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## **The Pro Bono Publico Foundation Announces Grants and Strategic Commitments Totaling \$1.6 Million to Support Greater New Orleans Schools and Education**

*Since its Inception in 2006, the Foundation Has  
Made Grants and Multi-Year Strategic Commitments  
Totaling More Than \$13 Million*

(New Orleans, Louisiana) Continuing its ongoing investments in New Orleans public schools and high-quality public education, today, the Pro Bono Publico Foundation (PBPF) announced that, for the eighth consecutive year, it has awarded grants in excess of \$1 million. In addition, nearly \$.5 million has been added to the Foundation's Strategic Innovation Fund to fulfill performance-based, multi-year, strategic grant pledges. This \$1.6 million investment, in the Foundation's 16<sup>th</sup> grant cycle, represents the sustained commitment of Rex members in support of Greater New Orleans students and educators. Since its founding in 2006, the Pro Bono Publico Foundation's giving exceeds \$13 million, making the Foundation one of the key local funders of efforts to support and improve our public schools. Today's annual Foundation announcement at the Rex Den on South Claiborne Avenue included representatives from the PBPF's board, schools and organizations receiving grants, and members of the Rex Organization.

Most of the Foundation's giving has been focused on operational grants that serve to support the important work being done in our schools. These grants provide school leaders additional funds to do what they would not otherwise be able to do, allowing them to further enrich their students' experience.

More recently, the Foundation created a Strategic Innovation Fund designed to make larger strategic investments aimed at addressing some of our more pressing challenges and high-leverage opportunities. Examples of the Foundation's larger, strategic, three-year commitments include a grant to New Schools for New Orleans to assure our city's charter schools attract and retain excellent leaders and teachers and a grant to the Greater New

Orleans Foundation to support charter board training and development. Multi-year commitments are reviewed annually for performance, and the Foundation anticipates a shift to making more strategic investments in the coming years to help New Orleans' school children reach their full educational potential.

"The Pro Bono Publico Foundation's donors, as well as other local foundations we partner with, recognize the importance of this investment in our children and our future," said Merritt Lane, a member of the Foundation's board. Lane continued, "We have made tremendous progress, but we recognize there is much work still to do to ensure excellence in all of our schools. Consistent with the Rex Organization's motto *Pro Bono Publico*, and for the benefit of New Orleans' school children, we are very pleased this year to make grants and multi-year commitments totaling over \$1,600,000."

"I want to thank the Pro Bono Publico Foundation for their investment and partnership," said Andy Kopplin, President & CEO of the Greater New Orleans Foundation. "Since Hurricane Katrina, the Pro Bono Publico Foundation has led the way in supporting our community's public schools and students, making a sustained commitment to ensuring all New Orleans children have access to high-quality schools. We are thrilled to help advance this legacy by building on an area of strength at GNOF and partnering with them to ensure our City's public charter school boards are always well-led and well-governed."

Also during the announcement today, Tanya Bryant, the CEO of [ReNEW Schools](#), discussed the impact the foundation's support has had for the students her organization's schools serve.

#### **By the Numbers:**

- \$913,000 will fund 65 annual operational grants.
- \$725,000 will fund two multi-year strategic grants; first year commitment totals \$241,000.
- \$1,154,665 total of 2022-2023 grants.
- \$483,000 added to the Foundation's Strategic Innovation Fund to fulfill performance-based, multi-year, strategic grant pledges.
- \$1.63 million in total grants and multi-year pledges.
- More than \$13 million in total giving through 16 grant cycles.
- Eighth consecutive year of grants totaling more than \$1 million.

A listing of the 67 institutions receiving grants from the foundation's 2022-2023 giving cycle appears on the following page.

#### **About the Pro Bono Publico Foundation**

Responding to the community's needs during the difficulties of Reconstruction, the [Rex Organization](#) was founded by a group of civic-minded individuals in 1872, over 150 years ago. Responding to the community's needs during the difficulties of recovery from Hurricane Katrina, the [Pro Bono Publico Foundation](#) was founded by members of the Rex Organization in 2006. Thanks to the generosity of its donors, the foundation has been able to make a sustained and meaningful investment in support of our community's public schools and its students. The foundation's grants and commitments show the determined efforts of Rex members and the foundation to ensure all of New Orleans' children can attend excellent schools. These schools, and organizations supporting their important work, have been the focus of the foundation's investment, as well as the commitment of dozens of Rex members serving on their boards.

**Pro Bono Publico Foundation  
2022-2023 Grantees**

18th Ward Sports Club	Lake Forest Charter School
826 New Orleans	Live Oak Wilderness Camp
Agenda for Children	Louisiana Policy Institute for Children
Algiers Charter School Association	Lycee Francais de la Nouvelle Orleans
Audubon Schools	Morris Jeff Community School
Belle Chasse Academy	New Orleans Career Center
Breakthrough New Orleans	N.O. Military and Maritime Academy
Bricolage Academy	New Schools for New Orleans*
Center for Resilience	NOCCA Foundation
City Year New Orleans	Raphael Academy
College Beyond	ReNew Charter Management
College Track	RoboRecovery
Collegiate Academies	Roots of Music
Community Academies	Son of a Saint
Crescent City Schools	Special Education Leader Fellowship
Discovery Schools	St. Augustine High School
Early Partners	St. Michael Special School
Educare	St. Stephen's School
Education Pioneers	STAIR, Start the Adventure in Reading
Education Reform Now Louisiana	STEM Library Lab
Elan Academy Charter School	STEM NOLA
First Line Schools	Success Preparatory Academy
Greater New Orleans Foundation*	Teach for America - GNO
Homer Plessy Community Schools	The Bright School
Hynes Charter Schools	The Chartwell Center
InspireNOLA Charter Schools	The Foundation for Science & Math Education
International High School of N.O.	The Good Shepherd School
International School of Louisiana	Tulane University - Cowen Institute
Jefferson Chamber Found. Academy	Warren Easton Charter Foundation
KID smART	Young Audiences Charter School
Kingsley House	Youth Empowerment Project
KIPP New Orleans Schools	Youth Force NOLA
LA Assoc. of Public Charter Schools	Youth Run NOLA
LA Charter Schools Alliance	

\*Organizations designated for performance-based, multi-year, strategic grant pledges.