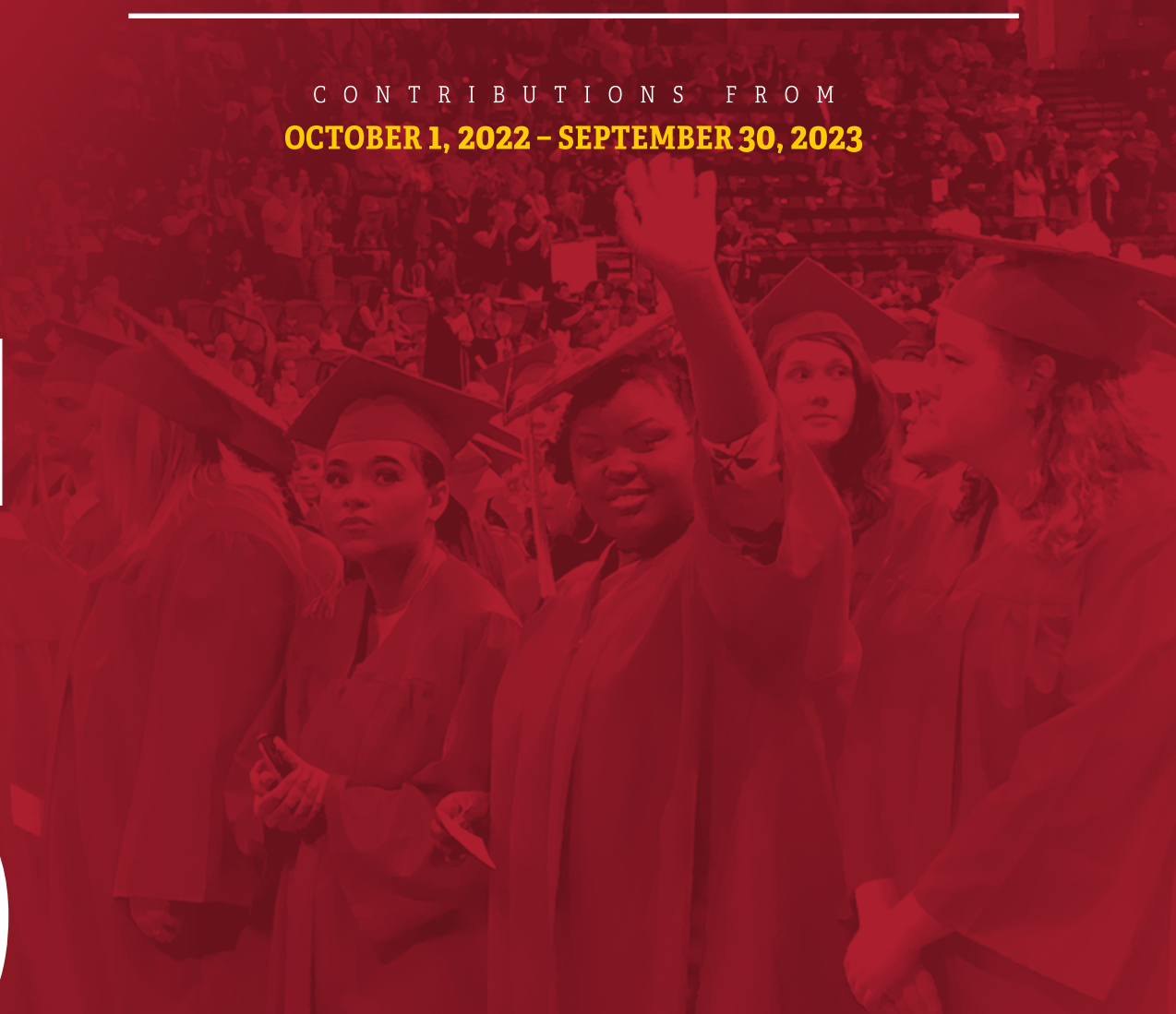


2023



ANNUAL REPORT

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
OCTOBER 1, 2022 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



“As we reflect on the accomplishments of the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation in our Annual Report, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the individuals who make up the RIMEF community, for making a difference to the students of the Rock Island-Milan School District. I would like to acknowledge our extraordinary donors whose generosity has made it possible for the RIMEF to not only survive, but to thrive beyond our greatest expectations. Some of our supporters have been involved with the Foundation since its inception in 1986, nearly 40 years ago. That is remarkable! Some of our current donors were once scholarship recipients themselves. Our supporters come from 45 states and beyond. New donors are added to our list every quarter. No matter where they are from or when their support began, these individuals are truly making a difference.

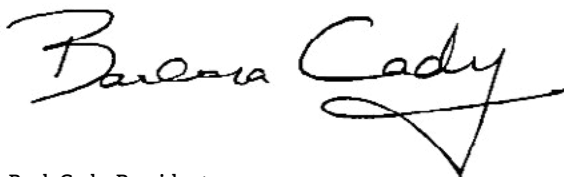
Our 2023 Prime Grant recipients are also deserving of recognition. This group is comprised of 119 teachers and educators from throughout the district who have developed innovative projects for their classrooms. These educators have taken the time to create programming that goes above and beyond. They are making a difference in our schools. This year, the Foundation awarded a record \$205,576 in PRIME Grants - a 30% increase over our 2022 awards.

Another key component to making a difference are the students of the Rock Island-Milan School District. Anyone who has attended our Austin Academic Achievement Awards and Scholarship night knows that every year an outstanding group of talented, motivated, and well-rounded students benefits from the RIMEF’s scholarship program. In May, we awarded scholarships totaling \$141,200 to the Class of 2023. Due to the generosity of our scholarship benefactors and donors, these scholarship recipients will certainly go on to make a difference in our community and beyond.

While PRIME Grants and scholarships are the cornerstone of the RIMEF’s activities, we also provide funding for other RIMEF district programs, such as HAVlife funds for students in need of assistance with extra-curricular activity costs, New Teacher Welcome Bags, Spring Forward summer and after school enrichment activities, as well as the INCubator Program, which continues to produce great entrepreneurial thinking at Rock Island High School. In fact, this year, Daivari Rogers became one of only 5 recipients world-wide of the INCubator’s Grit Grant Award. In the last year, the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation has distributed nearly half a million dollars in grants, scholarships, and other funding throughout the district.

It should be noted that each year Executive Director, Monta Ponsetto and the Foundation Board explore new ways to increase our assets without always returning to our donors for funding. This year, we are excited to have partnered with Wastyn and Associates to assist in Grant Writing and research so that we might access significant funding available nationwide. In doing so, we will have the resources to positively impact our students and teachers at an even greater level.

On behalf of the RIMEF Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your continued generosity. Your support truly makes the difference that allows the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation to thrive.”



Barb Cady, President

Board of Directors

Barb Cady, President
Bryan Blew, Vice-President
Zach Edwards, Secretary
Shellee Showalter, Treasurer
Steve Andich
Pryce T. Boeye
Chris Elsberg
Rachel Gustafson
Doug Hultquist
Eric Rowell
Bob Swanson
LaShanta Williams

Executive Director

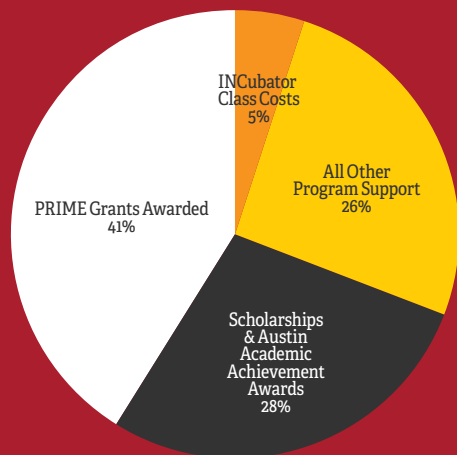
Monta Ponsetto

Honorary Board

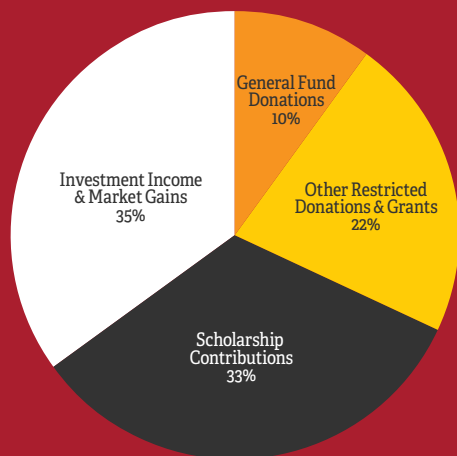
Pryce Boeye
Bill Cleaver
Reed Doughty
Rose Ann Hass
Ted Johnson
Russ Kennel
Jody Leiby
Jon Loquist
Cindy Lukasik
Sue McDevitt
Gary Miner
John Philllips
Gary Rowe
Cosette Shramer
Dave VanLandegen
Don Wentler



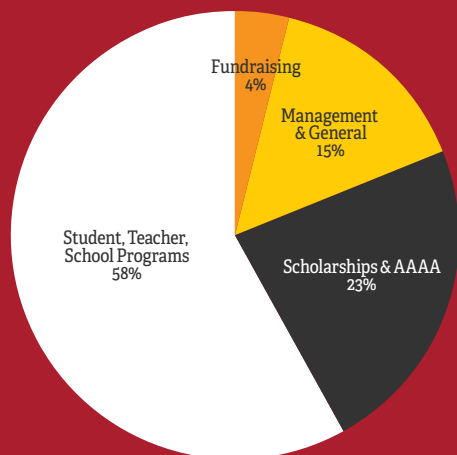
Breakdown of Program Support



Revenue



Expenses



Recorded 10/1/2022 – 9/30/2023

Direction of Support

General Fund: Donations to our General Fund support the work of the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) and help us make an impact throughout the Rock Island-Milan School District. All donations listed within this Annual Report were received from October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023.

PRIME Grants: PRIME (Promoting Rock Island-Milan Education) Grants provide opportunities for teachers, departments and schools to explore and purchase innovative programs or materials for their classrooms. PRIME Grants are supported, in part, by our Major Saver fundraiser, our yearly allocations for giving, and donations given directly to the PRIME Grant Fund. The RIMEF has awarded over \$1.25 million in PRIME Grants to date.

Austin Academic Achievement Awards: For 43 years, the Austin Academic Achievement Awards have celebrated the academic excellence of our Rock Island High School students. At the Austin Academic Achievement Awards and Scholarship Night, "Top Ten" students from each class are recognized and the top 2 seniors in 10 academic areas are rewarded with scholarships. Generous donations from the contributors listed in this report were made for the awards given during our annual event held on May 9, 2023.

Scholarship Contributions: The RIMEF currently administers 51 named scholarships providing up to 77 individual awards ranging from \$500 - \$6,000. From October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023, the individuals listed made donations to establish or sustain the scholarships we award to our deserving Rock Island High School Seniors.

Honorarium/Memorial Contributions: Contributions to the Education Foundation are sometimes given to honor or memorialize a family member, friend, community leader, or alumnus/alumna. These contributions may be directed to a scholarship, a program, or to our general fund. These gifts are a meaningful way to remember or honor someone in your life, while supporting our students and schools.

Accomplishments

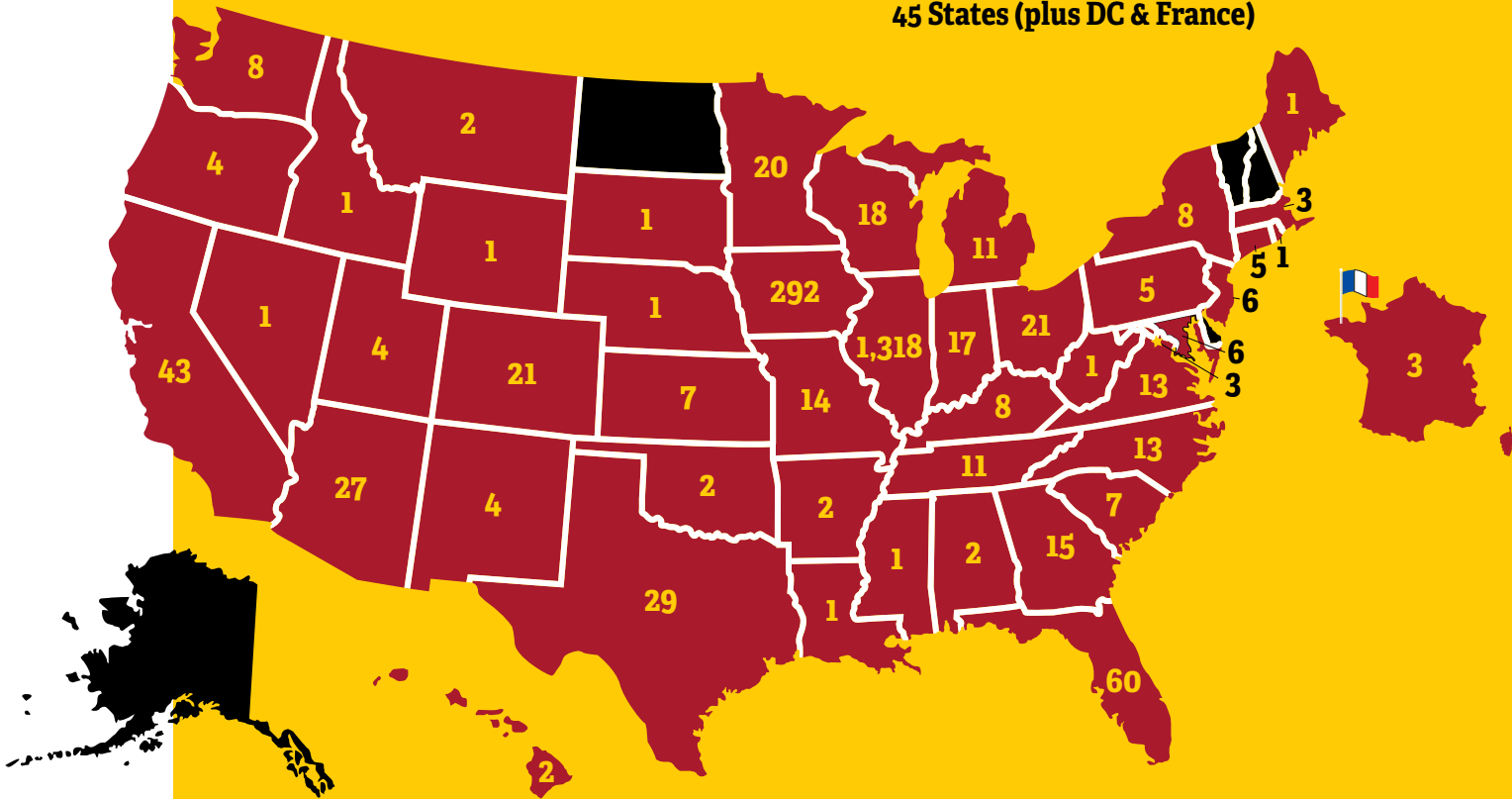
Thanks to gifts from our individual donors, businesses, community partners, and alumni locally and throughout the country, the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation gave nearly a half million dollars to the Rock Island-Milan School District in 2023 for programs, materials, and scholarships. With your gifts, the RIMEF:

- Awarded \$141,200 in 95 RIMEF Named & Austin Academic Achievement Award scholarships and recognized 73 "Top Ten" freshmen, sophomores, juniors, & seniors for the Austin Academic Achievement Awards & Scholarships presented May 9, 2023.
- Paid \$16,500 in program fees for the INCubator.edu class at RIHS and awarded \$10,000 in prize money at the Final Pitch for 3 winning teams.
- Awarded \$205,576 in PRIME Grants for 99 innovative programs/material to 119 teachers/educators to enhance the educational climate for our students in the 2023-2024 school year.
- Provided \$10,273 in HAVlife funds, allowing students ages 10-15 to participate in activities that they otherwise could not afford. For students outside of those age parameters, the Schwiebert Extra-Curricular fund gave an additional \$1,560 in financial assistance for Rock Island-Milan based activities.
- Welcomed 33 new teachers, principals, counselors, and staff with gift bags filled with gift cards and supplies to help establish classrooms/offices. These "welcome bags" also contained the information new educators need to take advantage of our programs and gift cards from local favorite venues.
- Funded the EL Department's "Seal of Biliteracy" program with a \$25,000 gift from Jerry & Sue Horton.
- Awarded 20 creative teachers \$4,000 in funding for the Reynolds Family Foundation "Bright Ideas Awards".
- Funded \$10,200 for Spring Forward's after-school and Healthy Snacks programs.
- Provided over \$50,000 in additional classroom/school assistance.

Donors by State

Total 2,044 – \$5,111,034.40 (as of 9/30/23)

45 States (plus DC & France)



NATIONWIDE SUPPORT!

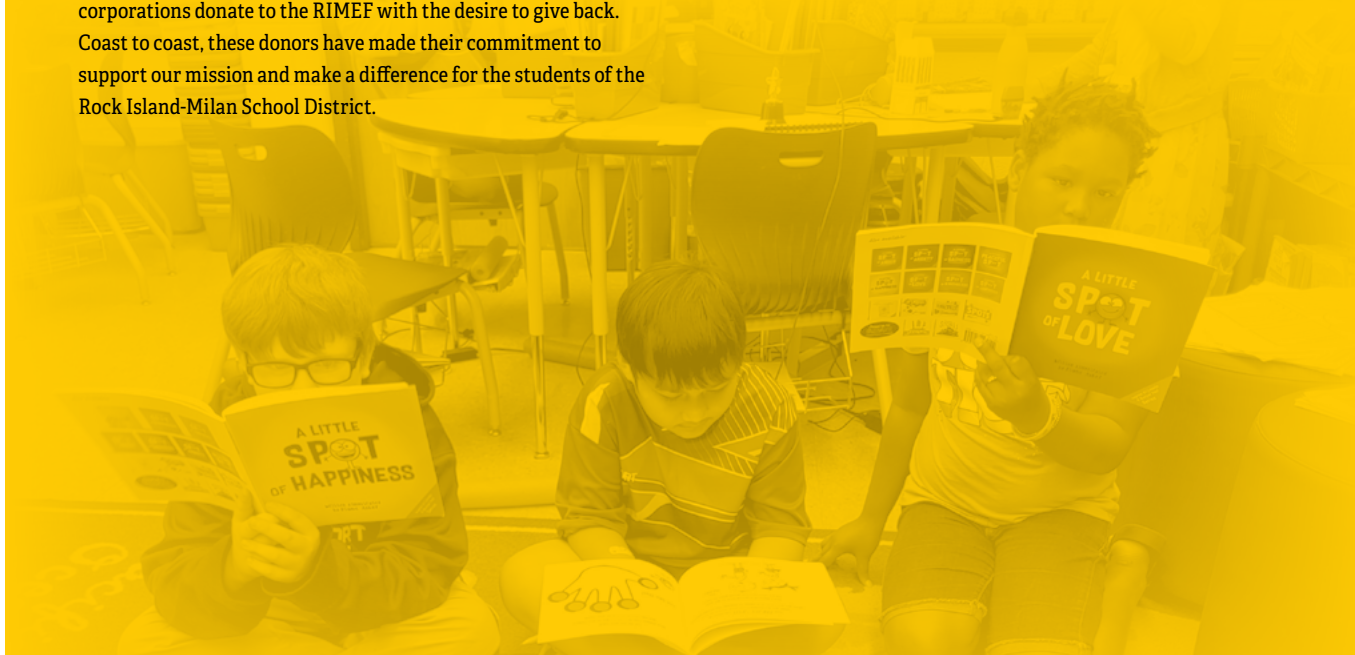
Donors from throughout the U.S. give to the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) to support the Rock Island-Milan School District and our students, teachers, and schools. The extraordinary generosity of these donors gives us the ability to enhance classrooms, provide programs and materials to teachers/classrooms, and award scholarships to help students further their education.

An astounding number of current/former Rock Island-Milan residents, alumni, individuals, families, and businesses/corporations donate to the RIMEF with the desire to give back. Coast to coast, these donors have made their commitment to support our mission and make a difference for the students of the Rock Island-Milan School District.

If you live in:

- Alaska
- New Hampshire
- North Dakota
- Rhode Island
- Vermont

Donate now to turn your state RED and make a difference for the students of the RIMSD!



GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

DONATIONS RECEIVED OCTOBER 1, 2022 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Director III
(\$10,000-\$24,999)
Major Saver

Director II
(\$5000-\$9,999)
Linda & Ken Cutler
Sandra Joyce
Alfaretta Young Estate

Director I
(\$1000-\$4999)
Birdies for Charity
Bonus Fund
Marji & Pryce T. Boeye
Class of 1957
Class of 1960
Marion Lardner
Judy & Larry Linder
David Markward
Sue & Mike Oberhaus
William Schwegler
Debbie & Mark Schwiebert
Cosette Shrader
Stuart & Mary Thoms
Foundation

Superintendent
(\$500-\$999)
Michele & Bryan Blew
Chris & Vic Boblett
Ellen Boeye
Suzanne & Jim Eagle
Chris Elsberg –
State Farm Insurance
Sandy Hass
HNI Charitable Foundation
Nancy & Doug Hultquist
Linda & Russ Kennel
Cindy & Fred Lukasik
Jay P. Mayesh
Kimberly & Mark Mayeski
Sue & Paul McDevitt
Janet & Norm Moline
Martin Rich
Ron Schmits
Stephen Teigland
Sara & Mike Thoms

Principal
(\$250-\$499)
Bob Barton
Beverly & Duane Bonsall
Bev & Norm Brunswig
Barb & Brian Cady
Leslie & Jim Cox
Patricia & Lowell Dorman
Kelly & Connie Gersick
Robert Goldman
Sheila & Paul Guse
Rose Ann & Jim Hass
Hodge Family Foundation

(\$250-\$499) Continued
Eileen & Joseph LeCluyse
Jody Leiby
Lisa & Jon Loquist
Kim & Rick Miers
Helen & Gary Miner
Karen & John Phillips
Monta & Mike Ponsetto
Penny & Robert Ramsey
Heather Schladt
Carolyn Eagle &
Rick Simmon
Molly Teigland
John Thompson
Bill Thonn
Sandy & Don Wentler

Valedictorian
(\$100-\$249)
Bruce Andich
Mary & Alan Andich
Mary Jane & David Andich
Ann Austin
Mary & Robert Bacon
Ann Balderson
Sheila & Steve Barid
Laura & Louis Belby
Nancy & Larry Bennett
Margo & William Bethurem
Pryce Boeye
Colette Bourantas
Jerry Boxman
Gertrude & Walter Braud
Emilie Braughton
Nancy Califf
Brenda & Alan Carman
Class of 1972
Janet & Gary Cross
Valerie & Lynn Cunningham
Louise & Jim Davis
Sandra Deines
Frank Edwards
Doris Engstrom
Karen Erickson
Debbie & Bill Fitzsimmons
Karen & John Frieden
Nita Eagle-Frink &
Robert Frink
Richard Gaylord
MaryAnn & Mike Halpin
Charles Hanssen
Myron Hazen
Donna & Kenneth Hill
Lorey Hillyer
Dora Hoben
Julie & Doug Humphrey
Rhoda & Bob Humphrey
Carol & Ted Johnson
Robin & Bill Jorgesen
Joseph Kaplan
Emily Kuhn
D'Ann & Bob Lagerblade

(\$100-\$249) Continued
Langman Construction
Mary Ann Linden
Susan & Wes Llewellyn
Patricia Lekos Martel
Rickey & David Martin
Ted Maxeiner
McCarthy, Callas, &
Feeney, P.C.
Bettina McWilliams
Teresa & James Mesich
Karen & Ken Meyer
Karen & Jerry Murphy
Karen & Pete Nyman
Elaine Olson
Lori & Ted Pappas
Shirley Perkins
Ellen & Roger Pohlman
Cynthia & Steve Pressly
Quad City Symphony
Orchestra
Linda & Gary Rowe
Suzan Rowley
Barbara & Phillip Salstrom
Nancy & Jack Schick
Jean & Dwight Schwertley
Maynard Siegel
Michael C. Sims
Rock Solid
Sue & James Spurgetis
Marianne & Ron Stablein
Jane & Dave Strickler
Jenni & Kai Swanson
Kari & Brandan Taber
Betty Lou & Lee Tobin
Jim Tolson
Sue Traver
Alice & Kevin Traylor
Dorothy & Jeff Tubbs
Sue & Galen Westerfield
Michelle & Curtis Whisler
Karen & Randall Witter
Don Wooten
Karen Ylinen

Dean's List
(\$50-\$99)
Gary Ackerson
Diana & Brian Alm
Anonymous
Ladericka Baker
Bonnie Ballard
Clark Blomquist
Mary Brooks
Martha & Jeff Dismar
Dan Fay
Glenna & Randy Friel
Susan & Terry Gordon
Rita Greathouse
Carolyn & Ardo Holmgren
Linda & John Jacobs
Jane & Kevin Koski

(\$50-\$99) Continued
Geraldyn & John McEvoy
Nikki & Mike Melody
David Napsky
Jeanne & David O'Melia
April Palmer
Rafferty Funeral Home
Rock Island High School
Activities Fund
Ginny & Frank Ryner
Marge Early Scharer
Sally & Chuck Scott
Donald Siegel
Jack Stewart
Jan & Jerry Tutskey
United Township
Board of Directors
Beverly & Doug Walker
Colette & John Westensee

Honor Roll (up to \$50)
Anonymous
Nanette Albracht
Marla & Steve Andich
Mary & Charley Arnold
Nick Brandle
Sheryl Briggs
Jeff Condit
Daryl Empen
Toni & Steve Gasper
Helen & Michael Haney
Mary Harvey
Kathy & Don Healy
Jill Hoff
Laura & Frederick Isele
Alice & Randy Jacobs
Rita & Bill Martin
Patricia & Willam Nicholson
Marilyn & Robert Noe
Virginia Plutz
Mary & Ralph Radloff
Nancy & Joe Roberts
Charlotte Rodemeyer
Mary Ann & Randy Slusser
Erlane Tait
Marie & Richard Timmer
Michelle & Shawn Trask
Kym & Jeff Vandygriff
Louis Wehner
Barbara Youngquist



PRIME GRANT DONATIONS

DONATIONS RECEIVED OCTOBER 1, 2022 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



PROMOTING
ROCK ISLAND
MILAN EDUCATION

Director II (\$5,000 – \$9,999)

Alfaretta Young Foundation
Rauch Family I Foundation
Rock Island Art Guild

Director I (\$1,000 – \$4,999)

Doris & Victor Day Foundation
John Hass
Junior Board of Rock Island

Superintendent's Circle (\$500 – \$999)

Barb and Brian Cady
John Downing
Edwards Creative
Chris Elsberg –
State Farm Insurance
Ron Schmits

Principal (\$250 – \$499)

Carol & Gary Kramer
Geraldyn & John McEvoy

Dean's List (\$50 – \$99)

Helen Christopher
Earle McBride

Valedictorian (\$100 – \$249)

Elise Ashpole
Joy Saylor Johnson
Pauline Johnson Young
Jaye & William Zessar

Honor Roll (up to \$50)

Joyce & Preston Zawada

PRIME Grants Awarded in 2023 – 2024

\$205,576.27

99 Grants | 119 Educators

Denkmann Elementary

Jennifer Knuth & Mary Justin
\$3,000 – Listen Up Kinders!!!

Gretchen O'Brien & Angie Paprocki
\$2,000 – Sensational Seating and SEL

Elvia Goins
\$3,000 – First... Listen Up!!!

Jennifer Sholl, Valerie McConchie, & Alissa Merchie
\$3,000 – Learning in Motion... Fun in Learning

Bridget Taheny & Janine Olsen
\$1,950 – Girls on the Run

Earl Hanson Elementary

Melissa Barton
\$1,451.59 – Creating a Calming Corner

Brandy Junis***
\$1,000 – Social Emotional Learning through Art and Play

Bailie Vandygriff
\$1,500 – Supporting Reading at Home and in the Classroom

Eugene Field Elementary

Maddie Anderson
\$1,500 – Emotional Check-In

Cindy Arkebauer***
\$1,497.19 – Promoting Cultural Awareness through Diversified Creative Expression

Amy Benac
\$1,500 – Sensory Stronghold for Success!

Angie Brownson
\$1,500 – SEL in the Classroom: Increasing Students' Sense of Safety and Security

Rachel Finerty
\$1,500 – Accessible Reading

Michelle Schneckloth
\$3,000 – Celebrating Attendance

Angela Seys, Amanda Anderson, & Amy Knourek
\$3,000 – Let's Get Our Mind and Classroom Organized!

Frances Willard Elementary
Gabby Pepping
\$1,500 – Building Problem Solvers through Pockets of Purposeful Play

Horace Mann Early Learning Center

Sonia Ahumada
\$1,478.72 – Gross Motor in a Preschool Room

Patti Brooks
\$1,000 – Tech Wave of the Future

Monica Burney
\$1,500 – Building Foundations for the Future

Shannon Griesenbeck
\$1,500 – Using Technology to Help Build a Smart Future with Kids

Gail Hildreth
\$1,487.15 – ECSE Dramatic Play Life Skills

Kara Hurst
\$1,500 – Early STEM in Preschool

Aubrey Keller
\$1,500 – Smart Board Smart Classroom Smart Kids

Laurie Lyon
\$1,000 – STEAM

Jennifer Mohr
\$1,500 – Creating an Inclusive Classroom

Monica Painter & Anna Cervantes
\$1,000 – Building the Future through Imagination and STEM

Jennifer Smith
\$1,377.37 – Sensory Support around the Room

Longfellow Elementary

Laura Erikson
\$1,500 – Picture This: Lives That Inspire Young Minds

Tara Niemeier & Mandi Stout
\$3,000 – Exploring Our Community

Rock Island Academy

Sydney Erichsen
\$1,368.15 – Reading PurpoSEly

Amanda Hauger
\$2,996.94 – Moby Max/ Headphones

Samantha Heath
\$589.95 – Listening Ears for Little Leopards

Kim Leyendecker & Betty Hall
\$1,500 – Tech Listening Report

Heather McCarty
\$3,000 – H cubed Hunger and Hygiene with Heather

Tara Parr
\$855 – Organized Headphones for Successful MTSS Time

Ashley Reeves, Lisa Hagen, & Jessica Daves
\$2,953.47 – Enhancing the Curriculum One Lesson at a Time

** Barbara Fackel PRIME Grant Recipient

*** Rock Island Art Guild PRIME Grant Recipient



Jamie Ruberg**

\$850.00 Big Feelings/Calm Minds

Amanda Schauerbroeck, Lathan Tre'Chiondria, & Matthew Claude
\$2,282.40 – 2nd Grade Headphone Heros

Lathan Tre'Chiondria
\$3,000 – SEL, Family Yoga, Mindfulness, & Meditation

Rock Island Center for Math & Science

Sarah Andrus
\$3,000 – Power Up and Celebrate

Alice Lee
\$1,201.05 – Real World Topics - Real Student Engagement

Amy Moffitt
\$3,000 – Come STEAM with Us

Andrea Pavlik
\$1,500 – Full STEAM Ahead

Julie Ruff
\$2,093.19 – 5th Graders: Organized on the Path to Success

Shaya Smith
\$3,000 – It's LIT-erature

Kelly Tyler
\$2,997 – Books in Hands

Chad Wickard
\$1,500 – Engaged and Excited

Ridgewood Elementary

Diana Bush
\$3,000 – Building an Updated Non-Fiction Section

Alexis DeWilde & Chantill Colvin
\$3,000 – Building Book Relationships

Joey DiIulio
\$3,500 – Blue Sky Music Makers

Mara Goodvin
\$1,500 – Music, the Science of Sound

Susan Lyon
\$790 – Printing a New Tomorrow

Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Toni Chisolm
\$1,493.80 – Building Reading Fluency with Decodable Texts

Giovanna Davila
\$5,000 – New TJ Playground, a Safe Place for Milan Children to Play

Ryan Early
\$3,000 – Goal! TJ Scores

Elisha Harksen
\$750 – Ready, Set, Grow

Brynn Pauwels
\$1,474.62 – Collaboration Stations

Troy Porter
\$2,000 – Big Math Dreams

Susan Rasmussen
\$3,000 – School Incentives for Attendance, Academics, and Discipline

Ian Scott
\$3,000 – Let's Get Physical

Brianna Skovronski
\$866 – Flexible Seating

Linda Tobin
\$1,493.60 – Building Reading Fluency with Decodable Texts

Tiffany Versluis & Amy Marshall
\$2,993.82 – Library Dynamic Shelving Project

Tiffany Wickard
\$3,000 – Gaga Ball Unites Us All!

Edison Junior High School

Lauren Bisgard
\$900 – English Learner Language Development Toolkit

Sylvia Cooper
\$1,500 – Project Field Trips and Supplies that Align with SIP

Melanie Martinez
\$3,000 – Community Garden

Cassandra Salas-Mikaio***
\$3,000 – Soaring Artists

Amanda Weber
\$2,929.06 – Scientific Measurement

Washington Junior High School

Emilie Heald
\$3,000 – Full STEM Ahead!

Rock Island High School

Lori Anderson
\$3,000 – Weather Sense

Caitlin Clough
\$1,500 – Full STEAM Ahead

Keith Dunker
\$1,500 – Outfitting Life Science Labs

Christopher Gabany
\$1,492.93 – Enhancing STEM Learning through Hands On and Virtual Science Experiments and Simulations

Tina Eggabroad
\$3,000 – Creating Connections, Active Minds & Life/Social Skills to Transition

Thad Hoover
\$1,500 – Softball Fun in the Sun

Meaghan Jackson & Dorian Foster
\$1,300 – Be Comfortable in Your Classroom

Ben Kirgan
\$1,495.66 – Real Time Weather Forecasting

Jason Kitterman
\$1,500 – A New Perspective

Christopher LaRoche
\$1,500 – Get the Ball Rolling (Physics and Coding with Sphero)

Kathy Lelonek
\$2,500 – Rocky Resource Room

Patricia Matson
\$3,000 – Safety First

Jana Miller-DeDecker
\$1,500 – We Are Making It Happen

Andrea Parer
\$3,000 – Intervening with Technology

Nicole Regan
\$2,700 – Supplemental Spanish Materials

Shanley Resch
\$800 – Travel the World Through Literature

David Schriefer***
\$1,500 – The Spin Doctors

Maria Schrup Hanrahan
\$3,000 – EL Study Skills Reboot!

Brendan Sears
\$3,000 – Chromebook Charging Stations

Courtney Stone
\$1,417 – Discoveries in Dissection

Venessa Taylor
\$1,500 – Get Fit

Jennifer Trimble
\$1,123 – Science Salad

Laurie Vroman
\$1,128.31 Energy of the Future

Wade Weber
\$1,500 – Let's Upgrade

Logan Wynn
\$3,000.00 RIHS PE Golf Academy

Paula Zigler
\$3,000.00 Mental-Emotional-Social Wellness Physical Education

Thurgood Marshall Learning Center

Nicole Berry
\$3,000 – Calming Room

Rock Island-Milan School District

Lance Clark
\$3,000 – Celebrate Good Times!

Sarah McCoy, Paulette Ridsen-Rice, & Krystall Trice
\$5,000 – Family & Community – Engage, Empower, Enhance



AUSTIN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

ROCK ISLAND-MILAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Thank You to Our Individual Contributors \$1,000+

Ann Austin
Nancy & Nick Coin
Kitty & Ray Nolin
Megan & Andrew Rockwell

\$500 – \$999

Nanette Albracht
Michele & Bryan Blew
Beverly & Duane Bonsall
Dorothy Beck & Phil Dennis
Joannides Family Foundation
Sue & Paul McDewitt
Linda & Art Milton
Janet & Norm Moline
Sue & Mike Oberhaus
Linda & Gary Rowe
Wendel Swan
Stephen Teigland
Sara & Mike Thoms
Patty & Craig Tillman
Linda Tobin
Jean Kuehl Tuech

\$250 – \$499

Cheryl Faidley & Dee Ahuja
Chris & Vic Boblett
Mark Brooks
Barb & Brian Cady
Louise & Jim Davis
Karen & John Frieden
Nancy & Dustin Galbraith
Sheila & Paul Guse
Julie & Paul Hansen
Rose Ann & Jim Hass
Linda & Russ Kennel
Becca & Jared Kitterman
Cindy & Fred Lukasik
Jim MacMillan
Geraldyn & John McEvoy
Helen & Gary Miner
Ginny & Ed Payton

\$250 – \$499 Continued

Monta & Mike Ponsetto
Nancy Schwegler
Thomas Schwegler
Colette & John Westensee
Kitty Wolcott

\$100 – \$249

Phyllis Ahlstrand
Anonymous
Bruce Andich
Ann Balderson
Julie & Bob Blew
Virginia Blinn
Judy Blomgren
Pryce Boeye
Mary & Bruce Boehm
Maureen & Pat Brandle
Gertrude & Walter Braud
Emilie Braughton
Bev & Norm Brunswig
Kathy & Dan Davis
Candy Canik & Dave Dehnel
Patricia & Lowell Dorman
Marie & Achiel Dupont
Marilou & Charles Dyson
Sue & Al Fensterbusch
Patricia & Loren Flater
Chloe Andich Goldsmith
Cindy & Larry Graves
Connie & Kevin Guthrie
M. Joyce Hanna
Charles Hanssen
Connie Hayek
Kathy & Don Healy
Michael Higgins
Donna & Kenneth Hill
Lorey Moore Hillyer
Dora Hoben
Shirley Dooley Knight
Larry Koester
Mary Kvamme
Eileen & Joseph LeCluyse
Lisa & Jon Loquist
Nancy Luckenbill
Patricia & Mike Matson

\$100 – \$249 Continued

Jay P. Mayesh
Jane McGinnis
Karen & Tim McMillan
Diane & Greg Moroni
Carroll & Vicky Morrow
Ronna & Stephen Nitekman
Karen & Peter Nyman
Jeanne & David O'Melia
April Palmer
Barbara & Robert Park
Bev & Harry Parr
Judy Patsch
Shirley Perkins
Anna & Mike Philhower
Karen & John Phillips
Frank Robinson
Jean & Tom Roche
Kathy & Chad Rugeberg
Ginny & Frank Ryner
Kathie & Steve Seiver
Cosette Shrader
Alicia & Thom Sigel
Gary Snyder
Sue & James Spurgetis
Marianne & Ronald Stablein
Georgia & Bob Steeber
Bill Stengel
Sandy Stoit
Jane & Dave Strickler
Nancy Strohl
Debbi & Bob Swanson
Ann & Bill Thomas
Donald Thompson
Liz Thulin
Shari & Robert Tomich
Jan & Jerry Tutskey
Kym & Jeff Vandygriff
Lois Wehner
Sandy & Don Wentler
John Wetzel
Marybeth Doden & William Whitten
Mary & Seiji Yoshioka
Deloros Young

\$50 – \$99

Fred Attwood
Karlee Buhman Babcock
Laura & Louis Belby
Karen & William Bibee
Lynne & Larry Brandenburg
Peg Bulat
Rita & William Carrier
Jean Dasso
Gail & Mark DeBarr
Shelley & Steve Deutsch
Carol Drish
Frank Edwards
Glenna & Randy Friel
Helen & Michael Haney
Julie & Doug Humphrey
Peggy & Ed Lieblein
JoEllen & Jeff Maurus
Nancy McManus
Karen & Jerry Murphy
Mary & Jeff Newcomb
Dee & Paul Noe
Rob Schab
Margaret Tweet
Darla & Ralph Walters
Sue & Galen Westerfield
Christy & Thom Wignall

Up to \$49

Mary Bartman
Lawrence Bennett
Susan Collins
Fran & Reed Doughty
Dan Fay
Richard Holman
Joyce & Frank Lambert
Cindy & David VanLandegen
Rita & Bill Martin
Carl Schoessel
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Thank You to Our Business Contributors

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Whitey's Ice Cream

In-Kind Contributors

Bally's Quad Cities
ComedySportz Quad Cities
Olde Towne Bakery
Twisted-BoKay
Whitey's Ice Cream

Departmental Awards

First Place – \$2,000, Second Place – \$1,500

Business

1st – Kennedy Maombi
2nd – Emily Myers

Career & Technical

1st – Olivia Wiese
2nd – Dominic Baker

EL – English Learners

1st – Klæe Kpor
2nd – Maryrose Abuke

English

1st – Natalie Pothoven
2nd – Daxon Ashpaugh

Fine Arts – Performing

1st – Cassandra Miller
2nd – Brennan Hampton

Fine Arts – Visual

1st – Madelyn Maidak
2nd – Vaida Gunasheva

Math

1st – Ella Hansen
2nd – Nathan Hendrickx

Science

1st – Vix Dang
2nd – Keller Mathews

Social Studies

1st – Emma Jasper
2nd – Nathaniel Gottcent

World Languages

1st – Riley Hawotte
2nd – Aiyanna Lacey

RIMEF ENDOWMENT FUND

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation created an endowment fund to support major Rock Island-Milan School District directed campaigns for the schools of the RIMSD. The establishment of the RIMEF Endowment Fund ensures that the RIMEF will continue to assist with the financial needs of the district, strengthen our schools, and build successful futures for our students for years to come.

With the thoughtful donations of the RIMEF Endowment Fund Founders and other forward-thinking investors to our fund, we have met our 2023 goal of raising a quarter of a million dollars by the end of 2023. Our next goal is to reach a half million by the end of 2024. Help us reach that goal by investing in the RIMEF Endowment Fund and ensure the academic success of future generations of Rock Island-Milan School District students. "There is no greater return than an investment in a child's education." Your gift is an investment in the education of thousands of children creating a legacy that will impact future generations of RIMSD students.

- The fund will utilize only the interest/earnings received.
- The fund's principal will remain intact.
- Investment strategies will be regularly reviewed.
- Anyone may invest in the fund with a minimum \$5,000 donation.
- The contribution may be made in one or multiple payments.
- The RIMEF Endowment is a permanently held fund.

Impact the future through your support of the RIMEF Endowment Fund. **For more information, or to make your investment in the RIMEF Endowment Fund, please contact the RIMEF at (309) 581-2154 or rimef@rimisd41.org**

HONORARIUM / MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations received October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

Patrick Brandle

**all memorials to the Class of 1961 Scholarship*
 Crystal & Mark Anderson
 Judith Bergren
 Margo & William Bethurem
 Carl Boetticher
 Pryce Boeye
 Peggy & Thomas Bokros
 Linda & Norman Bower
 Carrol & Robert Brandt
 Cindy & David Broadie
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Dr. Bryan Blew
 Maynard Segel
Dr. Robert Brooks
 Mary Brooks
Laura Denoma
**memorial to Class of 1961 Scholarship*
 Lorey Hillyer
Devinney Family
 Eleanor Devinney Cook
Mary Bell Milton Fislar
 Charlotte Halverson
 Sandra Joyce
Judi & John Harland
 Jacqui Robertson
Patricia Matson's Family in honor of her Mother
 Rock Island High School
Bob Lagerblade
 Beverly & Doug Walker

Dave Rockwell
 Nanette Albracht
 Mary & Charley Arnold
 Ann Austin
 Sheryl Briggs
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 Sandra Deines
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Honor of Deb Taber & in Memory of Keith Taber
 Kari & Brandan Taber
Gerald Taylor
 Linda & Gary Rowe
Clara Dell Thompson
 Karen & Ken Meyer
Stuart Thoms
 Claudia & Don Padfield
 Pryce Boeye
Mabel Velge
**all memorials to the Steven & Mabel Velge Track & Cross Scholarship*
 Patricia & Kenneth Belvel
 Mary & Patrick Broderick
 Margaret & Richard Castle
 Mary & William Collins
 William Dean
 Norrine Dieke
 David Haussler
 Mathilda Mendoza
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RIMEF Endowment Fund Founders

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 Cosette Shrader

Corporate/Business Founders





ROCK ISLAND-MILAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

INNOVATION • OPPORTUNITY • SUPPORT

**Nell Althoff Family
Memorial Scholarship**
\$10,000: Kenneth Love Family

**Charles O. Austin
Leadership Scholarship**
\$250: Julie and Paul Hansen

**Carole S. Barkan
Memorial Scholarship**
\$1,000: Rachel & Steve Barkan

RIHS Class of 1961 Scholarship
**Memorial donations as listed*
\$1,000+:
Clara & Ray Bulens
\$500-\$999:
Maryann Ruud Lezotte
\$100-\$499:
Maureen & Pat Brandle
Kae & Joe Morgan
David Peterson
Lisa & Tom Thomas
\$50-\$99:
Don Knabe
Sandra Ohlweiler

**RIHS Class of 1963
"First in the Family" Scholarship**
\$2,000 and up:
Diane Duytschaever
& John Slover
\$1,000-\$1,999:
Vicki Birdsell-Baker
Robyn & Alan Jensen
Gwen & Gary Kennelly
Elizabeth Eagle & James Teros
\$500-\$999:
Judi & John Harland
Karen Leonard

\$100-\$499:
Rita & John Amundsen
Bruce Andich
Jack Fields
Lorey Hillyer
Judy & Larry Linder
Ted Maxeiner
Penny & Robert Ramsey
Jacqui & Mark Robertson
Alexandra Choroshenko
Sandway-Gutekunst
Karen Shifo
Barbara & Tom Spike
James Thompson
Kenneth Versman
Susanne Walker
Up to \$100:
Judith Bybee
Mary & Trent Marquis
Susan Sikkema
Nadyne Stockhecke

**Donald E. Devinney Business
& Business Education
Scholarship**
\$20,000: Karen & Donald
Devinney

**Barbara Fackel AVID
Scholarship**
\$1000+: Joe Fackel
\$100-\$499: Kelly Fackel

**Ray and Elva Habertur
Memorial Scholarship**
\$1,000+: Karen Habertur Leonard
\$100-\$499: Bruce Andich

Hass Family Scholarship
\$250: Katherine & Mike Boehm

Heart of a Rock Scholar
\$1,000+:
Triona Roberts
\$100-\$499:
Jerraco Johnson
Vanessa Mosby
Megan Peterson

**"Failure is Not an Option"
the Candice Hinze Williams
Drama Scholarship**
\$1,250: Linda & Russ Kennel

**Jerry and Sue (Farrow) Horton
Scholarship**
\$70,000: Jerry and Sue Horton

Donavin J. Keim Scholarship
\$1,000: Delores Rodriguez

R. Decker Magee Scholarship
\$100-\$499: Louise & Craig Ripley

Herb Niemann Scholarship
\$1,000-\$2,000:
Kay Niemann
Toni & Ted Niemann
Up to \$100:
Lynn & James Cimfel

**R. Dale Owen
"Be the Light"
Memorial Scholarship**
\$2,667: Ascentra Credit Union
Foundation

**Darrell & Mary Anne
Reynolds Scholarship**
\$30,079: Mary Anne &
Darrell Reynolds

**Darrell & Mary Anne Reynolds
Automotive Scholarship**
\$45,885: Mary Anne & Darrell
Reynolds

**Miles W. Rich Family
Scholarship**
\$8,500: Miles Rich

**Chet and Louise Schultz
Scholarship**
\$500: Shockley Foundation
\$100-\$499: Everett McDowell

Schwiebert Family Scholarship
\$50,000: Established by Mark
Schwiebert and family

**Thoms Family "Above and
Beyond" Family Scholarship**
\$100-\$499: Claudia & Don Padfield

**Steven & Mabel M. Velge Track &
Cross-Country Scholarship**
**Memorial Donations as listed*

**Elizabeth Kennel Williams
Scholarship**
\$100-\$499:
Jack Barrows
Linda & Russ Kennel
Cindy & Fred Lukasik

**Rosemary Woodward
Scholarship**
\$5,000: Rock Island Community
Foundation

DW Young Memorial Scholarship
\$4,000: Deloros Young

RIMEF Scholarship Recipients

**Nell Althoff Family Memorial
Scholarship - \$2,500 each**
*In memory of long-time 1st grade
Audubon teacher Nell Althoff*
Recipients: Emma Jasper, Riley
Jones, Montzerrat Meza-Pena,
Brandon Poulos

**Charles O. Austin Leadership
Scholarship - \$2,000**
*Honoring Charles O. Austin, Jr.
and Charles O. Austin, III*
Recipient: Madelyn Maidak

Bally's Quad Cities Scholarship
*For students demonstrating
academic and social achievement*
Recipient, \$3,000 award:
Vix Dang
Recipient, \$2,000 award:
Kaylee Plohr
Recipient, \$1,000 award:
Stephen Dillender

**Carole S. Barkan
Scholarship - \$1,000**
In memory of Carole's life devoted

to advocating for students
Recipient: Amiyah Woods

**Boeye Family
Scholarship - \$1,000**
*Established by the family to
recognize involvement in extra-
curriculars and the community*
Recipient: Mackenzie Meirhaeghe

**Grant W. and Virginia M.
Brissman Scholarship - \$4,000**
Established by the Rock Island-

*Milan Education Foundation to
honor the Brissmans*
Recipient: Dylan James

**Class of 1961 Scholarship -
\$1,000 each**
*Established and funded by
the Class of 1961*
Recipients: Dominic Baker,
Monyonnoh Carr, Maricela
Churchill, Nathaniel Gottcent,
Tamiyah Jamison, Niyitunga
Jeanvier, Alyce Jett-Ryan,

RIMEF Scholarship Recipients (Continued)

Austin Kowalik, Juanita Lopez, Kennedy Maombi, Nevaeh Robinson-Cunningham, Gavin Quinones

Class of 1963 "First in the Family Scholarship" - \$1,000 each

Established and funded by the Class of 1963

Recipients: Nelie Ninahzwe, Montzerrat Meza-Pena

Class of 1965 Scholarship - \$500

Established and funded by the Class of 1965

Recipient: Mizero Gerald

Stanley H. Coin Business Scholarship - \$1,000

Established by American Bank & Trust to honor Stanley H. Coin

Recipient: Riley Hawotte

Donald E. Devinney Business and Business Education Scholarship - \$8,000

Established by former RIHS business teacher Mr. Don Devinney

Recipient: Emily Myers

Barbara Fackel AVID Scholarship - \$1,000

In memory of Barbara Fackel and her commitment to education - for a student completing 4 years of the AVID program

Recipient: Aline Niyogusenga

Ben D. and Nancy K. Brown Farrar Scholarship - \$2,000

Established by former RIMSD teacher Nancy K. Brown Farrar

Recipient: Kennedy Maombi

Jim and Doug Franz Memorial Scholarship - \$1,500

Established in memory of the former Rocky Grads

Recipient: Madelyn Maidak

Rick Gilliland Scholarship - \$500

In memory of teacher Rick Gilliland - for a student attending Black Hawk College

Recipient: Aiyanna Lacey

Ray and Elva Haberthur Memorial Scholarship - \$2,000

Established to honor the long-time Rock Island contributors

Recipient: Natalie Pothoven

Hass Family Scholarship - \$1,000

Established by the family in honor of Mary and Art Hass

Recipient: Mackenzie Meirhaeghe

Heart of a Rock Scholarship - \$1,000

Established by 2010 alum Megan Wilson and Triona Roberts - for students who have a family member struggling with a major illness

Recipient: Gavin Quinones

Amy Helpenstell Liberal Arts Scholarship - \$1,000

Honoring Rocky and Augustana College graduate, Amy Helpenstell

Recipient: Mackenzie Meirhaeghe

"Failure is Not an Option" the Candice Hinze Williams Scholarship - \$1,000

Established in honor of Candice Hinze Williams (Rocky Class of 1986) - for students interested in pursuing drama at a college/university.

Recipient: Brennan Hampton

Jerry and Sue (Farrow) Horton Scholarship - \$1,000

Established by the Hortons to encourage work in trades or nursing

Recipient: Dominic Baker

Derek James Jackson Art Scholarship - \$500

Established for a student who has participated in the Rocky art curriculum

Recipient: Chanel Colvin

Timothy Joannides Family Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000

Timothy Joannides and his family established this scholarship for students having participated in band or orchestra while attending Rocky.

Recipient: Maricela Churchill

Tyler John Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000

In memory of Tyler for a student in band and/or orchestra

Recipient: Nathaniel Gottcent

Judith A. Katz Scholarship - \$4,000

Established in memory of Judith for a student exhibiting outstanding academic achievement

Recipient: Julian Anderson

Donavin J. Keim Scholarship - \$1,000

Funded by the family in memory of the former student athlete

Recipient: Darius Tongo

Knights of Pythias Scholarship - \$1,000

The Knights of Pythias Scholarship is awarded to a senior exemplifying the 3 main principles of the fraternal order: Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence

Recipient: Camryn Milefchik

R. Decker Magee Memorial Scholarship - \$500

Established in memory of RIHS graduate Decker Magee

Recipient: Jake Brandt

The Marler Clark Science Scholarship - \$2,000

Established to aid a student pursuing a degree in science

Recipient: Keller Mathews

Mollie Montgomery Scholarship - \$2,000

Established by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation for a student entering a medical field

Recipient: Anjilika Barikzay

Herb Niemann Scholarship - \$1,200

In memory of former teacher and principal Herb Niemann

Recipient: Lucas Rettig

R. Dale Owen "Be the Light" Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000

Established by the Ascentra Credit Union Foundation to honor Dale Owen and his generosity of spirit to his community

Recipient: Ntiebuwayo Leya

Charlie White/Richard Klatt Purple Tuna Creativity Scholarship - \$1,000

Established by '83 grad Cary Hinze in honor of his influential RIHS art teachers

Recipient: Vaida Gunasheva

Darrell and Mary Anne Reynolds Scholarship - \$2,000 each

Established by the Reynolds to reward hardworking students

Recipients: Rafael Lopez, Dustin Moreno

Miles W. Rich Family Scholarship - \$4,000

Established by Mr. Rich for a student who will major in Business Administration

Recipient: Ethan Smithson

Jayovontae "Jaree" Roberts Scholarship - \$500 each

Funded by family and friends to honor former student Jaree Roberts

Recipient, Education: Riley Jones

Recipient, Music: Nathaniel Gottcent

Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation Scholarship - \$1,000 each

3 scholarships funded by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation

Recipient, 4-year College:

Jake Brandt

Recipient, 2-year College:

Aiyanna Lacey

Recipient, Vocational School:

Isabelle Roelens

Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation Merit Scholarships - \$500 each

3 scholarships funded by the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation

Recipients: Jace Bennett, Alexis Carroll, Stephen Dillender

Fred Houlton "Service Above Self" Rock Island Rotary Scholarship - \$1,000

For demonstrating service to the community and living the Rotary 4-Way Test

Recipient: Ella Hansen

Rock Island Township Scholarship - \$1,000

To support a student residing in RI Township and attending an Illinois college

Recipient: Gavin Quinones

Chet and Louise Schultz Scholarship - \$2,000

Established in memory of Rocky wrestling coach/teacher Chet Schultz and teacher Louise Schultz

Recipient: Brandon Poulos

Schwiebert Family Scholarship - \$2,000

The Schwiebert siblings established this scholarship to benefit liberal arts college-bound students

Recipient: Lucas Rettig

William and Saralie Shallman Memorial Scholarship - \$2,500

This scholarship was established by John Shallman (Class of '82) to memorialize his parents - students must demonstrate leadership and initiative in service and/or community involvement.

Recipient: Nee Pwe

Terry Stephens Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000

Established to honor former baseball coach Terry Stephens

Recipient, Softball: Alexis Carroll

Elizabeth Kennel Williams Scholarship - \$1,000

Honoring the '86 RIHS graduate who dedicated her career to helping students overcome challenges

Recipient: Venansia Annuarite

Women's Computer Science, Math, & IT Scholarship - \$500

Encouraging women to pursue a degree in computer science, technology, or math

Recipient: Amiyah Woods

Rosemary Woodward Scholarship - \$1,000

Established with a grant from the RI Community Foundation to honor Mrs. Woodward. The scholarship is awarded to a student who will study nursing or to be a CNA

Recipient: Monyonnoh Carr

DW Young Memorial Scholarship - \$4,000

Established by the family in memory of DW Young, a strong supporter of RI schools

Recipient: Kayla Rice

THANK YOU

The Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation (RIMEF) believes every student is entitled to a quality education. Our mission – “To Enhance Academic Opportunities for Student Success” – encompasses a commitment to enrich the current environmental education of all our students. Your generous donations to the RIMEF facilitate programs, fund innovative materials and projects, provide technologies, and help further the education of RIHS seniors

“There is no greater return than the investment in a child’s education.”

We are tremendously grateful for your continued generosity and your investment in the education of the over 6,000 students of the Rock Island-Milan School District.



Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation

1400 - 25th Avenue, Rock Island, IL 61201 | rimef@rimsd41.org
309.581.2154 | www.rimef.org