



College for Certain Newsletter | November 2015

Dear Aspire Friends,

This month I have been focused on sharing gratitude and appreciation around the organization. Each day, I hear tremendous words of praise about our scholars, teachers, principals and staff. We all are so grateful for the dedication and focus each teammate pours into our scholars on their path to College for Certain. We're sharing a slideshow of images in this issue which I hope you'll enjoy.

We have many accomplishments to be grateful for this November. In July, we officially created Aspire University as a standalone nonprofit organization and this month received approval of our 501(c)(3) status. Aspire University will allow us to train and certify our own teachers and principals. In support of Aspire University, a few weeks ago we announced our participation in Teacher2 (TeacherSquared), a center recently created and specifically designed to strengthen the capacity of teacher education programs. We are also grateful to celebrate a new facility for Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo Academy in Huntington Park. This new school building allows us to serve more students in a state-of-the-art facility and provide increased opportunities for student success.

Lastly, I want to say thank you for your continued support. December 1st begins our end-of-the-year giving season to support our College for Certain Fund. Each and every donation to the fund supports the preparation of our scholars to earn a college degree. Please consider giving the gift of College for Certain.

With gratitude,

Carolyn Hack
Chief Executive Officer

Living our Mission: Introducing Aspire University

For the past few years, a group of Aspire leaders have worked hard to expand our popular and successful Aspire Teacher Residency program into Aspire University.

We are so excited to announce that Aspire University was formed on July 1, 2015 as a standalone California nonprofit organization and has received approval of its 501(c)(3) status.



We are currently seeking regional accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission as a university that offers customized, graduate and continuous learning programs. Accreditation will enable us to build a pipeline of highly effective teachers and leaders prepared to deliver dramatic results for under-served students. This means that we will soon be able to train and certify our own teacher and principal residents and grant them Aspire University degrees.

[Continue Reading >](#)

Aspire Named Part of TeacherSquared

Just as we at Aspire are constantly pushing to new heights of innovation and achievement with projects such as Aspire University, we are also fulfilling our mission to share best practices as well as form new partnerships to expand and strengthen our work.

Earlier this month, we were honored to be named as part of Teacher2 ("TeacherSquared"), a new national center created to strengthen the capacity of teacher education programs nationally. Relay Graduate School of Education is leading this 'transformation center' funded through a new initiative sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.



[Continue Reading >](#)

Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo (AMLA) Ribbon Cutting

AMLA was Aspire's first school in the Los Angeles area, laying a strong foundation for our work across the region. Ten years later, after being housed in three temporary facilities, 431 students now have a state-of-the-art building to call home.



Aspire has a longstanding commitment to the Huntington Park community, one in every eight local students attends an Aspire school. Aspire operates eleven schools in the city, serving nearly 2,200 students in grades K-12. Since opening AMLA in 2005, Aspire has grown to operate four of the highest-performing elementary schools serving local students. More than 1,700 local students are currently on the waiting list to attend an Aspire Huntington Park school.

[Continue Reading >](#)

#AspireAttitude
ofGratitude



#GIVEASPIRE



Give the Gift of College for Certain



Founded in 1998, Aspire Public Schools is one of the nation's largest highest-performing, college-preparatory public school systems. Aspire delivers a rigorous K-12 *College for Certain* education to 15,000 students in 38 open-enrollment public schools in California and Memphis, Tenn. Currently in our 17th academic year, Aspire is one of the nation's first charter school systems.

1001 22nd Avenue | Oakland, CA 94606

communications@aspirepublicschools.org | 510-434-5516

STAY CONNECTED:

