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Scholarship Resources Key to Dreams and Mission

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Scholarship Resources Key to Dreams and Mission

Volunteers and university staff paused appreciatively in October 2013 to recognize the incredible generosity of alumni and friends as the Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign for DePaul University surpassed its overall goal of \$300 million.

But the largest campaign in DePaul history is not over. The Campaign officially ends June 30, 2014, and university leaders and campaign

volunteers continue to stress the central importance of raising funds for scholarships, the largest component of this campaign and a critical element in making a DePaul education possible for promising students, regardless of economic circumstances.

In an era when a college education is more critical than ever to professional success, scholarship resources are especially important.

Campaign leaders urge DePaul alumni and supporters to remember the value of their own DePaul education and consider what they can do to make that experience available to others. Gifts to the university make it possible for DePaul to educate, inspire, and transform the lives of thousands of students, families, and communities every year. Please meet two of those students.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Lucia Botello

For junior Lucia Botello, a Mazza Foundation Scholarship has shown a path to her career goals—and helped her find her voice.

Botello always wanted to be a teacher. Now, her goals have become strikingly specific: She plans to teach sixth-grade mathematics for one year, get a master's degree in education, teach math for another 25 or 30 years, and then teach conservation to junior high and high school students before retiring.

"I have a passion for education, and I like helping others," she says. "To know that I helped someone graduate from high school and go to college—I would love that," says Botello, herself a first-generation college student.

A naturally shy person, Botello says her student-teaching experiences and her involvement in a campus poetry performance group have given her confidence. "I've come out of my shell and become more open. I am less afraid to lend my voice," she says.

Botello, the youngest of six children, lives with her mother on the far southeast side of Chicago. She takes public transportation to school—a commute she says takes an hour and a half "on a good day." But she doesn't feel far from home.

"My scholarship means I have a new kind of family—the other Mazza Scholars and the Office of Multicultural Student Success, which administers the program," she says. "It also means my mother and I don't have to worry about the financial burden of my education."



MANY DREAMS. ONE MISSION.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY



Adam Slade

College was never a given for Adam Slade (LAS '08). His mom was a single parent, and times were tough. "But my mom was really insistent that I receive a university education," he says. Thanks in part to a distinguished high school academic record, Slade received the Schmitt Foundation Endowed Scholarship.

"The thing that really impressed me was the Vincentian mission of public service," Slade notes. A fellow classmate suggested Slade might enjoy a public policy class, and soon, he was majoring in the field. "It really helped me to figure out where I wanted to position myself ethically."

This guiding principle has led Slade to a variety of interesting positions. While volunteering as an education policy researcher for the Illinois Economic Recovery Commission, Slade realized that many policymakers did not have a full understanding of the needs facing today's students. In an effort to make a difference, Slade decided to become a fourth-grade teacher. "There's always this feeling that I need to improve the world," Slade shares. Although he left teaching, Slade continues to work for the greater good. At his current company, Slade installs public budgeting software to help local governments manage their finances more effectively.

Now, the young man who doubted the likelihood of college holds several advanced degrees—master's degrees in public policy and administration, as well as elementary education. "I hope my mom is proud," Slade says with a smile.