



Significant Growth in Financial Aid for 2014

April 2, 2015

Last year, the Metrolina Phoenician Club witnessed a significant growth in membership and it was reflected in the amount of financial aid the club was able to provide to nonprofit organizations, as well as the amount of scholarships the club was able to award. Altogether, \$15,500 was distributed in financial aid and that makes 2014 the club's most successful year to date!

The MPC recently announced the dispersal of \$8,660 in donations to seven nonprofit organizations. Most of these funds – \$7,000 to be exact – went to five charities that the club supports annually, thereby representing our pledged contributions for 2014. (The \$1,660 difference was given by the Young Adults Committee to two nonprofit organizations within the 2015 fiscal year.) The dispersal of the \$7,000 in financial aid brings the total charitable donations for 2014 to \$8,000, having presented \$1,000 in November to the local chapter of the Palestinian Children's Relief Fund (PCRF).

The vast majority of the money that is donated to charities is raised at our fundraising events, most notably the annual haffleh that takes place in the fall. On the other hand, the club's Scholarship Fund is funded by generous donors from within the community. In 2014, thanks to these benefactors, the club awarded a total of \$7,000 in scholarships to four young members who are now college freshmen. Three of them also received scholarships totaling \$3,000 from the Southern Federation of Syrian Lebanese American Cubs (SFSLAC), an umbrella organization that we are pleased to belong to. Aside from paying annual membership fees to the SFSLAC, the MPC contributes \$500 annually to its scholarship fund.

This year we are off to a good start, having already dispersed \$1,660 in donations to two nonprofit organizations, plus \$3,200 to the Moise A. Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies. The latter was used to co-sponsor the opening reception of Cedars in the Pines, an exhibition about the Lebanese immigration to North Carolina. The exhibit is currently on display at the Levine Museum of the New South and runs until August 2015. We encourage our

members who haven't already seen it to take families and friends to watch it and learn about the history of the Lebanese presence in this great state of ours.

The MPC is committed to preserving our cultural heritage for generations to come and we thank everyone who has supported our club by paying the membership dues and by attending our fundraising activities. You make it possible for us to support nonprofit organizations that do invaluable work helping the underprivileged. We also thank our members who have donated to the club's Scholarship Fund so that our young adults have a chance at a good future.

It's never too late to get involved. If you would like to become a member or contribute to the scholarship fund, simply go to our website and learn how. www.phoenicianclub.org

2014 CHARITABLE DONATIONS & SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Total Donations to Nonprofit Organizations: \$8,500

- Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon: \$2,000
- Creche St. Vincent de Paul: \$1,500
- The Lebanese Society for the Blind & Deaf: \$1,500
- Safe Alliance: \$1,000
- Smile Train: \$1,000
- Palestinian Children's Relief Fund (PCRF): \$1,000
- SFSLAC Scholarship Fund: \$500

Total MPC Scholarships Awarded: \$7,000

- Christine Yateem: \$2,000
- Justina Sedhom: \$2,000
- Andrew Karam: \$1,500
- Laila Itani: \$1,500

Total SFSLAC Scholarships Awarded: \$3,000

- Christine Yateem: \$1,000
- Andrew Karam: \$1,500
- Laila Itani: \$500

CHARITABLE DONATIONS & FINANCIAL SUPPORT: January - March 2015

- Basmeh & Zeitooneh: \$1,030 **Donation by MPC Young Adults**
- Project Refugee Smiles (Syrian Dental Relief): \$630 **Donation by MPC Young Adults**
- Financial support for Cedars in the Pine museum exhibition: \$3,200