

SCHOLAR

A PUBLICATION OF
THE ALBERT BAKER FUND

A Message

from CEO Alan Bashor

Looking Deeper

Christian Science helps us see that our real need is not just for more money. Our real need is to glimpse more of the spiritual supply that constantly flows to us from the one source of all ideas, God, divine Mind. Mary Baker Eddy reassures us that, "God gives you His spiritual ideas, and in turn, they give you daily supplies." (*Miscellaneous Writings 307:1-2*)

We at The Albert Baker Fund welcome the opportunity to participate in your demonstration of supply. Email us at programs@albertbakerfund.org or call Cari LaZansky at 800 269-0388.

Now Funding High School

In response to requests from the Christian Science community, the ABF Board of Directors approved a two-year pilot program to fund loans and grants for private high school students in the United States and Canada. The purpose of this program is to help meet special needs or talents of students that might not be met in traditional public school settings. We are now accepting applications for the 2009-10 school year. You'll find one on our website.

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Pouring Out Blessings

...I will... open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

—MALACHI 3:10

Unexpected Financial Challenges? The Albert Baker Fund Can Help Mid-year!

Do you know a college student who may be facing an unexpected financial challenge? The Albert Baker Fund can provide financial assistance at any time during the school year and can do so quickly! In order to support Christian Science students whose circumstances may have temporarily changed due to the current economy, The Albert Baker fund stands ready to help.

We've increased the amounts on our financial aid packages and will now accept mid-year requests for additional aid due to special circumstances.

Is your student already receiving aid approved last summer? We may be able to increase that award to help with spring quarter or summer school tuition and expenses.

Did your student miss the application window for the current school year or have you just learned about The Albert Baker fund's loan and grant programs? No worries. Apply now, and we may be able to help now, as well as next year.

Unsure if your circumstances qualify for extra help? The Albert Baker Fund joyously helps earnest students of Christian Science attain their educational goals. Give our program manager a call to talk confidentially about your situation.

A Family's Gratitude

When the state of the economy first became apparent to our board late last year, The Albert Baker fund decided to contact every one of our loan and grant recipients to see if we could help meet unexpected needs. Within a few weeks we were able to increase the financial aid awards of fourteen very grateful students. We share one family's gratitude and prayerful journey here.

“With all of us taking the human footsteps and doing prayerful work, we have overcome in the most amazing ways. The Albert Baker Fund has been a Godsend to our family!”

— CHRIS AND BRIAN PAPPAS, Florida



JACQUELINE AND WILL PAPPAS
Students at Principia College

Headed Straight for the Summit!

When 200 young Christian Scientists converged on Oregon in early April for TMC Youth's Northwest Spiritual Activist Summit, The Albert Baker Fund was there to help with transportation. After arriving in Portland, eight Albert Baker Fund rental vans carried travelers to Timberline Lodge near the top of Mt. Hood.

"We Can Only Say 'Thank You' to The Albert Baker Fund..."

"Having the vans made a huge difference to our planning committee and the success of the Summit," said Shelly Richardson,

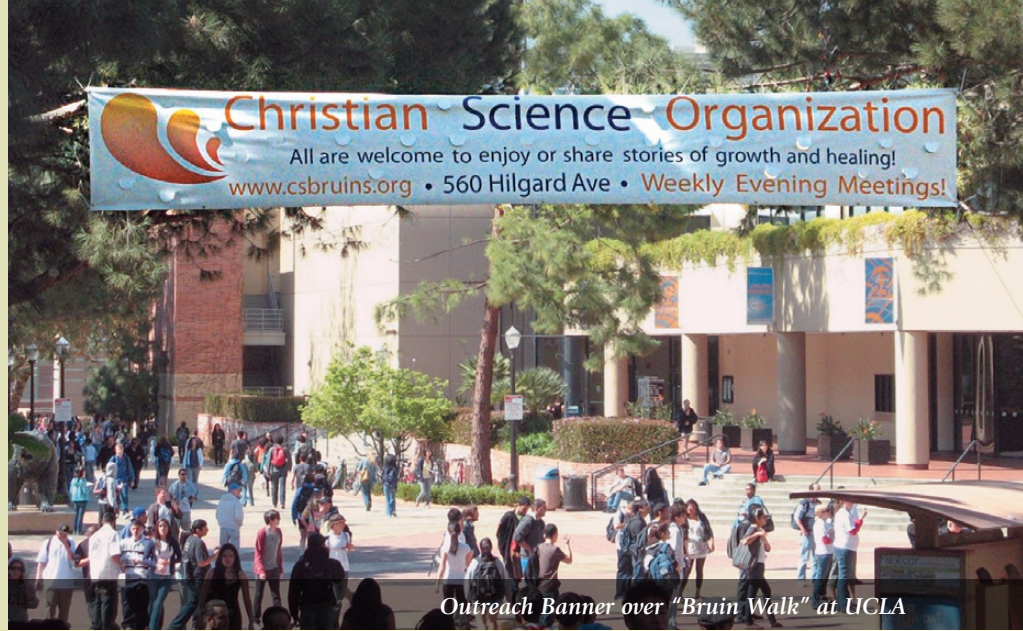
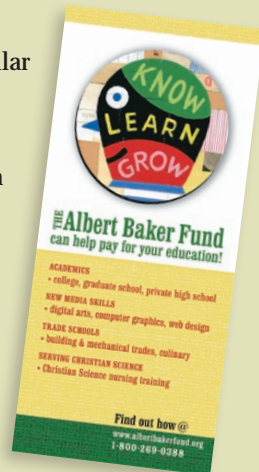


of Eugene, Oregon, who chaired the committee of volunteers drawn from nine Christian Science churches across four northwestern states.

"Knowing that the transportation was paid gave us the confidence to take on the somewhat challenging yet inspiring venue of Mt. Hood. Attendees could board The Albert Baker Fund vans without any concern for navigating mountain roads or uncertain weather conditions. We can only say 'thank you' to The Albert Baker fund for making this possible."

While riding on the vans, attendees could pick up information about the different types of educational programs that The Albert Baker Fund supports.

ABF will provide similar financial support for TMC Youth Summits that will take place in Potasi, Missouri, in May; and in Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Kenya, over the summer.



Outreach Banner over "Bruin Walk" at UCLA

College Students Link Up, Share Christian Science

in ABF funded intern program for The Mother Church

Christian Science youth on college campuses are thinking of fresh, new ways to share Christian Science and The Albert Baker Fund (ABF) is there to help make it possible.

In a new program begun in January, The Mother Church's youth department, TMC Youth, has selected six active members of Christian Science Organizations (CSOs) to mentor and connect with fellow students at CSOs across the country. The whole idea is to support and learn from each other in their mission to share Christian Science on their college campuses.

"This is a fantastic program because students are helping students, said Ariana Herlinger, TMC Youth's manager of CSOs and Interns. "We have a very solid, dedicated, group of interns who are finding creative, new ways to bring the light of Christian Science to their college communities. We are grateful to The Albert Baker Fund for funding this program so that we can acknowledge the commitment our interns are making to this important work."

Interns commit a significant amount of time and effort to this role so TMC Youth asked ABF to provide each student with a \$6,000 grant paid directly to their college to defray tuition and housing expenses. The grant is in addition to any other financial aid students might have received from the Fund.

"Sponsoring the stipends for The Mother Church's CSO intern program is a perfect fit for The Albert Baker Fund," said CEO Alan Bashor. "We are able to provide additional financial support for college students who are active Christian Scientists, and in some small way, we are contributing to the healing purpose of Christian Science Organizations on their campuses."

Hear from our CSO Interns

...on sharing Christian Science

The most surprising thing that has happened to me by being a part of this program is that I think about sharing Christian Science so much more than I did before. When I see someone else in a situation, I think about what ideas I would share. This has helped me to want to see everyone as God made him (or her) and not simply accepting whatever the material picture seems to present.

—MELISSA WORKMAN, College of William & Mary

You never know when you'll bump into someone who was raised in Christian Science and is now on the fence about it. It came up in a conversation with someone that I'm a Christian Scientist. My friend said she'd attended Sunday School as a child but no longer practiced—though I could tell there's definitely still interest in Christian Science. I'm glad that, in that moment, I was willing to say that I'm a Christian Scientist.

—ROGER GORDON, Smith College

...on connecting with peers

Connecting with Christian Science peers all over the country has opened my eyes to all the CSOs that there are nationwide and the effort that people are putting into making sure that a campus has a CSO. It lets me know that I am not alone. I think I have grown from this experience in that I feel more inspired about our CSO knowing that there are people all over the country trying to do the same thing that I am.

—MARSHALL THOMAS, UC, Los Angeles

This internship has encouraged me to be a more active participant with fellow CSOs and the Christian Science community. I have found it very helpful to share ideas with the other interns and to hear about the work that they are doing for their own CSOs—it's very inspiring!

—CAITLIN HOLLAND, Univ. of Puget Sound

How CSOs Reach Out on Campus

- By becoming an official, recognized club with a voice on campus
- By taking part in interfaith panels planned by other religious clubs
- By advertising CSO meetings by displaying a very large, very visible banner in the middle of campus
- By planning a regional meeting for CSOs focusing on how to address atheism in academia
- By offering a Christian Science lecture targeted to current student needs, e.g. "Finding Your Niche in a Dwindling Job Market"
- By inviting high school students to attend regional CSO activities

Meet Our CSO Interns

