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To learn more about all the exciting happenings at Breakthrough, please visit our new website at breakthroughctx.org.

To RSVP for one or more Experience Breakthrough events, contact Emma Roddy at emma@breakthroughctx.org.
Dear Friends of Breakthrough,

We talk a lot about growth at Breakthrough. Our growing number of students, staff, and supporters is always front of mind. We even have the privilege of watching our students grow from 12-year-old middle school students to college graduates embarking on a career. We witness their transformation from adolescents to well-spoken, hardworking, and caring young adults. Our experience in watching this transformation over and over again reinforces our belief in something called growth mindset - an understanding that intelligence and ability can be developed through dedication and hard work. Though our students aren’t ready for college and career as 6th graders, if we give them the right opportunity to learn and reinforce their innate desire to grow, they can and will get there.

It’s a powerful mindset and one that infuses our entire organization. We think critically about our work with students and look for ways to serve even more. To that end, we launched a growth campaign in March to expand to serve an additional 600 students by 2018. I encourage you to grow with us, to stretch your giving and break down the barriers that stand in their way of a college education.

To learn more about our Major Breakthrough: Breaking Barriers Growth Campaign, please contact Holly Wissman at 512.692.9444 or holly@breakthroughaustin.org. Thank you for helping us create a legacy of opportunity for our growing community.

With gratitude,

Michael Griffith

BRIGHT FUTURES FOR OUR NEW GRADUATES

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES PREPARE FOR COLLEGE

In 2011, a class of fifty-five sixth graders walked through the doors of Breakthrough and made a 12-year commitment to their education. These 6th graders have now officially graduated high school and have collectively received 157 college acceptances to 43 distinct colleges and universities.

High school graduation is the first of many milestones for our students.

CELEBRATING FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE GRADUATES

On May 21, more than 100 members of the Breakthrough community gathered at Headliners Club in Downtown Austin to celebrate a group of 2017 Breakthrough graduates. These graduates have achieved their dream of a college education and are not embarking on promising careers or continuing on to graduate school. To date, Breakthrough has helped 93 students become the first in their families to graduate from college.

LET’S TALK!
WE WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER

Over the next six months, Breakthrough leadership will be reaching out to a sampling of Breakthrough friends and supporters, just like you, to learn more about you, why you support our programs, and what you hope for the future of the organization and our students.

If you are willing to visit with us about Breakthrough, please let us know at letstalk@breakthroughctx.org today!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ayelet Ronen, Former 3X Breakthrough Summer Teaching Fellow & Current Monthly Donor

I got involved with Breakthrough to give back to my community, but as it turned out, Breakthrough gave back to me tenfold.

Along with my three summers as a math teacher, Breakthrough gave me the opportunity to tutor students after school during the year, teach an ACT/SAT prep course on weekends, and create, execute, and evaluate a study habits curriculum for my senior thesis. If that wasn’t enough, Breakthrough staff helped me apply to and get accepted to a Master’s program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and land my dream job at WGBH, Boston’s PBS station. I know many of Breakthrough’s students wouldn’t be where they are today without the generosity of Breakthrough donors and the tireless efforts of the Breakthrough staff, and neither would I. For these reasons (and, frankly, out of homesickness for my Breakthrough family) I donate to Breakthrough every month. It’s super easy and I am able to give more by giving a little each month.

Breakthrough Spotlight
A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Special thanks to our event chairs, Susan and Charlie Avant, and event speakers, Breakthrough high school student Natalie and Breakthrough student-parent duo Yasmin and Shelly, for sharing their inspirational journeys of defying adversity to pursue their dreams of a college education and a better life. The event’s success was due in great part to three supporters and event speakers, Breakthrough high school student Natalie and Breakthrough student-parent duo Yasmin and Shelly, for sharing their inspirational journeys of defying adversity to pursue their dreams of a college education and a better life. The event’s success was due in great part to three supporters who inspired record level giving. The Weber Family Foundation and the Topfer Family Foundation generously matched $100,000 in donations made in support of the Champions Celebration. And a very special thank you to Breakthrough’s “super fan” and event emcee, Mike Aviles, who along with his wife Aileen, underwrote this year’s Champions Celebration.

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View more photos at breakthroughctx.org/champions2017.

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