



Fund for
Education Abroad



A DECADE OF IMPACT 2010-2020



The FEA scholarship changed my life.

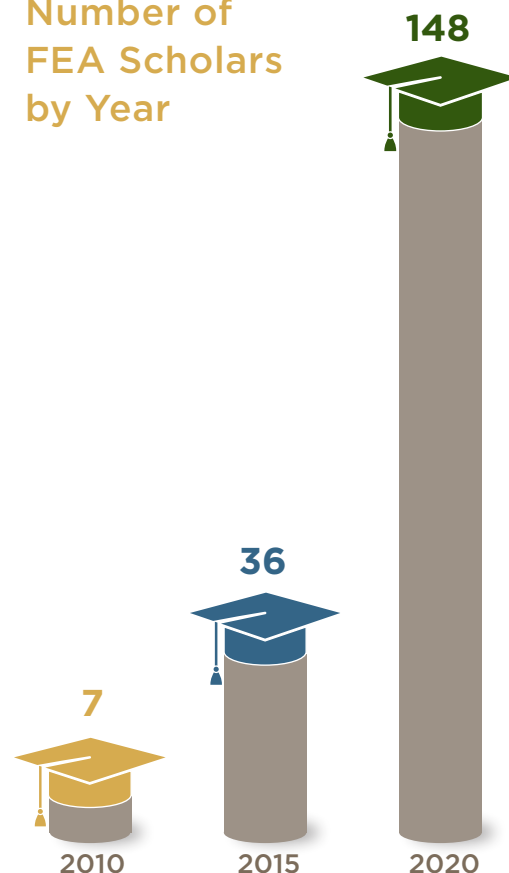
It was the first nationally-competitive scholarship I was awarded, and this knowledge that I could be “good enough” and that FEA believed in me gave me the confidence to both excel while overseas and look for additional international opportunities upon my return.”*

*Quotes cited throughout this report are from FEA Alumni responses to our Alumni Survey. To learn more about our Alumni Survey and our partnership with The George Washington University to assess impact, please visit page 11.



I went to a college with kids who were in a completely different socioeconomic group and were primarily white. No one else seemed to notice the cultural, economic and social barriers affecting my experiences. **I felt like FEA saw me and recognized the boost I needed.** My study abroad trip helped me see the world in a new way. I studied sustainable development which changed how I live my life but also how I view solutions to community problems. I learned unexpected things like grassroots organizing and bottom up solutions. I might not always be directly employing these things but they shape the choices I make in my everyday life, who and what I believe in and trust and my thoughts for my future career.”

A DECADE OF GROWTH Number of FEA Scholars by Year



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MISSION

The Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) provides scholarships and ongoing support to students who are underrepresented among the U.S. study abroad population. FEA makes life changing, international experiences accessible to all by supporting students of color, community college students, and first-generation college students before, during, and after they participate in education abroad programs.

VISION

We envision a future in which any U.S. student who dreams of studying abroad will be able to participate. We believe the value of education abroad is so great that no barrier—financial, curricular, or personal—should be insurmountable. We foresee a future in which our scholars work to increase global understanding, give back to their communities, and mentor future generations of FEA scholars.

JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY and INCLUSION IN OUR WORK

FEA was born of the imperative to increase access to education abroad. Our call to action is Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and has been since day one. We provide access to students who represent the rich diversity of our nation yet who are underrepresented in study abroad. In our day-to-day work, we are grounded in these principles. FEA is committed to the ongoing development and implementation of inclusive best practices in scholarship awarding, student support, nonprofit governance, and organizational development and management.

Eric Beeler
FEA Scholar, 2016
China & the UK

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Friends of the Fund for Education Abroad,

As FEA celebrates its tenth year, we are aware of both our remarkable evolution and the many significant changes in the world around us. We face socioeconomic challenges, logistical and substantive shifts in the field of higher education, and a virus that has created a seismic reset in how we interact with others across the globe. The question is: how will we respond?

In 2020, the United States developed a heightened awareness of socioeconomic inequities and began a renewed focus on the disparities in our world. FEA's mission has always focused on changing the face of study abroad by reaching out to students of color, first-generation college students, and community college students. Every person should have equal access to higher education, yet rising costs threaten to accentuate the divide for low-income students. **Your support helps us level the playing field for all students and makes study abroad accessible to those who may not yet realize that it is within their reach.**

We have also learned that a virus can fundamentally change our daily lives and force us to rethink how we interact on a local, national and international level. FEA responded by offering deferrals to 149 scholarship recipients in 2020 so they could count on our support when travel resumes. We also supported students through online international education opportunities, such as virtual internships and language immersion programs, when they could not travel. 70% of our 2020 scholars still plan to pursue study abroad. FEA was able to navigate the pandemic and focus on our mission by remaining a lean and nimble organization.

FEA enters its second decade as a financially sustainable organization with an endowment that demonstrates our commitment to giving scholarships in perpetuity. Our Access Partnership Program expands our ability to award scholarships and simultaneously connects partners with talented and diverse students who have demonstrated financial need. We feel strongly that impact is not only about reaching the end-user, but raising awareness of a need broadly and creating opportunity for collaboration around shared values, needs and resources. **There is no better example of the impact and leadership of FEA than its effectiveness bringing sector leaders, including competitors, together to deliver the broadest possible impact.** FEA's donors, corporate sponsors, and Access Partners are essential in supporting our scholars before, during and after their study abroad journeys. We are immensely grateful for these contributions and partnerships, and excited about the year ahead. 2021 promises a year of progress and transition as we move ahead with Angela Schaffer as our new Executive Director.

Still, our work is far from done. We see a future in higher education with less certain financial stability for our students and therefore less equitable entry points to international education. **FEA calls to action all stakeholders—past, present, and future—who are committed to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in study abroad and beyond.** Your support allows us to award more scholarships and to expand our impact to deserving and talented scholars. The students we support are the leaders of tomorrow and this leadership must reflect the diversity of the U.S. and a global mindset that will positively impact the world.

In closing, I want to thank all of you: our funders, sponsors, partners, trustees, donors, alumni, scholars, and steering committee. **Our progress depends entirely on your support which allows us to award more scholarships and to expand our impact to deserving and talented scholars.** From the bottom of my heart, on behalf of the entire organization, thank you.

To a bright future,



Anne Krieg

A DECADE OF IMPACT: 2010-2020

At FEA, we believe that an international education is invaluable, not only to the future of the individual, but also to the future of the collective, as a nation and world. We know that an education abroad experience is often life-changing, motivating students to complete their collegiate program, volunteer abroad, and even pursue international careers.

Because this high-impact practice in education is often inaccessible to those with significant financial need, FEA's scholarships change the game for students who would otherwise not attempt to study abroad. FEA focuses on awarding students from demographic groups largely underrepresented in study abroad.

In academic year 2018-2019, **31.3% of U.S. study abroad students were students of color.** (*Open Doors*)

83% of FEA Scholars (2010-2020) identify as students of color

In 2018, **33% of higher ed students were first generation.** (*US Department of Education*)

73% of FEA Scholars (2010-2020) are first-generation college

In 2018, **10.9% of community college students studied abroad.** (*Open Doors*)

37% of FEA Scholars (2010-2020) are/were community college students

2010

FEA founded by a volunteer Board of Trustees, led by executives of Academic Travel Abroad

First named scholarship recipient, a Rainbow Scholar, among twelve students awarded in second cohort

2012¹²

FEA Staff grows to two

2014²¹

2011⁷ SCHOLARS

First FEA Scholarships awarded to seven students

2013¹⁶

FEA hires its first full-time employee, an Executive Director

2015³⁶

First Scholar Gala, Established Annual Fritz Kaufmann Champion; Received Diversity Abroad's Excellence in Diversifying International Education (EDIE) Award and GoAbroad's Innovation in Philanthropy Award



Tan Vu,
FEA Scholar, 2017-2018
China

First Board Strategic Planning Retreat (44% academic year scholarships of \$10,000)

2016 25

Established Access Partner program, FEA Staff grows to three; Implemented a second application cycle for Spring

2018 122

Implemented deferrable scholarship policy to plan beyond the pandemic; Established endowed David T. Parry Founders Scholarship; Initiated first impact study of alumni and applicants with the Global Education Lab at The George Washington University

148
SCHOLARS

2017 51

Launched five-year strategic plan and silent phase of Bringing the World Home Comprehensive Campaign,

2019

176

Established Endowment with Malú Alvarez Global Access Scholarship and SITA Nallennam Scholarship, Launched NAFSA: Tamara H. Bryant Memorial Scholarship, Awarded Scholarship Provider of the Year by NSPA; Held second Board Strategic Planning Retreat to update 2017 plan

2020

10 YEARS 72 COUNTRIES 612 SCHOLARS





Jaila
Denmark, 2019

I feel that it is very important to support FEA in its efforts to give as many underserved students as possible the opportunity to see a new country and get to know its culture. It is a significantly life-enriching experience...On a personal level, **these students will grow tremendously during their time abroad, and this will help shape them into confident leaders with a global perspective."**

—Malú Alvarez,
FEA Donor & Founder of the
Malú Alvarez Global Access Scholarship



Zyreshia
India and Nepal, 2019





Jenna Gallemore,
FEA Scholar, 2017
Chile

APPLICATION & REVIEW PROCESS

How does FEA select its scholars? We rely on a corps of over one hundred reviewers for each of our two annual application cycles. Our reviewers are trained to evaluate applicants using our scoring matrix, which focuses on each aspect of the application. Individuals advance from applicant to finalist after three reviewers read and score the application, and after a finalist interview. The review process identifies students who are unlikely to study abroad without financial support. The selected applicants become FEA's next cohort of scholars.

Volunteer application reviewers must have an undergraduate degree, two years of professional experience (in any field), and participate in our reviewer webinar training.

To learn more about our **scholarship application process**, visit us here



To learn more about **volunteering as an FEA application reader**, visit us here



2020

2020: NAVIGATING A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

Education abroad was a canary in the coal mine in early 2020, with most FEA Scholars evacuating their host countries to return home before the rest of the U.S. fully understood the implications of the pandemic. The FEA Board convened a Scenario Planning Retreat by May 2020, examining the COVID-19 pandemic from the perspectives of public health, economics, education abroad, and higher education, and determined it was not a matter of whether study abroad would resume, but rather a question of when. The board also determined that the organization was in a strong financial position to weather several years of uncertainty, and still execute its mission by allowing students to plan around the pandemic—with virtual global programs that met all other eligibility criteria—and beyond with deferrable scholarships. To that end, the Covid-19 Deferral Policy was

established in May 2020: All students awarded during the COVID-19 pandemic (at this time, Summer 2020 through Academic Year 2021-2022) who continue to meet all FEA eligibility requirements will be granted an extension through Summer 2022. An awardee, regardless of graduation date, shall be eligible to receive their deferred scholarship if their home institution maintains their undergraduate status and they earn academic credit for their study abroad.

As part of our ongoing commitment to the well-being and welfare of our students, FEA continues to require that awarded students confirm they will receive credit from their home institutions for approved study abroad programs.

**As of July 2021,
72% of FEA Scholars
who were given awards
to study in 2020 and 2021
are still planning to
study abroad
with FEA funds.**

PARTNERSHIP TO ASSESS IMPACT

In mid-2020, FEA partnered with the Global Education Lab at The George Washington University to gather quantifiable data on how FEA scholarships have impacted our scholars. It's been ten years since we awarded our first scholarship, and it's time for us to tell a data-driven story of how FEA has changed the lives of our scholars. Our alumni tell us that the opportunity to live and study abroad increased

their adaptability, resilience, and perseverance and broadened their horizons. After their international experiences, scholars frequently reset their goals, obtain additional scholarships or fellowships, pursue graduate studies, and pursue internationally-focused careers. We look forward to sharing the data from the study, and to continuing partnerships with research centers like the Global Education Lab.

INVESTING IN SCHOLARS BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER

At FEA, a financial award is just the beginning. We invest in our scholars before, during, and after study abroad through pre-departure education, a blogging curriculum to document their time abroad while articulating career skills, and through volunteer engagement and events upon return.

FEA alumni mentor scholars, serve as ambassadors on their home campuses, and develop leadership skills as members of the Alumni Council, or in one of two alumni seats on the FEA Board of Trustees. They also attend the semi-annual Alumni Conference and Scholar Gala.

“Personally, before abroad, I only cared about my problems and what I see here in the United States. It never occurred to me that the world also has issues of its own and that people try to voice their concerns and I did not hear them. **Now I look at what is going on in other countries and talk to my friends to get their input and we discuss the topic at hand.**”

The FEA Alumni Conference promotes lifelong engagement of alumni with the global community surrounding FEA. We aim to help alumni transition and thrive in the workforce by connecting them with fellow scholars, donors, and supporters, and by providing professional guidance. The conference features résumé and cover letter workshops, a panel of FEA alumni who have successfully transitioned into their professional fields, and many other valuable career-oriented sessions.





Alumni reported that the favorite session in 2019 was the Keynote, given by Orlando Ashford of Holland America Line in which he advised attendees to “take up space” in meetings (while also having something additive to say), and to build a “personal board of directors” to guide their professional lives. Another favorite session was titled Optimizing LinkedIn, led by expert Bianca L. Jackson.

FEA is committed to providing leadership and networking opportunities for alumni, and connecting them with inspiring thought-leaders and speakers from the international sphere to ready them for their chosen careers.

LEFT | Orlando Ashford speaking at the 2019 Alumni Conference, hosted by Howard University.

ABOVE | FEA Scholars Carlos, David, Reuben, and Kevin enjoying the 2019 Alumni Conference.

BEFORE

Pre-departure orientation, connection to cohort, reimbursement for expenses related to programming

DURING

Blog guidance, check-ins, invitations to events

AFTER

Alumni programming, invitations to serve as reviewers, speaking opportunities

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

At events across the U.S., FEA's community of supporters raise awareness and funding for dedicated and general scholarships. FEA events increase awareness of the importance of access to study abroad, and allow supporters and stakeholders to connect with each other in fun and meaningful ways. From our first events in 2010 to our virtual events in 2020, FEA is proud to have hosted and co-hosted more than 60 events throughout the U.S. that have raised both awareness of FEA's mission and more than half a million dollars in scholarship funding. FEA prides itself on offering events for everyone, covering the spectrum

from more formal galas and receptions to bowling competitions and fun runs to featured speaker events. Attendees at our events include not only board members, alumni, scholars, higher education and study abroad professionals, FEA staff, and partners, but also their family members, friends, and community leaders.

These events would not have been possible without volunteers, host committees, corporate sponsors, Access Partners, alumni, and donors. We thank you all, and we hope to see you at many more events in the coming decade.



FEA Scholar Gala

Washington, D.C., 2019

The 9th Annual Fund for Education Abroad Scholar Gala also took place on November 21, 2019 at the House of Sweden in Washington, D.C. The gala gathered FEA supporters, leadership, and alumni, with more than 250 guests in attendance and over \$150,000 in funds raised.



Cherry Blossom Run
Washington, D.C., 2013



Bowl-a-Thon
Boston, 2012

BOWL-A-THONS

FEA has worked with regional scholarship organizations like the Boston Area Study Abroad Association and TIM (based in Austin, Texas) to organize Bowl-a-Thons and other fundraising events to benefit students in those areas who hope to study abroad.

RUNNING EVENTS

Supporters have raised awareness of FEA by running in Washington, DC's Cherry Blossom Run and Portland, Oregon's PDX Globe Trot, as well as in FEA's own Fun Run and Equal Access Runs.

SIPS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

One of FEA's first annual events, Sips for Scholarships was held in Boston from 2011-2015 and included a raffle, a silent auction, and door prizes.

CURL-A-THONS

Held annually from 2014-2017, this fun competition took place in Minneapolis and benefited students by funding FEA scholarships and the Minnesota Scholarship Fund.

NAMED CURRENT-USE AND ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2017, FEA began offering named scholarships to fund immersive education abroad experiences for students in summer, semester, or academic year programs (from four weeks to nine months). Named, current-use scholarships were established with gifts beginning at \$2,500. Endowed scholarships were established to be held in perpetuity with gifts beginning at \$65,000. FEA is honored to host the following named scholarships.

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Awarded to U.S. students studying abroad for at least 28 days

Artigas-Etchagaray Scholarship

Calvert Family Scholarship

Gugel-McPherson Family Scholarship

J. Scott Van Der Meid Memorial Scholarship

Martha & Jeff Johnson Scholarship

Simpson Sisters Scholarship

Steckley-Weitzel Family Scholarship

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

David T. Parry Founders Scholarship

Named for FEA Founder and Chairman Emeritus, David T. Parry, this scholarship honors Dave's dedication to educational travel and equity.

Malú Alvarez Global Access Scholarship

Five endowed semester scholarships to be awarded each year to U.S. undergraduates planning to study abroad for at least 28 days in any country of the students' choosing.

LGBTQIA SCHOLARSHIPS

Jan Kieling Rainbow Scholarship

Kacenga-Cladera Family Rainbow Scholarship

Rainbow Scholarship

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Eleni Zachariou Memorial Scholarship for Study in Greece

This gift funds a semester scholarship to study in Greece.

Hiliary Echo Douglas Scholarship

Awarded to one student each year planning to study abroad in Vietnam or within other Southeast Asian cultures.

SITA Nallennam Scholarship *Two endowed scholarships: \$5,000 for a full semester program and \$2,500 for a summer term. Preference will be given to those students who wish to study abroad in southern India.*

The A. Rewari Family Scholarship for Study Abroad in Denmark *Awarded to a deserving student planning to study abroad in Denmark.*

STUDENT-SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Breakout Scholarship for Community College Students

Awarded to a U.S. community college student who plans to study abroad in the summer.

NAFSA Tamara H. Bryant Memorial Scholarship

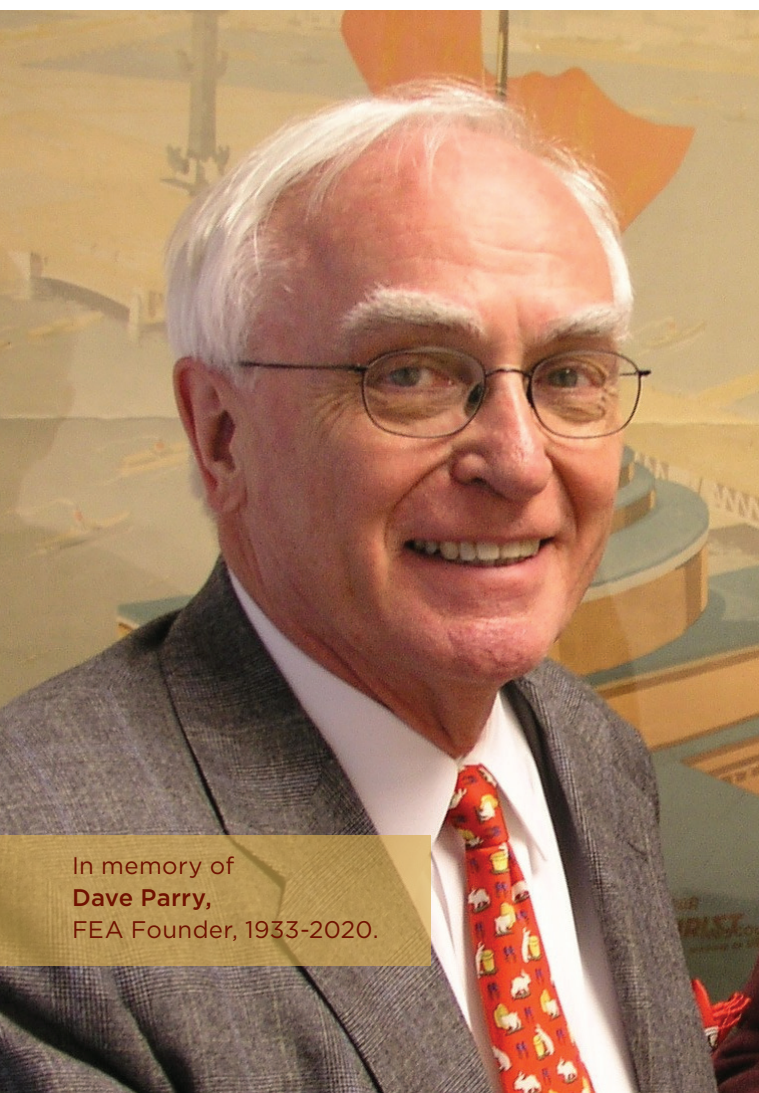
Awarded to U.S. African-American undergraduate students who embody Mrs. Bryant's spirit of resilience and commitment to intercultural exchange, per her endowment purposes.



ACCESS PARTNERSHIPS

“Helping students realize their aspirations for higher education is a top priority for AUC. As a result, almost half of our student body receives scholarships, fellowships or financial aid. **We are so grateful that FEA shares our values and will help us advance AUC goals of diversity and inclusion.**”

—Francis J. Ricciardone,
President, American University of Cairo



In memory of
Dave Parry,
FEA Founder, 1933-2020.

FEA Access Partners are institutions and organizations that engage in the FEA mission through annual support towards co-branded or allocated scholarships and receive sponsorship recognition. Access Partners also serve as members of the Access Advisory Board (AAB), providing critical leadership-level feedback on the Access Partner Program. FEA assists Access Partners in identifying high-need students of high potential they may struggle to identify through traditional recruitment. Membership is renewed annually, and begins at the date of pledge/gift.

Current Access Partners include:

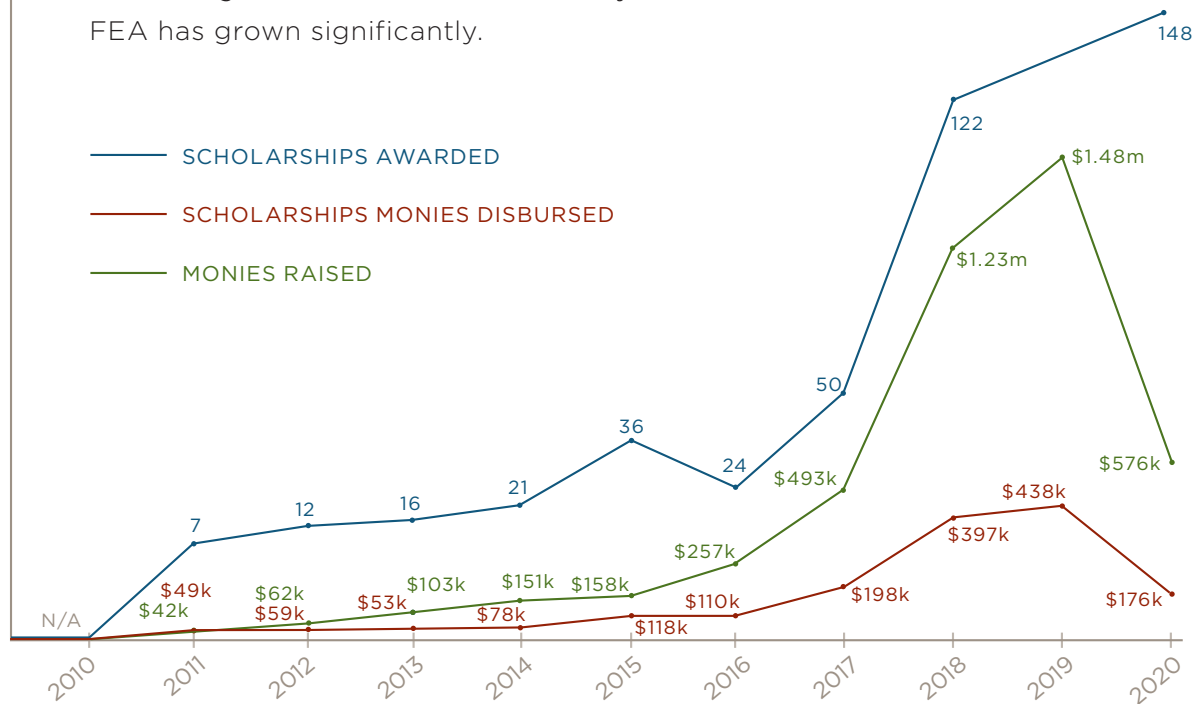
- AIFS Study Abroad
- American University in Cairo
- CAPA The Global Education Network
- CET Academic Programs
- DIS Study Abroad
- Education in Ireland
- FIE: Foundation for International Education
- GoAbroad.com
- The Institute for Study Abroad (IFSA)
- The Intern Group
- The School for Field Studies (SFS)
- SIT Study Abroad
- The University of Auckland
- University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC)

Learn more about our **Access Partnership program** by visiting us here

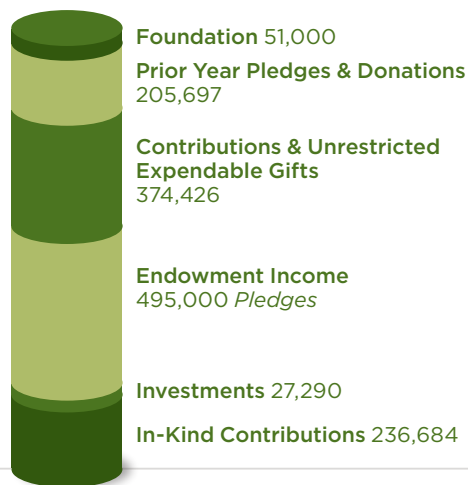


FINANCIALS

Since our beginnings in 2010 with a generous \$25,000 gift from founder David Parry, FEA has grown significantly.



2019 REVENUE* 1,479,533



Grants & Scholarships Paid Out
438,466

Operations & Administrative Expenses
156,077

In-Kind Expenses 236,684

2019 EXPENSES* 831,227

**Because of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on FY 2020, we are using 2019 to show more realistic revenue and expenses for FEA.*





Darius Carey and Sarahann Yeh,
FEA Scholars 2014 at an FEA Event

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT

Join us in our mission to realize a more equitable, accessible study abroad landscape.
We welcome your partnership in:

- Endowing a scholarship fund
- Becoming an Access Partner
- Sponsoring our annual Fall event
- Making an annual pledge contribution
- Donating to existing scholarship funds that matter to you
- Reviewing scholarship applications
- Providing alumni programming and workshops

To learn more about how you can **partner with us**, visit us here





FEA would like to thank the staff members and volunteers who were crucial to FEA's first successful decade as a non-profit organization.

FEA Staff 2010-2020

Airika Coblentz
Kate McPhail
Michelle Foley
Genilson Brandao
Lucia Villarruel
Olivia Nicoletti
Jennifer Calvert
Lyndsi Jones



Fund for
Education Abroad

2018 Platinum Winner Seal of Transparency from Guidestar
2019 Winner NSPA Scholarship Provider of the Year
2020 Winner GoAbroad Innovation in Diversity

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