



Pathway Newsletter

April 2026 Edition

Dear Friends of Avenue Scholars,

April has given us so much to celebrate!

Earlier this month, at our New Scholar Celebrations, we officially welcomed the newest cohort of Scholars into our program. At three welcome events, I had the privilege of speaking to 325 motivated high school sophomores who are just beginning to imagine what their futures could look like.

I shared with them a bit of advice that many of us don't fully understand until we're well into our careers: You don't have to have it all figured out right away. What matters is being willing to take the next step – to take ownership of your future, explore, try new things, and, above all, make the effort.

It's a philosophy that's woven into every piece of our work here at Avenue Scholars, which was on full display earlier this month during our third annual Avenue Scholars Day. I'm so grateful to all of you who lent your voices and your dollars to support our program!

As the school year winds down, summer gives all of us – our Scholars, Coaches, staff, and community supporters like you – a chance to step back, imagine what's possible, and take the steps toward making it real. I look forward to taking them with you.

With Gratitude,

Lindsay Decker
CEO



MISSION MOMENT

Welcoming Our Newest Scholars

'What matters is that you're willing to explore.'



This month, we hosted three New Scholar Celebrations to officially welcome 325 new Scholars to our program! We had the opportunity to celebrate alongside their friends, family, and school administrators and share how we'll help them chart a course to a successful future over the next few years.

Our CEO Lindsay Decker summed it up nicely: "At 15 or 16, it can feel like everyone is asking you 'What do you want to do with your life?' And, if you're being honest, most of you are probably thinking 'I don't know.' And that's completely normal," she said. "You're not supposed to have it all figured out right now. What matters is that you're willing to explore."

We can't wait to see where their journey takes them!

[Read More on Our Blog](#)

Avenue Scholars Day Recap

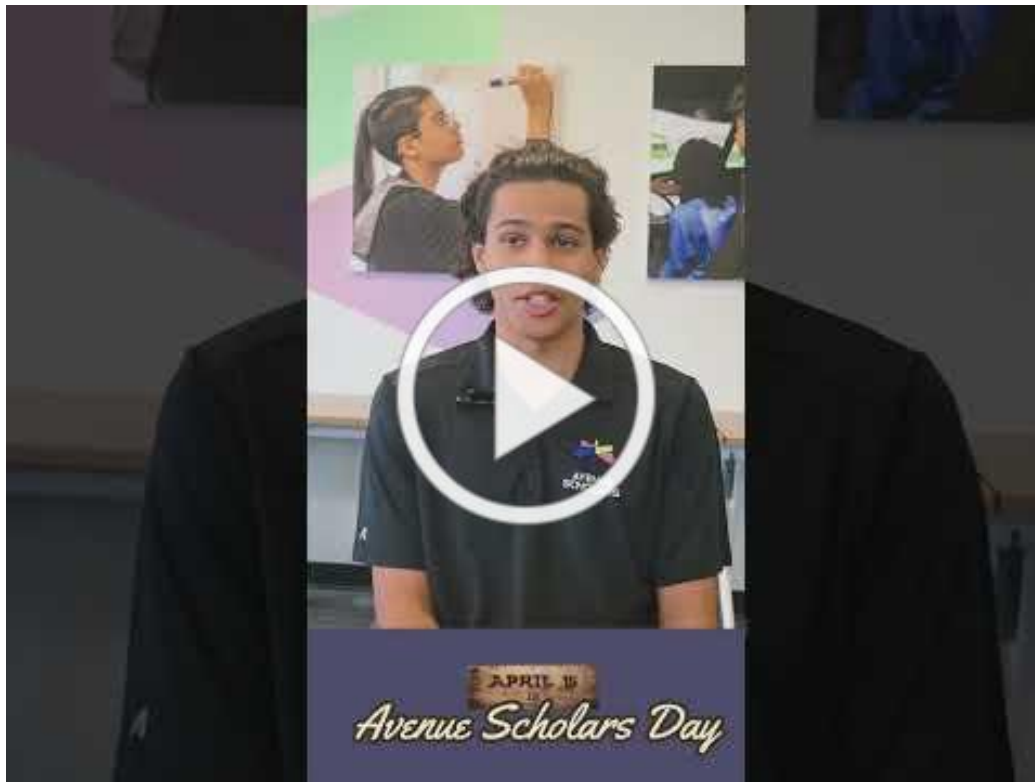
Thank You for Your Support!

For our third annual Avenue Scholars Day this year, we put the spotlight on our summer Boot Camps. Your support for the Boot Camp program will help prepare Scholars for future internships and long-term careers as they spend the month of June learning real-world, transferable skills (and get paid for the experience!)

We look forward to sharing their progress this summer, as Scholars train in the industry of their choice and discover what those careers are really like. If you haven't seen it already,

watch this video to hear Scholars share their favorite experiences from last year's Boot Camp.

We're so grateful for your support!



Scholar Spotlight

Marissa O., Educator

Scholar Spotlight: Marissa O.



Marissa recently completed her Liberal Arts Transfer Associate Degree at Metropolitan Community College, finishing with a stellar cumulative GPA!

Marissa has a passion for teaching, especially working with children who have additional academic, emotional, and social needs. Within the next two years, she plans to complete a degree in elementary education and reach her goal of becoming an elementary special education teacher.

Marissa currently serves as a childcare assistant with Ralston Public Schools' Lil' Rams program. She frequently tells us about the joy and happiness the children there bring to her day, reminding her of the value of having committed and positive role models in the classroom.

We're so proud of Marissa's academic, professional, and personal growth during her time with Avenue Scholars. We can't wait to see her excel in her teaching career and continue to inspire, instruct, and lead Omaha's youth.



STAY CONNECTED

Almost Two Decades of Impact

For 18 years, Avenue Scholars has helped young people move from classrooms to careers with the real-world skills that employers need. This work is powered by community support.

You can keep up with our Scholars' success on social media. Click the links below to follow us across our platforms.

You can also **visit our blog** to read about how your support creates a meaningful impact in the lives of our Scholars. Click below to make an online gift to our mission.

Support Our Work

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