



Bon Vivants Hospitality Creates Scholarship through Dave Eggers' ScholarMatch for San Francisco Students from Hospitality Families

Having already raised and donated over \$500,000 to different non-profits across the country, the award-winning hospitality group commits \$150,000 to help graduating high school seniors navigate their way through college

San Francisco, CA (May 29, 2019) – **Josh Harris** and **Morgan Schick** of **Bon Vivants Hospitality** are pleased to announce the creation ***The Bon Vivants Scholarship*** at **ScholarMatch**, a **non-profit organization founded by acclaimed author Dave Eggers**. To be eligible for The Bon Vivants Scholarship, a student must have at least one parent in the hospitality industry, live in San Francisco, and be a first-generation college student, in addition to ScholarMatch's established criteria. <https://scholarmatch.org/bonvivants/>

Bon Vivants Hospitality is committed to funding this scholarship with a minimum of \$150,000 over the next five years to fully support the ScholarMatch services for five students, one added each year, for the entirety of their college experience. The funds are used for costs and items beyond tuition fees, which can be an impediment to low-income students, even with tuition assistance. These costs may include housing deposits, textbooks, personal or family emergencies, and activity fees.

Harris and Schick, who own the award-winning cocktail bars Trick Dog and Bon Voyage!, in San Francisco's Mission District, are regular contributors to community-driven philanthropic projects. To-date, Bon Vivants Hospitality has donated close to \$515,000 to nonprofit organizations in which the group believes. Approximately \$425,000 of that total has been raised through The Bon Vivants' event Pig & Punch, which is approaching its milestone 10th Annual event at Tales of the Cocktail this July. Nearly \$90,000 of the \$515,000 total has originated from the sales of Trick Dog's theme menus and related events.

"We are very excited to announce the creation of our scholarship at ScholarMatch," says Harris. "A scholarship of this kind has been something we've discussed for years in connection with our other philanthropic efforts, but we had never found the right partners to help bring it to life. It has always been important to us when choosing partners that we feel a strong connection to their values as an organization, and also that the money we raise and donate will make an immediate, long-lasting, and significant impact."

The unique nature of ScholarMatch's program, and the value of The Bon Vivants Scholarship, is that it focuses on the ongoing connection and mentorship of each student for the entirety of their college career, making sure they have the support, tools and connections to stay in school and also graduate and successfully launch a career.

"This new partnership with the Bon Vivants is an amazing example of what happens when neighbors from different walks of life connect; magic happens," says Kate Bueler, Community Engagement Manager at ScholarMatch. "It has become increasingly challenging for the students and families we serve in San Francisco to make ends meet, much less gain access to higher education. The Bon Vivants Scholarship is providing a concrete way for folks to support workers in local kitchens and hotels who have provided us with outstanding service day in and day out for decades."

Harris and Schick are proud to be a part of supporting the first recipient of The Bon Vivants Scholarship, **Gissela Guevara**, who will graduate from Lowell High School and attend San Jose State University fall 2019. Guevara lives with her mother and two siblings in San Francisco's Oceanview District and is a founding member of the Chemistry Show Club and president of La Raza. Within the San Francisco community, she focuses on supporting youth through Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and is passionate about connecting with young people with autism and supporting their social development. Her personal experience as a sister of an autistic sibling, and her work in the field, are cornerstones to her interest in exploring a career in medicine and nursing.

"Being the first Bon Vivants Scholar has made a huge impact on me and my family in various ways. Due to this scholarship, I am able to attend San Jose State University this fall as the first person in my family to attend college and will pursue nursing," says Guevara. "This scholarship and attending college will help me set an example for my family and motivate other young Latina students in my community to aspire to a higher education."

Donations to The Bon Vivants Scholarship can be made here:

<https://scholarmatch.org/bonvivants/>

About ScholarMatch (<https://scholarmatch.org/>; @scholarmatch_hq)

Founded as a nonprofit in 2010 by Dave Eggers, the mission of ScholarMatch (EIN: 45-4985621) is to make college possible for youth in under-resourced communities by matching them with donors, resources, colleges, and professional networks. A vibrant hub for the community to support low-income and first-generation youth, ScholarMatch serves students at its San Francisco and Los Angeles College Centers, in partnership with schools and organizations, and nationwide through dynamic online programs. The full ScholarMatch program spans seven years, supporting students through three major transitions in their lives: applying to college, persisting through to college graduation, and launching their careers. Nationwide only 11% of low-income, first-generation students graduate from college. As a result of the ScholarMatch program, 81% of participating students from this same demographic graduate college.

About Bon Vivants Hospitality (<http://www.bonvivants.com/>; @trickdogbar; @bonvoyagebar)

The Bon Vivants, founded in 2009, has grown into two businesses. One is a spirits marketing, trade advocacy, and events agency, working with some of the greatest brands in the business and founder of their own national philanthropic event series, Pig & Punch. The other is Bon Vivants Hospitality, whose mission is opening bars and restaurants defined by thoughtful sophistication and a true sense of authenticity, while expanding the philanthropic efforts so

important to the original vision of The Bon Vivants. Bon Vivants Hospitality offers the best of the beverage hospitality industry: thoughtful and smart operators and consultants; forward-thinking creators of contemporary flavors; creative and groundbreaking cocktail innovators; consummate hosts; articulate and passionate experts in their field; and unique food offerings with compelling design and ambience.

BVHospitality owns two cocktail bars in San Francisco's Mission District. Bon Voyage! opened its disco doors in October 2018, and Trick Dog opened in January 2013. Trick Dog has earned a heap of consumer and industry accolades, including being named finalist for the prestigious James Beard Foundation Award for Outstanding Bar Program in 2015 and 2018. Trick Dog was also awarded World's Best Cocktail Menu at the 2017 Tales of the Cocktail Spirited Awards, in addition to its 2014 win for Best American Bar Team. Trick Dog has been named on the internationally recognized World's 50 Best Bars for the last five consecutive years. *Nightclub and Bar* magazine named Trick Dog Small Wonder Bar of the Year as well as America's Best Cocktail Bar, and it has been named to the "best-of" lists across America ranging from *Food & Wine*, to *Playboy*, to *San Francisco Chronicle*.

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