

# 2016 Annual Report



## TO OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

### Welcome

Looking back at 2016, there is a lot to celebrate and be proud of at Scholar Career Coaching. We are pleased to present our Annual Report for the year of 2016. We hope you will share in our delight as you read about our impact and accomplishments. We are humbled and honored at the support we have received. Our mentoring and scholarship programs remains vital to the students in our community, helping them acquire skills necessary to succeed in school.

A special thank you to our former and current volunteer Board members and Mentors who have dedicated so much time, effort, knowledge and financial support to Scholar Career Coaching. Our volunteers are vital to our organization and they enhance our ability to fulfill Scholar Career Coaching mission. In fact, without our volunteers, we could not run our mentoring program effectively.

On behalf of Scholar Career Coaching and the Board of Directors, thank you for believing in the power of mentoring. We also thank you for your financial contributions and attendance to our fundraising events.

*Lynne W. Gassant*  
Executive Director

## About Scholar Career Coaching

Founded in December 2012, Scholar Career Coaching is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that was created to help South Florida high school students, with a focus on ESL (English as a Second Language). Through our after-school mentoring program and many other resources, we coach and motivate students that are identified as high need and high potential. Our commitment is to them, their families and our society. Our curriculum emphasis on career planning, college readiness, financial literacy, and soft skills.

## Our Mission and Vision

Our mission is to coach, motivate and support students through mentoring services and scholarships– which is strengthened by the vision of Scholar Career Coaching to address the needs of high potential and high need students.

## 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Lynne W. Gassant  
Executive Director



Stephanie Bigby  
Vice President



Lisa Rabinsky  
Finance Director

## 2016 NEW LEADERSHIP UPDATES



**Laurie Myers, Executive Secretary:** Laurie serves on the Board of Directors as the Executive Secretary for Scholar Career Coaching since 2016 where she facilitated new SCC by-laws and has helped the organization with various projects. Laurie graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Education. She is a certified Senior Human Resources Professional with 20+ years of HR experience currently working at Zimmer Bio-Met. Her HR work history includes supporting wholesale distribution/sales, retail sales, manufacturing, and non-profit / governmental organizations. Laurie also volunteers with Human Resources of Palm Beach County and All-For-One Pet Rescue.



**Sophonie Joseph Laureore, Mentoring Program Director:** Sophonie is an Academic Advisor at Florida International University and an ESL & SLS Adjunct Faculty at Miami Dade College. She holds a Master's Degree in Urban Education TESOL from FIU and a Bachelor's Degree in French and Minor in Education. Sophonie is the Founder of Zepha Praise, an organization that is established to help students stay motivated. Sophonie enjoys teaching, mentoring and singing. She joined Scholar Career Coaching Board to revise their after-school curriculum and to help make a difference.

## 2016 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our 2016 scholarship recipients. We hosted our 2nd Annual 'Reaching for the Stars' Scholarship Awards Ceremony & Luncheon on Sunday, June 4, 2016. Over 75 guests heard from guest speakers hosted by Celine Pelofi, Miss United States, while enjoying a sophisticated gourmet lunch and a rewarding auction. Our sponsors, guests and

scholarship recipients had an opportunity to learn about our program, meet some of our mentors and mentees and hear about our accomplishments and future plans. We ended the ceremony by awarding six scholarships to the following seniors:



Name: Daphne Estinvil  
**Year Awarded: 2016**  
 High School: Atlantic High School  
**SCHOLARCC MENTEE**  
 College Attending: Palm Beach State College  
 Awarded: \$1,000 in scholarships



Name: Larissa LaForest  
**Year Awarded: 2016**  
 High School: West Boca High  
 College Attending: University of Florida  
 Awarded: \$750 in scholarships sponsored by  
 TAX US



Name: Thalia Blazquez  
**Year Awarded: 2016**  
 High School:  
 College Attending: Florida Atlantic University  
 Awarded: \$500 in scholarships



Name: Jeff Jean Charles  
**Year Awarded: 2016**  
 High School: Santaluces High School  
 College Attending: Palm Beach State College  
 Awarded: \$250 in book scholarships sponsored  
 by TAX USA



Name: Zane Fisher  
**Year Awarded: 2016**  
 High School: Boynton High School  
**SCHOLARCC MENTEE**  
 College Attending: Palm Beach State College  
 Awarded: \$150 in book scholarships



Name: Vanessa Perez  
**Year Awarded: 2016**  
 High School: John I Leonard  
 College Attending: University of Florida  
 Awarded: \$150 in book scholarships



Celine Pelofi  
 Ms. United States 2015



Al Jacquet  
 Deputy Vice Mayor  
 City of Delray Beach

## 2016 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY SPONSORS

A special thanks to our 2016 sponsors for their generosity. Without their donations ScholarCC would not be able to make such an impact on our community!





## OTHER FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

We participate as volunteers with the Office Depot Foundation; one of their projects we participated in was their Sample Sale. In 2016, we provided a volunteer team to assist them which was a funding opportunity for us as well as giving us the opportunity to take advantage of supplies for our program.

Since 2007, the Allianz Golf Championship at Broken Sound Old Course has been one of South Florida's favorite golf events. Internationally televised, the tournament consists of the top PGA Tour Champions players. The tournament is held annually in Boca Raton. We were provided an opportunity to participate as event volunteers in the food services areas. For our participation, we were awarded a small percentage of the net profits of concessions. It also gave us an opportunity to include our students which provided them with valuable community service hours and promotes the benefits of volunteerism.

Networking for a Cause- started in 2013, this annual networking event is organized by Scholar Career Coaching and has been held at Blue Martini in Boca Raton. It provides networking opportunities for our supporters and the ability to mix and mingle with drinks and hors d'oeuvres. It also includes a raffle which benefits our scholarship program.



## STUDENT AMBASSADOR

Our 2016 Student Ambassador was Jesula “JJ” Jeannot, an Atlantic High School senior. She was a 2010 Haiti earthquake survivor; she came to the United States, overcame incredible odds and is now sharing her message with other students around the School District of Palm Beach County.

Following the earthquake JJ came to Palm Beach County, Florida, only to face the challenges of a new environment where the language, the culture, and the education system were all different. But she persevered and now her purpose is to inspire other young adolescents who may believe they will not overcome barriers they may face in their effort to achieve academic success. She now envisions a bright future and recognizes that she is not only the survivor of a historic earthquake—but a survivor over what seemed like insurmountable challenges.

As a Scholar Career Coaching student and mentee, JJ stays focused and is constantly in communication with her Mentors. She was the mentee of the year in 2015 and the ScholarCC Student Speaker at 2016 Scholarship Awards Luncheon. She is the Scholar CC Student Ambassador and an advocate for the mentoring program that she credits for much of her high school success. JJ accepted a full ride scholarship to attend FSU under their Care Program and will start school in fall 2017.



## PRESS & MEDIA COVERAGE



### Take Charge of that Job Interview

Lynne W. Gassant, Founder of Scholar Career Coaching helps students with career planning and overcoming academic, social and language barriers. [READ MORE](#)

### Where are they now?

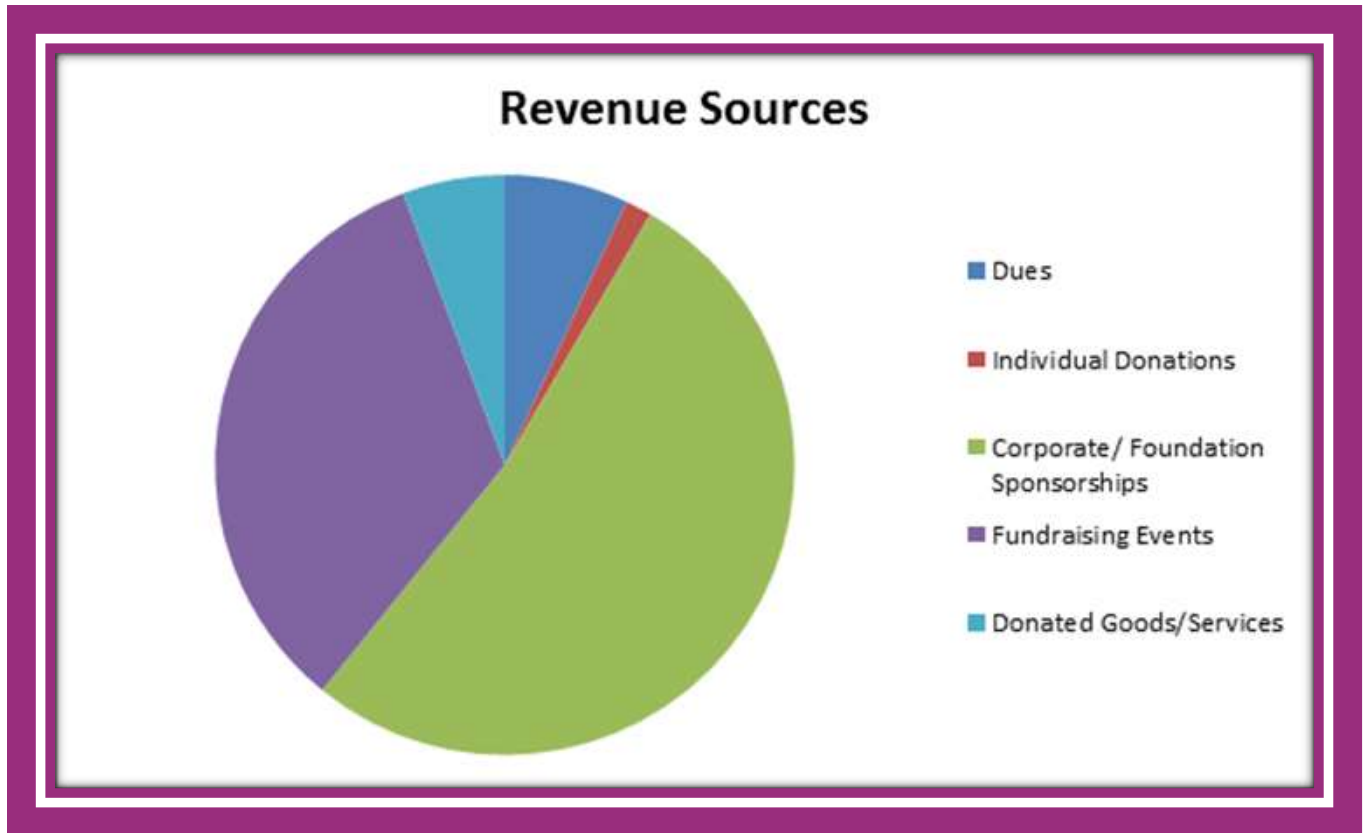
Lynne Gassant is a 2010 graduate of Palm Beach State College and 2012 graduate of Florida Atlantic University, both in Boca Raton, Florida. [READ MORE](#)

### New HR Manager

Lynne Gassant – Human Resources Hero On The Job and At School. [READ MORE](#)



## FINANCE



### INCOME SOURCES:

- 2% Individual Donors
- 33% Fundraising events
- 8% Membership Dues
- 52% Corporation/ Foundation Funding
- 5% Other Donations (including in-kind)



# ACTION PHOTOS!

