



SPRING 2024

# OpeningDOORS

Dimon Phillips:

## *From Scholar to Supporter*



Rooted in Relationship

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Grateful & Giving

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Policy Fellows:  
Driving Policy Change  
on College Campuses

THE  
Scholarship   
Foundation  
OF ST. LOUIS

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**On the cover:** Dimon Phillips in the living room of her home in St. Louis County.  
Read her story on page 12.

THE  
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OF ST. LOUIS

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# WELCOME

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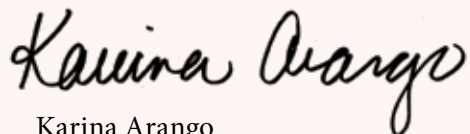
For over 100 years, The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis has supported generations of students in their pursuit of higher education and has stood as a pillar of advocacy in our region, state, and across the country. We mean what we say, and we say what we mean.

My name is **Karina Arango** and I proudly serve as the Director of Advocacy at The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis. I was introduced to the Foundation as a high school senior, just over a decade ago, and my energy for the mission of the Foundation remains strong and focused. Welcome to this edition of *Opening Doors!*

Spring revitalizes my spirit, as do the stories and information in this magazine. As you read this spring edition, you will learn about those who plant seeds and those who return to tend them. You'll read about our new equity report and the ingredients it takes to produce the "secret sauce" that sets Foundation students apart from their peers, as they are borrowing less frequently and in smaller average amounts than students nationally. You will also be encouraged by our growth in partnerships and services provided to students who need them most. You'll meet students who embody the spirit of giving and students who are the best kind of troublemakers.

As a former Foundation scholar and policy intern, I thank you for believing in students like me. As a current staff member, I extend my gratitude to all who entrust The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis with your support. We couldn't do this work without you.

Best,



Karina Arango



## Our Mission & Vision

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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.

# Winter 2023 Graduates

Congratulations to the 17 Foundation scholars who completed their degrees in Winter of 2023!



*"Since November 2023, I have worked at St. Louis Community College as their Upward Bound Counselor for Confluence Preparatory Academy. I enjoy getting to know my students and pushing them towards their fullest potential! I'm also serving as a new board member for **Chiron Community Giving Foundation**, which is going well.*

*I became a Scholarship Foundation scholar when they began overseeing the **Ava's Grace Scholarship Program** my sophomore year of undergrad, and I immediately felt their support. I especially want to thank Awards Manager, **Thurman Young**, for his help when I traveled to Washington D.C. for an internship program in the summer of 2021. The Foundation has stepped up in so many ways when I didn't have anyone else to go to and, for that, I will always hold everyone and the work **WE** do near and dear to my heart."*

**Anne Marie Crane**, Master of Education  
in Education Policy and Leadership,  
American University



*"I am most proud of my drive. There were times when I felt like I should quit, and I couldn't go on. I stuck it through and was determined to finish my degree.*

*To put it simply, I would not have been able to go to college if I didn't have the support of this amazing Foundation. The resources and people are incredible. I owe my degree to this organization. I am so beyond grateful."*

**Alexis Tackett**, Bachelor of Science  
in Marketing Management  
and Communications,  
Missouri State University

*"I am most proud of passing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) on the first try.*

*I have heard how hard the licensing exam is so when I passed, I was ecstatic! The Scholarship Foundation was integral to my success because they supported me throughout nursing school and were there when I had no one else."*

**Sharita Franklin**, Associate  
of Applied Science in Nursing,  
St. Louis Community College-Forest Park



# Ameren All In Scholarship to Support Students in MO and IL Service Areas

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis has launched the **Ameren All In Scholarship Fund**, a \$1,180,000, five-year commitment to provide 25 students with scholarship grants up to \$10,000 per student per year for up to 10 semesters, or five years. Applications for this fund have been rolling in from students this spring and awarding has already begun.



*“Education is among our key AmerenCares focus areas, and this new partnership with The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis stands as an example of that ongoing commitment,”* said Gwen Mizell, senior vice president, chief sustainability, diversity and philanthropy officer at Ameren. *“Our Equity in Education initiative focuses on funding and supporting efforts like scholarships to positively impact the lives of young people and better secure their futures.”*

These scholarships will serve low-income students who live within the service area of Ameren Missouri or Ameren Illinois and who are enrolled at any grade level in a nonprofit, two- or four-year accredited college or university in Missouri or Illinois. Scholars will be selected based on Scholarship Foundation eligibility requirements (significant financial need, academic potential, and good character) and preference will be given to scholars who are pursuing education in the STEM fields or in the Joint Engineering Program offered by the University of Missouri–St. Louis and Washington University in St. Louis.

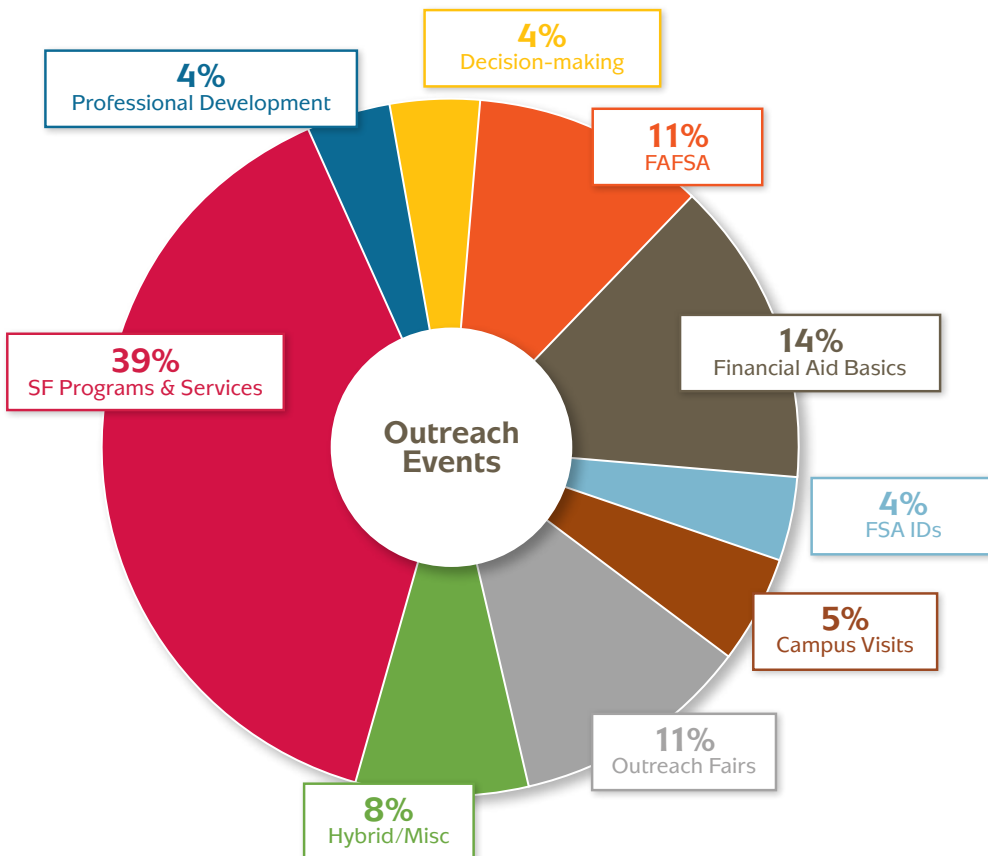
*“The Ameren All In Scholarship Fund will provide critical financial resources to scholars who have everything they need to attend college except the money. This funding, combined with the support of the student advisors at The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, will no doubt change lives for many in our community who deserve access to an excellent postsecondary education, regardless of their financial situation,”* said **Lauren Ming**, Board President of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis.

*“Our Equity in Education initiative focuses on funding and supporting efforts like scholarships to positively impact the lives of young people and better secure their futures.”*

# Rooted in Relationship

There is a tremendous sense of purpose in the role of a Student Advisor; advisors build and foster relationships with students that are centered on honesty, mutual respect, and empathy. Student Advising is *rooted in relationship*: it is *the* essential element, reflected purposely throughout the work. While interacting with students, advisors bear witness to moments of joy, sorrow, excitement, disappointment, frustration, and affirmation.

There was considerable growth in the Student Advising Program in 2023, and yet the focus on students and their needs remained at the heart. Advisors, as always, committed to connecting with students, literally and figuratively, where they were. Those efforts reached 5,950 individuals in 2023, through one-on-one support and in presentations and workshops. This reflected the breadth of support, but there was depth, as well. Advisors provided individual support to 1,147 students and connected for a total of 4,119 separate interactions over the year.



The numbers paint a picture, but one that is incomplete. To complete it, envision an advisor accompanying students, both through digital communication and in person appointments, to engage in information – gathering and self-advocacy on academic, financial, and personal matters. Imagine how often advisors pick up a phone to listen as students share their questions and concerns, frustrations, and anxieties, as well as their successes and accomplishments — validating their experiences and offering support as students process and discern next steps. These interactions are deeply rewarding, fueling the team and the work of advising.



*(left) Advising Team  
 (l-r) Dominesha Newton,  
 DeVonte' (DJ) Jackson,  
 Teresa Steinkamp,  
 Grace Carlson,  
 Ricky Hughes,  
 Liliana De La Garza*

### Expert Advice

Amid the day-to-day work of guiding students to and through college, advisors have spent a tremendous amount of time in the past year preparing for and supporting students through the Federal Department of Education's new Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The massive overhaul of the FAFSA has been a source of great stress for many students and families. Since the new application launched, both late and fraught with errors, advisors have been called upon for their expertise. Advisors have met with students and families to complete the application, problem solve technical glitches and issues with the form, and support navigation through an exceptionally difficult financial aid season.

In addition to serving as front line support, advisors have provided training for other counseling professionals and routinely answered questions from the field. Because of the team's expertise, which is centered on students' experiences, the Foundation has been called upon to respond to local, regional, and national media outlets about the FAFSA.

### Spring in Swing

In 2023, Student Advising expanded significantly, adding two new advisors, **DeVonte' (DJ) Jackson** and **Liliana (Lily) De La Garza**. DJ and Lily bring a wealth of personal and professional experience to the team.

The addition of new advisors allows the team to serve more students in our community, including many students and families for whom Spanish is their first language.

Outreach on the Foundation's scholarship grant and interest-free loan programs is in full swing, with advisors visiting local high schools, community partners, and other organizations to promote Foundation programs and assist students with the necessary steps for application.

In addition to the challenging 2024-25 FAFSA cycle, Student Advisors have been supporting Foundation scholars attending Fontbonne University, which announced in March the university would close in 2025.

Looking ahead, Student Advisors know that student support throughout the summer will be more crucial than ever. Through a range of services, including drop-in office hours, additional FAFSA support, and transition-to-college workshops and communications, advisors are prepared to support area students as they pursue their postsecondary goals.



*At an outreach fair hosted by The Little Bit Foundation in November.*

# New Report on Equity

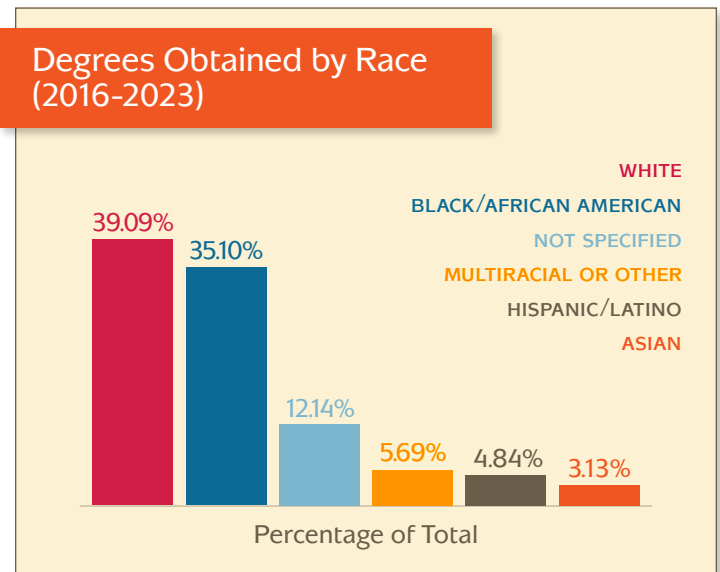
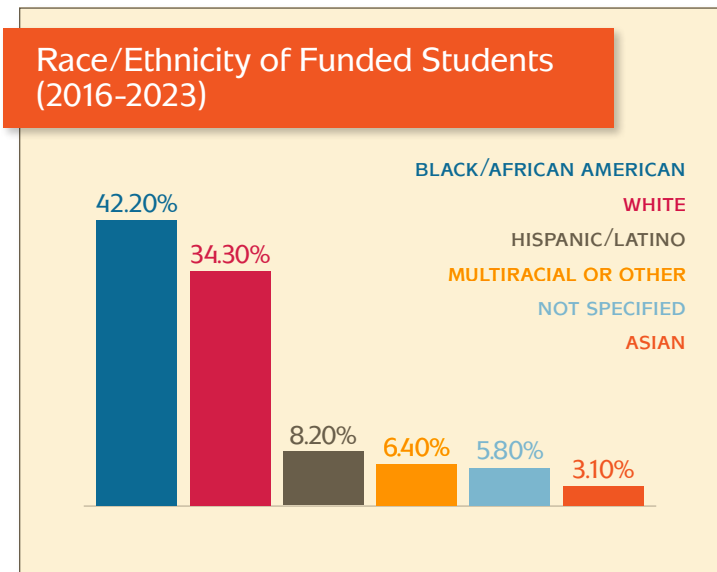
From the founding of The Scholarship Foundation in 1920 through the Great Depression, World War II, and consistent xenophobia and racism that caused humanity to struggle in the century since, the Foundation has focused on those excluded from higher education by pricing or policy and has sought to intervene. This was again true of the Foundation’s response in the aftermath of the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court to end affirmative action in college admissions last summer.

While the Foundation has been publishing data by race, ethnicity, and gender in a series of dashboards for eight years, a new equity dashboard (including and comparing information on students, board members, and staff) has been published for just three years. Most recently, a taskforce of the board of directors worked with staff over many months to prepare an equity report\* to compare Scholarship Foundation data with national benchmarks.

Key findings are encouraging. Those looking for the essential ingredients of a just society might find them in ample supply at The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis. The report concludes: “Scholarship Foundation awards are made to students whose economic condition

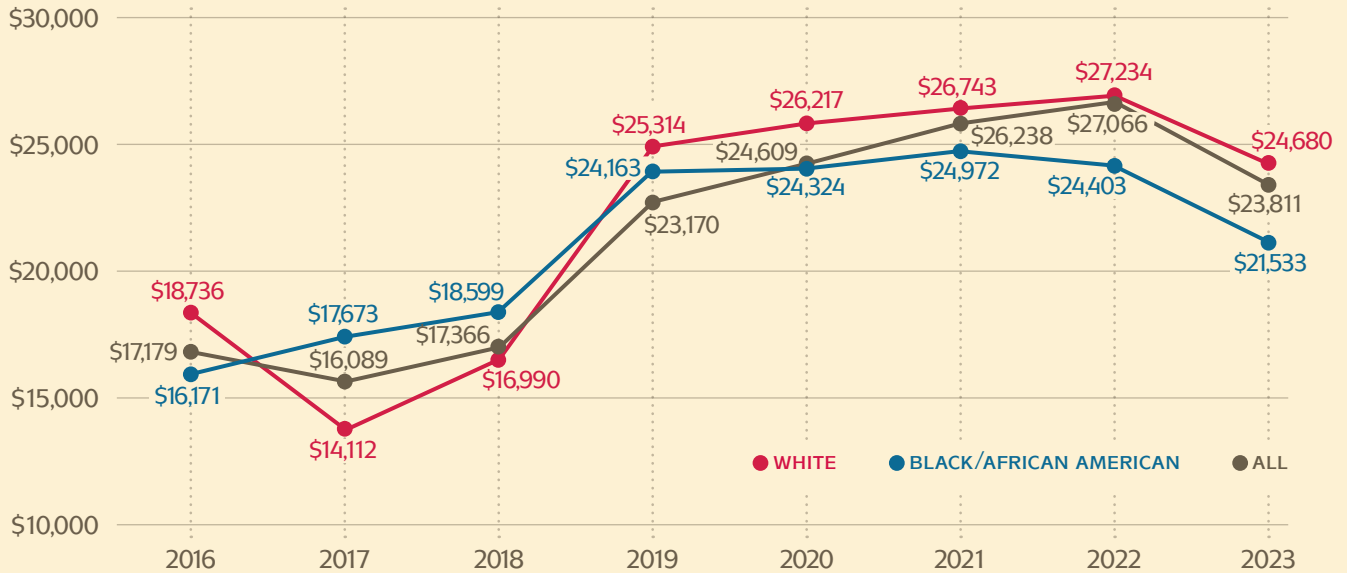
*demonstrates greatest need. In the St. Louis region, financial need is greatest in Black and Brown households and Scholarship Foundation awards are made to students of color in greater proportion. This contrast is also apparent in degree completion, in which Scholarship Foundation graduates are in greater proportion Black and in greater proportion female than rates of attainment nationally.”*

Yet the distribution of dollars and the proportion of degrees granted is an insufficient analysis of racial and economic equity in higher education in a climate of often crushing debt. On the same day that the U.S. Supreme Court issued its decision on affirmative action in admissions, it also declared the pending federal





## Average Amount Borrowed by Race (2016-2023)



student loan forgiveness program invalid. For the same year this ruling was issued (2023), the Foundation published outcomes by race and class that are starkly different from discouraging national trends.

Scholarship Foundation students (all of whom demonstrate significant financial need) are borrowing with less frequency and in lesser average amounts than all students nationally. While nationally 85% of Black students borrow, just 36% of Scholarship Foundation students who are Black must borrow. A similar inversion of national trend is apparent in total debt burden at The Scholarship Foundation, where Black students are on average borrowing less than white students.

The Scholarship Foundation “*secret sauce*” is based on a set of values that form an equity approach. Economic condition is an objective fact, and access to higher education remains far too closely correlated with wealth. The economic effects, over generations of racist policies or practices (both those still legal and those now illegal), cause a deepening of the disparities. By fairly and carefully awarding, advising, and advocating, The Scholarship Foundation proves those dynamics can be disrupted, for the good of all.

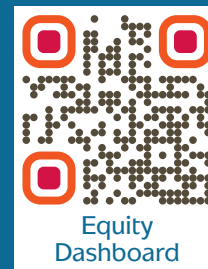
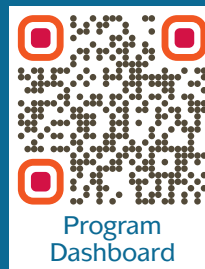
## Equity Approach

In an environment of multiple definitions and many uses of the word “equity,” clarity of values and approach is essential.

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis:

- 1 Considers higher education a human right.
- 2 Views education attainment as individual accomplishment and contribution to common good.
- 3 Intervenes in the effects of economic inequity on educational outcomes.
- 4 Directs resources to counter economic inequity where concentrated by race and gender, striving to repair prior harms.
- 5 Advocates to change systems that perpetuate inequities in education.
- 6 Opposes institutional and public policies which further injustice.

For more information, scan QR codes below.



# Driving Policy Change on College Campuses

College students have long been at the forefront of social change and activism, inspiring significant policy changes on campuses and beyond. Student advocacy is built upon the power of collaboration and the importance of leadership that originates from the students themselves.

The Scholarship Foundation's policy fellowship began in 2013 and puts into action the belief that a healthy democracy requires that those who are most affected by policy be its designers. Student-led and student-driven, the program engages young leaders in an 8-month curriculum to build confidence, skills, and knowledge of methods of systems change.

**Each year, the Policy Fellows pursue the following goals:**

- Set a policy agenda for the Foundation that is responsive to the priorities of students who are most disadvantaged by current systems and policies.
- Involve their peers in redesigning democratic processes.
- Engage in research and data analysis to inform policymakers.
- Lead the board, staff, and partners in understanding systemic barriers to educational attainment.
- Develop policy proposals to improve outcomes for students adversely affected by barriers of race, class, and immigration status.

Advocacy is most broadly defined as the process of supporting a cause or proposal. Scholarship Foundation Policy Fellows have shaped the organization's position on higher education issues at the state and federal levels for more than ten years. Most recently, more attention has been needed at the institutional level. Institutional advocacy focuses on creating sustainable and collective change on college campuses for the benefit of students, faculty, and the entire college community.

Campus policies have a tremendous impact on the student experience. From issuing parking permits to hiring instructors, policy decisions are largely made by campus administration. During COVID, many college students, including Foundation Policy Fellows, were harmed by their institutions' lack of academic and mental health resources. Since then, frustration with the slow pace of progress in legislative bodies and the need for institutional-level activism on college campuses has led the fellows to focus on institutional advocacy.

Policy Fellows, supported by Foundation staff, have spearheaded student-led institutional advocacy initiatives on multiple Missouri college campuses. No two such experiences are identical, but these examples make clear the possibilities:

**Calling out harms students' experience on campuses that are struggling financially:**

In the summer of 2023, Policy Fellows engaged in discussions with university leadership to address issues raised by football



*“I was specifically proud of the students’ courage, camaraderie, and resilience.*

*It was very inspiring to witness in real time.”*

**DeVonte’ (DJ) Jackson**



players at Fontbonne University, a Catholic institution in St. Louis. The university had developed a series of measures designed to raise quick revenue and players who were recruited without adequate financial aid or academic preparation suffered the consequences. In subsequent actions, the Foundation placed Fontbonne University on a “watch list” of schools that could face cuts or closure. That list was published about ten days before the school declared financial exigency and closure in 2025.

### **Questioning admission procedures within professional programs where students are barred from licensure:**

In the late fall of 2023, Foundation staff and a recent graduate met with leaders at Brown School of Social Work at Washington University to address concerns regarding the lack of clarity provided undocumented students on the matter of state prohibition on licensure. This prohibition applies to all professional licenses, from medicine to law to cosmetology to social work. The Foundation, through a former Fellow, proposed that: funds collected from such students be reimbursed if they can’t use their degrees as intended; more assertive and clear information be given at the start of such programs so students can make informed decisions about enrollment; and, the university devote its own advocacy influence at the state level to change this punitive policy.

### **Supporting student organizing and engagement in campus governance:**

In early 2024 Policy Fellows, alongside Foundation student advisors, **DeVonte’ (DJ)**

**Jackson and Liliana De La Garza**, and Advocacy Director, **Karina Arango**, traveled to Jefferson City to meet with student leaders at Lincoln University of Missouri following the tragic death of Dr. Antoinette “Bonnie” Candia-Bailey, vice president of student affairs. This visit provided support to Foundation students at Lincoln University and contributed to ongoing student-led advocacy efforts on campus. Students are seeking more mental health support; an equitable and safe university environment for faculty, staff, and students; and a say in leadership-level decision-making. Policy Fellows showed solidarity with student leaders at Lincoln University, who carried out various student actions throughout February. While the board of curators ultimately exonerated the president of the university (who had been accused of bullying and creating a climate of intimidation and discrimination leading to Dr. Candia-Bailey’s death), student demands on campus climate continue to be discussed at the board level.

Student-led institutional advocacy is a powerful catalyst for positive change on college campuses and beyond. When Policy Fellows identify important issues and engage campus leaders in meaningful dialogue, the Foundation supports and amplifies their priorities. Through collaborative efforts of students and organized support, the work of the fellows holds higher education institutions accountable for being both responsive and equitable in the handling of student affairs and campus policy making.

*Above: Students protest for administration changes during the Lincoln University Founders’ Day Convocation on February 8 in Jefferson City, MO. (Photo by Brandon Sewell)*

*Previous page: Morning of February 8, Foundation Policy Fellows gather for a photo after morning legislative meetings in Jefferson City, MO.*

# New Contributors

The Foundation thanks the following first-time donors for their generous gifts made between March 1, 2023 and February 29, 2024.

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Over 525 students are guaranteed the gap-closing funds necessary to afford higher education, putting graduation with minimal debt within reach for those who otherwise might not attend.

## **Advising**

Six full-time advisors are within reach for thousands of local students, parents, and community members seeking guidance on how to navigate a rapidly changing higher education landscape.

## **Advocacy**

Real-world experience affecting policy change on college campuses and in the legislature are within reach for Foundation students selected as paid Policy Fellows working with the Director of Advocacy.

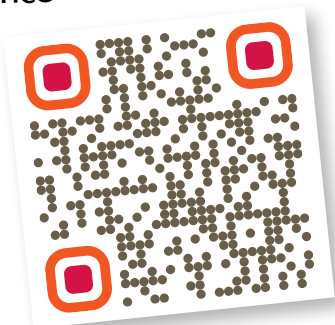
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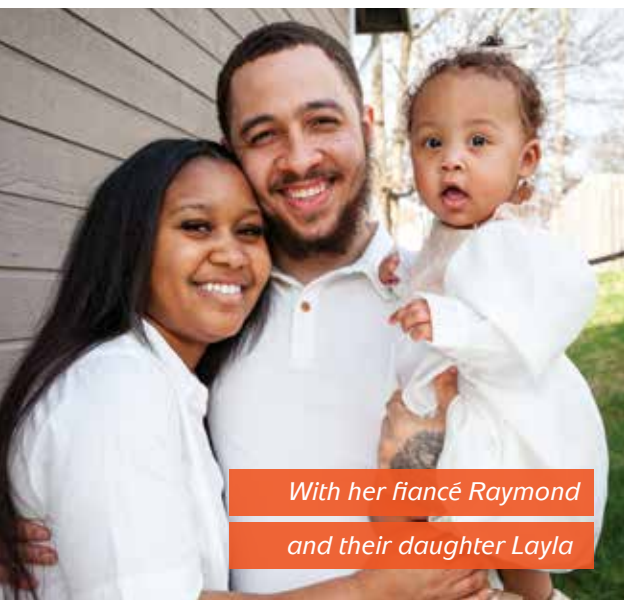


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human resources department.

# From Scholar to Supporter

Growing up, **Dimon Phillips** always knew she would go to college. She was an excellent student and, as she entered her senior year of high school at Clyde C. Miller Academy in St. Louis, MO, she did so with clear postsecondary goals. She also, like many of her peers, believed from an early age that, if she worked hard and did everything right, she'd have no trouble paying for college with scholarships. This was when she learned that realizing her dream of college was going to be more challenging than she had originally imagined.



With her fiancé Raymond  
and their daughter Layla

*“Just giving back to the community, whether of my time, my money, my efforts, my energy, whatever the case is... I definitely want to do more.”*

*“You can have the good grades. You can have the community service. You can have everything under the sun and it’s not enough. I just saw other kids getting scholarships and I didn’t think of it like, ‘OK, how did they get these scholarships?’ I just thought that it would kind of be handed to me, from whatever school I chose.”*

Born and raised in the city of St. Louis, Dimon is the youngest child in her immediate family. A self-proclaimed “*baby of the bunch*,” she was raised by her mother to work hard, get good grades, and go to college. She knew her mom had started college once but had to leave before graduating because of finances. Her sister’s college experience was also cut short when the money ran out. So Dimon got to work filling out scholarship applications, as her college counselor advised. After several weeks passed with no responses, she started to worry that her options for postsecondary education would be severely limited, including the possibility that she wouldn’t be able to go to college at all.

*“I felt like I was going to have the same struggles that my mom and sister had experienced.”*

Dimon heard about a student a grade above her who received support from The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, so she decided to apply. In her application, Dimon wrote, “*She [her mother] has raised me into a young lady...and even if things are not going right, something can always happen that changes everything. She has always taught me to motivate myself and look at things as being positive.*”

Soon after submitting that application, something DID happen. She got the news from The Scholarship Foundation: she was going to be awarded the **Equifax Finance Scholarship**. For the duration of her undergraduate studies and until her graduation, the gap in her finances for college would be covered by a renewable grant and she would graduate debt-free. She decided on Southeast Missouri State University, interested in pursuing an accounting degree.

*“Once I initially found out that I was getting the scholarship, it definitely was very emotional.”*



*Outside of the home she purchased in Fall 2023*

It didn't surprise anyone who knew Dimon that, even in the era of COVID, when so many plans fell apart, she remained focused on her goal and thrived in college. Her organizational skills helped her succeed: at the start of each semester, she carefully paid all her school bills and expenses with the money from the grant while many of her friends, especially those whose scholarships only covered freshman year, struggled with how they were going to stay in school and graduate.

*"A lot of people actually dropped out because they couldn't afford it anymore."*

Along with that gap-closing funding, Dimon received crucial assistance from her advisors and participated in a Foundation internship program. She completed her degree early, in part because the *"brick being lifted off [her] shoulder every semester"* made it possible for her to focus on her studies. She credits the support from the Foundation for being a constant reminder that college was where she belonged.

*"I didn't want to be the one who had everything they needed and still didn't finish. It's just like, OK, well, you have this, so make sure that you use it to your advantage."*

Dimon graduated in December of 2021 and, free of debt, became a Scholarship Foundation donor just a few months later in 2022. *"I know that \$50 or \$100 to The Scholarship Foundation could cover someone's books or pay for washing their clothes at school. I hope that it'll help somebody who's aspiring to go to college so they can graduate and then turn around and do the same thing."*

Today, Dimon works as a senior employee benefits account representative for an insurance brokerage. In the last year, she got engaged, bought her first home, and became the proud mother of a beautiful daughter named Layla. As she looks to her future, she is energized by the many professional opportunities available in her field. The support she received from the Foundation inspires her every day, and she is eager to find ways to increase her impact as a donor. *"Just giving back to the community, whether of my time, my money, my efforts, my energy, whatever the case is...I definitely want to do more."*



*Celebrating college graduation with her mother, Virginia*

# Grateful & Giving

For many former Scholarship Foundation students, giving back to the Foundation is a rewarding part of their lives after graduation. Three current donors were happy to answer a few questions about their relationship with the Foundation and their reasons for giving. Meet **Bella Hafezi** and **Anna and Long Phan**, each of whom expressed gratitude for the support they received years ago and who now give back to support the programs they relied upon as their dreams of college and career became reality.

## Meet Bella

**Q** What is your field and why did you choose it?

**A** **Bella:** I am a mental health counselor. Most of my professional career, I have served in higher education, supporting college students to live authentically, and guiding them to maintain a balance between academics and their personal lives. I chose this field because my own student experience helped me recognize early on that student success involves more than academics. I was introduced to counseling through an internship I completed for my psychology major at Saint Louis University. I knew then that counseling in higher education was what I wanted to pursue.

Bella Hafezi



**Q** How did support from The Scholarship Foundation impact your college experience?

**A** **Bella:** My family moved to St. Louis from Albania. Both of my parents, although highly educated from our home country, worked entry level jobs to support our family. My older sister was a medical student in Albania and when we relocated, my parents did everything they could to allow her to continue her studies. My parents maxed out loans to help pay for her education so, when I enrolled in college, they didn't have many options left to support me. The Scholarship Foundation allowed me to complete my undergraduate degree and they supported me through my master's program, as well. The assistance I received lifted a lot of my financial insecurities, which helped me be more present in my studies and my student experience.

**Q** What part of the Foundation's work inspires you to donate?

**A** **Bella:** I have experienced first-hand how The Scholarship Foundation changes lives through the power of higher education! I have followed the mission closely and have seen how the Foundation goes above and beyond to advocate for those whose voices are not heard. I was working closely with the Foundation, serving as a connecting bridge with St. Louis Community College, during the time when DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students were first facing so many challenges across the nation. I was amazed by the level of support, advocacy, and dedication the Foundation provided for our students. I identify with the Foundation's mission and values, and I want to support the amazing work being done today.





*Anna and Long Phan in NYC.  
Photo by Ray Prop Studios.*

## Meet Anna & Long

### **Q** What is your field and why did you choose it?

**A** **Anna:** During my time at Fontbonne University, I pursued a degree in Applied Mathematics. I chose the mathematics field because I enjoy problem solving. It involves attention to detail and creative thinking.

**Long:** I've always enjoyed problem solving and working with my hands. A mechanical engineering degree landed me in the manufacturing industry, leading to interesting challenges and rewarding work.

### **Q** How did support from The Scholarship Foundation impact your college experience?

**A** **Anna:** Without the support from The Scholarship Foundation, I would not have been able to afford higher education; a necessity for my future career which was stressed by both of my parents since I was a young child.

**Long:** The Scholarship Foundation provided a unique opportunity at the time of my college career. I was able to work at ScholarShop

(the Foundation's upscale resale store which closed in 2017 after raising funds for students for 57 years). Working at ScholarShop was an awesome opportunity to make new friends and lasting relationships. They gave me the flexibility I needed for my schedule and the means to obtain a higher education. I have many fond memories of everyone who worked/volunteered through the Foundation. The guidance during and post-college was helpful in setting me up for success.

### **Q** What part of the Foundation's work inspires you to donate?

**A** **Anna:** The Foundation's continued support to all communities, ensuring that students have the necessary information to make financial decisions about higher education and being a part of the support system creating opportunities for the future, inspires me to donate.

**Long:** Without the Foundation's support, I would not be where I am today. I hope that anything I can give or say will have a positive impact on someone else's career, as it did mine.

Audrey Shanfeld

# Special Birthday



*The Shanfeld family gathered to celebrate Audrey (center): son Andy, grandchildren Charlie and Drew, daughter-in-law Gina, and son Jimmy.*

Audrey joined the Board of Directors of The Scholarship Foundation in 1984, served as president from 1992-1996, and became an Honorary Life Director in 1996. The impact of Audrey's many years of volunteer service and leadership is difficult to overstate. Most recently, she co-chaired the centennial anniversary history subcommittee, and she continues proof-reading the tribute gift pages in each magazine. At her request, the following gifts in her honor will be directed to the **Lori R. Shanfeld DSL**, which was established in 1994 in memory of Audrey's daughter by family, friends, and coworkers.

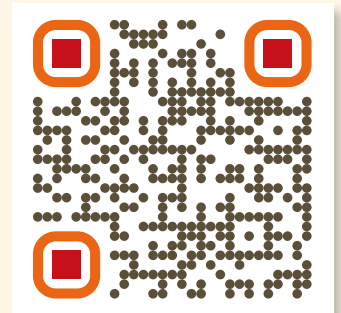
Harriette Arkin  
Martha and David  
Aronson ✧  
Fran S. Berger ✧  
Linda and Ivan Blumoff  
Radine Borowsky  
Barbara Boxer  
Gisela Cohen  
Judy Goldman  
Marilyn Goldman  
Lisa and Gail  
Goodman ✧

Susan Goodman ✧  
Deborah Gould  
Marsha Grazman  
Roxanne Greenberg  
Natalie Handelman  
Helane Isaacs  
Wendy Jablonow  
Essie Kessler  
Lynne Kipnis ✧  
Susie Knopf  
Marilyn Levy  
Kay Loomstein

Carol Max ✧  
Judy Milton  
Fran Poger  
Faith A. Sandler ✧  
Julie Scherck  
Ann Scott  
Bente Seitz ✧  
Marcia Shapiro  
Jennifer Shifrin ✧  
Carole Simon  
Noma Simon  
Susie Wallach

## 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)



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



Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students

# Tributes in Honor of

September 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024

MARRIAGE

**Karissa Anderson and  
Reginald Whitted, II**  
Karin McElwain-West

BIRTHDAY

**Susan Arenberg**  
Tom, Pam, Ben, Gwen, Sam,  
John and Steven Arenberg

APPRECIATION

**Martha Aronson**  
Jim Arndt

BIRTHDAY

**Dr. Arthur I. Auer**  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*  
Suzanne Yee and  
John Nachbar

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Dr. Ben Borowsky**  
Shirlene Baris  
Phyllis Goldberg  
Judith Kostman

WEDDING OF HANNAH BOROWSKY  
AND CHRIS CAI

**Radine and Ben Borowsky**  
Harriette Arkin

APPRECIATION

**Radine Borowsky**  
Leila and Mark Borowsky

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Judith Calhoun and  
Tim Fischer**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Brent Evans and  
Karen Sweeney**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Ann Friedman and Steve Litz**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Don Friedman and  
Lara Garrett**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Steve Friedman**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

DAUGHTER'S MARRIAGE

**Robin and David Gutmann**  
Drs. Lynne Kipnis and  
Steven Rothman

BIRTHDAY

**Anne Hetlage**  
Gene Kornblum

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Ric Hovda and  
Kevin McGrew**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

COLLEGE GRADUATION

**Michael Jaude, Jr.**  
Drs. Joan and Sherman Silber

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Katherine Kreusser, MD**  
Donna and Paul Abrams

CHRISTMAS

**Katherine Kreusser, MD**  
Helen Frazier

NEW YEAR'S WISHES

**Katherine Kreusser, MD**  
Darla and George Grossberg

APPRECIATION

**Katherine Kreusser, MD**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Vella

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Amy, Larry, Jacob, and  
Gabe Lentin**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Jennifer, Kenny, Luke, and  
Levi Lentin**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**Dr. Charles Mannis**  
Marla and Ed Cohen

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD  
FROM WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**Harry Moppins**  
Faith Sandler

ROBERT S. BROOKINGS AWARD  
FROM WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

**Andy and Peggy Newman**  
Faith Sandler

OUTSTANDING SERVICE

**Mr. and Mrs. Egon Nygaard**  
Bente and Neil Seitz

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Rita and Jim O'Brien**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Jeff Orgel**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Kathy and Mike Orgel**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

BIRTHDAY

**Thomas Philipsborn**  
Dr. and Mrs.\* Arthur Auer  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

APPRECIATION

**Dana Lynn Phillips-Davis**  
Rosetta Taylor Moore

HONOR

**Susan Roudebush Rava**  
George S. Roudebush, Jr.

HONOR

**The Regagnon Family**  
Barbara L. Wilkinson

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

**Linda and Paul Roberts**  
Sandra G. Levy

BIRTHDAY

**Howard Rosenberg**  
Joyce Berger  
*Joanne M. Clevinger DSL*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Julie Russell**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

APPRECIATION

**Faith Sandler**  
Gretchen Vander Meulen and  
Elsbeth Brugger

35TH ANNIVERSARY AS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF  
THE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

**Faith Sandler**  
Martha and David Aronson  
Buff Buffkin and Donn  
Kleinschmidt, MD  
Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch  
Drs. Lynne Kipnis and  
Steven Rothman  
Lauren Ming  
Dr. Julia K. Muller and  
Mr. Earl Shreckengast  
Esther V. Pruett  
The Scholarship Foundation  
Staff  
Audrey Shanfeld  
Barb Touchette

AWESOME MOM

**Audrey Shanfeld**  
James Shanfeld  
*Lori R. Shanfeld DSL*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Blair and Fran Spring and  
Jerry Patterson**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

APPRECIATION

**The Scholarship Foundation  
Staff**  
Rosetta Taylor Moore

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Jeanne Tompras**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Jennifer and Nick Tompras**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

BIRTHDAY

**Vicki Weiss**  
Dr. Arthur Auer  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

**Betsy, Mike, Chase, and  
Max Wicklund**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

HONOR

**Darion Williams**  
Emily and Dan Cohen

◆ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more

Thank You for Opening Doors for Area Students

# Tributes in Memory of

September 1, 2023 – February 29, 2024

**Dianna Adorjan**  
Linda Stark

**Ann Arenberg**  
Steven Arenberg

**Paul Arenberg**  
Susan Arenberg

**Marian D. Auer**  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*  
Sharon Lentin Friedman

**Delores Ball**  
Trent Ball

**Beverly Barron**  
Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

**Karen Bartlett**  
Linda Wheatley

**Phil Bassin**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

**Nancy Baum**  
Drs. Joan and Sherman Silber

**Marilyn Boettcher**  
Anne Boettcher and  
Daniel Martin

**Jane Eiseman**  
Steven Arenberg  
Deb Eiseman

**Mary Crotty Fleming**  
Anne and Edward Crotty

**Barry Freedman**  
Marge Talcoff

**Marty Ginsburg**  
Babs Schwartz

**Roger Goldman**  
Joyce and Tom Lewin

**Mother of Fred Harlan**  
Mary and Ken Shapiro

**Jeffrey Korn**  
Patty and Jerry Padawer

**Judge Arthur Litz**  
Jane Schapiro Brown and  
Scott Brown

**Charles "Chuck" Meyer**  
Radine and Benjamin  
Borowsky

**Brother of Mike Muse**  
Drs. Joan and Sherman Silber

**Emil Nathan**  
Dr. Arthur Auer  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

**William Lee "Bill" Nussbaum**  
Drs. Joan and Sherman Silber

**Courtney and Gyo Obata**  
Sakurako and William Fisher

**Dr. David Ortvals**  
Lou Ann Nolan

**Dr. Robert Packman**  
Radine and Ben Borowsky  
Buff Buffkin and  
Donn Kleinschmidt, MD  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Dunn  
Kirk A. Hughes

Lynne Johnson  
Oak Park Estates Association  
Mabel L. Purkerson, MD  
Renee Rosen  
Faith A. Sandler  
Lenny Simpson  
Bonnie and John Staffier

**Al Palmer, Jr.**  
Rosetta Taylor Moore

**Norma Rader**  
Dr. Arthur Auer  
*Marian D. Auer DSL*

**Barbara Roberts**  
Marla and Ed Cohen

**Barbara Rosenblum**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

**Ed Schapiro**  
Jane Schapiro Brown and  
Scott Brown

**Geraldine "Gerry" Schiller**  
The Daffodils Brownie Troop  
of Conway School  
Betty Rae Epstein  
Dr. Julia K. Muller and  
Mr. Earl Shreckengast  
Drs. Joan and Sherman Silber

**Michael Scissors**  
Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch

**Dr. William Shieber**  
Radine and Ben Borowsky  
Faith Sandler and  
Michael Holohan

**Pat Silversmith**  
Sharon and Barry Friedman

**Dorothy Singer**  
Leslie and Jake Reby

**Weldon "Sugar" Smith**  
Patricia Stokes

**Mel Spiegelglass**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Padawer

**Bernard "Nardie" Stein**  
Sally Stein

**Robert L. Sweney**  
Betty R. Epstein

**Steve Bilane and  
Don Tomlinson**  
Faith Sandler

**Don Tomlinson**  
Linda and Bob Dencker

**Thomas R. Tucker**  
Harriette Arkin

**Ellen Coppersmith Weiss**  
Sharon & Barry Friedman  
Katherine Kreusser, MD

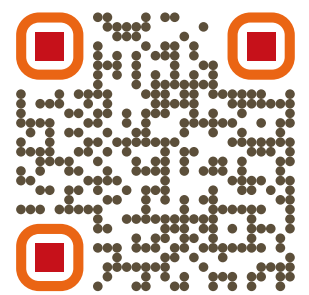
**Dr. Robert Young**  
Martha and David  
Aronson  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bonacorsi  
Patricia and William Brasher  
Darla and George Grossberg  
Cynthia and Robert  
Rothbaum  
Margaret Russell

**Debbie Zorensky**  
Joyce and Tom Lewin

◆ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more

⊕ This gift was recognized in the last issue of *Opening Doors*, but the \$50+ symbol was unintentionally omitted. We apologize for the error.

Scan.  
Tribute.  
Remember.



# Tributes in memory of Donna Moog

Donna was an Honorary Life Director of The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, having served as president from 1989-1991. Donna's love of learning and of the arts guided her community work in St. Louis and beyond, and the students of the Foundation were always at the center for her.

Anonymous ✦  
Martha and David Aronson ✦  
Elaine Bell ✦  
Mark Bernstein ✦  
Buff Buffkin and Donn Kleinschmidt, MD ✦  
Cathy and Bob Carmody ✦  
Marla and Ed Cohen  
Cynthia Garnholz and Bill Eastman ✦  
Mimi Fargo ✦  
Joyce and Gary Follman  
Mrs. Alvin Frank ✦  
Nancee and Andy Glaser ✦  
Miggie Greenberg ✦  
Deborah and Kent Hirschfelder  
Joanne and Joel Iskiwitch  
Wendy and Neil Jaffe ✦  
Nancy Jenkins  
Nancy and Ken Kranzberg ✦  
Phyllis and Ken Langsdorf  
*Phyllis and Ken Langsdorf Family DSL*  
Sandra G. Levy  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lowenhaupt ✦  
Bonnie and Sidney Marx Family ✦  
Marcia Mellitz ✦  
Dr. Julia Muller and  
Mr. Earl Shreckengast ✦  
Ryan and Your Friends  
at Northern Trust ✦  
Roxanne O'Connor ✦  
Carolyn Ohlsen ✦  
The Ladies of  
Old Town Needlework ✦

✦ Indicates a donation of  
\$50 or more

Patty and Jerry Padawer ✦  
Sue Rich  
Faith Sandler and Michael Holohan ✦  
Martha and Robert Scharff ✦  
Audrey Shanfeld ✦  
Leonard A. Sherman ✦  
David Shores ✦  
Dr. Joan Silber  
Gloria Spitzer  
Linda Stark  
Teresa Steinkamp  
Pam and Craig Toder ✦



# The Andrew Michael Neiman Theater Arts Scholarship Fund



In 2021, Scholarship Foundation friend and board member, **Lainie Neiman**, experienced the tragic loss of her son, **Andy Neiman**. Andy was Lainie's beloved son, a wonderful actor and teacher, a father, a husband, and a friend to many.

For over a year, Lainie worked with her family and others who loved Andy to create the **Andrew Michael Neiman Theater Arts Scholarship Fund** in his memory. Lainie launched the fundraising effort for this initiative in January of this year, and the gifts have been pouring in since.

## Tributes in Memory of Andrew Michael Neiman through February 29, 2024

Carolyn Aibel ✧  
Anonymous  
Anonymous ✧ (4 gifts)  
Martha and David Aronson ✧  
Jaron Asher ✧  
Ruth Barham  
Jason Beeber ✧  
Sally Benjamin ✧  
Rabbi Daniel Bogard ✧  
Steve Brammeier and Hugh Pavitt ✧  
Jonathan Bresman ✧  
Ilana Brownstein ✧  
Buff Buffkin and  
Donn Kleinschmidt, MD ✧  
Charlie Bunge ✧  
Douglas Collinger ✧  
Judy Markey and Tommy Collinger ✧  
Suzy and Jim Cornbleet ✧  
Karen O. Drake ✧  
Alice Edwards ✧  
Katie and Peter Edwards ✧  
Don Eggleston ✧  
Delphine Fehlig and Qun Sha  
Michael Fioretti ✧  
Rene Freels ✧

Prue and Jeff Gershman ✧  
Sara and Tim Goertel ✧  
Jarred Goldberg ✧  
Richard Goldberg ✧  
Trish and Ken Goldman ✧  
Nancy and Alan Goldstein ✧  
Mark Gordon ✧  
Elizabeth Greenblatt  
Dory Hack ✧  
Deborah and Ed Harris ✧  
Allison G. Hawk ✧  
Karen Kleiman  
Ann Kram ✧  
Jody Kuh ✧  
Maureen Lavin ✧  
Anna Lehrke ✧  
Diane Levine ✧  
Sandy Macovei ✧  
Diane Maier  
Johanna (Epstein) McCarthy ✧  
Katie McGrath ✧  
Lisa Meyerowitz and Daniel Greene ✧  
John Milonas and Robert Ramsey ✧  
Lauren Ming ✧  
John Mondello ✧  
Lainie Neiman ✧  
Betsy Nelson ✧  
Karen Phon

Ann Plunkett ✧  
Elisabeth Quatrano ✧  
Jennifer Ransburg  
Miriam Spiegel Raskin ✧  
Dana Raucher ✧  
Karen Reifer ✧  
Jenny Rosenberg  
Tomer Rothschild ✧  
Melissa and Thomas Ruwitch ✧  
Lori and Scott Sale ✧  
Barbara Saltzstein ✧  
Faith A. Sandler ✧  
Robert Schmalz ✧  
Dale and Robert Schreiber ✧  
Joey Schuman  
Robin Shane ✧  
Michele and Patrick Siler  
Rita Singer ✧  
Dr. Stacey L. Smith ✧  
Eric Snyder ✧  
Marsha Stocker ✧  
Rachael Tella ✧  
Geri Tyrey  
Kimberly Wadycki ✧  
Nancy and Andy Weigley  
Sally Altman and Richard Weiss ✧  
Susan and Howard Weissman ✧  
Marilyn Young ✧

✧ Indicates a donation of \$50 or more



# Homelands

*The History of The Scholarship Foundation Spans Continents and Creeds.*

**Julian Babad** was born to Jewish parents in Poland in 1934, when the country was still considered a place of relative safety and tolerance. Families fleeing Soviet Russia or Nazi Germany found refuge there until the late 1930s when virulent anti-Semitism, pogroms, and war raged throughout Europe.

When he was a very young child, Babad's family relocated from Poland to America seeking safety and opportunity. By 1942, his mother had died, and his father had gone off to war.

From the age of eight until his father returned to St. Louis, Babad lived at the Jewish Orphan's Home. In a 2010 interview, Babad credited The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis as "the crucible of my own philanthropy." In the early 1950s (when the organization was named St. Louis Jewish Scholarship Foundation), Babad received aid to attend college. His successful 29-year career as a chemical engineer resulted, and so it was his goal to provide opportunities for today's students without limitation or restriction by religion or race or ethnicity.

A 2015 profile of Julian Babad in *BizTucson* recounts, "Orphaned, this studious lad ultimately got a scholarship to college and became an engineer." After he retired, Babad bought an RV and his home was truly mobile. He visited St. Louis in 1998, stopping in at The Scholarship Foundation to create a designated scholar loan. He traveled for several years throughout the southwestern United States, parking a bit longer in Arizona than anywhere else.

In addition to his commitments to The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, Babad also established a scholarship with The Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, where:

*"He drove his mobile home to the Foundation and gave them the keys. He decided he was too old to drive and figured the nonprofit could sell it and add the money to his fund, ultimately benefiting more students."*  
(*BizTucson*, 2015)

Julian Babad passed away in 2022. In his estate plans, he directed that a distribution of \$9,500 be made annually for 25 years to The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis. Each year, a check arrives at The Scholarship Foundation offices at 6825 Clayton Avenue, just a block or two from the former location of the Jewish Orphan's Home. In studying the long-closed institution, historians believe the home was located "just across the street and a few yards east of Dewey School." And in this way, Mr. Babad comes back home.



*"He drove his mobile home to the Foundation and gave them the keys. He decided he was too old to drive and figured the nonprofit could sell it and add the money to his fund, ultimately benefiting more students."*

*Julian Babad poses by his RV during his 1998 visit to St. Louis and The Scholarship Foundation.*

# *A Meeting of the Minds*

On February 24, 2024, 58 people (current and honorary life directors, staff, and Policy Fellows) gathered to build community, plan for the future, dream big, and eat some cake to celebrate **Executive Director Faith Sandler's 35th anniversary** leading the Foundation. When this many bright and hopeful minds come together, everything deserving students need to make it to and through college is within reach.

