



January 16, 2024

re: 50th Reunion Leadership Scholarship Endowment Fund

Dear Donor,

As the Foundation begins our 50th year supporting your hometown, we are pleased to be managing a fund important to you. This communication is intended to provide an overview of the management of the 50th Reunion fund and the associated scholarships.

As a donor of the 50th Reunion Leadership Scholarship Endowment, you may know that this exciting fund and the associated scholarships are the inspiration of Michael Hughes, YSHS Class of 1966. In 2016, as the class was celebrating their 50th reunion, many of the classmates wished to show their appreciation for the education they received from the Yellow Springs Schools. They partnered with the Yellow Springs Community Foundation and created a new scholarship fund available to each 50th reunion class to give forward to the students of today and tomorrow.

The fund began with a gift of \$1,000 and reached endowment status of \$25,000 in June of 2018. For those donors involved at that time, you may recall having received an email of congratulations from Mike as this major milestone was reached. Today, the fund is over \$260,000 thanks to you and YS Alumni representing 17 classes and counting.

The Foundation continues our work with the YS Schools, providing management of the scholarship portal. Along with the 50th Reunion Traditional and Trade / Certificate Scholarships, the Foundation currently manages 30 other scholarship funds. The Foundation adheres to the state and federal guidelines for Community Foundations on accepting gifts, managing funds and supporting scholarships. In alignment with these rules, a new committee of three individuals will be formed to recommend the scholarship recipients: one from the schools, one from the community and one fund donor. All scholarship committees will be reviewing applications in April with the 2024 award ceremony in May. As has been past practice, the Foundation Board will continue to have final oversight of the application process and recommended awardees.

The current value of the endowment generates approximately \$10,000 in scholarship funds each year. Donors have expressed a desire to distribute \$20,000 per year: \$15,000 Traditional and \$5,000 to Trade / Certificate recipients. To assist the 50th Reunion donors in funding this \$10,000 gap, the Foundation has created a sub-fund for which gifts accepted between now and April 30 up to \$10,000 will be added to the current scholarship distribution with the balance rolled into the endowment fund. Donors may specify either the sub-fund or the endowment fund at any time.

Since its inception, fund-raising for the 50th Reunion fund, has been and will continue to be, the responsibility of a committee comprised of members of the 50th Reunion classes. We are looking forward to working with the committee as the classes of 1974 and 1975 prepare for their 50th reunions. The Foundation is deeply appreciative of the 17 previous donor classes for their amazing financial support of this important fund. (*1973, it is not too late!*)

The Foundation Staff and Board are grateful for the opportunity to serve you, the 50th Reunion Scholarship Endowment Fund, and the students of Yellow Springs Schools.

In appreciation of your support and partnership,

Jeannamarie Cox
Executive Director



Staff

Executive Director

Jeannamarie Cox

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Program Manager

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Kathryn Van der Heiden



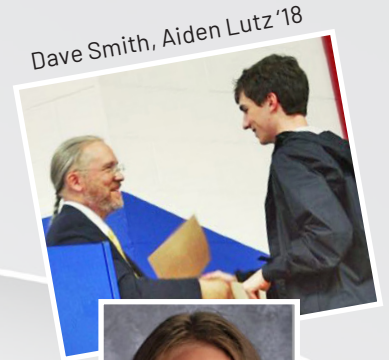
With over 200 donors representing 17 graduating classes (1944-1973) and counting, the **50th Reunion Scholarship Endowment** will support YSHS students for generations to come. **Join us!**



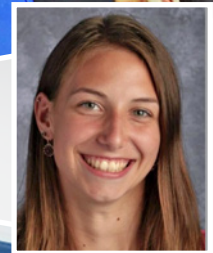
Penny Shook-Estopare '66,
Arielle Johnson '21

With the 50th Reunion Scholarship I was able to commit to the college of my choice and find my home for the next four years!

- Arielle Johnson, Class of 2021



Dave Smith, Aiden Lutz '18



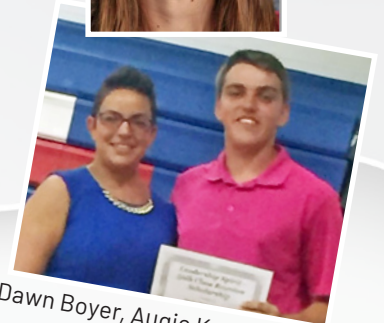
Jane Meister '20



Jeannamarie Cox, YSCF,
Dylan Rainey '19

I am very grateful for the Yellow Springs community for giving me the support throughout my childhood and into my early adult life. I will always treasure the town and the community, and it will always be what I identify most with. I cannot wait to give back to the community in a greater capacity than I was able to in high school.

- Dylan Rainey, Class of 2019



Dawn Boyer, Augie Knemeyer '17



Stella Lieff '22

It's quite exciting to think that I am supported by generations of alumni and supported by such a large community. Having this support as I traverse through my experiences is not something that I will forget easily - or at all - and I will forever be grateful for it.

- Stella Lieff, Class of 2022



Scan this code to donate to the 50th Class Reunion Fund, or visit YSCF.org/50th-class-reunion-donations

