"One of the things I like most about the South Central Scholars program is the Pay it Forward (a movie) factor - help three students, and in turn they each help three students (i.e. 9 in total), and so on (doing so 6 times = 729 students!) - the potential impact this multiplier effect can make on the younger members of the SCS student's communities can be life changing."

SCS BOARD MEMBER

"The South Central Scholars Foundation (SCS) is a special community that has grown virally through the inspiration and leadership of Trisha London and Dr. Jim London. Many prominent business leaders and professionals are drawn to the SCS community and are able to help in different ways. Some community member volunteers are looking to provide financial support, others are looking to provide internships or mentoring and others contribute their talents, time, resources and connections. There is a place for everyone who wants to become involved."

SCS Board of Directors

James T. London MD, Founder

Orthopedic Surgeon

Patricia London, Founder

Board of Directors, St Mary's Academy

Devon Baranski, Managing Director

Merrill Lynch Private Banking and Investment Group

Allison Gauthier, Senior Vice President

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Alexander Rubalcava, President & Founder

Rubalcava Capital Management

Bill Simpson, Partner, Corporate Department

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walter

Greg Wardle, Principal

KPMG

Jeff Weiss, PhD

Center for Corporate Innovation, Inc

Contribute to the Program by...

Making a contribution

100% of donations go directly towards scholarships. The Board of Directors funds all operational and overhead expenses.

Creating a program for mentoring and/or internships

Our scholars greatly benefit from opportunities to experience their career or industry of study first-hand. Employment and mentorship opportunities open doors for our students to gain meaningful relationships, resources, and experiences that will better assist them in their transition to the workforce.

Volunteering

We are always looking for new volunteers, ask us how you can get involved!

For more information...

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