



# UNC

## Center for Urban Education

### Leadership Council Chronicle

April 2023

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### Let Us Count the Ways: Sources of Funds for CUE Teacher Candidates

College tuition can be a burden for many students and the thought of it can keep aspiring teacher candidates from pursuing a degree. In this article, we discuss the different types of funds available to the students at the [UNC Center for Urban Education](#) (CUE) and check in with three current students to see how they pay their way through school.

#### Optimist Club of Tamarac Scholarship

The Optimist Club of Tamarac accepts applications for a \$1,000 scholarship to female CUE students age 18 years and older for tuition and/or other educational expenses. They must have completed 25% of the hours required for their degree program to apply. The deadline for the upcoming semester is April 26, 2023. Contact Rosanne Fulton for an application or more information.

#### P.E.O. Sisterhood Colorado Chapter GK Scholarship

The P.E.O. Sisterhood is an international, philanthropic, educational organization that promotes educational opportunities for women through grants, loans, and scholarships. The Chapter GK Littleton, Colorado, encourages female CUE students who meet their criteria to apply. The award is a minimum of \$1,000 and applies to tuition, books, and fees paid to UNC. Contact Rosanne Fulton for more information or to obtain an application.

Both the Optimist Club of Tamarac and the P.E.O. Sisterhood Colorado Chapter have supported CUE students for more than 15 years.

#### Register Now!

The UNC Center for Urban Education, Aurora Public Schools, and Scholars Unlimited present:

**Dr. Adeyemi Stemberge**

**April 22, 2023**

**8:30 to 11:00 AM**

Register [here](#).

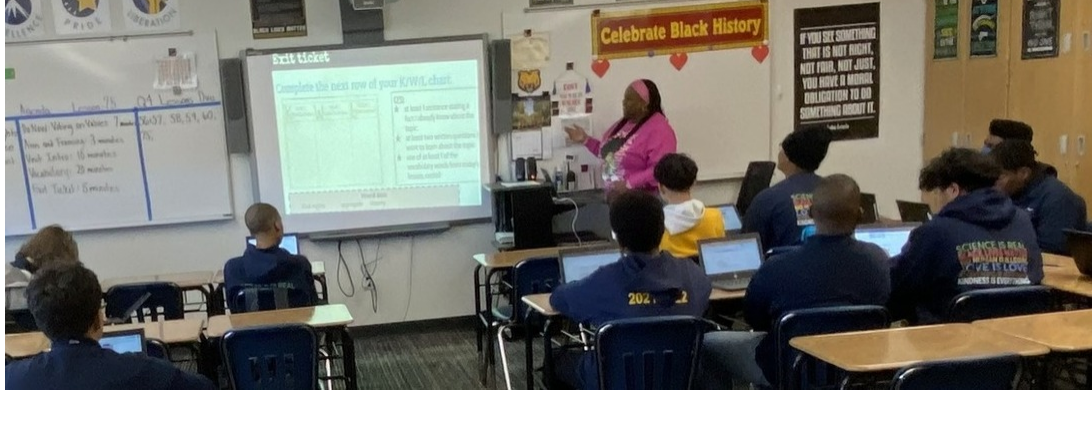
#### Thinking about Becoming a Teacher?

We are enrolling new students for the fall 2023 semester.

Call Dr. Rosanne Fulton, Director, UNC Center for Urban Education, at 303-637-4334 or [email](#) for more information.

Watch our [short video](#) to learn more about the CUE teacher-preparation program.

[Watch Video](#)



CUE Student Martha Thomas

#### Reisher Scholar Program

Since 2001, the [Reisher Scholar program](#) has given more than 450 UNC students financial support. Awards range from \$4,000 to \$11,000 per year. Each group of students admitted to the Reisher program joins a cohort of seven to 15 students from their graduating class. With two cohorts each year, the program contributes roughly \$500,000 to UNC students annually.

CUE student Martha Thomas is one such Reisher Scholar. "I always wanted to be a teacher so that I can help students feel good about themselves as my teachers did for me," said Thomas. "If you want to attend college, don't worry about not having enough money," she said. "There are people at UNC who can help you access the funds you need."

Thomas's sorority has awarded her scholarship funds for tuition and fees, and she also receives COSI scholarship funds, which we talk about next. Lastly, she received a federal PELL grant while earning her associate's degree at the Community College of Aurora and continues to benefit from federal financial aid at CUE.



CUE Student Desiree Lee

#### Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative

After a highly competitive grant process, UNC was selected as a recipient of an \$850,000 [Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative](#) (COSI) [Back to Work grant](#). The funds are intended to provide new career paths for workers displaced by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic while also addressing the need for teachers in Colorado's classrooms. UNC is using the funds to expand recruitment and retention at the Center for Urban Education.

CUE student Desiree Lee receives COSI funds and federal aid. She is applying for other scholarships as well because she is dedicated to completing her degree and serving students and their families. "I want students to have teachers who look like them," said Lee. She is grateful for the financial aid she receives and once she becomes a teacher, she intends to model honesty, integrity, and compassion for all of her students.

#### The Stryker Institute

Established in 2001 with a \$1.25 million gift from UNC alumna Ronda Stryker '76, the [Stryker Institute for Leadership Development](#) offers scholarships and leadership training as a participation-based scholarship program. It serves women from underrepresented groups and supports scholars in their identity and leadership development.

Stryker has since contributed more than \$11 million to the program and has pledged an additional \$4 million over the next several years. To date, the program has transformed the lives of 524 Stryker scholars and rippled out to the countless lives they've touched with their work.



CUE Student Letha Ring

#### Federal Pell Grants

Jennifer Major, Assistant Director Financial Aid and Scholarship at UNC, said, "Teacher candidates at the Center for Urban Education are eligible for [federal Pell grants](#) based on their family's socioeconomic status." After age 25, they can apply as independents. Students must complete their FAFSA application yearly in order to be eligible.

CUE student Letha Ring receives PELL grants and is applying for other scholarships for the 2023/2024 school year. As a paraprofessional, she works with small groups of students and enjoys seeing them grow academically and socially. "Teaching is something I really want to do, and I decided to make it happen for myself," said Ring.

For more information about all types of financial aid available to UNC students, visit their [financial aid web page](#).



CUE Graduate Alejandro Brambila

### CUE Graduate Admitted to Harvard's Master of Education Degree Program

Alejandro Brambila is a 2017 graduate of the UNC Center for Urban Education who has worked in California public schools since graduation, minus a two-year stint in Colombia to teach for the Peace Corps. He was recently admitted into the online Master of Education program in Education Leadership (PreK-12) at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

He will pursue part-time study starting this fall while continuing to work full time in California. Congratulations to Alejandro for his acceptance to Harvard and continuing his professional development at such a prestigious institution!

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