

# WINTER 2019 • Opening DOORS 100 Years and Counting

## Mikayla Jo Ecker: a Journey of Self-Discovery

In 2014, **Mikayla Jo Ecker** met Scholarship Foundation Advising Director **Teresa Steinkamp** who had visited Mikayla's high school, Northwest R-1, to help students with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). At Teresa's encouragement, Mikayla applied for and received an interest-free student loan from The Scholarship Foundation to study music at Webster University. She was also awarded a Bravo Grant from the Foundation.

At Webster, Mikayla immersed herself in music. She worked as a practice room monitor, a recital assistant, and as an assistant to the department of music creating programs for events. In her free time, she played bass guitar in a metal band.

Mikayla says that she struggled in her first few years of college, especially with anxiety while performing. Being in front of audiences was a necessary part of the music performance major she had selected. She says, "I loved singing, but every time I got on the stage, I had a panic attack." After her sophomore year, she changed her major to music, removing the requirement for public performance.

Mikayla feels that college isn't just about striving for academic success. For her, it was also a journey of self-discovery. She says that it was important to learn about herself and how she is going to be a part of her community. By senior year, she felt that she had grown, both as an individual and as a performer.

As part of that growth process, she decided that she wanted to take on the challenge of a senior recital, even though it wasn't required. She selected "Love's Endeavors" as her theme. She spent a term studying in Vienna with her voice teacher, and her experiences helped her to choose the first piece for her recital: Beethoven's *An die ferne Geliebte*, which translates to "For the distant Beloved."

As she prepared for her recital, Mikayla researched each musical piece and wrote a short essay on its history and composer. One piece in particular challenged Mikayla throughout rehearsals, and she was apprehensive as the day of the recital arrived. When she performed in front of the audience at her recital, she sang it perfectly. Mikayla is proud of her performance and says, "It was amazing for me to realize what I was capable of." In addition to Mikayla's friends and family, Teresa, Mikayla's Foundation student advisor, watched with pride.



**Mikayla Jo Ecker**  
Class of 2019  
Bachelor of Arts, Music  
Webster University

*Mikayla feels that college isn't just about striving for academic success. For her, it was also a journey of self-discovery. She says that it was important to learn about herself and how she is going to be a part of her community.*



**Mikayla Jo Ecker and Scholarship Foundation Advising Director Teresa Steinkamp**

Mikayla graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music with a certificate in international language from Webster University in May 2019. After graduation, Mikayla accepted a position as senior sales associate at Music & Arts. She is responsible for lessons scheduling and instrument rentals and sales. One of her favorite parts of the job is visiting school and camp music programs to demonstrate different musical instruments to children.

Her advice to students just entering college is to "hesitate less and don't be afraid to ask for help." She also cautions students to cut themselves some slack. She says, "College is a time of adventure, and you should enjoy it."

THE  
Scholarship Foundation  
OF ST. LOUIS

100 Years and Counting



# Countdown to a Centennial Year

Months away from 2020, The Scholarship Foundation is ready to celebrate. It was 100 years ago when the idea to create a community fund to support the education of emerging adults was first born. In the comfort of the Parkview home of **Meta Bettman**, a group of visionaries started the community on a quest to build educational equity, cultivate leadership, and foster democracy. They counted on the community for support, and the community has never wavered.

THE  
**Scholarship  
Foundation**  
OF ST. LOUIS

**100 Years and Counting**

The impact of The Scholarship Foundation is measurable. At last count, more than \$90 million has been awarded to approximately 12,000 students since the founding of the organization. The year 2020 will boost those numbers even higher.

In true Scholarship Foundation style, the centennial year will provide countless opportunities to come to know the students who continue the long tradition of education, leadership, and engagement that has characterized the organization from the start (for a schedule of signature events, see page 3). The year

will begin with an exhibit crafted by nine students and a celebratory reception to learn their stories and consider the history of the Foundation in the context of key issues: immigration, community, economics, and race. Mark your calendars to help launch the year true to history and focused on the future.

As always, The Scholarship Foundation is stronger as a result of remarkable volunteer contributions. A bold new strategic plan has been built by a board of directors that has given 100% attendance on a full Saturday of planning. Each of the five board committees (Advocacy, Board Development, External Relations, Planning and Finance, and Program) followed the strategic retreat with four additional planning sessions to build action plans to support the strategy. Every aspect of the centennial year has been planned and will be implemented by current and former board members and current and former staff devoted to the mission (for a list of anniversary committees, see page 3).

During the anniversary year, the Foundation's look and logo will shift to draw attention to the strength with which the organization enters the next century of service. At "100 Years and Counting," there is so much to celebrate, and so much more good work to do to achieve the dream of an educated and engaged community ready to support democracy.



*Meta Bettman's home in Parkview, where the founders gathered 100 years ago*



*The Scholarship Foundation's present home on Clayton Avenue*

# Knowing Where We've Been and How We Got Here

In preparation for The Scholarship Foundation's Centennial Anniversary in 2020, the Centennial Anniversary History Sub-Committee, a dedicated group of current and former board members, began researching the Foundation's history. They learned about the Foundation's rich and deep roots in fostering community engagement and building a stronger democracy by making higher education more accessible and equitable, primarily for young adults who have been disenfranchised because of race, economics, or immigration status.

## Here are a few things they discovered:

- The Foundation was established in 1920 as the Scholarship Committee of the National Council of Jewish Women to help Eastern European Jewish immigrants fleeing oppression, violence, and poverty. The St. Louis Jewish Scholarship Foundation helped young immigrants gain education and skills rather than being forced to join the workforce before completing high school. At that time, child labor was still quite common as families needed multiple earners to sustain themselves.
- From 1920-1929, only Jewish girls received funding. In 1929, when the St. Louis Jewish Scholarship Foundation incorporated as a nonprofit organization, Jewish boys also began receiving funding.
- The Foundation began funding Black nursing students in 1948, the year President Harry S. Truman desegregated the armed services and six years before the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, Topeka KS.
- In 2009, the Foundation stopped funding students attending proprietary colleges and universities. This change was in acknowledgement of the predatory tactics used by many proprietary schools to attract students and the poor results achieved—high debt, low graduation, and low employment rates. The federal government continues to offer loans and grants to students attending for-profit schools.

The Foundation's history will be shared with the community at events throughout the year, through blog posts, social media, and on the Foundation's website.

## Volunteers Lead the Way

The Scholarship Foundation has always relied heavily on volunteer leadership. For its 100th anniversary, this is no less true. Foundation staff and board leadership are grateful for the dedicated efforts of the following teams.

### Centennial Anniversary Planning Committee

Betsy Douglass, *Chair*  
Martha Aronson  
Buff Buffkin  
Debra Kennard  
Karin McElwain-West  
Tom Ruwitch  
Faith Sandler  
Bente Seitz  
Audrey Shanfeld  
Barb Touchette  
Jamie Wilger

### Events Sub-Committee

Martha Aronson, *Co-Chair*  
Bente Seitz, *Co-Chair*  
James Boldt  
Jane Eiseman  
Carol Evers  
Mimi Fargo  
Prue Gershman  
Linda Goldstein  
Malaika Horne  
Lynne Kipnis  
Louise Lonsbury  
Brenda Melson

Julia Muller  
Rhea Oelbaum  
Estie Pruett  
Dana Romeis  
Earl Shreckengast  
Jamie Wilger, *Staff Liaison*

### History Sub-Committee

Audrey Shanfeld, *Co-Chair*  
Barb Touchette, *Co-Chair*  
Richard Atkins  
Pat Cox  
Kathy Day  
Karin McElwain-West,

*Staff Liaison*

Judith Meyer  
Minnie Phillips  
Susan Rava

### Public Relations Sub-Committee

Debra Kennard, *Chair*  
Karina Arango  
Stacy Massey  
Faith Sandler, *Staff Liaison*  
Maria Vergara

## Save the Dates

In celebration of 100 years of supporting area students to, through, and beyond college, please join The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis in 2020.

WITNESS FOUNDATION STUDENTS  
MAKING THEIR MARK ON THE WORLD  
*KNOW US: Stories of St. Louis Students  
Finding Their Way Opening Reception*  
Thursday, January 23, 2020 | 6–8:30 pm  
MacDermott Grand Hall, Missouri History Museum  
The exhibit will run from January 19–March 29, 2020  
at the Missouri History Museum.

HONOR THE FOUNDERS' VISION OF A BETTER FUTURE  
*How to Repair the World: "Big Sonia" Film Screening*  
Thursday, March 5, 2020 | 1:30–3:30 pm  
Lee Auditorium, Missouri History Museum

CELEBRATE A NEW GENERATION OF STUDENTS  
*Graduating Greatness:  
Celebrating the Next Century of Scholars*  
Wednesday, August 5, 2020 | 4 pm  
The Sheldon Concert Hall

COMMIT TO THE NEXT 100 YEARS OF  
STUDENT SUPPORT

*The Scholarship Foundation Family Reunion*  
Sunday, November 15, 2020 | 2–5 pm  
Probstein Golf Course Clubhouse



# *Giving Back:* Zoe and Donald Gellman Designated Scholar Loan

**Mark Gellman** has chosen to honor the end of his term as a Scholarship Foundation board member by giving other students the same help that he received in college. Mark credits The Scholarship Foundation as being an integral part of allowing him to complete his degree. His passion for the mission of the Foundation has been evident in his service on the board over the past three years. *"We've been blessed, and it's special to be able to give back,"* Mark says.



*Donald and Zoe Gellman join their son Mark at his graduation from Indiana University.*

Mark's parents, **Donald and Zoe Gellman**, met as students at Clayton High School. They raised their family in Creve Coeur where Mark attended Parkway North High School. The family experienced financial difficulties when Mark was in high school. The Scholarship Foundation was able to help him pay for college at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University where he earned a degree in accounting. Mark's graduation from college made his father very proud. Sadly, Don Gellman died just 18 months later.

Like his parents, Mark and his wife met in high school while attending Parkway North. **Wendy Gellman** is active in the community, serving on the audit committee at Jewish Federation. She has also been a member on the board of the J Associates. Wendy and Mark have three children: eleven-year-old **Lily**; **Claire**, a freshman at the University of Alabama; and **Tyler**, a junior at the University of Arizona.

In 2007, after many years of specializing in retail, including starting a pre-Zappos online shoe company, Mark decided to pursue real estate full time. His brother, Neil, joined six months later and they created The Gellman Team, which specializes in residential real estate in St. Louis, St. Charles, and Jefferson Counties.

Together, Mark and Wendy have established a Designated Scholar Loan to honor Mark's parents. Zoe joined Mark when he announced the DSL at the June 4, 2019 Scholarship Foundation board meeting. When describing the honor, Zoe told her son *"Dad would be bursting with pride, as I am. How beautiful to leave a lasting name for us forever."*

The **Zoe and Donald Gellman Designated Scholar Loan** will support a graduate of Parkway North High School who attends a four-year out-of-state school. The Gellmans imagine that the student may be from a family that has encountered similar financial hardships as Mark's parents encountered when he was looking at colleges. Mark says that The Scholarship Foundation was there for him, and he and Wendy foresee the Foundation bridging the financial gap of the student supported through their DSL.

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the student supported  
through their DSL.*



*Zoe Gellman, Mark Gellman, and Foundation Executive Director Faith Sandler at the announcement of the new DSL on June 4, 2019*

# *Lifelong Educators:* C. Edwin and Ilene Murray Designated Scholar Loan

by Ilene Murray

Some people are born to teach, and that was the case with **Ilene and C. Edwin “Ed” Murray**. Each had been extremely active in their respective careers when they met in 1980. He was a biology teacher, emphasizing ecology and the environment and sharing a love for travel and family history research. She was a language arts teacher with a minor in history, who also loved nature and traveling. They both taught middle school and came to know each other when Ilene replaced the English teacher on Ed’s teaching team at Brittany Woods Middle School in University City.



*Ed and Ilene Murray*

After their marriage, Ilene and Ed taught together at Brittany Woods until his retirement in 1996. During this time, they embraced technological advances in education that were in their infancy. Ilene started a computer writing lab and then supervised a computer center at the school, and Ed, along with his students, worked with Washington University’s science staff and the Missouri Prairie Foundation to create a small prairie in what had been an unproductive patch of weeds and grass near the school. After his retirement, Ed became education director of the St. Louis Genealogical Society and turned his hobby into a second career. He began to teach genealogy classes for the society and for the St. Louis Community College and he did research work for clients. Ilene joined him in teaching after she retired in 2000, for by this time, she had learned to love family history research as well.

Ed was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in late 2004. He fought a hard battle but lost his life to that devastating illness in April 2006. He continued teaching almost until the very end because it was something he so loved doing. Today, as long-time publications director at St. Louis Genealogical Society, Ilene teaches genealogy and technology classes to adults. She lectures, writes, edits, and works on the society’s website.

*The Ilene and C. Edwin “Ed” Murray  
Designated Scholar Loan (DSL) at  
The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis  
was created as a fitting way  
to pay tribute to Ed and to reinforce  
Ilene’s own desire to help others.*

Ilene continues to honor Ed’s memory in many ways. In 2012, the School District of University City and the Green Center, which maintains the prairie, dedicated the site to Ed. In 2018, Ilene set up a special Caregiver Grant in their names at Road Scholar (the former Elder Hostel), worked with the University City School District to help fund a gardening program and to enhance an art gallery, and provided funding to assist the Habitat Helpers program at the Shaw Nature Reserve. This year, she

decided to create the **Ilene and C. Edwin “Ed” Murray Designated Scholar Loan (DSL)** at The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis as another fitting way to pay tribute to Ed and to reinforce her own desire to help others.

Ed was born and raised in University City. He believed in equality of all people and the importance of a well-rounded education. He knew the internet would change education and dreamed of virtual family field trips for students who couldn’t travel. He would be dazzled by how technology is making it possible for this generation of students to pursue their interests in ecology, the environment, and technology, which will be the focus of this new DSL.



*(top) Ed Murray was passionate about ecology and worked to create a prairie near Brittany Woods Middle School.*

*(above) Ed loved spending time in nature.*



# Centennial Collaboration Scholarship Approaches Full Strength

This is a case of the same name, new meanings.

When the Centennial Collaboration Scholarship was started in 2014, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri was celebrating its 100th year. An area family foundation supportive of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis and of Big Brothers Big Sisters became programmatic matchmaker, funding a collaboration between the two organizations to support students beyond high school graduation with scholarships encouraging college enrollment and degree completion.

Just a few years later, in 2017, the program was further expanded to encourage applications from two additional partner organizations: Wyman Teen Leadership Program (now Wyman Leaders) and College Bound–St. Louis. The annual scholarship maximum was increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000, and the program began growing toward the goal of 100 student awards per year. As the 2019-2020 school year opened, a total of 85 Centennial Collaboration Scholars were attending 25 different public colleges and universities in Missouri and Illinois.

Collaboration among the partner organizations, the family foundation contributing the funds for the scholarship, and the community of scholars and their families has strengthened each and every year of the program. It appears that the program will reach the goal of 100 students in 2020, the year that marks the centennial anniversary of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis.

At this year’s student award ceremony, staff and program leadership from Big Brothers Big Sisters, College Bound, and Wyman joined The Scholarship Foundation on the stage to welcome 54 new scholars to the fold. In the audience, family members choked back tears as they rose to capture photographs of

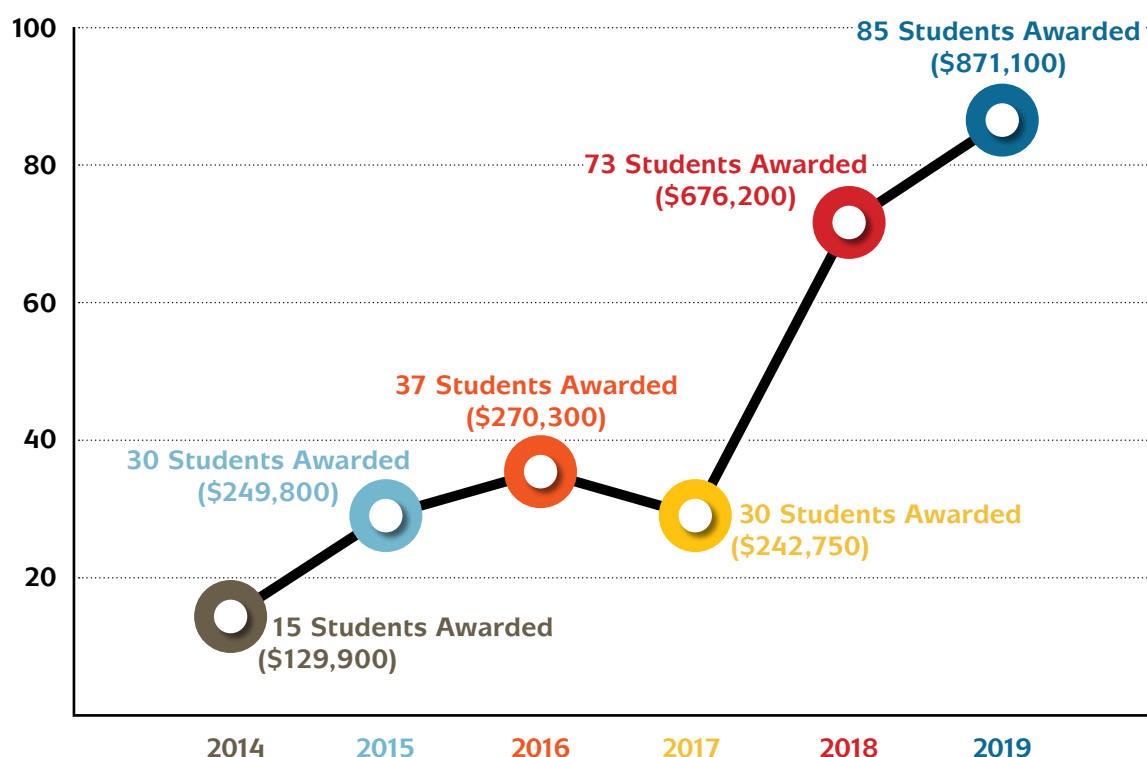


(left to right) CeAira Simmons and MyTresa Taylor of College Bound, Claire Wyneken of Wyman, Tashanna Rucker and Becky James Hatter of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri, and Bryan Capers of Wyman watch with pride as the newest Centennial Collaboration Scholars take the stage this summer. For more photos from the student awards ceremonies, see pages 8-9.

their loved ones shaking the hands of so many celebrating collaborators.

Among the crowd were those who quickly noted that this is indeed what community looks like. A college-going culture knows no limitation of geography or school district or specific nonprofit mission. In fact, it is in the collaboration among these elements and the celebration of the strength of students over so many years that promises a strong future for the scholarship program.

Centennial Collaboration Scholars 2014–2019



# The Scholarship Foundation Launches Student Ambassador Program

On any given day, students can be found at The Scholarship Foundation's office. They stop by to work through FAFSA or application challenges, share news about an internship or leadership opportunity, make loan repayments, and talk through academic or personal issues. In June, to share with the community the opportunity to engage with students, and in anticipation of a busy centennial anniversary year in 2020, the Foundation invited twelve exceptional current and former students to serve as ambassadors for the organization.

By shining a light on the accomplishments and determination of students, the Foundation affirms the importance of investing in young people. Student ambassadors received a full day of training which included comprehensive orientation to the Foundation and to the skills of communications, fundraising, and representing themselves and the Foundation. The ambassadors have been busy sharing their personal stories while bringing awareness to the Foundation's mission and its importance. Ambassadors have attended community and donor events, participated on a student panel, socialized with donors, given speeches, and even interviewed with a local television news station. Ambassadors also helped the Foundation welcome a new class of students this summer at awards ceremonies. Meet the student ambassadors at The Scholarship Foundation's upcoming centennial events celebrating 100 years of service.



(seated left to right) **Omid Shahab**, Saint Louis University, Class of 2020; **Alisson Morales**, Southern Illinois University–Edwardsville, Class of 2020, **Areli Muñoz Reyes**, St. Louis Community College–Forest Park, Class of 2022

(standing left to right) **Makayla Williams**, Harris-Stowe State University, Class of 2022; **Raul Pham**, Webster University, Class of 2022; **Trey Johnson**, Webster University, Class of 2019; **Autumn Taylor**, Saint Louis University, Class of 2021; **Darion Williams**, Fontbonne University, Class of 2021; **Lupe Medina Pintor**, Lindenwood University, Class of 2022; **Roberto Munive**, Saint Louis University, Class of 2019; **LaKeisha Woodfork**, Harris-Stowe State University, Class of 2021;

(not pictured) **Lindsey Grossheim**, University of Missouri–St. Louis, Class of 2021

## Crucial Contributors

The following donors have generously committed to support students to, through, and beyond college.

A significant **anonymous** gift was made in support of the interest-free loan program by a donor new to the Foundation.

**BJC HealthCare** continued its generous support of students in communities with BJC hospitals through the **BJC Scholars Fund**.

Foundation partner **Deaconess Foundation** continued its support of the **Deaconess Nursing Fellowships** and **Deaconess Nursing Scholarships**.

**Equifax** made a grant for the continuation of the **Equifax Finance Fellowships** for students studying the fields of business management, economics, and finance.

The **Housing Authority of St. Louis County** marked 10 years of student support through the **Neil Molloy Memorial Scholarship**.

For the fifth year, the **Horizon Housing Foundation** made a grant to continue its scholarship, which is awarded to students residing in Horizon Housing Foundation's affordable housing developments in the St. Louis region.

**Jefferson Foundation** made a grant to continue to support student advising and the Bravo Grant Program for students in Jefferson County.

**Julius Jurácsik** made a gift for grant aid to support the final two years of degree completion for a student from north city.

**Marillac Mission Fund** made a grant to support the advising of immigrant students and families and the awarding of scholarships to recent immigrant and refugee students.

**Marita Malone** made a gift for grant aid to continue the **Marita Malone Scholarship** created in 2018.

**Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority** continued its support of the **Ava's Grace Scholarship Program** for students whose parents or guardians experience incarceration.

**Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation** continued to support the **Ava's Grace Scholarship Program**.

**Julia Muller** and **Earl Shreckengast** made an initial gift on a generous commitment to create an endowment offsetting the expense of uncollectible student accounts.

**S. Jerome Pratter** made a gift to expand **The Pratter Family DSL**, which supports immigrant students.



# Welcome...

## 2019 New Scholars

Over the summer, The Scholarship Foundation welcomed 193 new students during five student awards ceremonies. At the events...

...Foundation partners reaffirmed their commitment to area students...



(far left) **Linda and Pete Werner** with **Scholarship for St. Louis Public School Graduates** awardees **Tegan, Anissa, Tamyra, and Aneesa**.

(left) **Juanita Carpenter** of the **Housing Authority of St. Louis County** with **Taylor**, a **Neil Molloy Memorial Scholar**.



(above left) **Howard Rosenberg** and **Ingrid**, the **Joanne M. Clevinger Scholar**

(above center-back, left to right) Scholarship Foundation Student Ambassador and Saigh Bravo Scholar **LaKeisha**; **Ann** and her son, Saigh Bravo Scholar **Jack**; Saigh Bravo Scholar **Malasia** and her mother, **Rose**; (front, left to right) **Horizon Housing Foundation** Executive Director **Tim Barry**, Horizon Housing Foundation Scholar **Nakira** and her mother, **Linda**; Horizon Housing Foundation Director of Operations **Dan Lee**; and Scholarship Foundation Board Member and **Saigh Foundation** Trustee **Heidi Veron**.

(above right) **Kiesha Davis** of the **Deaconess Foundation** with **Nya**, a **Deaconess Foundation Nursing Scholar**.

...family and friends showed their pride in their scholars...



(left to right) **Darreon** and his grandmother, **Darlene**; **Mariana** and her mother, **Maria**; **Brian** and his daughter, **Avery**; and **Deja** and her boyfriend, **Otis**.

...Foundation staff answered questions and helped students prepare for the upcoming school year...



(left) Scholarship Foundation Advising Director **Teresa Steinkamp** presents to a group of students.

(right) **Anthony** reviews paperwork with Scholarship Foundation Program Director **Thurman Young**.



...and, scholars met their fellow students, forming connections that will support them during their educational journey.



(top left) In August, **BJC HealthCare** hosted an awards luncheon for the third class of BJC Scholars and their families at The BJC Learning Institute.

(top right) **rootEd** scholars and their families spent a weekend together at Southeast Missouri State University in July, participating in a series of workshops about the transition to higher education. The **rootEd Undergraduate Scholarship** and the **rootEd Community College Transfer Scholarship** are awarded to students from rural communities across Missouri.

(bottom right) **Ava's Grace Scholars** were awarded grants at the 8th annual awards ceremony for the program, which creates scholarships for students who have experienced parental incarceration.



## ...New Contributors

The Foundation is grateful for the following first-time gifts received through the annual giving campaign, major gifts to Designated Scholar Loans, and gifts given for student grants and special projects from March 1 – September 30, 2019.

- |                               |                               |                         |                         |                          |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Advisor Insurance Agency, LLC | Broadway Insurance Group      | Carol and Philip Hoover | Ilene Murray            | Veterans United          |
| Anonymous                     | Kevin Bull, Inc.              | Inman Insurance, LLC    | Peter Schram            | Waterman-Neely Insurance |
| Shana Bajardi                 | Crossroads Insurance Services | Insurance Advisors      | Gary Thomas             |                          |
| Bridgeman Insurance Agency    | Matthew Dace                  | Julius Jurácsik         | Linda and John Tracy    |                          |
| Brinck Insurance Group, LLC   | James McGrady Gamble          | Leathers Insurance      | Tracy Family Foundation |                          |

## ...New Foundation Officers and Board Members

This summer, two Scholarship Foundation board members took on new officer roles. **April Mickens Jolly**, vice president of patient services & research for Planned Parenthood, is now serving as treasurer and **Lauren Nash Ming**, formerly in finance and IT leadership roles at Monsanto Company (now Bayer), is member-at-large and is chairing the newly created advocacy committee. They join President **Buron "Buff" Buffkin**, Secretary **Patty Malashock**, Vice-President of External Relations **Tom Ruwitch**, and Vice-President of Program **Robert Schmalz** as officers. Three new members were elected to the board in June as well:

**Matt Dace** is assistant vice president at Bank of Sullivan. Matt was previously senior vice president of St. Louis Area Food Bank, where he worked for 21 years. His board experience includes serving as president of Sullivan High School Sports Boosters and as a member of the Crider Health Center Foundation Board (now Compass Health Network). He attended East Central Community College in Union, Missouri and completed his bachelor's degree in communication management and public relations at Missouri State University. Matt grew up in Sullivan, Missouri where he and his family now reside.



**Clayton Evans** is senior vice president of community banking with Simmons Bank. He leads Simmons Bank community initiatives and Community Reinvestment Act activities for the St. Louis network. His prior positions include development consulting, business development and loss mitigation at Freddie Mac, and leadership positions with Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Clayton is very active as a board member with the Metropolitan St. Louis Community Reinvestment Association, Community Action Agency of St. Louis County, Kappa League Scholarship Fund, and Girls, Inc. His former board engagements included DOORWAYS and Beyond Housing. His bachelor's degree is from Elizabeth City State University (North Carolina) and he completed graduate coursework in Maryland.



**Lainie Neiman** is principal of Neiman Consulting, focusing on business coaching, leadership development, and team building, with a specialty in family-owned business. She has more than 30 years of experience providing a range of consulting services. Lainie, a trained psychotherapist, has served as organizational development consultant for a major health care provider in St. Louis, designed and conducted supervisory training, and developed and presented seminars. She has served on the boards of Redevelopment Opportunities for Women and Central Reform Congregation. Her educational background includes an M.A. in counseling and a B.A. in psychology from Washington University.





# Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students

## *Tributes* in Memory of

March 1, 2019–September 30, 2019

◆ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more

### Gary Balke

Julia Muller and Earl Shreckengast

### Delores and Ethel Ball

Trent Ball◆

### Lewis Bettman

Sharon and Barry Friedman  
Patty and Jerry Padawer

### Lois Bliss

Julia Muller and Earl Shreckengast

### John Blumenfeld

Janice Gitt

### John David Brownstone

Dr. Jane E. Brownstone◆

### Dr. M. and Dorothy Margulies Brownstone

Dr. Jane E. Brownstone◆

### Joyce Daughaday

Catherine M. Tierney◆

### Felecia Fleishman

Patti Scott

### Owen Garriott

Joan and Sherman Silber

### Glory

Betty Rae Epstein

### Maurice Goffstein

Patty, Larry, Jill, and Michael Malashock

### Mary Louise Harris

Lynne Kipnis and Steve Rothman◆  
Joan and Sherman Silber

### William G. Hart

Marian and Art Auer◆  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

### Dolores Heller

Robert Packman and Len Powers◆  
Geraldine Schiller◆

### Gay Hirsch

*Gay M. Hirsch and Henry D. Ross DSL*  
Aldine Travel, Inc.◆  
Barbara Barenholtz and Milton Hieken◆  
Jill Malley Cohen

Ellen and Henry Dubinsky◆

Barbie Freund◆

Carol and Rick Grosz

Meryl and Melvin Halpern◆

Noel and Terry Hefty◆

Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

Peak Asset Management◆

Geraldine Schiller◆

Jennifer and Walter Shifrin

Barbara and Larry Speller

Mary Strauss◆

Marilyn Wechter

### Howard Kanefield

Gary Follman

Sharon and Barry Friedman◆

### Robert B. Kern

Boo and Chuck Cook

Julia Muller and Earl Shreckengast◆

Faith Sandler◆

### Betty Kitchell

Betty Epstein

### Joe Koerner

Buff Buffkin and Donn Kleinschmidt◆

### Myra Anne Kramer

Robert Packman and Len Powers◆

### Jerry Levy

Radine and Ben Borowsky

### Paul Levy

Sissy Price

### Aunt of Nancy Lewis

Joan Silber

### Terri Lisitano

Bente Seitz

### Norbert J. Markway

Barbara Goodman

### Rhoda Mintzer

Evelyn Cohen

Sally and Aaron Cohen◆

Grace Polk◆

Ellen Sherberg and Jerry Rosenblum◆

Maryanne Vandervelde◆

### James Nouss

Barbara and Michael Newmark

### Stan Oberman

Radine and Ben Borowsky

### Elizabeth Overton

Donald Tomlinson◆

### Wayne Pounds

Kathy and Tom Day◆

### Lenny Raiffie

Sharon and Barry Friedman◆

### Larry Raskin

Radine and Ben Borowsky

### Sylvester Reese

Joan and Sherman Silber

### Josh Romeis

*James Joshua Romeis DSL*

Holly and James Brigham◆

Erica Leisenring and Robert Sears◆

### Sandra Rosen

Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

### Ginny Rosenberg

Patty and Larry Malashock

### Harry Rosenberg

Marian and Art Auer◆

*Marian D. Auer DSL*

Barbara B. Goodman

### Elizabeth Renard Ruwitch

Martha and Jerrold Graber

Patty and Jerry Padawer

### Father of Josh Saipe

Leslie and Jake Reby

### Raymond Saleeby, Sr.

Marian and Art Auer◆

*Marian D. Auer DSL*

### Eleanor Hope Ann Sansbury

Betty Rae Epstein

### Dr. Alfred S. Schwartz and

Ellen Jane Freund Schwartz

Peg MacKnight◆

### Ronnie Shapiro

Patty and Jerry Padawer

### Paul Shatz

Dorothy and Harold Schneider

### Bill Shay

Marian and Art Auer◆

*Marian D. Auer DSL*

### Glenn Sheffield

Kathy and Tom Day◆

Sid Goldstein◆

### Ed Shifrin

Martha and David Aronson

Radine and Ben Borowsky

Audrey Shanfeld

### Dan Singer

Barbara and Michael Newmark

### Michael Spector

Doris and Marvin Lerner

*Lori R. Shanfeld DSL*

### Michael Steinbaum

Fran Berger

Radine and Ben Borowsky

Barbara B. Goodman

### Dorothy Steinberg

Joyce and Gary Follman

### William Susman

Marian and Art Auer◆

*Marian D. Auer DSL*

### Sameer Talwar

*Sameer Talwar Memorial DSL*

Mary Beth and Allen Soffer and Family◆

### M. Bryant Thompson

Betty Rae Epstein

### Judith Wilson

Julia Muller and Earl Shreckengast

### Elaine Carp Wolff

Joyce and Tom Lewin

### Jerry Wool

Radine and Ben Borowsky

## *Tributes in Honor of* Faith Sandler

30th Anniversary as Executive Director

Kim and Doug Abel◆

Beth Andrews

Steve Arenberg◆

Susan Arenberg◆

Martha and David Aronson◆

Scott Baier◆

Trent Ball◆

Radine and Ben Borowsky◆

Buff Buffkin and

Donn Kleinschmidt◆

Jim Cornbleet◆

Kathianne Knaup Crane◆

Kathy and Tom Day◆

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald DeGreeff◆

Jackie and David Dimmitt◆

Ann Roberts Divine◆

Betsy Douglass◆

Tyronica Dowdy◆

Marci Mayer Eisen◆

Carol and Alex Evers◆

Mimi Fargo◆

Jill Fisher◆

Joyce and Gary Follman◆

Janice Gitt◆

Linda and Ben Goldstein◆

Anne Hetlage◆

Martha E. Hughes◆

Joyce Jacobs

Dr. Scott C. Jones and

Mr. Ray D. Lauer◆

Laura Keeton

Debra Kennard◆

Cheryl and Charlie Lewey◆

Patty and Larry Malashock◆

Ann Mandelstamm◆

Mary P. McCafferty

Karin McElwain-West◆

Brenda K. Melson◆

Judith W. Meyer◆

Paula and Ron Meyer◆

Donna Moog and

Leonard Landsbaum◆

Rosetta Taylor Moore◆

Julia Muller and

Earl Shreckengast◆

Roxanne and

John O'Connor

Rhea Oelbaum◆

Ellen Sheffield Pace◆

Minnie Phillips◆

Estie Pruett◆

Linda Riekens◆

Richard\* and Judy Sandler◆

Barb Schwartz◆

Bente and Neil Seitz◆

Audrey Shanfeld◆

Gary T. Soule

Teresa Steinkamp

Etta Taylor

Catherine M. Tierney◆

Barb Touchette◆

Madge and Tom Treeger◆



Hardy Washington, Jr.◆

Dr. and Mrs. Lane Ziegler◆

Betsy Zimbalist◆

\* Deceased



# Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students

## Tributes in Honor of

### March 1, 2019–September 30, 2019

◆ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Jean Agatstein**  
Doris Finger◆

## BIRTHDAY

**Martha Aronson**  
Susie Schulte and Anne Watt◆

## SPEEDY RECOVERY

**Marian Auer**  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*  
Helen and Roger Michelson◆

## MARRIAGE OF SON

**Susan and Steve Barron**  
Lynne Kipnis and Steve Rothman◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Bob Bohm**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Kit Bond**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Barbara Boxer**  
Fran Berger

SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION  
BOARD PRESIDENCY

**Buron Buffkin**  
Linda Riekes◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Robert Cohn**  
Doris and Marvin Lerner  
*Lori R. Shanfeld DSL*

## MARRIAGE OF SON

**Denise Fields and Michael Cannon**  
Lynne Kipnis and Steve Rothman◆

## BIRTH OF SON, FRANKLIN JAMES GEIGER

**Mr. and Mrs. Peter Geiger**  
Donald Tomlinson◆

## BIRTHDAY

**Lorraine Glass-Harris**  
Gretchen Vander Meulen and  
Elsbeth Brugger◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Arnold Goldman**  
Harriette Arkin

## BIRTHDAY

**Johanna Haley**  
Janice Gitt

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Earl Kessler**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman◆  
Audrey Shanfeld

## NER TAMID AWARD

**Lynne Kipnis**  
Audrey Shanfeld◆

## BIRTHDAY

**Susie Knopf**  
Audrey Shanfeld

## RETIREMENT

**Rick Knox**  
Marla and Ed Cohen

## BIRTHDAY

**Patty Malashock**  
*Janice and Stanley Gitt DSL*  
Myra Glazer◆

## BIRTHDAY

**Susan Marcus**  
Irv Robbins and Family◆

## HONOR

**Susan Marcus**  
Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence F. Cohen

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Roger Michelson**  
Marian and Art Auer◆  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

## GRADUATIONS OF KYLE AND CLAUDIA

**The Miller Family**  
Jackie and Marty Lipsitz

## MARRIAGE OF AMELIA AND KRISTEN

**Claudia Moran**  
*Rick Simoncelli DSL*  
Lynne Kipnis and Steve Rothman◆

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**Janet and Jack Pirozzi**  
Barbara and Michael Newmark◆

MARRIAGE OF ELIZABETH POWERS AND  
JOHN WIENSTROER

**Elizabeth Powers**  
Carol and Philip Hoover◆

## REMEMBRANCE ORAL HISTORIES PROJECT

**Vida Prince**  
Patty and Jerry Padawer

## RECOGNITION AS AN UNSUNG HERO

**Gary Ratkin**  
Lynne Kipnis and Steve Rothman◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Susan Rava**  
Karen Levin Coburn◆  
Anne Hetlage◆  
Gene Kornblum◆  
Stephen W. Skrainka◆  
Madge and Tom Treeger◆

## BIRTHDAY

**Dana Romeis**  
*James Joshua Romeis DSL*  
Laurie Miller◆

## BAR MITZVAH OF GRANDSON

**Barb and Mark Rosen**  
Marla and Ed Cohen

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Gary Rosenbaum**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

## BIRTHDAY

**John Rosenheim**  
Barbara Lowenbaum◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Joy Sandweiss**  
*Joy and Jerome Sandweiss DSL*

Kathy Berg  
Ellen Binder◆  
Barbara Clark◆  
Karen Levin Coburn◆  
Betty Rae Epstein◆  
Elaine Gernstein◆  
Phyllis Goldberg  
Sue Marcus  
Kay Sandweiss◆  
Barbara and Nathan Simon◆  
Jo Anne and Alan Travis◆  
Madge and Tom Treeger  
Susan and Ben Uchitelle◆

## HONOR

**Scholarship Foundation Staff**  
Kathy and Tom Day◆

## SPEEDY RECOVERY

**Steve Schraibman**  
Phyllis Goldberg

## BIRTH OF SON, LOGAN

**Neem Serra and Mark Katerberg**  
Donald Tomlinson and Steve Bilane◆

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Steve Silver**  
Marian and Art Auer◆  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**Linda and Richard Stein**  
Marla and Ed Cohen

## Ways to Make a Tribute

1

**Mail a Check:**

The Scholarship Foundation  
6825 Clayton Avenue  
Suite 100  
St. Louis, MO 63139

2

**Call: 314-725-7990**

3

**Donate Online:**

[sfstl.org/tribute-gift](http://sfstl.org/tribute-gift)

## SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Rosalie Sterneck**  
Radine and Ben Borowsky

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY

**Blanche and Joe Touhill**  
Julia Muller and Earl Shreckengast◆

## RETIREMENT

**Beverly Troutt**  
Donald Tomlinson and Steve Bilane◆

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

**Will VandenBos**  
Patty and Jerry Padawer

## SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

**Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Weiss**  
Marian and Art Auer◆  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

## SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

**Carolyn White and  
Jerry Mandelstamm**  
Radine and Ben Borowsky◆

## BIRTHDAY

**Miriam Wilhelm**  
Dana and Jim Romeis◆

## Ameren Honors Gayle Jackson and The Scholarship Foundation

Upon **Gayle Jackson's** retirement after 14 years on its corporate board, **Ameren** honored her by offering \$10,000 to the nonprofit of her choice. Gayle said that she "didn't even have to think about it" before selecting The Scholarship Foundation's interest-free loan program to receive the gift. The Foundation was top of mind for her because of the dedication of Scholarship Foundation Honorary Life Director **Estie Pruett**, whom Gayle has known for over 30 years. In a letter, **Warner Baxter**, Chairman, President & CEO of Ameren wrote that the gift is in recognition of Gayle's "strong commitment to the St. Louis community." Estie agrees, saying that Gayle is "an amazing person and tremendous advocate for education."

Gayle Jackson





## 2019–2020 Board Members

### Officers

Buron Buffkin, *President*  
Tom Ruwitch, *Vice-President*  
Robert Schmalz, *Vice-President*  
April Mickens Jolly, *Treasurer*  
Patty Malashock, *Secretary*  
Lauren Nash Ming,  
*Member-at-Large*

### Honorary Life Directors

Betsy Douglass  
Joyce Follman  
Linda Goldstein  
Joel Iskiwitch  
Nancy Kalishman  
Lynne Kipnis  
Donna Moog  
Julia Muller  
Estie Pruett  
Audrey Shanfeld  
Barbara Touchette

### Executive Director

Faith Sandler

### Directors

Jacqueline Meaders Booth  
James E. Crowe, III  
Matt Dace  
Kathleen A. Day  
Karen O. Drake  
Joan Esserman  
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Sid Goldstein  
Jennifer A. Haynes  
Muhammad Q. Islam  
Ralonda Jasper  
Mike Jay  
Debra B. Kennard  
Lainie Neiman  
Susan Plassmeyer  
Dana L. Romeis  
Lauren J. Sagel  
James Tatum  
Lisa K. Thorp  
L. Maria Vergara  
Heidi Veron  
Hardy Washington, Jr.



## Summer Awards Ceremonies

At the August 1st new student awards ceremony, The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis awarded 193 new scholars with the financial support they need to attend college, including twin sisters Shakyra and Tamyra pictured here. The sisters recently began their freshman year at Southeast Missouri State University. To see more photos of the 2019 new scholars, turn to pages 8-9.

The Scholarship Foundation student advising team: Teresa Steinkamp, Felipe Martinez, Dominisha Newton, Amanda Samuels, and Robert Sagastume.



info@sfsll.org.

**Workshops are held at:** The Scholarship Foundation, 6825 Clayton Avenue, Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63139. Registration is appreciated, but not required. For more information, to register for a workshop, or to schedule an appointment, call 314-725-7990 or email

**FAFSA Completion Support:** Student advisors are available to assist with filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on a one-on-one basis, by appointment.

• Wednesday, March 18, 2020 | 6:30-7:30 pm  
• Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020 | 6:30-7:30 pm  
• Wednesday, April 29, 2020 | 6:30-7:30 pm

**Decision-Making: Using Award Letters to Assess Affordability** offers help with assessing offer letters, comparing financial aid packages, and determining next steps.

**FREE workshops for students and families:**

*The Scholarship Foundation hosts*

## Our Mission & Vision

OF ST. LOUIS, a nonprofit organization

founded in 1920, is based upon

the conviction that an educated society

is essential to a healthy democracy.

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

sees education as a catalyst, an agent

of change for individuals, families,

communities, and nations.

The Foundation envisions a community

that truly recognizes the importance

of educational attainment and

assures that positive educational

outcomes are accessible to all regardless

of economic circumstance. This is

a community in which doors will not

be closed to those who lack

financial resources, and postsecondary

education will be available to all

with the potential to succeed.