



ABC Scholar Examines Equity in Education



Skye Padovani, Class of 2019

By about 2044, people of color will make up nearly half the U.S. workforce. By 2050, the country's youth population is projected to reach 62% children of color. Yet, many public school systems are woefully unprepared for this future.

"The essential question is how do we as a society offer an equitable education today for people of color?" asked ABC scholar Skye Padovani, who took on this complex issue for her senior Capstone Project at Andover High School.

"The 2044 Project" examines historical and economic reasons for the sub-par education of minority students and makes suggestions for reform. Equity is defined as fairness in educational models and systems, and equality is the outcome. "Equity is the starting point. Without equity, we lose equality," said Skye. *(continued on page 2)*

ABC Seniors Win Big: First-choice Colleges and Award



On May 9, 2019, senior scholar Skye Padovani was recognized at the annual Boston gala for PFLAG, a national LGBTQ advocacy organization, as winner of this year's prestigious Greater Boston PFLAG Elsie Frank Scholarship!

PFLAG is the United States' first and largest family and ally organization committed to advancing LGBTQ equality. PFLAG has nearly 400 chapters across the United States, with more than 200,000 members and supporters. PFLAG's Elsie Frank Scholarship honors the late mother of Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank. Mrs. Frank was a member of Greater Boston PFLAG's Honorary Board and a advocate for the rights of marginalized people.

This generous scholarship will award Skye \$5,000 per year

during her four years of college! Skye was chosen from a large, competitive applicant pool, after a lengthy application process. PFLAG will also coordinate fully funded annual trips for Skye to return to Boston during her college years to speak with middle school students about leadership initiatives for improving their school climate for LGBTQ youth.

ABC is proud to be part of Skye's brave journey.

Olamide Olayinka (right) (Bronx, NY) will attend Syracuse University (NY), where she will pursue prelaw studies in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.

Skye Padovani (top left) (Bronx, NY) will attend Champlain College (VT), where she was nominated for the Social Impact Scholars Program, which includes significant international immersion studies.



President's Message: You Help Our Scholars to Succeed

As our 51st academic year end approaches, we at ABC of Andover are grateful for the host families, donors, residence staff, and scores of volunteers who support our scholars with passion and generosity. Each of you plays a meaningful role in helping talented youth reach their full academic potential.

Most importantly, we celebrate our impressive young scholars whose successes are a testament to their dedication and resilience in this journey for "a better chance."

Their accomplishments include:

- All scholars are excelling in Honors and AP classes.

- Four students received scholarships to participate in intensive academic programs this summer at Yale, Harvard and Brown to study math, philosophy, biology, environmental policy and international relations.
- A senior is conducting in-depth research for a Capstone Project with extensive writing and public speaking requirements. Another is pursuing international relations through Andover High School's intensive Global Studies Program.
- Two scholars are job shadowing professionals through the AHS Career Mentoring Program. *(continued on page 2)*



Gabrielle Hager Nossiff

An Alumna Voice Also Speaks to Equity in Education



Gloria Rosario Wallace, EdD,
MEd, ABC/AHS '99

As I celebrate my sixteenth year in the New York City Department of Education, I reflect on my experiences from growing up in District 6 in Washington Heights, NY, surrounded by the sounds and smells of my Dominican culture, to attending a radically different and distant Andover High School, which forever shaped my worldview.

During my freshman year of high school, I recognized that your zip code matters when I saw the opportunities present in Andover High. Knowing I would not have had the same opportunities if I had gone to high school in New York City frustrated me and filled me with shame. I would grow to learn that my experience wasn't unique.

My time in high school inspired me to teach. While my undergraduate years at Vanderbilt University prepared me to become a licensed high school history teacher, it was my postgraduate study in Educational Leadership (MSEd Bank Street College of Education, EdD Fordham University) that allowed me to deeply research how we have gotten

to this place. Jim Crow Laws, some of which persist to this day, created two Americas. When my parents emigrated to this country in the 1970s they were walking into a legacy determined by decades of biased policies and laws. The shame I felt during high school was misplaced. I had nothing to be ashamed of, but our nation's foundation is damaged and in dire need of repair. A family's zip code still determines the quality of education their children receive. Beyond being unjust, this is a moral failure of our system.

Each time I moved in my career, from Global History teacher to assistant principal, to co-founder of an alternative high school, to principal, to my current position as a Senior Director in the Office of Equity and Access, the moves were prompted by my desire to address the levels of inequities that impact our children and young people and prevent them from being free.

My current position allows me to work with community and high school superintendents and their principals to support systemic change. What we do benefits all students in the district but especially Black, Brown, and Indigenous students, as well as students from underserved and underfunded communities. Through targeted relationship building and intervention we are making a difference.

-- By Gloria Rosario Wallace '99

ABC Scholar Examines Equity in Education *(continued from page 1)*

"What connects me to my project is my ABC experience," she emphasized. Her time in Andover opened her eyes to the unjust situation at her striving but underfunded middle school in the Bronx, NY, where she was one of 40 students to a class. "I got A's but didn't learn very much," Skye recalled. Coming into Andover High, she felt several years behind. After that rocky first year -- she credits her ABC tutors for getting her through freshman math and science -- Skye found ways to excel at AHS. "Teachers saw my potential and pulled it out of me," noted the ABC scholar. She made honor roll her junior year and pursued interests in psychology and education.

She vowed that her push for equity in education won't stop at graduation. "I'm going beyond my capstone to try to affect the future," Skye professed. "This project has pushed me forward to work harder. I want to help." Skye proudly presents "The 2044 Project" in a public forum at the Collins Center on May 20. -- By Susan Greco

President's Message *(continued)*

- Two volunteer weekly as tutors at Esperanza Academy in Lawrence.
- Four perform in Andover High School's renowned Show Choir, one as Vice President.
- Two serve as Co-Presidents of the AHS Diversity Club; another as President of the AHS Gender and Sexuality Alliance.
- Two scholars serve in AHS Student Government and one in Model UN.
- Four hold part-time jobs, including as homework helpers at The Pike School.

As always, it is an honor to witness the transformations of ABC scholars during their years in Andover. Their pursuit of scholarship, leadership, and service provides inspiration in our ever important mission to advance equity in education. Thank you for your role in helping to open doors for greater educational opportunities and assisting ABC scholars to fulfill their dreams to become future leaders.

Volunteers Needed

Do you have time for a volunteer project? If you are willing to help ABC with one of these tasks, please e-mail us at volunteer@AndoverABC.org

- Drive scholars to local activities on weekdays or to airport for school breaks
- Research college scholarships or summer enrichment programs
- Cook Saturday breakfast or Friday dinner for 7 scholars
- Host for the ABC Bed & Breakfast Fundraiser
- Organize historic archives and files
- Assist with a mailing

See more opportunities at
AndoverABC.org/lendahand



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Margot Painter Bixby (1935-February 16, 2019)



ABC of Andover is deeply saddened by the loss of Margot Bixby and we will remain forever indebted for her role in founding our program, which has transformed so many lives.

Fifty one years after Margot joined ABC of Andover's first Board of Directors in 1967 and helped select the first group of 10 promising young scholars to arrive in Andover, our program remains vibrant and strong, now the oldest in the nation. Her determination changed history.

As a Board leader, passionate educator, and "host parent" to 3 ABC scholars,

Margot worked tirelessly to ensure ABC's success. Her legacy includes 142 ABC of Andover alumni whose life trajectory was changed, thanks to her vision and courage during the tumult of our nation's civil rights movement.

Margot's memory will always endure as a source of great pride and inspiration for those of us working to promote ABC's ever important mission.

Per the family's wishes, donations are welcome in lieu of flowers to A Better Chance of Andover at www.AndoverABC.org/donate.

Theodore "Ted" M. Pugh III (1959-December 31, 2018) - ABC/AHS '77

A Dartmouth College graduate and ardent Pittsburgh Steelers fan, Ted is fondly remembered by his ABC family and friends from the lively days of the 1970s Andover coed program. Our sincere condolences to Ted's family and friends.



HOW TO GO GREEN
Subscribe to our e-newsletter by sending your email address to mail@AndoverABC.org

Janna Cabrera
Rosie Forster

Fall Fashion Fundraiser

Last fall, ABC of Andover hosted a fundraiser at Old Town Hall featuring alumna Taide Argelia Broadbelt '94 presenting her fashion collection entitled *First Impression* by Taide Argelia. We had a big turnout for this successful fundraising event! Taide and her models stole the show!

Save the Date and Join Us Again on November 9, 2019!

What We Do

Mission: Closing the education gap for students of color in American society. We bring motivated students of color to live in Andover, where they attend Andover High School to better prepare for college. Thanks to donor generosity, we provide these scholars with a house on Main Street and a complete network of support and love.

Enrollment: 7 scholars currently from New York, Chicago, Atlanta, and Los Angeles.

Results: All 142 graduates over our 50 years have entered high-level colleges and universities.

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Raise A Glass, Make A Splash
Oak & Iron Brewing Company
Wednesday June 12, 2019

Opening Doors: The ABCs of Success
Old Town Hall
Saturday November 9, 2019

ABC Scholars Inspire Coach Faz



“Coach Faz,” as he is endearingly called by many who know him, has been a staunch ABC supporter for over 25 years. When we spoke with David Fazio, Andover High School physical education teacher and boys’ varsity basketball and golf coach, we learned that he has enlisted

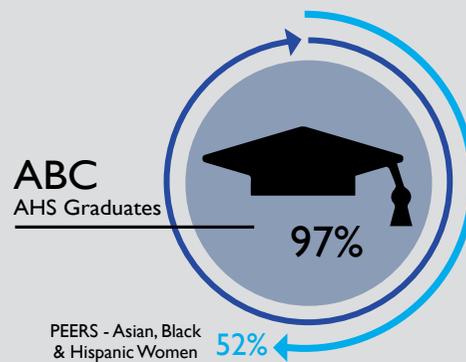
many ABC scholars throughout the years as varsity student managers.

Dave initially became involved with ABC because he loved the fact that the scholars have the opportunity to attend AHS to better prepare them for their futures. He believes their courage to leave their homes and take ‘a better chance’ on themselves is admirable.

In talking further with Coach Faz, he also shared that his association with ABC has been rewarding for him, especially in the basketball program, because he has been able to build mentoring relationships with our scholars that are totally different from classroom encounters.

Coach Faz continues to be involved with ABC because he is so impressed by the ABC scholars’ motivation. Their drive inspires him to spend time mentoring them by being a role model, one who is excited to see them achieve.

ABC of Andover alumni graduate college at higher rates



97% of ABC AHS alumni receive an undergraduate degree within 6 years of matriculating at college compared to 52% of other Asian, Black and Hispanic women

Source: A Better Chance of Andover and National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 2018