

FALL 2023

OpeningDOORS

Mia Foote: Empath, Explorer, & Scholar

Summer Awards Ceremonies!

What's Going on with
Federal Student Loans?

An Extra 'e': James E. Crowe, III



THE
Scholarship Foundation
OF ST. LOUIS

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On the cover: New Era Scholar Mia Foote is resourceful, intelligent, and ready to tackle her next big challenge: college graduation!

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The Scholarship Foundation
of St. Louis



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WELCOME

When I joined the Foundation almost two years ago,

I knew it was a special place. There is a unique spirit that is shared among the Foundation staff, the board of directors, and the students we serve. At the Foundation, who we are, who we serve, and how we serve all ties back to our history, our purpose, and our mission, regardless of how much society changes. I am Tameka Herrion, and I have the privilege to serve as the Senior Director of Program at The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis. Welcome to this edition of *Opening Doors*.

I believe as you read this edition, you will see the direct link from where we started, to where we are, and where we are going. You'll read about the history of student loans and how we have arrived at the current state of student lending. You will also be encouraged by our growth in partnerships, services provided, and number of students funded. You'll meet students who are overcoming obstacles and persevering because of what a college education can mean for their future. And you'll learn about students who are working to change the landscape of higher education, one policy at a time.

Thank you to all who have welcomed me so warmly and supported my leadership. I am grateful to each of you who have given your support to the students we serve.

Warmly,



Tameka Herrion, *Senior Director of Program*



Our Mission & Vision

THE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION 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.

Spring 2023 Graduates

Congratulations to the 70+ Foundation scholars who completed their degrees in Spring of 2023!



"After graduation I am going to be a criminal legal reform fellow at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. I'm so excited to become the first lawyer in my family and go out and try to systematically change this world into a better one."

Devin McCowan, Juris Doctorate,
New York University

"My plans after graduation are to continue working where I did my internship throughout my senior year. I have grown to love it there."

Karlie Vogt, Bachelor of Arts in
Human Resources, McKendree University



"I am the first in my family to receive a bachelor's degree and I couldn't be more proud of myself."

Roniyah Harris, Bachelor of Arts in
Communication, Culture, & Change,
Fontbonne University



"I am most proud of myself. I come off as a shy and soft-spoken person. However, through my life experiences and barriers, I found my voice and the strength to rise above my challenges."

Areli Munoz Reyes,
Master of Social Work, Washington University



"During my time at Rockhurst, I was honored with the opportunity to serve as the Black Student Union President my junior year and the Student Body President (Student Senate) my senior year.

I'm proud of this accomplishment because I was able to amplify students' voices and be an agent for sustainable change."

Bri'Yana Merrill, Bachelor of Science in Physics of Medicine & Bioethics, Rockhurst University



"Pursuing the MBA while also working on a JD at the same time meant I often took upwards of 27 credit hours each semester. Being able to pull it off takes grit, a quality I now certainly know I have."

Sara Rutherford, Master of Business Administration, Saint Louis University



"I plan to continue working in infectious disease and improve my footprint in the healthcare industry. I am most proud of being a first-generation college student and being a role model for my younger relatives."

Montez Holten, Master of Science in Healthcare Management, Fisk University



"I am so proud of completing my master's degree so young, and while working full-time. Now I know I can truly do anything I set my mind to."

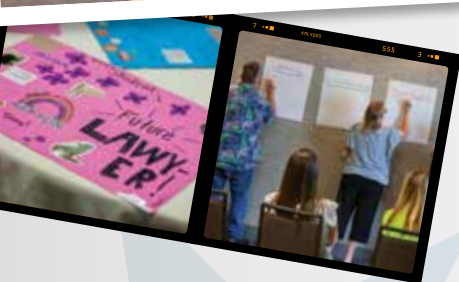
Meilin Fields, Master of Arts in Communications, University of Southern California



The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

Summer Awards Ceremonies!

The Foundation welcomed new scholars, their families, current student and guest speakers, community partners, board members, and generous donors to participate in eight separate awards ceremonies this summer at various locations in St. Louis, Columbia, and Springfield, MO. With over 500 scholars either joining the Foundation for the first time or renewing their awards this year, the Foundation wishes each scholar a productive and healthy academic year! Many thanks to all who hosted, attended, or contributed to these joyful events.





Edward Jones Scholars



Deaconess Foundation
Nursing Scholars



Named Grant Scholars



Interest-Free Loan Scholars*



rootEd Scholars—Springfield

*Scholars pictured here represent a small portion of total number of scholars receiving interest-free loans from the Foundation.

Scholarships Announced for 32 New Rural High School Graduates

A collaborative philanthropic effort to address challenges specific to students in rural America, **rootEd Alliance** grew out of a belief in the power of education to change lives and an understanding of the unique needs of rural Americans.



(top) *Ivanna Davydova, new rootEd Scholar, shares her perspective in Columbia, MO.*

(above) *David Wysong, current rootEd Scholar, gives advice to the new scholars.*

Since its beginning in 2018, rootEd Alliance has partnered with The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis to advise and award scholars in the rootEd program, the number of whom has grown to over three times the size of the original student cohort. Foundation advisors have expanded their expertise to meet the needs of rural students, and this year 32 graduates from high schools in rural communities across Missouri have been awarded \$12,000 scholarships with the support of rootEd Alliance. The renewable scholarships are for students who wish to attend a four-year college or university.

Like all Foundation awards, rootEd Scholarships are “*last dollar*,” which means they are designed to fill a student’s unmet financial needs based on their full cost of attendance after other financial aid is considered. By helping students to graduate with significantly less student loan debt than average, the program aims to increase college enrollment and completion for students in rural Missouri. Research shows students from rural communities often face unique barriers to accessing and achieving education and training opportunities after high school graduation.

The program includes two distinct, need-based opportunities:

- **The rootEd Undergraduate Scholarship:** Eligible applicants include graduating high school seniors who plan to enroll at an accredited, nonprofit four-year college or university.



New rootEd Scholars meet in Springfield, MO.

- **The rootEd Community College Transfer Scholarship:** Eligible applicants include Missouri community college students who attended a rural high school in the state and who plan to transfer to an accredited, nonprofit four-year college or university.

David Wysong, a rising senior studying business administration at the University of Missouri at Columbia, said the rootEd Scholarship has been “*a giant blessing to not only myself, but to my family.*”

“*It means having a chance to better my future at an accredited university without having the anxiety of having to pay for school or student loans,*” Wysong said.

rootEd Alliance is made possible by a group of philanthropists and family and founder-led businesses, convened by BDT & MSD Partners. For more information, please visit:
rootEdAlliance.org.

Weathering the Storm, Staying the Course

The pursuit of a college degree is filled with challenges and unexpected events that require perseverance and courage from scholars and, in some cases, their parents as well.

Foundation scholar **D'Marco Gibbs** and his mother **Michelle Gibbs** have these qualities to spare after enduring what most would consider an overwhelming setback in spring of 2023, D'Marco's sophomore year at Southeast Missouri State University. Second semester started strong for the psychology major who centers his career ambitions on caring for others. But a month into the semester, he developed symptoms related to COVID-19 and was soon hospitalized with pneumonia. His health deteriorated rapidly, he lost command of his motor skills, and his doctors feared the worst. *"It reached a point where the doctors said they'd done all they could do and could only hope for the best for my son, but I chose to remain faithful,"* explained D'Marco's mother, Michelle.

Stretched between her responsibilities in St. Louis and her unending support for her child, Michelle travelled to Cape Girardeau

she was needed at the time, but she was determined to be by D'Marco's side. *"I needed to be there every step of the way. The burden on me was less important."*

D'Marco began to show steady signs of improvement. At first, his communications were limited to small hand and eye movements. Over time, D'Marco began to walk and speak again. As D'Marco's health improved, his priority was to resume his classes for the semester through virtual learning platforms. In a late spring voicemail recording for Foundation awards manager **Thurman Young**, D'Marco said, *"I'm doing a whole lot better, and I can't wait to get back to school."* Southeast Missouri State University approved his return with special modifications for virtual learning options and, despite being hospitalized for most of the spring, D'Marco successfully completed his courses. Even with this major disruption, D'Marco is still on track to graduate in four years. He will do so in a financially sound position thanks to funding through the **James C. Bates & Alison Bates Trust Scholarship** and the **Charles Gallagher Sr. Scholarship**.

from St. Louis frequently while maintaining full-time employment. She had seen him through difficult days as the one-pound newborn fought for life in the neonatal intensive care unit, and she was by his side during his multiple childhood surgeries. It was nearly impossible to be in all the places where

Reflecting on the support they received from many Foundation staff throughout the ordeal, Michelle shared, *"I have to thank the entire staff for what you have done. I love you all for helping us through this storm that, really, I have to call a tornado."*



D'Marco Gibbs and his mother, Michelle Gibbs

"I'm doing a whole lot better, and I can't wait to get back to school."

Flourishing in 2023-24

Partners in Prevention, Missouri's higher education substance misuse consortium dedicated to creating healthy and safe college campuses, recently released their key findings from the 2022 Missouri Assessment of College Health Behaviors. More than half of Missouri college students self-report experiencing anxiety (70%) and depression (55%).

Furthermore, nearly half (47%) of Missouri college students report having suicidal thoughts in their lifetime, including 25% reporting those thoughts in the past 12 months. The data are sobering, and further reinforce the need for **Flourish**, a new mental health initiative aimed at increasing access to, and affordability of, high-quality mental health care for Scholarship Foundation students.

"Further expanding access to therapy is life-changing for students; the need is there, and greater than ever. News of this change has been enthusiastically received and you can hear, see, and feel a sense of relief from students when they learn of the expansion."

As the 2023-24 school year began, the program was augmented to provide students with up to 24 sessions per year. Advising Director **Teresa Steinkamp** said, *"Further expanding access to therapy is life-changing for students; the need is there, and greater than ever. News of this change has been enthusiastically received and you can hear, see, and feel a sense of relief from students when they learn of the expansion."*

Flourish is making a difference, one student at a time. One early participant wrote, *"Thank you so much for the opportunity, it seriously changed my life."* The first year of Flourish has proven to be fertile ground to learn and grow; lessons learned inform the program's evolution in real time. The Foundation is grateful for the continued support from the **Chiron Community Giving Foundation** and anticipates continued discovery in the year(s) ahead!

Flourish was announced in the Fall 2022 issue of *Opening Doors* with a commitment to covering the cost of therapy for students for up to eight sessions. Almost immediately, it became clear that eight would not be enough visits to address students' needs. Although it came as no surprise to advisors working with students every day, implementing Flourish brought to light the many and layered complexities of students' lived experiences.

For more information about Partners in Prevention, visit mopip.org.

For more information about Flourish, visit sfstl.org/flourish.

If you are thinking about suicide, are experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis, or are worried about a friend or loved one, reach out to the **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline for support by calling or texting 988.**

Policy Fellows Visit Washington, DC

Since 2013, the Foundation has engaged paid advocacy fellows to lead the way in affecting policy change on the state, federal, and college campus levels. Under the leadership of **Karina Arango**, Director of Advocacy, the cohort of 15 scholars has worked together in 2022-23 to identify shared priorities and cultivate the necessary skills to be changemakers in the field of college access and higher education.

In late April 2023, four Scholarship Foundation policy fellows traveled to Washington, DC—the first trip of its kind since 2019. The purpose of their visit was to participate in advocacy training and engage in legislative visits to build relationships with elected representatives in the U.S. House and Senate. Annually, Hill Day is organized by the National College Attainment Network (NCAN). NCAN is a national network of organizations dedicated to advancing college access and success for all students.

During their trip, the fellows underwent issue training facilitated by higher education policy experts and congressional staff. These sessions focused on enhancing understanding of NCAN's policy priorities and sharpening advocacy skills. **Anne Marie Crane**, Scholarship Foundation Advocacy Associate, joined Karina in leading training activities focused on how to conduct student-led visits with legislators. From learning about effective storytelling strategies to analyzing federal data, the fellows not only gained valuable insight but also showed their peers on the national level how student-led advocacy is done.

One of the highlights of the experience was the opportunity for policy fellows to engage in legislative visits with key decision-makers on Capitol Hill. Fellows met with staff from the offices of **Representative Cori Bush** and **Representative Ann Wagner** as well as staff

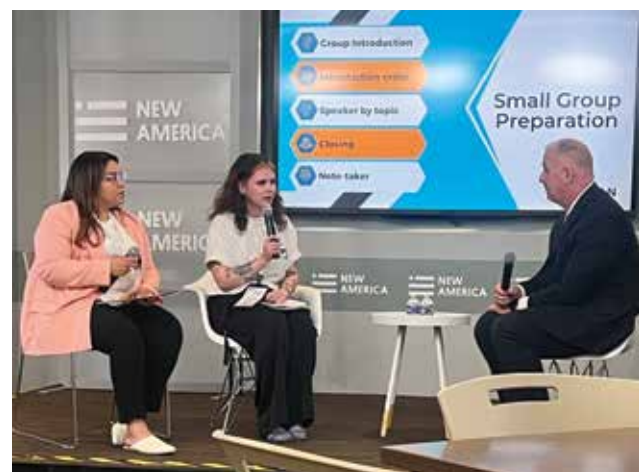


(left) Policy fellows Chris, Roniyah, Anne Marie, and Jessica at the capitol

(bottom) Karina and Anne Marie take the stage to model small group preparation for legislative visits.

for **Senator Josh Hawley** to present policy research, data, and student stories.

Foundation advocacy policy agendas are always discussed, determined, and delivered by The Scholarship Foundation's policy fellows. This student-centered approach is a cornerstone of the fellowship experience.



What's Going on with Federal Student Loans?

The Scholarship Foundation began making interest-free student loans in 1920 when a group of women pooled their funds to support immigrant Jewish families arriving from Eastern Europe. Interest-free loans continue at the Foundation, with scholarship grants now occupying a much larger proportion of funds awarded to students each year. Much has changed in financial aid over 103 years, and especially over the last decade.

Current accumulated student debt in the United States totals over \$1.75 trillion. The magnitude of this number has the country asking how we got here and why.

Current accumulated student debt in the United States totals over \$1.75 trillion. The magnitude of this number has the country asking how we got here and why. Students have much more difficult decisions to make now than ever before regarding the costs of financing a degree.

While Harvard University issued its first student loan in 1840, it was not until 1958 that the first federal student loans were offered through the National Defense Education Act. The Soviet Union had launched Sputnik (the first artificial earth satellite), and concerns rose that the United States had fallen behind in education and innovation.

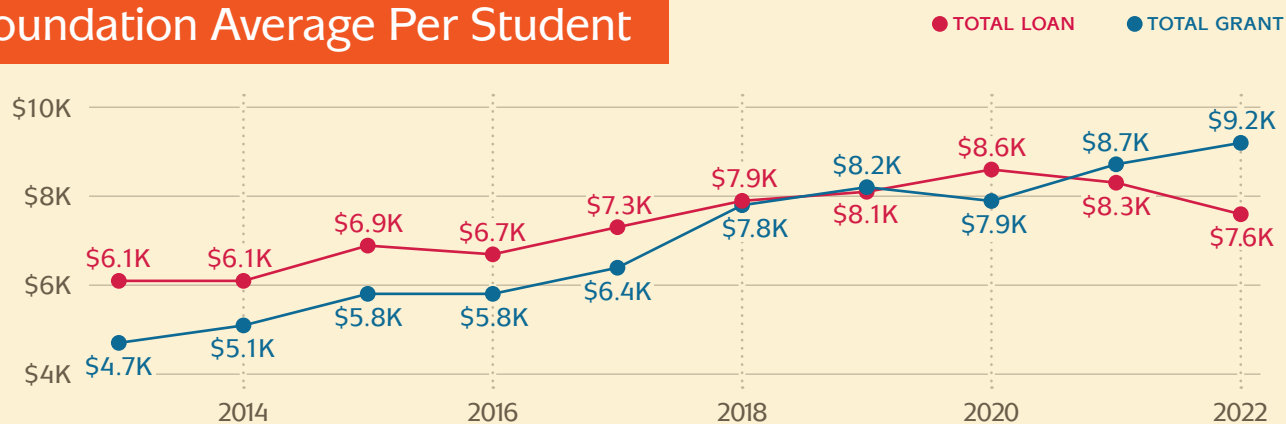
The GI Bill (1944) allowed millions of veterans to have access to college. That legislation and the initiation of federal loans began to shift higher education priorities from individual interest to collective purpose. Quality higher education was for a time viewed as critical to a healthy economy and democracy.

The passing of the Higher Education Act of 1965 expanded financial aid and directed attention to boosting teacher preparation and quality education. The Reagan administration in the 1980s signaled retrenchment in aid cuts to higher education and a shift from grants to loans. States were reluctant to fill the gaps created by federal cuts, so increasingly cost shifted to families, regardless of their capacity to pay or to qualify to borrow.

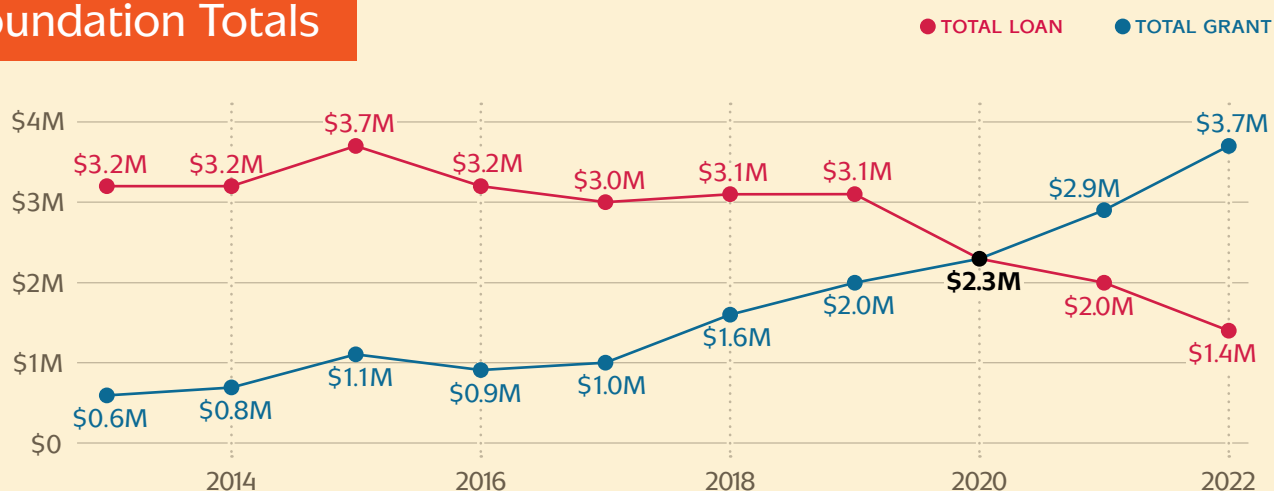
Foundation vs. Federal Loans – SEPTEMBER 23

	Foundation	Federal Student Loans
Average undergraduate loan award per year	\$7,300	\$8,500
Interest rate	0%	5.5%
Months of grace period after graduation	12	6-9
Months of repayment suspended due to COVID	7	42
Total balance in receivables	\$23 million	\$1.6 trillion

Foundation Average Per Student



Foundation Totals




In the early 1990s, the creation of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the federal direct lending program contributed to a decline in private student lenders. Student loans became more accessible and an increasingly significant part of financial aid packages. College costs began to rise at a much faster pace.

As a result, young adults now have much more debt than earlier generations, which has adverse effects on career and family decisions and threatens financial stability. While students borrow to fill a gap between cost of education and capacity to pay, often they are ineligible to borrow enough to completely fill that gap, and they become indebted to their schools as well. A trend of forced withdrawal

has resulted. Students must pay back balances to their institutions to continue their education, and this is the point at which many find they cannot progress toward a degree.

Efforts to aid low-income borrowers with a proposed student loan forgiveness plan were announced by the Biden administration but blocked in a recent 6-3 Supreme Court decision. The Department of Education has scrambled to create more flexible payment plans responsive to borrower family and financial obligations, but the long shutdown in repayment, current economy, and disappointment regarding loan forgiveness will certainly adversely impact repayment of federal loans. Borrowers began paying back their federal student loans in October of this year.



*Mia Foote takes a midday break
at a popular gathering spot on
her college's campus.*

Mia Foote: Empath, Explorer, & Scholar

Mia Foote didn't get here by accident. The oldest of five children, she developed a habit of leveraging resources to expand her horizons at an early age. Growing up in University City, MO, Mia has always wanted to build a meaningful life for herself.

Mia's resourcefulness drew her to organizations like Wyman, where she discovered her love of independence and problem-solving at sleep-away camp as a middle schooler. Her relationship with Wyman continues to this day and she credits her mentor there with *"being one of the top people that I have in my corner."* Mia attended Cardinal Ritter College Prep High School in the city of St. Louis. While there, she took advantage of every opportunity to connect with agencies that bolstered leadership skills and introduced her to area colleges through campus tours and activities, giving her important glimpses of the future she wanted for herself.

*"I love my school.
I'm excited for the
next chapter, too."*

"I've been receiving financial aid from The Scholarship Foundation throughout my college experience," the senior social work major and **New Era Scholar** says. As she looks toward finishing her bachelor's degree at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (UMSL) next spring, it's no surprise that Mia is thriving. Her appreciation of counseling, empathy, and public service is a big part of who she is. Two defining and starkly different summer experiences have brought this home for Mia.

In July of 2022, just after her sophomore year in college, there was a major flood in University City. Mia's family home was hit hard. Working with her student advisor, **Dominesha Newton**, Mia was able to get help and stay on track in school. *"I literally lost everything. I reached out to The Scholarship Foundation, and they were able to give me funds to buy new bedding and replace a dresser and clothing items."* Mia was able to start her junior year on time, with her necessary items replaced and her belief in the importance of community support systems reinforced.

Even before applying for college, Mia knew she one day wanted to study abroad, to learn about other cultures and people first-hand. At her

Spring 2023 appointment with her academic counselor, she mentioned that she still wanted to study abroad, but didn't know if there would be time to do so before graduation. She and her counselor worked together and found a perfect fit in Galway, Ireland: one month, two classes (Gaelic literature and creative writing), both satisfying elective requirements for graduation. She had a plan, but she needed help.

To pull off the study abroad trip, Mia relied on her ability to assess a situation, identify what she needed to achieve her goals, and contact trusted professionals to help her get it done. One of her first moves was to reach out to Dominesha at the Foundation once again for advice about funding opportunities that could help her with trip expenses. With the assistance of a Foundation microgrant, Mia was able to assemble what she needed to cover the cost of airfare, additional housing expenses, and lost wages from her hourly work-study job at the UMSL Service Counseling and Social Advocacy Center.

In Ireland, Mia studied history and literature, took field trips to important regional landmarks, and explored the city of Galway and the surrounding region. While the experience included many tours of Irish castles and museums, what really made an impact on Mia as a student of social work was a trip to a former Irish workhouse where the poor would live and work to make whatever means they could to survive. She learned about horrible conditions and people who were devastated by famine and poverty. *"Going to this country and learning their history, their struggles, was really eye opening. It was very humbling."*

Catching up on a beautiful fall day on UMSL's campus this September, Mia beamed as she reflected on her four years on campus. *"I love my school. I'm excited for the next chapter, too,"* she said as she discussed visiting the campus job fair that afternoon. Confident and kind, Mia's goal is for her next step to combine the professional skills she has gained from her degree program with the resilience and resourcefulness that she has been building within herself all along.



Mia in Ireland

New Board Members

Why I Serve

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis is pleased to welcome new members and officers to the board of directors effective June 6, 2023. Read why each of these esteemed new members was eager to serve on the board of The Scholarship Foundation.



Katherine Kruesser, MD

Katherine retired from her 40-plus year practice as a pediatrician in 2021. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in physical therapy and then went on to medical school at Indiana University.



"As a recently retired pediatrician, I've had the opportunity to work with hundreds of children from infancy through graduation from college. I've been distressed by the increased incidence of anxiety and depression among teens and young adults—I can only imagine how financial insecurity re: post-secondary education must magnify mental health issues."

New and returning members of the 2023-24 executive committee of the Foundation's board of directors: (L-R, back row) Janet Hendrickson; Lauren Nash Ming, President; Jacqueline Meaders Booth; Karen O. Drake (L-R, front row) Jill Nowak and April Mickens Jolly Not pictured: Matt Dace, Muhammad Islam



Jennie Jean-Jacques

Jennie is Senior Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions at Washington University. She earned her BSBA in International Business from King's College.



"I have worked in college access and undergraduate admissions for eight years. I am enthusiastic about the college admissions process, and I aspire to make it equitable and attainable for all who want to receive a higher education. As a first-generation college student, first-generation American, and low-income individual, I got into this type of work because of the disproportionate number of students that are similar to me that struggle to navigate the college admissions process. I really enjoy counseling prospective students and their families through the application, financial aid, and enrollment processes. I want prospective students to not only find the best social, academic, and cultural fit at their institution of choice, but I also want them to make good financial decisions that will set them up for success later in life."





Jennifer Engeling

Jennifer is Principal for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion at Edward Jones. Her bachelor's degree and MA/MBA are from Washington University, with a period of fellowship and study in Europe as well.

..... “
“I grew up the oldest of five children of a farmer; we had no money and no understanding of postsecondary education. Coming to college at Washington University (on merit scholarships and a Pell grant) was an education for me in many, many ways, and the springboard of the university changed the trajectory of my life and career. I'd love to be able to help others navigate their own similar paths and do so from a place of true understanding of the fish-out-of-water experience.”



Cardelia Collier-Robinson

Cardelia is retired from a career as a Project Manager in Information Technology. Cardelia received her bachelor's degree from the University of Houston and her master's degree in Systems Management from Capitol Technology University.

..... “
“Educational equity is of special interest to me. Educated in the St. Louis public school system during segregation, and having raised a daughter in St. Louis, I am aware of the lack of educational options presented to young people of color. While attendance for postsecondary education has increased, lower graduation rates coupled with sometimes crushing debt and inequality in pay based on race and gender can make the journey feel sometimes overwhelming. I was fortunate enough to have access to the knowledge needed to navigate this for my own daughter. This is what I wish for others.”



Jordan Watson

Jordan is a Program Manager in Campus Recruiting and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with ADM Company. Jordan completed her bachelor's degree at Georgia State and her Master's in clinical mental health counseling at University of Missouri–St. Louis where she is currently pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership.

..... “
“I am really drawn to the statement, ‘Assure that students have the information necessary to make sound financial decisions.’ Financial education is just as important as financial disbursement. Financial planning and money management are just a couple of the critical skills that are needed to achieve lifelong success. I also love that the Foundation has a focus on creating a network of student support. Due to the intense commitment that is needed to obtain a higher education degree, it is important that students feel like they have a community of support.”

An Extra 'e': James E. Crowe, III

To be **Jim Crowe** is to grow up steeped in history, cognizant that language has power, and directed by DNA to a life of advocacy and service. The name itself requires being a person of compassion deeply committed to justice in a world decidedly unfair.

James E. Crowe, III shares the family name of his father, **James E. Crowe, Jr.**, who in 2020 retired as Chief of the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's office in St. Louis after 46 years of public service with the U.S. Department of Justice. "Dad Jim," as the family refers to him, still team teaches a highly sought-after white collar crime seminar at Saint Louis University School of Law, thereby impacting future lawyers. His hallmark as a career prosecutor was fairness and high acumen. Both are named for Jim's grandfather, **James E. Crowe (Sr.)** who died when the youngest Jim was six years old and was the true origin story of the extra "e."

James E. Crowe was born in Boston to struggling Irish immigrants. When his father died suddenly, the young boy was sent to County Tipperary, Ireland to be raised by family until his mother was able to send for

him to join her in St. Louis. After graduating high school, he worked as a clerk in the Probate Court in the City of St. Louis, and ultimately began taking classes at a night law school as he prepared to "*read the law*" (a practice of legal apprenticeship that predates law schools).

James E. Crowe was a trailblazing St. Louis City Counselor from 1949-53, served on the Board of Election Commissioners from 1962-65, and was appointed to the St. Louis City Board of Police Commissioners just months before he died. Though he did not have a chance to attend college, his leadership in civic affairs was significant. He was known to open the back door to the family kitchen on Saturdays and over a hot breakfast he would prepare, share free legal advice with those who made their way to him by way of others similarly well-counseled. He joined interracial teams in sit-ins at Woolworth's lunch counters when public accommodations were still segregated by law. Once, from inside the Missouri Athletic Club on Washington Avenue as passing protestors called out "*Jim Crow must go*" (referring to the laws and customs that enforced racial segregation until the mid-1960s), he exited the club to join the marchers.

When James E. Crowe died in 1980, the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* wrote that he was a "good friend, boon companion, and exceptional public servant." Foretelling the legacy he left in name and action to his son and grandson alike, the newspaper recounts: "*Jim Crowe delighted in being confused with 'Jim Crow' because there was no similarity between the real person and the racist stereotype. Being whole-souled Irish, Jim Crowe had no sympathy for those who indulged in racial or religious prejudice.*"



Cartoonist **Dan Martin** created this sketch of (l to r) James E. Crowe, Dad Jim, and Jimmy on the occasion of the youngest Jim's graduation from law school in 2000.



(left) The inaugural class of Edward Jones Scholars at the firm's headquarters on July 11, 2023

Between the influence of his forebears and the structure of the household Jim's mother **Peggy** ran with four sons under one roof (all while fulfilling a 29-year career as an 8th grade teacher), James E. Crowe III (called Jimmy by the family) expects much of himself. And he does not disappoint.

Jim graduated from University of Notre Dame and continued at St. Louis University School of Law where he graduated cum laude in 2000. Jim credits the flexible terms of the interest-free loans he was awarded by the Foundation with giving him the chance to volunteer in immigrant rights centers in Seattle and Chicago while in school. He also worked as a student advocate with the Foundation. Jim has volunteered in leadership roles in several community efforts, including eight years on the board of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis and a current post as board member with St. Patrick's Center.

Jim began his law career as Associate at Bryan Cave, LLP in St. Louis and continued as Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois. He was made partner at Dowd Bennett, LLP, where he practiced for nine years before accepting his current position as Principal & Senior Associate General Counsel with Edward D. Jones & Co.

Long ago repaying his interest-free loan in full, Jim has in turn and in greater measure provided The Scholarship Foundation and its current students his service, financial support, and valuable free advice. Foundation Executive Director Faith Sandler notes that *"from Jim's years as an undergraduate to his current position as board alum and contributor, he understands and articulates well for others*



our unique approach and commitment to students." Jim has assisted the Foundation with immigration matters, crafted motions for complex board decisions, and once researched the rights of minors in contractual obligations made by their parents. When recently asked the reason for a specific \$2,300 donation he made, Jim explained that his monthly loan payment had been \$230 and he was seeking to return it tenfold.

The story of Jim Crowe and The Scholarship Foundation came full circle last summer when an excited group of 75 Inaugural Edward Jones Scholars and their parents assembled in the company's auditorium. In his role as Senior Associate General Counsel at Edward Jones, Jim has been a champion for the program. That day, as he returned from lunch, Jim found familiar friends from The Scholarship Foundation almost blocking his path down the hallway. It should come as no surprise that in that moment Jim's focus was squarely on the energy and possibility in each young person assembled there.

(above) Edward Jones attorneys James E. Crowe III and **Chrissy Teske** worked with Scholarship Foundation counsel **Jackie Dimmit** of Thompson Coburn to prepare essential legal agreements launching the **Edward Jones Scholarship**.

Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students

Tributes in Honor of

March 1 – August 31, 2023

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Ellen Abrams
Dr. Arthur Auer ♦
Marian D. Auer DSL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Joyce Armstrong
Betty R. Epstein

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Dick Auer
Dr. Arthur Auer ♦
Marian D. Auer DSL

FATHER'S DAY

Jon Baris
Shirlene Baris

FATHER'S DAY

Mitch Baris
Shirlene Baris

FATHER'S DAY

Robert Baris
Shirlene Baris

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Albert Barton
Catherine M. Tierney ♦

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Mel Birge
Douglas A. Collinger

BIRTHDAY

Radine Borowsky
Naomi, Hannah, Chris,
Iris, and Steve ♦

BIRTHDAY

Buron Buffkin
Jennifer Strohl ♦

BIRTHDAY

Sue Clancy
Barb Schwartz ♦

100TH BIRTHDAY

Ethel Foster
Mr. and Mrs. Harry V.
Moppins, Jr. ♦

MONETA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Nancy Georgen
Susan and Henry
Warshaw ♦

CONGRATULATIONS

Recent Graduates
Gretchen Vander
Meulen and Elsbeth
Brugger ♦

FATHER'S DAY

Keith Grosz
Shirlene Baris

BIRTHDAY

Lee Kaufman
Barbara and Bert
Levy ♦

BIRTHDAY

Laura Kipnis
Marcy and Dale
Brodsky ♦

SPEEDY RECOVERY

Michele Kloeppel
Barb Schwartz ♦

BIRTHDAY

Sarah Oelbaum
Rhea Oelbaum ♦
Stuart Oelbaum DSL

HONOR

**Ashley and Mark
Parrott**
Marie Parrott ♦

BIRTHDAY

Susan Rava
George S.
Roudebush, Jr.

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Leslie Reby
Marla and Ed Cohen

FATHER'S DAY

Mark Robben
Eric Robben ♦

GRANDDAUGHTER ADDISON

Joy and Marty Satz
Patty and Jerry
Padawer

BIRTHDAYS

Bente and Neil Seitz
Nancy Quigley ♦

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Alvin Siwak
Sharon and Barry
Friedman ♦

APPRECIATION

Teresa Steinkamp
Bente and Neil Seitz

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Diane Weinstock
Margie and Martin Jaffe

APPRECIATION

Jamie Wilger
Bente and Neil Seitz

SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

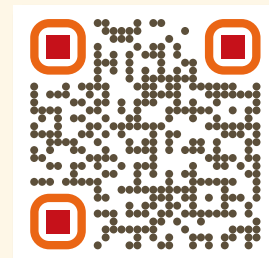
**Marlene and Robert
Wolff**
Margie Talcoff ♦

SPECIAL BIRTHDAYS

**Betsy and Stuart
Zimbalist**
Jeri and Leland
Dushkin ♦

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



Thank you
for your continued support
of area students
seeking higher education.



♦ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more

Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students

Tributes in Memory of

March 1 – August 31, 2023

Ann and Paul Arenberg

Steven Arenberg ♦

Paul Arenberg

Steven Arenberg ♦

Marian Auer

Marian D. Auer DSL

Jamie Beckstead ♦

Betty and Thomas Philipsborn ♦

Suzanne Yee and John Nachbar ♦

Phil Barron

Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

Kim Bartolacci

Mary and Ken Shapiro

David Becker

Rhea Oelbaum ♦

Stuart Oelbaum DSL

Fern Deloris Branchfield-Mreen

Craig Momentive Team ♦

Sam Broh

Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

Ron Brown

Linda Powers

Susan Tarkow Cooper

Martha and David Aronson ♦

Carolynn and Steve Wolff

Nancy Durham

Dr. Arthur Auer ♦

Marian D. Auer DSL

Nancy Hirsch

Shirlene Baris

Herbert Johnson

Rosetta Taylor Moore ♦

Mildred Mitsuko Kibota

Buff Buffkin and

Donn Kleinschmidt, MD ♦

Bonnie Laiderman

Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

Joyce Margulis

Radine and Ben Borowsky

Sharon and Barry Friedman ♦

George L. Markus, Jr.

Ann Mandelstamm ♦

Jean Metzger

Margie Talcoff

Roger Michelson

Dr. Arthur Auer ♦

Marian D. Auer DSL

Lotis Miller

Sharon and Barry Friedman

Loren Moceri

Betty R. Epstein

Sissy Price

Dr. Helen E. Nash

Holland and Jim Brigham ♦

Jim O'Bannon

Catherine M. Tierney ♦

Brandon Reiber

Patty and Jerry Padawer

James and Josh Romeis

James Joshua Romeis and

James C. Romeis DSL

Holland and Jim Brigham ♦

Dr. Robert Senior

Sissy Price

Walter Shifrin

Dr. Arthur Auer ♦

Marian D. Auer DSL

Laurie Stern

Margie Talcoff ♦

Carolynn and Steve Wolff

Charles Sternberg

Radine and Ben Borowsky ♦

Sameer Talwar

Sameer Talwar Memorial DSL

Mary Beth and Allen Soffer
and Family ♦

Dr. Arthur Veis

Douglas A. Collinger ♦

Lori R. Shanfeld DSL

Sylvia Wright

Rosetta Taylor Moore ♦

Tributes in Memory of Dr. Robert Young

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Archer ♦

Julie and Rob Aronson

Martha and David Aronson

Betsy and Jeff Atkinson ♦

Patricia and William Brasher ♦

Sheila and Scott Brooks ♦

Buff Buffkin and

Donn Kleinschmidt, MD ♦

Dr. David Ferrell Butler and

Mr. Lance Lee Butler ♦

Drs. Archana and Ryan Calfee ♦

Bonnie Clyde ♦

The Honorable Margaret Donnelly
and Dr. David Riedel ♦

Carol and Alex Evers ♦

Robin and Gary Feder ♦

Helen Frazier ♦

Connie Gibstine ♦

Laura and William Houck

Jennifer Belmont Jennings ♦

The Kaar Family ♦

Sandy Kaplan

Laura Kipnis and Sid Goldstein

Lynne Kipnis, Steve Rothman,
and Family ♦

Beki and Jeff Marsh ♦

Lauren Nash Ming ♦

Sam Mourad ♦

Alison Oswald and Danny Plax ♦

Dale Poslosky ♦

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Purcell, Jr. ♦

Jane and Jim Rohrbaugh ♦

Faith Sandler ♦

Jacquelyn and Richard Schnidman ♦

Susie and Bob Schulte ♦

Seyfarth Shaw ♦

Matthew Sloan

Sporting Arkansas

Debbie Tzinberg ♦

Walmart Marketing Team ♦

Carolynn and Steve Wolff

♦ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more

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

August 29, 2023

Dear Faith,

On behalf of Cultural Leadership and the communities we serve, we are thrilled to extend our warmest congratulations to The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis for being chosen as the recipient of our 2023 Troublemaker of the Best Kind: Education Equity Award.

The decision to honor your organization this year was guided by the exemplary work you have been doing in the realm of education. Your commitment to ensuring equity and social justice in education across St. Louis has not gone unnoticed, and indeed, it mirrors our own mission to create systemic change for a brighter future. The programs and initiatives you have put in place offer opportunities to those who may have thought higher education was beyond their reach, embodying a level of empathy and justice that our region desperately needs.

We were particularly impressed by your core financial aid programs, which have distributed over \$22 million to area students over the last five years. These interest-free, fee-free loans and outright grants act as critical stepping stones, enabling students to obtain the education necessary to achieve their dreams.

Moreover, your advocacy work at the state and federal levels is commendable. Your policy efforts, rooted in the real-life experiences of current college students, help break down barriers to college access and affordability, fostering a more educated community that can sustain a healthy democracy.

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis encapsulates what it means to be a Troublemaker of the Best Kind. You challenge the status quo and strive to remove financial barriers to education, in the process empowering countless lives and strengthening the fabric of our community. Your dedication to higher education as an agent of change is a beacon of light, and our young leaders could not think of an organization more deserving of this honor.

We look forward to celebrating your accomplishments at our upcoming awards ceremony and are excited about potential collaborative opportunities to further our shared mission of creating a more equitable and educated St. Louis.

Sincerely,



Tamyka Perine
Executive Director



"I'm not big on awards and accolades. I come by this genetically; my late father tacked his to the interior walls of his outhouse. Personally, I am far more interested in doing the work than in being recognized. But when THIS letter arrived and I learned the selection was made by young leaders who were especially taken by our approach to following the lead of our students when it comes to policy, I felt differently. This one goes in a frame on the office wall... and in this publication for all to see."

– Faith Sandler, Executive Director



Did You Know (of) the Dreers?

This segment of Scholarship Foundation history begins with scholar, educator, author, and humanitarian, **Dr. Herman Dreer**. Born in Washington, DC the grandson of a slave, Dr. Dreer moved to St. Louis in 1914, just six years before **Meta Bettman** founded St. Louis Jewish Scholarship Foundation (renamed **The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis** in 1960).

Dr. Dreer attended Bowdoin College on scholarship, completing a bachelor's degree in three years. He earned a master's in theology and Latin at Virginia Theological Seminary and a master's in English at University of Chicago. At the age of 67, he completed his PhD in sociology at University of Chicago. Dr. Dreer was a teacher of four languages as well as chemistry, history, and social sciences at Sumner High School (where he was principal for 13 years). In retirement, he taught at Stowe Teachers College and Harris-Stowe University.

Dr. Dreer's accomplishments are significant and many, including several community initiatives of direct relevance to the mission of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis:

- Initiated the teaching of Black history in public schools (including teacher training).
- Secured in-state college education for Black students at Douglass University (founded in St. Louis in 1926, the second university in the state to admit Black students and the second in the nation admitting Black students to law school).

- Supported the establishment of Stowe Teachers College in 1940 and worked for the integration of Washington University in 1948.
- Chaired a citizen's committee to research and finance the landmark Shelly vs. Kramer case challenging restrictive covenants in St. Louis (and across the nation).
- Coordinated a group of Black men who created a loan fund for land and housing purchase to Black borrowers when banks refused.

St. Louis mourned the death of Dr. Herman Dreer in 1981. His daughters **Vivian Dreer** and **Clarice Dreer Davis** set out to honor his memory with a scholarship. **The Herman Dreer Designated Scholar Loan** was entrusted to The Scholarship Foundation in 1984.

The Dreer family and The Scholarship Foundation joined together to provide educational and economic opportunity to those excluded by bias and injustice. That shared purpose drew Clarice Dreer Davis to join the board of directors of The Scholarship Foundation in 1981. She served as board member and officer until 1992. Clarice and Vivian continued to support The Scholarship Foundation until their passings in 2003 and 2006, respectively.

The Scholarship Foundation's first (and only) Executive Director **Faith Sandler** was hired in 1989 and recalls being "*well-schooled by Clarice and Vivian on a remarkable family legacy forged in a time of dangerous discrimination.*" That schooling continues to be relevant today.



*Herman Dreer,
1889-1981*



*Former board members **Ruth Lewis**, **Regina Edwards**, **Ruth Richards**, and **Clarice Dreer Davis** celebrating The Foundation's 75th Anniversary in 1995.*

2023-24

Upcoming Advising Workshops

December
06

FAFSA Workshop
6 pm

March
27

Decision-Making
Workshop
6 pm

January
06

FAFSA Completion Clinic
10 am–noon (by appointment
only, call 314-725-7990)

April
17

Decision-Making
Workshop
6 pm

January
16

FAFSA Completion Clinic
4–7 pm (by appointment only,
call 314-725-7990)

Register Here
sfstl.org/register

