

I heard a statement over the weekend that said, “From 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade you learn to read. From 4<sup>th</sup> grade on, you read to learn”. Many of you already know this, yet this is where many of our youth get derailed. Reading levels in California high schools for youth of color are abysmal. With nearly 50% of our students not graduating from high school and less interested in STEM, we’ve a steep hill to climb. Yet, we’re committed to work with individuals, agencies and others in or outside our community to make this change happen.

Others who are working on improving reading (see Mike Wasserman’s article below)

See the article below about how we can get scholarships for higher education Scholly article below

Call our chamber if you’d like to volunteer or share insight/relationship to make a difference in our community. We have need of your gift/talent or skills. (408) 288-8806



**Mike Wasserman is committed to this effort.**

**The Santa Clara County Library District ([SCCLD](http://www.sccl.org)) is partnering with First5 Santa Clara County for the “1000 Books Before Six” initiative, urging parents to read 1000 books to their children before they reach the age of six.** Free workshops, concerts, and literature focusing on early childhood literacy for parents and caregivers are offered at all SCCLD libraries. Parents are encouraged to pick up their copy of the pamphlets “Every Child Ready to Read,” and “1000 Books Before Six” booklists for teaching and learning tips as well as incentives to encourage reading in children 0-6 years of age. Learn more here: [www.sccl.org](http://www.sccl.org)

This is article below about how we can get scholarships for higher education Scholly article below

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# Opportunity for all.

Scholly was created by Christopher Gray who won \$1.3 million in scholarships through hard work, grit and determination. Realizing how broken and time consuming this process was, he created Scholly to make things much easier.

## A better way.

Christopher Gray was a high school junior growing up in an under-served urban neighborhood in Birmingham, Alabama which, among other all-to-common struggles, was going through the recent



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