

# 2017-2018

## ANNUAL REPORT



GROW



LEAD



LEARN

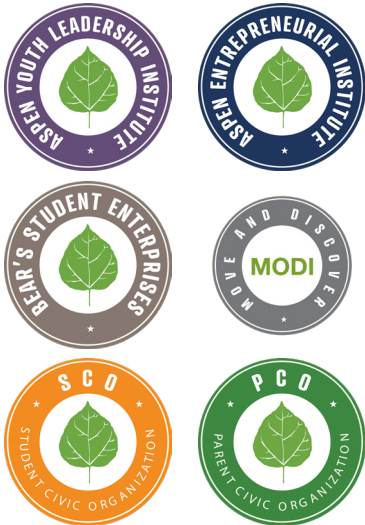


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This report covers Aspen Academy's fiscal year of July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018. We made every effort to ensure the accuracy and completeness of this report. If we have made an error or omission, please accept our apologies and report it to [development@aspenacademy.org](mailto:development@aspenacademy.org).

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Aspen Academy  
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Greenwood Village, CO 80121  
[aspenacademy.org](http://aspenacademy.org)



# MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Since 2005, Aspen Academy has cultivated fertile ground where our students can take root, engage in rigorous academic programs, develop their character and leadership skills, and build a sense of global citizenship through service learning. We believe education should address what students know but equally important, who they are. This means taking the time to know each of our 400 students individually and challenging them to be extraordinary leaders who do extraordinary things.

Over the course of our 2017-2018 school year we welcomed 60 new families into our community; graduated 40 students in the Class of 2018 who continued on to 12 high schools across Denver, and increased our alumni population to 264 alumni at 29 high schools. We launched new learning amenities as we made an investment in iPads for our Lower School, completed our auditorium renovation with improved acoustics that allow our children to be heard and moved the sound booth to the main level to support closer and better access to the stage and coordination for productions.

With our notable dedication to financial literacy, we launched weekly curriculum focus as part of "Money Monday" and "Finance Friday." Our students led countless academic, arts and leadership performances, projects and events and engaged in 7,000 hours of service learning.

The implementation of our Academic Chair program brought the completed research and business case for our Language Arts academic review under the leadership of co-chairs Joanna Weisel and LeighAnn Orsen.

At the end of the year, the following faculty members were elected by their peers to lead curriculum development, create cross-disciplinary connections and model innovative teaching techniques in the following domains:

Gabriella (Polen) Fratta and Corey Sampson, Social Sciences  
Kerri Esposito and Maureen Mullen, Math  
LeighAnn Orsen and Joanna Weisel, Language Arts  
Rob Cooper and Sam Murray, Science.

We took the next steps in evolving our brand to one that more accurately reflects the energy and innovation that takes place at Aspen Academy. These changes spanned from our website and printed materials to physical changes to our lobby. In our West Wing, we completed a refresh with new shelving and paint, MODI chairs and tables. In the Administrative Wing, we completed our interior renovation and exterior painting and replacement soffits. We completed additional outdoor maintenance on the cafeteria.



Kristina Scala,  
Head of School



George Sparks,  
Board Chair

**We firmly believe the world belongs to those who show up and hustle. We will never stop hustling on behalf of Aspen Academy students, faculty, staff and families.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristina Scala".

**Kristina Scala**, Head of School

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Sparks".

**George Sparks**, Board Chair

# ASPEN AT A GLANCE

Aspen Academy is a national leader in innovative education. Through internationally acclaimed academics and the nation's first integrated Pre-K through 8th grade leadership and entrepreneurial development program, our students are empowered to lead purposeful and extraordinary lives and focus on the character-building education essential for thriving in today's world. Small classes are led by exceptional, award-winning faculty who provide a foundation of rich academics and a personalized approach to instruction. At Aspen Academy, these core values are true to our school, and our community: Be Kind. Do Good. Work Hard. Make The World Better.

## STUDENT PERFORMANCE

**86%**

Reading at or above  
grade level (DRA/ORI  
Internal Assessments)

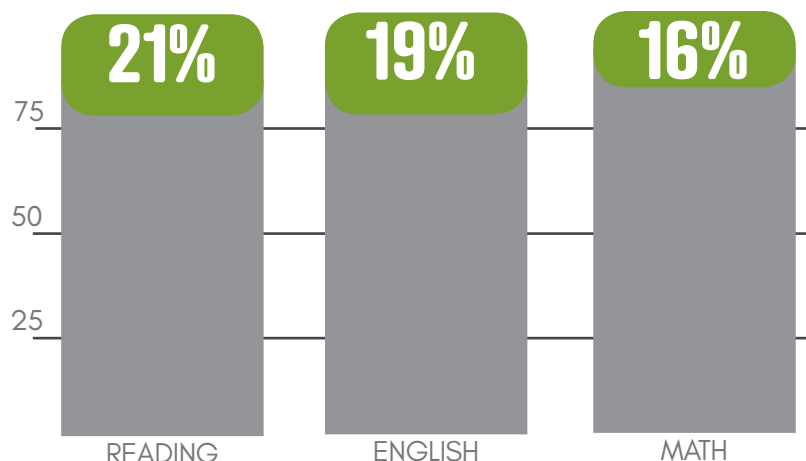
**91%**

Average score of Math  
tests based on Singapore  
Math assessments

## OUR DIFFERENCE: TOP IN THE NATION



Each year, Aspen Academy uses ACT Aspire to map student progress from grades three through eight on a vertical scale, anchored to the scoring system of the ACT. These scores are also compared to other schools around the nation and reveal Aspen Academy to be among the top in the nation for Reading, English and Math.



**DEVELOPING  
EXTRAORDINARY  
LEADERS**

"One of the fastest-growing independent schools in the country." – Association of Colorado Independent Schools.



"Top Scoring School" – AdvancED





# OUR MISSION

**We edify and inspire students and educators to grow, learn and lead.**

# OUR VISION

**We are a national leader in innovation and transformative education.**

# OUR VALUES

**Be Kind.  
Do Good.  
Work Hard.  
Make The World Better.**

## Thank You to the 2017-2018 Board of Trustees

George Sparks, Chair  
Suzanne Goodspeed, Advancement  
Carl Algermissen, Trustee & Governance  
Darrell Watters, Investment and Finance & Audit  
Lew Kling, Compensation  
Jack Keenan, Finance & Audit and Investment  
Lori Taylor, Advancement

Ernie Panasci, Finance & Audit and Investment  
Jackie Griggs, Advancement  
Brad Tucker, Trustee & Governance  
Brian Meegan, Compensation  
Arjun Sen, Advancement  
Kristina Scala, Founder, President & Head of School



# 2017-2018 TIMELINE

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2017



AUGUST: Assessment Day and the epic 2017 eclipse aligned to kick-off our 2017-2018 school year.



SEPTEMBER: Our 2017 Bear Crawl & Carnival were opportunities to celebrate together as a community!

OCTOBER 2017



OCTOBER: Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne speaks with Andrew Wilson, Aspen Academy student as part of Mr. Sampson's class.



OCTOBER: Our PCO sponsors the annual Parent Cocktail Party, an annual event building our parent community.



OCTOBER: Parents and students supported the annual Service Day by contributing hours to our campus through Rake Up Aspen.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017



NOVEMBER: We welcomed grandparents and special friends to our annual Grand Day. Faculty volunteered at Project Cure.



DECEMBER: The Geography Bee gave students an opportunity to share their brilliance. Congratulations to winner, Anderson Toler

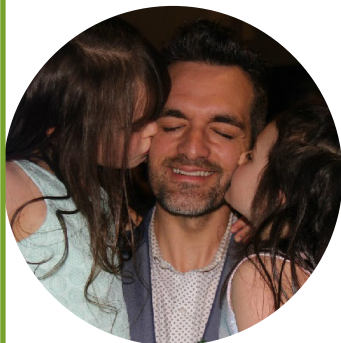


DECEMBER: To kick off the week before Winter Break, Aspen students, faculty and staff celebrated Spirit Week, including the annual 8th Grade/Faculty Basketball Game.

## JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2018



JANUARY: Our inaugural Entrepreneurial Expo featured business acumen from each class.



FEBRUARY: Fathers and daughters came together on the dancefloor for our annual Father Daughter Dance.



JANUARY: The SCO Community Service Committee, along with students, Ella S. and Izzy B., organized Service Week.

## MARCH-APRIL 2018



MARCH: Speaker Tommy Spaulding shared inspiration in a PUMP'd evening event for parents and community.



APRIL: 8th Grade Students made pitches to a "Shark Tank." Congratulations to Nolan Cooper, whose Promposal business won the competition.



APRIL: Parents, faculty and staff celebrated during the "An Evening at the Theater" Gala & Silent Auction.

## MAY-JUNE 2018



MAY: Faculty Appreciation Week was followed by Adventure Week for an event-filled May!



MAY: Special guests from the Denver Broncos came to the school to share more about character and leadership on and off the field.

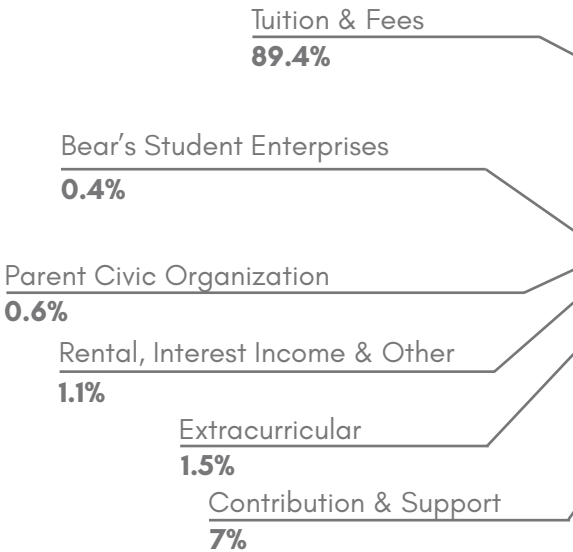


JUNE: Field Day, Graduation and our New Alumni Reception create an epic send-off for Summer Break.

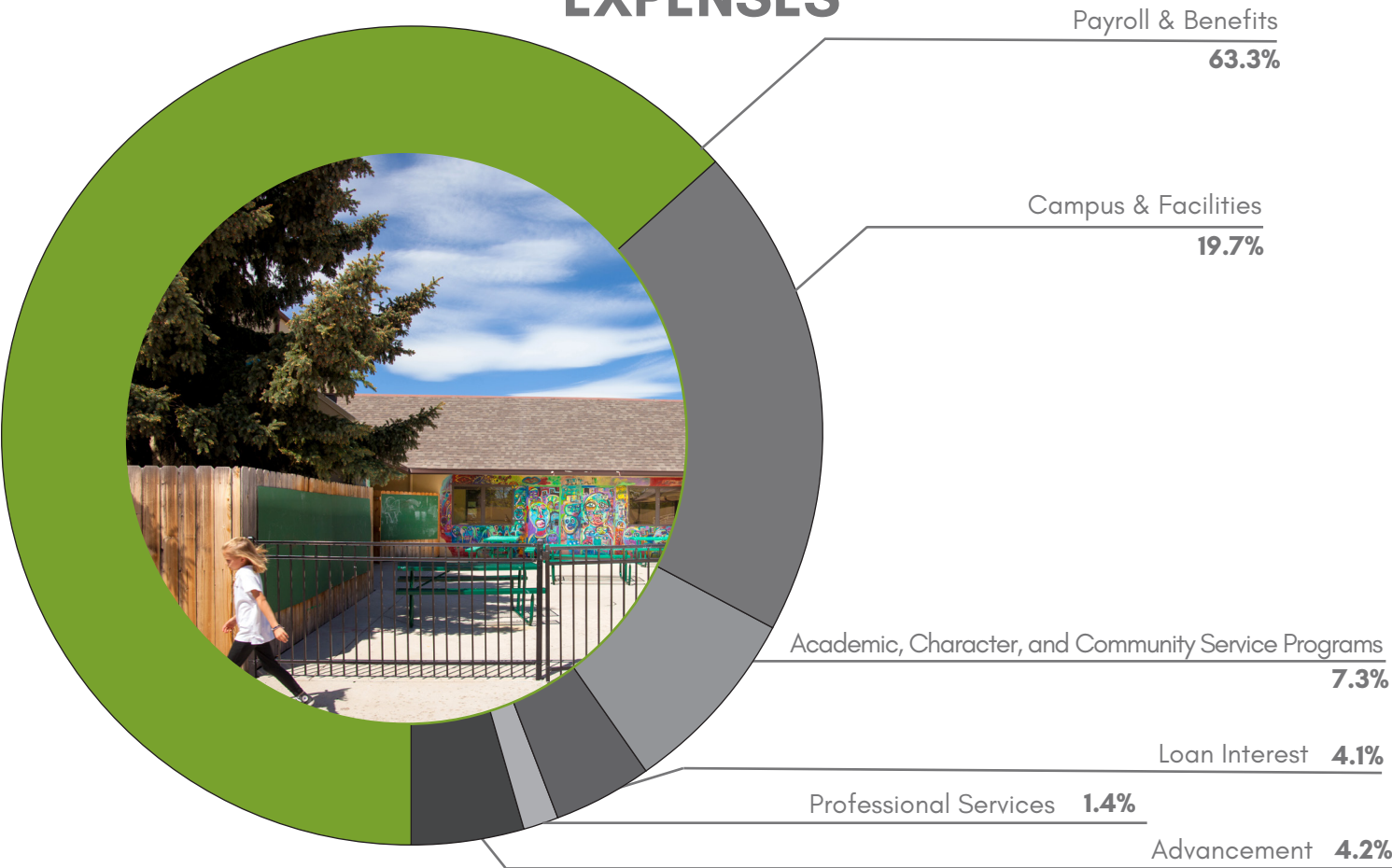


# FINANCIAL REPORT

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



# 2017-2018 FINANCIALS

## TOTAL REVENUE

Tuition and Fees	6,784,222
Contribution and Support	535,610
Rental, Interest Income & Other	80,041
Extracurricular	112,592
Parent Civic Organization (PCO)	43,600
Bear's Student Enterprises (BSE)	30,574
	<b>\$7,586,639</b>

## TOTAL EXPENSES

Payroll and Benefits	4,643,596
Campus and Facility Expenses	1,441,711
Academic, Character, and Community Service Programs	534,819
Loan Interest	302,854
Professional Services	105,468
Advancement	311,588
	<b>\$7,340,036</b>

## RESERVES

Operating & Long-Term Reserves for Debt Retirement	<b>\$675,000</b>
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## GIVING

Annual Fund	209,814
Capital Gifts	325,796
	<b>\$535,610</b>



## 2017-2018 TESTIMONIALS

**"My children are prepared for whatever the futures holds because of the education at Aspen Academy.** The innovation and leadership curriculum provides opportunities to be a empathetic citizen and at the same time create a business and business plan starting at kindergarten. The faculty are always forward thinking and truly love my child."

"My Granddaughter loves her Pre-K teacher and class. **She is excited every day to go to school.** Last week she was assigned her mentor and it was like Christmas came early!"

"I have seen older students helping out younger ones, not because they were told to, but because **the Aspen Academy culture inspires kindness and compassion and leadership**...Aspen Academy helps the child ...examine their own choices and teaches them to be accountable for their actions."

"As a parent I questioned sending our kid to a private school vs a public school. It was a great decision to send our child to Aspen. **Amazing teachers and CORE principles are developing future leaders. Every curricula is highly thought out and vetted.** The learning environment and skill sets that they are teaching our child will give him the strong foundation as he moves on to higher levels of education. It is a strong community with parent support and teachers who are dedicated 100% to the students in the school."





# Impact of Our 2017-2018 Annual Fund & Graduate Gift

A contribution to Aspen Academy's Annual Fund is the first and most important gift we ask of our families, faculty and staff and board of trustees. Aspen Academy continues to be the only independent school in Colorado without an operating gap between tuition revenue and expenses.

In 2017-2018 97% of our community participated in our Annual Fund, raising more than \$209,814.

Contributions to the Annual Fund support:

- **Financial Assistance**, including up to 50% financial aid for families in financial need.
- **Professional development** for faculty and Education Masters and Doctoral Degree Programs.
- **Academic Programs**, including technology, and leadership and entrepreneurial curriculum development enhancements and improvements.



## GRADUATE GIFT

The Class of 2018 Graduate Gift supported the transformation of the Bear's Student Enterprises Broadcast program. With the support of our 8th grade families we were able to:

- Move our audio visual technology from the nest to a central position in the theater, offering our production students the optimal setting to execute clear, crisp sound and lighting.
- Upgrade our audio system equipment with 6 wireless microphone belt pack transmitters and 6 base receivers, 6 wireless headset microphones, 1 rechargeable battery base station, 1 wireless antenna system, and 6 spare wireless headset cables.
- Upgrades to our stage lighting equipment with 1 lighting control console, 4 wireless data systems, 8 full color LED Spot Lights, 6 full color LED Wash Lights

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2017-2018 ANNUAL FUND COMMITTEE

John Fichter  
Amy Andresen  
Margo Ramsden  
CR Brinton

Melissa Gelfand  
Amy Swieringa  
Debbie Schwartz  
Jacquii Fabricant

Kelly Goering  
Nicole Messina  
Chris Good  
Steve Pougnet

Aspen Academy recognizes community members who support our mission of developing extraordinary leaders by participating in charitable giving. We are grateful for all levels of support and strive for 100% community participation in our efforts.

Founder's Circle (\$10,000-\$49,999)

Head of School's Circle (\$2,500-\$9,999)

Scholar's Circle (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Family Partner (\$500-\$999)

Friend (Up to \$499)

Leadership gifts are crucial to Aspen Academy's financial strength, every gift matters. We also acknowledge community members who have committed a planned gift to Aspen Academy as members of the Kristina Scala Legacy Society.

### Legacy Society:

Suzanne Goodspeed

Lynda Sailor

Anonymous

(continued)



# LEADERSHIP GIVING

## Founder's Circle:

Lily and Bill Derwin  
Debbie and Brad Dickler\*  
Jennifer and Yavor Efremov  
Chris and Ken Good  
Amy and Michael Krza  
Debbie and John Montford\*  
Amanda Jackson and Mark Oriol  
Tish and Robb Stone  
Merri and Kevin Tarrant  
Kim and Evan Wylly  
Deborah and David Younggren\*

## Head of School's Circle:

Jackie and Carl Algermissen  
Natallia and Maksim Avseev  
Ernest Behnke\*  
Katie and Bryan Bozeman  
Gretchen Zech and Robert Bush  
Marilyn and Michael Calvert\*  
Erin and Jeff Chain  
Kate and Mike Cogdall  
Goldie and Joel Cohen  
Pamela and Charles Cook\*  
Lori Taylor and Shan Dagli  
Cathy Zheng and Edward Davis  
Jacquii and Steven Fabricant  
John Fichter  
Angela and Dan Fox  
Suzie and Steven Goodspeed  
Vali and Nathan Jerome  
Pam and Jim Johnston  
Holly and Vance Joseph  
Lindsey and Michael Keough  
Dana and Ryan Krauser  
Karen and Steven Leaffer  
Goca Weis and Matthew Leavy  
Leila and Anthony Lewis  
Michelle and Jason Lockwood  
Brooke and David Loven  
Kate McCormick  
Tracy and Cass McKenzie  
Nicole and Tom Messina  
Faith and Stephen Mills

Joy and Chris Murphy  
Ernie Panasci  
Camila and Jason Peck  
Sherri and Matt Poznanovic  
Ellen and Joe Ruble  
Kim and John Schultz  
Jessica and Eric Schulze  
Alisabeth and Colin Shearn  
Christine and Scott Simon  
Lisa and Matt Smith  
Johanna Bulacar and Matthew Smith  
Shandra Wilson and George Sparks  
Kathryn and Eric Springer  
Amy and John Swieringa  
Liz and Brad Tucker  
Lorena Torres Turner and Austin Turner  
Leslie Underwood and Elia Wallen  
Jackie and Darrell Watters  
Jess and Doc Weidknecht  
Brooke and Link Wilfley  
Joy and Jim Woller

## Scholars Circle:

Travis and Margot Applegate  
Jana Axline  
Kerry and Ryan Barker  
Victoria and Keith Bough  
Lisa Swize and Jerrod Brown  
Lindsay and Matthew Chaffee  
Debbie and Mike Cordero  
Julie and Josh Dorkin  
Jennifer and David Fintak  
Brooke and Roche Fore  
Nicole and Eric Frank  
Lisa and Jay Green  
Rachel and Sam Green  
Sara and Brian Gunning  
Kelly and Jon Hardy  
Karen and Jeff Hendley  
Susan Furman and Joseph Hughes  
Kelly and Phil Jungwirth  
Linda and Jack Keenan\*  
Rebecca and Craig Kinard  
Cindy and Kurt Kittleson  
Kym and Tom Koch

Ilana and Matt Larson  
Alana and Martin Lawrence  
Jennifer and Eric Leavitt  
Aree Bly and Thomas Leonard  
Julie and Andy LeRoy  
Shannon and Rob Mackenzie  
Raelynn Maloney  
Wendy Leung and Dan McCann  
LucyAnn and Mike McCarthy  
Susannah and Julian McManus  
Lisa Yacuzzo and Gary Meade  
Katie and Cam Mochan  
Catherine and Mark Murchison  
Jennifer and John Osgood  
Debbie Schwartz and Fred Peurye  
Melanie and Drew Quinlan  
Tracy and Matthew Ritter  
Allison and Jason Ruchaber  
Lynda and Eric Jackson Sailor  
Kristina Scala  
Ru and Gary Schanman  
Tara and Jason Shofnos  
Stephanie Toler  
Shanna and Florian Weber  
Anza Goodbar and JaZelle Whitney  
Amanda and Robert Woolley  
Tamara and John Yount

## Family Partner:

Amy and Helen Andresen  
Judy and Richard Batenburg  
Jimena and Andy Begal  
Sara and Charlie Bentz  
Neha Mohta and Ravi Bhalotia  
Tiffany and CR Brinton  
Heather Ferguson and David Buhler  
Lyssa and Job Chacko  
Ann Badertscher and Cliff Clevenger  
Nancy and Mike Connell\*  
Margo Connor\*  
Jennifer and Daniel Cook  
Sandra and Gary Cooper  
Tim Dailey



Tammy and William Damarath  
 Melissa and Karl Engelmänn  
 Joey and Chris Fanale  
 Magaly Ulate Fields and Michael Fields  
 Claire and Sean Goodrich  
 Sandra and Richard Goodspeed\*  
 Kari and Jon Hale  
 Stacey and Peter Hauhuth  
 Kara Diamond-Husmann and Brian  
 Husmann  
 Liesl and Danny Keefe  
 Tiffany and Colby Kenyon  
 Autumn and Brent Kimball  
 Rebecca and Lew Kling\*  
 Lara and Frank Knuettel  
 Gretchen Lamberson  
 Doreen and Steven Larson\*  
 Brenda and Brian Lehnerz  
 Wendy and Eric Lindberg  
 Christine and Russell Lundstrom  
 Jodi and Dave Mann  
 Kara Marshall  
 Meredith and Brian Meegan  
 Kate and Stan Mohler  
 Allison and Jeff Nelligan  
 Rebecca and Ryan Nichols  
 Thayer Nielsen  
 Kendall and Eric Peterson  
 Samantha and Chris Powell  
 Heather and Paul Rakowski  
 Jodi and Robb Rolland  
 Molly and Dave Rudnick  
 Rachel and Todd Sachs  
 Roberta and Vern Schultz\*  
 Chitra and Arjun Sen  
 Heather and Troy Signorelli  
 Sherene and Ron Smith  
 Ann and Jeff Sobil  
 Jill and Tommy Spaulding  
 Svetlana and Scott Speil  
 Linda and Howard Speil\*  
 Saskia and Robert Stanley  
 Barbara and Timothy Vander Wall  
 Sara and Gabriel Varela  
 Enid and Eric Victor  
 Sara Younggren and Jack Weixel

Whitney and Chad Wolz  
 Sarah Spencer-Workman and Adam  
 Workman  
 Julie and Ron Zwerin

### Friend:

Gargi and Rajiv Agarwala  
 Patrick Allis  
 Benjie and Jon Anderson  
 Elizabeth and Tim Anderson  
 Burce Anderson  
 Deanne and Gordon Andringa  
 Bridget Aylward  
 Hailey Bailey and Nikita Kraemer  
 Michelle Barnes  
 Jonathan Bar-Or  
 Katie and Adam Becker  
 Octavia Betz  
 Gary Bogner  
 Natalie and Chris Boyle  
 Carrie Anne and William Bradley  
 Dan Brodsky  
 Angelita and William Brown  
 Devon Buchanan  
 Julie Burdick  
 Lauren and Phil Burgess  
 Michele Burnett  
 Nathan Byrne  
 Brenda and David Calvert  
 Carly Letz Carney and Mark Carney  
 Linda Carney\*  
 Sonia and Michael Carty  
 Linda (Lala) Chain\*  
 Jessica Cho  
 Caitlyn and Daniel Clark  
 Christie and John Connor  
 Lori Marks Connors and James  
 Connors  
 Pamela and David Cook  
 Allie and Rob Cooper  
 Kristin Dagli  
 Elizabeth Dailey  
 Mary Ann Dawson  
 Amy and Marlo Derksen  
 Melonie and Zeke DeRose  
 Paige and Richard Donahue  
 Ingibjorg Thors and Magnus Einarsson

Lennetta and Andrew Elkins  
 Roxanne and Ronaldo Esguerra  
 Kerri Esposito  
 Jason Fearnow  
 Jennifer Fichter  
 Janice and James Fisher  
 Laura and Lance FitzSimmons  
 Gabriella (Polen) Fratta  
 Katie and Zach Frisch  
 Tara Valgoi and Matthew Fry  
 Kim Haddad and Mark Galvan  
 Lisa and Dennis Garnder  
 Suzette and Brandon Gasser  
 Diana and Michael Gelfand\*  
 Jane and Emil Gjester  
 Kelly and Blair Goering  
 Steve Goslee  
 Mary Ann Gougeon\*  
 Jennifer Gravlee  
 Courtney Gray  
 Chris and Steve Pougnet Green  
 Lana Tsirkin and Eli Grinfield  
 Kathleen Harper  
 Sydney Harper  
 Sarah Harris  
 Emily and Paul Heffner  
 Virginia Walton and Jan Helen  
 Chris Holtzem  
 Lara Hutchison  
 Susan and Walter Jackson  
 Vanessa and Rob Jasinski  
 Krista Johnson  
 Peg Johnston\*  
 Hanna and Jonathan Joseph  
 Tatianna and Scott Kannady  
 Susan and Jerry Katz\*  
 Leslie and Hank Kinne  
 Janie and Orrin Kirshbaum\*  
 Phyllis Kittleson  
 Dana and Jeff Kohls  
 Chris Lazartic  
 Kelly Ledden  
 Meagan and Sam Leger  
 Magdalene and Lawrence Lehnerz\*  
 Corinne and Peter Lengsfeld  
 Yim Luk and Chung Leung\*  
 Natalie and Kevin Long

(continued)

# LEADERSHIP GIVING

Katherine Tovar Looney and James Looney  
Rebecca and Gregg Lurcott  
Mags and Josh Lybolt  
Shelley and Matthew Maloney  
Christian and Timothy Marasciullo  
Edi and Mort Marks  
Julie and John Marshall  
Linda Marshall  
Allison Mattivi  
Brooke and Rob McCallum  
Megan McKnight  
Janise and Jeff McNally  
Michael Mercer  
Becky Mershon  
David Mershon  
Wren and James Miller  
Alla and Vladimir Milstein  
Julie Moreau  
Ti and Francis Mougne  
Maureen Mullen  
Sam Murray  
Monica and Stu Myhill  
Allison and Jason Neal  
Lili Emadipour and Shahin Nia  
Bridget and Paul Noel  
Lauren Oakley  
Maria Garcia and Jonathon Olp  
Rosemarie Oppedisano  
Leigh Ann Orsen  
Khadija Owinyo  
Mary Payson  
Pilar and Anthony Pelz  
Beth and Justin Pestotnik  
Angela and Jamison Prien  
Thurdur Gunnasdottir and Sverrir Ragnarsson  
Margo and Todd Ramsden  
Shawna Riggio  
Olivia Rodriguez  
Greg Ryan  
Amy Sabin

Corey Sampson  
Jina Schaff  
Kevin Schaff  
Hannah Schievelbein  
Tara Ames and David Schott  
Terri and Lawrence Schwartz\*  
Carrie West and Joe Serieno  
Julie and Patrick Shaw  
Kate Shaw  
Cathy Shematek  
Keiko Short  
Karen Skadow  
Peter Sorich  
Bridget and Dan Starishevsky  
Andrea Starlin  
Brooke Steedley  
Andrea and Scott Steuer  
Danett and Jon Stewart  
Naomi and Oliver Stokeld  
Elena and Steven Stophel  
Jill Studnicki  
Kelsey Sullivan  
Mallory Sussman  
Ravi Swamy  
Sirine Tabarra and Ryan Swed  
Lydia and Myron Swize\*  
Stephen Taylor  
Melissa and Jeff Taylor  
Lisa and Andrew Teets  
Bobbie and Douglas Turner  
Roberta Vallina  
Joanna Weisel  
Jenny White  
David Wilson  
Linda and Dean Wolz\*

## Corporations & Foundations

Amazon Smile Foundation  
Bank of America  
Barre3 Belleview Station  
be.lifestyled  
B-Elite Soccer  
Boosterthon  
Century Link  
Coca Cola  
Community First Foundation  
Comprehensive ENT  
Curious Cork Imports

Deer Creek Valley Ranch  
Denver Center of the Performing Arts  
Denver Museum of Nature and Science  
Diamond Homes  
Elevate Rides  
Elise Zall  
Elway's  
Encana Oil & Gas  
Four Seasons Hotel Denver  
Garbanzo Mediterranean Fresh  
Hapa Sushi  
Homefest  
Hotel Engine  
Iliff Preschool, Inc.  
i-Orthodontics  
Jackson Realty Colorado, LLC  
Jason Peck Group at Keller Williams Realty  
Jing Restaurant  
JLH Imaging  
Kismet  
Kula Foundation  
Kumon of Greenwood Village  
Liberty Gives  
Little Nest  
Margot Elena  
Microsoft  
Mike Ward Automotive  
Nordstroms  
Northwestern Mutual  
Oppenheimer Funds  
Project Genetics  
Razzle Toys  
REMAX Urban Properties  
Rodney Strong Vineyards  
Sara Gabriel  
Sazza Pizza and Pasta  
SculptMed  
Seasons 52  
Swim Labs Highlands Ranch  
Tonalis Meats  
Traveler's Haven  
True Food  
Wells Fargo  
Zane's Italian Bistro  
Zyntex Medical, Inc.

\* - indicates Grandparent(s)



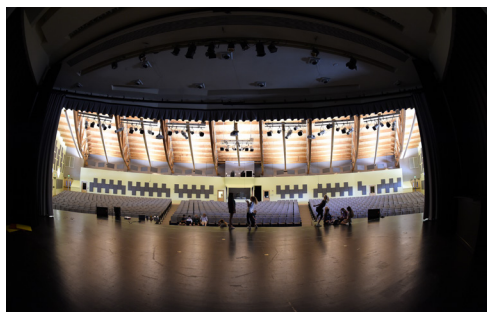


# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**G**enerous donations contributed as part of Grand Day 2016, Gala 2017, Grand Day 2017 and Gala 2018 transformed our auditorium with a remarkable renovation. The two-year, \$500,000+ capital campaign led to:

- Installation of a Grand Drape, a beautiful pewter front curtain for enclosing the entire stage for a theatrical reveal when opened, as well as a mid-stage traveller to create a more dynamic performance space and Drama Studio space and motorized curtain track system for safe, automatic operation.
- Professional grade acoustic wall treatments and suspended panels in the drama studio and auditorium space.
- Professional grade acoustic wall treatments and thundertiles in the Creative Movement Studio, the Music Studio and the Recording Studio.
- Fresh paint, aisle and carpet flooring.
- A valance for our grand drape and drapery for side stage entries.

**Special thank you to all our amazing donors and Mike Belitz and the Kablam Corporation for their gift in kind goods and services.**





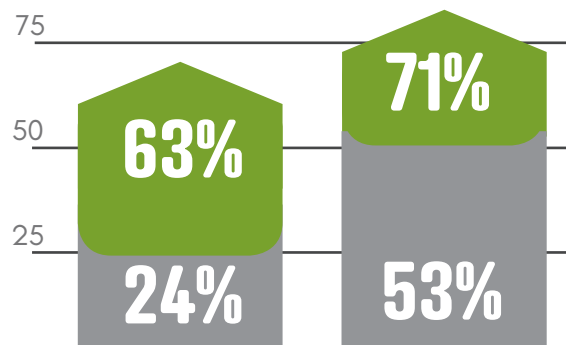
## Updates & Milestones

# ASPEN ENTREPRENEURIAL INSTITUTE

The Aspen Entrepreneurial Institute (AEI) is the only program in the nation that is a wholly sequenced, year-long curriculum that incorporates economics, personal financial literacy, organizational leadership, and entrepreneurship for Kindergarten - 8th Grade students. Students are exposed to a wide variety of lifelong financial skills that they can take into the world for their personal savings and to contribute to the greater world.

### Initial results from AEI curriculum in the classroom show growth (measurements by OMNI), including:

- 63.3% of students in Kindergarten through 5th grade demonstrated proficiency on the post-assessment in comparison to 23.5% at pre-assessment.
- 71.2% of students in 6th through 8th grade demonstrated proficiency on the post-assessment in comparison to 53.2% at pre-assessment.
- Parents consistently indicated that they valued all four of the AEI units as important for their children to learn, and primarily demonstrated support of the curriculum through purchasing products from classroom businesses. Parents reported that they increased the amount they spoke of AEI to others as the year progressed and indicated a decrease in the need for more information about the program to effectively speak to others about AEI.



### Milestones:

- 1st Annual Entrepreneurial Expo occurred on January 26, 2018. All grade levels K-8 participated in selling products created from their classroom and grade level businesses. The combined net profit for the expo was over \$2,800 to be used toward future business start-up loans.
- 8th grade Shark Tank took place on Friday, April 13, 2018- winner was Nolan Cooper with his business Promposals.
- Alumni Delaney Ryan (Laney's Lipcare) and Emily Rudnick (RudSpice) made the finals of the Young Americans YouthBiz competition with businesses started at Aspen Academy. Emily Rudnick won her age category.
- Students in grades 3rd-8th participated in the Stock Market Experience sponsored by Economic Literacy Colorado.



# MEET OUR NEW 2018-2019 BOARD MEMBERS

## Wayne Guerra



Dr. Guerra is currently Entrepreneur in Residence at CU Innovations at Anschutz Medical Campus where he helps identify and support internally and externally developed healthcare innovations from Anschutz Medical Campus which includes Children's Hospital Colorado and University of Colorado Health. He provides guidance on creating business models, product development, raising capital, acquiring customers and developing intellectual property rights.

He is also an Advisor for ListenMD, a guest lecturer for Executive MBA and MBA students at DU's Daniels College of Business, Co-Founder of Garde Systems LLC. Dr. Guerra is Co-founder and was the Chief Medical Officer of iTriage, one of the most widely downloaded healthcare applications that helps millions of monthly users find the most appropriate and cost-effective healthcare providers. iTriage was the first mobile healthcare application acquired by Aetna in September 2011, three years after the company was founded.

## James Park



James Park is the Chief Executive Officer of Garbanzo Mediterranean Fresh, the leader in fast-casual authentic Mediterranean cuisine. Garbanzo Mediterranean Fresh has locations in Colorado, Texas, Virginia, Georgia, and Minnesota. Prior to Garbanzo, James was VP of Marketing and R&D and VP of Operations for Which Wich Superior Sandwiches; oversaw Global Marketing, Consumer Insight and Fresh Foods for 7-Eleven; VP of Brand Management for Charley's Grilled Subs; and President

(Developer/Franchisee) for Penn Station East Coast Subs.

James is a savvy marketing and operations executive who champions and activates all things brand. James is currently on the Board of Advisors for Restaurant Leadership, Hospitality & Technology Magazine, Know Foods (Know Better Bread), and has been on the steering committee for Cornell Hospitality Research Summit programs.

## Tim Taylor



Tim Taylor is the co-founder and Executive Director of America Succeeds, bringing a unique background of executive, nonprofit, and public policy experience to the organization. America Succeeds is the nation's leading force for mobilizing the business sector to improve schools. The business community has the obligation, opportunity, and capacity to transform the public education system.

Tim is chairman of the board of directors for the Policy Innovators in Education (PIE) Network and serves on the advisory board of Highline Academy Charter School. He is a fellow of the 14th class of the Aspen- Pajara Education Fellowship and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.



# CONGRATULATIONS

## GRADUATING CLASS OF 2018

**Anoushka Agarwala**

*Saint Mary's Academy*

**Ari Agarwala**

*Kent Denver High School*

**Sydney Bar-Or**

*Cherry Creek High School*

**Tillie Cohen**

*Cherry Creek High School*

**Nolan Cooper\***

*Mullen High School*

**Mallory Coughlin**

*Littleton High School*

**Kaila Davidson**

*Valor Christian High School*

**Aidan Engelmann**

*Mullen High School*

**Gwen FitzSimmons**

*Littleton High School*

**Izzy Galvan**

*Valor Christian High School*

**David Gardner**

*Valor Christian High School*

**Emma Gjester**

*Saint Mary's Academy*

**Ryan Goodspeed**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Jack Hale**

*South High School*

**Daniel Hilt**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Sophie Kinne**

*Heritage High School*

**Jack Krza**

*Mullen High School*

**Delia Leonard**

*Littleton High School*

**Miranda Lockwood**

*Valor Christian High School*

**K.C. Lynch**

*Littleton High School*

**Ellie Mann**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Christain McCormick**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Aidan McNally\***

*Mullen High School*

**Jack Murphy**

*Thomas Jefferson High School*

**Max Myhill**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Ella Rakowski**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Joie Ruble**

*Colorado Academy*

**Delaney Ryan**

*Arapahoe High School*

**Camryn Sailor\***

*Arapahoe High School*

**Connor Schultz**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Andrew Simon**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Ford Springer\*\***

*Cherry Creek High School*

**Byron Starishevsky**

*Regis Jesuit High School*

**Danny Stevinson**

*Valor Christian High School*

**Cameron Stokley**

*Valor Christian High School*

**Jack Tupler**

*Arapahoe High School*

**Ben Turner**

*Cherry Creek High School*

**Teddy Vander Wall**

*South High School*

**Amanda Wilson**

*Colorado Academy*

**Sydney Workman**

*Saint Mary's Academy*

\* = Legacy Leader

\*\* = Valedictorian



# Where are our alumni?

Aspen Academy graduates have gone on to attend higher education institutions in 22 states and two countries outside the United States.

## Alabama

Auburn University

## Arizona

Arizona State University  
Grand Canyon University

## California

Academy of Art University  
Santa Clara University  
University of Southern California

## Colorado

Colorado Christian University  
Colorado College  
Colorado Mesa University  
Colorado School of Mines  
Colorado State University  
Metropolitan State University  
Red Rocks Community College  
University of Colorado  
University of Denver

## Florida

Eckerd College

## Georgia

Savannah College of Art and Design

## Idaho

Boise State University

## Indiana

Butler University  
Notre Dame University

## Iowa

Cornell College

## Louisiana

Tulane University

## Massachusetts

Boston University  
Northeastern University

## Michigan

Kalamazoo College

## Minnesota

St. Olaf College

## Missouri

University of Missouri

## New York

New York University  
State University of New York at Plattsburgh

## North Carolina

Elon University

## Rhode Island

University of Rhode Island

## South Carolina

College of Charleston  
University of South Carolina

## Tennessee

University of Tennessee  
Vanderbilt University

## Texas

Baylor University  
Southern Methodist University

## Virginia

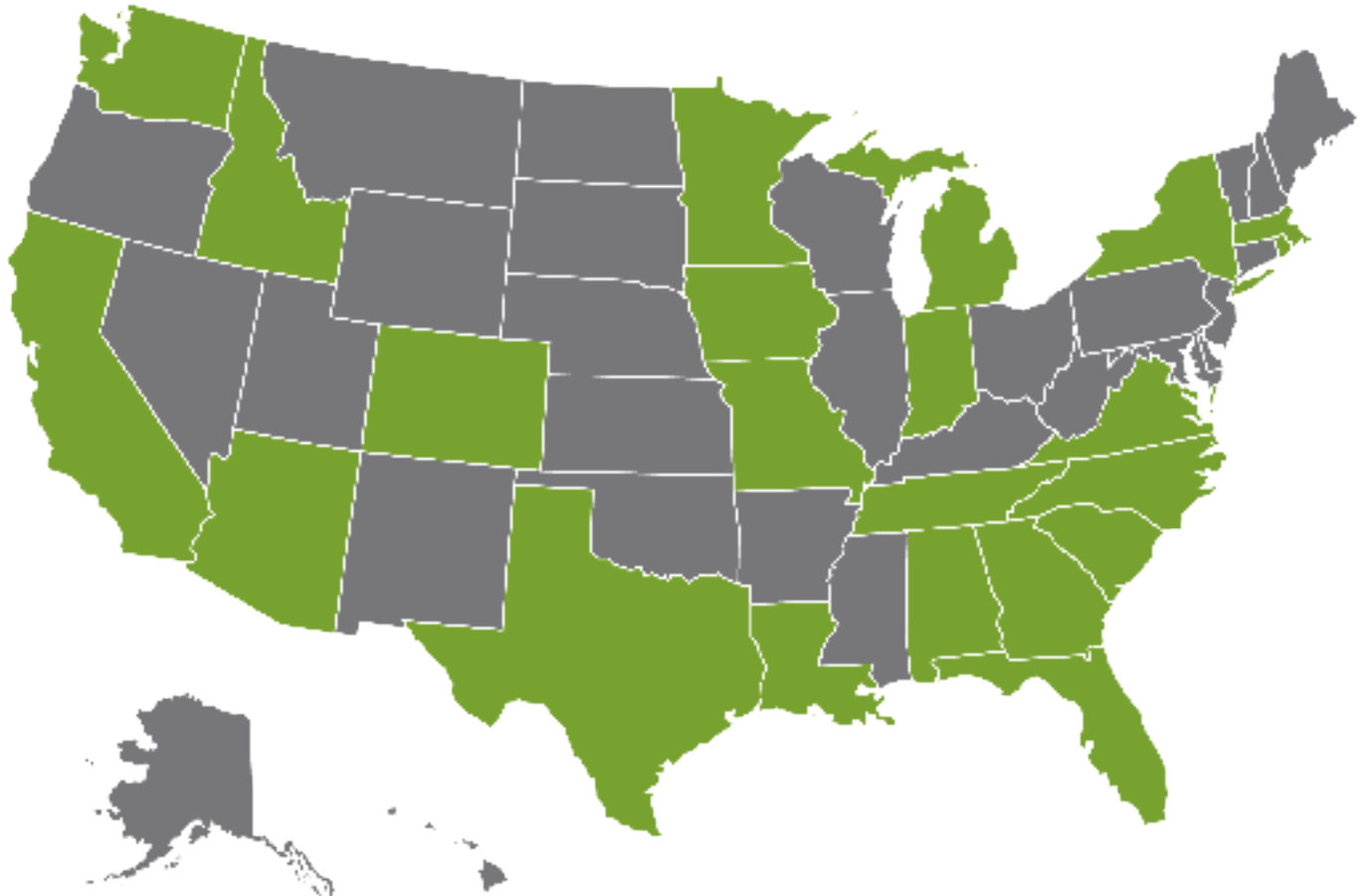
University of Virginia

## Washington

Seattle University  
University of Washington  
University of Puget Sound

## International

Reykjavik University (Iceland)  
Plumpton College (United Kingdom)





Aspen Academy Welcomed New Faculty & Staff for the 2017-2018 School Year:

- Jordyn (Rohrman) Linnell, Marketing & Engagement Coordinator
- Kate (Fuge) Shaw, Enrollment Manager
- Charlotte Underwood, Middle School Instructor, Essentials, Extended Care Lead

# STAFF & FACULTY



Patrick Allis  
Bridget Aylward  
Octavia Beard  
Katie Becker  
Gary Bogner  
Devon Buchanan  
Julie Burdick  
Michele Burnett  
Nathan Byrne  
Rob Cooper  
Debbie Cordero  
Sarah Coto Harris  
Mary Ann Dawson  
Kerri Esposito  
Charles Fischer  
Kate Fuge  
Chris Good  
Jennifer Gravlee  
Courtney Gray  
Kathleen Harper

Sydney Harper  
Chris Holtzem  
Lara Hutchison  
Dana Kohls  
Amy Krause  
Nicole Kruse  
Chris Lazartic  
Kelley Ledden  
Allison Mattivi  
Megan McKnight  
Michael Mercer  
Maureen Mullen  
Sam Murray  
Bridget Noel  
Paul Noel  
Lauren Oakley  
LeighAnn Orsen  
Eric Peterson  
Gabriella Polen  
Shawna Riggio

Olivia Rodriguez  
Jordyn Rohrman  
Amy Sabin  
Lynda Sailor  
Corey Sampson  
Kristina Scala  
Catherine Shematek  
Keiko Short  
Karen Skadow  
Brooke Steedly  
Jill Studnicki  
Kelsey Sullivan  
Mallory Sussman  
Jessica Taylor Cho  
Lisa Teets  
Hannah Weil  
Joanna Weisel  
Jennifer White  
Nicole Witcher

## SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING



**806** Followers



**547** Followers



**580** Followers



**283** Subscribers

## ASPEN MAKING HEADLINES

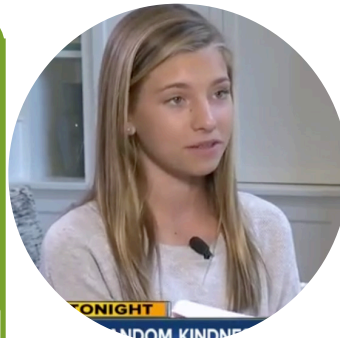
MARCH 2018

CBS4 Meteorologist Dave Aguilera visited Aspen Academy 1st Graders as part of the Junior Weather Watchers program, sharing experiments about the weather.



Student, Miranda Lockwood featured on 7News to promote her Capstone business project and raise money for Cheer Stars at Peak Alliance, a special needs cheerleading team.

APRIL 2018



Student Ella Rakowski Featured on Channel 7News for Ella Bella Bands, a nonprofit to raise money following a friend's death.

The Villager (Greenwood Village) highlights the first AEI Entrepreneurial Expo.



JANUARY 2018

Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce names Kristina Scala, Head of School, one of the Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Colorado.



Article on Inc.com: Are We Raising Financially Literate Kids? Three tools every parent can use to nurture entrepreneurship at home.

CBS4 Meteorologist Dave Aguilera returned to spend time with 2nd & 7th Graders as part of the Junior Weather Watchers program.

# REBRANDING

## A COMMUNICATIONS CORNERSTONE

Aspen Academy completed a rebranding initiative during the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The school updated its logos, colors, fonts and images to create a more modern, professional look and feel. These new standards became the cornerstone of Aspen Academy communication efforts.

**PRIMARY COLOR - COOL GRAY**  
PANTONE COOL GRAY 9 C  
C 55, M 47, Y 44, K 11  
HEX: 7e797b

**SECONDARY COLOR - LIGHT MINT**  
C 8, M 0, Y 17, K 8  
HEX: e2e6d3

# 2018 Brand Rollout

### Logos



### Signage



### Uniforms



### Website



### Social Media



### PowerPoint



### e-signature



### Elevator Pitch

Aspen Academy is the premier independent school for academic, leadership and entrepreneurial development.

Located in Denver, our 400 pre-k through 8th grade students exemplify our core values: be kind, do good, work hard and make the world a better place.

With a focus on academic rigor, character and leadership development, and community strength and service, our small classes are led by exceptional faculty who offer a personalized approach to instruction.

Since our inception, we have remained steadfastly focused on developing passionate, lifelong learners who graduate from our school empowered to be confident, curious and innovative.

### Brand Toolkit

Located on the shared drive under "Brand toolkit"

### Stationary



### Newsletter



### Advertising



### Collateral



**PRIMARY COLOR - ASPEN GREEN**  
PANTONE 377 pc  
C 45, M 0, Y 100, K 24  
HEX: 85a314

**SECONDARY COLOR - EARTH**  
C 18, M 64, Y 32, K 50  
HEX: 814954



Our community at Aspen Academy is filled with unique and remarkable parents, students, faculty and staff. There are tons of ways to engage and experience the best of Aspen. Here are just a few:

## 1 **Connect with us on social media**

Share your successes and tag @AspenAcademy so we can acknowledge your celebrations and invite our whole community to as well.

## 2 **Share your cultural experiences**

Throughout the year, we look for ways to engage with cultures and traditions from around the world. Does your family celebrate unique customs that we can bring to Aspen? Please let Lovie Cunningham (lovie.cunningham@aspenacademy.org) know and we'll find the best classes to get you involved with to share your experience.

## 3 **Mentor an 8th Grader**

We're always looking for the best and brightest to mentor our students. Mentorship is a longterm, meaningful commitment that pairs our students with savvy business leaders who support their leadership and career development. Please contact Nicole Kruse (nicole.kruse@aspenacademy.org) if you're interested in learning more.

## 4 **Share your business expertise**

Our AEI program is eager to have entrepreneurial parents speak to classes about their experience and expertise. If you'd like to inspire our students this way, contact Nicole Kruse (nicole.kruse@aspenacademy.org) to learn more.

## 5 **Support us by inviting new families to learn more about Aspen!**

We need your support to identify new members of our community. It's a win-win-win: you love the newest members of our community, they're part of an awesome community that includes you, and when they enroll you receive a referral bonus of \$1,000 that can be credited toward your tuition. Look for information in your mailbox and email inbox.

LET'S GET  
TOGETHER  
SOON.  
5 WAYS TO GET  
INVOLVED WITH  
ASPEN ACADEMY.





Image credit: Avery K. student, 2018

Annual Report Design: Jordyn Linnell  
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