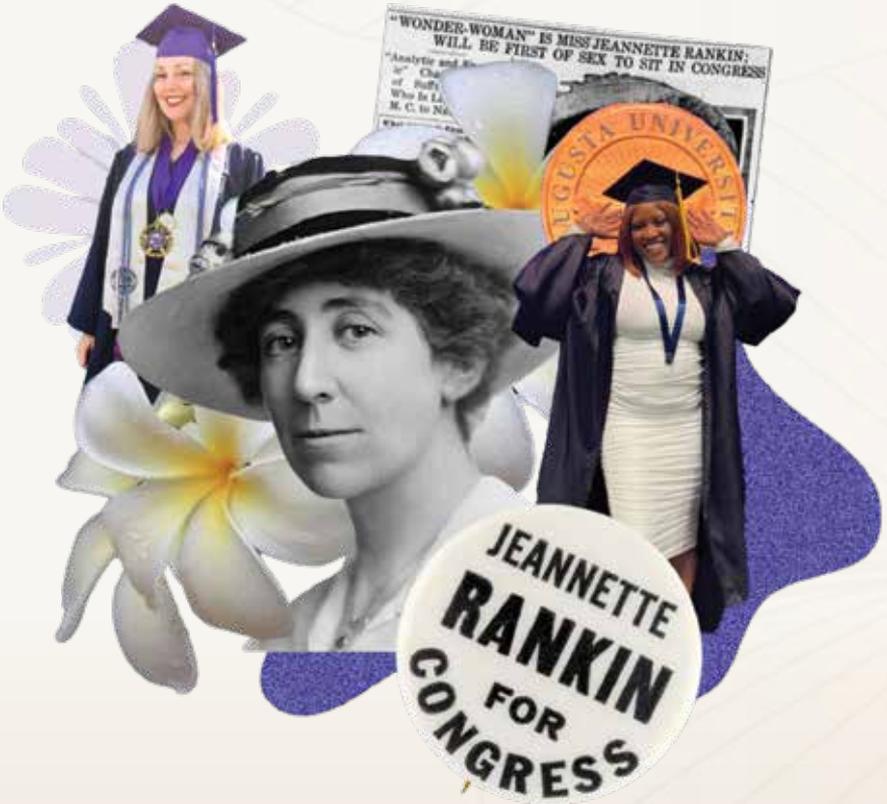


Rankin Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2025



Jeannette Rankin
FOUNDATION

Transforming Futures Through Education

Dear Rankin Friend,

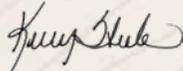
When I think about what it means to transform a life through education, I think about the moment a Rankin Scholar realizes they're no longer doing it all alone. They're still carrying everything: work, family, tuition, bills and the many responsibilities that come with being a nontraditional student, yet because of you and your support of the Rankin Foundation, they have a support team by their side — people who believe in them. And that changes what's possible.

This year, I saw possibilities open for Rankin Scholars again and again.

In FY2025, we achieved our highest Rankin Scholar Persistence Rate ever, with 97% of Rankin Scholars graduating or continuing their studies. This accomplishment is largely due to our expanded wraparound services and Resiliency/Emergency funding that provide coaching, community support and financial assistance, helping Scholars overcome short-term crises and stay on the path to graduation.

In the pages that follow, you'll see the stories in the results, the Scholar journeys and the community of donors, partners and volunteers who make this work possible. Thank you for standing with Rankin Scholars and for providing what they need most: possibility. Thank you for transforming futures through education!

With gratitude,



Karen Sterk
CEO, Jeannette Rankin Foundation



Rozy Park
Board Chair



Michele Ozumba
President



Karen Sterk
CEO

Go! Go! Go!

It makes no difference
where, just so you

Go! Go! Go!

Remember, at the first
opportunity, go!

— Jeannette Rankin

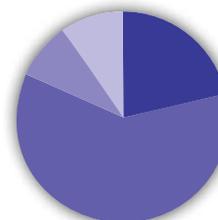
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL POSITION

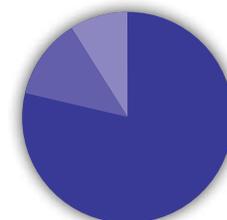
ASSETS	FY25	FY24
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 818,799.00	\$ 61,180.00
Pledges Receivable	\$ 925,937.00	\$ 852,868.00
Grants Receivable	\$ -	\$ -
Property & Equipment	\$ 117,527.00	\$ 123,452.00
Investments - General	\$ 2,966,540.00	\$ -
Investments - Endowment	\$ 4,828,003.00	\$ 2,771,714.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,828,803.00	\$3,909,214.00
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Accounts Payable	\$ 199,330.00	\$ 30,786.00
Line of Credit	\$ -	\$ -
Note Payable	\$ 61,427.00	\$ 69,678.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 249,757.00	\$ 100,446.00
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 443,744.00	\$ 68,957.00
With Donor Restrictions	\$ 4,135,302.00	\$ 3,739,811.00
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$4,579,046.00	\$3,808,768.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$4,808,803.00	\$3,909,214.00

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUES, AND RECLASSIFICATIONS	FY25	FY24
Contributions	\$ 2,660,803.00	\$ 1,709,928.00
Investment Return - Net	\$ 215,570.00	\$ 347,448.00
Special Event Income	\$ 144,716.00	\$ 181,890.00
Less Event Expenses	\$ -90,355.00	\$ -97,794.00
Other Income	\$ 53,577.00	\$ -
Net Assets Released From Restriction	\$ 1,234,725.00	\$ -
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT, REVENUES & RECLASSIFICATION	\$2,588,820.00	\$2,141,472.00
EXPENSES		
Program Expenses	\$ 1,780,372.00	\$ 1,282,926.00
Administrative Expenses	\$ 140,391.00	\$ 111,899.00
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 190,213.00	\$ 209,720.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,110,976.00	\$ 1,604,535.00
Uncollectable Contributions Receivable	\$ 103,057.00	\$ -
Increase (decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 770,278.00	\$ 536,937.00
Net Assets Beginning of the Year	\$ 3,808,768.00	\$ 3,271,831.00
NET ASSETS, END OF THE YEAR	\$4,579,046.00	\$3,808,768.00



INCOME PERCENTAGES	
Contributions	23%
Grants	62%
Events	7%
Investments	8%
TOTAL	100%



EXPENSES	
Program	80%
Administration	7%
Fundraising	13%
TOTAL	100%

BOARD of DIRECTORS & STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Photo below includes board, staff and consultants.)

Amber Eagleboy, Cheryl Duminuco, Demetra Lambros, Dimples Williamson - *Secretary*, J. Maria Waters, Jinx Patel, Kimberly Reeve, Kunal Verma, LaToro Yates, LaQuanda Prince, Letty Ashworth, Lorissa Rinehart, Mary Engstrom, Madeline Van Dyck, Monica Bomani, Robin Walls, Rozy Park - *Board Chair*, Stacy Sollenberger, Vashti Canty - *Vice Chair*



STAFF

Michele Ozumba, Karen Sterk, LaTrena Artist, Breezy Barcelo, Holly Hasenauer, Jackie Slovak, LaWanna Ross, Lori Smoker, Maheen Chranya, Tiana Hudak



This year was about growth: expanding our reach while staying relentlessly Scholar-centered. As we continue the GREAT FORCE Campaign, our most ambitious effort in the organization's history, we are building the infrastructure to ensure that qualified applicants aren't turned away simply because resources are limited. We are delivering on the campaign's purpose to grow our endowment for long-term stability, increase annual support to expand Scholar Grants and staffing, and invest in purpose-driven programming for Scholars that strengthens education completion and career readiness.

None of it happens without you.

Your philanthropy surpasses generosity. It is economic mobility. It is family stability. It is closing the gender and racial wealth gap. Your support of the Rankin Foundation covers the essential, often unmet needs that determine whether a nontraditional student can stay enrolled: car repairs, childcare, groceries, gas and so much more. Your philanthropy funds possibility.



ENDOWMENT

By growing our endowment, we solidify the Jeannette Rankin Foundation's future and multiply the number of Scholar Grants awarded each year.



ANNUAL SUPPORT

By increasing our annual support, we can expand our reach as we provide the staffing necessary to raise the funds to support more Scholar Grants, along with the support that ensures the success of Rankin Scholars.



PURPOSE-DRIVEN PROGRAMMING

By expanding our programming, we deepen our impact. Plans include adding more case management, coaching and mentoring for Scholars, helping them reach graduation and prepare for careers. We also aim to create a robust alumni group and engage current and future supporters in new and meaningful ways.

We're well on our way, but we're not done yet!

TOTAL: \$10,860,146.00*

The GREAT FORCE Campaign has already allowed us to increase the number of Scholar Grants by

104% over the past three years.

The Rankin Scholar Persistence Rate has increased from a low of 82% in 2022 to a high of 97% in 2025 because of increased wraparound support.**

Together, with each dollar raised, we are:

- Closing the gender and racial wealth gap
- Reducing generational poverty
- Impacting Scholar communities

There are a multitude of ways to support the GREAT FORCE Campaign.

Please contact Karen Sterk at karen@rankinfoundation.org or 706-540-9154 to discuss options, or simply donate online at beagreatforce.org or by using the QR code.

*as of 5/31/24. **According to the Institute for Women's Policy Research, the average Persistence Rate for this demographic is 8-31%.



TRANSFORM FUTURES
THROUGH EDUCATION

RANKIN SCHOLARS

2025



Adelaide M.
Adriana H.
Alana G.
Alexis G.
Alicia (Ali) A. 🎓
Amanda W. 🎓
Amanda N. R.
Amanda R.
Amber S. 🎓
Amber E. 🎓
Andrea W. 🎓
Angela M.
Amy M.
Amy W. 🎓
Analisa T.
Anastasia B. 🎓
Andrea H.
Angela M.
Angela S.
Angelina O.
Angie W. 🎓
Ariana L.
Ashley Marie H.
Brenda P. 🎓
Briana S.
Brittany S. 🎓
Candra A.
Carleigh B.
Carol I.
Catherine C. 🎓
Catherine P.
Chanal S. R.
Chelsea T.
Chenoa W.
Cher S.
Cherish H. 🎓
Chloe V.
Christi F. 🎓
Christina G.

Christina G.
Christina H. 🎓
Christina R. N. 🎓
Christy H.
Christy R. B. 🎓
Christy T.
Courtney Rae S.
Cristi D. 🎓
Daisy G.
Dana S. 🎓
Danielle B.
Danielle D.
Danielle L.
Darlene T. 🎓
Dawn T. 🎓
Dawnette S. 🎓
Debra S. 🎓
Deena T. 🎓
Deidra S. 🎓
Delight T.
Denise H. 🎓
Denise M.
Donella J.
Elaina J.
Elisa G. 🎓
Elisa P. 🎓
Elizabeth O.
Elizabeth S.
Erin H. 🎓
Fabiola L. 🎓
Francine C.
Frances P. 🎓
Gabreale K.
Garquita H.
GiGi D. D. 🎓
Gina LaVerne C.
Greer K. 🎓
Guimei L.
Heather A. 🎓

Heather D. 🎓
Hedieh A. 🎓
Henrietta W. B.
Irene M. 🎓
Jackie P.
Jana L.
Jana S.
Janeese D.
Janet L.
Jasmine M.
Javon J. 🎓
JayCee W.
Jaychelle U.
Jayd E. 🎓
Jeannie B.
Jeanette G. 🎓
Jen C.
Jennifer C. 🎓
Jennifer C.
Jennifer D.
Jennifer H.
Jennifer L.
Jennifer S.
Jessica B.
Jordan G.
Julia H.
Julia Victorovna I.
Julie G.
Juliette P. 🎓
Katelyne G. A. 🎓
Katrina E. 🎓
Karina C.
Keely S.
Kelsey W.
Kenyata T. 🎓
Kimmarrie N. 🎓
Kompalya Camille C.
Kristina C.
Kristina T. 🎓

Kristine R.
Laura M. 🎓
LaWanda L. 🎓
Le Dien Chau T. 🎓
Lei C. 🎓
Lisa A. F. 🎓
Lisa B.
Lisa J.
Lydia S. 🎓
Maeve T. H.
Malky S.
Maree B.
Marlana L. 🎓
Marlene C. 🎓
Marolla L. Y. 🎓
Martha A.
Mary G. 🎓
Mary H.
Mary Y.
Mary Ann Y.
Mary Rose M.
Melanie M. 🎓
Melissa F. S.
Melissa K. 🎓
Melissa M.
Memory D. A.
Michelle F.
Michelle W.
Michelle Aviva P. S.
Mina A.
Mollie H. 🎓
Naeema J. 🎓
Nafisa P.
Naomi L. 🎓
NaSharee D.
Nichelle B.
Nicole L. 🎓
Nida W. P.
Nina R.

Nuavia S. 🎓
Pamela S. 🎓
Paulisha D. 🎓
Petra W.
Phyllicia B.
Portia J.
Precious A.
Quanneqra W.
Rachel F. 🎓
Rachal M.
Rachel P. 🎓
Rachel W.
Rebecca K. 🎓
Rebekah S.
Reese M.
Richelle D.
Robin M.
Robyn I. 🎓
Ruth H.
Ruth S.
Sade A.
Sara A. 🎓
Sarah G. 🎓
Sarah H.
Sarah M.
Sasha N.
Shayna F. 🎓
Shilah S.
Shiloh Y. 🎓
Skyla H. 🎓

Stephanie B.
Stephanie C. 🎓
Stephanie I.
Stevan Christy W. 🎓
Stevie W. H.
Summer Z.
Suzette S.
Suzi N. K. 🎓
Tammy B. 🎓
Tashina B. 🎓
Tatiana A.
Tay C. 🎓
Tonesia N.
Trina R.
Trolanda C. 🎓
Tylanna A. 🎓
Vanessa C. 🎓
Veronica T.
Victoria G.
Viola K. 🎓
Violet P.
Wendy T.
Yaffa V. 🎓
Yvette C. 🎓
Zee M. 🎓



SCHOLAR PROFILES



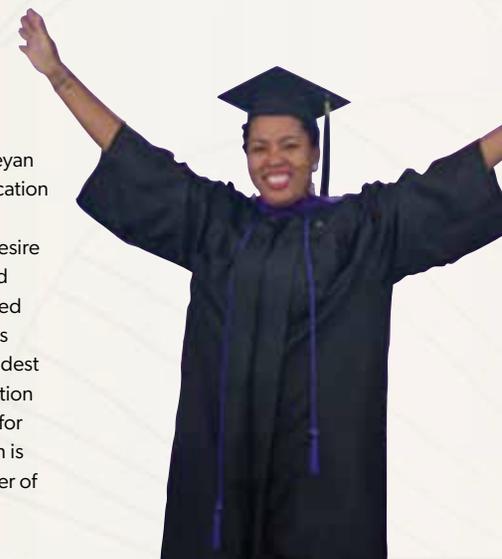
Alana

Alana (Stewart) Geho, a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, is a first-generation college student whose journey reflects perseverance, growth and purpose. When she was accepted into her first university, she became the first in her family to attend a “big school” — a milestone that carried both pride and responsibility. Over time, she came to understand how undiagnosed ADHD-C had shaped many of her early academic challenges. With the right support and renewed clarity, she moved forward with confidence, earning an Associate’s degree in Applied Science as a Medical Assistant in 2015. After pausing her education to raise her children and dedicating five years to special education, she chose to recommit to the dreams she had once set aside. Now at age 32, Alana is pursuing her goal of becoming a registered nurse, committed to building financial stability for her family and modeling what is possible for the next generation. With support from the Jeannette Rankin Foundation, she is not only advancing her education, but strengthening the future she is creating for her children and community.

“I am pursuing my education to have more opportunities in the workforce, which will provide more stability for my children and myself.”

Shiloh

Shiloh Elisabeth graduated in summer 2025 from Wesleyan College with a degree in Psychology, pursuing her education to expand her career opportunities and create greater stability for herself and her children. Motivated by her desire to model resilience and determination, she is committed to showing her daughters that goals can be accomplished despite difficult circumstances and that education opens doors. This past semester, she achieved one of her proudest milestones by earning all As and celebrating her graduation in person, surrounded by her three daughters. Grateful for the support that made this achievement possible, Shiloh is leading by example and demonstrating the lasting power of perseverance, education and opportunity.



RESILIENCE STORY



Currently pursuing her Bachelor’s in Social Work at Medgar Evers College Maspeth, NY. Finished her Associate’s degree in Social Work at LaGuardia Community College.

ANGELINA

— National Scholar

Angelina experienced a significant family medical crisis in the middle of the school year, which caused her to lose her employment. Despite these challenges, she continued attending school and took on temporary work to cover essential living expenses.

During this time, Angelina fell behind on several household bills just as she neared completion of her Associate degree and gained acceptance into a Bachelor’s program in Social Work. Throughout it all, she maintained a strong academic record. Support from the Rankin Foundation helped cover her overdue bills and keep her education on track.

“Thank you all for the support...
I would not be where I am today if it weren’t for you.”



Currently pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Lakota studies at Sinte Gleska University. Finished her Paralegal Associate’s degree at United Tribes Technical College.

CHRISTY RED BIRD

— Tribal College Scholar

Sadly, when Christy’s partner underwent open-heart surgery, her father-in-law passed away, and she stepped in to care for her mother-in-law. While Christy took care of her family, she was determined to stay on track in her classes. The Rankin Foundation stepped in to cover overdue utility bills that month, so she could remain focused on school.

“Thank you for your assistance.
Without it, I wouldn’t have been able to pay bills and focus on my studies.
*Wopila.”

*thank you in Lakota

RESILIENCE STORY

SCHOLAR PROFILES



Pamela

Guided by her personal mantra, “We do not do this world alone; hold out your hand, and I will help you up,” Pamela J. Samuels is pursuing her college degree at 59 while courageously fighting cancer. As a nontraditional student, she hopes her journey will inspire family, friends and her community to pursue their own goals with determination and faith. She believes deeply in education as a powerful tool for personal and social transformation — proof that it is never too late to grow, achieve and lead. Earning her degree has already opened doors to international internships in Australia, providing field experience she will carry into her Master’s studies in Applied Positive Psychology beginning in fall 2026. Pamela does not take this opportunity lightly; she is committed to using her education not only to strengthen her own future, but to lift others along the way. With gratitude and resolve, she is building a legacy rooted in perseverance, service and hope.

“We do not do this world alone; hold out your hand, and I will help you up.”

Marguerite

Marguerite Olney once dreamed of becoming an artist, but life led her on a different path for many years. While raising her children and working as a seamstress, she held onto the belief that she could one day return to her education and build a fuller future. With the support of a recovery community, she found stability and chose to begin again at Northwest Indian College. In the classroom, she rediscovered her creativity and confidence, realizing that the math she once feared had long been woven into her artistry. Encouraged by faculty and inspired by classmates from tribes across the country, she earned a 4.0 GPA and made courageous changes that strengthened her future. Now balancing full-time coursework and parenting, Marguerite is pursuing Chemical Dependency Studies and Social Work with the goal of becoming a substance use disorder professional and marriage and family therapist. Grounded in gratitude and growth, she is transforming her experience into service and is committed to helping others build healthy families and hopeful futures.



RESILIENCE STORY



Currently pursuing her Bachelor’s of Nursing at Eastern Michigan University after completing Associate of Science in Nursing Wayne County Community College.

TONESHIA

— National Scholar

After earning her Associate of Science in Nursing from Wayne County Community College and obtaining her registered nurse license, Toneshia was offered her first RN position but needed CPR/BLS certification to accept the job. With continued support as a Rankin Scholar, she is now pursuing her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Eastern Michigan University.

“I work as a registered nurse... I am able to be a friend to the sick... **this will not be possible if it were not for kind-hearted individuals helping to bridge the gap.**”

The Rankin Foundation provides Scholar Grants and wraparound services to women pursuing post-secondary education later in life.

Grant awards are made through a rigorous selection process that prioritizes applicants who demonstrate financial need and a commitment to using their education to make a meaningful impact.



3 biggest factors for student mother success are:

- 1: As little as \$2,000 “extra” a year to help with non-tuition expenses
- 2: Supportive services such as case management and coaching
- 3: Access to quality childcare

ENDOWMENT AWARDS

Alexandra Kilpatrick

endowed by Donna Zenor



Alexandra Kilpatrick, better known as Alix, lived a life in which she focused on pursuing her dreams, from working at a theater in Paris, France, to opening a yoga studio in New Zealand, to flying for American Airlines. She was passionate about having a full life, and as she got older, she realized that she wanted to leave a legacy that helped to empower others to live a full life. She asked her cousin and childhood best friend, Donna Zenor, to research organizations that “enhance the lives of women through education,” leading to the discovery of the Rankin Foundation. Unfortunately, Alix died suddenly and was unable to leave the funds directly to the Jeannette Rankin Foundation, but that didn’t stop Donna from doing everything she could to make sure Alix’s wish was honored.

“Alix is 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,” says Donna. **The Alexandra Kilpatrick Endowed Scholar Awards**, which was established in 2016, has been transformative. We are so grateful that Alix cared so deeply about the women we serve and that Donna found us. This gift is transforming the lives of Rankin Scholars and their families now and for years to come.

Betty Ann Murrah

endowed by Julie and Tim Ralston



MY MOTHER, MY MENTOR

My mother was one of those people who many leaned on and consulted for solid advice. She was whip smart, no nonsense and could read someone at ten paces.

Back in her day, kids graduated from high school at the tender age of 16. Betty did the same as valedictorian of Miller County High and went on to graduate from a two-year college, where she met and married her sweetheart, Clifford Jones.

But, in 1961, when my mother was just 35, my father was killed at age 37 in a farm accident. What was she to do? There were two children to raise, a farm to run and no more Clifford.

Fortunately, just before his tragic death, a friend who was new to the insurance business talked daddy into buying a \$10,000 life policy. That insurance became my mother’s version of a Rankin Scholar Grant. Betty was able to go back to school, get her degree in education and secure a teacher’s certification. Later, she went on to become a school counselor and, finally, a school psychologist.

Education was her life’s work. And it sustained her and her family through turbulent times. My mother was keen to pass along this message of hope to other women, and we are happy to fulfill her wish by helping support Rankin Scholars.



ENDOWMENT AWARDS

Katherine Litsey Woosley

endowed by Jennie & Jeffrey Wenger



(Nancy) Katherine Litsey Woosley was born in 1906 in Grayson County, Kentucky, and grew up on working farms, where for the first 50 years of her life, they had no running water or electricity. Like her mother before her, she chose education as her calling, becoming a teacher and spending decades serving students across central Kentucky. Beginning in the 1920s and continuing through the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, Katherine taught in a series of one-room schoolhouses.

In 1927, she married Golden Woosley, and together they raised four children. In her later career, she continued in education as a substitute teacher and expanded her service as a social worker, supporting families throughout the region with practical help and steady care.

Katherine believed deeply in the power of education. She championed her children's education at every step and modeled lifelong learning herself, studying part-time for many years as a commuting student at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. With that same spirit, she would have been proud of the determination and promise represented by Rankin Scholars today.

Katherine is the grandmother of Jennie Wenger.

Ruth Johnston Skidmore

endowed by Sally Ferguson and Jim Tolmach

When a friend introduced me to the Jeannette Rankin Foundation, I was drawn in immediately. Rankin was a force of nature — suffragist, peace activist, champion of workers' rights and a leader who helped secure the 19th Amendment. Her life proved that education, paired with conviction, can change what seems immovable. Through those who carry Rankin's work forward, her vision for women's opportunity still lives.

I learned that truth early. As the daughter of a single mother in the 1950s, I watched how education meant security. My mother was a registered nurse; the pay was modest, but it kept food on the table and a roof overhead.

When I was four, she enrolled to become a nurse anesthetist, but tuition and childcare costs forced her to leave before graduating.

My mother died March 14, 2024 (Pi Day, 3.14, an irrational number whose decimal goes on forever). It feels like the perfect metaphor for her life.



SCHOLAR GRANT AWARDS

THE MARY HEPBURN & GENIE HAYES SCHOLAR GRANT *for* TEACHER EDUCATION

The **Mary Hepburn and Genie Hayes Scholar Grant** is a restricted, renewable Scholar Grant focused on supporting students who are seeking degrees in teacher education. The Scholar Grant is funded by Valerie Hepburn and David Hayes to honor their mothers, strong women with different life experiences, each of whom believed in the transformative power of education and lifelong learning.

Funded by Valerie Hepburn and David Hayes



Mary Zoghby Hepburn

Mary Zoghby Hepburn was born in 1932, in Middletown, New York. As the daughter of recent immigrants to the United States, she was proud of her Lebanese-American heritage. Mary earned her bachelor's degree from Drew University, Madison, New Jersey; her master's degree at the University of Iowa; and her doctorate from Florida State University. In 1969, she joined the faculty in the College of Education at the University of Georgia, ultimately becoming one of first women to earn the rank of full professor at UGA. Her scholarship and service focused on civic education and the social sciences. Mary was active in state, national and international research consortia dedicated to advancing the fields of civic education, public inquiry and service learning. Her work took her to Argentina, Germany, Hungary and Ukraine, where she made an impact and lifelong friends. Mary, along with her best friend and husband, Larry, and their colleagues at the Vinson Institute, authored Georgia's definitive textbooks on state and local government along with many handbooks and research studies for public officials. Mary passed away in September 2022.



Genie Holley Hayes

Genie Holley Hayes was born in southern Alabama in 1923. Her childhood was framed by the Great Depression. As she remembered it, everyone worked from "can to can't." She grew up to love reading, passionately, and until her last days, even while suffering with macular degeneration, she read or listened to every book the regional library could obtain for her. Genie graduated from high school in the early 1940s, got married and immediately went to work. During World War II, she worked in the Brunswick, Georgia Liberty Shipyard as a true "Rosie the Riveter." Her husband and life partner, Dewey, served the country in the Navy. Following the war, the family moved to Pelham, Georgia, and Genie began her decades-long profession as a bookkeeper at a textile plant, where she remained until her retirement. She grew up during challenging and turbulent times, when economic and educational opportunities for women were limited, yet she found joy in her career and her community. Genie valued family, friends, laughter, learning and service to others. She reflected in a letter to her son, "I have learned the hard way that one can do anything that love demands." Genie passed away in March 1997.

*The Rankin Foundation
was started with a bequest from
Jeannette Rankin.*

Jeannette's desire was to help "mature, unemployed women workers." This final wish created this amazing organization that has supported thousands of Rankin Scholars in transforming their futures through education.

Sue Lawrence, Executive Director of the Rankin Foundation for 11 years, shares her story of a special friendship that turned into a transformational gift for the Foundation that will exponentially grow our impact.

As you ponder your own legacy, please consider how a planned legacy gift will benefit Rankin Scholars and their families for generations to come.

Barbara included a gift to the Rankin Foundation in her will.

Barbara Dowd

**OPTIMIST, PHILANTHROPIST
AND LONG-TIME GOOD FRIEND**

I believe that friendships with people contribute to good health and happiness in life. I've had the good luck to enjoy many decades with Barbara Dowd. When they encouraged us to consider moving to college-town Athens, we did. In Athens, Barbara and John were like the extended family we missed, and we enjoyed holiday meals, birthdays and anniversary celebrations together.

Barbara was among the first to join me in supporting the Rankin Foundation when I was hired in 2004. With just two people on staff, volunteers were critical. Barbara came to the High Hat Tea events with an enthusiastic smile. Guests of all ages wore festive dresses and many kinds of hats. The hats were a reference back to Jeannette Rankin's time when women always wore hats — they were de rigueur as proper attire. At the High Hat event, a very fancy red hat was on offer for the live auction. It was comprised of red satin, ribbons and lace, and it was deliciously ostentatious. Barbara was among the bidders and won the hat. This was the first of many Rankin events, along with additional award donations that Barbara made through the years.

During her life, Barbara was a very active woman. Like Rankin, she was an avid traveler, including visiting Egypt and riding on a camel for a memorable photo. Her activities slowed, and physical symptoms were eventually diagnosed as ALS. This did not stifle Barbara's upbeat spirit; when I visited her at home, she was always curious about my children, grandchildren and how the Rankin Foundation was doing. In one visit, I asked whether she wanted to continue her support for Rankin women since she had been so steady for our sisterhood of Scholars. Before I even broached this, Barbara was prepared.

Through her generous bequest, Barbara's optimistic, joyful and loving spirit lives on through the many women who are touched by the Rankin Foundation today and in years forward.



STAR PARTY 2024

SHINING STAR HONOREE

Synchrony Women's Network



Synchrony Foundation's focus on "Education as an Equalizer" has made a lasting impact on Rankin Scholars. Led by Denise Yap, President of the Foundation, and Sonia Williams, leader of the Synchrony Women's Network, their support has been transformative.

Through the Synchrony Women's Network, 120 Scholar Grants have been awarded, and this year, the Indigenous Network has supported 60 more. Their contribution to the Resilience/Emergency Fund has also helped over 30 women stay in school.

This summer, Synchrony provided 100 laptops to Scholars. Milla Callison and Amber Eagleboy accepted the award on Synchrony's behalf.



CELEBRATING THE BRIGHT STARS IN OUR RANKIN COMMUNITY



STAR PARTY 2024

SHINING STAR ALUM HONOREE

Julie Wagner

Julie's journey to higher education and research is marked by resilience and perseverance. Diagnosed with dyslexia in second grade, she struggled academically until a teacher in 9th grade recognized her potential and helped her master speed reading. Overcoming addiction and low self-confidence in her early 20s, Julie found her passion for science and teaching.

Julie is now pursuing a PhD in microbiology and immunology at Georgetown University through the National Institute of Health's Graduate Partners Program. Despite facing imposter syndrome and academic setbacks, Julie emphasizes the importance of seeking support, prioritizing mental health and believing in one's abilities



CELEBRATING THE BRIGHT STARS IN OUR RANKIN COMMUNITY



LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEERS



Rozy Park

2025 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Rozy Park, the Rankin Foundation Volunteer of the Year. Rozy is currently Rankin's Chair of the Board of Directors. She has served as a board member for the past five years, as a Volunteer Application Reader and as a GREAT FORCE for Rankin Scholars in many ways. Rozy has a particular passion for the Rankin Foundation because of her belief in the importance of education for women. She cares deeply about creating a supportive community that helps individuals achieve their goals, a crucial part of Rankin's mission of transforming futures through education. She has a unique connection to the Foundation as the daughter-in-law of Gail Dendy, one of the Rankin Foundation's founders. Rozy has championed the Rankin mission by building a vibrant community in the Cincinnati area, engaging volunteers and donors, and spreading the word about Rankin Scholars in the Tri-State area. We are ever so grateful for her leadership and support.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

- 2025 Rozy Park
- 2024..... Betsy Bach
- 2023 Dorothy & Jim Newland
- 2022 Valerie Bell
- 2021 Libby Pollock
- 2020 Lisa Nunez
- 2019 Jinx Patel
- 2018 Bill Loughner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alecia Bailey	Jinx Patel	Rozy Park
Betsy Bach	Kate Shanley	- Board Chair
Charmaine E. Wilson	Kimberly Reeve	Stacy Sollenberger
Demetra Lambros	Kunal Verma	Tracy Cosgrove
Dimples Williamson	LaToro Yates	Vashti Canty
J. Maria Waters	Letty Ashworth	- Vice Chair
Jacqueline Smalley	Madeline Van Dyck	
Jane Hale Hopkins	Robin Walls	

STAR PARTY CO-CHAIRS

Betsy Bach	Jinx Patel	Rozy Park
Demetra Lambros	LaToro Yates	Vashti Canty

GREAT FORCE STEERING COMMITTEE

Betsy Bach	Lori Warden	Sue Lawrence
Curt Miner	Michael Purser	Vashti Canty
Elissa Perry	Michele Ozumba	
Jinx Patel	Rozy Park	

PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

APPLICATION READERS

- Alex Phuong
- Alice Chow
- Amy Sterling
- Angela Boss
- Angela Kornman
- Angela Razz
- Anissa Johnson
- Benita Peek
- Berteena Rollins
- Beth Heitner
- Beth Jetha
- Betsy Bach
- Cara Benfield
- Caroline Trapp
- Charmaine Wilson
- Cheryl Jackson
- Christi Bell
- Christina Mallory
- Cindy Blair
- Cindy Charles
- Danielle Bostick
- Deb Robinson
- Deihdra Miller
- Diana Roe
- Dimples Williamson
- Donna Brumby
- Dorothy Christenson
- Elissa Perry
- Elizabeth Aley
- Emily Hu
- Gail Buccino
- Gail Reynolds
- Giovanna Urist
- Gregory Gullette
- Heather Johnson
- Heather Martin
- Jamie Woodruff Leary
- Jan Edler
- Jane Nute
- Jenna Andrews-Swann
- Jennifer Jackson
- Jennifer Savor
- Jessie Kasynski
- Jim Schuster
- Jo Friedman
- Jocelyn Watson
- Josalyn Patterson
- Julayaun Waters
- Julie Heath
- Karen Libman
- Karen Njenga
- Karen Stark
- Kate Shanley
- Kathryn Hall
- Kim Keegan
- Kisha Bailey
- Kristin Nielsen
- LaTrena Artist
- Laura Tuccillo
- Lequisha Molette
- Liat Greenblatt
- Libby Pollock
- Linda Hannafey
- Linda Keller
- Lisa Nunez
- Lisa Walker
- Liz Pavey
- Lizette Martinez
- Lori Tingley
- Lynn Knasel
- Maria Krane
- Marian Berger
- Mary Wolf
- Mary-Kay Harrity
- Michelle Bailey
- Michelle Breashears
- Mimi Sodhi
- Molly Jones
- Monica Nixon
- Myrna Adams and Herb West
- Nicole Tobin
- Patricia & Douglas Rohrer
- Patty Toenies
- Paula and Mitchell Lang
- Paula Halbert
- Paula Huntley
- Paula SeGuin
- Rachael Barlow
- Rags DeFranks
- Rhonda Suka
- Roberta Merkle

- Robin Horner
- Roland Adams
- Roxanne Thompson
- Rozelia Park
- Ruth Elizabeth Conine Nakano
- Sandra Weiner
- Sara McDavid
- Sarah Dodson
- Sarah Lambert
- Sarah Lantz
- Sherry Jeckerling
- Sherry Peaks
- Sue Lawrence
- Susan Cansler
- Suzanne Taipala
- Tamara Walker
- Terrance Hollingsworth
- Tracy Cosgrove
- Tracy Vaden
- Tracy Vaden
- Tracy White
- Vicki Connell
- Vickie Rickards
- Wendy Miller
- Yolonda Patterson
- Shabina Uppal
- Simona Alexander
- Sue Lawrence
- Susan Glatt Greenberg
- Suzanne DiStefano
- Suzanne Taipala
- Tamika Thompson
- Tasha Mathew
- Terrance Hollingsworth
- Tracy Vaden
- Tracy White
- Vicki Connell
- Vickie Rickards
- Wendy Miller
- Yolonda Patterson

DONOR TRIBUTES

TRIBUTE	DONOR
Adam Martin	Bonnie Cramond
Alicia Lomne	Sally Fairfax
Anne Skidmore	Patricia Kelly
Betty Murrah	Julie Ralston
Blanche Butler	Brooke Van Eyk
Carol Kurtz	Benji Kurtz
Carrie Phillips	Susan Si
Catherine Kleiner	Sharron Hannon
Catherine Kleiner	Polly Smith
Catherine Kleiner	Herb Adams West
Cathy Bradshaw	Susan Abramson
Celina Germain	James Germain
Connie Braxton, Vera Purser & Anne Purser	Jean Braxton
Darleen Opfer	Jennie Wenger
David Schuldborg	Shan Guisinger
Debra Walker	Tamara Walker
Demetra Lambros	Ann Libecap
Donald Canty	Lydia Canty
Dorothy G. Wilbanks	Patricia Bell-Scott
Dr. Sharon Castellino & Dr. Renato Santos	Laine Doggett
Dr. Sherrie Ford	Nancy Hall
Edna H. Nigro	Kirsten Nigro
Edna H. Nigro	Lloyd Nigro
Elaine Selig	Johanna Gomez
Elayne Perry	Jamey Altman
Elissa Perry	Ben Cardi
Forest Stewart Hillyard	Sylvia Hillyard Pannell
Gail Dendy	Rozy Park
Gail Dendy	Angela Clifton
Gail Dendy	Dot Paul
Gay & Bob Quenemoen	Carol Carpenter
Geraldine W. Drake	Donna Drake-Clark
GFWC Four Corners Woman's Club	Julie Walters
Harriet Rankin Sedman McGregor	Harriet Rankin Huber
Heather Kleiner	Susan Schaffer
Heather Kleiner	Rosemary Woodel
Heather Kleiner	Marilyn Anne Vickers
Heather Kleiner	Susan Quinlan Fitt
Ivy Lee Daniel	Katherine LeForge
Jennie & Jeffrey Wenger	Royce Woosley
Jennie Wenger	Royce Woosley
Joanne Evans	Caroline Trapp
Josephine Silvestri Royere	Stacey Kerr
Judy Quenemoen	Carol Carpenter
June Lomax	Latanya Simmons
Karen & LaTrena	Betsy Bach

“Grandma always said how she wished she would have gone to college. This foundation provides that opportunity to women. This is in her memory.”

— Katherione LeForge

Karen Sterk & LaTrena Artist	Sue Lawrence
Kelly	Paige Thomas
Kelly Emhovich Braaten	Erika Bialek
Laverne Hefner Oliver	Cristina Baus
Lois Sollenberger	Harold Sollenberger
Lucy Rowland	Mary Anna Feitler
Mae Mitchell	Qiana Watson
Maesel Sterk	Janet Van Wieren
Margaret Heinrich	Laura Thorsen
Margaret Holt	Julia Bailey
Margaret Holt	Paris Kefalas
Margaret Holt	Ward Cox
Margaret Holt	Paris Kefalas
Margaret Holt	Nancy Hernandez
Marilyn Jane Smith	Donna Brumby
Marilynn Smith	Margaret Holt
Marjorie Saunders Magruder	Cathy Magruder Armour
Martha Bell	Friends of the Athens Regional Library System
Mary Elizabeth Tait	Judith Tait Madden
Mary Reid Watson	Karen Wayman
Michele Ozumba	Michele Ritan
Monica Pearson	Melinda Jeffress
Morene Williams	Carla Williams
My brother	Susan Harris
Nina Hobby Farmer	Faye Chatman
Pam Quenemoen	Carol Carpenter
Patricia Bell-Scott	Brenda Mitchell-Powell
Patricia Day	Sharron DiMario
Plott Brice & Anne Farnsworth Brice	Ann Fleischer
Rankin Sisters	LaTrena Artist
Robin Chalmer & Michael Purser	Susan Abramson
Robin M. Beckett	Thomas Emmons
Rozy Park	Gail Dendy
Rozy Park	Rebecca Algenio
Rozy Park	Karen Bear
Rozy Park	Karen Sterk
Rozy Park	Angela Clifton
Ruby Judge	Mike Judge
Ruth Ann Connell	Vicki Connell
Susan Hosford	Craig Carpenter
T.S. Kennedy, Sr.	Janet Kennedy
The Usual Suspects	Daniel Der Vartanian
Usual Suspects	Margie Hammock
Willie Bell Warren	Jannie Warren Green
Zoe Bierema	Arcadia Center for Occupational Therapy
Zora & Zadie Hendrickson	Marjani Hendrickson

“Happy Birthday, Mom. I will never be able to repay you for the love you give to our family but love being able to give to an organization like this.”

— Paris Kefalas

ENDOWED SCHOLAR GRANTS

Alexandra Kilpatrick Award	Donna Zenor
Arvonja Elizabeth Vaughn Sprague Award	Betsy Bach
Ayesha Harrison-Jex Award	Lucille O'Neal
Barbara H. Lawrence Award	Arthur Lawrence
Bertha Merrill Holt Award	W. Jefferson Holt
Betty Ann Murrah Award	Julie and Tim Ralston
Carol & Paul Kurtz Award	Carol and Paul Kurtz
Canty Family Award	Vashti Canty, Lydia Canty, Deborah Canty, Donald Canty, & Angel Canty
Catherine Ballou Kleiner Award	Heather & Scott Kleiner
Cherry Waldrep Clements Award	Catherine & James Bradshaw
Cindy Short Memorial Award	Gail Cowie
Elayne Perry Award	Elissa Perry
Elinora Park Award	Elinora Bohyun Park
Forest Stewart Hillyard Award	Sylvia Hillyard Pannell
Gail Carter Dendy Award	Rozy Park & Chris Dendy
George & Mary Bailey Award	Susan Bailey
Greta Kleiner Award	Heather & Scott Kleiner
Hardeep Sodhi Award	Mimi Sodhi
Hart, Besch, Balbaky Family Award	Lorraine Hart
Hattie Wallace Edmonson - Josephine Turner Pearson Award	Monica Pearson
Hildegard Ebell & Phyllis Bierema Award	Laura Bierema & Mark Ebell
Katherine Litsey Woosley Award	Jennie & Jeffrey Wenger
Last Chance Award	Anonymous
Libby Pollock Award	Libby Pollock
Lois Mae Sollenberger Award	Stacy & Allen Sollenberger
LuAnn Brown Award	LuAnn Brown
Mabel Davison Award	Nancy Davison & Ralph Davison
Mae Sterk Award	Karen Sterk & Ron Warren, Stan & Norma Sterk, Nancy Sterk, Helen Sterk, Joel & Barb Sterk, Janet Van Wieren
Margaret James Black Award	Tracy Cosgrove
Marian A. Spencer Award	Dorothy Christenson
Marjorie Saunders Magruder Award	Marjorie Saunders Magruder Benefactor
Marthe Marie Froeliger Ereminas Award	Kimberly Reeve
Mary Whitman Klerman Award	Larry Pomeroy
Mattie Newton Traylor Award	Sarajane Love
Michael Erlanger Award	Mary Erlanger
Nute Award	Jane & Donald Nute
Patel, Broaddus, Halloran, Cofer Award	Jinx & Gordhan Patel
Ruth Johnston Skidmore Award	Sally Ferguson and Jim Tolmach
Sally Bruce & Marvin Mclatchey Award	Kate & Rob Larsen
Sherrie Ford Award	Juniper Ford
Vera & Anne Purser Award	Michael Purser, Robin Chalmers & Caleb Hannan
Waters-Brock Award	J. Maria Waters

SPONSORED SCHOLAR GRANTS

Ana Rosado Reyes Award	Ana Rosado Reyes
Beverly Phares Award	Beverly Phares
Bruce & Judy Bierschbach Award	Bruce & Judy Bierschbach
Charmine Wilson & T.J. Voss Award	Charmaine Wilson & T.J.Voss
Cortez A. Murdock Foundation Awards	Cortez A. Murdock Foundation
Dimples & Travis Williamson Award	Dimples & Travis Williamson
Dr. & Mrs. Ardoin Award	Dr. Scott and Mrs. Kelly Ardoin
Full Circle Living Award	Zera Allen & JAZ
Irene Voit Award	Irene Voit
Janel Callon Award	Janel Callon
Joe Irving Award	Joe Irving
Kathleen Gratzek Award	Kathleen Gratzek
Kathleen Harris Award	Kathleen Harris
Kirsten & Lloyd Nigro Award	Kirsten Nigro & Lloyd Nigro
LaToro Yates Award	LaToro Yates
Margaret Holt Award	Margaret Holt
Mary Hepburn & Genie Hayes Awards	Valerie Hepburn & David Hayes
Mary Morrison Award	Mary Morrison
Nita Sardana/Innova Awards	Nita Sardana
Paula & Mitchell Lang Award	Paula & Mitchell Lang
Ralph Davison Award	Nancy Davison
Richard Barna Award	Richard Barna
Sam Preston Award	Sam Preston
Sandra & Edward A. Robinson Award	Sandra and Edward A Robinson
Santos Award	Renato and Sharon Santos

The Rankin Brigade

The Rankin Brigade consists of dedicated donors who provide unrestricted gifts of \$25,000 or more

Carol & Paul Kurtz

Charmaine Wilson & TJ Voss

Dimples & Travis Williamson

Dorothy & Jim Newland

Priscilla & Malcolm Sumner



Thank You



for making a difference in the lives of Rankin Scholars!

We're honored to have you on our team.

Together, we are transforming lives through education.

Every contribution, no matter the size,

helps transform lives and build stronger communities.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:



CALL Jackie Slovak at **406-515-9455** to discuss giving options and assistance with donations via stock transfers, Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), donor-advised funds or bequest language in your will.



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ONLINE Make a one-time or recurring (monthly, quarterly or semiannual) donation online at rankinfoundation.org or by scanning the QR code.



Thank you

for your generosity and commitment to creating lasting change for Rankin Scholars!



Rankin Foundation

FY25-27 STRATEGIC PLAN

TRANSFORMING FUTURES THROUGH EDUCATION

Principles

CULTURE OF PHILANTHROPY

At our core is a Culture of Philanthropy. Everyone in the organization has both a Scholar-centered focus and a Donor-centered focus. Everyone understands that philanthropy and fund development are critical to organizational health and that each individual has a role in the process.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Guided by the spirit of Jeannette Rankin, a social and racial justice advocate, we embrace diversity, equity and inclusion in all that we do and how we do it.

PRIORITIES

- Organizational Excellence
- Programmatic Impact
- Brand Elevation



**Jeannette Rankin
FOUNDATION**

Transforming Futures Through Education

1 Huntington Road, Ste. 701
Athens, GA 30606



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