

Dear Friend -

Hope your summer is going well!

Thank You for your sharing your time, talent and treasure with Rankin Scholars!

We are busy gearing up for the new school year.

We had 59 graduates this year, Thank You for getting them across the finish line!

We welcome **54** new Scholars this year.

In April I had the chance to visit Copenhagen. What impressed me the most about the trip was how happy the people were in Denmark. (Even at TSA!) This led me to research why Denmark - the world's second-happiest country - is so happy.

I came across **SISU** - a concept and way of living that has been interwoven into Finnish culture for [more than 500 years](#). It has no direct translation, but it is focused on determination and fortitude. It's about having the grit to push forward in the face of adversity and near-impossible odds.

What better description of a Rankin Scholar?

I am continually amazed by the **SISU** in Rankin Scholars. Rankin Scholars know, feel and appreciate your support. Countless times Rankin Scholars tell us that your vote of confidence makes all the difference in the world to them and inspires them to keep moving forward.

Onward!

Karen



CEO, Jeannette Rankin Foundation

Welcome New Rankin Board Members

TOP ROW:

Alecia Bailey - Land O Lakes, FL

Global Head of DE&I and CSR, Assurant

Judith Gil - New York, NY

*Deputy Director for Behavioral Health
Children's Aid/Adjunct Assistant Professor*

Kate Shanley - Missoula, MT

Native American Studies - University of MT - Retired

BOTTOM ROW:

Madeline VanDyck - Athens, GA

Independent Hospital & Health Care Professional

Letty Ashworth - Atlanta, GA

*Corporate Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at
Genuine Parts Company*

Robin Walls - Seattle, WA

*Executive Director/CEO of the King County
Housing Authority Seattle, WA*



STAR Party - Save the Date Nov 2, 2023

The **STAR Party** will take place across the country on November 2, 2023, with big news and big doings! 8 p.m. EST/6 p.m. MST.

Every November, you have the opportunity to share your time, talent and treasure with Rankin Foundation Scholars via the STAR Party. This event is our annual fundraiser that raises important **Dollars for Scholars** and celebrates women who are a bright light in our Scholar and Alumni community.

We look forward to seeing you then!



ASSURANT®



synchrony
FINANCIAL



New Scholars

- Adelaide M. - West McLean, VA
- Amanda W. - Spokane, WA
- Angela M. - Missoula, MT
- Angelina O. - Maspeth, NY
- Angie W. - Omaha, NE
- Ashlee G. - Clute, TX
- Bethany K. - Neosho, MO
- Brittany S. - Post Falls, ID
- Candace G. - Nirmingham, AL
- Candra A. - Coquille, OR
- Cherish H. - Junction City, OR
- Cori S. - Topeka, KS
- Cristi D. - Middle River, MD

[See the full list here.](#)

Meet Scholar Ruth

“We don’t have the generational and historical ties to higher education as Indigenous people. Connecting weekly with other Rankin Foundation Scholars kept me going during the times I didn’t think I could do it anymore.”

Ruth spent eight years finishing the associate’s degree she started in 2011 at Brigham Young University-Idaho. She took one class at a time, slowly but steadily completing her first degree in 2019. The idea of pursuing a formal education as an Indigenous person was overwhelming,

[Read Ruth’s full story here.](#)

