

ANNUAL REPORT

MONROE 2-ORLEANS
EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

2023



WORKING TO MAKE ALL THE
DIFFERENCE FOR STUDENTS

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation

supports students who have taken a non-traditional path through their K-12 schooling and who plan to continue on to college or pursue career training.

What does this mean?

Some students are best served by non-traditional or alternative educational programs, such as special education, career and technical education and high school equivalency. These programs have offered unique supports for students in meeting requirements for graduation. There are not many scholarship opportunities for students graduating from such programs. The Foundation exists to support these students by providing financial assistance for tuition, continued specialized support and appropriate educational supplies.

2023 Scholarship and Award Recipients

Kaleigh B. (Churchville-Chili)

Make All the Difference /
Aramark Scholarship

Colin B. (Penfield)

Make All the Difference
Scholarship

Olivia E. Wheatland-Chili

Make All the Difference /
LaBella Associates Scholarship

Meghan F. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference
Harris Beach PLLC / Scholarship

Alexis F. (Hilton)

Make All the Difference /
Rochester West Central Kiwanis
Club Scholarship

Isabella F. (Spencerport)

Make All the Difference / Precision
Properties Scholarship

Amya G. (Churchville-Chili)

Make All the Difference
Scholarship

Sabina G. (Greece)

Make All the Difference
Scholarship

Shannon K. (Holley)

Make All the Difference /
SPX Flow Scholarship

Gabriel L. (Kendall)

Make All the Difference
Scholarship

Avery M. (Gates Chili)

Make All the Difference
Scholarship

Payton P. (Churchville-Chili)

Make All the Difference / Gallagher
Benefit Services Scholarship

Gavin R. (Spencerport)

Make All the Difference Award

Elizabeth R. (Kendall)

Make All the Difference /
Aramark Scholarship

Jeanae R. (Gates Chili)

Make All the Difference /
Rochester West Central Kiwanis
Club Scholarship

Ahmed S. (Spencerport)

Make All the Difference / SPX Flow
Scholarship

Ethan S. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference Award

Josh S. (Greece)

Make All the Difference /
Campus Construction
Management Group Scholarship

Taylor W. (Hilton)

Make All the Difference
Scholarship

Tiana Y. (Brockport)

Make All the Difference / Gallagher
Benefit Services Scholarship

What does the Foundation do?

Created in 2002, the Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that provides funding for:

- Scholarships up to \$5,000 to help students in alternative programs pursue college or career/technical schooling
- Monetary awards of up to \$1,000 to support apprenticeships or related career training
- Research and development to improve educational opportunities and practices for students

**The Foundation's fiscal year is
July 1 through June 30.**

**We work with, but are
independent of,
the Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES.**

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation is overseen by a volunteer board of trustees. No officer or trustee receives any form of compensation.

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation serves students in nine school districts in Western Monroe and Eastern Orleans Counties.



Dear Friend and Supporter,

We are excited to present to you the 2023 Monroe-2-Orleans Educational Foundation Annual Report. We are so thankful to be in a position of financial strength to support students in their educational journeys. This is only possible because of the support you provide!



Joseph Kelly
President

Our Foundation awarded 18 Make All the Difference Scholarships and two Awards for a total of \$92,000 in 2023! In this report, you will learn a little bit about some of our student recipients in their own words. The short narratives are excerpts from their scholarship and award applications. Those applications are reviewed each year by our dedicated scholarship committee. These volunteers spend dozens of hours reviewing applications and making difficult decisions choosing recipients among the many worthy applicants.

The critical part of our organization's efforts is fundraising. Our annual celebration each fall raises tens of thousands of dollars to support scholarships.

In 2023, we topped the \$60,000 mark once again thanks to our generous sponsors, attendees and auction bidders. We look forward to this year's event on November 16 – please mark the date on your calendar so that you can join us!

This coming spring we will announce our 2024 Make All the Difference Scholarships and Awards. Once students learn they are selected, they receive an invitation to a special reception in their honor. This year's reception on June 6 will give sponsors and Foundation Board Members the opportunity to connect directly with students and hear about their future plans.

Speaking of our Board Members, I would be remiss if I didn't give them a special acknowledgement. Their steadfast commitment to connecting students with the financial support they need is one that I do not take for granted. Every plan we make and every task we undertake is done with their approval and enthusiastic support. These selfless volunteers lead the way for this Foundation. I will be forever in their debt.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Joseph A. Kelly". The script is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "J" and "K".

Joseph A. Kelly
Board President

MEET SOME OF OUR 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

AHMED S. (SPENCERPORT)

Joining the Nurse Assisting program at WEMOCO has allowed me to experience many things that helped me prepare for my future in the medical field. My dream is to become a Nurse Practitioner. I got to shadow healthcare workers in the hospital, which gave me opportunities to see how different departments in the hospital operate and the environment between patient and healthcare workers. Shadowing has allowed me to prepare myself for working in the ER and ICU in the future and to be ready for the different scenarios that could come up. The greatest benefit I have received is that the program has shaped me into someone who works towards success.



SABINA G. (GREECE)

As a student with a learning disability, learning was never easy. The Cosmetology program at WEMOCO helped influence my future because it challenged and tested me, but I never let myself give up. I saw these challenges as opportunities for me to grow and to be successful in my future career. In the Cosmetology program we had the option to shadow at a salon, which gave me the chance to experience what it's really like on the job. This opportunity through WEMOCO helped me solidify that Cosmetology is what I want to pursue as a career. Having an IEP and participating at WEMOCO changed my mindset, influenced my personal development and future career plans, and pushed me to grow in many ways.



MEET SOME OF OUR 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

OLIVIA E. (WHEATLAND-CHILI)

Being in the WEMOCO Exercise Science program has made me a better, future-oriented and well-prepared student overall. Everything that I have learned during my journey at WEMOCO has made me more outgoing and professional. I used to be a very reserved and anxious individual, too nervous to do many things around other people, especially if it meant demonstrating or working out in front of others. Now that I am almost done with my two years at WEMOCO, learning how to teach people exercises, working out, and creating plans, I have really opened-up and matured to a point where I feel prepared to move on in life. The skillsets I have developed in Exercise Science have prepared me to the best of my ability to become a physical therapist one day. In addition to what I have learned in class, WEMOCO provided me with a co-op to gain hands-on experience and shadow physical therapists. All these experiences and opportunities have helped me better prepare for college and my future.



ETHAN S. (BROCKPORT)

Since attending Westside Academy, I have seen a few important changes within myself. As I became more comfortable at the school, I started to become close with the staff. Most of the teachers took the initiative to utilize individual time to help me learn the information as well as how to use it in the real world. After the COVID pandemic, I felt like I lost all my communication skills. When school started again, I wanted to make a change in who I am and what I want in life. I was encouraged by my teachers to participate in the HVAC/Plumbing program, which helped me determine a career path. This program eventually helped me obtain an apprenticeship with Gatti Plumbing. I began working in their warehouse and quickly progressed to assisting service-technicians.



MEET SOME OF OUR 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

AMYA G. (CHURCHVILLE-CHILI)

This year I will graduate with a license in cosmetology, obtained from participating in the Cosmetology program at WEMOCO. This program has not only helped me to perfect my passion but has also allowed me to find myself and pursue a career that I love. I have realized that when you look good you feel good. I know that I can use my skills developed in the cosmetology program to help others because I know that hair has a significant impact on mental health. At the next level, I hope to expand upon the skills by attending college. After college, my hope and dream is to open my own salon or beauty supply store.



AVERY M. (GATES CHILI)

I am dyslexic and have attention deficit disorder and am proud to share that I am graduating with a Regents diploma and heading to college. My path has not been traditional, and if it wasn't for all the alternative supports that were put in place for me, I would not have been able to achieve my goal of graduating. Being dyslexic made reading and writing very difficult. However, I never let it define me. There are two options: making excuses or making progress, and I have always chosen the latter. In middle and high school, I had a Consultant Teacher and resource room that made sure I had necessary accommodations, and I was able to take advantage of assistive technology provided by BOCES. Because I had these supports, I was able to earn nine college credits from Monroe Community College, participate in the Architecture Construction and Engineering Program, and was accepted into all the colleges I applied to.



2023 DONORS

Platinum Sponsors (\$5,000 and over)

Aramark	Rochester West Central
Gallagher Benefit Services	Kiwanis Club
	SPX Flow

Gold Sponsors (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Campus Construction Management Group	LaBella Associates
Harris Beach PLLC	Precision Properties, LLC / George Pietropaolo

Crimson Sponsors: (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Keith Bock / BDP Wealth Management	Mengel Metzger Barr
Flaherty Salmin CPAs	Joyce Metcalf
Fusion Digital	Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Teachers' Association
Home Instead Senior Care	R.G. Timbs, Inc.
Laborer's Local 435 / LECET	Sue Rizzo
The Legend Group / Dominic Velardi	SEI Design Group
M&T Bank	Sortino Properties
	SWBR

Bronze Sponsors (\$500-\$999)

Jo Anne L. Antonacci	Mindex Technologies
AP Plumbing	Mondavi Design
Dr. Susan J. Brannen	Nazareth University
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The Manuse and Trapani Families	SUNY Brockport School of Education, Health and Human Services
	Dr. & Mrs. Richard Ten Haken

2023 DONORS

Friends of the Foundation (Up to \$499)

John and Jo Anne Antonacci in Memory of Marilyn Cubitt and Charles Purvee	Casey Kosiorek
Brian and Marcia Bartalo	Deb Leh
Thomas Beam	MaryBeth MacKenzie
Mr. & Mrs. John Beres	Colleen McCormick
Keith Bock	Leigh Nenni
Susan Brannen	Lynda Pasco
The Castaldo Household	Valerie F. Pavone
Janie Cousins	Michael Place
Michael and Debra Crumb	Sue Rizzo
Barbara Cutrona	Lori Roe
Michelle Erklenz-Watts	Keith Ryan
Mark Esposito	Paul Salmin
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Fenlon	Jody Siegle
Nancy Geraci	Trudy Slocum
Sandy Giles	Tina Thompson
Sheryl Johnson	Josephine Valenti in Memory of Alfred Valenti and Len Pulio
Janice Kandor	Patricia Vaughn in Honor of Sue Rizzo
Joe and Diane Kelly	Christy F. Vick
Kenneth Kofod	

The following made donations in memory of Taylor Nenni:

John and Jo Anne Antonacci	Steve Dawe	Nancy McMullen
Betsy Armes and Lisa Della Posta	Nancy Demarkis-Tese	Barbara Perro
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Battisti	Angelise Evingley	Robert Persia
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Mark Esposito	Joe and Diane Kelly	Cheryl Sauter
Patricia Conn	Cindy Lawrence	Janice Bradley
Carole Cook	Russell Loria	Stancampiano
Sue Cortellini	Linda Marfione	Barb Swanson
	MaryBeth MacKenzie	Jake Vanzile
		Laura Whitcomb
		Nicole Williams

*The Nenni Family would like to thank everyone
for their kindness and support!*

Gifts listed in this report were
received between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2023.

2023 AUCTION DONORS

Agatina's Restaurant	Deborah Leh
Jo Anne Antonacci	Gary Manuse and Bill Sablosky
Marcia Bartalo	Sandra McKain
BOCES 2 Career and Technical Education programs	"Cheffory" Jeffory McLean
Keith Bock	Monte Alban Mexican Restaurant
Dr. Susan Brannen	Leigh Nenni
Barry's Old School Irish	The Nitty Gritty Hair and Waxing Parlor, Charlotte LaPorta
Barry's Yoga Boutique and Eatery, Lori Roe	Park Ave Salon and Day Spa
Bozza Pasta	Michael Place, AIA
Bristol's Garden Center, The Sannas Family	Ridgemoor Country Club, Jim Cuccinelli
Lindsey Brugger	Susan Rizzo
Joe and Maureen Corcoran	Alexandria Robinson
Michael Crumb	Rochester Red Wings
Steve Dawe	Lori Roe
Ann Marie DeBellis	Paul Salmin
Dunkin Donuts	Salon Accessories
Encore Chocolates	Salon Bella Vita
Dr. Michelle Erklenz-Watts	Samson & Delilah's Salon and Spa
Mark Esposito	Scapelliti's Super Store on the Ridge
Nancy Geraci	SeaBreeze
Geva Theater	Susan Sennett
Grandpa Sam's Restaurant, Rose Alonci	Spa at the Oasis
Courtney Haeick	Studio 22 Salon and Spa
Sherry Johnson	Webster Hots, Bill and Kelly Mutschler
Joseph Kelly	
Dr. Casey Kosiorek	
LaBella Associates	

If you would like to become a sponsor, donate an auction item for the event or volunteer please email sdawe@monroe2boces.org or call (585) 349-9009.

2023 CELEBRATION

The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation Celebration was held on November 18, 2023 at Ridgemont Country Club in Greece.

The 2023 event raised more than \$60,000 to support Make All the Difference Scholarships for students. Sponsors and attendees celebrated with dinner, a raffle, and silent and live auctions of unique items.

Student speakers Meghan Felice (Brockport) and Molly Hong (Gates Chili) delivered inspiring remarks about their experiences and how the scholarships they received helped them further their educational and career aspirations.



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 2024 CELEBRATION

The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation Celebration will be held Saturday, November 16, 2024 at Ridgemont Country Club. More information coming later this summer at www.MakeAllTheDifference.org

2023 BOARD MEMBERS



*Joseph Kelly
President*



*Michelle Erklenz-Watts, Ph.D.
Vice President*



*Barbara Cutrona
Secretary*



*Paul Salmin, CPA
Treasurer*



Marcia Bartalo



Keith Bock



Susan Brannen, Au.D.



Michael Crumb



C. Tod Eagle



Mark Esposito

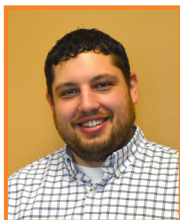


Janelle Failing

2023 BOARD MEMBERS



Nancy Geraci



Matthew Huber



Sherry Johnson



Casey Kosiorek, Ed. D.



Deborah Leh, Ed.D.



Leigh Nenni



Michael Place



Susan Rizzo



Lori Roe

If you have an interest in becoming a Foundation Board member, please send a letter of intent to the Foundation, attention Joseph Kelly, President.



*Jo Anne Antonacci,
Ex Officio*

MANY PATHS TO GIVING

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible. There are many ways to positively impact our students by donating to the Foundation:

Bequests, Life Insurance, Retirement Plans

These options allow donors to make gifts using assets upon their death. Bequests allow you to designate a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or all of what remains after you consider others. Bequests will allow you to reduce estate taxes. The Foundation may also be named as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or be given a retirement plan principal or income.

Cash Gifts

Most donors make their gifts and pledge payments by check or cash. For tax purposes, the gift date is the postmark date on the envelope, or the date the check is hand-delivered.

Charitable Gift Annuities (Life Income)

Making a life income gift can allow you to maintain or increase your income. This income can be paid to you, and then to your spouse or another individual for his or her lifetime. You receive the immediate tax benefits, and the Foundation receives your gift when the life income payments are complete.

Commemorative Gifts

Contributions to the Foundation are a great way to recognize a special individual or commemorate a significant event. The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation gladly accepts gifts made in honor or memory of an individual. Special recognition giving cards are available.

Corporate Matching Gifts

You may be able to double or triple your gift if you work at or are retired from a company that has a matching gifts program. Please contact your employer's human resources office for forms and information.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

MANY PATHS TO GIVING

Gifts of Appreciated Securities (Stock Gifts)

Tax laws allow you to give appreciated securities and take a tax deduction for current value, and generally bypass capital gains taxes that would be due if you sold them, making it more cost-effective to contribute a gift.

Qualified Charitable IRA Distribution

A qualified charitable distribution is a charitable contribution from an IRA made directly to an eligible charity. The owner of the account isn't taxed on it which gives your donation added impact for the Foundation. Please contact your financial and/or tax advisors for further guidance on this type of donation.

Real Estate

Your home, land and other real estate may be used to make an immediate or life income gift. As with appreciated securities, real estate gifts held more than a year can offer significant tax benefits. The value of your gift will need an appraisal, required by the IRS.

**Gifts can be made via credit card by calling
(585) 349-9009 or on the Foundation website at:
www.makealldifference.org**

**A donation or event sponsorship of \$2,500 entitles
the donor the opportunity to name a scholarship
awarded to one of our students.**

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation is proud to partner with the Rochester Area Community Foundation (RACF). RACF manages the Educational Foundation's assets, provides support services, and raises the Foundation's stature in the regional philanthropic community.

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For more information

(585) 349-9009
www.makealldifference.org

Monroe 2–Orleans
Educational Foundation
P.O. Box 495
Spencerport, NY 14559



Please send your contribution and the completed Giving Card to:
The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation
P.O. Box 495
Spencerport, NY 14559



☐ I would like to designate my gift of \$ _____ to the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation.

My gift is ☐ In memory of _____

☐ In tribute to _____

Please notify Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

☐ I have included the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation in my will and other estate plans.

☐ I would like more information on how to include the Educational Foundation in my estate planning.

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation will acknowledge your gift and notify the person named above.
All gifts are tax deductible. The exact amount of your gift will be kept confidential.

Please make your checks payable to the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation.

For assistance on making a gift using your credit card or more information, please call the Foundation office
at (585) 349–9009. You can also donate online at www.makealldifference.org



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION



Monroe 2-Orleans

★ Educational Foundation

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

My pledge is: \$ _____

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

☐ I will fulfill my pledge in quarterly installments; please send me reminders

If you are donating as a tribute to someone or in memory of someone who has passed away, please complete the information on the reverse side.



Giving Levels

- ★ \$5,000 and over Platinum*
- ★ \$2,500-\$4,999 Gold*
- ★ \$1,000-\$2,499 Crimson*
- ★ \$500-\$999 Bronze*
- ★ \$ Up to \$499 Friends of the Foundation

☐ Please check here for information about how to make a bequest.

★ Please make check(s) payable to the Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation. Donations are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

BOCES employees selecting payroll deduction should contact the

Payroll Office at (585) 352-2407.

*Donors of \$500 or more are entitled to be guests at the Annual Celebration. For more details on giving levels and sponsorships, please call (585) 349-9009. You can also donate online at www.makealldifference.org



P.O. Box 495, Spencerport, New York 14559