



# SMART

## *Cy Pres Awards*

**SMART champions education equity by supporting students in overcoming systemic barriers on their journey to a college degree. We envision a community with equitable pathways to college graduation for every student in San Francisco. We work towards that vision by providing students and families academic and social-emotional support, as well as college preparation and career exploration.**

- Over the last decade, 100% of SMART Scholars have graduated high school and 95% matriculated to college, compared to an 83% high school graduation rate in California and a nationwide 51% college matriculation rate of their low-income peers.
- While the national college graduation rate for students from low-income households is 16%, SMART Scholars are 4 times more likely to graduate from college.
- Over the last decade, 87% of Scholars have either graduated or are persisting in college.

SMART relies on the generosity of our donor community to continue supporting students in San Francisco. One of the ways you can help us grow is by referring or connecting SMART to a cy pres award!

### **What are cy pres awards?**

Cy pres awards are unclaimed or leftover funds from class action cases (and sometimes other legal proceedings like probate) that are given to certain non-profit organizations that further the purposes of the underlying class action or promote justice. The guiding principle is to maintain the original intent of the funds as closely as possible; cy pres awards help ensure that unused funds serve the intended purpose and contribute to the greater good.

### **Why nominate SMART?**

SMART is eligible to receive cy pres awards from California State Court Class Actions under California Code of Civil Procedure section 384(b). SMART champions education equity by supporting students in overcoming systemic barriers on their journey to a college education. SMART is committed to systems that are just, fair, and inclusive, enabling all people the opportunity to belong, participate, and reach their full potential. Our mission and programs are fully aligned with the law's intent to "promote justice for all Californians."

### **How to direct cy pres awards:**

If you or your organization would like to designate SMART as the beneficiary of a cy pres award, please contact Kelly Brian Shea, Senior Director of Development at [kelly@thesmartprogram.org](mailto:kelly@thesmartprogram.org) or 415-944-2138.