

**EAST LANSING EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION** 

## YEAR END NEWS

### Letter From the President of the ELEF Board of Directors

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." - Coretta Scott King

At the East Lansing Educational Foundation, we support ELPS educators and students with resources to support excellence and innovation. Our grants support the academic development of all students in the district, as well as their development of critical thinking, creativity, character and collaboration. To accomplish these goals, we partner with the community to raise and distribute financial resources. Thanks to your incredible support, ELEF celebrated many accomplishments during the 2021-22 grant cycle.

- We received the **largest one-time gift in our history** of \$100,000 to a Science Olympiad endowment from anonymous donors.
- Thanks to a \$20,000 gift from Dr Robert Posey and Judy Posey (story inside), ELEF created **two new scholarships**.

Julie Thomas-Beckett

- Nelson and Mei Ng documented a **new Robotics Endowment** that will provide support for the transportation, equipment and competition costs of the team.
- We received a gift of over \$5,000 from the **Class of 70**. Alumni support makes an important impact and we are grateful to the classes who remember ELEF at their reunion celebrations.

Since 1984, ELEF has provided nearly \$800,000 in teacher grants and our endowment is valued at nearly \$1.5 million. After adjusting for the challenges of the pandemic, we are feeling momentum and excitement around our programming. We are honored to have your support and welcome your continued participation. Supporting ELEF allows us all to make a difference in the lives of our students and our community. Let's continue growing!

### POSEY GIFT PROVIDES TWO NEW SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

In the fall of 2021, Dr. Robert Posey and Judy Posey provided a gift to create the Will Weng and Damaras Weng Rogers Memorial Scholarship. This fund is in honor of Judy's mother, Damaras and her uncle Will who both believed strongly in the value of higher education.

Applicants for this scholarship are East Lansing High School seniors who will be attending the University of Michigan. Their applications were evaluated on academic engagement, community impact and financial need. ELEF received twelve outstanding applications and after evaluating the submissions, the committee awarded Mori Rothhorn and Taylor Mitchell as our 2021-22 recipients.



Mori is majoring in neuroscience and will be combining her passion for science and music to explore new ways to use neurological music therapy to help treat mental health issues and support neurodivergent youth more effectively. Taylor is majoring in nursing with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner. As the ELHS Class of 2022 Vice President, co-captain of the volleyball team, 5th grade math mentor and member of the Black Student Union, Key Club and National Honor Society, Taylor is passionate about her community and giving back.

The Poseys have generously committed to continuing this scholarship for the current academic year. ELEF is proud to partner with the Poseys to support two ELPS seniors as they continue their education at the University of Michigan. Current seniors who are interested in applying can ask ELHS counselor Jen Jockheck for more information on application materials in the spring of 2023.



**EAST LANSING EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION** 



## 1984

Establishment of ELEF

Since 1984, the East Lansing Educational Foundation has partnered with the community to provide supplemental educational experiences for our students in East Lansing Public Schools.



## \$791,000

Total Teacher Grants Awarded

## **\$51,000** Average Amount of Grant Support Per Year

Each year, our ELPS teachers submit thoughtful and innovative grant proposals for ELEF's grants committee to evaluate and award. In 1989, ELEF awarded it's first \$2,000 to fund teacher grant requests and since then, our total support has grown to \$791,000 averaging \$51,000 per year.

#### \$1,063 Average Grant Amount

Impression 5 Science Center field trips, visiting artist and musician programs, and a wide variety of STEAM classroom materials are just a few examples of how our teachers are utilizing ELEF grant money to enhance the classroom experience. The average award amount is around \$1,000 which means your individual donation often provides the funds to support an entire grant.



\$

# \$394 Average Gift Amount from Donors People often wonder if their donation is too small to make a difference. With an average gift of \$394, our ELEF annual donors have come together to make a real difference by providing a consistent and reliable stream of funds for our teachers and students.



## **\$1.5 Million**

#### ELEF Endowment

Thanks to 19 philanthropic families or alumni who have made the minimum commitment of \$25,000 to establish an endowment in their area of interest, ELEF's endowment has grown to \$1.5 million with a perpetual annual impact of \$60,000...and growing!

### **Get Involved**

#### Annual Donor Levels

#### FOR EDUCATION. FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

To learn more about how you can make an impact in your community by supporting ELEF, go to **www.elef.us**  \$5,000+ Abbot \$2,500 - \$4,999 Hannah \$1,000 - \$2,499 MacDonald \$500 - \$999 Burcham \$250 - \$499 Blue & White \$100 - \$249 Trojan \$1 - \$99 Friend

> All statistics reflect 2017-2022 budget years

## DONOR HONOR ROLL 2021-2022



The following lists the members of our community who support ELEF in our efforts to provide unique and enriching educational opportunities. This list reflects our supporters from January 1, 2021 – October 27, 2022. If you find an error, please email Michele Huisgen at michele.huisgen@ elps.us.

Join us! If you would like to be included on this list by making a gift, please contact Michele Huisgen at 517.333.7439; make your gift at www.elef.us; or use the QR code on the outside of this newsletter – THANK YOU for your support!

## GOLD SPONSORSHIP

#### \$5,000

Clark Construction East Lansing Basketball Club Granger Waste Services

#### SILVER SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

#### \$2,500

Addis Enterprises Chartwells Dean Transportation Flynn Wealth Partners Horizon Bank N.A.

#### BRONZE SPONSORSHIP LEVEL \$1,000

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\$1,000-\$2,499

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Class of 1963 Endowment

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Sally McClintock Endowment for Elementary Music - Rick and Mindy Emerson

Science Olympiad Club Endowment

Shrewsbury Sisters Whitmer Family Endowment for Civic Engagement - Richard Whitmer; Gretchen Whitmer

Spartan Village G.L.O.B.A.L. Endowment Fund

Staton Family Fund

ELEF STEM Endowment Fund - Nelson and Mei Ng

#### 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## HELP STUDENTS GROW

#### SUPPORT THE EAST LANSING EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION!

Scan the QR Code to make a difference in our community with the gift of learning.





