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American Graduate Day 2017

National Partner Organizations

[ACE Mentor](#)

The ACE Mentor Program of America, Inc. (ACE) helps mentor high school students and inspires them to pursue careers in design and construction. It's now the construction industry's fastest-growing high school mentoring program, reaching over 8,000 students annually.

[AISES](#)

The American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) is a national, nonprofit organization focused on substantially increasing the representation of American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, First Nations and other indigenous peoples of North America in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) studies and careers.

[America's Promise Alliance](#)

America's Promise Alliance is devoted to helping to create the conditions for success for all young people, including the millions currently being left behind. Their work is powered by their belief that all children are capable of learning and thriving, and that every individual, institution and sector shares the responsibility to help young people succeed.

[Athletes for Kids](#)

Athletes for Kids serves children in 1st-9th grades who have disabilities and special needs of all kinds. They carefully match each child with a qualified high school athlete, who commits to mentoring a child for one to three years. Once a mentorship is formed, the pair meets two to four times a month. They now serve over 350 youth annually, and have served over 1,500 youth since our founding.

[Autism Speaks](#)

Autism Speaks is dedicated to promoting solutions, across the spectrum and throughout the lifespan, for the needs of individuals with autism and their families through advocacy and support; increasing understanding and acceptance of people with autism spectrum disorder; and advancing research into causes and better interventions for autism spectrum disorder and related conditions.

[Best Buddies](#)

Best Buddies is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. For individuals within this community, Best Buddies helps them form meaningful friendships with their peers, secure successful jobs, live independently, improve public speaking, self-advocacy and communications skills, and feel valued by society.

[Boys and Girls Club of America](#)

The mission of the Boys and Girls Club of America is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. They provide a world-class Club Experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters their doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.

[Boy Scouts](#)

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth development organizations, providing programs for young people that build character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship and develops personal fitness. For more than 100 years, Boy Scouts of America has helped build future leaders by combining educational activities and lifelong values with fun.

[Big Brothers Big Sisters of America](#)

For more than 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 6 through 18, in communities across the country. We develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting effect on the lives of young people.

[Café Momentum](#)

Café Momentum, a Dallas-based restaurant and culinary training facility, transforms young people's lives by providing a positive environment in which at-risk youth who have spent time in juvenile facilities receive intensive culinary, job and life-skill training, as well as continued mentorship and support, enabling them to achieve their full potential.

[C-CAP \(Careers through Culinary Arts Program\)](#)

Led by chef, author, and restaurateur Marcus Samuelsson as board co-chair, Careers through Culinary Arts Program (C-CAP) is a national non-profit that educates and guides underserved high school students toward a bright future. Through culinary training, career advising and scholarship opportunities, C-CAP works to break the cycle of poverty and empowers our students and alumni for success from their first day on the job throughout their entire career.

[City Year](#)

City Year is working to bridge the gap in high-poverty communities between the support that students actually need, and what their schools are designed and resourced to provide. In doing so, they are helping to increase graduation rates across the country, and changing the lives of the students they serve.

[Communities in Schools](#)

Working directly in 2,300 schools in 25 states and the District of Columbia, Communities In Schools builds relationships that empower students to stay in school and succeed in life. Their school-based staff partner with teachers to identify challenges students face in class or at home and coordinate with community partners to bring outside resources inside schools. From immediate needs like food or clothing to more complex ones like counseling or emotional support, they do whatever it takes to help students succeed.

[ECLC \(Education, Careers, & Lifelong Community of New Jersey\)](#)

ECLC is an accredited, nonprofit, educating students ages 5–21 with severe learning and/or language disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, Down syndrome or multiple disabilities at two schools. Their vision is to empower and enable the individuals we serve to achieve their maximum potential and enhance their quality of life.

[Felix Organization \(Camp Felix\)](#)

For four weeks each summer, The Felix Organization, in partnership with The New York Foundling, sends 150-200 children in the foster care system, ages eight to thirteen, to Camp Felix. Residing in some of New York City's most impoverished communities, these children are given the chance to leave behind their difficult circumstances and gain independence, make new friends and explore the natural world at their campus in Putnam Valley, New York, approximately one hour north of New York City.

[First Nations Launch](#)

A program of the Wisconsin Space Grant Consortium, the First Nations Launch competition offers Tribal Colleges and Universities, in addition to AISES chapter students, the opportunity to demonstrate engineering and design skills through direct application in high-powered rocketry. The competition requires teams of undergraduate students to conceive, design, fabricate, and compete with high-powered rockets. The restrictions on rocket motors and dimensions are limited so that knowledge, creativity, and imagination of the students are challenged. The end result is a unique aerospace experience for students that provides a great aerospace experience unique to Native American communities.

[First Robotics](#)

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. Based in Manchester, NH, it designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills.

[Huntington Ingalls Shipbuilding Apprentice School \(HHI\)](#)

The Apprentice School—founded in 1919 at Newport News Shipbuilding—is the preeminent apprenticeship program in the nation and offers four-, five-, and eight-year apprenticeships in nineteen shipbuilding disciplines and eight advanced programs of study. The school offers apprentices the opportunity to earn college credit, receive competitive pay and benefits and learn a trade. The school is committed to fostering apprentices' development of craftsmanship, scholarship and leadership.

[iCouldBe](#)

iCouldBe provides at-risk middle and high school students with an online community of professional mentors, empowering teens to stay in school, plan for future careers, and achieve in life. One class period per week, public high school students across the US work on e-mentoring activities that focus on academic success strategies, career exploration, and post-secondary educational exploration and planning.

[iMentor](#)

iMentor matches every student in our high schools with a committed college-educated mentor, equipped to guide that young person on their journey to college graduation. Today, iMentor serves more than 6,000 students through our direct-service programs in New York City, Chicago, and the Bay Area and through our partnerships with local non-profit organizations that implement our model in 39 schools.

[Junior Achievement](#)

Junior Achievement's Purpose is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. JA's volunteer-delivered, kindergarten-12th grade programs foster work-readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire students to dream big and reach their potential.

[Kids in Need Foundation](#)

The Kids In Need Foundation's mission is to ensure that every child is prepared to learn and succeed in the classroom by providing free school supplies nationally to students most in need. Last year, the Kids In Need Foundation helped 154,000 teachers and 4.8 million students in some of the most challenged communities across the country. In our 20 years, we have distributed nearly \$800 million in supplies to kids who would otherwise go without.

[Literacy Partners](#)

Literacy Partners strengthens families through a two-generation approach to education. With free classes, low-income parents in New York City develop the literacy and language skills they need to succeed in today's world. Their research-based curriculum also incorporates child development and parenting support to help parents boost their children's early reading, school readiness, and social-emotional growth.

[Mentor](#)

MENTOR'S vision is that every young person has the supportive relationships they need to grow and develop into thriving, productive and engaged adults. Their mission is to fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships for America's young people and to close the mentoring gap for the one in three young people growing up without this critical support.

[Major League Baseball](#)

In 1997 MLB selected Boys & Girls Clubs of America as its official charity. In addition to the standard education programs offered by the Clubs they have established more than 100 new RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities) leagues, more than 200 Rookie Leagues (machine-pitch instructional programs) and increased exposure for B&GCA. With the MLB Players Association MLB's work extends across hundreds of charities including City Year (Robinson Cano) and Nationals Youth Baseball Academy (Max Scherzer, after-school programs.)

[Mouse](#)

Empowers all students to create with technology to solve real problems and make meaningful change in our world. Mouse is committed to creating more diversity in STEM and opening opportunities for students from underserved communities across the country.

[NASA](#)

NASA is taking a leading role in the effort to inspire interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics through its unique mission, workforce, facilities, research, and innovations. Students, educators and faculty may explore and experience unique space and aeronautics content through NASA's education opportunities. Use the lists below to learn about ways to interact with NASA.

[National Museum of African American History & Culture \(NMAAHC\)](#)

The National Museum of African American History and Culture is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. It provides an opportunity explore history, brings awareness to global influences on American culture, and explores the American identity.

[NFTE](#)

The Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship inspires young people from low-income communities to find their paths to success. We work closely with educators in high-need schools to re-engage students in learning, introduce them to business concepts, and open up their possibilities for the future.

[PGA Tour](#)

TOGETHER, ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE SM is a PGA TOUR initiative to build a community of tournaments, players, charities, sponsors, partners, volunteers and fans who are committed to making a social investment by helping others. Making a positive impact in communities where PGA TOUR tournaments are held and players live has always been an essential element of the TOUR's charitable mission. There are nearly 3,000 charities and countless individuals worldwide who are touched by the TOUR's goal of giving back.

[Per Scholas](#)

Per Scholas was founded more than 20 years ago with a mission to open doors to transformative technology careers for individuals from often overlooked communities. They accomplish this mission today by creating opportunity, closing the skills divide, and achieving diversity.

[Sesame Workshop](#)

Sesame Workshop is the nonprofit educational organization behind Sesame Street and so much more. Their mission is to help kids grow smarter, stronger, and kinder. Sesame Workshop's recipe for success is combining a curriculum that addresses children's critical developmental needs with the sophisticated use of media and a large dose of fun.

[United Way](#)

United Way goes beyond temporary fixes to create lasting change in communities around the world. By bringing people and organizations together around innovative solutions, they impact millions of lives every year. Their focus is on education, income and health—the building blocks for a good quality of life.

[United States Army Recruiting Command](#)

Bringing quality young men and women into the Army - people who will complete their tours of duty and make a contribution to the Nation's defense - is the objective of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command as it goes about the mission of providing the strength for America's Army. The U.S. Army Recruiting Command is responsible for manning both the Active Army and the U.S. Army Reserve, ensuring security and readiness for our Nation.

[VH1 Save the Music](#)

VH1 Save the Music Foundation is dedicated to restoring music programs in America's public schools, and raising awareness about the importance of music as part of each child's complete education. They develop strategic partnerships with school districts to build sustainable instrumental music programs by providing grants of brand-new musical instruments to public elementary and middle schools. VH1 Save the Music Foundation's goal is to give every child in this country access to a musical instrument.

[The Viscardi Center](#)

Founded over sixty years ago by Dr. Henry Viscardi, Jr. who himself wore prosthetic legs and became one of the world's leading advocates for people with disabilities, as well as a disability advisor to U.S. eight presidents, from Franklin D. Roosevelt to Jimmy Carter, The Viscardi Center is a network of non-profit organizations that provides a lifespan of services for children and adults with disabilities. It is a hub for leading edge approaches to education and employment and pro-active efforts that aim to shape and influence policy changes that will benefit the people it serves.

[YouthBuild USA, Inc.](#)

At YouthBuild programs in the United States and across the globe, low-income young people learn construction skills through building affordable housing for homeless and low-income people in their neighborhoods and other community assets such as schools, playgrounds, and community centers.