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# Fall-Winter 2017

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# Collegiate Crossings

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Dear Family and Friends of Collegiate Crossings...

As the summer turned to fall and soon winter... this is the time that college planning really heats up. College applications are being presented, FAFSA submissions are underway and letters of recommendations are being gathered. The college application process has really expanded over the past decade. Families don't know where to begin, so thank you for your support of CC, so that students soon to be entering post-secondary education have a good foundation from the beginning.

A huge shout out to Cheer Central, Crossroads School, Origami Owl, and St. Vrain Valley School District for partnering with CC, so that we can assist the future workforce of America. Lots to report on in this newsletter, enjoy!

Blessings,  
Carey McClure  
Executive Director/College Planner

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## Bring a Workshop to your School, Church or Neighborhood Event...

Collegiate Crossings offers One-on-One college planning for students... helping with admission and scholarship research to provide the best FIT options for who are being served.

### ***BUT...Did You Know?***

Collegiate Crossings can bring a workshop to you... Finding the Right Fit, Locating the Finances, Writing your Application Essay, So You want to Play College Ball?, Transitioning from high school to college, How are you Wired: Determining your college major and career... and many more.

These workshops can be conducted on site or over the internet. Contact Andy McClure... [amccc@comcast.net](mailto:amccc@comcast.net) or 720-352-4303 on how to host a college planning workshop.

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**Thank you to the following for Your Financial Support...** April Fund, Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI), Education Foundation of St Vrain Valley, Erie Uplink, Flatirons Community Church, Longmont Ford, Miller Family Fund, Noble Family Fund, Quintess Collection, Ray Lanyon Trust/Guaranty Bank and our many individual donors!

**Thank you...**CC Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteers for their heart for students! A special thank you to EHS, FHS, and MHS Admin, Counsellors and staff for helping to pilot Filling the Gap program. Also thank you to Careerfulness, Indigo Education, DYI College Rankings, Mindspring Learning and Sycamore Learning, for their partnerships!

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## Supporting Collegiate Crossings...

Each year as students begin to apply for post-secondary education, they set up and apply to **FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), where they receive their **EFC** (Expected Family Contribution) score. There is always the hope that it will be low. The lower the score, the less financial expectation a family has to pay for post-secondary education.

Collegiate Crossings works with many low-income and first generation students whose families don't have the resources to pay for the services of CC let alone, foot the bill for a post-secondary education. This year CC is working with several students and families who ended up with a **000** on their EFC. This means the Federal Government has **\$ZERO** expectations on these students to pay for their post-secondary education, as their family does not have the income to cover the bill.

***The point... CC works with dozens of students that can't afford the services of Collegiate Crossings.***

Would you please consider helping Collegiate Crossings with an end of the year financial gift? You can send your tax-deductible contribution in the [envelope provided](#), or by making an on-line donation

[www.collegiatecrossings.com/you-can-help](http://www.collegiatecrossings.com/you-can-help)

**School Applications...** Over the past month Collegiate Crossings students have been busy filing out applications to schools around the USA. Below is the listing of post-secondary institutions CC students have applied to for acceptance in the fall of 2018...

Aims Community College  
 American University - Paris  
 Arizona State University  
 Art Institute of San Francisco  
 Ashland University  
 Auburn University  
 Azusa Pacific University  
 Baylor University  
 Birmingham-Southern College  
 Belmont University  
 Boston College  
 Brigham Young University-Idaho  
 Butler University  
 California Univ. of Technology  
 California Lutheran University  
 California Polytechnic University  
 Chadron State College  
 Chapman University  
 Claremont-McKenna College  
 Clemson University  
 Colorado Christian University  
 Colorado Film School  
 Colorado Mesa University  
 Colorado Mountain College  
 Colorado School of Mines  
 Colorado State University  
 Colorado State Univ-Pueblo  
 Columbia University  
 Community College of Aurora  
 Community College of Denver  
 Concordia University  
 Cornell University  
 Creighton University  
 Dartmouth College  
 Doane University  
 Dodge City Community College  
 Duke University  
 Eastern Washington University  
 Embry Riddle Aeronautical Univ.  
 Empire Beauty School  
 Fort Hays State University  
 Fort Lewis College  
 Front Range Community College  
 Garden City Community College  
 Grand Canyon University  
 Gonzaga University  
 Harvard University  
 Hastings College  
 Hofstra University  
 Iowa State University

Johns Hopkins University  
 Johnson and Wales University  
 Lamar Community College  
 Laramie Co. Community College  
 Kings College  
 Knox College  
 Lee University  
 Lincoln Tech  
 Loyola-Marymount University  
 Marquette University  
 Massachusetts Institute of Tech  
 Metropolitan State Univ.-Denver  
 Midland University  
 Montana State University  
 New Mexico Institute of Mining  
 and Technology  
 New York University  
 North Dakota State University  
 Northeastern Community College  
 Northern Arizona University  
 Northwestern University  
 Ohio State University  
 Paul Mitchell the School-Denver  
 Pepperdine University  
 Pike Peak Community College  
 Pima Medical Institute  
 Princeton University  
 Regis University  
 Rhodes University  
 Rocky Mountain College of Art  
 and Design  
 Samford University  
 Saint Leo University  
 San Diego State University  
 Santa Clara University  
 South Dakota School of Mine  
 Southern Methodist University  
 Stanford University  
 Texas A&M University  
 Texas Christian University  
 United States Air Force Academy  
 United States Naval Academy  
 University of Alabama  
 University of Arizona  
 University of California – Berkeley  
 Univ. of California-Los Angeles  
 University of Colorado-Boulder  
 Univ. of Colorado-CO Springs  
 University of Colorado - Denver  
 University of Denver

University of Florida  
 University of Kansas  
 University of Missouri  
 University of Nebraska  
 Univ of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
 Univ. of North Carolina-Charlotte  
 University of North Dakota  
 University of Northern Colorado  
 University of Notre Dame  
 University of Oregon  
 University of Puget Sound  
 University of Redlands  
 University of Richmond  
 University of San Diego  
 University of San Francisco  
 University of South Carolina  
 University of Southern California  
 University of Tennessee  
 University of Texas  
 University of Utah  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Washington  
 University of Wyoming  
 Vanderbilt University  
 Vanguard University  
 Villanova University  
 Wake Forrest University  
 Washburn University  
 Washington and Lee University  
 Western New Mexico University  
 Western State University  
 Western Washington University  
 Westmont College  
 Whitworth University  
 Whittier College  
 William & Mary University  
 Yale University  
 York College



## Student Profile... Esmeralda

I would not be the person I am today without my life story. At first glance, this may seem shallow, I am proud of where I am today because I have faced many hardships. Beginning in fifth grade my family lost our property and had to move five times in three years. We lived in an apartment, a safety shelter, a homeless shelter, and two friend's houses. This was difficult. In addition to the constant moves, my mother was abusing her prescribed medication, was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, and was unfaithful on my father multiple times. Both my mother and father came from abusive homes. This led to abuse by my dad. This obviously caused issues, and led my parents to divorce one another, twice. In addition, my father managed to get laid off from his job and my mother had to leave her job and be put on disability as she was not fit to work. A year later, the doctor found a tumor in my father's stomach and almost died. Despite these circumstances, I managed to maintain honor roll in school and even decided to challenge myself with the IB Program at Niwot High School. This is a grand achievement, because all of these family issues. Throughout middle school I felt alone, and held myself responsible for my own actions since my parents were busy dealing with their own issues. I know this life seems sad but I would not take back any of it. In fact it caused me to get involved in many school activities like band and basketball, and others, it gave me an escape from home.

Through my circumstances, I found my love for music, sports, and made many new friends. Many people would think that because of what I've been through and my Latino background that I would not be motivated in school and dropout, do drugs, or make other wrong choices. No, this motivated me even more and made me want a brighter and better future for not only myself, but my family.

Currently I am in the IB program striving to be the best that I can be. I want to break the stereotype that people have against Latinos and show them that we are smart, motivated, and hard-working. I also want to show that with hard work anything is possible, and it does not matter where you come from, if you do your part and put your faith in God you can go anywhere. From what I can see, persistence and grit does pay off, because currently my mother has been sober for two years, my father's aggressiveness has been tamed, my parents remarried, and we have been living in a stable apartment since my first year of high school.



Overall, what I'm most proud of today and what makes me who I am: these hardships which I could not have conquered without my friends, family, and most importantly my faith.

## CROSSROADS SCHOOL...

Collegiate Crossings has been working with Crossroads School for two years, providing all high school students with individualized future planning support. They have helped students find career options that they hadn't considered, walked them through college and scholarship applications, arranged career-exploration meetings with experts in the field, and more. And for the Crossroads staff, Collegiate Crossings provides insight and direction to help us as we continue to encourage and support students toward a positive future!



- Crossroads School Executive Director

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## Origami Owl and Cheer Central...

This past year the partnerships with Origami Owl and Cheer Central have grown. CC has traveled to the Phoenix area and across greater Denver to hold workshops for students and families. Dozens of students have called on CC to help with their college planning. CC looks to continue to offer these workshops in person and on line to assist in the college application and scholarship process. Thank you **Team Believe-Tami Butcher** and **Cheer Central-Wendy Ayers** for your support... and helping students! Origami Owl is an on-line and in person jewelry experience with the intent on **being a force for good!** Cheer Central is the premier competitive cheer gym in Colorado and New Mexico, with four locations.

[www.butchergirls.origamiowl.com](http://www.butchergirls.origamiowl.com)

[www.ccsuns.com](http://www.ccsuns.com)

## Student Profile... CJ

Over the past year, I have been blessed to be able to get to know Carey McClure through the process of working with Collegiate Crossings. I first met Mrs. McClure when she conducted a workshop at my high school in which she gave me and my fellow upcoming senior's valuable information on writing college essays. After the workshop, my parents looked into Collegiate Crossings and we decided it was the program for us, mainly because of how friendly and helpful Mrs. McClure was at our first meeting. I have always had ambitions of going to a prestigious university, but I was stressed because both my parents and I had little knowledge on the process of applying to colleges. After our first meeting, much of that stress had been lifted off of my shoulders because of her. She was extremely helpful in outlining what steps we needed to take for applying, but she also gave us a plan of attack for carrying out those steps. Whenever I have needed help with editing an essay or anything else related to the process of applying to college, Collegiate Crossings has always been there to help me out. Because of Collegiate Crossings, I was able to finish all of my applications weeks before the deadline. While most of my fellow seniors are stressing about getting applications in, I can rest easy knowing that all of my applications are complete. I also feel more confident in my applications and my chances of getting into my dream school, Notre Dame. No matter where I end up going, I now know I am prepared for college and my life going forward. I cannot thank Mrs. McClure enough for all she has done for me in helping me through this process and I can confidently say I have made a friendship that will last beyond the college application process



## Filling the Gap...

Collegiate Crossings' Filling the Gap program is in its second year working with approximately 110 students at Erie, Frederick and Mead High Schools, in the St Vrain Valley School District.

The work this semester included one-on-one meetings with students to prepare admission and scholarship applications, CC took a busload of students to the Denver National College Fair and hosted a series of workshops. These workshops provided students and parent's details on: College Applications, Scholarships Applications and FAFSA and Financial Aid

Filling the Gap students have applied to 78 different postsecondary schools in the US.

## Collegiate Crossings WISH LIST...

### College/Post-Secondary Planning Needs

**College Planning Hours** **\$30,000**  
1200 hours or 100 a month to work one on one with low income and first generation students

**Application/Scholarship/Financial Aid Workshops** **\$5000**  
Sponsor workshops for low income and first generation students

### Technology Needs

**Go to Meeting/Webinar/Training** **\$2500**  
On-line training software that allows Collegiate Crossings to offer online workshops, ACT/SAT test prep and one-on-one planning with up to 100 students

**Signal Vine** **\$2000**  
Texting app that will allow Collegiate Crossings to directly communicate with students. This texting service provides with the opportunity to send personalized messages, in addition to time-sensitive reminders and large group messages, to students to inform them of upcoming deadlines, to-do items, and general college-going information.

**Drop Box** **\$500**  
Cloud storage system allows files to be saved and viewed by all Collegiate Crossings staff and partners

**If you are able to assist CC with any of the above please contact Andy at 720-352-4303 or [amccc@comcast.net](mailto:amccc@comcast.net)**