

2022 Gratitude Report ✨



WRIGHT STATE
UNIVERSITY

FOUNDATION

Hello ✨

As we present this gratitude report to you—our generous donors and partners—the words “thank you” do not even begin to express the magnitude of our appreciation.

Words cannot fully convey the many ways you are impacting the lives of our students. From providing much-needed scholarship support to helping our students believe in themselves, you are making the world a better place by educating current and future generations of Wright State University students.

We hope the stories that we share with you today will give you a brief glimpse into how your gifts inspire our students to keep fighting every day to make their dreams come true.



Impact By the Numbers in 2022

These statistics are much more than numbers. They represent gifts, including yours, that made a difference in the life of a Wright State student.

In total, **4,871 donors** generously committed more than **\$13.2 million** in support of Wright State University and its students!



\$13,202,130.42

Thank You!



Alumni

\$1,133,198.85
2,317
228

Given/Committed
Donors
New Donors



Foundations &
Corporations

\$5,972,672.25
248
63

Given/Committed
Donors
New Donors



Friends

\$6,096,259.32
2,306
617

Given/Committed
Donors
New Donors



Every year, hundreds of Raiders and Lakers join us to celebrate our founders' day. This one-day, online-based community effort has wide ranging impact, increasing the value of the student experience.

\$202,931 RAISED
through 1,009 gifts to 170 + funds

Programs 35%
Athletics 33%
Scholarships 32%

Areas Supported

Programs and Services	\$9,027,955.20
Athletics	\$725,377.72
Academics	\$1,030,943.81
Scholarships	\$2,134,408.44
Other*	\$283,445.25

*(Includes facilities and equipment, faculty support, libraries, research, unrestricted, and gift-in-kind)

Scholarships



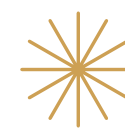
Donations
\$2,134,408.44



Donors
1,821



Funds Supported
366



Donor Funded Scholarships

2022-23 academic year



1,065

Awards Made Totaling

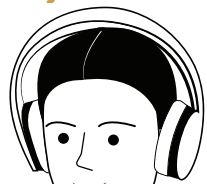


\$2,046,290

Given To

794

Students



Powerful Partnership

Wright State University receives \$3.6 million gift from Reynolds and Reynolds to create an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans and new scholarships for business students



A \$3.6 million gift from the Reynolds and Reynolds Company and its foundation will launch an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans at Wright State University and create new scholarships for business students.

“This is one of the largest gifts in the history of Wright State University,” said Sue Edwards, president of Wright State University. “The Reynolds and Reynolds Company has been a valued corporate partner from Wright State’s earliest days as an institution of higher education. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support and look forward to working with them as we launch the Reynolds and Reynolds Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans at Wright State University and the Reynolds Scholars program in the Raj Soin College of Business.”

The Reynolds and Reynolds Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans (EBV) will further expand

the collaboration between Reynolds and Wright State while supporting the success of military veterans who are aspiring entrepreneurs. The EBV will be part of a larger consortium of higher education institutions, initiated by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University. Post-9/11 veterans with honorable discharge are eligible to apply for the program.

Veterans admitted to the EBV will begin their educational journey with a 30-day online course on entrepreneurship fundamentals. Students will then participate in an eight-day residential experience at Wright State, which is provided at no cost. Upon completion of the residency, 12 months of ongoing support, focused on small business creation and growth, is provided to graduates of the program. A \$3 million gift from Reynolds and Reynolds will create an endowment to permanently underwrite the costs of the EBV.

“The service men and women that defended our right to life, liberty, and happiness must not themselves be obstructed from achieving their own American Dream,” said Chris Walsh, president of Reynolds. “We are honored by the sacrifices they have made, and this is one way we thank them for their service—by helping ensure there is a path toward a fruitful future for them when their service ends.”



In addition to the \$3 million commitment to the EBV, the Reynolds and Reynolds Company Foundation has pledged \$600,000 over the next three years for scholarships for Wright State business students. Students selected for the Reynolds and Reynolds Business Scholarship will receive an annual scholarship of \$5,000 that is renewable for each year of their undergraduate education at Wright State.

“These two gifts promise to expand the impact of Reynolds and Reynolds on Wright State’s business students and on military veterans by inspiring entrepreneurial endeavors that form the basis for economic growth,” said Thomas Traynor, dean of the Raj Soin College of Business. “They also reaffirm and widen the commitment that Reynolds and Wright State have to the Greater Dayton region and its economy.”

Opening Doors

M. Patrick Daniels
Scholarship helps
students with
disabilities achieve
their dreams



Growing up in the Dayton area, Amelia Whorton was long aware of Wright State University's reputation for providing an accessible campus community for students with disabilities.

"I always knew that to be successful in the future, I would need to obtain higher education at a facility where accessibility is a priority," said Whorton, a Wright State graduate student who has cerebral palsy.

While Wright State's accessible campus and Office of Disability Services offered the environment and support that Whorton needed, a scholarship provided another boost to help her succeed. Whorton is a recipient of the M. Patrick Daniels Scholarship, which honors the late Wright State alumnus Patrick Daniels.

"Though physically challenged by the effects of muscular dystrophy—a genetic disease which progressively diminishes muscular

strength and function and for which there is no cure—our son, Patrick, wanted to pursue his dreams of becoming a lawyer," said Patrick's father, Michael Daniels. "Wright State University, through its world-class Office of Disability Services, provided resources and support and helped Patrick obtain his undergraduate degree in 2000, and subsequent law degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 2004. This support enabled Patrick to not only fulfill his dream, but to live a productive and meaningful life."

Whorton is grateful for the scholarship provided by the Daniels family and looks forward to following in Patrick's footsteps by breaking down barriers for people with disabilities.

"The M. Patrick Daniels Scholarship has allowed me to focus on my field of study without worrying about funding. I am honored to receive this award, because Patrick Daniels obtained his law degree and created an example of someone with a disability who did more than people expected," she explained. "I am very thankful for the support his family has given the disability community at Wright State over the years."

Whorton, who is currently pursuing a master's degree in neuroscience and physiology, plans to become a college professor and an advocate for making the STEM fields more accessible.



"Individuals in the disability community are born problem solvers, and STEM is all about solving problems; however, disabled STEM scholars struggle to open doors," said Whorton. "The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is the bare minimum, and until we start to recognize individuals with disabilities for their talents and contributions, equity does not exist."

Lifting The Burden

Joyce Rutherford-Donner Nursing Scholarship supports single parents pursuing nursing degrees



Tiffany Stewart has much more on her plate than the typical Wright State University nursing student. She is a single mother of two children with special needs.

Stewart's 14-year-old son, John, and her 13-year-old daughter, Lola, were both born with Fragile X syndrome—a genetic condition that causes mild to severe intellectual disability. It affects both males and females, but females usually have milder symptoms.

With two children who need her undivided attention, Stewart takes classes at Wright State during the day while John and Lola are at school. She first developed an interest in nursing when her younger brother, John, was hospitalized with bone cancer.

"He made friends with other kids in the hospital, and the nurses would always make sure that the kids could see each other," she said. "The nurses were amazing."

John battled cancer for two years before passing away at the age of 10. Tiffany was 14.

"Everyone knew me as the girl whose brother died," recalled Stewart, who grew up in a small town outside of Pittsburgh. "It was a lot for a teenager. Kids can be cruel."

Stewart ended up dropping out of high school and got pregnant with her son shortly thereafter. When Stewart and her mother relocated to Ohio to be closer to a Fragile X specialist at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, she was able to get her life back on track. She got her GED, enrolled at Sinclair Community College, and later transferred to Wright State to begin working on a bachelor's degree in nursing.

While Stewart credits good time management skills with helping her balance parenthood and school, she is especially thankful for a scholarship that has lifted some of her financial burden.

Stewart is a recipient of the Joyce Rutherford-Donner Nursing Scholarship, which provides tuition, books, and supplies for a nursing major who is also a single parent. Rutherford-Donner attended Wright State as a single mother, earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1982.



"The scholarship has made a huge difference. I am just extremely grateful," said Stewart, who recently had the opportunity to meet Rutherford-Donner. "Joyce sees that there is potential in me. People don't always see potential in single mothers or in mothers in general. Joyce knows that you're not just a parent; you're still your own person with your own hopes and dreams."

During their meeting, Rutherford-Donner provided Stewart with some much-needed advice, encouragement, and support. "Joyce is one of the few who said, 'you can do it.' It's always nice to know that somebody believes you can do it," said Stewart. "There are definitely times throughout the college journey where you question if you can."

Helping Future Generations

Arthur Hill '75
gives back with a
gift to the Bolinga
Black Cultural
Resources Center
and student
scholarships



W

right State
University's Bolinga Black Cultural Resources
Center holds a special place in Arthur Hill's heart.

As a student in the early 1970s, Hill remembers
spending hours writing papers at an empty table
in the Bolinga Center.

"Bolinga gave me security and confidence,"
said Hill, who would handwrite all of his papers
because he could not afford to have them typed.

Handwriting those papers was no easy task for
Hill. When he was a second grader at Edison
Elementary School in Dayton, his teacher told
him that his handwriting looked like chicken
scratch. While such harsh words would have
crushed most children, Hill took the criticism
as an impetus for self improvement. He would
grab every piece of scrap paper that he could
find, using them as blank slates on which he
could practice his handwriting. Even as a

Wright State student, Hill was still perfecting
his handwriting.

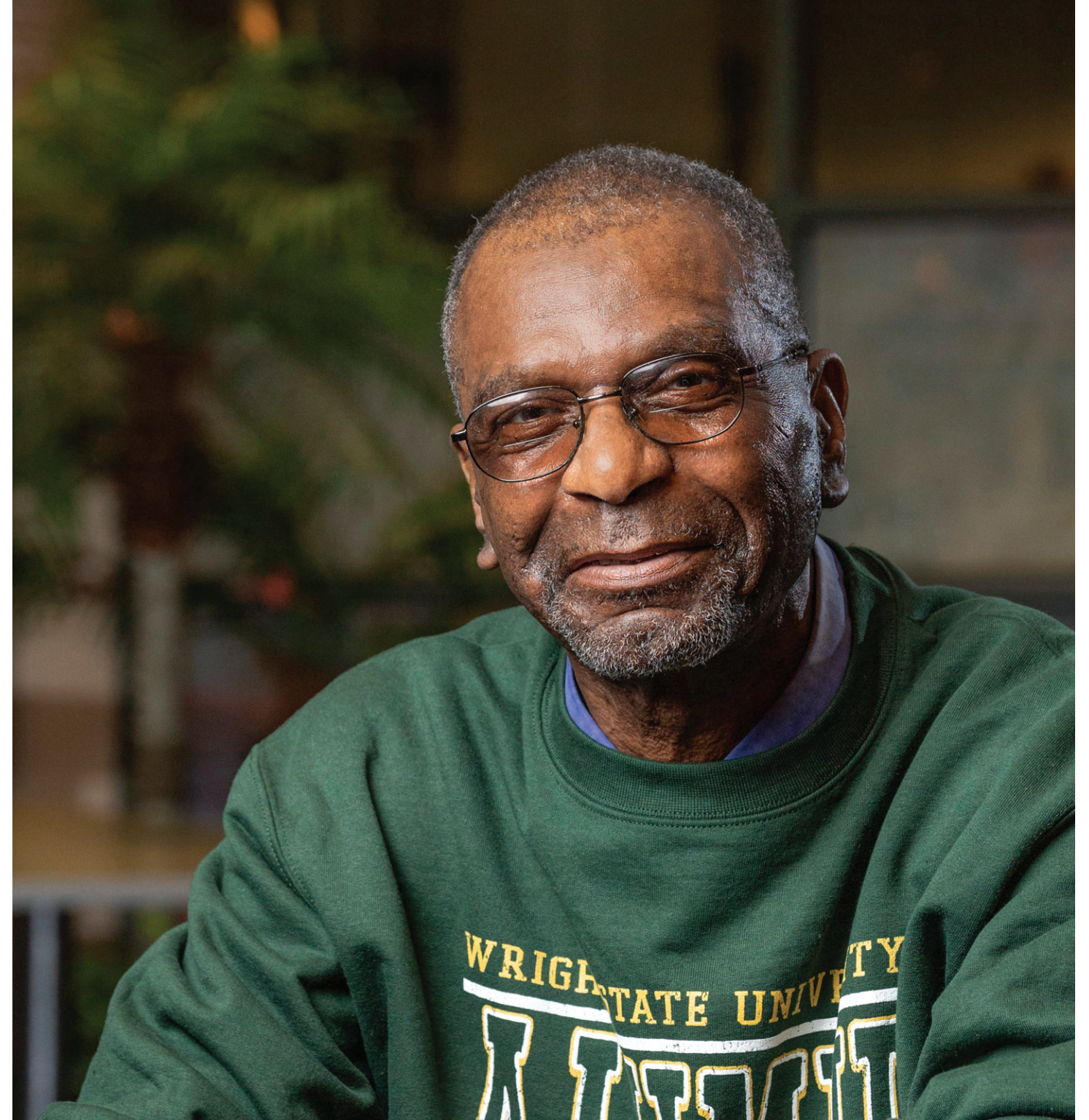
"The Bolinga Center kept one of my papers as
an example for other students," said Hill.
"The Bolinga Center was very instrumental in
the growth of Wright State students. It's very
important that students and alumni know that."

Hill's desire to help future generations of
students served by the Bolinga Center and the
African American Alumni Society inspired
his recent gift to the university. Along with
contributing to the Bolinga Black Cultural
Resources Center Student Emergency Fund
and the Bolinga Center Program Fund, he
has created the Arthur L. Hill (Bowdean)
Endowed Scholarship.

As a proud Wright State graduate, Hill is happy
to give back to his alma mater.

"One of the main feathers in my hat is a degree
from Wright State. It always will be, because
nobody can ever take that back," said Hill,
who graduated in 1975 with a Bachelor of Arts
in political science.

Over the years, Hill has served in the military,
where he went to officer candidacy school.
He has also worked as a substitute teacher in



Dayton Public Schools and as a guide at the Paul Laurence Dunbar House. He is currently a janitor at Goodwill.

Hill hopes his gift will inspire other Wright State alumni. "If a little old janitor can do something, everyone can do something," he said.






Thank you
for supporting
Wright State
University!

The Wright State University Foundation is a nonprofit 501 (c)(3) corporation that receives and administers gifts for Wright State University. Although closely related to the university, the foundation is a separate and distinct charitable organization and its affairs are directed and supervised by its own board of trustees.

Looking for more information? The Foundation's financial statements were audited by Crowe Horwath LLP. If you would like a complete copy of the Foundation's audited financial statements, please visit our website at wright.edu/giving/financial-reports or call 937-775-2251.

Learn more about the ways you can continue to impact the lives of students and the community by contacting us.

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