Help us write our next chapter

For the last three years, the world seemed to spin madly around us. However, your support – even during uncertain times – enabled the East Lake Foundation to continue doing what we have done for more than 25 years: making East Lake an inclusive, thriving, and nurturing community for all.

From affordable housing to resident programming and more, there is so much opportunity that lies ahead for East Lake residents. Please consider donating to the East Lake Foundation this holiday season. Your donation will help us advance our mission of improving life outcomes for current East Lake residents and future generations through education, mixed-income housing, community wellness, and economic mobility.

We are grateful for supporters like you and look forward to writing the next chapter of East Lake with you. Click here to donate.

Drew Charter School earns STEAM Certification

Drew’s Senior Academy is now the first high school in the state to be officially certified a STEAM School by the Georgia Department of Education. This important designation was created to recognize institutions committed to providing high-quality educational opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.

The Senior Academy certification was earned following an in-depth visit that included interviews with students, virtual class visits, portfolio reviews, a presentation by the leadership team, as well as interviews with business partners and parents.

With this newest recognition, Drew received the “whole school” designation, which certifies that the entire student population is engaged in STEAM learning and confirms Drew’s position as a statewide leader in innovative equity focused education.

Contributing to this prestigious certification were East Lake Foundation supported grants from the Goizueta Foundation that funded advanced STEAM training for K-12 teacher cohorts. For more information on how to support the STEAM efforts at Drew Charter School, please contact Courtney Bryant courtney.bryant@drewcharterschool.org.
Sheltering Arms launches fellowship program

Sheltering Arms is an inaugural partner for the Literacy Lab and its Leading Men Fellowship. The fellowship creates opportunities for young men of color and increases representation in the field of education. Leading Men Fellows are young men of color who have recently graduated from high school and participate in a year-long, residency-style experience in which they provide evidence-based literacy support to pre-kindergarten students while receiving robust coaching and professional development and gaining valuable experience. Sheltering Arms is hosting five fellows, including two at the East Lake location: Marcus Adams and Scott Cooper. Both men are recent graduates of Drew Charter School and Marcus is a Sheltering Arms alumnus.

East Lake Foundation joins partners for Thanksgiving basket distribution

Leading up to Thanksgiving, the Foundation was proud to partner with the Marcel Anderson Foundation, Drew Charter School, and the East Lake Family YMCA to provide Thanksgiving food baskets to hundreds of East Lake residents. Baskets included fresh vegetables, dairy products, sides and a Publix gift card for a main dish.

East Lake Women’s Alliance grants $20,000 toward college scholarships

The East Lake Women’s Alliance (ELWA) ended its 2022 program year with a golf outing and Grant Night at East Lake Golf Club. The East Lake Women’s Alliance voted to grant its collective membership dues ($20,000) to support college scholarships for Drew Charter School students.

The ELWA is a philanthropic, professional group of Atlanta women who have committed to focus their time and financial support with the East Lake Foundation. Along with the philanthropic goals of the ELWA, this group participates in volunteer events and quarterly golf clinics taught by PGA professionals at East Lake Golf Club.

If you are interested in learning more about the East Lake Women’s Alliance, please email Jeannine Blanco jblanco@eastlakefoundation.org.

Give Gift of Giving

Looking for just the right gift for the person who has everything? We have a great idea for you. Make a donation to the East Lake Foundation in their honor. The lucky recipient will be notified of your gift and will be recognized in the 2022 Annual Report. Click here to donate.
Bank of America names East Lake Foundation 2022 Neighborhood Builder®

Bank of America has been a philanthropic partner of the East Lake Foundation since its inception and was the first corporate member (formerly NationsBank) of the East Lake Golf Club to help revitalize the neighborhood more than 25 years ago. “In East Lake, as in many other Atlanta-area communities, high-quality, affordable housing options are critical to the success of families and the community,” said Ilham Askia, President and CEO, East Lake Foundation. “The most exciting part about supporting The Trust at East Lake development is that we are collectively addressing the housing affordability crisis in Atlanta not just for today’s families, but for future generations.”

Drew Charter School graduates 98% of Class of 2022

In late October, Atlanta Public Schools (APS) released the official 4-year and 5-year graduation rates for all APS Schools. APS had an overall graduation rate of 84.1%. Charles R. Drew Charter School had the 2nd highest rate in the district at 98.4%, closely following Coretta Scott King Young Women’s Leadership Academy. These seniors were accepted into 117 different colleges and universities and collectively earned more than $8 million in college scholarships.

Congratulations to the Drew Charter School Senior Academy leadership and the College and Career Readiness (CCR) team for these great achievements. The East Lake Foundation is proud to support Drew Charter School’s robust CCR program. If you are interested in supporting CCR at Drew Charter School, please click here.
January 2023 will mark the ninth year of Start:ME East Lake, a 14-session program that offers intensive skills-based business training, mentorship support and capital needed to develop viable and sustainable micro-businesses. Businesses included in the program provide mindfulness and lifelong learning classes, hair care, specialty foods, among many others. The 2023 program will include 14 weeknight meetings, half of which will be held in-person.

In partnership with Emory University’s Goizueta Business School, Start:ME is recruiting an experienced group of professional mentors to provide support for participating micro-entrepreneurs. Mentors provide coaching and feedback and look for opportunities to connect entrepreneurs with individuals and partners who will further support their businesses. Learn more and sign-up here by December 23, 2022. www.startmeatl.org/mentor

In August, East Lake Golf Club welcomed and successfully hosted the TOUR Championship for the 22nd year. Congratulations to Rory McIlroy who claimed his historic third FedExCup title, the most wins in the history of the FedExCup. The TOUR Championship, with the support of Proud Partners The Coca-Cola Company, Southern Company and Accenture, has raised more than $40 million for local nonprofits since the event was first staged at East Lake Golf Club in 1998.

This year’s tournament proceeds support five charitable beneficiaries: East Lake Foundation, Focused Community Strategies, Grove Park Foundation, Purpose Built Schools Atlanta and First Tee – Metro Atlanta. In addition to this year’s generous donation to the charitable beneficiaries, the 3rd Annual Charity Challenge – a 9-hole exhibition staged the day before the 2022 TOUR Championship featuring Billy Andrade, Andruw Jones, Larry Fitzgerald and Tom Glavine – was a huge success. Thank you to the PGA TOUR, TOUR Championship, The Coca-Cola Company, Southern Company, Accenture, East Lake Golf Club, and all our corporate partners for their continued generous support of our work.

Next year’s TOUR Championship will be held August 24-27, 2023. If you are interested in securing hospitality, please contact Scott Gordon ScottGordon@pgatourhq.com.
On October 22-26, 2022, The Golf Channel, East Lake Golf Club and East Lake Foundation hosted the 8th Annual East Lake Cup and Party on the Green, the Cup’s official celebration. The three-day NCAA collegiate tournament featured the four top performing men’s and women’s golf teams from across the county:

- Men’s Teams: University of Texas, Pepperdine, Vanderbilt University, and Arizona State University
- Women’s Teams: Auburn University, University of Oregon, Texas A&M, and UCLA

During Saturday’s Party on the Green, we honored the Yates Family for their lasting contributions to the East Lake neighborhood. Click here to view the tribute video.

Party on the Green also featured the presentation of the Tom Cousins Award, a recognition of outstanding golfers who exemplify the values of the East Lake Foundation: excels in academics, is engaged in the community, and has overcome adversity. This year’s winners are Cole Sherwood, representing Vanderbilt University and Ashley-Sinclair Curtis representing Auburn University. After three days of intense competition, Auburn University Women’s Golf Team and Vanderbilt University Men’s Golf Team claimed the 2022 East Lake Cup. Congratulations to our East Lake Cup women’s individual winner Blanca Fernandez Garcia-Poggio with Texas A&M, and the men’s winner, Gordon Sargent with Vanderbilt University! Thanks to our partners at the Golf Channel, HNS Sports, East Lake Golf Club and our amazing tournament sponsors – ZipRecruiter, Worldwide Technology, Bridgestone Golf, and Full Swing.

Special thanks to all of the Party on the Green sponsors, especially our top sponsors – Cox Foundation, The Coca-Cola Company, Cousins Foundation, Georgia Power, Lin and Alexia Rogers, John and Roz Brewer, Arthur M. Blank, Norfolk Southern, Homrich Berg, United Distributors, and Chick-fil-A. As a result of their generous support, the East Lake Foundation raised more than $800,000 from the East Lake Cup and Party on the Green to support our Cradle-to-College Education Pipeline and the COVID-19 recovery efforts. Our full sponsor list can be found here.

The East Lake Foundation is nationally known for its integrated approach to community revitalization that focuses on three pillars: cradle-to-college education, mixed-income housing and community wellness. The Foundation serves as the lead organization working closely with its partners within and across these pillars to benefit our youth and their families. To make a donation visit eastlakefoundation.org.