

Supporting Education for Maya Students since 1992

June 2022

Dear Friends:

This year marks our 30th Anniversary as a nonprofit organization! To celebrate this milestone and to continue helping more Maya students, we announced our 30th Anniversary Campaign earlier this year, with the objective to raise funds for 30 new scholarships for Maya university students. To date, this effort has resulted in securing funds for 16 Maya students. The cost to support a student for a year is \$2,500. With additional generous contributions we hope to achieve the campaign goal by year end.

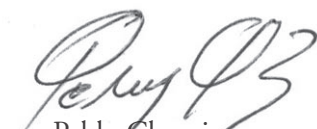
With the COVID-19 pandemic still severely weakening educational institutions, coupled with a worsening economic situation affecting the lives of indigenous families in Guatemala, Mexico, and Belize, many students make the difficult decision to drop out of school in order to work and help to support their families. The scholarship students we serve are also facing emotional, social, financial, and academic challenges but, thankfully, a majority of them are making steady progress in achieving their academic goals. The perseverance of these students is due to their strong commitment and motivation to go after their dreams as well as to the generous support of our donors. It is also in large part due to the solid guidance the students receive from the program supervisors like Jacquelyn Sincal in Guatemala, Jorge Gutiérrez in Chiapas, and Pablo Mis in Belize. They counsel and motivate the students throughout the year, especially during challenging times. We are very thankful for their diligent and excellent efforts.

We are also grateful to our friends at Mayan Hands, especially Brenda Rosenbaum and Anne Kelly, for making it possible for MEF students to transfer from our partner Maya Traditions over into their scholarship program for 2022 and to retain their experienced student supervisor Marisol Morales. We are glad to thus honor the legacy of Jane and Murray Mintz. When Murray passed away unexpectedly in December 2021, it made us all work together to have this transition succeed, as he had hoped for when he had started to wind down Maya Traditions' operations. We wish to commend Armando Alfonzo, board member of the Daniele Agostino Derossi Foundation, for his strong commitment to continue educational support to the younger-age Maya Traditions students.

Finally, we would like to mention Norma Subuyuj, a former scholarship recipient and business graduate who helps us to promote MEF in our social media channels and also manages her own business. Norma was recently chosen by the U.S. State Department among 1,800 applicants from 37 countries, as one of the 280 best and brightest emerging entrepreneurs and business leaders to participate in an intensive leadership development program in the United States. Congratulations Norma! (See Norma and other MEF students on page 2).

We thank every one of our supporters for making such success stories possible. We wish you a healthy and good summer and ask you to please consider sending a midyear contribution. It will help us to support the Maya students in Guatemala, Mexico, and Belize.

Thank you!



Pablo Chavajay
President



Elisabeth S. Nicholson
Executive Director

Some of MEF's amazing students and graduates in Guatemala



Business graduate Norma in her store



International Relations major Dilsia graduating



Nursing student Sofia doing community work



Canel, with the Amigos de Santa Cruz program, studying to be a teacher



Please visit, like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram and LinkedIn.



Consider becoming a regular monthly donor and support MEF students like these.

See videos and student testimonials at www.mayaedufound.org



Thank you!

