

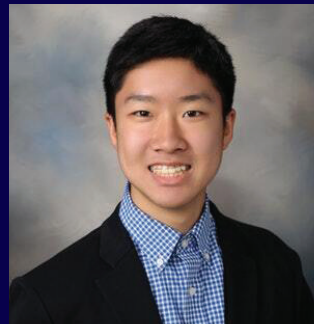


# Chicago Engineers' Foundation

of the Union League Club of Chicago

*Empowering Chicago's Future Engineers*

## 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT





## Mission

To encourage and empower young people to become the next generation of engineers through scholarship opportunities, outreach to educational institutions, and promoting interest in engineering as a career.

## History & Programs

The Chicago Engineers' Foundation (CEF) evolved from the Chicago Engineers' Club, an organization established in 1903. In 1969, CEF began a student focus, with a scholarship program that has grown for more than 50 years. CEF programming also includes K-12 outreach to inspire young minds, the merit-based scholarship awards to support students through their college studies, and career development activities to equip college students with the tools to achieve their engineering career goals.

## CEF 2020-2021 Leadership

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Tom Riley

*Second Vice President*  
Michael Driscoll +

*Secretary*  
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Cosmin Lucaci  
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Evan Wind

\* Denotes  
CEF Alumni

+ Denotes CEF  
Committee Chair

# From the President

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On behalf of the Chicago Engineers Foundation (CEF), thank you to everyone who gave their time, talents, and resources to support and enlighten Chicago students this academic year. Our volunteers, donors, and friends make up an incredible community dedicated to providing K-12 engineering activities, scholarship awards, and career development opportunities for the future problem-solvers and innovators of Chicago.

As we all continue to navigate the uncertainties of the pandemic, Chicago Engineers Foundation has remained a steadfast resource for students, educators, and the community thanks to amazing support. The strength of our community expanded virtual learning opportunities this year and also raised the dollar value of every scholarship award provided to our Class of 2021.



So many individuals, professional associations, and corporate partners selflessly stepped up, and the results exceeded all expectations. With your support, CEF made amazing strides:

- CEF volunteers made K-12 outreach a priority this academic year, with more than 30 virtual visits to schools, community organizations, and STEM events, impacting over 1,000 students.
- The Incentive Award program thrived, adding virtual workshops to help students seeking scholarship opportunities and achieving fundraising goals to raise the dollar values of all Class of 2021 awards. The results were a plethora of excellent applications, and 76 high school and college students receiving nearly \$100,000 in awards.
- The Student Success career development program finished the year stronger and more important than ever given these challenging times. CEF presented an array of online resources, available anytime. College students can request student/professional networking, mentoring opportunities, resume evaluations and mock interview practice, as well as assistance in seeking internships and full-time engineering positions.
- CEF debuted the Engineering Spotlight virtual learning series in 2020. These quarterly events brought trending STEM topics and dynamic speakers to the forefront, offering engineering professionals, students, and community members opportunities to learn and network virtually.

**Thank you to everyone in the CEF community for the impact you've had this year!**

I also want to highlight our partnership with the Union League Club of Chicago (ULCC). We are proud of our home within ULCC. With the Club's generous support of CEF and other nonprofit initiatives, the ULCC membership creates an indelible stamp on the community, preserving and enhancing its proud civic and philanthropic legacy in Chicago.

If this is your first introduction to Chicago Engineers Foundation, please join us. Become a volunteer to provide engaging engineering activities to students, help us select the next class of award recipients, or offer mentoring opportunities to a college student. As a growing organization, every volunteer has an impact on the students we proudly serve.

Thank you for your dedication to our mission and to inspiring young minds, encouraging students with scholarship awards, and empowering young people with career development opportunities. You are supporting our city's next generation of engineers when they need it the most. Together, we are creating opportunities for Chicago students with remarkable potential and promising futures.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Wingate". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Rebecca Wingate  
President



Engineering provides the opportunity to leave an impact and will contribute to improving our environment.  
-Ray, Junior

I grew up using public transit to go everywhere, and as an engineer I hope to improve public transportation systems to make it even more safe and efficient for inner-city families.  
-Julio, Freshman

My engineering degree will not only help me learn what I need to know in order to be successful, but it will also help me gain the experience I need to make in order to excel in the engineering industry.  
-Max, Sophomore

I want to be a mentor and gateway for young women of color to intern and experience STEM careers so that they are exposed to all they can accomplish.  
-Lauren, Sophomore

My computer engineering degree will open a gateway for me to channel my inner imagination and creativity into a rewarding career.  
-Ricky, Freshman

Every day I have a mindset of what problems I could help solve or reduce as a future engineer. I always remind myself that all it takes is one app, one website, one program, or one idea to change the world.  
-Pratik, Senior



Being an engineer means that you are only limited by the extent to which you are willing to limit yourself, and to me that is a vast and fascinating insight on why I look forward to becoming part of the engineering sector.  
-Collin, Junior

As a Biomedical Engineer, I hope to contribute to medical advancements and discoveries while serving and advocating for those who have been traditionally underserved.  
-Luria, Sophomore

I look forward to using my chemical engineering degree to create something that will help and be used by other people.  
-Kim, Senior

My hope is that through a career in engineering, I will be able to begin building my dream to make the world a better place.  
-Joseph, Senior

I want to be an engineer because I find the learning process extremely rewarding, and one which allows me to be a lifelong learner.  
-Vivian, Senior

I can see myself leading a software development team in the future. I learn more about software every day and I will not limit myself as I work towards my degree and future engineering career.  
-Molly, Sophomore



# CEF Scholars: In Their Own Words

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## **Andrea Nava**

*Freshman, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

My favorite moment of my daily one-hour commute to my high school was always reaching the area between the 35th/Archer and Ashland train stops. It gives you a perfect view of the breathtaking Chicago skyline. The feelings of pride, happiness, and comfort one feels as a Chicagoan when they see that view is something we all share. I also have a constant awe and curiosity to understand how these buildings were constructed, how trains travel across the city so quickly, and how our bridges lift in seconds. Chicago is amazing from an engineering perspective, and my favorite daily views inspired me to pursue civil engineering in college.

To me, civil engineers are the key to any structure and construction project. They are everywhere, and vitally important for our trains, interstate highways, skyscrapers, and environment. In addition, I have realized a civil engineering education can enable me to link my engineering interests with my passion for the environment. This planet is our responsibility, and we want it to be the best place for our future families. Making sure structures are sound and built in a way to not harm our resources takes us steps closer to a better and sustainable planet.

The pandemic has taken many lives and affected everyone in many ways. Without the pandemic, I would not have become the person I am today. This year I developed the ability to confidently facilitate conversations through my online learning and community service activities. As a volunteer, I guided youth and adults through workshops, something I could never have seen myself doing. I am usually quiet, but all of my online activities challenged me to change. The frustration one feels when break-out rooms are silent, when students keep their cameras off in class, is overwhelming. When placed in a breakout room, I began to unmute and ask a random icebreaker question or simply say “did that make sense to anyone because I have no idea what to do”, even if I did. It is easier to get people to talk if you appear to struggle together and seem more human. Everyone is going through a tough time right now and we have to understand everyone’s situation. I used this approach to become a leader in my math class. I got every person in my class to participate with questions, defining terms, and working through our calculus problems. My teacher said it was some of the best discussions she had seen in-person or virtually. These new skills I’ve developed will transfer to my college education, and in four years, to a new work environment. I now know I can express my thoughts in uncomfortable environments and push myself and others out of our comfort zones, so we can all continue growing as leaders. As an aspiring civil engineer, having strong collaboration and communication skills are valuable, and will one day help me achieve my goals as an engineer.



## **Vladimir Rodriguez**

*Junior, University of Michigan*

My career goals are to work in a field where I am able to work with outer space & flight, and to be financially stable enough to support my parents through the rest of their lives. They have been amazing to me and my siblings, working constantly to make sure we are able to achieve our dreams. Offering them financial stability is the least I can do as a thank you for their dedication to our well-being.

With great certainty, I can say COVID-19 has had impacts on our country, and I am no stranger to those effects. When the pandemic started, and we were forced to leave campus and shift to online learning, I was quite nervous returning home. Without my own room or a proper desk, I was concerned about what the remaining school year would look like. My only option was to adapt and push through the semester. Whether

I was working on the kitchen table or attending virtual classes sitting on my bed, I prevailed. I got through telling myself this situation was not permanent. In addition to my classes, I worked full-time at Wal-Mart and I’m now able to afford an apartment in Ann Arbor for the new school year. Things were tough last year but I know it all made me stronger.

Chicago Engineers Foundation has impacted my educational and career goals immensely. To start, the incentive awards funded some classes last summer. Taking some summer courses put me on track to attain my Aerospace Engineering a year early and start taking some graduate-level courses. CEF’s career development programs helped me with virtual interview practice with one of their volunteer engineers. They also provided practice questions that all helped me improve my interview skills and become more comfortable talking to professionals. In the end, I was able to interview with multiple companies, and it is with my great pleasure to say that I earned a summer internship as an AeroMechanical Engineer with AeroVironment. This internship is a huge step towards achieving my career goals, and it would not have been possible without the support that I receive as a Chicago Engineers Foundation Incentive Award recipient.

# 2021 Incentive Award Recipients

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## FRESHMAN CLASS

**Isaac Blender**  
*Northeastern University*

**Casey Brannigan**  
*Purdue University*

**Daniel Diaz**  
*Illinois Institute of Technology*

**Ethan Dooley**  
*University of Wisconsin at Madison*

**Alexander Grey**  
*Indiana University-Purdue University*

**Ricky Ho**  
*University of Michigan*

**Jaylynn Kim**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Luke Lattyak**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Kaleia Maxey**  
*Purdue University*

**Andre Nandi**  
*University of Michigan*

**Andrea Nava**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Bailey Nicholoff**  
*University of Rochester*

**Nicole Onyemeziem**  
*Cornell University*

**Elysia Perez**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Francia Quirarte**  
*Northwestern University*

**Julio Ramirez**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Daniel Rodriguez**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Katelyn Schumacher**  
*Vanderbilt University*

**Kiernan Schumacher**  
*University of Chicago*

**Sanya Sharma**  
*Northwestern University*

**Nathan Stalder**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Nal Xaviera**  
*Princeton University*

**Zachary Zwolfer**  
*Northwestern University*

## SOPHOMORE CLASS

**Samuel Cooper**  
*University of Wisconsin at Madison*

**Maximelio Finch**  
*University of Iowa*

**Peter Huang**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Duaa Hussein**  
*University of Illinois at Chicago*

**Connor McNamara**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Cristian Ortiz**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Elias Rivera-Vazquez**  
*Northwestern University*

**Luria Tapia**  
*Case Western Reserve University*

**Lauren Weaver**  
*University of Michigan*

**Molly Wehrenberg**  
*University of California, Los Angeles*

**Jackson Zhang**  
*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*

**JUNIOR CLASS**  
**Zachary Anderson**  
*University of Notre Dame*

**Raymond Bernardo**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Henry Beuving**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Frank Burke-Olson**  
*Northwestern University*

**Collin Butler**  
*Miami University of Ohio*

**Kellie Chu**  
*University of Michigan*

**Cameron Cole**  
*University of Southern California*

**Liam Coughlin**  
*Purdue University*

**Daisaq Cyrilla**  
*University of Illinois at Chicago*

**Maureen Davasse**  
*Purdue University*

**Michael Henze**  
*Clemson University*

**Thomas Hoos**  
*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Michael Kadus**  
*Purdue University*

**McKenna Kallianis**  
*University of Alabama*

**Vladimir Martinez**  
*University of Michigan*

**Joseph McCarey**

*Harvard University*

**Diana Miller**

*University of Michigan*

**Jack Ross**

*Saint Louis University*

**Ciaran Sheridan**

*University of IL at Urbana-Champaign*

**Ian Shimandle**

*Northwestern University*

**Guadalupe Solis**

*University of Illinois at Chicago*

**Andrew Thompson**

*University of Wisconsin at Madison*

**Kevin Williams**

*Valparaiso University*

**Daniel Wong**

*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**SENIOR CLASS**

**Vivian Auduong**

*Stanford University*

**Stefan Borjan**

*Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology*

**Nora Chambers**

*Northwestern University*

**Joseph Henze**

*Clemson University*

**Sophie Keller**

*Cornell University*

**Joe Kresic**

*The Ohio State University*

**Kimberly Lu**

*Princeton University*

**Kyle McNamara**

*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Nina Onyemeziem**

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*Illinois Institute  
of Technology*

**Thomas Phelan**

*The Ohio State University*

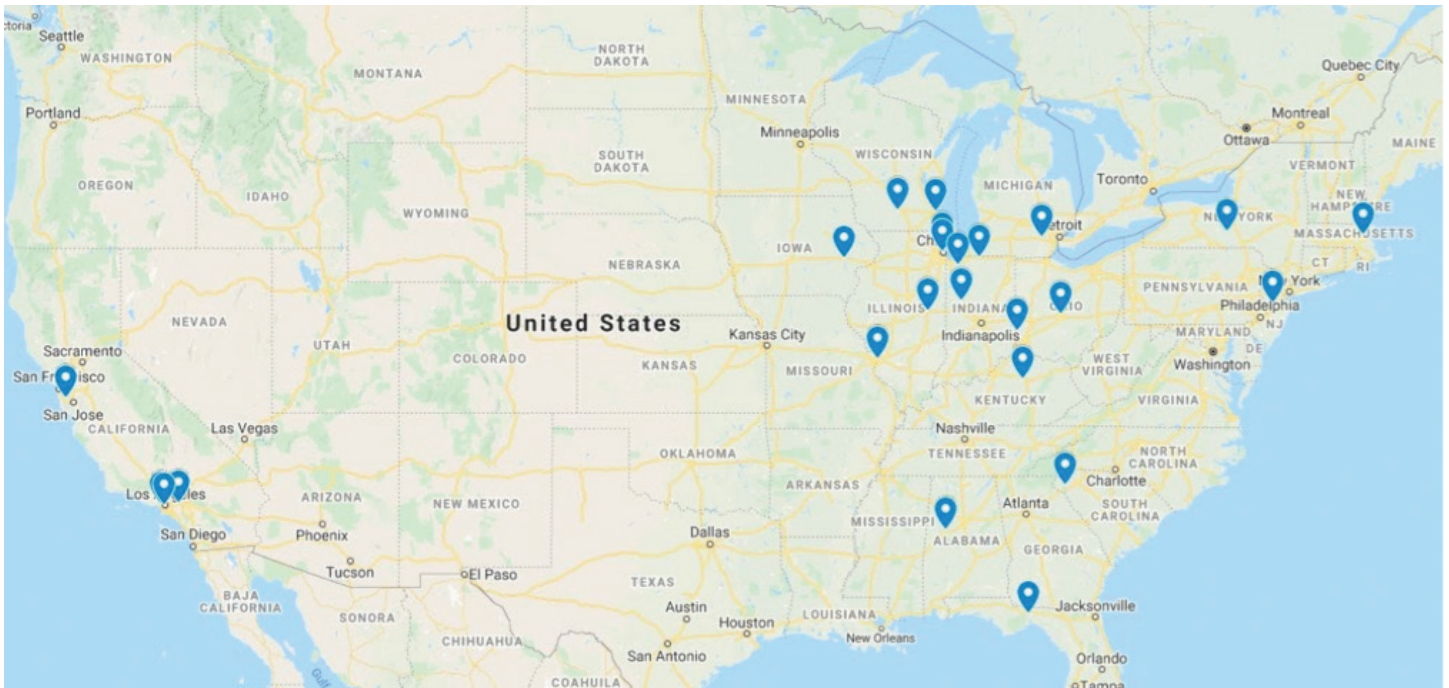
**Julian Robinson**

*Case Western Reserve University*

**Chloe Zwolfer**

*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

## ***Award Recipients by University***



Case Western Reserve University • Clemson University • Cornell University • Harvard University • Harvey Mudd College  
Indiana University-Purdue University • Illinois Institute of Technology • Marquette University • Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Miami University • Northeastern University • Northwestern University • Princeton University • Purdue University • Saint Louis University  
Stanford University • The Ohio State University • University of Alabama • University of California • University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign • University of Iowa • University of Kentucky • University of Michigan  
University of Notre Dame • University of Rochester • Valparaiso University • Vanderbilt University • University of Wisconsin at Madison



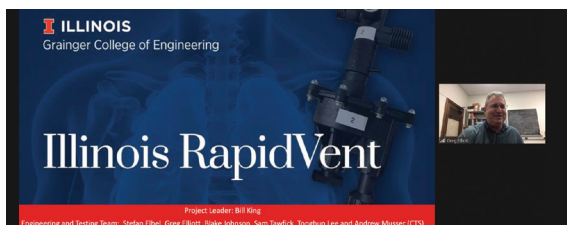
# CEF Programs and Events



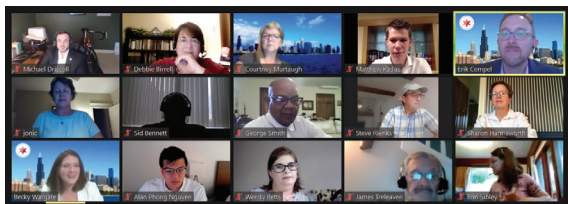
CEF award recipients, alumni, and professionals met monthly for virtual networking nights to discuss a variety of career-focused topics.



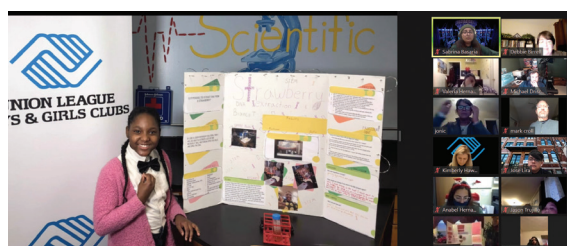
## VOLUNTEERS MADE 30 MORE THAN OUTREACH VISITS



CEF's second Engineering Spotlight virtual event focused on the creation of the Illinois RapidVent, a life-saving project developed by a team at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



CEF leaders met virtually throughout the academic year to plan a variety of virtual activities and events for students and professionals.



CEF volunteers served as judges during the annual Union League Boys and Girls Club Science Fair.

## OUTREACH IMPACTED 1,000 K-12 STUDENTS



The inaugural Engineering Spotlight virtual event featured three dynamic speakers discussing how to maintain healthy and safe building environments during the pandemic.



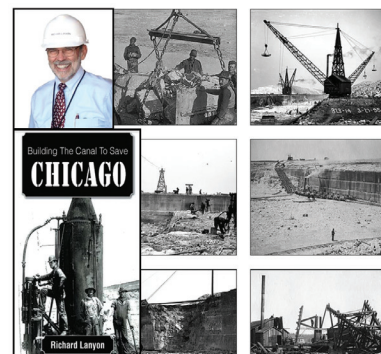
Immediate Past President Erik Cempel receives the Distinguished Alumni Award



CEF Alum and NSBE co-founder George Smith (top left) facilitated a two-part virtual workshop entitled Black Engineers, Inventors, and Scientists in American History for Chicago students and educators.



The annual Engineering Focus luncheon, the kickoff to E-week in Chicago, was presented virtually in February to discuss the future of women in engineering with more than 100 guests.



The final Engineering Spotlight event of the year featured author and former MWRD Executive Director Richard Lanyon speaking about the history of Chicago's Water System.



CEF presented a virtual All That Jazz fundraising event in the Spring, featuring the ULCC Jazz Union, an auction, and a hands-on cooking class with ULCC Executive Chef Michael Ponzio



# Thank You

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On behalf of Chicago's future engineers, the leadership of the Chicago Engineers' Foundation extends its gratitude to the individuals, corporations, and organizations who contributed to our efforts this year.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION.**

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APWA-Chicago City Branch  
AMVETS Post #66  
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*Gifts of \$250 - \$999*

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# Thank You

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*Gifts of \$100-\$249*

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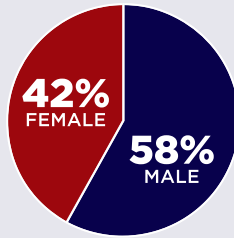
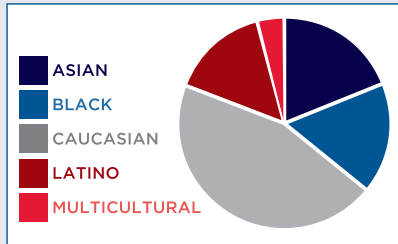
More than 1,500 ULCC members and individuals made small gifts to CEF throughout the calendar year. These donations are vital to CEF's student programs and we are grateful for each contribution. Our apologies we cannot recognize each of these friends individually due to space limitations.

*Our apologies for any omissions or inaccuracies. Please email any modifications to [info@chicagoengineersfoundation.org](mailto:info@chicagoengineersfoundation.org) and corrections will be made in future publications.*



# CEF's Impact: By the Numbers

## About Our Scholars



**MORE  
THAN 40%**

**ARE THE  
FIRST  
GENERATION  
IN THEIR FAMILY  
TO ATTEND  
COLLEGE**

AVERAGE  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE  
HOURS  
**150!**

**3.7**  
AVERAGE GPA



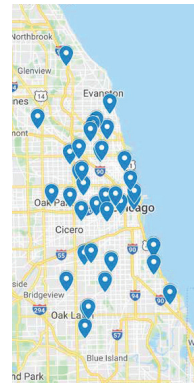
**90%**  
RETENTION RATE  
AMONG RETURNING  
COLLEGE STUDENTS

**100+**



ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

## SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZATIONS SERVED 2020-2021



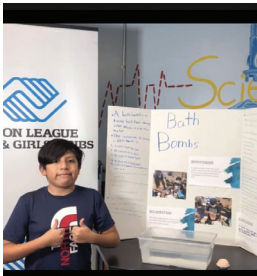
Air Force Academy High School  
Alcott College Prep  
Amundsen High School  
Brother Rice High School  
Calculated Genius  
Chicago Academy High School  
Chicago H.S. for Agricultural Sciences  
Chicago Scholars  
ChiS&E  
Christ the King  
Community Christian Alternative Academy

Daniel Hale Williams School  
DePaul College Prep  
DeVry Academy  
Goethe Elementary  
Gwendolyn Brooks College Prep  
Henry Elementary  
Illinois Math and Science Academy  
Introspect Youth Services  
ITW David Speer Academy  
John Hancock College Prep High School

Jones College Prep  
Kenwood Academy High School  
Lane Tech College Prep  
Learn Charter Schools  
Lindblom Math & Science Academy  
Loyola Academy  
Marist High School  
Mason Elementary  
Mather High School  
Metropolitan Family Services  
Muchin College Prep  
Northside

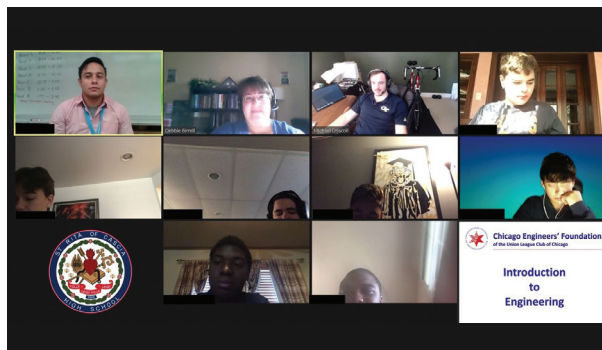
College Prep  
Notre Dame College Prep  
Perspectives Charter Schools  
Pritzker College Prep  
Resurrection College Prep  
Sarah E. Goode Stem Academy  
Senn High School  
South Shore International College Prep  
St. Ignatius College Prep  
St. Laurence High School

St. Rita of Cascia High School  
Taft High School  
Thomas Kelly College Prep  
U of Chicago Charter School  
Union League Boys & Girls Clubs  
Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center  
Walter Payton College Prep  
Westinghouse College Prep  
Whitney M. Young High School



**100 HOURS**  
OF CAREER  
DEVELOPMENT  
ACTIVITIES

**NEARLY  
1,000**  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS  
IN 2021



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2021 (UNAUDITED)

### ASSETS

#### CURRENT ASSETS

Accounts	\$25,136
Total Accounts Receivable	\$41,200

#### TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

\$66,336

#### OTHER ASSETS

NT Investments	\$363,253
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#### TOTAL ASSETS

**\$429,589**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITIES

#### LIABILITIES

Total Accounts Payable	\$1,715
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#### TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$1,715

#### EQUITY

#### TOTAL PERM. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

\$25,608

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$403,041
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Net Revenue	-\$775
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#### TOTAL EQUITY

**\$427,874**

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

**\$429,589**



CHICAGO ENGINEERS' FOUNDATION

65 West Jackson Boulevard | Chicago, Illinois 60604

[ChicagoEngineersFoundation.org](http://ChicagoEngineersFoundation.org)

