

THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INCORPORATED

BRINGING  
*Dreams*  
TO LIFE



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

FINANCIAL REPORT - JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016  
REPORT OF CONTRIBUTIONS - JUNE 1, 2016 - MAY 12, 2017



Bringing Dreams to Life ...



**The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Annual Report 2016 – 2017  
Rio Grande, Puerto Rico**



The Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Thursday, May 25, 2017  
 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Gran Melia Puerto Rico Golf Resort  
 Rio Grande, Puerto Rico  
 San Juan 1, 2

**AGENDA**

Call to Order	GF Cecelia B. Henderson
Meditation	GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd
Roll Call – Fund Board and Chapters	GF Annette VanDevere
Minutes – 2016 General Meeting	GF Annette VanDevere
Officer Reports:	
President	GF Cecelia B. Henderson
Vice President	GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd
Financial Secretary	GF Ann E. Walters-Pope
Treasurer	GF Deborah Perry
Assistant Secretary	GF Annette VanDevere
Committee Reports:	
Audit	GF Barbara Lord Watkins
Investment/Finance	GF LaShana B. Morris
Scholarship & Website	GF Fawn Robinson
Fundraising/Luncheon	GF Ann E. Walters-Pope
Special Project	GF Joyce Ford Quick
Silent Auction	GF Sonya Goldsboro
Nominating/Elections Board Directors	GF Janice Marshall
Nominating Board Officers	GF Joyce Ford Quick
Marketing/Branding	GF Ann E. Walters-Pope
History	GF Nina Jennings
Presentations:	
Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund –	GF Cecelia B. Henderson
Retiring Board Directors	GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd
Old Business – Election Results	
New Business	
Announcements	
Adjournment	



**Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated  
General Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, May 26, 2016  
The Westin Seattle  
Seattle, Washington  
Grand 1 Room  
3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm. by the President, GF Cecelia B. Henderson.

**Meditation**

The meditation was given by GF Casma Huie.

**Roll Call**

GF Casma called the roll of the GFF Board and chapters. The following chapters were present: Atlanta; Boston; Brooklyn; Buffalo; Charlotte; Chicago; Cleveland; Columbia; Columbus; Dallas; Detroit; Durham; Fairfield County; Las Vegas; Louisville; Miami; Milwaukee; Minneapolis/St. Paul; New Haven; New York; Pittsburgh; Potomac; Roanoke; Seattle; St. Louis; Toledo; Trenton; and Washington.

The agenda was presented. Detroit moved to accept the agenda and St. Louis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Minutes-2015 General Meeting**

The minutes of the 2015 general meeting was sent out to the body. Albany moved to accept the minutes and Detroit seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Officers' Reports**

**President's Report**-GF Cecelia stated that she had several goals to obtain. They include: A chair for the Investment committee was appointed; a fundraiser was developed and implemented, the GFF bracelets; the development of the website has not been completed but is underway; a booklet containing the history was collected and compiled. GF Fawn Robinson was tasked with the Scholarship committee and to improve the application process. GF Cindy Carter Cole has transferred all documents to the Board. There are several new board members. There is the task of finishing the Emeriti status for GF Cindy; marketing and branding will be further developed; the GFF completed Form 990 and the audit; the legal review chair oversaw all legal matters.

Monique Smith who is a scholarship recipient provided a brief presentation and talked about her current status as a student at University of Washington. She provided an in-depth explanation of what it means for her to have received the scholarship. She thanked GFF for its contribution to her education.

**Financial Secretary's Report**-GF Faye provided a breakout of the monthly deposits and categories as listed in her written report. Roanoke moved to accept the report and Charlotte seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report**-GF Faye provided an overview of each account: Scholarship; Savings; Endowment; Investment and Operating. Detroit moved to accept the report and Albany seconded the motion. The motion was amended to vote once the chapters have seen the final written report. Motion passed.

**Assistant Secretary's Report**-GF Casma reported that 150 acknowledgements were sent to donors, including all chapters who made donations. Detroit moved to accept the report and Albany seconded the motion. Motion passed. Several chapters asked if their contributions were received. GF Casma acknowledged all chapter contributions.

A question was asked by the general membership when an annual report will be received. The president said that she will make sure that the annual report available.

## **Committee Reports**

**Investment/Finance Report**-GF LaShana Morris provided a break out of the current investment portfolio. She stated that the value of our current portfolio is \$240,000. She provided an overview of the portfolio investment strategies. She stated that the assets are reviewed quarterly. Brooklyn moved to accept the report and Boston seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Legal Review**-GF Laverne stated that the by-laws were reviewed and consolidated. A final copy of the by-laws was distributed to the body. Boston moved to accept the report and Chicago seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Nominating**-GF Janice introduced the committee members. She stated that GF Faye Owens, Financial Secretary is going off the Board and GF Casma Huie, Assistant Secretary is going off the board. The Chair asked for each candidate to give a 2 minute speech. The candidates for the Nominating Committee are GF Marie Latham Bush, Toledo and GF Shuana K. Tucker, New Haven. The Chair asked for nominations from the floor. There were none. Boston moved to accept the report and Detroit seconded the motion. Motion passed. The ballots were passed out and the tellers collected the ballots.

**Scholarship**-GF Fawn provided an on-line training. There were 28 chapters to sign up and 14 to complete the training. There were 19 scholarship applications received and 12 scholarship recipients. They were rewarded \$1500 scholarship per year for 4 years. Pittsburgh moved to accept the report and Fairfield County seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Website**-GF Kim Savoy reported that the committee is diligently working on the website to get it where it needs to be.

**Fundraising and GFF Luncheon**-GF Cheryl Finley provided number of GFF who attended the luncheon. She stated that she would like to see GFs give annually as a chapter. Fairfield County has structure their giving to GFF into their chapter dues. She acknowledged all committee members, donors, luncheon entertainment singers and GF Shauna Ryder-Diggs new skin care product line. She said a giving level donor card was place on each table for each girlfriend. Fairfield County moved to accept the report and Toledo seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**History**-GF Nina Jennings provided an overview of compiling our history. Fairfield County moved to accept the report and Toledo seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Audit**-GF Casma Huie provided copies of the internal audit report. She requested that the body turn to pages 8-9 of the annual report. The scope of the audit was presented. She recognized the members of the committee. Potomac moved to accept the report and Columbus seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **Presentations**

The President acknowledged the Emeriti members: Elaine Effort; Carole Phillips; and Cindy Carter Cole.

The 2016 members of the Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund recipients' names were read and they or their chapter representative received the medallion. Recognition was given to Esther C. Marioneaux who is 90 years old and is on a cruise!

Recipients of Certificates: Deborah Allen; Cynthia Carter Cole; Edward Tyler Coombs Foundation; Elaine Effort; Sonya Goldsboro; Marie Rae Scott; Myrna Syms; and Barbara Lord Wallace.

The president acknowledged the retiring board members, Faye Owens and Casma Huie. who have both given 6 years of service on the board. Both were provided with a statue that is being shipped to their home. The president presented each retiring board member with their favorite GFF bracelet.

**Old Business.** -The election results are back.  
47 votes were cast. 25 votes were needed to win.  
GF Marie Latham Bush, Toledo received 45 votes.  
GF Shuana K. Tucker, New Haven received 47 votes.

**New Business**-None

**Adjournment** 5:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Annette R. VanDevere



**The Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated**  
**Report of the President**  
**GF Cecelia B. Henderson**

It has been a privilege and a distinct honor to serve as President of The Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated. The year began with an enthusiastic Board of Directors working diligently to ensure that our mission of assisting graduating high school seniors the opportunity to attend and remain in a college/university to further their educational goals is a priority. The 'Fund' Board gives unselfishly of their time, expertise, and talents to help our leaders of tomorrow. We believe in **"Bringing Dreams to Life"**, and we know you also believe; so for all that you do to assist us in our efforts, we thank you!

This administration continued to implement the following goals:

- ✓ Maximize and increase investment opportunities for growth.
- ✓ Secure additional funds for scholarships.
- ✓ Increase the number of scholarship recipients.
- ✓ Reconstruct the website
- ✓ Prepare the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the History Manual of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.
- ✓ Communicate and be transparent with all Fund Board members.
- ✓ Improve relationships and foster positive perception to all Girl Friends.

The following was implemented during fiscal year **2016-2017**:

**Communication**

- Newsletters and documented information were sent to all members of The Girl Friends® Inc.
- A Final issue will be available during Conclave in Puerto Rico under the Chair of Communications, GF Nedra Starling.
- Board Conference Call Meetings – Timely monthly meetings were held to inform and update the Board, as well as committee meetings, and special meetings regarding issues/concerns.
- Officers and Committee members presented written monthly reports.

**Administrative Documents**

- Documents were updated to ensure orderly organization.
- Girl Friends and Non-Girl Friends Contribution Forms were updated.
- Updated the Girl Friends Presidents, Liaisons, and member data base.

## Website

- Reconstruction of the Website with a new Webmaster is ongoing.
- Improve payment and donation process. GFs Fawn Robinson and GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd are the leading this charge, and GF Kim Savoy.
- Improvement of the website to focus on scholarship applications for a better friendly use.

## Scholarships

- Thirty-seven (37) new and returning scholars received scholarship checks in the amount of \$1,500.00 each for the school year 2016-2017 totaling \$55,500.00.
- Scholarship forms were updated, and a training video was produced for chapter liaisons to assist GFs in uploading forms to the web, under the capable leadership of GF Fawn Robinson, Chair.
- We have assisted twenty-one scholars who will graduate from various institutions of higher learning in May, 2017. (APPLAUD)
- Our expectation is to award twelve (12) scholarships for 2017.

## Marketing/Branding

- Appointed a Marketing/Branding Committee established to better communicate the purpose of GFF while developing a marketing plan that fulfill the mission, and aligns with our overall strategy to provide scholarships and mentoring. The committee will bring focus to our mission. The committee is under the leadership of GF Ann Walters-Pope, Chair, and GF Shuana Tucker-Sims, Co-Chair.

## Fundraising Special Projects

- Bracelets - In 2016, GFF launched a beautiful green beaded wrap bracelet which was a sell-out!! The bracelets were engraved with our tagline "Bringing Dreams to life" with GFF. This special project is chaired by GF Joyce Ford Quick with assistance from GF Shonda Brock. The 2017 bracelet will be launched to wear alone or complement the original bracelet. It's a green advertine stretch bracelet with the custom GFF disk and GFF tag line. These are our signature jewelry pieces.
- Barnes and Noble Bookfair – GFF established a partnership with Barnes and Nobles to generate needed funds for scholarship. This fundraiser is chaired by GF Ann Walter-Pope and co-chaired by GF Shuana Tucker-Sims. In store sales are May 8, 2017, and on line sales May 8-13, 2017. Visit any Barnes and Nobles in your area.

## Investment

- GFF investments have fluctuated for the past two (2) years, however they are expected to increase with the rise in the market.



**Form 990**

- Form 990 was prepared and timely file without an extension.

**Audit**

- Internal Audit was completed chaired by GF Barbara Lord Watkins. The committee will also facilitate the hiring of an external CPA pursuant to our bylaws Article VI, Section 4.

**History Book**

- Second edition of the History Book is being revised.

The past two (2) years have been exciting and challenging! The tireless dedication of The Fund Board as well as all supportive members of The Fund has been worth all that comes with being in a position of leadership. Your support, girlfriendly encouragement and sincere interest in improving the lives of youth in our communities make the journey both worthwhile and enjoyable. To our National President, GF Benita Shobe for the time spent with us, your cooperation, commitment, and your girlfriendly spirit, accept our thanks, admiration, and love.

Blessings and friendship,

GF Cecelia B. Henderson, President  
2015-2017



**Girl Friends Fund, Inc.**  
**Legal Review Committee Year End Report 2016 – 2017**  
**May, 2017**  
**Puerto Rico**

The Legal Review Committee worked closely with the President and the GFF Board to review information and a variety of documents related to carrying out the mission of the GFF.

The Legal Committee made recommendations to the President for the review required by a certified public accountant under GFF Bylaws to properly carry out procedures related to the audit for 2016/17.

The Legal Committee reviewed contracts and information related to the GFF Luncheon, and Annual Meeting for 2016/17.

The Legal Committee led efforts to transition to a new Web Designer and facilitate a more efficient Scholarship application process.

The Legal Committee researched and reviewed information related to procedures for financial donations to GFF associated with Bank of America, Paypal and Payeeze.

The Legal Committee worked with Department of Treasury Regulations related to Puerto Rico to obtain a merchant identification and a reduction in sales tax for GFF Luncheon and activities.

The Legal Committee also assisted in the development of the 2016/17 budget for GFF.

Respectfully Submitted,

GF LaVerne N. Boyd  
Vice President/Chair of  
Legal Review Committee



The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Secretary Year End Report 2016 – 2017  
May, 2017  
Puerto Rico

At the start of our year, July, 2016, in the girl friendly spirit of cooperation all Board members and Committee Chairs were asked to comply with the following guidelines. Doing so assisted in getting all reports out to all Board members and Committee Chairs in a timely fashion and recording our meetings, deliberations and outcomes accurately. All were thanked in advance for cooperation.

1. **Submission of monthly reports for distribution:**

NO LATER THAN the Thursday prior to that month's call meeting to assist in getting them compiled and distributed to everyone in a timely fashion for review before the scheduled call meeting.

**Thursday Submission Dates for Reports:**

September 15, 2016	October 6, 2016
November 10, 2016	December 8, 2016
January 5, 2017	February 16, 2017
March 9, 2017	April 6, 2017
May 11, 2017	June 8, 2017

All submitted reports were combined into a single PDF file for email distribution prior to the conference call date. Included reports appeared in the order as listed on the published agenda. The published agenda for the meeting was always the first item in the file.

Those planning on giving a report, and especially if the report included items or recommendations requiring a vote, were asked to send in either WORD or EXCEL by the stated due date to the Board Secretary - [starlin@ccf.org](mailto:starlin@ccf.org)

Those planning on giving a verbal update or comments only (do not have a written report to include for that month's call meeting) and DO NOT require any voting action were asked to respond to the reminder email from the Board Secretary - [starlin@ccf.org](mailto:starlin@ccf.org) with that information so we were not waiting to receive a report that would not be forthcoming.

**Tuesday Board Conference Call Dates:**

September 20, 2016	October 11, 2016
November 15, 2016	December 13, 2016
January 10, 2017	February 21, 2017
March 14, 2017	April 11, 2017
May 16, 2017	June 13, 2017

2. **Board Meeting Meditations:**

GFs honoring us with meditations at the start of our Board calls were asked to please send the Board Secretary a copy via email of their meditation for inclusion in the minutes.

3. **Rules of the Road:**

To be courteous to all of us, all Board members and Committee Chairs were asked to keep in mind these "Rules of the Road" for conference call protocol during our monthly conference calls. Conference call protocol was in effect on all calls in order to have productive and timely meetings.

**"Rules of the Road" for Conference Call Protocol:**

- ✓ Please be prompt in calling in and joining the conference call.
- ✓ If you are arriving on the call after the scheduled time – do not immediately announce yourself. Please wait for the end of the current presentation and respond when requested by either the President or Secretary.
- ✓ Once the roll call is complete, if you are participating via your cell phone, please mute your cell phone to prevent the intrusion of background noise and possible static. In the spirit of GF courtesy, please turn off your TV, music or any other sounds to prevent the intrusion of background noise (including other individuals' background conversations) during times you unmute to make a comment.
- ✓ If you are participating via your land line please turn off your TV, music or any other sounds to prevent the intrusion of background noise (including other individuals' background conversations).
- ✓ When making a comment, to contribute to the discussion, please state your name so it can be recorded as part of the official minutes.

4. **Distributed to each Board member:**

- ✓ Full listing of our scheduled Board conference calls with call-in number and access code listed at the bottom. Report submission dates are also listed.
- ✓ Board directory (with photos) listing contact information – name, US mailing address, phone number(s) and email address(es). Also included committee chairs, and President Emeriti.
- ✓ Blank sheet as a word document with our GFF logo in upper left corner to use (if you wish) when formulating your reports. Logo can also be cut & pasted into Excel documents.

**Updating of all Emails for Girl Friends®, Inc. Executive Committee, Advisory Board, Chapter Presidents, GFF Chapter Liaisons, and Girl Friends®, Inc. Membership:**

A list of emails for all GF Inc. Executive Committee, Advisory Board, Chapter Presidents, Chapter Treasurers and GFF Chapter Liaisons for 2016 – 2017 was compiled and updated. A list of emails for all GF Inc. Membership for 2016 – 2017 received from The Girl Friends, Inc. National Secretary is currently being used.

**Notices sent to GFF Board and Committee Chairs:**

Sent the following notices/information to all Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Board members and Committee Chairs:

- 2016-2017 Fall Newsletter
- Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction updates (including Chapter Bid Sheets and request for volunteers)
- Request for volunteers for Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction activities in Puerto Rico
- 2017 Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon flier and ticket order form
- Fund Raising Drive and Chapter Challenge & Member Challenge Fund Raising Drive information with Donor forms (Girl Friend and non-Girl Friend sources)
- Special Fund Raising – Bracelet information
- Special Fund Raising – Barnes & Noble Book Fair information
- 2017 Scholarship Application information including application and Liaison Information Sheet
- 2017 Scholarship Application Liaison Training information and schedule
- Reminder about Scholarship Training Sessions
- Scholarship Training video information and electronic link
- Forms – Nomination for Members of the GFF Board of Directors
- Job descriptions of Board officer positions up for election
- Information and link about reserving hotel room for 2017 Puerto Rico Conclave
- Monthly call meeting notices and documents
- Letter requesting nomination/support of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. as the Girl Friends®, Inc. National Project
- Courtesy messages regarding events and life changes of Board members and Committee Chairs

**Notices sent to Girl Friends®, Inc. Executive Board and Advisory Board:**

Sent the following notices/information to all Girl Friends®, Inc. Executive Board and Advisory Board:

- Request for updated listing of National Officers, Advisory Board members, Chapter Presidents and Treasurers (to include names, chapters and contact email)
- Request for full listing of The Girl Friends, Inc. membership
- 2016-2017 Fall Newsletter
- Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction updates (including Chapter Bid Sheets and request for volunteers)
- Request for volunteers for Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction activities in Puerto Rico
- 2017 Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon flier and ticket order form
- Fund Raising Drive and Chapter Challenge & Member Challenge Fund Raising Drive information with Donor forms (Girl Friend and non-Girl Friend sources)
- Special Fund Raising – Bracelet information
- Special Fund Raising – Barnes & Noble Book Fair information
- 2017 Scholarship Application information including application and Liaison Information Sheet
- 2017 Scholarship Application Liaison Training information and schedule
- Reminder about Scholarship Training Sessions
- Scholarship Training video information and electronic link

- Forms – Nomination for Members of the GFF Board of Directors

**Notices sent to Girl Friends®, Inc. Chapter Presidents and Liaisons:**

Sent the following notices/information to all Girl Friends®, Inc. chapter presidents and liaisons:

- 2016-2017 Fall Newsletter
- Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction updates (including Chapter Bid Sheets and request for volunteers)
- Request for volunteers for Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction activities in Puerto Rico
- 2017 Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon flier and ticket order form
- Fund Raising Drive and Chapter Challenge & Member Challenge Fund Raising Drive information with Donor forms (Girl Friend and non-Girl Friend sources)
- Special Fund Raising – Bracelet information
- Special Fund Raising – Barnes & Noble Book Fair information
- 2017 Scholarship Application information including application and Liaison Information Sheet
- 2017 Scholarship Application Liaison Training information and schedule
- Reminder about Scholarship Training Sessions
- Scholarship Training video information and electronic link
- Forms – Nomination for Members of the GFF Board of Directors
- Letter requesting nomination and support of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. as the Girl Friends®, Inc. National Project

**Notices sent to The Girl Friends®, Inc. Membership:**

Sent the following notices/information to all Girl Friends®, Inc. members:

- 2016-2017 Fall Newsletter
- Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction updates (including Chapter Bid Sheets and request for volunteers)
- Request for volunteers for Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction activities in Puerto Rico
- 2017 Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon flier and ticket order form
- Fund Raising Drive and Chapter Challenge & Member Challenge Fund Raising Drive information with Donor forms (Girl Friend and non-Girl Friend sources)
- Special Fund Raising – Bracelet information
- Special Fund Raising – Barnes & Noble Book Fair information
- 2017 Scholarship Application information including application and Liaison Information Sheet
- 2017 Scholarship Application Liaison Training information and schedule
- Reminder about Scholarship Training Sessions
- Scholarship Training video information and electronic link
- Forms – Nomination for Members of the GFF Board of Directors

Respectfully Submitted

GF Nedra Starling (Cleveland Chapter)

Secretary



Girl Friend Fund, Inc Board  
Assistant Secretary Report  
2016-2017

To: GFF Executive Board

From: Annette R. VanDevere, Assistant Secretary

Re: End of Year Report

Date: 5/13/2017

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In 2016, the Assistant Secretary acknowledged 2 donations. An acknowledgement letter was sent in August 2016 for the donation made to GFF, Inc and another letter was sent in November 2016 acknowledging the donation received.

During 2017 in the month of May, 226 donations made to GFF, Inc. were acknowledged by letter. This concludes my report.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette R. VanDevere  
Assistant Secretary





Transactions	First Name	Last Name	Chapter	Date Rec	CK#	Categories	Date Deposited/Pin	Donations	Luncheon	Endowment	Silent Auction	Center Schol	Johnson Scho	Carol Phillips	GF Bracelet
65	Toni	Hawkins-Bennett	New York		1628		4/19/17		\$ 75.00						
66	Sarah	Akintofe	San Diego		6142		4/19/17	\$ 30.00							
67	Joyce	Allen	San Diego		5610		4/19/17	\$ 50.00							
68	Jane	Carson	San Diego		2022		4/19/17	\$ 50.00							
69	Barbara	Cassius	San Diego		6004		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
70	Ingrid	Chapman	San Diego		3642		4/19/17	\$ 100.00							
71	Patricia	Collins	San Diego		424		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
72	Brenda	Crawford	San Diego		9681		4/19/17	\$ 75.00							
73	Renee	Dean	San Diego		1054		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
74	Cherie	Engle	San Diego		10001		4/19/17	\$ 50.00							
75	Elizabeth	Goodman	San Diego		7693		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
76	Wivan	Hambrook-Ryan	San Diego		1053		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
77	Angela	Hillard	San Diego		4324		4/19/17	\$ 50.00							
78	Dianne	Joiner	San Diego		18635		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
79	Jewel	Kelley	San Diego		4780		4/19/17	\$ 100.00							
80	Kairmah	Lamar-Rush	San Diego		2034		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
81	Marcea	Lloyd	San Diego		9050		4/19/17	\$ 100.00							
82	Vynette	Matthews	San Diego		1008		4/19/17	\$ 30.00							
83	Mildred	Neal	San Diego		5528		4/19/17	\$ 50.00							
84	Diane	Ritchey-Andrews	San Diego		6190		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
85	Marquetta	Stewart-Brown	San Diego		9540		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
86	Cheryl	Sueing-Jones	San Diego		1721		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
87	Inez	Thomas	San Diego		1958		4/19/17	\$ 250.00							
88	Wivan	Tuck	San Diego		7204		4/19/17	\$ 100.00							
89	Peaches	Wynn	San Diego		3061		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
90	Sydney	Thomas	San Diego		3899		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
91	Blair	Tuck	San Diego		7198		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
92	Lee	Wills-Jivine	San Diego		1500975450		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
93	Denise	Jackson	San Diego		1500975450		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
94	Lisa	Larkins	San Diego		1500975450		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
95	Robyn	Hood	San Diego		1500975450		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
96	Marla	Marshall	San Diego		1500975450		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
97	Debora	McNeely	San Diego		1500975450		4/19/17	\$ 25.00							
98	Faye	Owens	Louisville		2134	In memory of my mother Ina Mae Hall	4/19/17	\$ 250.00	\$ 150.00						
99	Benita	Shobe	New York		1564		4/19/17	\$ 100.00	\$ 75.00						
100	Phyllis	Osbourne	Richmond County		1124		4/19/17	\$ 250.00							
101			Fairfield County		1296		4/19/17	\$ 550.00							
102			Fairfield County												
103	Cheryl	Williams	Fairfield County		2034	In memory of GF Euntha Elaine Walker	4/19/17	\$ 25.00		\$ 250.00					
104			Loudoun County		1142		4/19/17								
105	Brenda	Smith	Newport News		1103		4/19/17	\$ 350.00							
106	Mollie	Simons	Fairfield County		1860		4/19/17	\$ 100.00							
107	Janice	Burks	Roanoke		4460	In memory of BF Dr. Dennie Simons, Jr.	4/19/17	\$ 100.00							
108	Eddie Bernice	Johnson	Dallas		9939	In memory of BF James W. Burks, Jr.	4/19/17	\$ 200.00							
109	Joyce	Ford Quirk	Dallas		3663		4/19/17		\$ 250.00						
110	Lalifat	Osinowo	Buffalo		1437		4/19/17		\$ 75.00						
111	Faith	Harrison	Toledo		4676		4/26/17	\$ 75.00							
112	Comfort	Olori-Akayeh	Toledo		8351		4/26/17	\$ 75.00							
113	Deanna	Horton	Toledo		1424		4/26/17	\$ 150.00							
114	Cynthia	Baldwin	Pittsburgh		763		4/26/17	\$ 75.00							\$ 30.00
115	Shuana	Tucker-Sims	New Haven		6202		4/26/17	\$ 75.00							
116	Linda	Gillis	Seattle		2383		4/26/17	\$ 75.00							
117	Casma	Hule	Potomac		1541		4/26/17	\$ 500.00							
118	Casma	Hule	Potomac		1121		4/26/17	\$ 250.00	\$ 75.00						
119	Michelle	Richardson	New Jersey		5897		4/26/17	\$ 500.00	\$ 75.00						
120	Joyce	Ford Quirk	Buffalo		5898		4/26/17	\$ 500.00	\$ 75.00						
121	Kathy	Wood	Buffalo		589		4/26/17	\$ 500.00	\$ 75.00						
122	Tanika	Blanc	Buffalo		4461		4/26/17	\$ 500.00	\$ 75.00						
123	Diane	Cadle	Buffalo		4605	\$500 in Memory of Fannie Sparrow Ford	4/26/17	\$ 1,500.00							
124	Brenda	Chavers	Buffalo		1826		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							
125	Rhona	Osborne	Buffalo		1581		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							
126	Francesca	Mesiah	Buffalo		274		4/26/17	\$ 25.00							
127					5951		4/26/17	\$ 25.00							
128					4593		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							
129					4593		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							
130					4593		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							
131					4593		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							
132					4593		4/26/17	\$ 50.00							





**Annual Income Report  
By Category  
July 1, 2016 – May 9, 2017**

GF Ann E. Walters-Pope, Financial Secretary

General Scholarship Fund	\$36,325.25
Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund	\$ 6,975.00
Carolyn M. Carter Memorial Scholarship	\$ 1,700.00
Anita Peek Gilger, MD Trust	\$10,000.00
Juanita P. Humphrey Scholarship	\$ 0.00
Gwendolyn G. Johnson Scholarship	\$ 1,125.00
Carole Temple Phillips Scholarship	\$ 0.00
Eunice Shreeves Luncheon	\$ 4,725.00
Silent Auction	\$ 750.00
Bracelets	\$ 2,308.91
Pin	\$ 125.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$64,034.16</b>



Bringing Dreams to Life....

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT										
GIRLFRIENDS FUND, INC. - BANK OF AMERICA										
BEGINNING BALANCE		189,244	Checking OPERATING #1897		Savings COMMITTED #0753	Savings RESTRICTED #4450	Savings ENDOWMENT #0458	Checking SQUARE* #9764	TOTAL INCOME	Investment Ameriprise
Square @ Conclave		10,176	#1897		#0753	#4450	#0458	#9764		
<b>MONTHLY INCOME</b>										
1-Jul-16			111,028	2,502	69,835	2,502	5,879	10,176.00	199,420	242,824.00
<b>MONTH INCOME</b>										
Jul-16		2,452		3					2,455	
Aug-16		-		3					3	
Sep-16		675		3					678	
Oct-16		827		3					830	
Nov-16		647		3					650	
Dec-16		1,698		3					1,702	
Jan-17		10,530		3					10,533	
Feb-17		2,795		3					2,798	
Mar-17		9,925		3					9,928	
Apr-17		21,425		5					21,430	
May-17		-							-	
Jun-17		-							-	
Annual Interest				29		1	2		32	23,052.00
<b>Total Annual Income</b>		<b>162,030</b>		<b>69,865</b>	<b>2,503</b>	<b>5,881</b>	<b>10,176.00</b>		<b>250,454</b>	<b>265,876.00</b>
<b>MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>										
<b>MONTH EXPENSES</b>										
Jul-16		3,832							3,832	
Aug-16		158							158	
Sep-16		676							676	
Oct-16		47,047							47,047	
Nov-16		15,986							15,986	
Dec-16		23							23	
Jan-17		2,138							2,138	
Feb-17		21							21	
Mar-17		150							150	
Apr-17		849							849	
May-17		-							-	
Jun-17		-							-	
<b>Total Annual Expenses</b>		<b>(70,880)</b>							<b>(70,880)</b>	
30-Apr-17										
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$179,574</b>		<b>69,865</b>	<b>2,503</b>	<b>5,881</b>	<b>10,176</b>		<b>179,575</b>	<b>265,876</b>

Respectfully Submitted  
Deborah Perry, Treasurer



Bringing Dreams to Life . . .

THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC.  
2016 – 2017 Proposed Budget

<b>GENERAL FUND INCOME (Projected)</b>		
Contributions (Projected)		\$50000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>
<b>2017 LUNCHEON – INCOME (Projected)</b>		
Ticket Sales		10000
Silent Auction		4000
Fundraising (GF Bracelet)		3000
Fundraising (GFF Bd. Mbrs.)		22500
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 89,500</b>
<b>RELATED CONCLAVE EXPENSES (Projected)</b>		
Meals		10000
Printing (Programs/Decorations (centerpieces)		1500
Audio/Visual		1500
Photographer		500
Transactional Fees (PayPal, Eventbrite, website		100
The Girl Friend's Fund History Book		1500
Souvenir Journal		150
Board of Directors Dinner		1500
Gifts-Outgoing Board of Directors		300
Website/Webmaster		1200
Postage/Shipping*		1500
Annual Report/Design		1100
Annual Report/Printing		1500
Esther Marioneaux Medallion/Certificate		250
GFFund Bracelets & Shipping		6100
Luncheon Entertainment		1000
Miscellaneous		3000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$32,700)</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSIVES</b>		
Certified Public Accountant		5000
GFF 990		900
	<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$5,900)</b>
	<b>BALANCE (Projected)</b>	<b>\$100,900</b>

\*Annual Report, History Book, Pledge Cards



## The Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated

### INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

2015-2016

The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. (GFF) is a non-profit organization incorporated in Texas in 1988 to help young African –American men and women realize their dream of an equal opportunity to a college education. The Girl Friends Fund is supported through donations from members and chapters of the affiliated/sister organization which is a separate non-profit organization and the general public.

The Internal Audit Committee of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. conducted an internal audit of the financial records for the July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 fiscal year.

The audit committee looked at cash expenditures and deposits for the fiscal year as noted by the examination of the financial secretary's monthly reports, treasurer's monthly reports, the check ledger book, vouchers for disbursement of funds along with the receipts for the vouchers; and, bank statements.

The beginning balance for the fiscal year was \$174,188.42. The ending balance for the year in all accounts with Bank of America was \$186,743.11. The beginning balance for the Investment Fund with Ameriprise Financial in July 2015 was \$248,780, the ending balance in June, 30, 2016 was \$242,824.03.

The results of the audit concluded:

GFF, Inc. received and disbursed funds in accordance with the intended purpose of the funds.

The financial records of GFF, Inc. reflect its financial and fiscal activities.

The GFF, Inc. complied with the nonprofit laws, rules and regulations imposed by the federal/state government. The 990 form was filed on time.

The GFF, Inc. provided 12 new scholarships for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. There were 25 returning scholars for a total of 37 scholars supported by The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. in 2015-2016.

According to the documents we reviewed, the Luncheon showed a profit of \$891.92 and the Silent Auction had a profit of \$5,525.00. Although the expenditure for the bracelets exceeded income, it is determined that additional income will be exhibited in the 2016-2017 audit report.

## Findings and Suggestions

As previously recommended, the organization can increase the efficiency of financial reporting by using an online version of QuickBooks or other program that will make reporting and maintenance of financial records and information more sustainable over a period of time.

Again, as preciously suggested, ensure that vouchers have receipts attached to them, including all credit card expenditures/transactions.

Although it is recommended that the Financial Secretary should not receive and deposit money, there appears to be a process in place that ensure that all recording and deposits are noted and properly deposited in the specific account (s).

Rather than use a voucher to cover the expenses of several scholarship recipients, it is recommended that each recipient's request for payment be on a separate voucher.

Update/revise and approve the proposed budget to properly reflect approved actual vs budget.

Provide on a monthly basis, a budget vs actual financial report to ensure the tracking of income and expenditures against the approved final budget. Although the expenditures were deemed appropriate, it was difficult to track expenditures with the budget.

Although there was clarification of checks signed by appropriate individuals, it is hence fore recommended that the recipient of a check has approved signatures (2) on the check.

It is strongly recommended that the 2017-2018 financials be audited by a Certified Public Accountant or accounting firm and the cost of same be included in the proposed and final budget.

It is recommended that a financial Policy Handbook should be developed to include procedures for the use and reconciliation of organization's credit card (s) PayPal account, and approved by the board of GFF, Inc. This should the done in the next fiscal year of GFF, Inc.

The committee is grateful to the President and the Treasurer of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. for their cooperation and support in fulling our responsibility to the organization.

Submitted by:

Barbara Lord Watkins, Chair  
Sonya Goldsboro  
Annette VanDevere



**Girl Friends Fund, Inc.**  
**Communications Committee Year End Report 2016 – 2017**  
**May, 2017**  
**Puerto Rico**

**Fall Newsletter 2016 – 2017:**

- The Fall 2016 – 2017 Newsletter was distributed in early January, 2017
- Sent to the following individuals. Each recipient was asked to share the Newsletter with others specifically as noted:
  1. All Girl Friends®, Inc. Executive and Advisory Board members
  2. All Girl Friends®, Inc. Chapter Presidents – asked to share with all members of their Chapter
  3. All GFF Chapter Liaisons – asked to share with all members of their Chapter
  4. All GFF Board members and Committee Chairs (including President of GF, Inc.)
  5. All GFF Presidents Emeriti
  6. All Girl Friends®, Inc. members
- Included a welcome from the Fund's President, GF Cecelia B. Henderson, a listing of our Board Directors and highlighted new directors, a listing of Chapter liaisons and asked for updates
- Summarized our May, 2016 Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction and included a thank you to all GFs/Chapters and specifically those who donated Silent Auction prizes.
- Listed our new scholars, returning scholars, and sponsoring Chapters
- Included "SAVE THE DATE" information on our upcoming Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction and continued encouragement for the donation of individual and Chapter items
- Encouraged attendance at our 2017 Annual Meeting
- Presented our new Fund Bracelet Fund Raiser and encouraged purchase
- Presented the Chapter Challenge and Member Challenge to encourage more donations

**Proposed Fall Newsletter 2017 – 2018:**

Communications will now start plans for the issuing of the Fall GFF Newsletter that will:

- Distribution to all Girl Friends®, Inc. Executive and Advisory Board members, Chapter presidents and GFF liaisons, and Girl Friends®, Inc. members, GFF Board members, GFF Committee Chairs and GFF Presidents Emeriti
- Each will be asked to share the Newsletter with others specifically as noted:
  1. All Girl Friends®, Inc. Executive and Advisory Board members
  2. All Girl Friends®, Inc. Chapter Presidents – asked to share with all members of their Chapter



3. All Girl Friends®, Inc. members
  4. All GFF Chapter Liaisons – asked to share with all members of their Chapter
  5. All GFF Board members and Committee Chairs (including President of GF, Inc.)
  6. All GFF Presidents Emeriti
- Introduce new GFF Board members, officers and committee chairs
  - Continue to present the Chapter Challenge and Member Challenge early in the year to encourage more donations in a timely manner
  - List our new scholars (with photos), returning scholars, and sponsoring Chapters
  - Include Scholarship and associated documents and instructions, explanation of submission process, Liaison training details, and timetable
  - Updates of any scholars (If your Chapter has a scholar please send an update of their current activities and successes!)
  - Include "SAVE THE DATE" information on our upcoming Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon and Silent Auction and continued encouragement for the donation of individual and Chapter items
  - Include information on our continued special Fund Raising efforts (bracelets, book fair, etc.)
  - Include information on any new special Fund Raising efforts
  - Encouraged attendance at our 2018 Annual Meeting
  - Annual request for update of Girl Friends®, Inc. Chapter president, treasurer and GFF liaison information

**Resolved issue with over-sized email lists:**

- Discovered recent (3) “mass” emails were not received by those intended
- Issue was with the number of individuals each email was being sent to
- Size restriction is 1,500; our mailing list is now 1,884
- Divided mailing lists into categories for future use
  - Group 1 – Total 43 – GF Inc. National Officers & Advisory Board (21) and GFF Board & Chairs (22)
  - Group 2 – Total 101 – GF Inc. Chapter Presidents (47) and Liaisons (54)
  - Group 3 – Total 870 – GF Inc. Membership Emails (870)
  - Group 4 – Total 870 – GF Inc. Membership Emails (870)

As always we are open to suggestions that may increase scholar visibility, encourage Chapter involvement with their scholars and perhaps opportunities that can be made available to our scholars via GFF and/or Chapters and/or individual GFs.

Respectfully Submitted

GF Nedra Starling (Cleveland Chapter)  
Communications Committee Chair



Bringing Dreams to Life . . .

**The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Investment Committee Report  
Thursday, May 25, 2017  
Girl Friends Conclave – Puerto Rico**

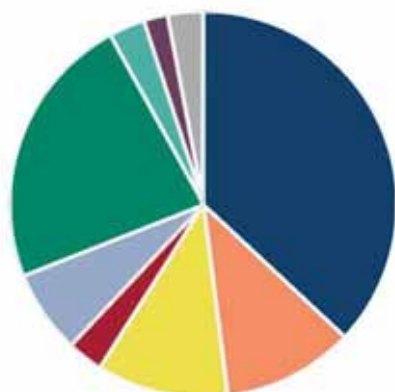
The Girl Friend Fund's Investments are professionally managed by Ameriprise Financial Services Incorporated (AFSI) in an Actively Diversified Fund for Moderately Aggressive investors. Two years ago, the GFF Committee assessed the portfolio's intent, future goals, risk tolerance, and time frame. We decided that with the advice of a manager with proven performance and expertise, that we were willing to take more measured risk in order to achieve enhanced growth. Our portfolio was changed from a moderately conservative portfolio of 78% fixed income, 20% equities and 2% cash equivalents to a current allocation of 60% equities, 29% fixed income, 6% alternatives, 4.5% cash equivalents, and .5% other assets.

The GFF is invested in a fund of funds. Therefore, the portfolio is actively advised by an unaffiliated portfolio strategist, Willshire Associates, Inc. (WAI) WAI advises Ameriprise Financial Services in the best allocation for a portfolio with our profile. WAI has over 40 years of institutional experience and advises on a dynamic asset allocation, which over time delivers consistent, risk-adjusted performance. It does not have discretionary authority nor control to purchase or sell assets or make other Investments. It merely provides portfolio allocation strategies and fund management.

AFSI is a professional money manager that manages the GFF funds in a diversified portfolio incurring reasonable risk in efforts to achieve incremental outperformance for long-term investors. It uses two key Solutions: 1) Asset Allocation and 2) Mutual Fund selection. Quarterly, the asset allocation is reviewed and revised as needed to maximize our potential returns given our risk tolerance. Mutual funds are selected based on the asset allocation targets and are monitored to ascertain that the fund is investing in the expected asset class and delivering competitive long-term performance. When a fund does not meet expectations the fund is replaced. Last year, we paid fees of ~1% of the portfolio, \$2,422.92. As of April 30, 2017, the current GFF portfolio was valued at \$265, 875.90, up ~11% from its original basis of \$239,704.73.

The portfolio manager reports the following allocation:

## Portfolio Allocations



Asset Class	03/31/17	12/31/16	Qtr Change
U.S. Large Cap Equities	37.00%	37.00%	0.00%
U.S. Small & Mid-Cap Equities	11.00%	11.00%	0.00%
International Developed Equities	11.00%	11.00%	0.00%
Emerging Market Equities	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
High Yield Bonds	7.00%	7.00%	0.00%
U.S. Core Taxable Bonds	23.00%	21.00%	2.00%
Alternatives	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
Cash	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%
Non-traditional Bonds	3.00%	5.00%	-2.00%

## Allocation Rationale

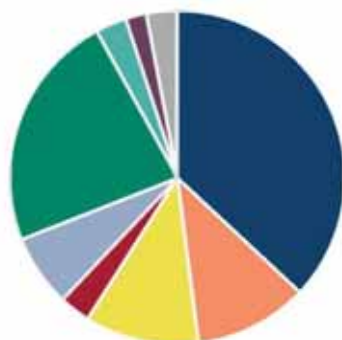
Given the targeted risk level of the moderate aggressive portfolio, 48% of the portfolio is invested in U.S. equities, 14% is invested in non-U.S. equities and 35% is invested in fixed income. This quarter Wilshire made no broad asset class changes.

The U.S. equity market had another strong quarter due to continued economic growth and consequent earnings growth. The newly elected administration and the associated hopes for regulatory reforms, tax cuts and increased public spending has led the rally among the domestic equity markets. Sector performance varied in the first quarter with the Information Technology and Health Care sectors leading the pack while the Energy and Telecom Services sectors struggled. Developed and emerging foreign markets also posted strong returns for the quarter. The weakening U.S. dollar also provided additional value for U.S. investors holding foreign securities. Rates changed little during the quarter with the 10-year U.S. Treasury Yield declining 0.05 percentage points, ending at 2.40%. For the second time in three months, the Federal Reserve increased the federal fund rate by 0.25% amid increased confidence in economic growth.

Through allocations to seven U.S. mutual funds and four non-U.S. mutual funds and ETFs, the portfolio is well-diversified across the growth and value styles. This quarter Wilshire introduced a 3% allocation to iShares MSCI Europe, Australasia and Far East (EAFE) Value ETF. Wilshire also decreased the allocation to MFS International Value Fund by 2% and decreased the allocation to Oppenheimer International Growth Fund by 1%.

The portfolio's fixed income allocations are diversified across a broad range of exposures including core bonds, high yield bonds and non-traditional bonds. This quarter Wilshire increased the allocation to the Multi-Manager Total Return Bond Strategies Fund by 2% and decreased the allocation to the BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Fund by 2%.

## Portfolio Allocations



Asset Class	03/31/17	12/31/16	Qtr Change
U.S. Large Cap Equities	37.00%	37.00%	0.00%
U.S. Small & Mid-Cap Equities	11.00%	11.00%	0.00%
International Developed Equities	11.00%	11.00%	0.00%
Emerging Market Equities	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
High Yield Bonds	7.00%	7.00%	0.00%
U.S. Core Taxable Bonds	23.00%	21.00%	2.00%
Alternatives	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
Cash	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%
Non-traditional Bonds	3.00%	5.00%	-2.00%

## Allocation Rationale

Given the targeted risk level of the moderate aggressive portfolio, 48% of the portfolio is invested in U.S. equities, 14% is invested in non-U.S. equities and 35% is invested in fixed income. This quarter Wilshire made no broad asset class changes.

The U.S. equity market had another strong quarter due to continued economic growth and consequent earnings growth. The newly elected administration and the associated hopes for regulatory reforms, tax cuts and increased public spending has led the rally among the domestic equity markets. Sector performance varied in the first quarter with the Information Technology and Health Care sectors leading the pack while the Energy and Telecom Services sectors struggled. Developed and emerging foreign markets also posted strong returns for the quarter. The weakening U.S. dollar also provided additional value for U.S. investors holding foreign securities. Rates changed little during the quarter with the 10-year U.S. Treasury Yield declining 0.05 percentage points, ending at 2.40%. For the second time in three months, the Federal Reserve increased the federal fund rate by 0.25% amid increased confidence in economic growth.

Through allocations to seven U.S. mutual funds and four non-U.S. mutual funds and ETFs, the portfolio is well-diversified across the growth and value styles. This quarter Wilshire introduced a 3% allocation to iShares MSCI Europe, Australasia and Far East (EAFE) Value ETF. Wilshire also decreased the allocation to MFS International Value Fund by 2% and decreased the allocation to Oppenheimer International Growth Fund by 1%.

The portfolio's fixed income allocations are diversified across a broad range of exposures including core bonds, high yield bonds and non-traditional bonds. This quarter Wilshire increased the allocation to the Multi-Manager Total Return Bond Strategies Fund by 2% and decreased the allocation to the BlackRock Strategic Income Opportunities Fund by 2%.

## Portfolio Allocations



Asset Class	03/31/16	12/31/15	Qtr Change
U.S. Large Cap Equities	38.00%	40.00%	-2.00%
U.S. Small & Mid-Cap Equities	12.00%	13.00%	-1.00%
International Developed Equities	16.00%	15.00%	1.00%
Emerging Market Equities	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
High Yield Bonds	3.00%	3.00%	0.00%
U.S. Core Taxable Bonds	20.00%	19.00%	1.00%
Cash	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%
Non-traditional Bonds	6.00%	5.00%	1.00%

## Allocation Rationale

Given the targeted risk level of the Moderate Aggressive Portfolio, 50% of the Portfolio is invested in U.S. equities, 19% is invested in non-U.S. equities, and 31% is invested in fixed income. This quarter Wilshire increased the allocation to fixed income by 2%, increased the allocation to non-U.S. equities by 1%, and decreased the allocation to U.S. equities by 3%. The Portfolio is currently overweight non-U.S. equities by 2% and underweight U.S. equities by 2%.

The year did not begin in a positive direction as the U.S. stock market fell during the beginning of the quarter. The domestic stock market eventually rallied from its trough as sound domestic economic data overcame concerns about a weak global economy. The long decline in crude oil finally found a floor in February, providing a bit of upward support to highly volatile global stock markets. Asia-Pacific region stocks yielded widely varied results, with losses in Japan and China offset by bull markets in smaller countries such as Thailand and Indonesia. Uncertainty over The Federal Reserve policy led to weakness in the U.S. dollar, however, lifting returns on non-USD assets for U.S.-based investors. U.S. Treasury yields plunged in the first half of the first quarter of 2016 as stock market volatility fed safe-haven trades into longer-term Treasuries. U.S. TIPS yielded strong returns for the quarter despite uncertainty over Fed policy and stubbornly low breakeven inflation statistics. Through allocations to seven U.S. mutual funds and three non-U.S. mutual funds, the Portfolio is well-diversified across the growth and value styles. This quarter Wilshire decreased the exposure to domestic large cap value, domestic mid cap growth, and domestic small cap equities by 1% each. Wilshire increased the exposure to international growth equities by 1%.

The Portfolio's fixed income allocations are diversified across a broad range of exposures including core bonds, high yield bonds, and non-traditional bonds. This quarter Wilshire increased the Exposure to core bonds and non-traditional bonds by 1% each.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 GF LaShana Broussard-Morris  
 Chair, GFF Investment Committee



**The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Scholarship Committee 2017 Annual Report**

Greetings from The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Scholarship Committee:

Girl Friend Fund Scholarship Committee was pleased to provide opportunities for Girlfriends across the country to support student success through the Girl Friend Fund, Inc. The Scholarship Committee was tasked to organize and execute the **2016-2017 Scholarship Cycle and Scholars Renewal Process**. The 2016-2017 Scholarship committee members are:

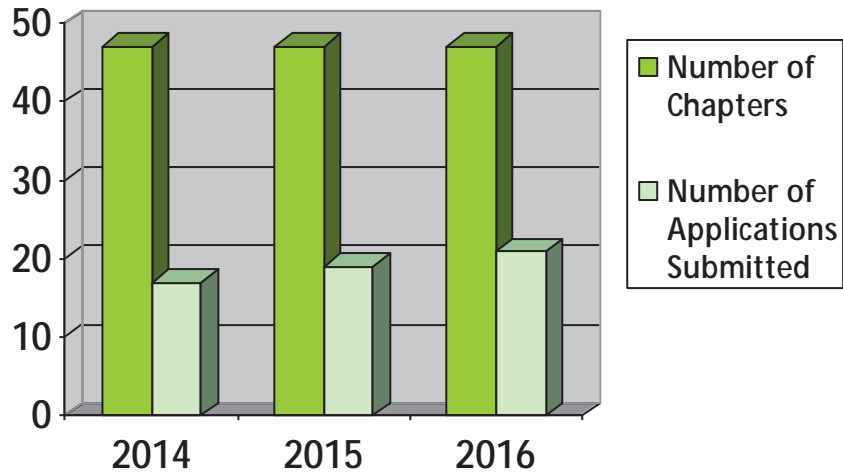
- |                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| GF Melissa Archer (Buffalo)        | GF Ericka Newsome-Hill (Atlanta) |
| GF Marie Bush (Toledo)             | GF Nedra Starling (Cleveland)    |
| GF Sonya Goldsboro (Las Vegas)     | GF Ann C. Walter-Pope (Miami)    |
| GF Sheilah Shaw Horton (Baltimore) |                                  |

For the **2016-2017 Scholarship Cycle**, the application process maintained the same as the previous year. The Girl Friends Chapters worked with local high schools to collect scholarship applications and selected one scholar candidate to submit to The Girl Friends Fund. All Chapter Presidents and Chapter Liaisons received the Chapter Liaison instructions and Scholarship Application by email on *December 21<sup>st</sup>, January 20<sup>th</sup>, and February 15<sup>th</sup>*. In addition to the instruction emails, the GF Chapters received an invitation to attend the scholarship training sessions (real-time video conferencing) on *January 29<sup>th</sup> and February 19<sup>th</sup>*. The training sessions were attended by Chapter Presidents, Chapter Liaisons, Scholarship Chairs, Scholarship Mentor, and Chapter Members. Thirty Girlfriends registered for the scholarship trainings and 26 Girlfriends attended the training. A recording of the training was sent by email to the registered training attendees in addition to all Chapter Presidents and Chapter Liaisons.

With the *March 1<sup>st</sup>* deadline, the Scholarship Committee received 21 applications for the GF Chapters which was an increase of two applications (9%) from the 2015-2016 cycle. The GF Chapters made it difficult for the scholarship reviewers, by submitting an incredible group of young scholars with amazing academic achievements, leadership initiatives, and service commitments. All the scholarship documents were submitted and reviewed through the Google Drive. Thank you to the Scholarship Reviewers, GF

Michelle Woodhouse (Norfolk) and GF Scyla Murray Baielli (Chicago) for reading, reviewing, and rating

**Chapters and Submitted Applications  
Comparison**



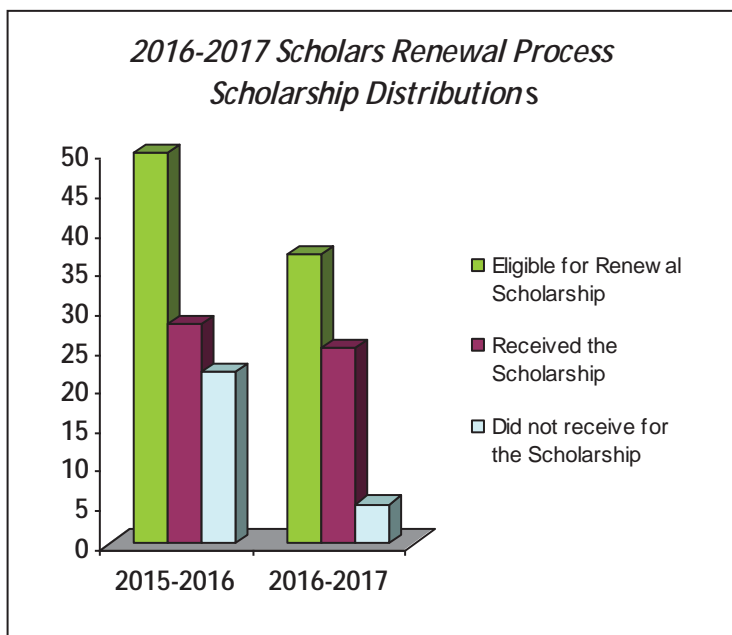
each application. The scores from each reviewer were tailed and combined together. A final list of the scores was submitted to The Fund Board for review.

The following 21 chapters submitted a Scholarship Application for the 2016-2017 Scholarship Cycle:

Albany Chapter	Fairfield County Chapter	Pittsburgh Chapter
California Chapter	Las Vegas Chapter	Roanoke Chapter
Cleveland Chapter	Louisville Chapter	San Diego Chapter
Columbia Chapter	Miami Chapter	Seattle Chapter
Dallas Chapter	New Haven Chapter	St. Louis Chapter
Detroit Chapter	Orlando Chapter	Toledo Chapter
Durham Chapter	Norfolk Chapter	Washington Chapter

The 2017 Scholars will be announced at the 2017 Conclave in Puerto Rico. As a committee, we strongly encourage each chapter to continue to mentor their scholars and strengthen the relationships between the chapter, scholars, and the local high schools in effort to generate more scholarship applications.

### 2016-2017 Scholars Renewal Process



- 37 Past scholars were eligible to reapply for the scholarship this year
- 30 scholars reapplied for the scholarship.
- 25 scholars meet the renewal requirements and received the annual scholarship

For the 2017-2018 renewal scholarship cycle, the Scholars received an email on April 27<sup>th</sup> with instructions to fill out an online renewal form and submit an official transcript and enrollment verification. The Scholars must submit the online renewal form and official transcript by June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Enrollment Verification form is due by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Checks will be distributed in October.

To our lovely Girl Friends,

Thank you for your cross country assistance with promoting the GFF scholarship, participating in the scholarship training, submitting scholarship applications, communicating with local school districts, cultivating our scholars, raising scholarship funds, and giving to The Girl Friends Fund both in service and in dollars. Your efforts are impacting the development of the next generation and your continuous lovely friendship is embracing and creating a community of great scholars!

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the 2016-2017 Scholarship Committee,

GF Fawn Robinson  
Scholarship Chair

## 2017 Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Scholars



Ndidi Anekwe  
Fairfield County  
Molecular Biology  
Princeton University



Janae Boyd  
Louisville  
Engineering  
University of Louisville



Treniya Bronaugh  
Pittsburgh  
Political Science  
Temple University



Lauren Brown  
Roanoke  
Architecture  
The University of Virginia



Ti'Ara Clark  
Dallas  
Sociology  
Fisk University



Zoe Collier Robinson  
St. Louis  
International Relations  
American University



Nicholas Gilliard  
Columbia  
Business  
Duke University



Lauryn Hamilton  
Cleveland  
Biological Sciences  
Cornell University



Allen Shelton  
Las Vegas  
Electrical Engineering  
Stanford University



Steven Thomas II  
Toledo  
Business  
The Ohio State University



Alexus Wooden  
Miami  
Accounting and Finance  
University of Florida



Jadzia Young  
Orlando  
Mathematics  
Agnes Scott College



## **Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon Committee Report**

May 25, 2017

The **Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon** of *The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.* hit the ground running by developing this year's theme "**Fund in the Sun**" in keeping with the tropical destination of Rio Grande, Puerto Rico – the site for the 82<sup>nd</sup> National Conclave.

The luncheon is an opportunity for the *Fund* to showcase the many scholarship recipients and raise additional monies through the implementation of a silent auction and a pledge for donations. The pledge card was redesigned to provide more flexibility to potential donors.

Girl Friends will enjoy our traditional Welcome Parade lead by National President GF Benita Shobe! After some facts about the *Fund*, Girl Friends will be treated to a Salsa Show featuring traditional dancing to the sounds of Puerto Rico's Bomba y Plena with an Afro-Caribbean style. Besides dancing, we will have a Strappy Sandals competition with plenty of wonderful prizes.

Our Beach Bag centerpieces filled with beach accessories promotes our "**Fund in the Sun**" theme and will be raffled at the conclusion.

More than \$1,200 was raised in-kind to offset expenses in order to provide the many items in the beach bags and the myriad of raffle prizes as every penny counts in supporting our youth. A special thank you to Printabilitees, Tori Soudan Shoes, Bev's Store, Statianery, Rosa's & Soror Bling for their partnership.

Girl Friends, your donations are vital to what *The Girl Friends Fund* does. Please consider a donation through the pledge card at the luncheon or visit our website at [www.girlfriendsfund.org](http://www.girlfriendsfund.org).

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

*GF Ann E. Walters-Pope*  
Miami Chapter  
**Chair**

*GF Shuana Tucker-Sims*  
New Haven Chapter  
**Co-Chair**





## Special Projects Fundraising Report

May 25, 2017

*The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.* **Special Projects Fundraising Committee** kicked off the year with the sale of a limited edition piece of *Girl Friends Fund* jewelry. The piece was a beautiful green carnival wrap bracelet done as a collaboration with Reeds Jewelers/Jenss Décor of Buffalo, New York. The 2016 bracelet included the GFF logo along with *The Fund* tagline – *Bringing Dreams to Life* – for the cost of \$30 of which \$10 went directly to *The Fund*. Three hundred and twenty (320) bracelets were commissioned and sold. Sales totaled \$9,600 with \$3,200 going to *The Girl Friends Fund*.



Girl Friends, thank you for making this fundraiser a success while *Bringing Dreams to Life* for our many scholarship recipients.

Our 2017 limited edition piece is another collaboration with Reeds Jewelers/Jenss Décor of Buffalo, New York. The beautiful piece is a green advertine stretch bracelet that again includes the GFF logo with *The Fund* tagline – *Bringing Dreams to Life*.

The cost is \$30 of which \$10 will go directly to *The Fund*. We ask that you consider adding this additional piece of *Girl Friends Fund* jewelry to your collection and support our many scholars. 2017 bracelets will be available during our Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon and throughout the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conclave.



Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

*GF Joyce Ford Quick*  
Buffalo Chapter  
**Co-Chair**

*GF Ann E. Walters-Pope*  
Miami Chapter  
**Co-Chair**



## GFF Silent Auction Committee End of the Year Report for 2016-2017

The Girl Friends Fund (GFF), Inc. Silent Auction committee was charged with the oversight and management of the 2016 Silent Auction Fundraiser.

It was the auction committee's pleasure to once again sponsor the ever popular Silent Auction Acknowledgement Parade with the awesome participation of the national president of The Girl Friends®, Inc. (GF, Inc.). The parade signaled the opening of the GFF Luncheon and was the committee's way of acknowledging the presidents and liaisons of the GF, Inc. chapters who participated in the 2016 Silent Auction.

The auction committee is pleased to report that at the conclusion of the 2015-2016 GFF audit, we can say that the 2016 GFF Silent Auction was a success. The goal was to raise \$6,500.00. The Silent Auction was comprised of 47 items for bidding with two table signage acknowledging chapter monetary donations to the auction. Included in that total were 8 blown glass art pieces created for the auction by the renown Seattle, WA Puget Sound artist, Mr. Robert Mitchell. GFs who volunteered to assist with the auction were too numerous to list in this report. The auction could not have functioned without the generous time and effort given by our Girl Friend volunteers. The committee is grateful.

The auction received income of \$4,835.00 from credit/debit cards, \$1,375.00 from checks, \$750.00 from two Chapter check donations, and \$600.00 from GFF Board Member donations. Our expenditures totaled \$600.00 leaving a net income of \$6,960.00. Girl Friends were awesome and very generous with their chapter donations and individual donations. The auction committee would like to thank our Girl Friends for a totally wonderful afternoon of enjoyment and fun. Thankfully, we exceeded our fundraising goal.

The following actions were accomplished during this reporting period:

1. Silent Auction volunteers were solicited for specific times and tasks via a spreadsheet emailed to presidents and liaisons
2. A Directors' Corner area was designated for items donated by members of the GFF Board of Directors.
3. Monthly e-mail reminder letters with auction procedures were created and emailed to GF, Inc.. chapter presidents and/or liaisons to be shared with all GFF members. The goal was to

continually invite and encourage members to support the Silent Auction through donations and/or volunteerism.

4. Most Silent Auction Committee members were active members of the GFF Luncheon Committee and the luncheon chair served as the singular voice to the host hotel for all auction needs.

5. Committee members who are GFF Board members participated in scheduled GFF Executive Board Meetings.

The 2016 GFF Silent Auction Committee would like to thank all participating Girl Friends chapters, chapter presidents, chapter liaisons and volunteers for their support. Their participation represents a labor of love that greatly benefited our GFF Scholars.

After Conclave, the names of all Silent Auction participating chapters were highlighted in the GFF Newsletter. E-Thank You notes were sent to all participating chapters and chapter members who donated to the auction and/or volunteered in support of the auction.

In Girl Friendship,

**GF Sonya**

GF Sonya Goldsboro

2016 Silent Auction Committee Chair

GF Cheryl Finley, New York Chapter, Committee Member

GF Casma Huie, Potomac Chapter, Committee Member

GF Faye Owens, Louisville Chapter, Committee Member

GF Karen Shaw, Seattle Chapter, Committee Member



May 13, 2017

Greetings Girl Friends,

The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. is calling for nominations for its Board of Directors! There are openings for six, three of whom are presently on the Board and are eligible for re-election. All vacancies will be filled at the General Membership Meeting on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> in Puerto Rico. While your attendance at the meeting is preferable, it is not mandatory in order for your name to be placed in nomination.

During the order of business, a slate of members will be presented to be voted upon by the membership for Directorship positions.

The responsibilities of Board members include fundraising efforts (there is no mandatory level of fundraising), promoting charitable endeavors and developing strategic plans to sustain The Fund's mission.

The Board is specifically in need of members with financial and website/IT experience. However, a commitment to philanthropy in the form of Scholarships and Girl Friendship is the most important asset!

To be eligible for election to The Girl Friends Fund, Inc., Board of Directors, a Girl Friend shall:

- ▶ be an active and financial member of The Girl Friends®, Inc for at least five years
- ▶ possess proficient skills to support the Fund's structure
- ▶ have a willingness to participate actively and regularly in fundraising efforts, and
- ▶ be willing to, and have the ability to, draw upon a network of associates and/or sources of funding to benefit The Fund and its program.

All interested in servicing should complete the attached Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Profile for Nomination Form and return it to me at [clyburnfoundation@yqahoo.com](mailto:clyburnfoundation@yqahoo.com) by May 20, 2017. Nominations may also be mailed to:

GF Janice Marshall  
101 Louthian Way  
Blythewood, South Carolina 29016

Girl Friendly,

GF Janice Marshall

GF Janice Marshall, Nominating Chair for Members of the Board of Directors



The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Nominating Committee Report  
Board Officers  
May 16, 2017

GFs Joyce, Ericka and Shuana were asked by President Cecelia B. Henderson to develop a slate of candidates to fill officer vacancies on the Board.

The Nominating Committee met via e-mail and conference call.

The slate of officers for 2017 - 2019 are:

President	GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd
Vice President	GF Ann Walters Pope
Recording Secretary	GF Nedra Starling
Assistant Secretary	GF Shuana Tucker-Sims
Financial Secretary	GF Annette Van Devere
Treasurer	GF Deborah L. Perry

Respectfully Submitted,  
GFs Joyce Ford Quick, Chair  
Ericka Newsome-Hill  
Shuana Tucker-Sims



## Marketing & Branding Committee Report

May 25, 2017

The **Marketing & Branding Committee** of *The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.* was formulated to initially evaluate the *Fund's* current marking practices and examine the effectiveness of its current brand in communicating *The Girl Friends Fund* mission to provide scholarships and mentoring to high achieving African American students who may face significant financial obstacles in their path to a college education.

Our immediate marketing efforts highlighted our brand with a goal to raise money. We established a partnership with Barnes and Noble. This partnership resulted in the *Fund* hosting a Book Fair. A portion of all proceeds purchased during a designated timeframe were allocated directly to *The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.* Depending upon participation, the *Fund* could earn up to 20% of all purchases. This is the *Fund's* first year and the designated timeframe was the week of May 8 - 15, 2017, surrounding Mother's Day. This provided the Fund with an opportunity to market/promote *The Girl Friends Fund* to family and friends. At the time of this report results were not available.

The next steps will see the committee through a process of testing and evaluating the *Fund's* current brand/logo and messaging. The brand is the foundation for all marketing pieces. Every aspect from website, to corporate identity, to print materials and fundraising tool kits is defined by the brand. Each touch point is an opportunity to increase brand awareness and improve giving.

The committee is also evaluating the sale of logo merchandise and accessories to increase the *Fund's* ability to provide scholarships.

If you are interested in giving, please visit our website at [www.girlfriendsfund.org](http://www.girlfriendsfund.org). Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

*GF Ann E. Walters-Pope*  
Miami Chapter  
**Chair**

*GF Shuana Tucker-Sims*  
New Haven Chapter  
**Co-Chair**



Bringing Dreams to Life ...

**The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Annual Report 2016 – 2017  
Rio Grande, Puerto Rico  
Appendices**



Bringing Dreams to Life ...

# The Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated

## Board of Directors Roster

### Officers 2016 - 2017

	<p>GF Cecelia B. Henderson <b>PRESIDENT</b> 8 Chestnut Hill Lane, South Williamsville, NY 14221 716-688-4292 home (prefer) 716-510-0221 cell <a href="mailto:lecetah@verizon.net">lecetah@verizon.net</a>; <a href="mailto:lecetah2@gmail.com">lecetah2@gmail.com</a>; <a href="mailto:gfcece@gmail.com">gfcece@gmail.com</a>;</p>		<p>GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> <b>Chair Legal Review</b> 3720 Stoer Road Shaker Heights, OH 44122 216-491-9211 home 216-491-0249 work <a href="mailto:lavboyd@aol.com">lavboyd@aol.com</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Nedra A. Starling <b>SECRETARY</b> <b>Chair Communications</b> 4595 Crestview Court South Euclid, OH 44143 216-291-3933 home (prefer) 216-513-4757 cell 216-448-2985 work <a href="mailto:starlin@ccf.org">starlin@ccf.org</a>;</p>		<p>GF Annette VanDevere <b>ASSISTANT SECRETARY</b> 2142 Kensington Court Marietta, GA 30064 770-630-6303 <a href="mailto:Arv91@aol.com">Arv91@aol.com</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Ann E. Walters-Pope <b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</b> <b>Chair Marketing/Branding</b> <b>Co-Chair Fund Raising</b> <b>Special Projects</b> 15626 SW 111 Terrace Miami, FL 33196 305-321-6011 cell <a href="mailto:annpope.ap@gmail.com">annpope.ap@gmail.com</a>;</p>		<p>GF Deborah L. Perry <b>TREASURER</b> <b>Chair Budget</b> 8535 Frankstown Road Pittsburgh, PA 15235 862-252-0065 cell <a href="mailto:dperry777@gmail.com">dperry777@gmail.com</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Cheryl Finley <b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b> <b>Chair Fund Raising &amp;</b> <b>Scholarship Luncheon</b> GM08 Goldwin Smith Hall Ithaca, NY 14853 917-691-4175 <a href="mailto:Cf86@cornell.edu">Cf86@cornell.edu</a>; <a href="mailto:cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu">cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu</a>;</p>		













## Directors 2016 - 2017

	<p>GF Melissa S. Archer 489 Berryman Drive Amherst, NY 14226 716-440-1836 cell <a href="mailto:Rn4202@yahoo.com">Rn4202@yahoo.com</a>;</p>		<p>GF Marie Latham Bush 119 Melody Lane Toledo, OH 43615 419-261-0077 cell (prefer) 419-537-9462 home <a href="mailto:docmlb2k@yahoo.com">docmlb2k@yahoo.com</a>; <a href="mailto:docmlb2000@sbcglobal.net">docmlb2000@sbcglobal.net</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Sonya Goldsboro <b>Chair Silent Auction</b> 7600 Leybourne Court Las Vegas, NV 89131 702-400-0201 <a href="mailto:jgolds64@gmail.com">jgolds64@gmail.com</a>;</p>		<p>GF Ericka Newsome-Hill 1708 Carr Circle, NW Atlanta, GA 30318 404-668-1000 cell (prefer) 404-367-9094 home <a href="mailto:Ericka_newsome@yahoo.com">Ericka_newsome@yahoo.com</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Joyce Ford Quick <b>Co-Chair Fund Raising Special Projects</b> 6431 Bridlewood Drive, South East Amherst, NY 14051 716-741-9737 home (prefer) 716-983-6431 cell <a href="mailto:jafq055@gmail.com">jafq055@gmail.com</a>;</p>		<p>GF Dari K. Ruff 14202 Dormansville Blvd. Upper Marlboro, MD 20774 702-203-6243 cell <a href="mailto:dkruff11@gmail.com">dkruff11@gmail.com</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Shuana Tucker-Sims, PhD <b>Co-Chair Marketing/Branding</b> 9 Independence Circle Middlebury, CT 06762 203-577-2440 home 203-528-8777 cell <a href="mailto:battiste3@aol.com">battiste3@aol.com</a></p>		<p>GF Barbara Lord Watkins <b>Chair Audit</b> 5624 McShann Road Dallas, TX 75230 972-386-6890 home 214-543-2447 cell <a href="mailto:blwmhw@mindspring.com">blwmhw@mindspring.com</a>;</p>
	<p>GF Benita Shobe <b>EX-OFFICIO President The Girl Friends, Inc.</b> 303 East 43<sup>rd</sup> Street Apt. 8C New York, NY 10017 212-989-0766 <a href="mailto:gfbenitas@gmail.com">gfbenitas@gmail.com</a>;</p>		

## Committee Chairs 2016 - 2017

<p><b>Audit</b></p> 	<p>GF Barbara Lord Watkins 5624 McShann Road Dallas, TX 75230 972-386-6890 home 214-543-2447 cell <a href="mailto:blwmhw@mindspring.com">blwmhw@mindspring.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Budget</b></p> 	<p>GF Deborah L. Perry 8535 Frankstown Road Pittsburgh, PA 15235 862-252-0065 cell <a href="mailto:dperry777@gmail.com">dperry777@gmail.com</a>;</p>
<p><b>Communications</b></p> 	<p>GF Nedra A. Starling 4595 Crestview Court South Euclid, OH 44143 216-291-3933 home (prefer) 216-513-4757 cell 216-448-2985 work <a href="mailto:starlin@ccf.org">starlin@ccf.org</a>;</p>	<p><b>Fund Raising</b></p> 	<p>GF Cheryl Finley GM08 Goldwin Smith Hall Ithaca, NY 14853 917-691-4175 <a href="mailto:Cf86@cornell.edu">Cf86@cornell.edu</a>; <a href="mailto:cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu">cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu</a>;</p>
<p><b>Fund Raising - Luncheon</b></p> 	<p>GF Cheryl Finley GM08 Goldwin Smith Hall Ithaca, NY 14853 917-691-4175 <a href="mailto:Cf86@cornell.edu">Cf86@cornell.edu</a>; <a href="mailto:cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu">cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu</a>;</p>	<p><b>Fund Raising – Special Projects</b></p> 	<p>GF Joyce Ford Quick 6431 Bridlewood Drive, South East Amherst, NY 14051 716-741-9737 home (prefer) 716-983-6431 cell <a href="mailto:jafq055@gmail.com">jafq055@gmail.com</a>;</p>
<p><b>Fund Raising – Special Projects</b></p> 	<p>GF Ann E. Walters-Pope 15626 SW 111 Terrace Miami, FL 33196 305-321-6011 cell <a href="mailto:annpope.ap@gmail.com">annpope.ap@gmail.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>History</b></p> 	<p>GF Nina Jennings 1847 W LK Sammamish Pkwy SE Bellevue, WA 98008 <a href="mailto:nina@ninafoxx.com">nina@ninafoxx.com</a>;</p>
<p><b>History</b></p> 	<p>GF Sheila Williams 423 E. 4th Street Newport, KY 41071 <a href="mailto:sheilaj.williams3@gmail.com">sheilaj.williams3@gmail.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Hospitality</b></p> 	<p>GF Melissa S. Archer 489 Berryman Drive Amherst, NY 14226 <a href="mailto:Rn4202@yahoo.com">Rn4202@yahoo.com</a>;</p>

<p><b>Investment/Finance</b></p> 	<p>GF LaShana Broussard Morris 2300 Parkside Drive Durham, NC 27707 <a href="mailto:gflala@outlook.com">gflala@outlook.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Legal Review</b></p> 	<p>GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd 3720 Stoer Road Shaker Heights, OH 44122 216-491-9211 home 216-491-0249 work <a href="mailto:lavboyd@aol.com">lavboyd@aol.com</a>;</p>
<p><b>Marketing/Branding</b></p> 	<p>GF Ann E. Walters-Pope 15626 SW 111 Terrace Miami, FL 33196 305-321-6011 cell <a href="mailto:annpoppe.ap@gmail.com">annpoppe.ap@gmail.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Marketing/Branding Co-Chair</b></p> 	<p>GF Shuana Tucker-Sims, PhD 9 Independence Circle Middlebury, CT 06762 203-577-2440 home 203-528-8777 cell <a href="mailto:battiste3@aol.com">battiste3@aol.com</a></p>
<p><b>Nominating – Board Officers</b></p> 	<p>GF Joyce Ford Quick 6431 Bridlewood Drive, South East Amherst, NY 14051 716-741-9737 home (prefer) 716-983-6431 cell <a href="mailto:jafq055@gmail.com">jafq055@gmail.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Nominating – Board Positions</b></p> 	<p>GF Janice Marshall 101 Louthian Way Blythewood, SC 29016 803-754-1722 <a href="mailto:jm1law@aol.com">jm1law@aol.com</a>; <a href="mailto:clyburnfoundation@yahoo.com">clyburnfoundation@yahoo.com</a>;</p>
<p><b>Scholarship</b></p> 	<p>GF Fawn Robinson 3057 Meadowbrook Court Gibsonia, PA 15044 724-444-0858 home (prefer) 412-3102995 cell <a href="mailto:ftrobinson@hotmail.com">ftrobinson@hotmail.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Scholarship Luncheon</b></p> 	<p>GF Cheryl Finley GM08 Goldwin Smith Hall Ithaca, NY 14853 917-691-4175 <a href="mailto:Cf86@cornell.edu">Cf86@cornell.edu</a>; <a href="mailto:cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu">cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu</a>;</p>
<p><b>Silent Auction</b></p> 	<p>GF Sonya Goldsboro 7600 Leybourne Court Las Vegas, NV 89131 702-400-0201 <a href="mailto:jgolds64@gmail.com">jgolds64@gmail.com</a>;</p>	<p><b>Website</b></p> 	<p>GF Kim Savoy 1 Newton Lane Medway, MA 02053 614-440-453 cell (prefer) 508-533-7692 home <a href="mailto:kwsavoy@yahoo.com">kwsavoy@yahoo.com</a>;</p>

## Email listing for Board of Directors 2016 - 2017

GF Cecelia B. Henderson Buffalo Chapter <b>PRESIDENT</b>	<a href="mailto:lecetah@verizon.net">lecetah@verizon.net</a> ; <a href="mailto:lecetah2@gmail.com">lecetah2@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:gfcece@gmail.com">gfcece@gmail.com</a> ;
GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd Cleveland Chapter <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> <b>Chair Legal Review</b>	<a href="mailto:lavboyd@aol.com">lavboyd@aol.com</a> ;
GF Nedra A. Starling Cleveland Chapter <b>SECRETARY</b> <b>Chair Communications</b>	<a href="mailto:starlin@ccf.org">starlin@ccf.org</a> ;
GF Annette VanDevere Atlanta Chapter <b>ASSISTANT SECRETARY</b>	<a href="mailto:Arv91@aol.com">Arv91@aol.com</a> ;
GF Ann E. Walters-Pope Miami Chapter <b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</b> <b>Co-Chair Fund Raising Special Project</b> <b>Chair Marketing &amp; Branding</b>	<a href="mailto:annpope.ap@gmail.com">annpope.ap@gmail.com</a> ;
GF Deborah L. Perry Pittsburgh Chapter <b>TREASURER</b> <b>Chair Budget</b>	<a href="mailto:dperry777@gmail.com">dperry777@gmail.com</a> ;
GF Cheryl Finley New York Chapter <b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b> <b>Chair Fund Raising</b> <b>Chair Scholarship Luncheon</b>	<a href="mailto:Cf86@cornell.edu">Cf86@cornell.edu</a> ; <a href="mailto:cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu">cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu</a> ;
GF Melissa S. Archer Buffalo Chapter	<a href="mailto:Rn4202@yahoo.com">Rn4202@yahoo.com</a> ;
GF Marie Latham Bush Toledo Chapter	<a href="mailto:docmlb2k@yahoo.com">docmlb2k@yahoo.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:docmlb2000@sbcglobal.net">docmlb2000@sbcglobal.net</a> ;
GF Sonya Goldsboro Las Vegas Chapter <b>Chair Silent Auction</b>	<a href="mailto:jgolds64@gmail.com">jgolds64@gmail.com</a> ;
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GF Joyce Ford Quick Buffalo Chapter <b>Co-Chair Fund Raising Special Project</b> <b>Nominating - Board Officers</b>	<a href="mailto:jafq055@gmail.com">jafq055@gmail.com</a> ;
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GF Barbara Lord Watkins Dallas Chapter	<a href="mailto:blwmhw@mindspring.com">blwmhw@mindspring.com</a> ;
GF Benita Shobe New York Chapter <b>EX-OFFICIO - President, The Girl Friends, Inc.</b>	<a href="mailto:gfbenitas@gmail.com">gfbenitas@gmail.com</a> ;

## Email listing for Past Presidents Emeriti 2016 - 2017

GF Cynthia Carter Cole 2013-2015 Boston Chapter	<a href="mailto:girlfriendly4life@gmail.com">girlfriendly4life@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:Ccarter@huhs.harvard.edu">Ccarter@huhs.harvard.edu</a> ;
GF Andrea L. Johnson 2012-2013 California Chapter	<a href="mailto:andrealjohnson289@gmail.com">andrealjohnson289@gmail.com</a> ;
GF Elaine Effort 2010-2012 Pittsburgh Chapter	<a href="mailto:effortfouru@hotmail.com">effortfouru@hotmail.com</a> ;
GF Carole T. Phillips 2007-2010 Brooklyn Chapter	<a href="mailto:ctp888@aol.com">ctp888@aol.com</a> ;
GF Phoebe A. Haddon 2005-2007 Philadelphia Chapter	<a href="mailto:phoebe.haddon@temple.edu">phoebe.haddon@temple.edu</a> ; <a href="mailto:phoebe.haddon@gmail.com">phoebe.haddon@gmail.com</a> ;
GF Lynda P. Carroll 2001-2005 New Orleans Chapter	<a href="mailto:lcarroll@mcpss.com">lcarroll@mcpss.com</a> ;
GF Esther C. Marioneaux 2000-2001 Charlotte Chapter	<a href="mailto:marioneauxe@bellsouth.com">marioneauxe@bellsouth.com</a> ;
GF Mirian Shropshire 1995-2000 Atlanta Chapter	<a href="mailto:wbs3atl@aol.com">wbs3atl@aol.com</a> ;
GF Helen K. Wright 1992-1995 Cleveland Chapter	<a href="mailto:HWTUTU2@aol.com">HWTUTU2@aol.com</a> ;
GF Chrystine Shack 1989-1992 Memphis Chapter	Deceased
GF Konetta Putnam Sparks 1989 (Interim) New York Chapter	No email provided

## Email listing for Committee Chairs 2016 - 2017

\*Indicates Non-Board Member

Committee	Chair	Email
Audit	GF Barbara Lord Watkins Dallas Chapter	<a href="mailto:blwmhw@mindspring.com">blwmhw@mindspring.com</a> ;
Budget	GF Deborah L. Perry Pittsburgh Chapter	<a href="mailto:dperry777@gmail.com">dperry777@gmail.com</a> ;
Communications	GF Nedra Starling Cleveland Chapter	<a href="mailto:starlin@ccf.org">starlin@ccf.org</a> ;
Fund Raising and Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon	GF Cheryl Finley New York Chapter	<a href="mailto:Cf86@cornell.edu">Cf86@cornell.edu</a> ; <a href="mailto:cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu">cherylfinley@fas.harvard.edu</a> ;
Fund Raising Special Projects	GF Joyce Ford Quick Buffalo Chapter  GF Ann E. Walters-Pope Miami Chapter	<a href="mailto:jafq055@gmail.com">jafq055@gmail.com</a> ;  <a href="mailto:annpoppe.ap@gmail.com">annpoppe.ap@gmail.com</a> ;
History	GF Nina Jennings* Seattle Chapter  GF Sheila Williams* Cincinnati Chapter	<a href="mailto:nina@ninafoxx.com">nina@ninafoxx.com</a> ;  <a href="mailto:sheilaj.williams3@gmail.com">sheilaj.williams3@gmail.com</a> ;
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Investment/Finance	GF LaShana Broussard Morris* Durham	<a href="mailto:gflala@outlook.com">gflala@outlook.com</a> ;
Legal Review	GF LaVerne Boyd Cleveland Chapter	<a href="mailto:lavboyd@aol.com">lavboyd@aol.com</a> ;
Marketing & Branding	GF Ann E. Walters-Pope Miami Chapter  GF Shuana Tucker-Sims, PhD New Haven (CT) Chapter	<a href="mailto:annpoppe.ap@gmail.com">annpoppe.ap@gmail.com</a> ;  <a href="mailto:battiste3@aol.com">battiste3@aol.com</a> ;
Nominating Board Officers	GF Joyce Ford Quick Buffalo Chapter	<a href="mailto:jafq055@gmail.com">jafq055@gmail.com</a> ;

Nominating Board Positions	GF Janice Marshall* Columbia Chapter	<a href="mailto:jm1law@aol.com">jm1law@aol.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:clyburnfoundation@yahoo.com">clyburnfoundation@yahoo.com</a> ;
Scholarship	GF Fawn Robinson* Pittsburgh Chapter	<a href="mailto:ftrobinson@hotmail.com">ftrobinson@hotmail.com</a> ;
Silent Auction	GF Sonya Goldsboro Las Vegas Chapter	<a href="mailto:jgolds64@gmail.com">jgolds64@gmail.com</a> ;
Website/Technology	GF Kim Savoy* Boston Chapter	<a href="mailto:Kwsavoy@yahoo.com">Kwsavoy@yahoo.com</a> ;



# THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. NEWSLETTER

EDITOR & COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR — GF NEDRA STARLING  
CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Bringing Dreams to Life . . .

***The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Mission Statement***  
*Our mission is to provide financial assistance to young, academically gifted and financially challenged African-American men and women in their pursuit of a college education.*



## THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*GF Cecelia B. Henderson, Buffalo Chapter*

Girl Friends,

It is a privilege to greet you and thank you for your continuous support of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.

The Board of Directors began this fiscal year on a **“high note”** organizing and planning for implementation of its mission that insures graduating high school seniors an opportunity to attend a college/university and fulfill their educational dreams.

The mission can only be accomplished with the assistance of every Girl Friend working together for the cause so that our youth can become productive citizens of society. As a result of your vote, The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. received the National Project during the Seattle Conclave 2016. Know that your compassion, commitment, and contribution to the mission is received with gratitude, grateful hearts, and on behalf of the students, we echo again **“OUR THANKS.”**

Launching our Bracelet Fundraiser, a beautiful green stone bracelet, was a tremendous success!! Girl Friends purchased the bracelets with our engraved brand **“Bringing Dreams to Life”** with the **GFF** symbol until we sold out in Seattle. Following Conclave, we filled requests for bracelets from individual GFs as well as chapters. Our plan is to follow-up with a complement to the bracelet. **STAY TUNED.** Because of your support of this fundraiser, once again you made it possible to guarantee that a deserving student receives a scholarship for two years @ \$1,500 per year. Thanks again for making this fundraiser a success!!

The Girl Friends Fund continues to request donations to benefit scholarship. Our goal is to increase the number of scholarships provided to students. It gives me great pleasure to announce that thirty-seven (**37**) new and returning students were eligible and received scholarship checks of **\$1,500.00** each for the Fall Semester 2016 totaling **\$55,500**. Chapter presidents and liaisons have received scholarship information for 2017 (Instruction and Application). We encourage chapters to participate and identify a student scholar for submission for the 2017 scholarship cycle. The application deadline is March 1, 2017.

Donations may be directed towards several funds:

1. The **General Scholarship Fund**, both individuals and chapters are encouraged to donate as you have done so generously in the past. Any contribution is accepted and appreciated.
2. The **Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund**. Chapters and individuals are encouraged to become members. A minimum contribution of **\$250.00** is required. All first-time donors will receive an engraved medallion with their name/ chapter, date, and personally presented to the donor/representative at the Annual Meeting of The GFF, Inc. following the Scholarship Luncheon in Puerto Rico. Previous endowment donors will receive an embossed appreciation certificate.

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*

*STEP UP and champion your Fund through financial contributions, volunteering on a committee and mentoring our Girl Friends Fund, Inc. scholars!*



THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. PRESIDENT'S  
CORNER

*Continued from previous page*

3. The **GFF Named Scholarships** – You may want to earmark your donation for one of the following:  
GF Carolyn M. Carter Memorial Scholarship – GFF Criteria, career – Medicine  
Anita Peek Gilger, MD – GFF Criteria  
GF Juanita P. Humphrey – Outstanding Accomplishments, Community Involvement, Academics (GFF Criteria)  
GF Gwendolyn G. Johnson – GFF Criteria  
GF Carole Temple Phillips – GFF Criteria, career – Business
4. The **GFF Member and Chapter Challenge** – The Member and Chapter Challenges were initiated two years ago to encourage a girlfriendly competition among chapters of The Girl Friends®, Incorporated to support scholarships through donations. **“The Challenge is On”** again this year for chapters and members to answer the call. The amount of funds received determines the number of scholarship recipients. We need your individual and chapter support, and hope to receive an impressive 100% participation. Help us to assist our young leaders of tomorrow!!

Kindly make checks payable to: The Girl Friends Fund, Inc., and send all contributions to the GFF Financial Secretary:

**GF Ann E. Walters-Pope**  
**15626 SW 111 Terrace**  
**Miami, Florida 33196**

If you prefer, you may use credit cards to make your donation on line at [girlfriendsfund.org](http://girlfriendsfund.org). All contributions are **tax exempt** as The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. is identified as a 501(C)(3) organization. Upon receipt of your donation, you will receive a tax acknowledgment letter.

The **deadline** for contributions to be included in the GFF Annual Report Booklet is **April 29, 2017**. Your early contributions are appreciated, as it is necessary for recording, printing, and shipping to Puerto Rico. Thanks in advance for your donations and cooperation. To assist us in accurately recording your donations, kindly identify “chapter donations”, “named scholarships”, individual donations, etc. Donor forms are included at the end of this Newsletter.

Finally, we look forward to your presence at the **Eunice C. Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon, Thursday, May 25, 2017 at Noon**. A highlight of the luncheon is the Silent Auction. Chapter presidents and liaisons have received the 2017 Silent Auction information packet (Information, Bid Sheet and Volunteer Sheet). We encourage chapters/members to attend and participate. More information will follow.

Our sincere appreciation for assisting us as we continue **“Bringing Dream to Life.”**

May this year bring you peace, love and girlfriendly spirits!!

Girlfriendly love,

GF Cecelia B. Henderson

President, The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.

[gfcece@gmail.com](mailto:gfcece@gmail.com)

[lecetah@verizon.net](mailto:lecetah@verizon.net)

[lecetah2@gmail.com](mailto:lecetah2@gmail.com)

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## THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

### Meet the new Board members of The Girl Friends Fund!



**GF Marie Latham Bush** is a retired Toledo Public Schools administration with experience from k-12 grades including serving as elementary principal and in central

office positions. She earned her undergraduate and master's degrees from Ohio University and her Education Specialist and PhD from University of Toledo. Upon her first retirement she served as a mediator for Ohio Department of Education and adjunct professor at Bowling Green State University and University of Toledo before enjoying total retirement. She is the mother of three adult children; daughters Frenchye Bush-Harris and Theresa Bush and son, Dr. Michael Bush-Arnold. She has two grandchildren, Jordan and Aliya. GF Marie joined the Toledo Chapter in December 2011. She served as co-chair of the Toledo Conclave in 2014 and currently is chapter president. She serves on the GFF Board and Scholarship Committee because she has a great interest in providing our youth with the best and the most opportunities to help them succeed and reach their potential.



**GF Shuana Tucker-Sims** is a member of the New Haven Chapter, joining in 2011. Currently, she serves as Chapter President, previously serving as Vice President. She is a

graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana (BS), Louisiana State University (MPA) and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (PhD). GF Shuana has worked in the field of Education for over 20 years in various sectors, both private and public, and currently serves as the Chief Talent Officer for the Consolidated School District of New Britain, CT. She is married to BF John Sims and mother of one son, Evan.

As a newly elected member to the GF Fund, she serves on the Marketing/Branding and Fund Raising committees. GF Shuana believes The GFF plays a critical role in assisting students financially to pursue their dreams at institutions of higher education, thus preparing them to become competitive global citizens.



GF Cecelia B. Henderson  
PRESIDENT  
Buffalo Chapter



GF Nedra A. Starling  
SECRETARY  
Cleveland Chapter



GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
Miami Chapter



GF Cheryl Finley  
PARLIAMENTARIAN  
New York Chapter



GF Marie Latham Bush GF  
Toledo Chapter



GF Ericka Newsome-Hill  
Atlanta Chapter



GF Dari K. Ruff  
Washington Chapter



GF Barbara Lord Watkins  
Dallas Chapter



GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd  
VICE PRESIDENT  
Cleveland Chapter



GF Annette VanDevere  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
Atlanta Chapter



GF Deborah L. Perry  
TREASURER  
Pittsburgh Chapter



GF Melissa S. Archer  
Buffalo Chapter



Sonya Goldsboro  
Las Vegas Chapter



GF Joyce Ford Quick  
Buffalo Chapter



GF Shuana Tucker-Sims  
New Haven Chapter



GF Benita Shobe  
EX-OFFICIO  
President,  
The Girl Friends®, Inc.  
New York Chapter

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## THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2016-2017

\* indicates non-board member



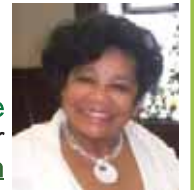
**Audit Committee**  
GF Barbara Lord Watkins, Dallas Chapter  
[blwmhw@mindspring.com](mailto:blwmhw@mindspring.com)



**Budget Committee**  
GF Deborah L. Perry, Pittsburgh Chapter  
[dperry777@gmail.com](mailto:dperry777@gmail.com)



**Communications Committee**  
GF Nedra Starling, Cleveland Chapter  
[starlin@ccf.org](mailto:starlin@ccf.org)



**Fund Raising Special Projects Committee**  
GF Joyce Ford Quick, Buffalo Chapter  
[jafq055@gmail.com](mailto:jafq055@gmail.com)



**Fund Raising Special Projects Committee  
Marketing & Branding Committee**  
GF Ann E. Walters-Pope, Miami Chapter  
[annpope.ap@gmail.com](mailto:annpope.ap@gmail.com)



**History Committee**  
\*GF Nina Jennings, Seattle Chapter  
[nina@ninafoxx.com](mailto:nina@ninafoxx.com)



**History Committee**  
\*GF Sheila Williams, Cincinnati Chapter  
[sheilaj.williams3@gmail.com](mailto:sheilaj.williams3@gmail.com)



**Hospitality Committee**  
GF Melissa S. Archer, Buffalo Chapter  
[Rn4202@yahoo.com](mailto:Rn4202@yahoo.com)



**Investment & Finance Committee**  
\*GF LaShana Broussard Morris, Durham Chapter  
[gflala@outlook.com](mailto:gflala@outlook.com)



**Legal Review Committee**  
GF LaVerne Nichols Boyd, Cleveland Chapter  
[lavboyd@aol.com](mailto:lavboyd@aol.com)



**Marketing & Branding Committee**  
GF Shuana Tucker-Sims, New Haven Chapter  
[battiste3@aol.com](mailto:battiste3@aol.com)



**Scholarship Committee**  
\*GF Fawn Robinson, Pittsburgh Chapter  
[ftrobinson@hotmail.com](mailto:ftrobinson@hotmail.com)



**Silent Auction Committee**  
GF Sonya Goldsboro, Las Vegas Chapter  
[jgolds64@gmail.com](mailto:jgolds64@gmail.com)



**Website Committee**  
\*GF Kim Savoy, Boston Chapter  
[kwsavoy@yahoo.com](mailto:kwsavoy@yahoo.com)

\* Indicates non-board member



Consider joining a Girl Friends Fund Committee!  
Contact the Committee Chair of your choice.

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*

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## THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. CHAPTER LIAISONS 2016-2017

### *Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Ambassadors*

*We have reached out to all Girl Friends®, Inc. chapter presidents to confirm and update our GFF Liaison list. We rely on our liaisons to be our conduit to their chapter and members for Girl Friend Fund news as well as the scholarship nominating process. If your GFF Liaison has changed from the one listed below please share your new liaison's name with us so that she can be recognized as a Fund Ambassador.*

Albany – Annette M. Johnson	Atlanta – Ericka Newsome Hill
Baltimore – Anissa Brown Dennis	Birmingham – Tamara Harris Johnson
Boston – Karen Holmes Ward	Brooklyn – Carole Temple Phillips
Buffalo – Lois Dabney & Diane Cadle	California – Alisa Covington & Lisa Nicholas
Charlotte – Patrice Thompson	Chicago – Jo Foster Murray
Cincinnati – Gloria Riley	Cleveland – Nedra Starling
Columbia – Jodi Gallman	Columbus – Deborah Tracy & Doreece Lattimer
Dallas – Martha W. Chiles Bedford	Detroit – Lorna Thomas
Durham – Shirley Arrington	Fairfield County – Lynne Bannister & Barbara Bellinger
Greenville – Clarissa T. Robinson	Houston – Helen Crawford
Las Vegas – Sonya Goldsboro	Loudoun County – Janice Bryant
Louisville – Carolle Jones Clay	Memphis – Ann Marie Watkins Wallace
Miami – Ann Walters-Pope	Milwaukee – Jacqueline Moore Bowles
Minn/St. Paul – Carolyn Suarez	Nashville – Adrienne P. Hinds
New Haven – Mycki Jennings	New Jersey – Krysten Hayes
New Orleans – Lynda Carroll	New York – Shannon Hales
Newport News – Jacqueline Bontemps	Norfolk – Alveta Green
Orlando – Ruby Homayassi	Philadelphia – Phoebe A. Haddon & Emily Pollard
Pittsburgh – Deborah Perry	Potomac – Leslie Simmons
Richmond – B. Stephanie Commander	Roanoke – Patricia Henry
San Diego – Cherie Enge	Seattle – Karen Shaw
Springfield – Juanita Shavers	St. Louis – Joyce Price
Toledo – Marie L. Bush	Trenton – Dorothy Harper
	Washington – Margaret Singleton

*Please update your chapter's information!*

*GF®, Inc. Chapter presidents or liaisons may send an email to GF Nedra Starling, Board Secretary, at [starlin@ccf.org](mailto:starlin@ccf.org)*

*Thank you!*

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*

*STEP UP and champion your Fund through financial contributions, volunteering on a committee and mentoring our Girl Friends Fund, Inc. scholars!*

## 2016 ANNUAL EUNICE SHREEVES SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

*Chair – GF Cheryl Finley, New York Chapter*



*The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.*

*Presents*

The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.

Annual Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon

Proceeds benefit the General Scholarship Fund



### Thank You! Thank You! Girl Friends!!

The Annual Eunice Shreeves Scholarship Luncheon in Seattle was a tremendous success because you were there! We appreciate your attendance in record numbers that made for a fun-filled time in friendship and fellowship with Girl Friends.

We saluted our GF Chapter presidents and liaisons in a parade lead by our National Girl Friends President, GF Benita Shobe.

The silent auction, chaired by GF Sonya Goldsboro, was **“off the chart”** with the largest auction success as was the sale of our new and exclusive Girl Friends Fund Signature bracelet. **“Hats off”** to GF Sonya for her tireless efforts and dedication to our mission. Kudos to GFs Joyce and Ann for spearheading the launch and sale of our newest fund raising project – our signature bracelet.

Thanks to all of you for supporting the silent auction and bracelet sale which will help to benefit our GFF scholars by providing funds to deserving academic students as they further their education. The auctions items, donated by chapters, GFF Directors, and members were extraordinary!! It goes without saying the bracelet is **ONE OF A KIND!**

My sincere gratitude to all luncheon volunteers for your assistance: whether you served at the registration table, silent auction table, gift collation, parade line-up, pre-planning guests list, copying materials, centerpieces, “runners”, donations, or whatever you contributed for its success, know that because of all your efforts the luncheon was indeed one to remember!

To the Board of Directors, my heartfelt appreciation for your dedication, encouragement, and the relationships forged as we worked together as a team. Looking forward to our continued journey as we continue to **Bring Dreams to Life!**

Friendship and love,  
GF Cheryl Finley  
2016 Luncheon Chair

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## FUND RAISING—SPECIAL PROJECTS

*Co-Chairs – GF Joyce Ford Quick, Buffalo Chapter & GF Ann E. Walters-Pope, Miami Chapter*



### *The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.*

The Girl Friends Fund announced the commissioning of a special bracelet that Girl Friends purchased and were excited to wear!

The specially commissioned bracelet was available at the Seattle GFF Luncheon and Annual Meeting, and by order form.



At The Girl Friends Fund 2016 Annual Meeting we invited you to be a part of “Bringing Dreams to Life” by adding a limited edition piece of Girl Friends Fund jewelry to your collection. This beautiful piece is a collaboration with Reeds Jewelers/Jenss Décor of Buffalo New York. Purchase price was \$30 each. The Fund receives \$10 from each purchase to support our Scholarship Fund.

**IT WAS AN UNBELIEVABLE HUGE SUCCESS, THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!  
AND FOR THAT WE ARE SO VERY GRATEFUL!**

**Bracelets are still available. Place your order today!**

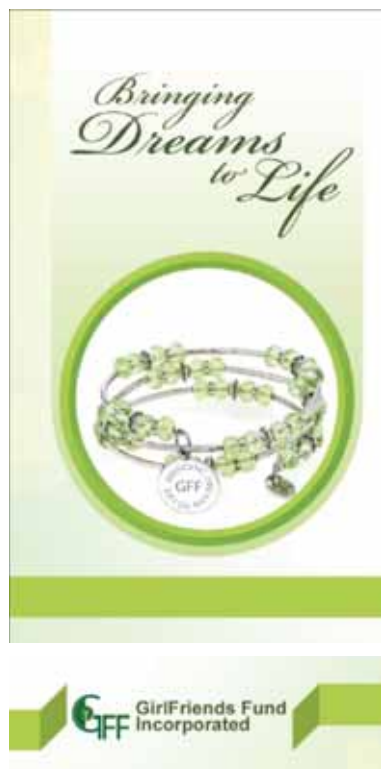
#### HERE'S HOW:

If you are interested in purchasing a bracelet to be delivered to you at The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Annual Meeting or The Girl Friends®, Incorporated Conclave, both in Puerto Rico this May, please send us your check, payable to The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. and indicate the number of bracelets you are ordering.

Checks should be sent to the GFF Financial Secretary:

**GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
15626 SW 111 Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33196**

Thank you for your support for this FABULOUS ONE OF A KIND PIECE!  
See you in Puerto Rico!



**GF Joyce Ford Quick  
Fund Raising—Special Project Co-Chair**

**GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
Fund Raising—Special Project Co-Chair**

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## SCHOLARSHIP

*Chair – GF Fawn Robinson, Pittsburgh Chapter*



**Congratulations to all of our new and returning scholars!**



### The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Class of 2020 Scholars

**Cedrica Anderson (Columbus)**

**Tyler Coleman (Pittsburgh )**

**Alexa Eason (New Haven )**

**Jabril King-Mahdi (San Diego )**

**Paula Salvant (New Jersey)**

**Curtis Tarik Staples (Roanoke )**

**Loren Carmichael (Memphis)**

**Alexis Cushshon (St. Louis )**

**J'Sharre Gamblin (Buffalo )**

**Cara Pannell (Cleveland )**

**Roxanne Saunders (Miami)**

**Mia Thompson (Louisville )**

### The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Returning Scholars

#### Class of 2017

**LaDarria Arnold (Dallas)**

**Ashley Bobbitt (New Jersey)**

**Nia Coffey (Minn/St. Paul)**

**Morgan Frances (Trenton)**

**Sydney Harper (Potomac)**

**Naima Lamb (California)**

**Jeremy Ledbetter (Roanoke)**

**Delenn Lloyd-Latif (Albany)**

**Monique McBride (Buffalo)**

**Jermain Medley (Orlando)**

**Taylor McKinnon (Boston)**

**Monique Smith (Seattle)**

**Andre Scruggs (Louisville)**

**Jasmine Terry (Cincinnati)**

**Adam Williams (Cleveland)**

**Kaila Williams (Baltimore)**

#### Class of 2018

**Christopher Adams (Seattle)**

**Tyler Ambrose (Roanoke)**

**Joslyn Barnett (Cleveland)**

**Katelyn Bynoe (Boston)**

**Annaliza Carney (Trenton)**

**Anyah Hall (Miami)**

#### Class of 2019

**Sharmar Ballard (Norfolk)**

**William Blanton (Louisville)**

**Sierra Brown (Roanoke)**

**Colasia Claxton (New Haven)**

**Jada Irving (San Diego)**

**Brielle Jackson (Cleveland)**

**Emerson Kearney (Cincinnati)**

**Tyra Searcy (St. Louis)**

**Taylor Thurmond (New Jersey)**

**Ronniko Williams (Miami)**



*Girl Friends Fund Chapter Liaisons—send us news about your scholars to include on The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. website and in The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Newsletter!*

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*

*STEP UP and champion your Fund through financial contributions, volunteering on a committee and mentoring our Girl Friends Fund, Inc. scholars!*

**THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. CLASS OF 2020 SCHOLARS**

*Girl Friend Liaisons—send us news about your scholars to include on The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. website and in the Newsletter!*



Cedrica Anderson—*Columbus Chapter*  
Eastern Michigan University  
Biomedical Engineering



Loren Carmichael—*Memphis Chapter*  
Xavier University  
Biology/ Pre-Med



Tyler Coleman—*Pittsburgh Chapter*  
Yale University  
Mathematics and Physics



Alexis Cushshon—*St. Louis Chapter*  
Kansas State University



Alexa Eason—*New Haven Chapter*  
American University



J'Sharre Gamblin—*Buffalo Chapter*  
State University of New York at Buffalo



Jabril King-Mahdi—*San Diego Chapter*  
Humboldt State University



Cara Pannell—*Cleveland Chapter*  
Case Western Reserve University



Paula Salvant—*New Jersey Chapter*  
State University of New York  
Music Education



Roxanne Saunders—*Miami Chapter*  
University of Florida  
Chemistry



Curtis Tarik Staples—*Roanoke Chapter*  
Stanford University  
Economics



Mia Thompson—*Louisville Chapter*  
University of Kentucky  
Chemical Engineering /minor in Spanish

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## 2016 SILENT AUCTION

*Chair – GF Sonya Goldsboro, Las Vegas Chapter*



The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.  
Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser  
Proceeds benefit the General Scholarship Fund



Dear Girl Friends ,

The 2016 Silent Auction held in Seattle, WA was quite exciting and was enjoyed by all who attended the GFF Luncheon. The auction raised in excess of \$6,030.00.

Featured at this auction were the exquisite works of renown blown glass artist, Robert Mitchell whose workshop and studio are in Puget Sound, WA. Six (6) pieces of his glass art work were donated by five (5) members of the GFF Board of Directors, GFs Cecelia Henderson, Casma Huie, Joyce Ford Quick, Faye Owens, and Sonya Goldsboro. A special thank you to the artist for donating two (2) of his prized artistic pieces. There were a total of eight (8) exquisite blown glass art pieces displayed for auction. GFs entering the luncheon and auction room were given a beautiful 5X7 flyer that provided a bio and picture of the artist in his workshop. A large poster of the Artist was placed on a floor easel and positioned with his art pieces.

Collectively, Girl Friends, Inc. chapters, individual members and the featured artist donated a total of 47 items for the auction. In addition, there were two money donations to the auction from the Louisville Chapter (\$500.00) and New Jersey Chapter (\$200.00) which were acknowledged during the auction by special signage placed among auction items on the auction tables.

The Auction Committee would like to thank all the chapters and individual Girl Friends that donated to the 2016 Silent Auction. Their response was phenomenal! Much gratitude and appreciation to chapters and Girl Friend members from: Albany, Atlanta, Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, California, Columbus, Cleveland, Durham, Dallas, Las Vegas, Louisville, Miami, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New Haven, New Jersey, Newport News, New York, Potomac, San Diego, Seattle, Toledo, Washington. The chapters were featured in the ever popular Entrance Parade to the music of Bruno Mars' Uptown Funk. Many thanks to members of the GFF Board of Directors for their individual donations. Thank You Notes were sent to all chapters and individuals donating to the 2016 auction. The 2016 Silent Auction Committee members are truly grateful to one and all.

Committee Members: GFs Sonya Goldsboro, (Chair), Cheryl Finley, Faye Owens, Casma Huie and Timothie Tinsley. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!!

With Girl Friendly Affection  
and Gratitude,  
GF Sonya Goldsboro  
2016 Silent Auction Chair

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**2017 SILENT AUCTION**  
**MAY 25, 2017**

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## THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND ANNUAL FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

*We are humbled by the continued outpouring of support from chapters of The Girl Friends®, Inc., members, foundations, and corporations. We encourage all chapters as well as individual Girl Friends to get involved, remain involved, and support the work of The Fund. What we do is vital to the success of our youth and positively reflects the best of who we are as Girl Friends. We are creating a legacy of “Bringing Dreams to Life” in the lives of those less fortunate and should all be very proud.*

**Thank you for your continued support and generosity!**

**THE INFORMATION BELOW WAS SENT TO ALL GIRL FRIENDS®, INC. CHAPTER PRESIDENTS  
AND GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. CHAPTER LIAISONS**

**FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE SEE DONOR FORMS ( ONE FOR GIRL FRIENDS; ONE FOR NON-GIRL FRIENDS)  
ON PAGES 13 AND 14 OF THE NEWSLETTER.**

Girl Friends,

The Girl Friends Fund, Incorporated Board of Directors is asking your assistance in our Annual Fund Raising Campaign for The Girl Friends Fund. Please consider the Girl Friends Fund (GFF) when making your tax deductible, charitable gifts. It will make the difference for a deserving young African American college student. Any amount could help the GFF make a difference in the lives of the nation's most deserving college-bound students.

**\$25** will enable a college student to purchase one USB drive for document storage;

**\$50** will pay for one humanities textbook;

**\$75** will pay for basic school supplies;

**\$100** will pay for one science or engineering textbook;

**\$150** will cover the cost of lab fees for one course;

**\$250** will earn donor membership in the Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund of The Girl Friends Fund, Inc.;

**\$500** will pay for one-semester's worth of textbooks;

**\$1,500** will fund a scholar for one year;

**\$6,000** will fund a scholar for four years.

**ANY AMOUNT** that you're able to give will help our scholars achieve their goals. Corporate sponsorships are invited at the \$10,000, \$25,000, \$50,000 and \$100,000 levels. Many corporations will match donations made by their employees. We encourage you to investigate this additional source of funding. **Donations received before April 29, 2017 will be included in the Annual Report distributed prior to The Fund's Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico.** Checks should be made payable to The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. and sent to the GFF Financial Secretary:

**GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
15626 SW 111 Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33196**

**Thank you for considering the Girl Friends Fund during this crucial time of giving.**

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*

*STEP UP and champion your Fund through financial contributions, volunteering on a committee and mentoring our Girl Friends Fund, Inc. scholars!*

## THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND ANNUAL CHAPTER & MEMBER CHALLENGE



*We are humbled by the continued outpouring of support from chapters of The Girl Friends®, Inc., members, foundations, and corporations. We encourage all chapters as well as individual Girl Friends to get involved, remain involved, and support the work of The Fund. What we do is vital to the success of our youth and positively reflects the best of who we are as Girl Friends. We are creating a legacy of “Bringing Dreams to Life” in the lives of those less fortunate and should all be very proud.*

### ***THE GIRL FRIENDS FUND, INC. CHAPTER CHALLENGE AND MEMBER CHALLENGE!***

#### **CHAPTER CHALLENGE—MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR A DESERVING YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN COLLEGE STUDENT!**

The **Chapter Challenge** is a fundraising incentive challenging all chapters to make a contribution to The Fund leading up to and beyond our Annual Meeting in May, 2017. Chapters of The Girl Friends®, Inc. that meet one or more of the following criteria will be acknowledged at our Annual Membership Meeting in May and in future Newsletters! **Donations received before April 29, 2017 will be included in the Annual Report distributed prior to The Fund’s Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico.** Complete one or more of The Girl Friends Fund **CHALLENGE to CHAPTERS of THE GIRL FRIENDS®, INC.** and show your **FUND** spirit!

- ◆ Make a chapter donation of \$500 or more!
- ◆ Become the chapter with the highest average per capita gift!
- ◆ Give the amount equal to funding a Fund Scholar for an entire year (\$1,500)!
- ◆ Be the chapter that comes closest to 100% giving by all members!

#### **MEMBER CHALLENGE—BECOME A MEMBER OF THE ESTHER C. MARIONEUX ENDOWMENT FUND!**

The **Member Challenge** asks every Girl Friend to step up and become a member of the Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund (ECM). The ECM Endowment Fund was established in 2002 under the premise that if each Girl Friend made a ONE-TIME donation of \$250, the interest would sustain scholarships. To date, there are just over 300 members of **The Fund’s Esther C. Marioneaux (ECM) Endowment Fund**, less than 20% of our membership! The fund is worth \$247K. If each and every one of our members joined by contributed \$250, the fund would increase in value by \$350K immediately, more than double the current value! It would then begin to show the kind of interest margin that GF Esther had dreamed and hoped for. Girl Friends who make an individual first time donation of \$250 or more to the ECM Endowment Fund receive The Fund’s Esther C. Marioneaux Medallion. **Donations received before April 29, 2017 will be included in the Annual Report distributed prior to The Fund’s Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico.** Enter ECM on the memo line for Esther C. Marioneaux (ECM) Endowment Fund Membership donations. Chapter and individual checks should be made payable to The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. and sent to GFF Financial Secretary:

GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
15626 SW 111 Terrace  
Miami, Florida 33196

**Thank you for your support and generosity!**

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*

*STEP UP and champion your Fund through financial contributions, volunteering on a committee and mentoring our Girl Friends Fund, Inc. scholars!*

## *The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Contribution Form*

**(For donations from members of The Girl Friends®, Inc.)**

### Donor Information (please print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*(List individual GF name above for individual donation; List Chapter name above for Chapter donation)*

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/Land \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
*(List name of Chapter President on line above if this is a Chapter donation)*

### DONATION LEVEL – PLEASE CHECK YOUR LEVEL OF GIVING

_____	\$25,000 and up	Legacy Level
_____	\$15,000 to \$24,999	Visionary Level
_____	\$10,000 to \$14,999	Dreamweaver Level
_____	\$5,000 to \$9,999	Patron Level
_____	\$1,000 to \$4,999	Benefactor Level
_____	\$250 to \$999	Partner Level
_____	\$25 to \$249	Friend Level

### DONATION DESIGNATION

\_\_\_\_\_ General Scholarship Fund (no specific category)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Esther C. Marioneaux Endowment Fund (\$250 Minimum donation required for recognition at Conclave)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Other Named Fund (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

### DONATION CATEGORY – IF APPLICABLE

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of (First Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is this person a member of The Girl Friends®. Inc.      YES      NO  
 If YES please indicate their Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of (First Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is this person a member of The Girl Friends®. Inc.      YES      NO  
 If YES please indicate their Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. and enclose with this completed form. Please enclose any additional forms you may require. Confirmation of your tax deductible donation will be sent to your address stated above.

Mail completed form and check to the GFF Financial Secretary:    GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
 15626 SW 111 Terrace  
 Miami, Florida 33196

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For GFF use only:    *Date donation received* \_\_\_\_\_    *Date confirmation sent* \_\_\_\_\_  
 GFF donor form (for members of The Girl Friends®. Inc. ) – Permission granted to duplicate this form as needed.

*All Girl Friends are members of the Girl Friends Fund, Inc.!*  
**STEP UP and champion your Fund through financial contributions, volunteering on a committee and mentoring our Girl Friends Fund, Inc. scholars!**

***The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. Contribution Form***  
**(For donations from Non-Girl Friends, Corporations and Organizations)**

**Donor Information** *(Please print)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number/Land \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number/Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Donation solicited by Girl Friend \_\_\_\_\_

Their Girl Friends®. Inc. Chapter (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION LEVEL – PLEASE CHECK YOUR LEVEL OF GIVING**

_____	\$25,000 and up	Legacy Level
_____	\$15,000 to \$24,999	Visionary Level
_____	\$10,000 to \$14,999	Dreamweaver Level
_____	\$5,000 to \$9,999	Patron Level
_____	\$1,000 to \$4,999	Benefactor Level
_____	\$250 to \$999	Partner Level
_____	\$25 to \$249	Friend Level

**DONATION CATEGORY – (PLEASE CHECK ONE)**

\_\_\_\_\_ General Scholarship Fund (no specific category)

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of (First Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this person a member of The Girl Friends®. Inc.      YES      NO

If YES please indicate their Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of (First Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this person a member of The Girl Friends®. Inc.      YES      NO

If YES please indicate their Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to The Girl Friends Fund, Inc. and enclose with this completed form. Enclose any additional forms required by you/your organization. Confirmation of your tax deductible donation will be sent to your address above.

Mall completed form and check to the GFF Financial Secretary:    GF Ann E. Walters-Pope  
 15626 SW 111 Terrace  
 Miami, Florida 33196

For GFF use only:    *Date donation received* \_\_\_\_\_    *Date confirmation sent* \_\_\_\_\_  
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