

Camino al Plato continues to create opportunities



BATTER UP!

ISSUE 4

**November,
2025**

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From the field to the classroom, we believe in their future.

Since its creation, **Fundación Camino al Plato** has worked tirelessly to transform the lives of student-athletes in Puerto Rico, combining sports and education as powerful tools for change. Through scholarship programs, free clinics, and tournaments, the Foundation continues to create opportunities that foster discipline, perseverance, and leadership.

Over the years, Fundación Camino al Plato has reaffirmed its commitment to Puerto Rican youth. The Foundation has awarded **36 academic and athletic scholarships** to student-athletes attending private schools and has hosted **free baseball and softball clinics** that have positively impacted **more than 1,000 children and teenagers** across the island.

Thanks to the continued generosity of our donors and the unwavering support of our founder, Tom Axon, the Foundation has invested **over \$293,000 scholarships**, promoting the academic, athletic, and personal development of students throughout Puerto Rico.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who believe in our mission and help us continue to build a brighter future for the next generation of leaders—both on and off the field.

Scholarship Summary 2022-2026

NUMBER OF STUDENTS AND GRANT DOLLARS PER ACADEMIC YEAR							
2022-2023				2023-2024			
Students	22-23	Grant \$	22-23	Students	23-24	Grant \$	23-24
10		50,200		17		72,200	
2024-2025				2025-2026			
Students	24-25	Grant \$	24-25	Students	25-26	Grant \$	25-26
13		50,200		20		120,605	
- Total Students positively impacted since inception: 36							

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE OROCOVIS YOUTH CLINIC

On **September 26, 2025**, **Fundación Camino al Plato** hosted a special youth baseball clinic at **Parque Iluminado "Lumin" Quiles in Orocovis, Puerto Rico**. The event brought together **more than 300 children** and teenagers for a morning filled with learning, teamwork, and enthusiasm.

From **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, participants received instruction from **Coach Gil Martinez**, with support and collaboration with professionals of the municipality of Orocovis, who led the clinic with dedication and passion, guiding the young athletes through new techniques and exercises designed to enhance their skills on the field.

These experiences reflect the Foundation's ongoing commitment to being a driving force for positive change in Puerto Rican sports. Each clinic represents an opportunity for participants to develop their abilities, strengthen their discipline, and discover in sports a path toward personal and academic growth.

At Fundación Camino al Plato, we remain dedicated to nurturing the talent of **Puerto Rico's youth** and opening doors that empower them to dream big.



Where every child represents a story of hope—and a future full of promise for Puerto Rico.

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Camino al Plato Fall Classic

From October 3 to 5, 2025, at the **East Sports Complex in Caguas, Puerto Rico**, Fundación Camino al Plato held its **third 13U Tournament** in collaboration with the **Municipality of Caguas**. The event brought together **90 young players** from teams across the island for a weekend of competition, sportsmanship, and growth under the guidance of **Coach Gil Martínez**.

The champion team of the tournament was the **Angels of Caguas**, while the **Rebels of Carolina** earned the runner-up title. Other teams recognized for their outstanding effort and performance include the **Potros of Río Piedras**, **Pandas of Salinas**, **BV Baseball Bayamón**, **Cades Aguadilla**, **Ponce Bayas**, and **Saints of Caguas**.

This year's tournament also featured cash prizes for the top six teams: **\$2,000** for first place, **\$1,000** for second place, and **\$200** each for teams placing third through sixth.

The tournament reflected the Foundation's commitment to creating competitive and meaningful opportunities for Puerto Rico's youth.

Highlights

**October 3 - 5,
2025**



3RD Foundation 13U Tournament: A Celebration of Youth Talent

Beyond the Game: Coach Gil Martínez Shares His Thoughts

Fundación Camino al Plato's own Coach Gil Martínez shared his thoughts on the tournament, saying:

"I feel extremely happy with the performance of the children. The parents were great, and I truly believe it was an excellent tournament."

Rising to the Top: Comments from the MVP of the Tournament

The MVP was Joel Meléndez, player of the Angels of Caguas and is a native of Cayey. When asked about his mindset during the game, Joel simply said, "I just wanted to support my team." He added, "I was just thinking about keeping on running and never stopping."

His words reflect the dedication and discipline that define his approach to the sport and the spirit of every young athlete supported by the Foundation.

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When Rhythm Meets Purpose: The Cutouts in the Handlebar



On October 4, 2025, the rock band **The Cutouts** returned to **The Handlebar**—San Juan’s renowned hard rock venue—for their second performance in less than a year, delivering a night filled with music, energy, and purpose.

The event was held to raise funds in support of **Fundación Camino al Plato**, as part of **Tom Axon’s** ongoing mission to continue expanding academic and athletic opportunities for **student-athletes** across Puerto Rico.

Friends, families, and community members came together to enjoy an evening of rock, camaraderie, and solidarity. Each note performed served as a reminder that when **music and sports unite**, the impact goes beyond the stage and becomes a symbol of hope for **Puerto Rico’s youth**.

The Cutouts are composed of **Travis Scalia, David Kalm, Justin Berger, Bruce Grabau, Glenn Murphy, Sean Hundtofte, and Robert Sullivan**—a talented and dedicated group whose connection with the audience made every moment feel electric.

Beyond their musical passion, **The Cutouts** hold a special place within the **Foundation’s mission**. The band is made up of **friends, directors, consultants, and employees of affiliated companies** who, both onstage and behind the scenes, play an important role in supporting the work that allows the Foundation to reach and uplift young athletes throughout Puerto Rico.

We are deeply grateful to The Cutouts for their continued support and for using music as a bridge to inspire and uplift our community.

Connect with Fundación Camino al Plato

Email: hellacaminoalplato.org
<https://www.caminoalplato.com/contact>

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**November 15, 2025
Ponce, Puerto Rico**

FREE BASEBALL CLINIC – PONCE RECAP

On November 15, 2025, Fundación Camino al Plato hosted a successful free baseball clinic in Ponce, bringing together **around 20 to 30 children** from the southern region.

The clinic featured an exceptional group of coaches, including **Gil Martínez** — **director and scout for the Tampa Bay Rays**, **Juan Montero** — **player for the Leones de Ponce and the Boston Red Sox**, **Eric García** — **pitcher for the Leones de Ponce**, **Adrix Paradiso** — **member of Puerto Rico's National Women's Baseball Team**, **David Colón** — **former Atlanta Braves player**, **Francisco Meléndez** — **former MLB player for the San Francisco Giants**, **Edgardo Lebrón** — **Tampa Bay Rays coach**, and **Celso Collado** — **Criollos de Caguas**. Their combined experience and commitment provided participants with high-quality instruction and an inspiring learning environment.

One of the most exciting outcomes of the event was the level of interest from the community—**around 15 participants and families requested information to begin applications for our scholarship programs**, showing how deeply the Foundation's mission resonates with the youth in the region.

We are grateful to the families, athletes, and local supporters who joined us, helping make this clinic a memorable and impactful experience for everyone involved.

Thank you, Ponce!

Another step forward in our mission to empower youth—one community at a time

Coming up next:

A Christmas to Remember —
inspired by the true spirit of the
holiday season.

December 8, 2025



A Look at What's Next

**Coming Soon: Free
Baseball Clinic in
Dorado**

As part of our commitment to the northeastern communities, we will hold a **free baseball clinic in Dorado, Puerto Rico on December 8th** where children will have the opportunity to learn, grow, and have a good time alongside coaches and volunteers.

A Christmas To Remember

Holiday Impact in Action

In December 2025, Fundación Camino al Plato will host a very special event titled **"A Christmas to Remember,"** inspired by the true spirit of the holiday season. This celebration aims to bring together the **community, partners, families, and young athletes** in an atmosphere of joy, gratitude, and unity.

The event will serve not only as a time to celebrate the achievements of the past year, but also as a reminder of the Foundation's mission — to continue creating meaningful opportunities through **sports and education**. Guests will enjoy a day filled with festive activities, and the warmth of shared purpose, as we come together to reflect on how every moment of effort contributes to a brighter future for **Puerto Rico**.



Camino al Plato Foundation
is proud to invite you

CHRISTMAS
To Remember

December 13-14
10am to 7pm

@Parque Jaime Benítez (La Laguna, Condado)
1110 C. Vieques, San Juan, 00907, Puerto Rico

- Enjoy a Day Full of Holiday Fun!
- Interactive inflatable games – basketball, football & soccer challenges
- 3-in-1 bounce house with slide
- Dunk tank
- Photo booths
- Popcorn, cotton candy & snow cones
- Delicious food, drinks & local treats
- Local artisans & holiday crafts
- Arts & crafts for kids and families
- Music, laughter, and Christmas cheer!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT AND SAVE!
\$7 PER PERSON (PRE-SALE)
\$20 FAMILY PACK (UP TO 5 PEOPLE)

AT THE ENTRANCE:
\$10 PER PERSON
\$25 FAMILY PACK (UP TO 5 PEOPLE)

ALL TICKETS ARE VALID FOR BOTH DAYS!

SCAN & GIVE HOPE



We encourage you to kindly consider making an additional donation. Every dollar raised goes entirely to support our mission, as all administrative expenses are paid by Tom Asen, our founder. Act 22 and 60 grantees can satisfy annual charitable giving requirements through a donation. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

<https://www.caminoalplato.com/>
(866) 342-4343

November, 2025

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BATTER UP!

**Next on the Field
What's Ahead for 2026**



Girls' Softball Season Opener – 2026

The Foundation is excited to kick off the new year with its Second Annual Girls' Softball Tournament on January 2, 2026. This event marks the beginning of a new season of athletic growth, giving young female athletes the opportunity to develop their skills, compete at a high level, and continue building confidence both on and off the field. The tournament reflects our commitment to expanding access to sports for girls across Puerto Rico and to empowering the next generation of leaders through meaningful athletic experiences.



Girls' Softball Season Opener – 2026

This February, the Foundation will host a special Super Bowl Weekend Fundraiser, bringing together supporters and friends for a two-day celebration in support of our mission. The festivities will include a live performance by The Cutouts on the evening before the Super Bowl, followed by a community event on game day. The Super Bowl will take place on February 8, 2026, and funds raised throughout the weekend will directly support our programs and student-athletes across Puerto Rico.



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Join Us in Creating Opportunities That Last

*At **Fundación Camino al Plato**, every clinic, every scholarship, and every moment shared on the field represents something bigger—a chance for a young person to discover possibility, purpose, and a future they can believe in.*

Your support helps us continue opening those doors. Whether it is that we are providing equipment, expanding our clinics, or offering scholarships that lift barriers, each contribution that you make strengthens the path that our students, their walk towards growth—both in the classroom and on the field. When you choose to give, you become part of their story.

Part of the encouragement.

Part of the opportunity.

Part of the change.

Thank you for believing in Puerto Rico's youth and for helping us build brighter futures through sport and education.

The Foundation is a nonprofit organization organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and certified as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and Section 1101.01 of the Puerto Rico Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation is also registered as a nonprofit on the list of the Special Joint Committee on Legislative Funds for Community Impact. As a nonprofit dedicated to eradicating child poverty, the Foundation is eligible for all donations required under Act 22-2012 and Act 60-2019. 100 percent of all donations go to fund the Foundation's mission. This is possible because our founder, Tom Axon, personally pays all of the Foundation's administrative expenses and salaries.

All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

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FUNDACIÓN
CAMINO AL PLATO
JOIN TODAY!

Venmo



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www.caminoalplato.com

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=ZL6NU3SM8CCD8