View this email in your browser



March 2022 Newsletter

It's a new month, and with a new month comes new resources and learning opportunities for the youth in our communities!



A Letter from our Executive Director, Shelley Nicholls



Dear Future Aces Community,

Spring has arrived and I am happy to hear the birds chirping, see more daylight, feel the temperature rising and the end of the amateur hockey season. The start of spring also signals the beginning of graduation season! We are looking forward to continuing giving high achieving students the honor of the National Scholarship and Citizenship Award. This award has transformed the lives of over 900 students, like our class of 2000 alumnae, the amazing Shaneeza Nazseer Ally. You can read more about Shaneeza and her journey in this month's newsletter.

We have raised over \$10,000 in the first three months of our \$20,000, matching gifts campaign! We really need your donations to help us achieve this fundraising goal by May 31, 2022. We have a few events this April, including a Pilates event March 31, 2022, and a virtual auction that we hope that you can support. All funds raised will go towards the matching gifts campaign and support our programming.

I am excited to share that our Education Leads, Leland and Sakina, are finalizing the programming relaunch. Stay tuned on our social media to learn more about our virtual release this spring. Our team is also working to expand our engagement to include community organizations, sports team and other groups who are interested in promoting inclusion. If you lead a team or know a team that might be interested in our character-based programming, please reach out to Tina (tina@futureaces.org) to connect and learn more.

Enjoy the spring and take care.

Best,

Shelley

Our Scholarship Winner's story -Shaneeza Nazseer Ally

Shaneeza Nazseer Ally is the Executive Director of For Youth Initiatve (FYI), a youth multi service organization in Toronto, and was part of our class of 2000 Future ACES scholarship winners. Shaneeza is very focused on giving back to the community with a positive attitude. She was kind enough to answer a few questions for us and that may help support students who are applying or thinking about applying for a Future Aces scholarship.

Shaneeza grew up in Toronto, the daughter of Canadian immigrants. She was the first in her family to pursue post-secondary education in Canada. She did not know much about scholarships or the opportunities available to help reduce the cost of post-secondary education. Shaneeza was a strong student, volunteered in her community and was class president at her high school. She developed close connections with her schools' superintendents, principals, and guidance counselors, and this group of trusted adults advised and supported her post-secondary goals. Shaneeza was given access to scholarship opportunities and she applied to the Future Aces Scholarship. Shaneeza felt the scholarship was accessible and resonated with her because of Dr. Herbert Carnegie's story.



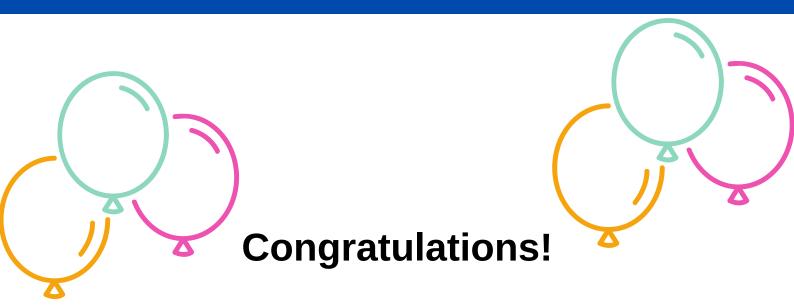


Shaneeza applied to and was awarded multiple scholarships that allowed her to pursue her post secondary education. The Future Aces scholarship allowed her to make bolder and braver choices and played a significant role in helping her make her dream school and goals a reality. After talking with friends, she recognized that there was a barrier for many of them who did not have advocates that she had access to who helped her. She decided to help build equity and share the insights and information she got about post-secondary support with her friends and peers.

Words of Wisdom

"Don't be afraid to change lanes. So many years your courses are selected for you in secondary school. In university you have an opportunity to try different things, and you should definitely do it. You have a whole world of knowledge at schools so don't be afraid to dabble in something that interests you, now is the time to do it. Don't have to be practical, pick the courses that will explore your curiosity. Take a detour to dive into your interests." - Shaneeza

We know that people who receive the scholarship give back to the community, like Shaneeza has. With your donations, we will help give more students the opportunity to make their education dreams a reality.



We've made it to the halfway point for our \$20,000 matching gift! Help us get to the finish line by May 31st, 2022! This month only Canada Helps will be matching all monthly donations \$20 and over as well!





2021 Scholarship Impact Statements

"I am a freshman at the University of Toronto studying Finance and Economics and the Rotman School of Management. Thanks to the Future Aces Scholarship, I am able to study more and concentrate as I don't have to worry about having a part-time job to pay off my student loans. Without this aid, I would not be able to give back to my community and volunteer at a local women's shelter. I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of this scholarship and thank the Future Aces foundation for the generosity and support."

- Dornaz Amehdi



"Being awarded the Future Aces scholarship in 2021 was a huge help when it came to financing my first year of university. I applied for the scholarship knowing I would need to rely almost exclusively on financial aid to pay my housing and tuition fees, and Future Aces and their generous scholarship alleviated a lot of my worries. Financial aid has helped me focus more on my academics, and alleviated a lot of the stress I had about funding my post-secondary education. Furthermore, the Future Aces scholarship inspired me to continue with my extra-curricular and volunteer experiences, as it showed me that other people believed in the work I was doing and affirmed that I was doing good in the world".

"After seeing the impacts of leading a team to 3D print prosthetics for those in need, I knew I wanted to continue leveraging my engineering skills to make a difference in the world. The Future Aces scholarship has helped make my dreams reachable. Through getting an education in software engineering, I'll be able to make larger impacts within the activism movement and advance the future of engineering. I greatly appreciate the opportunity and sincerely thank the foundation for their help."

- Charlene Rocha

UPDATE Scholarship Deadline: March 31, 2022 April 18th, 2022

All scholarship details can be found on the website, and Instagram page.

Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Foundations Scholarship 2022

The Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Foundation scholarships are awarded annually to applicants that demonstrate the values of the Future Aces Creed. Successful students contribute to society by having exhibited good citizenship through community service, character-building initiatives and/or by participating in humanitarian causes.

The foundation has provided support to close to 900 students with \$1,000 scholarships

Applications open on January 17,2022, and close March 31, 2022.

Applicant Eligibility:

- · Hold Canadian citizenship, permanent resident, landed immigrant or refugee status.
- Be in the graduating year of uninterrupted full-time studies in high school or CEGEP. Exceptions may be considered for those who have undertaken a
 gap year.
- Student between the ages of 16 to 24.
- · Financial need is taken into consideration.

How To Apply:

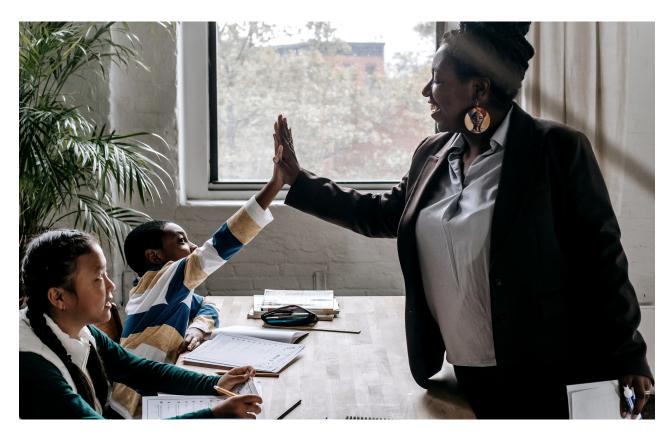
· Download the application package.

Download Application Package

- Some questions have word limits, please do not exceed them.
- The package is designed to be straight-forward and easy to complete. In the event that you require further assistance please don't hesitate to email scholarships@futureaces.org

The scholarship deadline has been moved forward two weeks in an attempt to have a broader diversity of skills in our applicants, and to give students more time to finish their applications. With more time to complete applications, we trust that our students will put their best foot forward! We can't wait to read everyone's applications!

Education Content Update



Over the last few weeks, the education team has been developing resources to support youth-serving community organizations and schools. The resources will support creating more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and antiracist spaces in our communities. We are excited to announce that we have partnered with Neon Train, a Canadian learning management company, and this partnership allows us to share our character development programs virtually. The newly developed lessons and workshops address, important topics including:

- Sharing Dr. Herbert H. Carnegie's story
- The Future Aces 12 point Creed
- The dangers of stereotypes
- Using your voice for positive change
- How to create more diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces, to name a few.

Dr. Leland Harper (He/Him) & Sakina Rizvi Education Leads Herbert H. Carnegie Future ACES Foundation

We are also happy to note that each of our educational components can be tailored for age groups, from elementary to high school.

If you have connections to a youth-serving community organization where you think this kind of programming could be valuable, we would love to hear from you! We look forward to sharing some more details about these exciting step in April 2022.





Fundraising

This month we will be hosting our very first fundraising event for the year! Get Moving is an initiative created by members of our team to raise funds for Future ACES programming. The event will be hosted via Microsoft Teams and faciliated by certified pilates instructor Loana Wagner.

Keeping in shape and raising money for a great cause? A double win! If you'd like to join us simply send us your name and email with your e-transfer donation and you're good to go! Also make sure to stay tuned for our silent auction running from April 22nd-29th. For a week you will have the opportunity to bid on some great prizes! We will be sharing more about where to donate and auction items throughout the month of April. Thank you for your on going support, and we can't wait to see you there!

Reflecting on Black History Month



We spent all of February sharing the stories of Black creatives, innovators and trailblazers from Toronto and the world over. We were particularly proud to be able to share Ms. Esie Mensah's story and be recognized by our audience and hers. As well as Dr. Eugenia Duodu and her work with Visions of Science. Head over to any of our pages to read these incredible women's stories' and many others we shared throughout February. Also be sure to check out their pages for inspiration and to learn about potential opportunities near you.

Alumni! Connect with Us!



If you have been a part of Future ACES or experienced our work at any point over the past 35 years, we want to hear from you. We want to learn more about the impact our programs had on you.

In connecting with us, you will also be entered into a draw to win and rep brand new Future ACES swag designed by our team! For more information about how to connect with us, send us an email at shelley@futureaces.org. Looking forward to hearing from you!

