What Will Your Legacy Be? Why Support NUAF?

Take a moment to reflect on the life you've lived here in our local community. Most people would say that, by-and-large, it's been a good life. There have been lots of opportunities to get involved in a myriad of different activities. Many visitors comment on how impressed they are with what a great variety of things we have here in our "small" town. Neighbors and friends look out for each other. The schools work, and work together. There are churches and bars and festivals and parks and …

Reflecting on all of this, it's important to think about how this came to be. In the words of Bill Macklin, former editor of The Journal, "We arrive at a community of our choice, being on the receiving end of those who have gone before. It is our duty to do more than simply earn a living and raise a family. It is our duty to contribute our time and energy to make improvements to what we found."

How will you fulfill this duty? What will your legacy be? Often when we think of the word "legacy" we think of money. But more generically, a legacy is something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor. Your legacy is the total of your life experiences, beliefs, values, traditions and assets passed down from generation to generation. When you teach values to your children, you're creating a legacy with them. When you volunteer in the community, you're leaving a legacy with that cause or program and the people who will benefit from it.

And then there's the funding that makes a lot of this possible. A contribution to New Ulm Area Foundation is a great way to leave a legacy and "pay it forward". Contributions to NUAF support the perpetual endowments that were started in 1987. The principle of these funds remains untouched and is invested to grow, while a portion of the earnings is used to award grants in the community. In reality, the grants are being facilitated by the Board of NUAF, but they flow from the generosity of the benefactors and donors.

Contributions are always welcome. This includes being a part of your estate plan. There may be tax advantages for you and/or your other heirs. Contact your accountant, financial advisor or attorney for details, or email John Illikman at contact@NewUlmAreaFoundation.org.

Departing Board Members Appreciated

At the end of 2023, Eric Bode, Jeff Braegelmann and Lauri Stark will be departing from the Board of Directors. Their leadership has been instrumental in the growth and development of New Ulm Area Foundation.

Eric Bode

Eric Bode is completing his third, three-year term. During those nine years, he has served on the Grants and Development Committees, and most recently has held the position as Development Chair.

Eric states, "I've enjoyed getting to know the other directors, the true mission of the Foundation, and the projects and people it has served over time in the New Ulm area!"

Eric was born and raised in New Ulm, as was his wife Kacie. They are raising two young children, Edison (2) and Isla (1). Eric and his family love New Ulm and enjoy what it has to offer. In return, he loves giving back when he can! His business efforts have also been felt throughout the community. Eric owns BoCo Realty and enjoys rehabbing buildings, starting businesses and being a part of growing New Ulm into the future.

Jeff Braegelmann is finishing his ninth year on the Board of Directors. He has served on the Grants Committee that entire time, chairing it for the last five years. He also currently serves on the Governance Committee and the Executive Committee.

Jeff has observed the Foundation become more organized, strategic and effective in pursuing its objectives, which essentially are to raise funds, hold those funds responsibly and make grants from those funds consistent with the Foundation's purpose. Jeff states, "I hope my efforts have helped the Foundation meet those objectives."

Jeff Braegelmann

Jeff and his wife Becky raised four children in New Ulm, and although they live elsewhere (for now), they all still have strong connections here.

"It is rewarding to see the Foundation contribute to the quality of life in the New Ulm area."

Lauri Stark

Lauri Stark has served nine years on the Board of Directors and has found it to be a pleasure. She has been a member of the Grants committee each year and a member of the Marketing and Communications committee.

She is proud to be part of the New Ulm Community and feels people have been so generous, making it very fulfilling for the Foundation to give back through our granting programs.

"I have had the honor of being the Chairperson of the Scholarship subcommittee. It has been so exciting to see our scholarship programs grow and expand over the years. This year we awarded $132,500 in scholarships, supporting our young adults as they pursue their future dreams."

Lauri was born and raised in New Ulm. She and her husband Butch felt fortunate to raise their children in New Ulm. They have two married sons, Connor (wife Claire, daughter Heidi) and Alex (wife Stephanie). Lauri works for AMPI.

Fall 2023

New Ulm Area Foundation, Inc.

A 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation and community foundation supporting the quality of life within the geographic reach of ISD 88.

Charlotte's Generosity Continues

Charlotte Anderson taught in ISD 88 for over 37 years. She had a passion for her students and her profession, and she wanted to see that passion continue after she retired. She established a scholarship to provide financial assistance for people with "the sincere desire to attain the highest degree of proficiency in teaching", and she chose New Ulm Area Foundation to administer it. Charlotte passed away in 2020.

This year we received an additional bequest of $150,000 from her estate to supplement the funds she had previously provided for the scholarship. We are awed by her desire to "pay it forward" to help generations to come. Since its establishment, 37 Charlotte Raymond Anderson Teaching Scholarships (CRATS) have been awarded.

For additional information about the scholarships administered by NUAF, visit newulmareafoundation.org/scholarships/

If you're philanthropically inclined and would like to learn more about setting up a scholarship or a granting fund, contact John Illikman at NUAF or talk to your financial advisor, accountant, or estate planning attorney.

There can be important tax advantages associated with charitable contributions, and the donations can be set up to happen during your lifetime or as part of your estate. Any amount is worthy of discussion.

Fall Grant Recipients

New Ulm Area Foundation is pleased to announce the awarding of grants from its Fall 2023 granting cycle. The Foundation received numerous well-written applications, and it was difficult to decide among the many deserving requests. Grants totaling $25,664 were approved by the Board of Directors as follows:

- $10,000 to Grand Center for Arts & Culture for art therapy and expanded outreach
- $5,000 to Junior Achievement for 2023-24 programming and BizTown*
- $1,500 to Lind House for flagpole, flag, lighting and installation
- $2,200 to NU-EDA for Westridge Place tenant support equipment
- $3,000 to ProMusica for 2023-24 Chamber Music Concert Series**

Additionally, NUAF is awarding $3,964 from its endowed scholarship fund to Network New Ulm Youth Leadership Program for 2023-24.

*This grant was made possible by the Dr. James and Jane Seifert Fund.
**This grant was made possible by a special donation from Roger and Carol Ryberg.

New Ulm Area Foundation is proud of the work being done by these organizations to help improve the quality of life in our community. The Foundation thanks its many benefactors for their support in contributing to the endowments that provide for these efforts into perpetuity. For a historical listing of all NUAF grants, visit newulmareafoundation.org/grants/

Spring grant applications will be due March 15.
See NUAF website for guidelines.

Mission Statement

The Mission of New Ulm Area Foundation is to address the needs of the community by growing the endowment funds and providing financial grants from the earnings of those funds.

New Ulm Area Foundation
contact@newulmareafoundation.org
507-354-3337
newulmareafoundation.org

New Ulm Area Foundation Board of Directors

Gene Clark - *President*
Kathy Van Roekel - *Vice President*
Jenna Peterson - *Secretary/Treasurer*
Lisa Besemer
Eric Bode
Jeff Braegelmann
Carisa Buegler
Shari Fischer
Mark Furth
Shannon Hillesheim
Lauri Stark
Bob Webb
John Illikman - *Executive Director*

Notes from the President

As I sit and contemplate my last letter as the Foundation President, I find myself wondering what should my message be to our readers? What should be my emphasis? You will read many great articles within this newsletter that highlight the amazing work our Board and Executive Director have done over the last six months to a year. But what message do you need to know about NUAF's work?

In my past articles I have introduced, tried to demonstrate and even challenged you, the reader, to answer the question, "Are we doing enough?" These four words have been written in all my articles, and I have unequivocally realized the answer to that question will always be, "NO."

As we say goodbye to our nine-year board members and welcome our new board members, I realized that our board and the donors that make everything possible will NEVER settle for NO as an answer. But boy, it sure has been fun watching them try.

The results of their efforts are seen in the hundreds of thousands of dollars each year given back in grants and scholarships that have truly impacted so many, as well as set the foundation to ensure NUAF continues to impact many more in the future.

All because NO is NEVER the answer.

--- Gene Clark, President

Tips for Year-End Planning

Leave a Legacy
NEW ULM
In collaboration with New Ulm Area Foundation.

Please join us for a speed panel focused on year-end planning with our local industry experts: Tim Reinke, Steve Friese, Evy Olson & Shari Fischer.

Tuesday, November 14, 2023
New Ulm Country Club
7:45 - 9:30 am
Presentation begins 8:00am.

Topics Include:
Individual Income Tax Law Highlights
QCD, RMD & Secure
Beneficiary Designations
Estate Planning 101 & Charitable Trusts

A light breakfast will be provided.

There is no cost for the event. Use QR code to register.

Remember Your Loved One with a Memorial to NUAF

New Ulm Area Foundation is updating our memorial envelopes which are available at Minnesota Valley Funeral Home. Families often designate non-profits to honor the passing of their loved ones. NUAF is a great option for memorials, with or without a designation.

We publish the decedent's name and donors in our Spring newsletter. This is one way to honor their memory. But more importantly, the memorial donation is a way to recognize their legacy in our community as a part of every grant that gets awarded.

Thank You Donors

NUAF held a reception on August 1, 2023, to thank individuals who have made a contribution since our last event (November 30, 2021). This reception was held at Rush (the new rooftop restaurant on the corner of 2nd North and N Minnesota Streets). It was a warm, sunny evening and likely was reflective of the attendees as well.

Dr. Gene Clark, President of the Foundation, commented to the crowd that when they make a donation, it supports a set of endowment funds and will thus support the betterment of our community "forever".

No NUAF funds were used for this event. A big "thanks" goes to BoCo Realty and Rush for sponsoring and providing great hospitality in a fantastic new venue.

rush

BoCo REAL ESTATE, INC.

Granting … Thank You Donors!

The generous gifts from our donors have allowed us to grow the endowments and provide increased granting to many worthy and important projects in our community. For 2023, there have been 17 grants totaling $69,205 and 35 approved scholarships totaling $132,500. All combined, donors made it possible to extend a total of $201,705 in our community this year!

Our Grants committee reviews and makes a recommendation on every application. Those recommendations are then considered by our Board of Directors for final decisions. A donation to New Ulm Area Foundation is a great way to stretch your contribution and help many projects and organizations.

You help keep our community vibrant and successful! THANK YOU!

Pictured are some of the grants awarded in 2023.

ProMusica
2023-24 Chamber Music Concert Series

Network New Ulm Youth Leadership Program
2023-24 Programming

NU-EDA
Westridge Place tenant support equipment

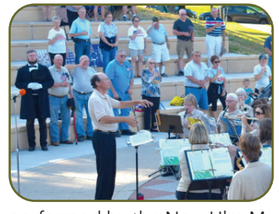
New Ulm Area Foundation – 4 Pillars of Granting

On behalf of our benefactors, New Ulm Area Foundation primarily awards grants in four categories ("pillars"): The arts, education, economic development, and historic preservation. Here is one example from each of those four pillars from this year:

The Arts Pillar: Support of the Arts Starts Early
This spring, NUAF awarded a $7,000 grant to the Grand Center for Arts & Culture to support three Creativity Camps for local youth. These week-long camps used a variety of media such as clay pottery, screen printing, painting, fiber arts, etc. Along with many artistic concepts, they helped teach kids the important skills of following instructions and teamwork, while enhancing manual dexterity, listening and attention to detail.

Economic Development Pillar: Economic Development Starts with Youth
Junior Achievement is the nation's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their futures and make smart academic and economic choices. JA's programs, in the core content areas of work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy, ignite the spark in young people to experience and realize the opportunities and realities of work and life in the 21st century. NUAF awarded a $5,000 grant to JA-New Ulm for sequential (year-on-year) programming and to support student participation at BizTown for the 2023-24 academic year.

Education Pillar: NUAF Grant Supports Preschool Expansion
To help fill the community's need for additional childcare, St. Anthony Elementary has added a second preschool classroom and now also offers a full-day program. The latter required licensure, which necessitated specific materials, equipment, etc. NUAF awarded a $1,200 grant to enhance the dramatic play section of the preschool classrooms. This crucial piece of early childhood development gives kids a sense of independence when they are able to practice daily life skills such as shoe tying, pretending to garden, cook, enjoy music and so much more. In addition, students can learn new ways to express themselves when using dramatic play by taking on new roles and acting them out.



Historic Preservation Pillar: NUAF Grant Sponsors Salute to Veterans Concert
NUAF awarded a grant of $700 to American Legion Post 132 to sponsor the July 19th Salute to Veterans Concert which was held in German Park. In addition to a variety of patriotic pieces performed by the New Ulm Municipal Band, the audience was treated to President Abraham Lincoln delivering the Gettysburg Address as portrayed in-character by Bryce Stenzel, a historian and re-enactor. Before presenting the address, Stenzel explained the significance of the battle and the construction of Lincoln's speech.