Growing from Our Deep Roots
CTY Advisers

CTY gratefully acknowledges the efforts of our U.S. and East Asia Advisory Councils, a dedicated and diverse group of volunteers. These advisers provide invaluable insights and perspectives, champion CTY’s programs in their communities, and serve as philanthropic leaders for the organization. We honor their passion, commitment, and contributions in support of CTY’s mission.

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The Annual Report of Giving and Gratitude provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the past year, and the people and programs that made it such a productive and memorable one. Many of our successes have been driven in part by the generous support of donors like you, who share our commitment to serving the needs of our brightest young students. From all of us at CTY, thank you for being an integral part of our community.

As chairs of CTY’s Advisory Councils in the US and East Asia, we have had the privilege of working closely with CTY Executive Director Elaine Tuttle Hansen. As you may know, Elaine will be stepping down from her post in December of this year, concluding a seven-and-a-half year tenure at CTY. Elaine’s leadership guided CTY through a myriad of milestone events, including a comprehensive strategic planning process, the induction of the first Julian C. Stanley Professor of Talent Development, and the introduction of new initiatives like the Baltimore Emerging Scholars program and the Institute for Advanced Critical and Cultural Studies. Elaine leaves CTY with big shoes to fill, and we know we speak for our fellow Council members when we say that she will be greatly missed.

We hope you will enjoy reading some of the annual highlights included here, which represent only a small fraction of the work happening at CTY. Thank you again for being a champion for the next generation of thinkers, dreamers, and doers.

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Many of our successes have been driven in part by the generous support of donors like you, who share our commitment to serving the needs of our brightest young students.

With gratitude,

Lee Stephens
CTY Advisory Council Chair

Oliver Weisberg
CTY East Asia Advisory Council Chair
From his home in Buffalo, N.Y., Jason Amos searched the internet for opportunities for his young son, Jakye, hoping to find something that would provide the academic challenge that seemed to be missing. Like many parents of academically talented kids, Jason knew that his son was getting bored at school, but he wasn’t sure how to help. It wasn’t long before Jason found CTY, discovering what would become Jakye’s intellectual home.

Seeing the Bigger Picture

“His experiences at CTY have allowed him to see that ‘bigger picture.’” – JASON AMOS, JAKYE’S FATHER

From that first search to now, Jason and Jakye have become big fans of CTY and all it has to offer. Jakye has attended five summer programs to date, all at CTY Bristol, and has taken a variety of courses not offered by his school, including Model United Nations and Advanced Geography, Paradoxes and Infinities, and most recently, the Foundations of Programming.

CTY has given Jakye the chance to learn for the sake of learning among peers who also highly value education. “Before CTY I didn’t think it was possible to get so attached to people after only three weeks,” Jakye says. Although he initially came to CTY for the academics, the social and emotional learning experience has turned out to be just as valuable.

Jason stressed the importance of the financial aid awards that have allowed Jakye to attend CTY programs: “His experiences at CTY have allowed him to see that ‘bigger picture.’” For Jakye, and many students like him, CTY helps fill in the missing pieces.

CTY Scholars alumnus Kendall Smith, a native of Accokeek, Md., has always been drawn to serve his community. Kendall, 26, is in his first semester pursuing his Doctor of Nursing Practice with a specialization in Nurse Anesthesia at the University of Pennsylvania. His brother Kamal Smith, 22, who is also a CTY Scholars alumnus, shares the same passion for helping others optimize their health.

The mission of the CTY Scholars Program is to identify academically advanced eighth-graders from groups traditionally underrepresented in higher education, and prepare them for success in highly selective colleges through challenging CTY courses, academic advising, college tours, and guidance through the college application process. Public and charter school students from cities including Baltimore, New York, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. are selected based on academic achievement, geography, household income, and an interview. More than 75 students from around the country are participating in the program this year, supported by funding from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

Kendall and Kamal are in good company. More than 700 students have participated in the CTY Scholars Program since its inception in 2004, and have gone on to study at colleges and universities including Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Duke, MIT, Stanford, Penn, and Yale.
Elaine Tuttle Hansen, a scholar and educator who has served as executive director of CTY for the past seven-and-a-half years, is stepping down from her post in December.

Under Hansen’s leadership, CTY has enhanced its well-known summer programs, expanded its research efforts, further developed its online and international presence, and helped place thousands of pre-collegiate students on a track toward achieving their full potential.

“A place like CTY is so special. The more I reflect on it, the more I value the essential role it has to play in nurturing advanced young learners and modeling best practices for transformative teaching everywhere and anywhere,” Hansen said. “What I’ll take away is how incredible it is to work with people who are so committed, believe so passionately in the mission, and contribute so much to the cause of education.”

Hansen said she is especially proud of CTY’s growing commitment to access and inclusion for its programs. She has been instrumental in developing the Center’s Baltimore Emerging Scholars Program, an after-school initiative that partners with local elementary and middle schools to improve learning opportunities for gifted students from under-resourced neighborhoods. Founded in 2014, Baltimore Emerging Scholars helps second- through fourth-graders hone their critical-thinking skills through courses in astronomy, architecture, and engineering, and provides opportunities for students to attend CTY summer programs with scholarship support.

Hansen intended to be at CTY for five years, “but I overstayed my welcome by two,” she said. She plans to take a long-delayed sabbatical after she leaves CTY and will return to her scholarly work in Middle English and feminist literature.

CTY benefited tangibly and intangibly from Elaine’s experience leading liberal arts colleges. She led CTY with a holistic vision of what it means to help a young person to develop intellectually. She fostered a sense of scholarly community and commitment to excellence among all those who work to deliver CTY programs. She appreciated the uniqueness of the opportunity that we have at CTY to engage students in learning for learning’s sake.

“Celebrating Elaine

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**CTY and the U.S. Virgin Islands: A Growing Connection**

As a global leader in gifted and talented education, CTY reaches students all over the world. Now, thanks to generous support from an anonymous parent donor, CTY has established a robust presence in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

This partnership began with a scholarship gift in 2012 and has grown exponentially. In addition to providing scholarship funding, a need for greater access to other CTY services, including CTY Online courses, tutoring services, and the Pathways to College program, was identified. CTY connected with educational stakeholders in USVI, and in 2014 launched a three-week CTY course held annually in St. Thomas for qualifying local students.

CTY’s work in USVI recently expanded further to include supporting students from USVI in the CTY Scholars program, a college access program which provides rising ninth graders with four years of academic counseling in addition to summer and online courses and a college tour. Mia, one of the USVI CTY Scholars, reflected poetically on her most recent summer experience recently, noting that “CTY’s residential component promotes discovery of one’s self and others, adding an element of humanity to the CTY experience. Accomplishments in the classroom are paired with frank and intimate discussions of hopes and dreams, worries and uncertainties. For some, the value of these personal connections may far exceed the value of academic enrichment. It certainly did for me.”

Mia, a 15-year-old-from Fountain Valley, California, who studied at CTY Los Angeles, said CTY is a place where students make some of the closest friendships of their lives. “In those three short weeks, you learn how to be a nerd and also have so much fun at the same time,” she said.

Social life at CTY has been a key component of summer programs since the early days. CTY alumnus Jeremy Katz, who attended six summer programs between 1986 and 1989, found his residential experiences especially meaningful. Jeremy reflected on his experience recently, noting that “CTY’s residential component promotes discovery of one’s self and others, adding an element of humanity to the CTY experience. Accomplishments in the classroom are paired with frank and intimate discussions of hopes and dreams, worries and uncertainties. For some, the value of these personal connections may far exceed the value of academic enrichment. It certainly did for me.”

Jeremy, along with his wife Stephanie, recently established the Jeremy and Stephanie Katz Scholarship Fund at CTY. Their generous endowed gift provides scholarship support in perpetuity for students with financial need from New England. “My gift to CTY was motivated by the worry that there are children unable to access a transformative CTY experience due to their family’s financial constraints,” Katz said. “I wanted to remove that barrier.”

**CTY in Hong Kong: Helping Local Students Succeed**

Making CTY accessible to and inclusive of families with financial need is a key part of CTY’s strategic priorities. CTY’s central pool of financial aid is designated for students from the United States, where the barriers faced by low-income advanced learners are well understood, and where CTY has the most experience in addressing them. Recognizing similar obstacles to participation for low-income students in Hong Kong, where CTY operates two Summer Programs, CTY successfully created a need-based scholarship program exclusively for local students as part of its commitment to access and inclusion.

Thanks to mostly Hong Kong-based donors, CTY has been able to award scholarships for local students to attend CTY’s older student Summer Programs. In 2017, 34 students (approximately 13 percent of all older Hong Kong students) received scholarship support. With the generous support of CTY’s East Asia Advisory Council and other donors, CTY continues to fundraise for this important initiative.

For many current and past CTYers, the social community they find at CTY Summer Programs profoundly enriches the stellar academics. Sahil Khattar, a 10th grader from Matawan, N.J., said he enjoyed the intellectual challenges he found at CTY Carlsbad this summer—but his excitement truly showed when he spoke about the friends he made. “There is a real community atmosphere here, and I love how accepting everyone is and how passionate everyone is about learning,” he said. “There’s no judgment, you can totally be yourself.”

Amanda Nguyen, a 15-year-old-from Fountain Valley, California, who studied at CTY Los Angeles, said CTY is a place where students make some of the closest friendships of their lives. “In those three short weeks, you learn how to be a nerd and also have so much fun at the same time,” she said.

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CTY Academic Programs

JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018

Since 1979, CTY has reached more than 1.5 million students worldwide through our summer, online, and family programs, Talent Search, and resources such as the Study of Exceptional Talent and the Diagnostic and Counseling Center.

CTY Revenues and Expenditures

JULY 1, 2017 – JUNE 30, 2018
(includes 2017 Summer Programs)

Tuition & Fees $50,212 / 90.9%
Gifts, Grants & Investment Income $4,957 / 9.0%
Other Sources & Auxiliary $54 / 0.1%
Total Revenues: $55,223

Facilities & Other Contractual Services $23,978 / 43.4%
Salaries & Wages $25,500 / 46.2%
Reserve Transfer $3,133 / 5.7%
Supplies & Other $2,612 / 4.7%
Total Expenditures: $55,223

Note: these figures exclude the impact of certain non-recurring accounting adjustments.

Country of Residence

International 19.56%
United States 80.44%

Annual Gross Family Income of Financial Aid Recipients

73% of Financial Aid recipients had a family income of $50,000 or less

Percentage of Summer and Online Enrollments by Students Outside the US: 19.86%
Number of Distinct Summer Courses Offered: 101
Number of Distinct Online Courses Offered: 180

Type of School Attended

Public 53.77%
Private 42.53%
Home School 3.07%
Other 0.63%

Race/Ethnicity

Unspecified or Not Reported 39.76%
Asian American or Asian Origin 23.95%
White or Caucasian 20.10%
South Asian Origin 4.88%
Latino Hispanic 4.67%
Other 4.29%

Gender

Female 43.70%
Male 56.29%

Curricular Area

Math & Computer Science 48.11%
Humanities & Writing 26.69%
Science 25.20%

CTY Revenues and Expenditures

Please note: these figures exclude the impact of certain non-recurring accounting adjustments.

Talent Search Participants: 25,682
Enrollments in All CTY Programs: 28,373
Summer Programs Enrollments: 9,552
CTY Online Programs Enrollments: 14,594
Family Academic Programs Enrollments: 4,213
Summer Research Program enrollments: 14

RACE/ETHNICITY KEY:
- Black or African American 2.04%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0.19%
- American Indian or Alaskan Native 0.08%
- Asian American or Asian Origin 23.95%
- White or Caucasian 20.10%
- South Asian Origin 4.88%
- Latino Hispanic 4.67%
- Other 4.29%