# **SPRING 2023** STAR NEWS





#### **YOU CHANGED HIS LIFE**

Nelvin De La Rosa, a senior at Central Catholic High School in Lawrence, Massachusetts, delivered an emotional speech at the Catholic Schools Foundation's (CSF) annual gala on April 27th. As a CSF Scholar, Nelvin shared his remarkable story of overcoming adversity and achieving academic success thanks to the support he received from the foundation.

Nelvin shared that he was born in Lawrence to immigrant parents from the Dominican Republic. When he was 10 years old and in fourth grade, both of his parents tragically passed away, leaving him in a difficult situation. But through the grace of God, his four older sisters stepped up to protect and love him, encouraging him to pursue a better future through education.

Nelvin's sisters, who were also immigrants, understood the importance of education in creating a good life, and they helped him enroll in grades 6, 7, and 8 at Bellesini Academy, a Catholic tuition-free middle school in Lawrence. At Bellesini, Nelvin learned about Central Catholic High School and was drawn to its welcoming community, diverse student body, and well-known reputation as a top college preparatory school.

Despite his worry about the cost of a Catholic high school, Nelvin received a scholarship through the Building Minds Scholarship Fund, CSF's signature program. This scholarship made his dream of attending Central Catholic a reality.

Thanks to the support he received from CSF and Central Catholic, Nelvin has been accepted to multiple colleges. He will be attending the University of Massachusetts Lowell where he will be studying Engineering.

Nelvin emphasized that he would not be where he is today, about to graduate and have these great college choices, without the CSF scholarship and everyone in the room that evening. He expressed his appreciation for the support that he received and credited it with changing his life.



The Catholic Schools Foundation's 33rd Annual Building Minds Scholarship Fund Celebration was held at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. More than 1,000 friends of CSF gathered to honor Peter Lynch, President Emeritus of CSF, and to raise scholarship funds for in-need students. The event, chaired by Peter's three daughters, Annie Lynch Lukowski, Elizabeth Lynch de Montrichard, and Mary Lynch Witkowski, M.D., raised over \$21 million in scholarship support, making it the most successful CSF event to date. The Building Minds Scholarship Fund is a signature program of the Catholic Schools Foundation, providing need-based scholarships to students of various religious backgrounds who would not otherwise be able to attend a

Thank you for making it possible for CSF to change lives in these schools, students and in our communities!

Catholic school

#### Corporate Partner Spotlight: Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Each year, corporate partners from different industries go above and beyond for our scholars by not only donating to the Building Minds Scholarship Fund, but also by volunteering their time to provide unique opportunities for our schools and scholars. This April, CSF's newest corporate partner, Kirkland & Ellis, did just that for 15 students from Fontbonne Academy in Milton.

Coming together at Kirkland & Ellis' office at 200 Clarendon Street, the Fontbonne students took part in a "Women in Law" seminar put together by a panel of the firm's attorneys. The panel simulated a live negotiation meeting between the legal teams of a celebrity and a cosmetics line attempting to sign the artist to a brand ambassador contract. Fontbonne students were able to see how legal teams negotiate compensation and other contractual terms revolving around the endorsement of a company or product.

Amanda Border, a partner at the firm, noted, "Kirkland & Ellis LLP is a proud partner of the Catholic Schools Foundation. By hosting events such as our introduction to transactional law panel, which provided students of Fontbonne Academy with an opportunity to follow a live negotiation by our attorneys, we are able to engage with the student community at an early age to explore a career as a lawyer."

In addition to the mock meeting, students enjoyed lunch, a Q&A session with the panel participants, and a tour of the firm's office.

CSF would like to thank Amanda, the other panel members, and partners Peter Mee and Christian Atwood for help coordinating this event! If your company is interested in hosting CSF scholars or learning about other ways to make a difference, please contact Zach Creeden at zcreeden@csfboston.org.



# A legacy gift could be the most important charitable gift you ever make, and one of the easiest.

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A legacy gift in the form of a bequest is a gift you make from your will or trust and one of the most common and simplest ways to leave a lasting legacy. They can be gifts of cash, stock, real estate or other assets. Bequests allow you to support the Catholic Schools Foundation without affecting your current lifestyle. A legacy gift is not a donation. It is an investment. Legacies are about carrying on your values, your beliefs and your commitment to making a difference in your community. Your legacy will inspire others.

To learn more visit us on legacy.csfboston.org or contact CSF at 617-398-5460.

### Ways to Give

CSF also offers other ways to support scholars in need. From online donations to legacy gifts and more, we have you covered. When you make a donation to CSF, you are directly supporting the education of in-need students and ensuring the vitality of CSF-supported schools for years to come. You can find out more about the different ways to donate here!

Find out more!





#### **Our Incredible Schools**

At our 2023 Celebration, scholars from 16 schools were on hand to showcase recent school projects and to meet and greet guests. Here are some photos of their displays and presentations!











## **Check Out Where Some of Our Seniors Are Going!**

- Bentley University
- Boston College
- Clark University
- Columbia University
- Marist College

- Stanford University
- Stonehill College
- UMass Amherst
- UMass Lowell
- University of Chicago





\*Full list available on our website

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