



Jeannette Rankin
WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Rankin File

Greetings Friends and Supporters

Thank you for your engagement and support! You help us deliver the JRF Mission of "Empowering Women Through Education" every day!

We are having a GREAT year at JRF. The application deadline is upon us and we have our volunteer team of Scholarship Readers ready to review and award our 2017/18 Class of JRF Scholars. We awarded a record number of scholarships this year and plan to offer even more worthy women the opportunity to empower themselves through education this coming year. **YOU** make the difference!

It seems appropriate that a foundation built from a bequest by Jeannette Rankin's estate, has been the recipient of a transformational gift from Alexandra Kilpatrick's estate. Please read the story of how Alexandra's cousin, Donna Zenor was able to fulfill Alix's wishes to the benefit of our JRF Scholars for generations to come.

Again, thank you for all you do!

Yours for Women and Education,
Karen Sterk,
Executive Director



Alexandra Dale Munro Kilpatrick's Gift – Honoring the Legacy of a Life Well Lived

Alexandra Dale Munro Kilpatrick, better known as Alix, was an exceptionally intelligent woman whose life path drew her away from traditional educational opportunities. As the prospect of her life ending drew near, she contacted her cousin and childhood best friend, Donna Zenor, and asked her to research organizations that "enhance the lives of women through education." She was interested in leaving a substantial portion of her estate to such an organization. Donna identified the Jeannette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund. Unfortunately, Alix died suddenly and was unable to leave the funds directly to JRF. Donna initially contacted JRF's Executive Director, Sue Lawrence on October 17, 2013. From there it was a long and winding road that Donna pursued with persistence and dedication in order to honor the dying wishes of her dear cousin and friend Alix.



Alix lived a non-traditional life. A single child whose mother was the youngest of nine children of immigrant Norwegian parents, Alix was born in Phoenix, Arizona. However, she lived life on the world stage. She worked in a theater in Paris, France, and for a number of years she flew for American Airlines. She later settled in rural New Hampshire with her husband, Bob Kilpatrick.

In the words of Donna; *Alix was one of the most generous spirits to have ever inhabited this earth and the scholarship fund which the donor is establishing upon her death should be counted as one of the many gifts which are her legacy.*

We received this transformative gift this year. We are grateful that Alix cared so deeply about the women we serve. We are grateful that Donna found us. And, we are grateful that Donna persisted through navigating the challenges of getting the funding to JRF. This gift will transform the lives of JRF Scholars and their families for years to come.

Thank you Alix and Donna.



It's Time to Talk: Forums on Race

April 19, 2017



Run for Rankin 5k & Family Fun Run at Oconee Veterans Park

August 26, 2017



Smart Party Athens

September 14, 2017



Smart Party Atlanta

November 9, 2017

Thank you Coca-Cola!!!

Thanks to a generous grant from the Coca-Cola Foundation we were able to award more scholarships to deserving women this fall. Here they are:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Allison S.- NV | Evelyn V.- FL | Maureen G.- MA |
| Amanda L.- NC | Fatimah J.- NJ | Melissa E.- KY |
| Andrea K.- PA | Janine H.- CA | Michelle L.- CO |
| Andrea R.- MA | Joi H.- IL | Naeemah A.- CA |
| Anna L.- WI | Kathryn R.- IN | Susan L.- OH |
| Beatrix C.- NJ | Katrina M.- NM | Teresa H.- TX |
| Brandy T.- AL | Kelly D.- OH | Tonia H.- NY |
| Brenda S.- VA | Lakeyta D.- PA | Veronica J.- AR |
| Chanel M.- GA | Lara H. GA | Vickie R.- CA |
| Cindy B.- CA | Lori P.- NV | Victoria B.- MI |
| Debra H.- KY | Marcie A.- GA | Yashi L.- MN |
| Elizabeth Al.- MO | Marinda W.- GA | |
| | Maritza G.- NC | |



That's right folks! JRF has gone completely wireless and there is no more landline! Our main number, 706-208-1211 is now LaTrena Stokes wireless number. The vast majority of our calls come from our Scholars. Our intent is always to provide excellent customer service.

Executive Director
Karen Sterk - 706-540-9154

Scholarship Program Manager
LaTrena Stokes - 706-208-1211

Development and Marketing
Jacki Gaytan - 706-548-0202

Join us for the Inaugural *It's Time to Talk: Forums on Race* program, on Wednesday, April 19 at The Classic Center, Athens, GA. This is a thought-provoking and motivating dialogue on racism, where you will leave inspired to personally take action to advance equity in your community.

Find out more and purchase tickets at rankinfoundation.org



100th Anniversary of Jeannette Rankin in Congress April 2, 2017



On Wednesday, March 8, we had the great honor of celebrating International Women's Day at a special reception at the U.S. Capitol given by House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi. The reception commemorated the 100 year anniversary of

Jeannette Rankin as the 1st woman in Congress. Pictured here from left to right are: JRF Board Member Maureen Byrnes, JRF Executive Director Karen Sterk, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Nora Hohenlohe, Jeannette Rankin's niece.

A special document exhibit on Jeannette Rankin is on display in the East Rotunda Gallery of the National Archival Building in Washington, DC from now until April 3, 2017.

Find out more at: womenshistorymonth.gov

Scholar Story: Gwendolyn



“The Jeannette Rankin Women’s Scholarship Foundation has given me the opportunity to start over and rebuild my life. From receiving my associate’s degree to receiving my bachelor’s degree this Spring of 2017, this experience inspired me in so many ways!”

Gwendolyn (Gwen) Jordan is a four-time JRF Scholarship recipient and is set to graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Individualized Studies/Sociology this May from Virginia State University. Gwen received her first scholarship from JRF in 2012 and it was the launch pad toward much of her success.

After receiving the first scholarship, Gwen gained some new confidence and started to “soar like an eagle.” In 2014 Gwen graduated from John Tyler Community Collage summa cum laude, receiving her associates degree in Human Services.

After graduation, Gwen hopes to continue to make a difference in people’s lives the same way JRF has made a difference in hers. She would like to thank everyone at JRF for believing in her and giving her the confidence she needed to succeed.

See the full story at rankinfoundation.org

Donor Spotlight: Amanda Bennett

I first got connected with JRF when I was working at UGA around 2006. I wanted to volunteer somewhere in the community and found JRF through searching a list of local organizations. I was intrigued by the volunteer opportunity and helped as a Level 1 Scholarship Application Reader that year.

That was all it took for me to want to become more involved with JRF. I volunteered to be an application reader at whatever level they needed and I began attending fundraisers. The stories of the scholarship applicants were so diverse and inspirational. Reading those applications was actually a large part of what motivated me to go to back to school 10 years after I graduated with my undergraduate degree from UGA to pursue my Master's degree in Nonprofit Management.

I saw the huge value in what JRF was doing for its scholars and I knew I wanted to give back. When my husband and I were financially able to give enough for an annual scholarship, we started giving every year to JRF. We moved to Nashville almost three years ago, but I enjoy staying connected to JRF. I look forward to being engaged however I am able. I am humbled to be a small part of helping the JRF scholars not only achieve their dreams but also realize their potential and value.



Smart Party 2.0 Was a Huge Success!
Thank You to Our SMART Party 2.0 Sponsors in Helping us Reach Our \$40,000 Goal!

Join us for Smart Party 3.0 Nov. 9, 2017 in Athens, GA.

Meet Our New Board Members!



Betsy Bach
Professor, University of Montana

Betsy Bach is a professor in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of Montana. She received her PhD in Organizational Communication from the University of Washington, her Master of Arts in Interpersonal Communication from the University of Montana, and her Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Hope College.

Genie Snyder Chamberlin
Principal Speaker Consultant/Co-Founder at Snyder Remarks and REthink Ink.

Genie’s mission is to help move companies and organizations forward. She has a passion for encouraging and inspiring people to what and how they do business. After 20 years of work she still is inspired by seeing the “light bulb go on” when working through challenges.



Georgina Dottin
Program Manager, Rehab Engineering national Industries for the Blind

Georgina currently works for National Industries for the Blind (NIB) in Arlington, Virginia. At NIB, Georgina is an Industrial/Rehabilitation Engineer and supports 90 non-profit associated agencies throughout the United States that are run by people who are legally and totally blind.

Susan Elkins
Chancellor, Palmetto College, University of South Carolina

Susan has served as the Chancellor of the University of South Carolina Palmetto College since 2013. She received her PhD from Vanderbilt University, her Master of Arts and Bachelor of Science in education from Tennessee Technological University.



Robin Hatcher
Purchasing Supervisor, Caterpillar Inc.

Robin Hatcher serves as the Site Purchasing Manager for Caterpillar Inc in Athens, GA. Robin is a member of the Caterpillar Athens leadership team and oversees the purchasing organization whose responsibilities include supplier management and component procurement for the assembly of Small Track Type Tractors and Mini Hydraulic Excavators.

Danine Knowles Hodge
JRF Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, The Georgia Project

Danine changed careers from the for-profit financial sector to work in the non-profit sector and effect a change in the world after becoming a single mother of one son. Through her personal struggles she gained an affinity for organizations that champion education, the arts, advocacy, and community development.



Nelson Holland
Investment Advisor Representative, Holland Financial Services, Inc.

Nelson is the owner and president of Holland Financial Services, Inc. in Athens, Georgia. He created Holland Financial Services, Inc. in the 90’s and was able to incorporate his employee benefit practice with retirement and investment planning.

Frank Pasztor
Manager, Battle

Frank is a Manager at Battelle and has been with the company since 2007. At Battelle, Frank manages over 130 scientific and technical staff



Full biography’s available on our website