



NEWS RELEASE

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Denver Public Schools Foundation Achieve Gala raises more than \$860,000 to support DPS students and schools.

DENVER, May 2, 2014 – [The Denver Public Schools \(DPS\) Foundation](#) hosted its 12th annual Achieve Gala presented by UMB on Tuesday, April 22, generating more than \$860,000 to support DPS students and schools.

More than 1,100 business and community leaders heard from DPS school leaders, several local officials including Governor Hickenlooper, and many talented and inspiring students throughout the evening. The event celebrates the tremendous impact community support has on Denver’s public school system, and calls upon the community to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with educators to help every child in DPS succeed.

The evening featured many talented and inspiring DPS students. The keynote address was delivered Daniel Ramirez, a senior at North High School who aspires to be a doctor after developing a love for science through DPS schools. “Education is the key to my success and it’s something that I will never let go of. I’ve spent my entire life in DPS schools, learning from DPS teachers and coaches. I consider each moment a building block in the foundation for my future. I want to ask you to continue to support students like me.”

“When you hear a story of perseverance like Daniel’s, you’re struck with the knowledge that there is no greater obligation as members of this community than to help our children succeed,” says Kristin Heath Colon, President and CEO of the Denver Public Schools Foundation. “The Achieve Gala is an annual opportunity to be reminded that when we talk about education, we’re really talking about children. It’s an opportunity to reflect on the impact of your support – on the lives your generosity will change. We are so grateful to every person who supports the work of the DPS Foundation.”

The evening also featured inspiring stories from students district-wide including: Rathana Preap, Montbello High School; Aracely Navarro, North High School; and Britani Rudolph, Denver Center for International Studies. Entertainment was provided by talented DPS student performers from Marrama Elementary School Choir, Denver School of the Arts Theatre Department, and North High School Drum Line.

Holiday and Stan Goodreau and Kathryn and Eric Albright have generously committed their time and energy to host the Achieve Gala because they believe deeply in the mission of the DPS Foundation.

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For the eighth consecutive year, UMB was presenting sponsor of the evening. Valedictorian sponsors include The Anschutz Foundation, Marcy & Bruce Benson, Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center, The Piton Foundation, Kristin & Blair Richardson, United Launch Alliance and Cille & Ron Williams. Davita sponsored the Achieve Gala Reception, and Polsinelli underwrote the production of unique student-made centerpieces for the event.



View photos from the event, a full list of sponsors and information about the DPS Foundation at www.dpsfoundation.org.

About the Denver Public Schools Foundation

The single most pressing and critical priority for our nation is to provide a quality education for every child. Our future depends upon it. The Denver Public Schools Foundation is Denver Public Schools' fundraising partner. We generate resources, build relationships and champion public education to impact system-wide achievement and help every child succeed. Through strategic program investments and community leadership, we support Denver Public Schools in creating a district where outstanding educational achievements are the norm and all children have an opportunity of a great future. For more information, visit www.dpsfoundation.org.

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