# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Including Independent Auditors' Report

As of and For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Independent Auditors' Report	1 - 2
Statements of Financial Position	3
Statements of Activities	4
Statements of Cash Flows	5
Notes to Financial Statements	6 - 20
Supplementary Information	
Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund - Schedule of Financial Position	21
Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund - Schedule of Activities	22
Schedule of Functional Expenses	23



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees Scholarship America, Inc.

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Scholarship America, Inc. ("Scholarship America"), which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related statements of activities and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Scholarship America as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Other Matter

Report on Supplementary Information

Baker Tilly Virchaw Krause, 42P

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplementary information included in pages 21 through 23 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

May 25, 2017

#### STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION As of December 31, 2016 and 2015

ASSETS	2016	2015
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,581,332	\$ 9,092,872
Accounts, interest and other receivables, net	1,833,252	1,849,043
Contributions receivable, net	1,324,374	1,248,517
Prepaid expenses and other assets	385,887	384,626
Total current assets	21,124,845	12,575,058
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE, less current portion, net	623,238	1,111,489
INVESTMENTS	112,343,212	118,862,820
CASH SURRENDER VALUE OF LIFE INSURANCE	250,116	252,697
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Land	329,436	329,436
Building and improvements Furniture and equipment	5,360,026 4,278,332	5,360,026 4,191,800
i umiture and equipment	9,967,794	9,881,262
Less accumulated depreciation	(7,531,596)	(7,146,887)
Property and equipment, net	2,436,198	2,734,375
INTANGIBLE ASSETS	2,069,062	2,069,062
Less accumulated amortization	(703,407)	(499,849)
Intangible assets, net	1,365,655	1,569,213
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 138,143,264	\$ 137,105,652
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 579,194	
Accrued and other deferred liabilities	754,631	808,862
Current portion of long-term debt Scholarships payable	168,191 10,172,296	165,460 9,373,743
Refundable deposits	31,197,578	25,600,793
Total Current Liabilities	42,871,890	36,603,319
LONG-TERM DEBT	604,113	772,285
Total Liabilities	43,476,003	37,375,604
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Designated for endowment	303,929	302,834
Undesignated	6,469,066	4,438,662
Total unrestricted	6,772,995	4,741,496
Temporarily restricted	74,403,213	81,521,770
Permanently restricted	13,491,053	13,466,782
Total net assets	94,667,261	99,730,048
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 138,143,264	\$ 137,105,652

## STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

		20	16	2015					
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total	
REVENUES AND SUPPORT							,		
Total scholarships raised	\$ 155,520,573	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 155,520,573	\$164,974,344	\$ -	\$ -	\$164,974,344	
Less scholarships designated by donors for specific beneficiaries	(61,615,614)			(61,615,614)	(69,316,106)		<u>-</u>	(69,316,106)	
Scholarship revenue	93,904,959	-	-	93,904,959	95,658,238	-	-	95,658,238	
Program management fees	13,163,672	-	-	13,163,672	11,825,457	-	-	11,825,457	
Investment income (loss)	327,572	5,824,702	-	6,152,274	54,340	(4,325,654)	-	(4,271,314)	
Contributions and project grants	1,051,605	4,692,761	38,311	5,782,677	1,109,269	4,923,837	10,219	6,043,325	
Other income	82,625	-	-	82,625	217,040	-	-	217,040	
Dollars for Scholars® and other student programs	486,493			486,493	450,923			450,923	
Revenues and support	109,016,926	10,517,463	38,311	119,572,700	109,315,267	598,183	10,219	109,923,669	
Change in donor restrictions	2,695	(50,997)	(14,040)	(62,342)	-	1,817,452	(2,494,630)	(677,178)	
Net assets released from restrictions									
Program management fees released	-	(477,832)	-	(477,832)	-	(410,646)	-	(410,646)	
Satisfaction of program restrictions	17,107,191	(17,107,191)			17,798,714	(17,798,714)			
Total revenues and support	126,126,812	(7,118,557)	24,271	119,032,526	127,113,981	(15,793,725)	(2,484,411)	108,835,845	
EXPENSES									
Program services									
Total scholarship distributions	171,725,189	_	_	171,725,189	181,164,844	_	_	181,164,844	
Less scholarships designated by donors for specific beneficiaries	(61,615,614)	_	_	(61,615,614)	(69,316,106)	_	_	(69,316,106)	
Scholarship awards	110,109,575			110,109,575	111,848,738			111,848,738	
Scholarship awards	110,109,575	_	_	110,103,373	111,040,730	_	_	111,040,730	
Scholarship Management Services™	7,102,782	_	_	7,102,782	8,542,822	_	_	8,542,822	
Dollars for Scholars® and other student programs	952,531	_	-	952,531	928,328	_	_	928,328	
Other programs	546,682	-	-	546,682	1,219,677	-	-	1,219,677	
Supporting services									
General and administrative	3,765,727	-	-	3,765,727	3,898,335	-	-	3,898,335	
Fundraising	1,618,016			1,618,016	1,599,170			1,599,170	
Total expenses	124,095,313			124,095,313	128,037,070			128,037,070	
Change in net assets	2,031,499	(7,118,557)	24,271	(5,062,787)	(923,089)	(15,793,725)	(2,484,411)	(19,201,225)	
Net Assets - Beginning of Period	4,741,496	81,521,770	13,466,782	99,730,048	5,664,585	97,315,495	15,951,193	118,931,273	
NET ASSETS - END OF PERIOD	\$ 6,772,995	\$ 74,403,213	\$ 13,491,053	\$ 94,667,261	\$ 4,741,496	\$ 81,521,770	\$ 13,466,782	\$ 99,730,048	

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015
		2010
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Change in net assets	\$ (5,062,787)	\$ (19,201,225)
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash flows from		
operating activities		
Depreciation	384,709	421,664
Amortization of intangibles	203,558	203,558
Unrealized (gains) losses on investments	(4,857,323)	5,339,469
Realized losses on sale of investments	1,107,068	1,583,017
Scholarships distributed and designated by donors for		
specific beneficiaries	(61,615,614)	(69,316,106)
Scholarships raised and designated by donors for		
specific beneficiaries	61,615,614	69,316,106
Permanently restricted contributions	(38,311)	(10,219)
Change in:		
Accounts, interest and other receivables	15,791	742,872
Contributions receivable, net	412,394	(1,236,641)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(1,261)	110,102
Accounts payable	(75,267)	(1,013,400)
Scholarships payable	798,553	(2,929,854)
Accrued and other deferred liabilities	(54,231)	(6,318)
Refundable deposits	5,596,785	(11,646,383)
Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities	(1,570,322)	(27,643,358)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	(37,670,445)	(51,431,990)
Proceeds from sale of investments	47,940,308	65,561,949
Cash surrender value of life insurance	2,581	(2,282)
Purchase of property and equipment	(86,532)	(129,823)
Net Cash Flows From Investing Activities	10,185,912	13,997,854
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Contributions received restricted for endowment	38,311	10,219
Repayments of long-term debt	(165,441)	(162,878)
Proceeds from bank line of credit	650,000	2,450,000
Repayments of bank line of credit	(650,000)	(2,450,000)
Repayments of promissory note	-	(84,552)
Net Cash Flows From Financing Activities	(127,130)	(237,211)
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	8,488,460	(13,882,715)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - Beginning of Year	9,092,872	22,975,587
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 17,581,332</u>	\$ 9,092,872
Supplemental cash flow information		
Cash paid for interest	<u>\$ 19,677</u>	\$ 41,005

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### **NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### Organization

Scholarship America, Inc. (Scholarship America) is a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to mobilize America through scholarships and educational support to make postsecondary education possible for all students. Until January 2003, the corporation was known as Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America. Scholarship America designs and manages custom education assistance programs with a focus on delivering financial and other support to students in need to fill gaps and promote degree completion.

The financial statements do not include assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenses of the individual Dollars for Scholars® affiliates, because these affiliates have independent Boards of Directors and Scholarship America does not have control over these organizations.

In fiscal year 2002, the Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund (the Fund) was created to provide education assistance for postsecondary study to financially needy dependents of those killed or permanently disabled as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and during the rescue activities related to those attacks. The Fund is intended for children and spouses of the victims, including airplane crew and passengers, World Trade Center and Pentagon workers and visitors, and rescue workers, including firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and law enforcement personnel. Assistance from the Fund must be used to defray costs of education at accredited colleges, universities, or vocational-technical schools based in the United States. Scholarship America may from time to time assess a charge to income of the Fund in an amount reasonably calculated to reimburse Scholarship America's direct and indirect costs incurred in the administration of the Fund.

#### Basis of Presentation

The financial statements of Scholarship America have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

### **Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies of Scholarship America conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The significant accounting policies followed by Scholarship America are set forth below:

Net assets, revenues, expenses, gains, and losses are classified based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions. Accordingly, net assets of Scholarship America and changes therein, are classified and reported as follows:

**Unrestricted Net Assets -** This classification contains net assets that are not subject to donor-imposed stipulations.

**Temporarily Restricted Net Assets -** This classification includes net assets that have been restricted by donors for specific purposes or are not available for use until a specific time. These consist primarily of contributions, project grants, and investment income of temporarily restricted net assets and return on donor-restricted endowments not yet appropriated for expenditure under Scholarship America's endowment spending policy.

**Permanently Restricted Net Assets -** This classification includes net assets that have been restricted by donors who stipulate the resources be maintained permanently by Scholarship America.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

#### Accounting for Scholarships

In situations where Scholarship America has variance power with respect to the determination of the beneficiary, scholarship revenue and the related scholarship distribution expense is recognized in the statement of activities. Variance power is the unilateral ability to redirect the use of the transferred assets to another beneficiary. Scholarship programs where the beneficiary has been specified by the donor or the determination of the beneficiary is under the control of another third party are treated as agency transactions and are not reported as scholarship revenues or scholarship distribution expenses. Recognizing that designated scholarships (agency transactions) are a significant element of activities; they are included in scholarships raised and deducted from that amount to calculate scholarship revenue.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash held in bank accounts and temporary investments with original maturities of less than three months when purchased. Scholarship America maintains cash and cash equivalent accounts, which at times, may exceed federally insured limits. Scholarship America has not experienced any losses from maintaining cash and cash equivalent accounts in excess of federally insured limits. Management believes it is not subject to any significant credit risk on its cash and cash equivalent accounts.

#### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at amounts management expects to collect for services and are based on contracted fee schedules. Payment terms are typically net 30 from date of invoice, but may vary in specific cases. An allowance for doubtful accounts is provided based upon a review of outstanding receivables, historical collection information and specific program circumstances. Amounts deemed uncollectible are written off in the period such amounts are determined. Delinquent accounts are not charged a service fee.

#### Investments

Investments, excluding certificates of deposit, are reported at fair value. Certificates of deposit are reported at cost, which approximates fair value. Investments in alternative investments are recorded at net asset value as a practical expedient to fair value.

#### **Property and Equipment**

Expenditures for the acquisition of property and equipment are capitalized at cost. Donated property and equipment is capitalized at fair value on the date of receipt. Scholarship America capitalizes property and equipment additions in excess of \$600. Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives as follows:

	Years
Building and improvements	35
Furniture and equipment	3 - 12

#### Intangible Assets

Acquired intangible assets are the result of purchased customer contracts. These assets are valued at actual purchase price. The intangible assets are amortized over 10.1 years, which is the average historical duration for client relationships in the SMS business line. Amortization expense for each of the years 2017 through 2020 will be \$203,558.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

#### **Contributed Services**

A number of volunteers have made significant donations of their time to program and support functions. The value of this contributed time does not meet the criteria for recognition of contributed services and, accordingly, is not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

#### **Contributions**

Contributions, which include unconditional promises to give, are recognized as revenues in the period received. All contributions are available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor.

Promises to give are recorded as contributions receivable using a discount rate of 5%. Additionally, an allowance for uncollectible contributions is provided based on management's judgment, including factors such as prior collection history and nature of fundraising activity.

Contributions with donor-imposed restrictions, such as time or purpose restrictions, are recorded as temporarily restricted net assets. When a donor-imposed time restriction expires, or a donor-imposed purpose restriction is fulfilled, the temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets. This reclassification is reported as net assets released from restrictions on the statements of activities.

Contributions of land, buildings, and equipment are recorded as unrestricted net assets unless explicit donor stipulations specify how the donated assets must be used. Contributions of long-lived assets with explicit restrictions that specify how the assets are to be used and gifts of cash or other assets that must be used to acquire long-lived assets are reported as restricted support. Absent explicit donor stipulations about how long those long-lived assets must be maintained, Scholarship America reports expiration of donor restrictions when the donated or acquired long-lived assets are placed in service.

#### Scholarships Payable and Refundable Deposits

Scholarships payable represent awards that have been made that Scholarship America has not yet distributed to the beneficiaries. Refundable deposits represent amounts held by Scholarship America for scholarship programs that, under terms of the program agreement, are refundable or revocable at the discretion of the resource provider. Refundable deposits also include amounts held by Scholarship America in connection with agreements that have stipulations that the assets be passed on to specific beneficiaries.

#### Program Management Fees

Program management fees are recognized as revenue as the fees are earned. Approximately two-thirds of the program management fees are recognized as the program is developed and applications are processed, with the remaining one-third being recognized after final scholarship distributions have been made.

#### Grants

Restricted grants are recognized as revenue and support only to the extent that expenses have been incurred during the period for the purpose specified in the grant.

#### Functional Expenses

Scholarship America's financial statements segregate expenses by function, including program specific, general and administration, and fundraising. Expenses are charged directly to specific functions when practicable. Expenses not identified as relating to specific functions are allocated primarily based on direct salary costs or headcount.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

#### **Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Income Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service has determined that Scholarship America is exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Scholarship America is also exempt from state income taxes. However, any unrelated business income may be subject to taxation.

Scholarship America follows the accounting standards for contingencies in evaluating uncertain tax positions. This guidance prescribes recognition threshold principles for the financial statement recognition of tax positions taken or expected to be taken on a tax return that are not certain to be realized. No liability has been recognized by Scholarship America for uncertain tax positions as of December 31, 2016 and 2015.

#### Retirement Plan

Scholarship America offers a 403(b) retirement plan to its employees. Employee participation is optional. Historically, Scholarship America has provided a matching contribution to employees participating in the plan. Scholarship America's matching contribution was suspended for 2016. For the year ended December 31, 2015 the matching contribution was 3% up until May 29, 2015 when the match was temporarily suspended. Scholarship America's contributions to the plan totaled \$0 and \$75,024 for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

#### Reclassifications

Certain amounts appearing in the 2015 financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the 2016 financial statement presentation. These reclassifications have no effect on the reported amounts of total net assets or change in total net assets.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### NOTE 1 - ORGANIZATION AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont.)

#### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers. This new guidance outlines a single comprehensive model for entities to use in accounting for revenue from contracts with customers. ASU 2014-09 is effective date for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2018. Early application is permitted for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016. Scholarship America is assessing the impact this new standard will have on its financial statements.

In May 2015, FASB issued ASU 2015-07, *Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value per Share (or its Equivalent)*. Under the new guidance, investments measured at net asset value, as a practical expedient for fair value, are excluded from the fair value hierarchy disclosure requirements. For non-public entities, ASU 2015-07 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted. The guidance is to be applied retrospectively. Scholarship America is assessing the impact this new standard will have on its financial statements.

In February 2016, FASB issued ASU No. 2016-02, Leases. ASU No. 2016-02 was issued to increase transparency and comparability among entities. Lessees will need to recognize nearly all lease transactions (other than leases that meet the definition of a short-term lease) on the statement of financial position as a lease liability and a right-of-use asset (as defined). Lessor accounting under the new guidance will be similar to the current model. ASU No. 2016-02 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019. Early application is permitted. Upon adoption, lessees and lessors will be required to recognize and measure leases at the beginning of the earliest period presented using a modified retrospective approach, which includes a number of optional practical expedients that entities may elect to apply. Scholarship America is assessing the impact this standard will have on its financial statements.

In August 2016, FASB issued ASU 2016-14, Not-for-Profit Entities (Topic 958): Presentation of Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Entities. The new guidance improves and simplifies the current net asset classification requirements and information presented in financial statements and notes that is useful in assessing a not-for-profit's liquidity, financial performance and cash flows. ASU 2016-14 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, with early adoption permitted. ASU 2016-14 is to be applied retroactively with transition provisions. Scholarship America is assessing the impact this standard will have on its financial statements.

#### **NOTE 2 - CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE**

Contributions receivable are to be collected during the following periods at December 31, 2016 and 2015:

	 2016	 2015
Less than one year One to five years Greater than five years	\$ 1,394,078 702,750 - 2,096,828	\$ 1,314,228 1,275,000 - 2,589,228
Less: Discounts for the time value of money Allowance for uncollectible contributions	 46,710 102,506	 105,011 124,211
	\$ 1,947,612	\$ 2,360,006

Contributions receivable due within one year are not discounted. Contributions receivable expected to be collected in more than one year have been discounted at 5%.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### **NOTE 3 - INVESTMENTS AND INVESTMENT INCOME**

Investments consisted of the following at December 31:

	 2016	 2015
Cash equivalents U.S. Treasury bonds and notes U.S. government securities Equity mutual funds Fixed income mutual funds Corporate bonds and notes Master limited partnership and other mutual funds Hedge funds	\$ 1,554,832 203,187 3,647,694 28,678,396 46,635,885 19,641,217 5,917,915 6,064,086	\$ 380,116 673,940 4,589,901 28,930,955 48,341,041 18,625,475 9,723,237 7,598,155
	\$ 112,343,212	\$ 118,862,820

Investment income (loss) is recorded in the statements of activities and comprises the following for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015:

	Interest and Dividends	Unrealized Gain (Loss)	Realized Gain (Loss)	Total
December 31, 2016 Unrestricted Temporarily restricted Total	\$ 273,933	\$ 51,093	\$ 2,546	\$ 327,572
	2,128,086	4,806,230	(1,109,614)	5,824,702
	\$ 2,402,019	\$ 4,857,323	\$ (1,107,068)	\$ 6,152,274
December 31, 2015 Unrestricted Temporarily restricted Total	\$ 105,131	\$ (51,999)	\$ 1,208	\$ 54,340
	2,546,041	(5,287,470)	(1,584,225)	(4,325,654)
	\$ 2,651,172	\$ (5,339,469)	\$ (1,583,017)	\$ (4,271,314)

#### **NOTE 4 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

Fair Value Hierarchy - Fair value is defined in the accounting guidance as the exchange price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the assets or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Under this guidance, a three-level hierarchy is used for fair value measurements which are based on the transparency of information, such as the pricing source, used in the valuation of an asset or liability as of the measurement date.

Financial instruments measured and reported at fair value are classified and disclosed in one of the following three categories.

Level 1 - Inputs are quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity can access at the measurement date.

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### **NOTE 4 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS** (cont.)

- Level 2 Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. This includes quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, or market-corroborated inputs.
- Level 3 Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability. Unobservable inputs reflect the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability (including assumptions about risk) using the best information available in the circumstances, which may include using the reporting entity's own data.

#### Valuation Techniques and Inputs

#### Level 1 - Level 1 assets include:

> Investments in cash equivalents (consisting primarily of money market funds), equity mutual funds, fixed income mutual funds and master limited partnership and other mutual funds for which quoted prices are readily available.

#### Level 2 - Level 2 assets include:

> Investments in U.S. Treasury bonds and notes, U.S. government securities, and corporate bonds and notes for which quoted prices are not readily available. The fair values are estimated using Level 2 inputs based on multiple sources of information, which may include market data and/or quoted market prices from either markets that are not active or are for the same or similar assets in active markets.

#### Level 3 - Level 3 assets include:

Investments in hedge funds for which quoted prices are not readily available and the funds cannot be redeemed within a short time period. Scholarship America has estimated the fair value of these funds by using the net asset value ("NAV") provided by the investee as of December 31.

There have been no changes in the techniques and inputs used as of December 31, 2016 and 2015.

In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls has been determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. The assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment and considers factors specific to the asset or liability. The schedules within this note are not intended to indicate the volatility of the investments.

While Scholarship America believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different estimate of fair value at the reporting date.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## NOTE 4 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (cont.)

The following table presents information about Scholarship America's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2016 based upon the three-level hierarchy:

	 Level 1	 Level 2	 Level 3	_	Total
Cash equivalents	\$ 1,554,832	\$ -	\$ _	\$	1,554,832
Equity mutual funds Debt securities	28,678,396	-	-		28,678,396
Fixed income mutual funds	46,635,885	-	-		46,635,885
U.S. Treasury bonds and notes	-	203,187	-		203,187
U.S. government securities	-	3,647,694	-		3,647,694
Corporate bonds and notes  Master limited partnership and other	-	19,641,217	-		19,641,217
mutual funds	5,917,915	-	-		5,917,915
Hedge Funds	 <del>-</del>	 	 6,064,086		6,064,086
Total investments at fair value	 82,787,028	 23,492,098	 6,064,086		112,343,212
Total investments	\$ 82,787,028	\$ 23,492,098	\$ 6,064,086	\$	112,343,212

The following table presents information about Scholarship America's assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2015 based upon the three-level hierarchy:

		Level 1		Level 2	_	Level 3	 Total
Cash equivalents	\$	380,116	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 380,116
Equity mutual funds Debt securities		28,930,955		-		-	28,930,955
Fixed income mutual funds		48,341,041		-		-	48,341,041
U.S. Treasury bonds and notes		-		673,940		-	673,940
U.S. government securities		-		4,589,901		-	4,589,901
Corporate bonds and notes  Master limited partnership and other		-		18,625,475		-	18,625,475
mutual funds		9,723,237		-		-	9,723,237
Hedge Funds		<u> </u>		<del>-</del>	-	7,598,155	 7,598,155
Total investments at fair value	_	87,375,349	_	23,889,316		7,598,155	 118,862,820
Total investments	\$	87,375,349	\$	23,889,316	\$	7,598,155	\$ 118,862,820

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## **NOTE 4 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS** (cont.)

The following table presents a reconciliation of the statement of financial position amounts for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended December 31, 2016:

		Balance cember 31, 2015	per 31, and unrealized		Purchases	Sales	_	Balance cember 31, 2016	
Hedge funds	\$	7,598,155	\$ 6	55,931	\$	<u>-</u> \$	(1,600,000)	\$	6,064,086
The amount of total gains for the period included in change in net assets attributable to the change in unrealized gains or losses relating to assets measured at fair value still held at December 31, 2016.									159,090

The following table presents a reconciliation of the statement of financial position amounts for assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended December 31, 2015:

	Balance December 31, 2014	Net realized and unrealized gains/(losses)	Purchases	Sales	Balance ecember 31, 2015
Hedge funds	\$ -	\$ (111,845)	7,710,000	\$ -	\$ 7,598,155
The amount of total gains for t to the change in unrealized value still held at Decembe	gains or losses rel				\$ (111,845)

Scholarship America uses the net asset value ("NAV") as a practical expedient to determine fair value of all underlying investments which (a) do not have a readily determinable fair value; and (b) are in investment companies or similar entities that report their investment assets at fair values.

The following table lists the alternative investments in which NAV was utilized as the practical expedient for estimating fair value as of December 31, 2016:

Investment Type	Unfunded Commitments	 Fair Value	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period	Life (Years)
Alternative Investments (a) Grosvenor Institutional Partners, L.P.	-	\$ 6,064,086	(b)	(b)	N/A

- (a) Grosvenor Institutional Partners, L.P. is a multi-strategy fund of funds which allocates assets to a diverse group of third-party investment managers that employ a range of "alternative" strategies. The fund's investment objectives are to generate a superior and risk-adjusted rate of return with low volatility and to preserve capital during challenging market environments. Both quantitative and qualitative analysis of investment managers and their strategies are used to select the specific underlying investment firms.
- (b) A Limited Partner may withdraw, as of the end of any calendar quarter, all or any portion of their account by giving at least 70 days prior written notice. If a Partner withdraws less than substantially all of their balance, the withdrawal will be distributed within 60 days. If a Partner withdraws all or substantially all of their balance, a distribution of 90% of the amount will be made within 60 days with the remainder being distributed promptly after the completion of the fiscal year audit.

Domoining

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## **NOTE 5 - LINE OF CREDIT AGREEMENT**

In June 2016, Scholarship America renewed a \$1,750,000 line of credit financing agreement with First National Bank Minnesota. The line bears interest at the bank's index rate plus 1.75% with a floor of 4.5%. At December 31, 2016 the interest rate was 5.50%. Borrowings on the line of credit are secured by assets of Scholarship America including equipment and accounts receivable. The line of credit matures on July 15, 2017 and it is management's intention to renew the facility. At December 31, 2016, there were no borrowings under this agreement.

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM DEBT			
A summary of long-term debt as of December 31 is as follows:			
		2016	 2015
Note payable to First National Bank Minnesota with variable interest at 1.62% at December 31, 2016 and 2015, and payable in semiannual installments through September 2028. Such payments are secured by a mortgage and security interest granted to the creditor by Scholarship America. The variable interest rate is equal to the yield on five-year U.S. Treasury obligations as of September 1, 2013, resetting every 5 years thereafter.	\$	772,304	\$ 937,745
Less current maturities		(168,191)	 (165,460)
Balance at December 31	\$	604,113	\$ 772,285
Aggregate annual maturities of long-term debt at December 31, 2016 are	as fo	ollows:	
2017 2018 2019 2020 2021	\$	168,191 170,910 173,690 176,507 83,006	
	\$	772,304	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### **NOTE 7 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS**

Scholarship America's endowment consists of approximately 35 individual funds established for a variety of purposes including both endowment funds restricted by the donor and funds designated by the board of trustees to function as endowment. As required by U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with endowment funds, including funds designated by the board of trustees to function as an endowment, are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

#### Interpretation of Relevant Law

The Board of Trustees of Scholarship America has interpreted the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, Scholarship America classifies as permanently restricted net assets (1) the original value of the initial gift donated to the permanent endowment; (2) the original value of subsequent gifts donated to the permanent endowment fund; and (3) any earnings and gains/losses required by the donor to be added to the original value of the permanent endowment fund. The remaining portion of the fund, which consists of earnings and gains/losses from the investment of such funds net of expenditures, is classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the organization in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA. In accordance with UPMIFA, the organization considers the following factors in making a determination to appropriate or accumulate donor-restricted endowment funds:

- (1) The duration and preservation of the endowment fund
- (2) The purposes of the organization and the endowment fund
- (3) General economic conditions
- (4) The possible effect of inflation or deflation
- (5) The expected total return from income and the appreciation of investments
- (6) Other resources of the organization
- (7) The investment policy of the organization

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund consists of the following as of December 31, 2016:

	Unrestricted				Permanently Restricted		Total
Donor-restricted endowment funds Board-designated endowment funds	\$	(906) 303,929	\$	2,261,791	\$ 13,332,031	\$	15,592,916 303,929
	\$	303,023	\$	2,261,791	\$ 13,332,031	<u>\$</u>	15,896,845

Endowment net asset composition by type of fund consists of the following as of December 31, 2015:

	Un	restricted	emporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	 Total
Donor-restricted endowment funds Board-designated endowment funds	\$	(51,999) 302,834	\$ 1,943,523 -	\$ 13,307,058	\$ 15,198,582 302,834
	\$	250,835	\$ 1,943,523	\$ 13,307,058	\$ 15,501,416

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## NOTE 7 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS (cont.)

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended December 31, 2016 are as follows:

	<u>Un</u>	Unrestricted		Temporarily Restricted		Permanently Restricted	Total	
Endowment net assets, January 1, 2016 Investment return	\$	250,835	\$	1,943,523	\$	13,307,058	\$	15,501,416
Investment income		1,095		375,938		-		377,033
Net gain on investments		51,093		554,179		-		605,272
Total investment return		52,188		930,117		-		982,305
Contributions Appropriation of endowment assets -		-		-		39,013		39,013
satisfaction of program restrictions Appropriation of endowment assets -		-		(543,709)		-		(543,709)
spending policy		-		(82,180)		-		(82,180)
Change in donor restrictions				14,040		(14,040)		
Endowment net assets,								
December 31, 2016	\$	303,023	\$	2,261,791	\$	13,332,031	\$	15,896,845

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## **NOTE 7 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS (cont.)**

Changes in endowment net assets for the year ended December 31, 2015 are as follows:

	<u>Un</u>	nrestricted		Unrestricted		emporarily Restricted	_F	Permanently Restricted		Total
Endowment net assets, January 1, 2015 Investment return	\$	302,684	\$	2,895,657	\$	15,794,943	\$	18,993,284		
Investment income		150		426,989		-		427,139		
Net gain loss on investments Total investment return		(51,999) (51,849)		(674,788) (247,799)		<u>-</u> 		(726,787) (299,648)		
Contributions Appropriation of endowment assets -		-		-		6,745		6,745		
satisfaction of program restrictions Appropriation of endowment assets -		-		(603,842)		-		(603,842)		
spending policy		-		(77,740)		-		(77,740)		
Change in donor restrictions (1)		<u>-</u>		(22,753)	_	(2,494,630)	_	(2,517,383)		
Endowment net assets, December 31, 2015	\$	250,835	\$	1,943,523	\$	13,307,058	\$	15,501,416		
D000111001 01, 2010	Ψ	200,000	Ψ	1,0-0,020	Ψ	10,007,000	Ψ	10,001,710		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(1)</sup> During the year ended December 31, 2015, Scholarship America was notified of changes in certain donor restrictions which resulted in a decrease of the permanently restricted endowment assets of \$2,494,630. The change in donor restrictions increased temporarily restricted net assets restricted for scholarships by \$1,826,630. The remaining \$668,000 was transferred at the donor's request to another 501(c)(3) organization.

#### Funds with Deficiencies

From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual donor-restricted endowment funds may fall below the level that the donor or the UPMIFA requires Scholarship America to retain as a fund of perpetual duration. There were deficiencies of \$906 and \$51,999 that are reported in unrestricted net assets as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

#### Return Objectives and Risk Parameters and Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

Each endowment fund is supported by an underlying agreement with the donor in which the spending level and the underlying investment mix is outlined (if no mix is specified, the selection defaults to the conservative portfolio). Fund performance is expected to at least equal the target rates of return modeled for each portfolio. Typically, dividends and interest are available for expenditure because the funds focus on current need rather than maintaining a perpetual fund of constant purchasing power.

### Strategies Employed for Achieving Objectives

To satisfy its long-term rate-of-return objectives, Scholarship America relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns are achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). Scholarship America targets a diversified asset allocation including asset classes such as public equities, fixed income and alternative assets in order to achieve its long-term return objectives within prudent risk constraints.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

#### **NOTE 7 - ENDOWMENT FUNDS (cont.)**

#### Spending Policy and How Investment Objectives Relate to Spending Policy

The board-designated endowment is currently invested in money market funds. To date, all earnings have been returned to the endowment.

A separately managed board-designated endowment, previously established for the Northeast region is invested in a balanced indexed portfolio. The board of trustees allows 5% of a 12-quarter moving average to be used for operations, as needed. During the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, \$82,180 and \$77,740 was released for operations, respectively.

#### **NOTE 8 - TEMPORARILY AND PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS**

Donor-restricted temporarily restricted net assets are available at December 31 for the following purposes:

	 2016	 2015
The portion of unexpended investment return generated from donor restricted endowment funds subject to UPMIFA available for		
scholarships	\$ 2,261,791	\$ 1,943,523
Gifts and other unexpended revenues and support available for:		
Scholarships	71,616,412	79,001,991
Regions	106,603	126,537
Other projects	418,407	449,719
	\$ 74,403,213	\$ 81,521,770

Donor-restricted permanently restricted net asset balances at December 31 and the purposes for which the income can be used are as follows:

	 2016	 2015
Endowment fund for:		
Scholarships	\$ 10,803,512	\$ 10,778,539
Regions	1,538,519	1,538,519
Other projects	990,000	990,000
• •	 13,332,031	 13,307,058
Non endowment funds for scholarships	 159,022	 159,724
	\$ 13,491,053	\$ 13,466,782

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Years Ended December 31, 2016 and 2015

## **NOTE 9 - LEASES**

Rental expense for office space was \$294,637 and \$301,081 for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. Lease agreements having an original term of more than one year expire on various dates through calendar year 2024. Minimum annual payments under terms of these operating leases are as follows:

Year ending December 31:		
2017	\$ 245,366	;
2018	250,493	3
2019	255,671	ı
2020	147,914	ŀ
2021	150,414	ŀ
2022 and thereafter	505,975	<u>;</u>
	<u>\$ 1,555,833</u>	3

#### **NOTE 10 - SUPPORTING SERVICES EXPENSE RATIOS**

Scholarship America's supporting services expense ratios as a percentage of unrestricted revenues and support, excluding scholarships designated by donors for specific beneficiaries, for the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

		2016			2015	
General and administration Fundraising	\$	3,765,727 1,618,016	2.99% 1.28%	\$	3,898,335 1,599,170	3.07% 1.26%
Total	\$	5,383,743	4.27%	\$	5,497,505	4.33%
Unrestricted revenues and support, excluding scholarships designated by donors for specific beneficiaries	<u>\$</u>	126,126,812		<u>\$</u>	127,113,981	

Fundraising costs also include costs related to the generation of scholarships raised and designated by donors for specific beneficiaries.

#### **NOTE 11 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

Scholarship America has evaluated subsequent events through May 25, 2017, which is the date that the financial statements were approved and available to be issued.

## FAMILIES OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND SCHEDULE OF FINANCIAL POSITION As of December 31, 2016

ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Contributions receivable, net	\$	111,349 665,000 776,349
CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE, less current portion, net		168,432
INVESTMENTS	_	51,369,080
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$</u>	52,313,861
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
REFUNDABLE DEPOSITS	\$	6,786,545
NET ASSETS Temporarily restricted		45,527,316
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$	52,313,861

# FAMILIES OF FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP FUND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS  Net assets released from restrictions  Satisfaction of program restrictions  Total unrestricted revenues and support	\$ 12,103,902 12,103,902
EXPENSES	
Program services:	
Scholarship awards	11,676,229
Scholarship Management Services™	63,183
Supporting services:	224 227
General and administrative	364,205
Fundraising	285
Total expenses	12,103,902
Change in unrestricted net assets	-
Changes in temporarily restricted net assets	
Contributions for scholarships	510,593
Investment income	3,790,494
Net assets released from restrictions	(42.402.002)
Satisfaction of program restrictions	(12,103,902)
Change in temporarily restricted net assets	(7,802,815)
Change in net assets	(7,802,815)
Net Assets - Beginning of Period	53,330,131
NET ASSETS - END OF PERIOD	\$ 45,527,316

#### SCHEDULE OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

		Program Services												Support Services					
	_	Scholarship Awards	Scholarship Management Services™		Dollars for Scholars® and Other Student Programs			Families of Freedom NY		Other		Total Program Services		Management and General		Fundraising		Total	
Scholarship awards	\$	110,109,575	\$	_	\$	-	\$	-	\$	_	\$	110,109,575	\$	-	\$	-	\$	110,109,575	
Personnel costs		-		4,499,329		687,125		227,510		85,543		5,499,507		2,586,580		1,098,085		9,184,172	
Meetings and travel		-		282,460		46,181		15,720		20,247		364,608		141,710		183,101		689,419	
Printing		-		63,026		47		-		2,844		65,917		12,712		16,882		95,511	
Professional services		-		634,219		43,596		24,737		39,485		742,037		452,752		126,302		1,321,091	
IT licenses/hosting		-		295,984		-		-		-		295,984		51,283		-		347,267	
Publicity and promotion		-		216,517		104,771		7,500		740		329,528		80,006		4,302		413,836	
Postage		-		144,715		1,334		620		29		146,698		6,476		7,696		160,870	
Occupancy		-		171,796		10,458		-		72,512		254,766		162,204		85,603		502,573	
Interest		-		51,887		4,786		-		375		57,048		19,764		4,388		81,200	
Insurance		-		105,216		13,111		255		1,717		120,299		32,016		9,837		162,152	
Office expenses		-		188,364		19,240		4,548		15,190		227,342		60,253		29,907		317,502	
Depreciation and amortization		-		445,365		16,425		-		16,765		478,555		86,450		32,626		597,631	
Miscellaneous	_	<u> </u>		3,904		5,457	_	684		9,661	_	19,706		73,521		19,287		112,514	
Total Expenses	\$	110,109,575	\$	7,102,782	\$	952,531	\$	281,574	\$	265,108	\$	118,711,570	\$	3,765,727	\$	1,618,016	\$	124,095,313	