

## ESAF CHAIRMAN ARTICLE

| Inside this Issue:         | Page: |
|----------------------------|-------|
| ESAF Chairman Article      | 1     |
| Scholarship Season         | 2     |
| Scholarship Opportunities  | 3     |
| Scholarship Recipients     | 4     |
| State of the Foundation    | 5     |
| ESA Foundation Dues        | 5     |
| ESAF Voting Process        | 6     |
| ESAF Grant Program         | 7     |
| Thank You ESAF Counselor   | 8     |
| Call for Nomination        | 9     |
| Zeffy Payment Instructions | 10    |
| Music Bingo Sponsors       | 11    |
| Pathway Recognition        | 12    |
| Donation Summary           | 13    |
| Recurring Donation         | 14    |

As we reflect back on the **Sweet Virginia Breeze in Norfolk, Virginia** we are grateful for the many positive changes to the convention program. These improvements reflected the tremendous effort that went into creating an enjoyable and meaningful experience for everyone, while providing members with numerous opportunities to participate in programs, activities, and special events.

The joint fundraiser benefiting both the International Council and the Foundation was well attended and a tremendous success. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time and energy and to all who participated in the **Music Bingo and Auction**. It was a fun and memorable event, and we appreciate everyone who helped make it such a success.

The **Foundational Annual Meeting** was also well attended. During the meeting, Life Active Members were recognized, along with the states that raised the most funds in various categories. We also celebrated reaching an important milestone, the completion of our final payment toward our **\$50,000.00 commitment to St. Jude Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences**.

In 2026, the Foundation awarded **119 scholarships totaling \$97,850**. We were honored to have two outstanding scholarship recipients, **Lisa Nyathi and Sarah Schaefer** in attendance. Both shared their personal stories and expressed their sincere appreciation for the scholarships they received. Their stories served as a wonderful reminder of the meaningful impact the Foundation has on the lives of our scholarship recipients.

As we look ahead to the coming year, one of our highest priorities will be strengthening the Foundation's long-term sustainability so that we can continue serving our members and communities with excellence. We want every member to feel confident that their dues and contributions are being used wisely and in direct support of our mission.

Thank you for your continued support, generosity, and commitment to the Foundation. Together, we can continue making a meaningful difference for years to come.

**Rosalie Griffith, Foundation Chair**

# SCHOLARSHIP SEASON IS OPEN!!!!

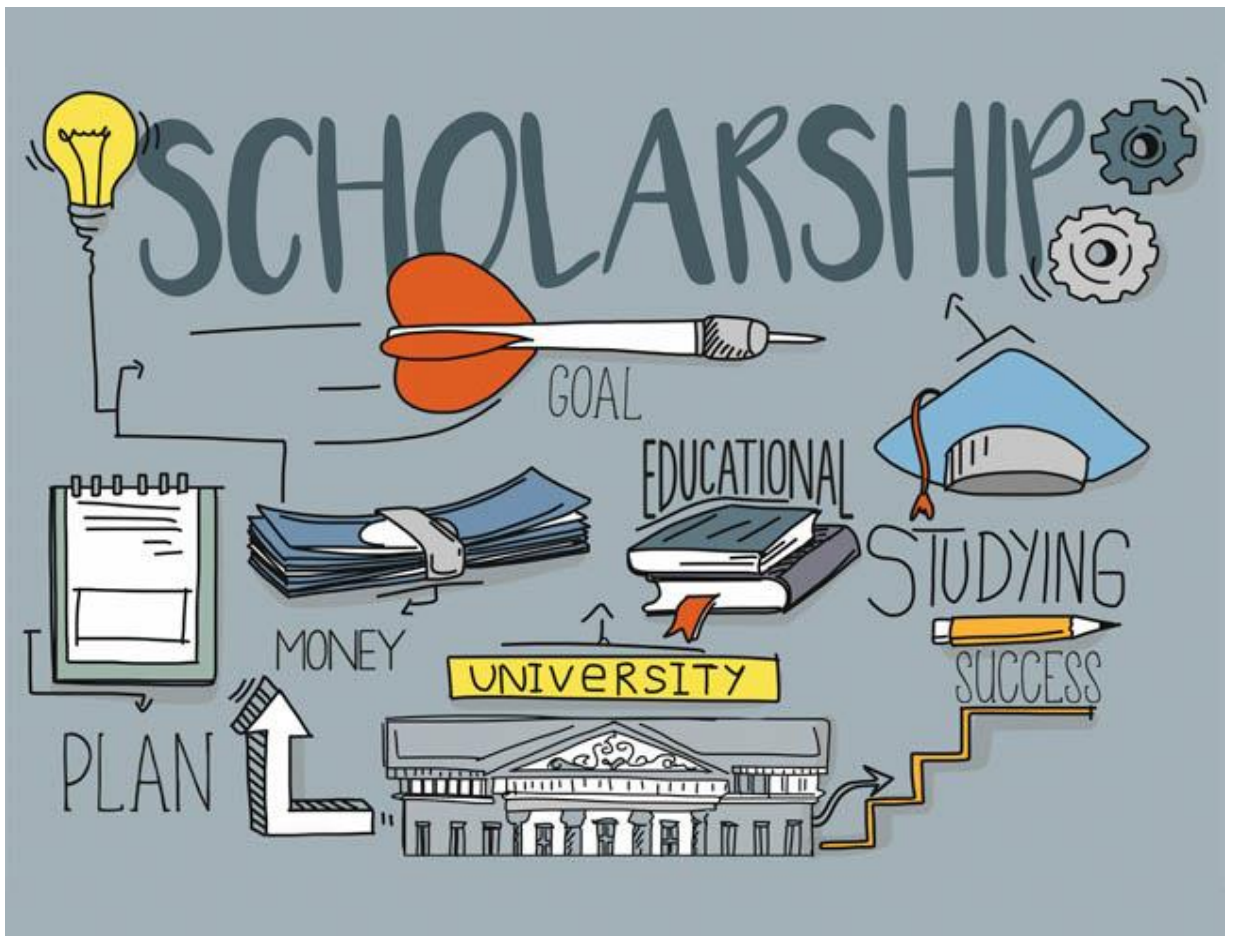
We are excited to announce that there are 291 scholarships available this year!!!

Please assist the Foundation Counselors in getting the word out to public high schools, private high schools, community colleges, colleges, universities, trade schools and anyone interested in continuing their education at the next level.

Anyone who will be attending a higher education school next fall, may apply.....high school seniors, current college students at any level, and those choosing to enter higher education at any age.

Check out our website: [www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/scholarships](http://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/scholarships). If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Kathy Loyd @ kathybloyd@gmail.com





# ESA

## FOUNDATION

*Empowering Dreams.  
Investing in Futures.*



# Scholarship OPPORTUNITIES

for the  
**2027-2028**  
ACADEMIC YEAR



High School Seniors,  
College Students  
and Non-Traditional  
Students are  
**ENCOURAGED  
TO APPLY!**



### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Helping students achieve  
their educational goals.



### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Investing in tomorrow's  
leaders today.



### BRIGHTER FUTURES

Building stronger communities  
one student at a time.

# Learn More!

Visit [epsilonsigmaalpba.org/scholarships](https://epsilonsigmaalpba.org/scholarships)

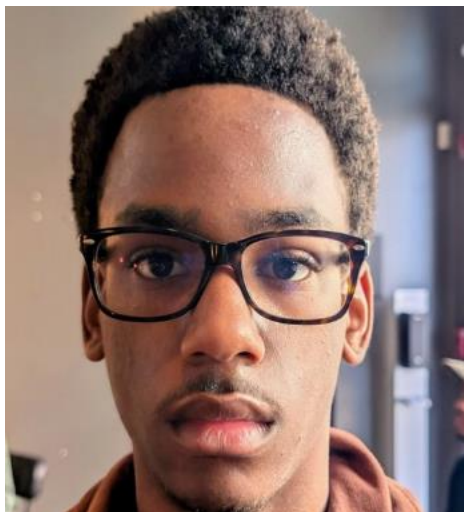
for eligibility requirements and application details.



## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### JAYDEN DAVENPORT

Recipient of: Robert Taylor Morelli/Gregory Gene George Memorial Scholarship



Jayden grew up in Maryland and has always had a passion for math and science. He participated in the Robotics Club and studied engineering throughout high school. He also studies accounting and plans to major in engineering with a minor in accounting. Jayden enjoys building and designing circuits, testing sensors and learning about renewable solutions. During his senior year, he is learning how to apply math and science to create and test products. In college, Jayden plans to continue playing tennis and volunteering at the Maryland Food Bank. After college, he hopes to work in a field where he can help integrate global perspectives and amplify underrepresented voices.

### CASON LITTAU

Recipient of: Manuel & Rose Pasillas Scholarship



Cason has always considered himself an overachiever, a perfectionist, and someone you can rely on in life, sports, school, and work. He began working at the age of 14 and has since become a leader in training new employees. He will graduate from high school with an Associate's degree and has learned how to prioritize his many responsibilities so he can give his best effort to each one. Cason strives to excel in every area of his life.

He plans to earn his bachelor's degree and pursue a Juris Doctor degree to practice law. Becoming a lawyer has long been a dream and vision for his future. He feels called to speak up for others and stand beside those who may not be able to advocate for themselves. His goal is to help change the world "one case at a time". Cason says "All of my plans are a part of me being a faithful and holy man of God."

## State of the Foundation

At the ESA Foundation Membership meeting, you heard the speakers reference the State of the Foundation Report. The report provides a good overview of the Foundation's activities and program. The State of the Foundation Report can be found in the ESA website by holding down the ctrl button and clicking on the following link.

[2025-State-of-the-Foundation-Report.pdf](#)

The directions to access the document from the website:  
From the ESA home page Click on:

1. ESA Foundation Icon



2. At the *Stay Up To Date* paragraph, click on [State of the Foundation 2025 Report](#).

### ***ESA Foundation Dues -- \*\*Reminder\*\****

The **ESA Foundation** is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization that supports scholarships, grants, and philanthropic programs. Its costs and membership fees are structured to cover operations, investments, and program delivery.

#### **Annual Membership Fee**

- ☐ **Active membership:** \$40 per year
- ☐ This fee is **required** to vote at the annual meeting and is tax-deductible.
- ☐ Must be paid by **December 31** to be counted as active for the year

### **Life Active Membership (LAM)**

One-time donation of **\$500** to become a Life Active Member or 2 Half Payments can be made of **\$250** can be made within the same calendar year.

Note: This helps support the awarding of the **Career Enhancement Grants**  
**Questions please reach out to Tammy Akines @ [tsakines@yahoo.com](mailto:tsakines@yahoo.com)**

## ESA Foundation Voting Process

This message is for ALL ESA Foundation members in good standing regarding the upcoming election of Three new Directors to the ESA Foundation Board.

On December 7, you will be receiving an email from the ESA Foundation through a program called Election Runner. This email will provide a link to the election site where you will have the opportunity to vote electronically for the three candidates. This link will be available for **ONE** week. The Election will close on December 11, 2026 @ 12:00 Midnight Mountain Time. When you receive a voter ID and voter Key, you will not have to enter those to get into your ballot if you use the link provided in the email.

It is possible that some email servers will not accept certain emails or consider them spam. If you don't receive it, please check your spam/junk/promotion emails first and if you still do not get it, please contact Tammy Akines immediately @ [tsakines@yahoo.com](mailto:tsakines@yahoo.com) so we can send your ballot manually.

If you are the main contact for an entity (State Presidents group, chapter, state council, region, or business, etc.), please ensure your contact information is up-to-date with Headquarters: contact Mackeigan Bickel ([Mackeigan@epsilonsigmaalpha.org](mailto:Mackeigan@epsilonsigmaalpha.org)) with changes. Entity contact will receive one ballot email for your personal vote and another ballot email for the entity vote. Please be careful and vote accordingly when casting these votes as they cannot be changed after they have been submitted.

Thank you for participating in the electronic voting opportunity.

Roslie Griffith, Chairman

ESA Foundation



## ***ESA Foundation Grants Program***

### **Professional Development & Vocational Training Support**

#### **Career Enhancement Grants**

These grants support individuals seeking to strengthen their professional skills through additional education or training.

#### **Eligible Uses**

- ☐ Registration fees for workshops, seminars, or training programs
- ☐ Required study materials

#### **Not Covered**

- ☐ Travel expenses
- ☐ Hotel accommodations

#### **Review Cycle**

- ☐ Applications reviewed **quarterly**

#### **Funding**

- ☐ Maximum request: **\$2,000**
- ☐ Smaller requests are fully eligible

#### **Vocational Training Grants**

These grants assist individuals pursuing new career pathways or enhancing skills in their current field, including:

- ☐ Trade certifications and apprenticeships
- ☐ Training programs supporting veterans re-entering the workforce
- ☐ Fine arts programs that benefit returning military personnel

#### **Restrictions**

- ☐ Not available for college tuition
- ☐ Not available for college textbooks
- ☐ Not available for college debt repayment

#### **Review Cycle**

- ☐ Applications reviewed **every six months**

#### **Funding**

- ☐ Maximum request: **\$2,000**

#### **Application Information**

Apply online at: <https://www.epsilonsigmaalpha.org/scholarships-and-grants/grants>

For questions or additional details, contact: **rosalie.griffith2@aol.com**

## **Thank You State Foundation Counselors!**

International Convention has come and gone, and it's hard to believe how quickly this year is flying by!

As many states transitioned their state boards, we have also welcomed new State Foundation Counselors. This role is such an important part of the ESA Foundation. For many of our members, students, and donors, you are the voice and face of the Foundation in your state.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the time, energy, and dedication you give to the Foundation. So much of what you do happens behind the scenes, but the impact of your work reaches far beyond what people may see.

As state counselors, you reach out to schools, answer questions from students and members, share information, encourage donations, keep the state membership informed, and stay connected with the Foundation—you help bring our mission to life in your state. You are an important link between the Foundation and the people who make our work possible.

To the new counselors, welcome! You are joining a wonderful group of people with a wealth of knowledge and experience who are always willing to help. To the returning counselors, thank you for continuing to serve, share what you've learned, and support those stepping into this role. And to the outgoing counselors, thank you for your service and for helping make the transition to new leadership a smooth one.

Most of all, thank you for being an advocate for the ESA Foundation and for helping others understand the difference the ESA Foundation makes in the lives of students and families. Your time, dedication, and willingness to serve are deeply appreciated. The ESA Foundation is stronger because of you!

Anne Murray  
Foundation Counselors' Chair



## ESA FOUNDATION CALL FOR NOMINATIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In accordance with the ESA Foundation Bylaws, it is the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for three (3) Directors to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors for an ensuing three-year term. Nominations may be submitted to the Committee up until October 1, of each year. A nominee for Director must hold active membership in the ESA Foundation and be entitled to vote at the time the candidacy is put to a vote of the membership.

**LIMITATIONS:** No Director may serve more than two (2) consecutive 3-year terms unless filling a vacant director position; or hold an elective position on the Executive Board of the International Council of Epsilon Sigma Alpha, or be an employee of the ESA Membership Corporation, or hold an elective position on the Board of Directors of the Epsilon Sigma Alpha Membership Corporation during her/his term of office on the ESA Foundation Board of Directors.

**BASIC FUNCTION:** To actively participate in conducting the business of the Foundation by fulfilling the specific requirements of the Board of Directors; to give time and expertise in planning the future and growth of the ESA Foundation.

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Conduct the business of the Foundation in a professional manner.
2. Maintain the integrity of personal and Foundation activity.
3. Expand services and conduct projects within the framework of creditable business practices and viable parameters.
4. Attend all meetings, including IC convention as a candidate and multi-day meetings at midyear and IC Convention.
5. Carry out official and/or committee assignments in ways that meet functional requirements of the Foundation.

### JOB QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Ability to travel to all Board Meetings, the Annual Meeting, and occasionally to IC Leadership or State meetings
2. Have a basic knowledge of the ESAF scholarship and grants program or similar programs with other organizations
3. Demonstrates leadership ability and willingness to work collaboratively with a diverse team
4. Have a working knowledge of word processing, spreadsheet software, electronic file shares (i.e. Dropbox, Google Drive, etc.) and web-based meeting software (i.e. Zoom, WebEx, GoTo Meeting, etc.)
5. Demonstrates timely follow through on commitments, open to new ideas, and a passion for the goals of the Foundation

CANDIDATE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Street] [City] [State] [Zip]

PHONE (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

HOME E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ WORK E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**LIST QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERIENCE:** On a separate page, please list experiences and areas of expertise that demonstrate the qualifications of a Director. These could include, but are not limited to, items such as experience in accounting/bookkeeping; investments; the use of computers; fund raising; scholarship procedures; offices held; etc.

**BUSINESS:** Current / Former Employment How Long \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_

**I want to serve as a Director on the ESA Foundation Board. If elected, I will strive to fulfill the mission of the ESA Foundation. I am an individual Active Member of the ESA Foundation. I have attached a Resume, which includes a listing of Personal, Professional and/or Civic Memberships (including ESA).**

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Nominee] Member of ESA Foundation since: \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete and Mail this Nomination Form, Resume, and Photo by OCTOBER 1, to:**

**Tammy Akines, ESA Foundation Vice Chairman**  
10504 State Highway 54 East, Star City, AR 71667  
Phone: 870-370-0923/ E-mail: tsakines@yahoo.com



## Using Zeffy for Credit Card Charges

The Foundation continues to utilize Zeffy as the resource for handling credit card payments. The following is some guidance on how to use Zeffy, if you wish not to donate to the Zeffy application.

Important Note: It is **all right** to enter zero (0), on the “Keep Zeffy Free” Box

After you make your selection on the donation in the Zeffy application, select the *Other* from the drop-down menu.

This screenshot shows the Zeffy donation interface. At the top, there is a section titled "Help keep Zeffy free for ESA Foundation" with a heart icon and the word "(optional)". Below this title, a paragraph explains that the user's generosity allows the ESA Foundation to use Zeffy's 100% free fundraising and emailing platform. A "Learn more" link is provided. To the right of this text is a dropdown menu. The menu is open, showing several options: "17.00% (\$16.95)" (which is currently selected), "17.00% (\$16.95)", "20.00% (\$19.95)", "22.00% (\$21.95)", and "Other". An orange arrow points from the "Payment method" label to the "Other" option in the dropdown menu.

Enter "Zero" in the contribution box.

This screenshot shows the Zeffy donation interface after the dropdown menu has been closed. The "Help keep Zeffy free for ESA Foundation" section is still visible. The dropdown menu now shows "Other" as the selected option. Below this, there is a "Contribution" label and a text input box. An orange arrow points from the "Contribution" label to the input box, which contains the number "0". A dollar sign (\$) is visible to the right of the input box.

Then complete the transaction to make the payment.

# Thank You Thank You Thank You

The Foundation and the IC Board thank the following individuals and groups for their support of our Music Bingo Fund Raiser.

## **Record of the Year Sponsors (<\$50)**

Judy Christiansen  
Marilee Dunn  
Lynda Edwards  
Terry Holifield  
Lynn Howley  
Margaret Kramer  
Kim Kummer  
Beth Pompa

## **Song of the Year Sponsors (\$100)**

Judy Ahrens  
Cindee Leong  
Kim Mandrell  
Bobby Massey  
Omega Nu  
Brenda Schaffer

## **Artist of the Year Sponsors (\$200+)**

Judy Baxter  
Kathy Loyd  
Arkansas State Council

# Pathway Recognition

## Purple (\$500)

|                                              |                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Oklahoma<br>Convention<br>Planning Committee | Thank you for your hard<br>work. |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|

## Light Green (\$100)

|               |                                                                 |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Julene Donnay | You are awesome                                                 |
| Gordon Leong  | Thanks for your work with<br>the Foundation                     |
| Kim Mandrell  | Thanks for special person<br>and your great help                |
| Terri Olson   | To celebrate your many<br>successful years in ESA               |
| Dee Rotering  | Most dedicated member of<br>ESA. So proud to be your<br>sponsor |

## Red (\$50)

|                 |                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Betty Ketton    | Thank You                           |
| Jennifer Morris | Your leadership &<br>service to ESA |
| Eta Pi          | Thanks for being a<br>great chapter |
| Jan Raburn      | Still Miss you every<br>day!        |
| Brenda West     | Alpha ETA Top<br>Car Show Chair     |

## Light Blue (\$25)

|                |                                                                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Jamie Bennett  | Thanks for your hard work and attention to<br>details                         |
| Pat Howerton   | You are an inspiration and thanks for all you<br>have done for the Foundation |
| Jerry Hymer    | You are one of the gifts of ESA                                               |
| Cindee Leong   | Thanks for all your help and always being<br>available                        |
| Jerie Longacre | Congratulations on your 30 years of service with<br>ESA                       |
| Shelia Pruitt  | Alpha ETA Top Saleswoman                                                      |

## ESA Foundation Donation

| Donation Category               | Website Site                                                                                                                                                                  | QR Code                                                                              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Membership                      | <a href="https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/esa-foundations-memberships">https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/esa-foundations-memberships</a>                             |    |
| Contributions to the Foundation | <a href="https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/esa-foundation-endowment-contribution">https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/esa-foundation-endowment-contribution</a> |    |
| Pathways                        | <a href="https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/pathway--2025">https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/pathway--2025</a>                                                 |    |
| Turnaround Fund                 | <a href="https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/turnaround-fund-donation">https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/turnaround-fund-donation</a>                           |  |
| Recurring Payments              | <a href="https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/esaf-endowment-contribution-recurring">https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/esaf-endowment-contribution-recurring</a> |  |

Donations to the Foundation can be made through the ESA Home Page by clicking on the Donate to the ESA Foundation Tab.



You can paste the following sites to take you directly to the appropriate Zeffy Page.

## Making Recurring Donations to the Foundation

Have you wished there is a way to routinely make a monthly, quarterly or a yearly donation to an endowment or a grant. A system is now in place using the Zeffy application where a set amount will automatically charged to your credit card, or extracted money from your bank account for a specific endowment or for a grant. This function can be accessed through the following:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/esaf-endowment-contribution-recurring>

or via the QR code:



If you have any questions, please contact a board member.

