

The LEGACY

CONNECTION
Winter 2025

LEGACY

The Legacy Continues!



Preparing
tomorrow's
leaders
today!



HANDS



HEART



MIND



WORDS





Celebrating 20 Years of Legacy Love

In times of uncertainty and change, I find my bearings in community. Every day at Legacy I am reminded of the vibrant community we have built over the last 20 years. This includes scholars, families, teachers, donors, community members, and everyone reading this newsletter. Our shared commitment to education and its transformative power makes us strong. It is our collective superpower.

I am delighted to invite the entire Legacy family to celebrate our superpower at the annual Legacy Builder Sneaker Ball on Friday, May 9, 2025! This special evening honors the individuals and organizations that have played a pivotal role in shaping our school's journey.

This year, we are proud to recognize our Legacy Builder honorees: Lisa Kenner, our founding principal, and the Steans Family Foundation, a steadfast supporter of Legacy every step of the way.

Anyone with the privilege of meeting Lisa Kenner knows the depth of her passion and love for education and people. As Legacy's very first employee, she took on the incredible task of building a school—working alongside families, community members, teachers, and future scholars. Over a decade of leadership, she grew Legacy, which was just an idea with an initial 80 scholars to over 450 scholars, leaving an indelible mark on our community. This year, we celebrate her unwavering dedication and vision.

We are also honored to recognize the Steans Family Foundation (SFF) with the Community Legacy Builder Award. Their support began before Legacy had a name or location, demonstrating a deep commitment to our mission from the very start. Robin Steans, a founding Legacy Board member, was instrumental in shaping the foundation of our school. Additionally, SFF established North Lawndale READS, a program that has provided critical resources for over a decade to support reading proficiency by the end of third grade. Legacy would not be the school it is today without SFF's partnership.

I hope you have marked your calendar and bought your sneakers. We are ready to build a future, one rooted in our mission to Love. Learn. Lead.

Liz Goss
Executive Director





EXPOSING OUR SCHOLARS TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL

Legacy Charter School is a place where academic excellence and social-emotional growth go hand in hand. To "educate the whole child" means providing a high-quality education that empowers our scholars to compete both locally and globally while fostering the emotional intelligence needed to navigate life's challenges. Achieving this vision requires a dedicated, supportive community that believes in our children's potential and provides them with the time and structured opportunities to explore their passions.

We are proud to highlight our most recent program partners:

- "Tee for Two" Golf Program – Led by a Professional Golf Association (PGA) member.
- STEAM & Dream Liberation Labs: Healthcare – Taught by professionals from Rush University.
- STEAM & Dream Liberation Labs: Technology & Engineering – Led by experts from UIC.
- Cosmetology & Entrepreneurship – Guided by Mrs. Ivana Miles of the Ivana Miles Cosmetology Camp.

Thanks to the funds raised at last year's Legacy Builder Sneaker Ball, 132 out of 208 middle school scholars have already participated in these enriching programs!

Program leaders consistently praise our scholars for their enthusiasm and love of learning. Scott Tillman-Franklin, a director at STEAM & Dream Liberation Labs, shared:

"Whatever you are doing, KEEP IT UP, because you are doing an amazing job! Your scholars are phenomenal, and my team is thoroughly impressed with how eager they are to learn!"

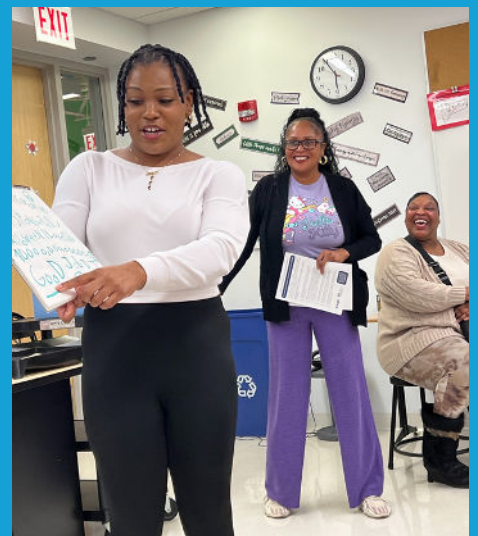
The generous support of our donors makes these opportunities possible. With your donations, we can continue expanding these transformative programs and provide even more scholars with meaningful learning experiences. Sow a seed today and watch your investment blossom into life-changing opportunities that Legacy scholars will carry with them forever!

Sheila Foster
Principal



We Understood the Assignment!

The Illinois State Board of Education has published the annual Illinois Report Card and summative designations for the 2023-2024 school year, recognizing Legacy as a “Commendable” school!



We deeply appreciate the collective support of our community in advancing our mission and school-wide goals, which made this achievement possible!





Legacy Alumni Are Changing the World!

Meet Erionna Marshall, Class of 2014

Alabama State University 2023, Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, Minor in Business and Sociology

Current Profession: 11th-grade English teacher, Muchin College Prep

How did Legacy prepare you for your future?

The dedication of our teachers was truly life-changing. However, one special teacher comes to mind. My 5th-grade teacher, Ms. Ayanna Pearson, was a driving force in my life, pushing me to see myself beyond what I felt were my limits and inspiring me to truly invest in my future. The impact she had on my sisters and me is something I can only dream of giving to my own students today. She helped me understand the power of mentorship and education. Because of her, I have dedicated my life to providing the next generation with exactly what she gave me: hope.

What advice would you give current Legacy scholars?

At Legacy, you receive a phenomenal education guided by some of Chicago's brightest minds and most committed teachers. Stay focused on what can be true, what will be true, and what is true. Your greatness is within reach; embrace your golden ticket and step boldly into your full potential!

What do you want your personal legacy to be?

I want my Legacy to be one of passion! My mission is to uplift my community, driving it toward greatness through education and mentorship. Everything I touch will come from the heart—undeniably genuine and deeply impactful.

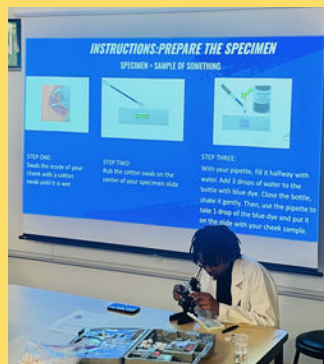
Why should people support Legacy Charter School?

Legacy provides a safe, supportive, and enriching learning environment, something more important now than ever before. We must protect and invest in spaces that invest in us—spaces that equip our scholars with the irrefutable key to success: a quality education. Supporting Legacy, you shape a brighter future for our scholars and our community.



Legacy Scholars are Preparing for their Future

Science - Technology - Engineering - Arts - Math



Legacy's academic enrichment programs empower scholars to expand their knowledge, sharpen critical thinking skills, and explore diverse subjects beyond the traditional curriculum. These programs ignite curiosity and foster a lifelong love of learning!

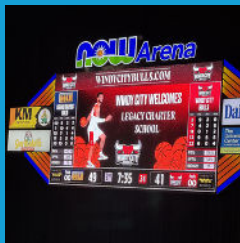


Exploration encourages critical thinking



Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow!

Thanks to robust academic tutoring, local partners, and after-school programs like “Tee for Two” Golf and Cosmetology & Entrepreneurship Legacy scholars are preparing to lead their community!



Partnerships Make A Difference!



Legacy's Cheer Team Takes the Win!



Legacy's Cheer team took 1st place at the recent citywide competition. Our team SHINED with back flips, huge smiles, and precise movements!



Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!

Spreading Legacy Love and creating leaders!





Don't Wait—Get Your Tickets Now!

LEGACY

BUILDER

**SNEAKER BALL
FUNDRAISER**

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 6 - 11 pm

Garfield Park Conservatory

300 N. Central Park Ave.

Chicago, IL

Tickets \$200

Available on Eventbrite

www.eventbrite.com/e/legacy-builder-sneaker-ball-2025-tickets



For sponsorship information, contact Yvette Warren
yvette.warren@legacycharterschool.org

2025 Legacy Builder Honorees

Individual Impact Honoree

Lisa Kenner, Director of Programming, Con Textos



As Legacy Charter School's founding principal, Lisa led with her vision that all children deserve a high-quality education in a loving environment. She led the school for 11 years, building the school from 80 scholars to 460 scholars. As Legacy grew, she kept the school grounded in its mission and focused on its scholars.

2025 Community Impact Honoree

SFF Steans Family Foundation

The Steans Family Foundation (SFF) is deeply committed to partnering with the North Lawndale and North Chicago communities, investing time, resources, and expertise. Guided by the belief that communities flourish with local leadership, strategic investment, and a strong policy ecosystem, SFF has been a vital partner in Legacy's success. Their generous grants provide essential funding for social-emotional counseling and academic resources, ensuring that Legacy scholars receive the support they need to thrive.



Building Our Legacy, Securing Their Future



Our mission is to be an outstanding center for teaching and learning for children and their families that recognizes and nurtures the full potential of every child, provides a foundation for a college education, and educates our scholars to be creative and critical thinkers and responsible citizens in school, at home, and in the broader community.



Learn more



YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS!



**MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY SUPPORTING
LEGACY SCHOLARS TODAY!**

[Donate Now!](#)

www.legacycharterchicago.org/our-school/donate

