

Elm City Internationals

2017-18 Annual Report



ECI Generation 3 students had the opportunity to participate in the Disney International Soccer tournament with their Bridgeport Premier team. They are so proud that they won the tournament and had the opportunity to play against some of the top clubs from Brazil and other South American countries. ECI appreciates all of the opportunities that our partner organization, Bridgeport Premier has provided for our student-athletes.

ELM CITY INTERNATIONALS
360 Fountain Street #40 • New Haven, CT 06515

www.elmcityinternationals.org
lauren@elmcityinternationals.org
phone: 203-506-4768

A Few Words from Executive Director, Lauren Mednick

Dear Friends,

The 2017-2018 academic year was a busy, yet exciting year for ECI student-athletes. 2017 marked the year that 100% of ECI's first cohort of students (or "Generation 1" as we call them) graduated from college. I feel lucky to have had the honor to help guide these young men since they were in middle school and watch them work hard and overcome many obstacles in order to have the opportunity to reach this milestone. It gives me great pleasure to witness their academic success and, more importantly, watch the contributions that they are making in their communities. These young men act as such inspirations to the younger generations of ECI students.



*Lauren Mednick,
Executive Director*

ECI is also excited to announce that we have four "Generation 2" students beginning their first year of college (at Hobart and William Smith College, Middlebury College, and Central Maine Community College). I look forward to witnessing their growth throughout their college years as they discover how they can best make their mark on society. ECI's Generation 2 cohort currently spans between high school sophomores and college juniors. ECI's Generation 2 students who are already in college are thriving academically, athletically and socially. In the past couple of months the younger ECI students have thoroughly enjoyed visiting our college-age students at Dickinson College and Wesleyan University to watch them play soccer games and explore their college communities. Our Generation 2 students who are still in high school have had a very busy year exploring social justice issues, conducting extensive research papers, going on college trips and completing another undefeated soccer season.

ECI's youngest "Generation 3" students had a very busy and productive year. When I recently asked one of our 7th graders what his favorite parts of ECI were in this past year, he said without hesitation "Going to play in the international soccer tournament in Florida and winning, going to Dickinson College to watch Minimo and Maximo [these are two of our Generation 2 students] play soccer, watching Elm City Express games, and going to Vermont to visit Ish [this is one of their former mentors and former Elm City Express player who recently moved to Vermont to start medical school]." I can't say that I was not a tiny bit disappointed that he didn't mention any of our reading or writing assignments but I did set my expectations accordingly. To me his response shows the importance of the experiences our students have in ECI. These wonderful experiences bond them to one another and to their teachers, mentors and coaches, and allow them to really immerse themselves in our academic programming as well as the college advising process.

As our current students continue to flourish, we at ECI are constantly working to adapt our academic, social and athletic programming to best fit the needs of our students so that they can continue to thrive academically in college and beyond.

I am beyond thankful to our many loyal supporters. The ECI boys consider ECI a second family. Our wonderful supporters are all truly part of the extended ECI family and contribute greatly to the success of our boys. As the traditional African proverb says, "It takes a village to raise a child." Thanks so much for being part of our wonderful village.

Sincerely,

Lauren

A Testimony from an ECI student

Dear ECI Supporters,

My name is Mohamed Kourouma and I am a member of ECI Generation 2. My memories of ECI go back to 2007, when I was just 7 years old because my older brother, Elhadj, was part of ECI Generation 1. I vividly remember getting excited when Lauren would tell me that I could come with them to watch an ECI game and remember envisioning myself as a future ECI soccer player. In my eyes ECI was the best soccer team I had ever seen. I still remember the day in 8th grade when Lauren told me that they were about to form a new “generation” for ECI and asked me to be the first Generation 2 member. At the time, I was so excited to play for this team that I knew my older brother referred to as his family. I did not yet realize how much ECI would impact my life off the soccer field.

The first ECI activity that I participated in with the rest of Generation 2 was going to watch a Sage College of Albany soccer game. 4 of our “Generation 1” brothers played for this college team and although I already knew all of Generation 1 because my older brother was part of it, this was the first time that that rest of Generation 2 met our older Generation 1 brothers. Now that I am a sophomore in college and really understand the mission of ECI, I know that we took this trip to Sage before we even started our own soccer practices and academic programming so that we could be inspired by the older ECI students and so that we knew that we had the power to go to college just like them in a few years.

Elm City has impacted me in more ways than I can imagine. Not only have I had the opportunity to play soccer on a team with some of the best players that I know but I also got to work towards my academic goals. I got to work towards these goals with the support of my ECI teachers, mentors and coaches and more importantly with the support of my ECI brothers. The kids in ECI are my best friends and my brothers. We support each other through good times and bad times.

One ECI memory that I now laugh at took place on my first college trip in 10th grade. My first college trip was to Dickinson College. I remember in the car on the way home Lauren asked me and the other kids in the van how we liked the school. My response was “It is pretty but I do not see myself going there because it’s small and looks boring.” At the time, Lauren’s response was “We will visit many colleges and take time over the next couple of years to really understand your values but please promise to keep an open mind.” Lauren kept her promise and over the next couple of years we visited many schools, talked about the benefits of different types of schools, and talked about the importance of balance between soccer and academics. This story is funny to me because I am now a sophomore at Dickinson College and could not be happier. In fact, the thing that I love most about the school is that it is small, which means I get to really know my professors and classmates. Playing for a very strong D-3 soccer team means that I get to play soccer at a high level and get to be known on campus as a soccer player but also have time to pursue my other interests and focus on school.

I thank all of you guys for supporting ECI because without ECI I know that I would not be at Dickinson College playing soccer, studying international business, and thinking about the ways that I could impact the communities that I grew up in in West Africa and New Haven, Connecticut after I graduate college. Thank you for believing in me and my ECI brothers.

Sincerely,
Mohamed Kourouma



Mohamed Kourouma, pictured in the black sweatshirt and white shorts, is congratulated by Generation 2 students after a good performance at his season-opening game at Dickinson College.

College News

ECI is excited to announce that the program has 4 new college freshmen! Congratulations to Brayan Canas, Charles Sakouvogui, Brian Mendez, and Mardochee Bouanga who are attending Hobart and William Smith College, Middlebury College, and Central Maine Community College, respectively (Brian and Mardochee are excited to be college roommates!).



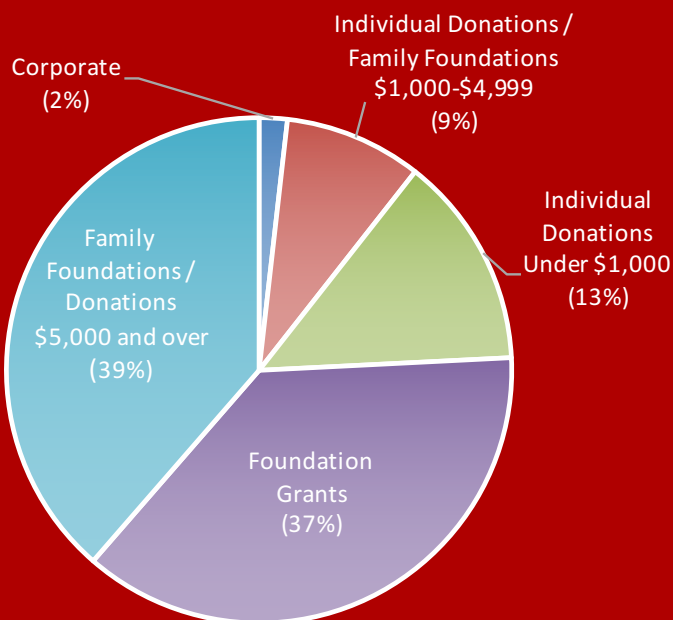
Mardochee and Brian's first photo at Central Maine Community College as accepted students.



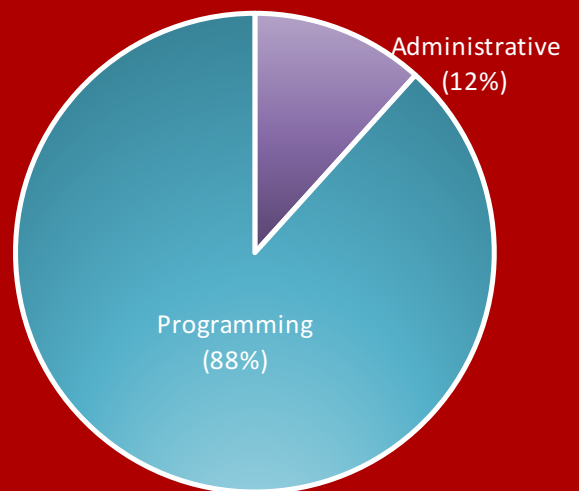
Brayan and Charlie proudly posing in their new college gear shortly after receiving their acceptance letters.

Financial Overview: 2017-2018 Academic Year (August 2017 – July 2018)

Total Deposits: \$142,591



Total Expenses: \$123,357



List of Donors

\$25,000+

*The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven

*Stutzman Family Foundation

\$5,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous

New Alliance Foundation

Diana Davis Spencer Foundation

\$1,000 - \$4,999

**Teo and Suzy Baldwin

Dick and Marissa Ferguson

*Joanne and David Goldblum

*Nikki Holebrook

Scott and Jocelyn Hurwitz

*The Lawson Family

*L.H. Brenner Insurance Inc.

*Susan Stone

Jerry Weil

\$250 - \$999

*Ted Baldwin

**Christine and Henry Czarny

*Sharon Ginsburg

*The Flores-Harper Family

*Linda Frey Magnuson

*Michele Johnson

*Laticrete International, Inc

Littler Mendelson P.C.

**Steven and Marlene Mednick

**The Nemerson-Chertow Family

**The Render-Pham Family

**Doryce and Terry Seltzer

*Cynthia Stretch and Steve Mathews

*Svivals and Partners

**Andrew Zehner and Sue Whitty

\$1-\$249

Fayssal Abdou

Mark Abraham

*Christina Acampora

Barbara Adde

Joseph Addison

Bukola Adubi

Evans Akinola

Luke Albrecht

Jeff Alpert and Janice Kozlowski

Reinaldo Amaral

Scott Anderson

Ariana Ansani

Chris Antezzo

*Sarah Arntsen

Anthony Asante

Naomi Ash

Isis Ash

Alex Austin

William Ayala

Julio Badillo

*Melissa Bailey

Annie Banks

*Brittany Bannish-Laverty and Sean Laverty

**Michael Barber

*Charlene Barber

The Barnes Family

**Mary Barnes

Casey Barnett

Paula Barragan

*Candace Barrington

Andrew Bartoah

Susan Bates

Emily Bazelon

William Beccaro

Lewis Beilman III

Laurel Bender

**Gerald and Linda Benichak

Stafford Bensen

Joe Berg

Barbara Berg

Laura Berger

Marissa Bernstein

Gene Bertolini

**Anthony Bialecki and

Marjorie Davis

Jessica Bialecki

Scott Bohannon

*Darryl Brackeen

*Amy Brockman

*Jay and Lynn Brotman

**Donated 3+ Years*

***Donated 10+ Years*

Fun Statistics About ECI's 2017-2018 Year:

- 🌀 Each student-athlete received more than 400 hours of reading and writing instruction through the ECI Academy
- 🌀 ECI students visited and connected with admissions offices and/or college coaches at 17 different colleges
- 🌀 High school students played in 4 College Showcase Soccer Tournaments with Bridgeport Premier Soccer and played an additional 20 league and friendly soccer matches
- 🌀 Each student engaged in over 400 hours of soccer instruction and games
- 🌀 92% of students made their school's honor roll at least once
- 🌀 ECI's Generation 3 students won an international soccer tournament in Florida with their Bridgeport Premier U12 team
- 🌀 ECI helped our college students collectively receive over \$323,000 in renewable college scholarships and grants
- 🌀 Students traveled in every state on the east coast from Maine to Florida for college trips and soccer showcases
- 🌀 100% of ECI's high school seniors were admitted to college "early decision"
- 🌀 One of ECI's 7th graders was admitted to Hopkins School with a full scholarship (and is excited to join one of his 8th grade ECI pals there)
- 🌀 2 of our Generation 2 students received a full scholarship to participate in WOZA this summer which allowed them to volunteer to coach children living in poverty and in orphanages in Costa Rica
- 🌀 ECI Generation 2 students completed the last 4 consecutive soccer seasons with a record of 123-1-3

List of Donors

\$1-\$249 (cont'd)

Robert Brown
 The Brown Family
 Josiah Brown
 *Candice Burd
 Jesse Byrne
 **Theresa Caldarone
 Doug Caligan
 Muammar Camara
 Matheus Camargo
 Blanca Campos
 **Robert and Francine Caplan
 Elizabeth Carey
 Jorge Carrera-Sanchez
 Gustavo Carvalho
 *Tony and Pam Casagrande
 Natasha Casanova
 David Cash
 Kevin Casini
 Al Cavaliero
 Patricia Chamberlin
 Belinda Chan
 Angel Chavez
 Fatoumata Binta Cherif Haidara
 The Ciarleglio Family
 Kaitlin Ciarmiello
 Breanne Cirullo
 Patricia Clark
 *Ian Clark and Carrie Shea
 *Jane Coffe
 Robert Coffee
 Ann Coffee
 Karla Cohen
 *Lauren and Jon Cohen
 Robyn Cohen
 Mary Ellen Condon
 Amy Cooper
 Robert Crisco
 Mike Crocco
 Scott Crowder
 Ellen Culver
 Maria Cunha
 Maroussia Czarny
 **Noah Czarny
 *Moses Dahn
 *Mary Daly
 Jeff D'Ambrosio
 James Darcila
 *Gabriel DaSilva
 *Heather D'Auria
 John DeFrancesco

Eddy Della Valle
 Michael Demps
 Kathleen Deschenes
 Maureen Desena
 Lucas de Sousa
 Jethika Shaneen Dewendre
 Saikou Diallo
 Mariama Diallo
 The Diane Family
 Joseph DiMaggio
 **Greg Dildine
 **Nancy-DiLorenzo
 Chantel and Gracieuse Dilus
 Bone Doggie
 Scott Donnelly
 Kyler Doran
 Courtney Doran
 **The Doss-Gollin Family
 *James Doss-Gollin
 The Dove Family
 Jeff Dow
 Donna Draper
 Ryan Driscoll
 **Karen and Ned Duval
 Devin Dwyer
 Angelica Echevarria
 *Marta Edmisten
 **Jane Moretz Edmisten
 Tom Edwards
 Geetha Emu
 Emily Epstein
 *Richard and Debbie Epstein
 *John Estekhume
 Lely Evans
 Annalise Everett
 *Carlos Eyzaguirre
 Richard Fabbro
 Marilyn Fagelson
 Fernando Faneyte
 *Joel Faxon
 Paula Fernald
 Jonathan Ferrante
 Luis Figueiredo
 *Megan Finney
 *Thomas Finney
 Marilyn Fintel
 James Fitzgerald
 Nicole and Jim Fitzgerald
 Chandler Ford
 Peter Fox
 Jacqueline Fuentes

The Fuhjimori Family
 Quiwonkpa Galakpain
 The Gollagher Family
 *Isabel Gallant
 *Christopher Gallant
 *Gerald Garcia
 Marc Garofalo
 Abiubacar Gassama
 *Rebecca Gawel
 Anne Gebelein
 Arnar Geirsson
 Tamar Gendler
 The Gernhardt Family
 *Andrew Giering
 *William Ginsberg
 Ben Gold
 *Samuel Gold
 **Laura Goldblum
 Lynne Goldstein
 **Lindy Lee Gold
 Maria Gomez
 Donasia Gray
 Joseph Greelish
 Kelvin Green
 *Lawrence Greenberg
 *Melissa Greene
 *The Gross Family
 Jeff Grover
 *Shlomit Grullon
 Reyna Gutierrez
 Brenda Gutierrez-Vazquez
 Richard Hamilton
 *Kylie Hanify
 *Annie Harper
 Doris Harrington
 Helen Harris
 Morgan Haslegrove
 Pattie Belle Hastings
 Douglas Hausladen
 Sheila Hayre
 Charles Heeley
 Fernando Hendler
 Zachary and Carolina Henry
 Dorothy and Neil Henry
 Yuleimy Hernandez
 *The Hill-Berthelot Family
 Lawrence and Deborah Hoffman
 Peter Hoffmeister
 Ursula Hoffmeister
 Yael Holand
 Julianna Holbrook

**Donated 3+ Years*

***Donated 10+ Years*

List of Donors

\$1-\$249 (cont'd)

*Dave Hughes
 The Imevbore Family
 Elodie Jallu Bouhours
 Sally Johannessen
 Matthew and Megan Jones
 Nick Jones
 Tiago Juchem
 Natalie Kaiser
 *Morry Kalimian
 Molly Kammien
 Aminata Kane
 *Rochelle Kanell
 The Kanyo Family
 Istvan Kanyo
 Adam Kaufman
 **Andrea Keefe
 Erin Kelleher
 Sharon Kelting
 Tracy Kelting
 The Kennard Family
 The Kilpatrick Family
 The Ko Family
 Eugene Kuo
 Thomas Kurz
 Jennifer Lamb
 *Susan and Dick Landon
 Elizabeth Lane-Harvard
 Nicole Lapenta
 Heidi Lau

Jennifer Lewis
 Stephen Librandi
 Debbie Lipman
 Anne Lipsitz
 Mike Long
 Lyndi Long
 Julia Lopes
 Abraham Luciano
 Grant Lyons
 *The Madrid Family
 Leticia Magana
 Luis Magana
 The Magana-Perez Family
 Joseph Magaro
 Keith and Jane Mahler
 Jake Mahon
 The Mainiero Family
 Matheus Malta Baseggio
 *Adam Marchand
 Joao A Martins
 *Amy Marx
 Ian Masias
 Arthur Masiukiewicz
 *The Mastrony Family
 Mary Mays
 *Michelle Mays
 Fabio Mazo
 Peter McGalliard
 Emily McGalliard
 Elena McGalliard

*Thomas McNamara
 *Bree-Lynn Mednick
 **Lauren Mednick
 Chris Meehan
 Isabel Melchinger
 *The Mendez-Suarez Family
 Jesica Mesa
 *Rebecca and Ryan Meshulam
 *Susan Metrick
 Heidi Meyers
 Katherine Mills
 Lesley Mills
 Albert Mislow
 *Maggie Moffett
 John Moleiro
 *Rolando Montero
 Gemma Moore
 Michelle Mulder
 Julia Muldoon
 The Munoz-Olivares
 Jamie Murphy
 Lisa Murray
 Christian Myles
 **The Neale Family
 Young Cha Nelson
 *Young Nelson
 Bruce Newberg
 Sean O'Brien
 The O'Brien Family
 Nnenna Okpaku

**Donated 3+ Years*

***Donated 10+ Years*



Jonathan is very excited to be starting as a 7th grader at Hopkins School where he joins his ECI brother Moustapha who is in 8th grade.



Generation 2 students, Tacho and Andrew, hard at work in ECI Summer Academy.

List of Donors

\$1-\$249 (cont'd)

*Serio Olmedo-Ramirez
 Curtis Packer
 Jessica Padgett
 Jennifer Padham
 Alyssa Pagan Hagearty
 Tim Page
 Christy Page
 *Damian Paglia
 Christine S Paglia
 *Donald Paglia
 The Palomeque Family
 **Susan Papa
 Amber Papastavros
 Ranju Parikh
 Harold Penn
 Sergio Pereira
 Leidy and Luis Perez
 Cristina and Sebastian Perez
 Bitá Perez
 Gerardo Perez
 Robert Pickard
 Giordano Piffero
 The Piffero Family
 Alini Poczwardowski
 Robert Poirer
 Kola Ponnle
 Jibola Ponnle
 The Ponteau Family
 Tim Pothin
 The Pritchard Family
 Maura Purzycki
 Jason Purzycki
 Bill and Peaches Quinn
 Nicole Rainieri
 Alejandro Ramirez
 Malinka Ranasinghe
 Yehan Ranasinghe
 Kavinda Ratnayake
 Charles Raynolds
 William Regan
 Angela Rejman
 German Restrepo
 Madison Reynertson
 *The Rhatigan Family
 Brett Rice
 Joel Richards
 Tamara Rivera
 Martin Rivera
 Regina Robb
 The Rojas Family

Logan Rosenfield
 Susan Rothwell
 The Rule Family
 Alex F S Nemetz
 The Sabin Family
 Emmanuel Saforo
 Eric Saint George
 *Siba Sakouvogui
 *Christina Salamone
 **The Santos-Wuest Family
 Jose Santos
 Rossana Santos
 Neal Sarin
 **Peter Schaffer
 **The Schimelman Family
 Diego Schwartz
 *Bradley Seltzer
 *Janna Seltzer
 Roxanne Serrao
 Scott Severino
 **Terry Seymour
 **Amy Shapiro
 Alon and Melissa Shein
 Matenin Sheriff
 Carl Jura Shirley
 Jeff Shirley
 *Jamie Shure
 Erivaldo Silva
 *Michael and Kathy Silver
 Jay Silverman
 Jasmine Simmons
 **David Simon
 Dylan Sloan
 *Eric Smith and Family
 Stephen Smith
 *Alexis Smith
 Noah Sobel-Lewin
 Fabio and Viviane Sousa
 Jonatan Sousa
 Alex Spectorisky
 Victoria Starr
 Brett Steele
 Matthew Steinecker
 Kimberly Stewart
 Eleanor Stewart
 Leslie Stone
 **David Summergrad
 *Charles Swanson
 **Charles Beckman Swanson
 Tim Swensen
 Charlotta Taylor

*Caprice Taylor Mendez
 Justin Taylor
 Brittni Taylor-Acosta
 *The Teixeira Family
 The Tencic Family
 Brian Tetreault
 Alex Thomas
 Haydee Tirado
 Chivon Toles
 Bouba Toure
 Adrian Triminio
 The Tshindaye Family
 Kenneth Turner
 John Twohill
 *Robert Udelsman
 *Kelly Udelsman
 Ricardo Ruy Valle-Mena
 Michael Vanleesten
 Catherine Velazquez
 Tamara Vertefeuille
 Christie Vezzola
 Alex Vigliotti
 The Villarreal Family
 Elizabeth Vitale
 **Susan Voigt
 Hannah Volk
 Jonathan Vosper
 Sophia Vranos
 Brandon Waloff
 Raymond Wang
 Elizabeth Clapp O'Connor
 The Weil Family
 Schneur Weiss
 Jordan Weissberg
 Kyle Welch
 Richard White
 Daniel Wilczynski
 *Kristen Williams
 Alisa Williams
 Andrew Wolf
 Matthias Wuest
 Jennifer Yokley
 Sean Young
 Harry Zehner
 **Karen and Ira Zeid
 *Josh and Stephanie Zeid
 **Rachel amd Oraan Zorbaron
 Jorge Zubillaga
 The Zuse Family

**Donated 3+ Years*

***Donated 10+ Years*