



## ACE SCHOLARSHIPS 2020 WOMEN'S RECEPTION

FEATURING LAILA ALI

OCTOBER 30, 2020

PRESENTED BY  BOK FINANCIAL





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## VISION

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Every child has equal access to a quality education.

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## MISSION

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To provide children of low-income families with scholarships to private schools in grades K-12, and to advocate for expanded school choice.

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## INVITATION

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At ACE Scholarships, we know that when families have the freedom to choose the school that is right for them, success follows. 2020 has provided many unexpected challenges, but one thing has remained true—ACE is committed to providing immediate support to students who cannot continue to wait decades for positive change.

Read on to discover how you can be part of the solution.

# Welcome to the 2020 ACE Women's Reception

I so appreciate you joining us for this virtual event. Things certainly look a little different today as our world has gotten more complicated these past several months.

We have all had to adapt to these extraordinary circumstances however, the mission of ACE Scholarships remains: to provide children of low-income families with scholarships to K-12 private schools and to advocate for expanded school choice.

This reception is an occasion to embrace and celebrate the power and influence women have in expanding education, creating opportunity, and transforming lives. We recognize that the education system in America does not serve all kids well. However, by attending this virtual reception and supporting ACE, we are providing a powerful solution that will transform the status quo of education in our city and our state.

This year, we are excited to welcome Laila Ali as our keynote speaker. Laila will share her story of female entrepreneurship, the influence of role models, and the power of education to level the playing field. It's a message that will inspire each and every one of us to finish the year strong. We are also deeply grateful to BOK Financial for serving as our Presenting Sponsor, and for all of our amazing sponsors and supporters who have, despite many challenges, made today's event possible.

We gather with unique experiences and varied backgrounds—united in our belief that every child deserves access to a quality education. By giving families this freedom of choice, ACE is eradicating the cycle of poverty that places unjust limits on those with untapped potential.

In a year as challenging as this one, we still have 2,210 students on scholarship for the 2020-21 school year. I am so proud of our students, partner schools, administrators, community leaders, and dedicated supporters—all of whom have come together to ensure we remain faithful to our commitments.

We do not view 2020 as a setback. The strength, resiliency, and determination displayed by our ACE families has inspired us more than ever. There are nearly 10,000 open private school desks in Colorado waiting to be filled. It is our responsibility to put deserving students in these seats, helping them find the educational environment that is right for them.

Thank you again for joining us today to learn about the important work ACE is doing across Colorado. I hope you are inspired as well, and leave with a deeper understanding of the impact an ACE scholarship can have in the life of a child. The freedom of choice holds the power to transform not just a student, but entire families and even a community.

Thank you again for supporting the ACE community and for standing by our scholars in a time they need us most.



Julie Headley  
Chief Development Officer, Colorado

## 2020 PROGRAM AGENDA

WELCOME

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SPONSOR RECOGNITION

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VIDEO

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ACE INFLUENCE

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ACE SUCCESS

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ACE ALUMNA

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ACE IMPACT

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LAILA ALI

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CLOSE

## LAILA ALI

Laila Ali is a world-class athlete, fitness & wellness expert, TV host, cooking enthusiast, founder of the Laila Ali Lifestyle Brand, and mother of two. The youngest daughter of late beloved global icon and humanitarian, Muhammad Ali, she is a two-time Hall of Famer and four-time undefeated boxing world champion, whose stellar record includes 24 wins (21 of which were "knockouts") and zero losses. Laila is heralded as the most successful female in the history of women's boxing.

For the past few seasons, Laila has been an outspoken voice and regular contributor for the CBS Sports Network's new all-female sports commentary program, *We Need to Talk*, the first of its kind in the history of sports broadcasting. Laila is a past President of the Women's Sports Foundation, a non-profit organization that is supported by some of the biggest athletes in the world. Through WSF Laila promotes equality for women in the world of professional sports, and she pushes programs that encourage young women to be confident, healthy, and strong through sports.

She was also a major voice for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Title IX, which protects women's rights to be included and treated equally in collegiate sports. Always eager to encourage others to live an active lifestyle, Laila Ali was the 2012 "Mombassador" for the Aquaphor New York City Triathlon, a competition she actually participated in and impressively completed in a little more than 3 hours.

Laila is a major supporter of charitable organizations such as Feeding America and Peace 4 Kids. She is also quite proud of the work she has done on behalf of the American Dental Association to create oral health awareness for children. A sought-after inspirational speaker and author, she has keynoted speaking events at Harvard University and spoken to thousands of executives at leadership conferences for corporate brands around the world. Her life's story is chronicled in a dynamic book for young women entitled *Reach!* which has just been re-released to the public.

Laila studied business management at Santa Monica College. She enjoys life in the Los Angeles area with her husband, former NFL star and current sports TV analyst, Curtis Conway, and their two young children, Curtis Jr. (son) and Sydney (daughter).



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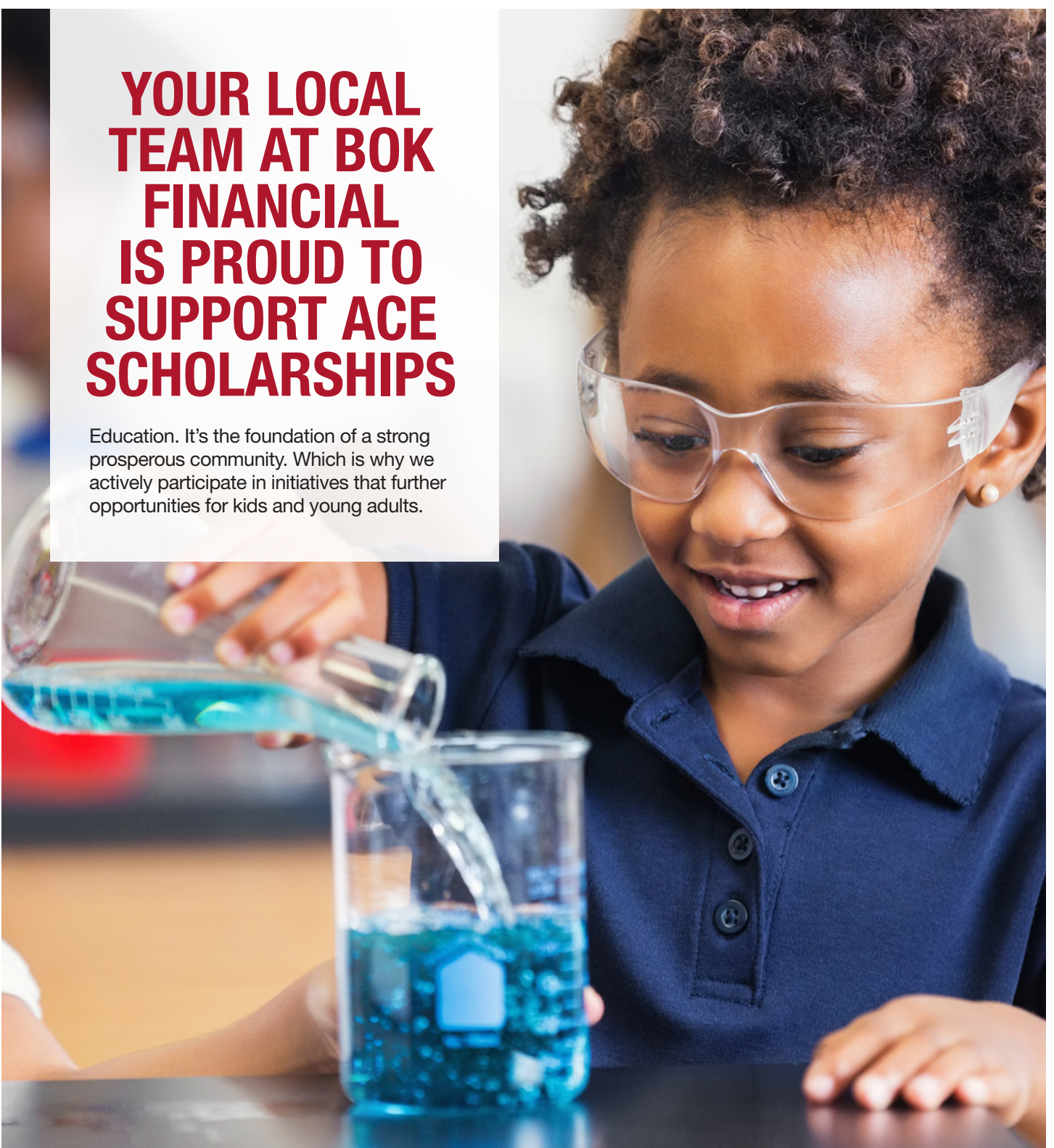
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Recipients and  
High School Graduates



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“NSA is proud to support ACE in their mission to provide quality education to underprivileged youth. Every student deserves an opportunity to reach his or her potential. Thanks to ACE, we’re able to help students and schools deliver on that commitment.”

—Arlen Nordhagen & NSA Leadership



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