



**Hartford Foundation**  
FOR PUBLIC GIVING

*Greater  
Hartford's  
community  
foundation  
since 1925*

## Greater Futures Scholarship Fund



### Introducing the Greater Futures Scholarship Fund

In our 100 year history, much of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's work has focused on creating opportunities for young people.

Today, a **student debt crisis** across the U.S. is holding young people back from achieving their dreams:

- College tuition has tripled in 50 years.
- Student loan debt has doubled in the last two decades.
- Four years after college, graduates with federal student loans owe an average of \$45,000.
- 81% of borrowers postpone homeownership, retirement, and other goals due to loan repayment.

Since 1945, our scholarship program has awarded nearly \$30 million to local students. While our annual \$3,000 award provided vital support, with today's tuition costs, we knew that amount was simply insufficient.

That's why we are launching the **Greater Futures Scholarship Fund**. This first-of-its-kind program, developed in partnership with Hartford Promise, will award **up to \$100,000 for all Hartford Promise Scholars**. Any four-year Hartford Public Schools student with a 3.0 GPA and 93% attendance will be eligible.

The program begins this year with more than **110 students from the Class of 2025**. In coming years, we plan to expand to nearly 500 students annually.

The scale of this initiative is unlike any other program of its kind in the U.S., and we believe it will have a transformative effect on our community. [Learn more about the scholarship program.](#)

Watch the reactions as Hartford students and their parents learn about their new scholarship for the first time:



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## Our Centennial Kickoff Event

The announcement of the **Greater Futures Scholarship Fund** occurred during our Centennial Kickoff event on April 10 at the Bushnell. More than 500 Greater Hartford residents gathered for an evening of conversation, food, and live performances, culminating in the reveal of the new scholarship program. Below are some photos from the event.

[Watch videos of the program, including a speech by Hartford Mayor Arunan Arulampalam and a performance by poet Nadia Sims.](#)





*Photos by Defining Studios*

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## In the News

More on the Greater Futures Scholarship Fund:

***Hartford Courant:*** [These CT students will receive up to \\$100,000 for college](#)

**WFSB Channel 3:** [CT '25 interview with Jay Williams and Hartford student Yavi Cartagena](#)

**FOX 61:** [Hartford Foundation to support qualifying city students with up to \\$100,000 each](#)

***New Haven Register.*** [Nonprofits team up to provide Hartford students with scholarship for higher education](#)

**Patch:** [Massive scholarship opportunity for Hartford students unveiled](#)

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## Hartford Promise

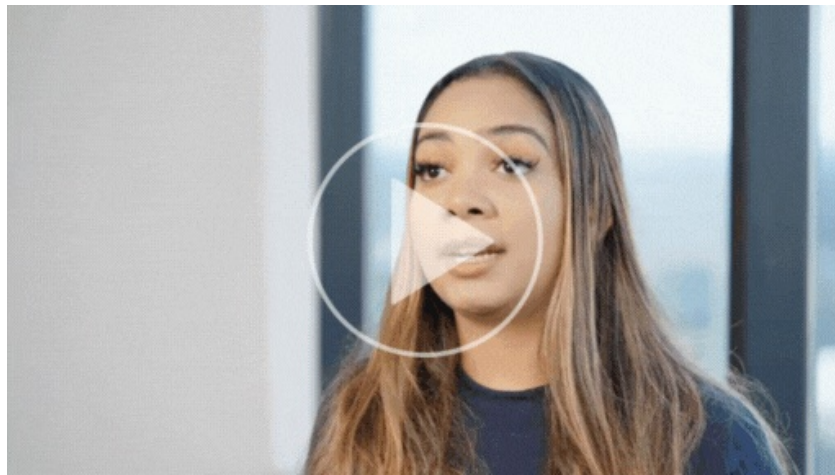
In its 10 years of existence, [Hartford Promise](#) has supported more than 1,100 scholars:

- 76% choose Connecticut schools.
- 76% graduate from college compared to 47% of Pell-eligible students nationwide.
- 50% of Promise Scholars have a college GPA greater than 3.0.

And it's more than scholarships - **Hartford Promise offers valuable wraparound supports** to students throughout high school and college and into their careers, helping those scholars navigate the various challenges they face along the way.

Their impact on Hartford Public Schools students over the past decade has been remarkable, and we're proud to partner with them on this program.

Hear from Hartford Promise Scholars about how the organization helped them succeed:



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### What Does This Mean for Greater Hartford?

We hope that you're as excited about this new program as we are. The \$100,000 scholarship presents a greater future for the scholars and their families — but we believe it can also be transformative for our region.

This scholarship will **allow some of the most talented young people in our community to pursue their dreams** with a pathway to debt-free higher education. Lessening the burden of student debt will expand the set of choices these scholars have after they graduate:

- to come back to our region and contribute to our community.
- to choose a career path that aligns with their passions.
- to start families and buy homes far sooner than they might otherwise.

As we celebrate our 100th year, we hope this project will plant the seeds for the next generation.





*Hartford Promise Scholar Nariyah and her mom, Sasha, as they learn the news about their new \$100,000 scholarship during our Centennial Kickoff event (Photo by Defining Studios)*

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## Thank You to Our Donors!

The Greater Futures Scholarship Fund was seeded with an initial \$20 million dollars from our endowment, made possible by scholarship donors over the past several decades. We've also received many new donations to the fund in the last six months from individuals and families with a strong connection to our region. In addition, we had six corporate donors: **Bank of America, CVS Health / Aetna, Fairview Capital Partners, The Hartford, Liberty Bank Foundation, and Travelers.** These initial investments represent an entire region coming together to support an important cause. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the fund so far — your generosity will help create a greater future for hundreds of local students!

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## Why We Give

We live in a region filled with generous people. At two recent events for our [Greater Together Community Funds](#), we set up a camera and asked people why they choose to give back to their community. Watch the video below to hear their responses.



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We will be sharing much more about the **Greater Futures Scholarship Fund** on social in the coming weeks:



Visit our website: [hfpg.org](https://hfpg.org)  
Questions? Email [hartfordfoundation@hfpg.org](mailto:hartfordfoundation@hfpg.org).



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