Opening FALL 2017



A New Home! Same Scholarship Foundation Family



Our new building at 6825 Clayton Avenue

Location and Amenities

Since early July, The Scholarship Foundation has been settling into a new home at 6825 Clayton Avenue. The new offices are in the city of St. Louis, just east of the Hi-Pointe Theater. Traffic coming west on I-40/64 or south on Skinker Boulevard see prominent and well-lit signage for the Foundation on the upper stories of the building. With windows on all sides of the first-floor offices, the space conveys the accessibility and transparency that characterizes the Foundation's work.

The new offices house core staff of 13 individuals and open, flexible work and meeting space. A spacious balcony provides informal seating, a hammock, a ceiling fan, and a view all the way to the Arch. The offices are equipped with movable furniture and state of the art technology for communication, meetings, and presentations.

Community Building

More important than any physical attributes are the characteristics of the community building that occurs within The Scholarship Foundation's new home. Here's some of what happened in the first three months of operation in the new location:

- More than 500 students, family members, and community partners attended orientations, workshops, and community meetings;
- More than 75 former volunteers and staff members of ScholarShop gathered for an alumni reunion, thanks to generous board effort; and,

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

6825 Clayton Avenue, Suite 100 St. Louis, MO 63139 (314) 725-7990 Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Staff

Kim Abel Deputy Director

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Beth Andrews Office Administrator

Tyronica Dowdy Community Relations Coordinator

Robert Elam Student Advisor

Rob Foley IT Director

Laura Keeton Data Support Specialist

Cheryl Lewey Senior Accountant

Felipe Martínez *Immigrant Student Advisor*

Karin McElwain-West External Relations Director

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Teresa Steinkamp

Advising Director Thurman Young

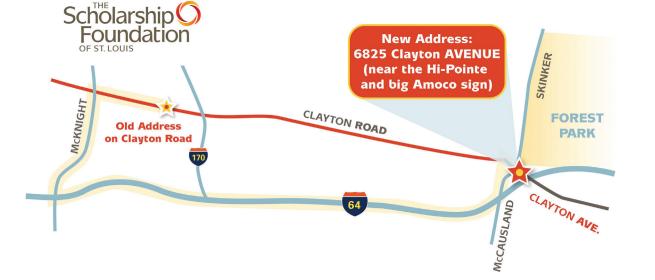
- Two board meetings and 10 board committee meetings were held;

An Invitation

If you haven't already visited, please stop by. In addition to touring the space, staff can update you on the ways the mission and vision of The Scholarship Foundation are becoming even clearer as 2020, the organization's centennial year, approaches.

- A number of wonderful conversations began the framing of future major gifts to sustain the Foundation's mission well beyond 2020, our 100th year.

Program Director



Promoting Healthy Lifestyles

Meet **Kia Davis**, a 23-year-old who graduated from the University of Missouri–Columbia in May 2016. During her college career, Kia majored in health sciences and minored in human development, family studies, and psychology. In addition to her aggressive course-load, Kia participated in two internships through The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis. Both of Kia's internships were supported by **Equifax**, through the Foundation's Community Internship Program.



Lucas Signorelli of St. Louis MetroMarket, with Scholarship Foundation interns Quinton Ward and Kia Davis

"From the time I graduated high school the Foundation has been there supporting me; whether that was sending out an email to see how things were going, or notifying me of campus visits so that I could come by." In the summer of 2015, Kia engaged in her first internship at **SouthSide Early Childhood Center**. Kia explains, "I worked alongside the project manager and created resource guides, organized a free community health fair, made flyers, contacted different organizations to see if they would be willing to provide services such as dental, height and weight screenings, and ultimately promoted a healthy lifestyle, working with low-income families and making sure they had information about shelters and food pantries."

This summer, Kia completed her second internship at **St. Louis MetroMarket**, a nonprofit designed to "restore access to healthy, affordable food to St. Louis City food deserts" which has transformed a donated city bus into a grocery store on wheels. Most of Kia's time was spent supporting community engagement; handing out flyers, contacting organizations to collaborate, and promoting a healthy lifestyle among people from low-income communities. Kia proudly expresses, "You get to meet so many people and learn about them. It's interesting to see their needs and wants and try to get them the assistance they are looking for."

Kia recently moved to Fort Worth, Texas where she will be participating in a two-year fellowship with the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (**CDC**). Kia was selected out of 1,300 applicants. She will be able to explore the public health field and get a better sense of the specialty she wants to pursue. *"It has always been a dream of mine to work for the CDC*," Kia admits, and she looks forward to a career of service to others.

Reflecting on these last five years, Kia is grateful for the work The Scholarship Foundation does. "From the time I graduated high school the Foundation has been there supporting me; whether that was sending out an email to see how things were going, or notifying me of campus visits so that I could come by." Kia's work thus far and her plans for the future are certainly clear examples of the power of education and the importance of the right resources at the right time.

Kia Davis, Class of 2016

From Adversity to Helping Others

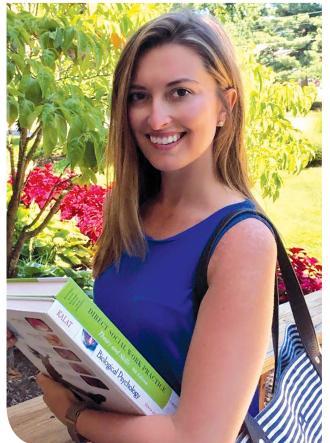
Meet **Meridith O'Connor**; a 25-year-old graduate student earning her master's degree in social work at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis. When she graduates in May 2018, Meridith plans to start her career in medicine, working as a patient advocate for pediatric patients and their families. Meridith explains *"Ever since I was little, I knew I wanted to help others. I have always been sensitive to people who are struggling or going through trying times."*

Meridith's dream to serve others became even more apparent and personal in 2005 when she was diagnosed with a rare, neuro-muscular disease called, Myasthenia Gravis. "Myasthenia Gravis completely changed my life," Meridith says, "but I know in my heart that this illness has provided me with a purpose bigger than I could have ever imagined."

This past summer, Meridith conducted a practicum at The Scholarship Foundation, working in numerous capacities within the organization to enhance her skills as a professional in the field of social work. "I originally was drawn to The Scholarship Foundation because I admired the concept of generating revenue through fashion to assist students financially to achieve their educational goals. Although saddened by the closure of ScholarShop, I knew I could still gain a tremendous amount of experience and knowledge within the nonprofit sector, and offer my own expertise to support future students." At the Foundation, Meridith: learned more about local and national educational policies; developed, administered, and evaluated surveys that were used to better understand organizational outcomes; and bolstered her writing and communication skills through social media and public relations work. She also participated in student advising meetings and orientations, and conducted research that focused on the physical and mental health of college students and the practice of self-care during college.

As a former Scholarship Foundation student who received both an interest-free loan and Saigh Bravo Grant, Meridith found her practicum to be a rewarding experience, being able to give back to the organization that offered her opportunities to grow, learn, and succeed. *"The Scholarship Foundation allowed me to earn my Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and healthcare ethics at Saint Louis University. Without the support of the Foundation, I do not believe I would be where I am today.*"





Meridith O'Connor (center) with representatives of The Saigh Foundation (I to r)Estie Pruett, Heidi Veron, JoAnn Hejna, and Mary Kemp

"The Scholarship Foundation allowed me to earn my Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and healthcare ethics at Saint Louis University. Without the support of the Foundation, I do not believe I would be where I am today."

Meridith O'Connor

Meridith O'Connor, Class of 2018

Helping Students Transition to College



Aja McCoy interned this past summer with The Scholarship Foundation, helping students make the transition to college at **St. Louis** Graduates High School to College Center. Aja's internship was supported by **Equifax**, through the Foundation's Community Internship Program. Aja is now completing her last semester at Xavier University, but before she headed to New Orleans she penned this letter to younger students.

Aja McCoy, Class of 2017, working with a student at the High School to College Center

Dear High School Senior,

You amble along the corridor unaware of the exhilaration that awaits. The gentle melody of Pomp and Circumstance signifies your new beginning. Eyes become watery and hearts warm, as you stroll along the aisle. With one foot in front of the other, you walk in unison with classmates. Left foot, right foot, until you reach the stage. You are finally graduating. It takes 12 years to graduate, but only 10 seconds to cross the stage. During those 12 years you have prepared for this moment. During the next five minutes, I am going to share insights on life after high school. The preparation starts now, as you begin your last year of high school!

Last summer I had the honor to work with many bright students like you. I was the financial aid intern at the St. Louis Graduates High School to College Center. My job was to educate students and parents on the financial aid process. While interning, three themes continuously emerged: deadlines, time management,

- **1. Deadlines.** Submit all forms on time. This includes the admissions application, scholarship applications, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Call the colleges to which you've applied (or
- plan to apply) today and ask them for their priority deadlines. 2. Time management. Keep track of the "to do" list. The FAFSA is not the last step. Many schools ask for additional documents. Not submitting the necessary admissions or verification documents on time could
- lead to delayed award letters or little to no grant or scholarship aid.
- **3. Unmet need.** Unmet need is also known as a gap, or the difference between the school's cost of attendance and any financial aid offered. You may have a gap even if you followed steps one and two. Be proactive: create a back-up plan and apply to outside scholarships. There are many scholarships on the web for graduating high school seniors. (Check out myscholarshipcentral.org) Whatever you do, don't give up.

Finalizing the best fit college can be challenging. Be sure to compare all award offers and use your resources. Remember, choices you make this year will influence your future; making an informed decision is an important step as you plan for your college years and beyond.

Good luck,



New Contributors

The Foundation is grateful for the following first-time gifts received through the annual giving campaign, gifts to Bravo Fund, major gifts to Designated Scholar Loans, and gifts given for special projects from November 16, 2016–September 15, 2017.

Anonymous Dr. Ruth C. Comens* Mr. and Mrs. John Doyle Karen O. Drake **Brian Fernandez Diana and Stephen Hall Kyle Hanes**

Dr. Muhammad Q. Islam Dr. Karen E. Kohfeld Mr. and Mrs. George Love Kristin McElwain Moolah Shriner's Temple Club **Dina and Michael Petersen**

Sarah and Jerry Pinkner RubinBrown LLP William and Jane Schmalz **Charitable Fund** Senator Jill Schupp Dan Broida/Sigma-Aldrich Scholarship Fund

Kymberly Stroud Gretchen Vander Meulen and Elsbeth Brugger Linda and Peter Werner

* Deceased

Strength and Integrity Beyond Circumstance Announcing the Jane E. and William A. Schmalz Designated Scholar Loan

There could be no greater story of alignment with the work and the values of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis than the life and legacy of **Bill and Jane Schmalz**. For that reason, it is a special honor to announce the creation of the **Jane E. and William A. Schmalz Designated Scholar Loan (DSL)**, established in their honor and memory by their loving family. The Schmalz DSL will provide much needed financial support to five students annually, in perpetuity.

Bill Schmalz and Jane (Luithle) Schmalz grew up together in south St. Louis, attending Fanning Elementary and Roosevelt High School. They shared 85 years of their lives and were married 70 years when Mr. Schmalz passed in 2013.

Bill was born into a disadvantaged, single mother family. A prominent St. Louis area attorney took notice of him, paying his full tuition at Washington University, where Bill set out to study geology. Bill's education was interrupted by World War II, in which his service in Patton's 3rd Army included the Normandy Invasion, the Battle of the Bulge, and the liberation of concentration camps. After the war, with a young family to support, Bill took the only job he could find, a personnel clerk earning \$90 a month at the St. Louis Screw & Bolt Company, where within 10 years he rose to become president. This was followed by 37 years with Harbour Group in St Louis, where he was Chief Operating Officer and a member of the board. Mr. Schmalz continued to serve his country and community throughout his life in many capacities including federal and county government roles and proudly as a St. Louis County Police Commissioner. Similar to the journey of many Scholarship Foundation students, Bill's story is a testament that the circumstances of one's birth and unforeseen life events do not determine the outcome of one's life.

Jane passed in 2015 and her life legacy includes two sons, two adopted Native American daughters, four grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. Jane's family remembers her unconditional love and support as the secret ingredient to the achievements of those who followed her. She had a quiet strength and her sharp focus on the good in people and life was always evident, even in an imperfect world. Jane was an accomplished cook, gardener, bridge player, and a golfer with a hole in one to boast. She was always an advocate for those less fortunate. It was the depth of her relationships with friends and family that marked her days, and she is clearly deeply missed.

The Schmalz family was first introduced to The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis by former board member **Terry Hatfield**, who worked with Bill and Jane's son **Bob** for many years. Bob and his daughter **Jill** paid a personal visit to The Scholarship Foundation in December 2016. They were seeking an organization which would honor Bill and Jane's values of compassion, loyalty, doing what is right (even if it requires personal sacrifice), and not looking away from injustice or the suffering of others. Further, the family wants to commit to organizations that will support students who, like Bill, have the capability and drive to succeed but lack the financial resources.



Bill and Jane Schmalz

Accordingly, the Jane E. and William A. Schmalz Designated Scholar Loan Fund was launched, to support students who, like Bill and Jane, work hard to support themselves and to build a better community.

Thank You to the Following Crucial Contributors

Several donors gave gifts to interest-free loan and grant funds:

• Dan Broida/Sigma-Aldrich (DB/SA) Foundation transferred its assets to The A longtime friend of the Foundation made a substantial **anonymous** gift to support students who are especially vulnerable in current times.

Anne Boettcher made a generous gift in memory of her mother **Marilyn Boettcher**, who was a Foundation board member (1979-1993), a ScholarShop volunteer for 32 years, and a strong supporter of the Foundation. Joan and Marcus Sessel created two new DSLs, one in memory of their friend Howard Lindberg and one that will be paired with a Bravo Grant for a student who has overcome

- Scholarship Foundation to continue funding DB/SA students through graduation and to augment the interest-free loan fund.
- Jane Goldberg gave a generous gift through the Goldfarb Family Philanthropic Fund at the Jewish Community Foundation.
- **Great Rivers Confluence Foundation** provided support for interest-free loans.
- Eric P. & Evelyn E. Newman Foundation doubled its annual gift in support of interestfree loans, signaling its ongoing support.
- **Peter and Linda Werner** provided a generous gift to the Bravo Grant fund.

Equifax increased its gift to support the Community Internship Program for a sixth year and to create a scholarship for a student in finance or business.

Sid Goldstein and Laura Kipnis made a creative gift in honor of Sid's father, Alvin "Bud" Goldstein, to cover the cost of flat screen monitors for the Foundation's meeting spaces and reception area.

Mrs. James G. Janney gave a new gift to provide medical school loan forgiveness for Foundation students who choose family practice residencies. significant obstacles to pursue an education.

Trellis Philanthropy (formerly TG Philanthropy) increased its already generous support to include expanded federal policy work, and sharing expertise around engaging youth in policy work with colleagues across the country.

The following donors gave gifts through significant bequests:

- **Paul Arenberg**, former Foundation board member (2008-2016), longtime friend, and creative supporter
- **Dr. Ruth C. Comens**, named the Foundation in her will more than 20 years ago.
- **Mary Langenberg**, significant donor and friend to the Foundation for many years

Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students Tributes in Memory of November 16, 2016 - September 15, 2017

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will be available to all with the potential to succeed. closed to those who lack financial resources, and postsecondary education of economic circumstance. This is a community in which doors will not be and assures that positive educational outcomes are accessible to all regardless community that truly recognizes the importance of educational attainment individuals, families, communities, and nations. The Foundation envisions a Foundation of St. Louis sees education as a catalyst, an agent of change for an educated citizenry is essential to a healthy democracy. The Scholarship a nonprofit organization founded in 1920, is based upon the conviction that

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