

Annual Report 2006–2007



Aim High Changes Lives!

2007 was a banner year for Aim High as our organization continued to fulfill the ambitious goals set forth in our Vision 2010 strategic plan. This summer, we were able to change the lives of 950 young people across the Bay Area. Thanks to everyone in our diverse and extensive Aim High community for your generous and ongoing support.

The centerpiece of Vision 2010 is to grow our challenging, engaging and highly supportive summer school to a dozen campuses by 2010. As a direct result of your extraordinary support, Aim High opened new campuses this past summer at San Francisco State University and in the Fruitvale neighborhood of Oakland. In total, we operated eleven summer sites and served over 950 middle school students in 2007. Over 240 teachers and college and high school interns taught in Aim High. We are grateful for their tremendous passion, creativity and devotion. We are excited and honored by our emerging partnership with **San Francisco State and the California State University system** and look forward to strengthening this exciting collaboration by implementing Aim High on additional CSU campuses such as San Jose State. We see the Aim High/CSU partnership as a “win/win” opportunity for both institutions.

In 2007, Aim High was honored by Bank of America Foundation for our track record of success and exciting plans to expand. Aim High received the highly prestigious **BofA Neighborhood Builders Award**, a national grant that recognizes sustained and exemplary performance. The award consists of a \$200,000 grant over two years, which enabled Aim High to execute our ambitious goals this year and strengthen our organizational capacity during this critical time of growth. Perhaps most importantly, it has given us the opportunity to “dream big” and is a wonderful validation of the important community work we have been doing for over two decades.

It is sometimes easy to forget that sustaining and growing Aim High is not a “sure thing.” Bay Area kids, families, teachers and communities have come to count on Aim High to provide high-quality summer school in their neighborhoods. Your generosity makes that happen. Thanks to all of you, we have reached and exceeded our Vision 2010 goals for 2007.

Over the last 22 years, Aim High has changed the lives of more than 5,000 kids. We hope to change the lives of 1,000 kids this summer, and our goal is to engage 1,000 individuals and institutions to help us do this. Therefore, our rallying cry for 2008 is, “**1,000 donors support 1,000 kids!**” Thanks for helping us achieve this important milestone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alec L. Lee, Jr.", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Alec L. Lee, Jr.
Executive Director



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Aim High Guiding Principles

Provide a challenging and innovative
summer school experience

Serve Bay Area youth
who need us most

Grow responsibly and strategically

Support innovative teaching
and cultivate future generations
of teachers

Build strong public and
private partnerships

Inside:

- Our Mission
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- Gift Report
- 2006–2007 Program Overview
- 2006–2007 Financial Report

The Aim High Mission

The mission of Aim High is to provide underserved urban youth with challenging, innovative and highly supportive educational programs, most notably our exemplary summer school.

The goal of Aim High is to ensure that our students are well-prepared for success in school, have a deep appreciation for their community, and are aware of the issues—personal, local and environmental—that affect their lives.

Our vision is to inspire youth to reach for their dreams.

Vision 2010... and Beyond

Our future success depends on you.

For the past 22 years, Aim High has supported middle school students from low-income communities in the San Francisco Bay Area by providing high-quality tuition-free summer school in underserved neighborhoods. Over 5,000 students have benefited from Aim High's innovative enrichment program that offers academic and personal support at a time when students need it most. In 2007, Aim High completed the second year of a five-year strategic plan, Vision 2010. Thanks to the support and significant investment provided by you, Aim High has successfully opened four new summer school sites in the last two years, serving a total of 950 students in 2007. Today, the promise of Aim High is greater than ever before. Aim High is poised to continue our expansion, building on our strengths and the tremendous opportunities to reach more youth during the critical middle school years. A summary of the original Vision 2010 goals and highlights from 2007 follow.

1. Summer School Program—Grow the program from 7 campuses and 675 students to at least 12 campuses by 2010, serving more than 1,200 students.

2007 Highlights:

- Opened two new summer school campuses: one at San Francisco State University and the other at Urban Promise Academy in Oakland.
- Operated 11 summer school campuses, serving 950 students.

2. Student Center—Create and develop the Student Center to provide after school tutoring, high school and college placement support, financial



aid workshops and cultural enrichment activities for Aim High students and alumni.

2007 Highlights:

- Expanded Student Center offerings to include college counseling and financial aid workshops.
- Updated study of recent Aim High alumni, collecting data on high school graduation and college matriculation rates.

3. Outdoor & Environmental Education—Develop the Headlands Environmental Home in collaboration with the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

2007 Highlights:

- Designed plans for a new Ecology Classroom to be constructed in 2008.

4. Teaching & Learning—Refine and publish Aim High's curriculum. Further develop the teacher training component of the program.

2007 Highlights:

- Revised and updated a comprehensive Aim High summer school curriculum guide.
- Launched a teaching and learning web site.

5. Aim High Community Charter School—Research and explore launching a new charter middle school based on the summer school design.

2007 Highlights:

- Received approval for the charter from the State Board of Education in May, 2007.

Make our vision a reality by getting involved with Aim High. To download a copy of Vision 2010 and to learn about ways to support our growth, please visit our website at www.aimhigh.org.

Aim High Sites & Locations

San Francisco

- ER Taylor Elementary School, Portola
- Garfield Elementary School, Chinatown/Telegraph Hill
- Gateway High School, Western Addition
- Lick-Wilmerding High School, Outer Mission/Ingleside
- San Francisco State University, Ingleside/Parkside*
- The Urban School of San Francisco, Haight-Ashbury
- Visitation Valley Middle School, Visitation Valley

East Bay

- St. Paul's Episcopal School, Lake Merritt
- Bishop O'Dowd High School, East Oakland*
- Urban Promise Academy, Fruitvale*

South Bay

- Costaño Elementary School/49er Academy, East Palo Alto*

Organizational Partners

- Bishop O'Dowd High School
- Exploratorium
- Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Lick-Wilmerding High School
- San Francisco State University / CSU
- San Francisco Zoo
- St. Paul's Episcopal School
- The Urban School of San Francisco

*New sites that opened in 2006 and 2007 as part of Vision 2010.



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Aim High students provide entertainment for Celebration Day at the newly launched San Francisco State Campus.

Two New Aim High Campuses

Aim High launched a new campus at San Francisco State University as part of a new partnership with CSU. Sixty students from the Mission, Sunset, Oceanview and Richmond districts participated in the program, and Aim High plans to serve 90 students next summer. The goal is to extend the pilot project to serve additional students on the campuses of San Jose State and Cal State East Bay over the next two years. Support from San Francisco State University School of Education was critical to our success this past summer.

**"These kids need to find a pathway to college.
This program shows them it is possible."**

—Roberta Achtenberg, Chair of the CSU Board of Trustees

Aim High also launched a new campus at Urban Promise Academy with support from the Oakland Unified School District. Fifty students participated in the program from the surrounding Fruitvale neighborhood. Aim High now operates three campuses in Oakland. Our expansion in the East Bay would not have been possible without the support of the Oakland Unified School District, as well as our funders in Oakland. We extend a special thanks to the members of Aim High's Oakland Task Force for their support and guidance.



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Reach for a Dream

Gift Report

The following individuals and funding partners provided support for our annual operating budget as well as specific programs. Their investment and support made the growth of our innovative, exciting academic programs possible. Special thanks to the generous institutions and individuals who made multi-year pledges in support of Aim High.

Note: The following list reflects gifts received from June 1, 2006 through October 31, 2007. We apologize, in advance, for any misspellings or omissions. Bold names indicate multi-year pledges of support.

\$100,000+

Bank of America
Dept. of Children, Youth, and their Families

\$50,000–\$99,999

Dean Witter Foundation
Koret Foundation
Lopez Low Foundation
Louis R. Lurie Foundation
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\$20,000–\$49,999

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Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
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\$10,000–\$19,999

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Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream Foundation
East Bay Community Foundation/
Amy Einstein-Barstow Memorial Fund
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The Urban School of San Francisco
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Volunteers & In-Kind Support

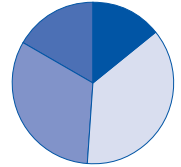
Aim High would like to acknowledge the following volunteers, companies and institutions for providing hundreds of hours of service, invaluable resources and tremendous support. Thank you!

Acteva	Ling Liu
BAYCAT	Yolanda Newman
Joan Boyle	Oakland Museum of California
California Academy of Sciences	Greg Peters
Charlie Casey	Stephen Pilch
Lauren Collins	Eric Prosnitz
Corey, Canapary & Galanis Research	Jonathan Reider
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2006–2007 Program Overview

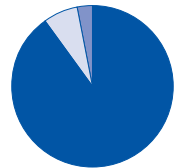
Student Grade Level

Grade 6	136
Grade 7	352
Grade 8	305
Grade 9	157
Total Students Served	950



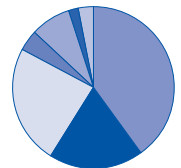
School Enrollment

Public Schools	90%
Parochial Schools	7%
Independent Schools	3%



Ethnicity

Chinese	40%
Latino	24%
African-American	19%
Other Asian	8%
Multi-Racial	4%
Caucasian	3%
Other Non-White	2%



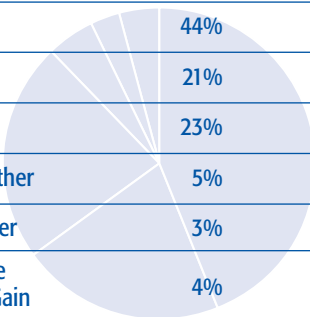
“Aim High challenges the outgoing students and gives the more introverted the opportunity to focus and gain confidence.”

—Yolanda Newman, Parent of four Aim High graduates

2006–2007 Financial Report

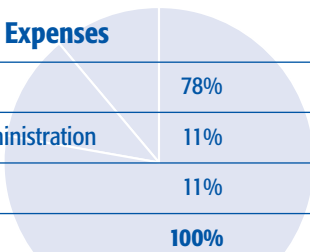
Fiscal Year 2007 Income

Foundations	44%	\$721,217
Corporations	21%	\$337,929
Individual	23%	\$373,593
Government/other	5%	\$76,500
Partners & Other	3%	\$52,660
Interest Income & Unrealized Gain	4%	\$62,281
Total	100%	\$1,624,180



Fiscal Year 2007 Expenses

Program	78%	\$1,134,592
General & Administration	11%	\$163,897
Development	11%	\$164,737
Total	100%	\$1,463,226



This report is excerpted from the audited financial statements completed by Lautze & Lautze for the fiscal year that ended May 31, 2007.

Home Environment

Bilingual	77%
Average Household Income	\$35,460
Median Household Income	\$26,800

Aim High Faculty Profile

Site Directors	23
Master Teachers	91
Interns	47
Teaching Assistants	80
Average Years Employed	2.2
Bilingual	43%
Teachers of Color	65%
Aim High graduates	26%



Reach for a Dream



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“The Aim High summer school has allowed the young people of the Visitacion Valley neighborhood to be part of a positive, college-oriented summer program that they would not otherwise have access to.”

—Jim Dierke, Principal, Visitacion Valley Middle School



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