

Contact Information

Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund

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‘Uplifting Tomorrow’s Leaders’ - Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund featured on Wintrust Mural Building

[An opportunity awarded by Wintrust Financial Corporation for DMSF to artistically share its impact]

[CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, November] – The Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund (DMSF) is proud to announce the display of the “Uplifting Tomorrow’s Leaders” artwork that is featured on the Wintrust Mural Building. Located alongside one of the busiest highways in the United States, the Kennedy Expressway, the DMSF mural will be visible to thousands of Chicagoland commuters from November 16th through December 31st.

Thanks to the generous donation from Wintrust Financial Corporation, DMSF commissioned Karen Spears, creative entrepreneur and designer, and an alumna of DMSF, to lead the design of the mural.

Wintrust has been highlighting their partner nonprofit organizations with this mural space for over seven years, with more than 49 organizations represented, holding the mural space for roughly six weeks at a time. Framing the city skyline off of I-90, the building offers three panels of billboard space made up of about 1,500 pounds of vinyl mesh, allowing an organization to creatively display its narrative and mission for all +500,000 daily commuters to see. Wintrust Founder and CEO Ed Wehmer said, "As Chicago’s bank, Wintrust was built in this area, for this area. For more than 30 years we have proudly gone above and beyond providing banking solutions to make sure we help strengthen the communities we serve. We believe in supporting organizations such as the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund because their mission aligns with our values. We are thrilled to join them in expanding educational access and opportunities for young people with big dreams and high potential."

DMSF commissioned Karen Spears, creative entrepreneur and Founder of Kareacter Creative Studio, DMSF scholarship recipient to Mother McAuley as a member of the Class of 2013. With Karen’s appreciation of hand-lettering, vibrant colors, and combining abstract shapes to tell a larger story, she led DMSF through a unique journey reflecting on their impact on peoples’ lives. The design is a nod to those who DMSF serves: young people with big dreams and high potential to do great things, taking charge of their lives to pursue a rigorous education. DMSF is ever present to uplift them on that journey. Cindy Hallums, Executive Director of DMSF, shares, "We are honored to

be able to share the awesome work of DMSF with the larger Chicago community and feature the beautiful artistry of Karen. I have had the pleasure of knowing Karen since she was a Scholar and it has been a true pleasure to watch her grow into the leader she is today."

About the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund

The mission of the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund is to give high school scholarship assistance and educational support to Chicagoland students from under-resourced neighborhoods. Today, DMSF serves 500 Scholars and is able to offer 150 new scholarships to 8th grade students each year. Those students are attending roughly 40 different parochial and independent day schools in the Chicago area, as well as 40 boarding schools from coast to coast. DMSF has awarded scholarships to thousands of Scholars to allow them to attend college preparatory high schools. The median family annual income of Murphy families is currently \$37,800, and nearly 70% of the Scholars are first-generation students, the first in their families to graduate college. DMSF has been serving Chicago and surrounding neighborhoods for nearly 35 years and continues to carry its mission forward thanks to the supporters, staff, volunteer leadership and high-achieving Murphy Scholars.

For more information on DMSF's impact in the community and ways to get involved, please visit DMSF's website at www.dmsf.org or follow **@MurphyScholars** on [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).

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