A healthy community

- Arts & Culture
- Basic Needs
- Economy
- Environment
- Health & Wellness
- Neighborhoods & Communities
- Education
We work at the intersection of caring and impact.

Every day, we match people who want to make a difference with nonprofit organizations that share their vision and have the experience to bring that vision to life. This report offers just a few stories of the special alchemy that occurs when generous spirits meet effective organizations. Together, they make our communities healthier and the rewards are shared by all.
“Most of my students have never had the opportunity to see a live ballet before. Having the ability to provide this experience is amazing.” —KIRBY GREEN, FOURTH-GRADE TEACHER
Ten years ago, a couple matched their passion for the arts with a desire to bring their enthusiasm and interest to underprivileged kids. To carry their vision to fruition, they asked for help from The Seattle Foundation to engage community organizations and schools with at-risk youth.

Using their Donor Advised Fund, the couple sponsored an experience: Pacific Northwest Ballet’s Nutcracker. The Seattle Foundation coordinated all the logistics with community partners—from tickets to transportation to in-school curriculum. Starting with just one class, the program has skyrocketed. Today, these anonymous benefactors enable more than 500 fourth graders in eight Seattle-area public elementary schools to enjoy this magical holiday tradition.

In 2011 Kirby Green's fourth graders at Seattle’s Hawthorne Elementary were among them. In preparation for the performance, the class welcomed a dancer from Pacific Northwest Ballet to discuss Nutcracker’s music, story and set. As a result, the students were equipped to appreciate all the facets of the show.

When the day arrived, many dressed up for the occasion, which included exploration of the Seattle Center, a tour of McCaw Hall, and a peek into the orchestra pit. A lucky few also enjoyed a backstage pass before the performance.

“I enjoy the opportunity to take my kids to something most of them have never seen before, as well as teaching them about different types of music and dance,” says Kirby. “Fourth grade is a perfect time to expose kids to different experiences and let them formulate their own opinions and defend why they feel that way.”

Kirby admits the value of the tickets goes well beyond the day-of performance. Stimulating classroom discussions were plentiful before and after the event. Students enjoyed the music, and introduction to the classical versus jazz versions opened dialogues about different interpretations of the same story.

“Most of my students have never had the opportunity to see a live ballet before,” adds Kirby. “Having the ability to provide this experience is amazing.”

Every year, dozens of letters from students demonstrate their enjoyment of the show and their gratitude for the experience.

Building on this momentum, the program has been extended to provide the same children, now fifth graders, with tickets to a performance at Seattle Children’s Theatre.

The Foundation’s values-based giving philosophy inspires donors to support their own passions—in this memorable example, making art accessible.
HELPING THE HOMELESS

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS SUPPORT CHANGING NEEDS

With an ever-growing mission to support those in need in our community, it’s the kind of call that electrifies an organization.

With no previous connection to the Foundation, self-made, eccentric millionaire Dominic Gospodar’s lawyer phoned The Seattle Foundation with unexpected news: “One Mr. Gospodar died and named you in his will.”

A World War II veteran who built his fortune investing in land in Alaska and earned notoriety as the creator of a series of monuments along Interstate 5 in southwest Washington, Dominic donated the bulk of his estate in support of the homeless in Seattle and Anchorage—a staggering $3 million.

His longtime friend and executor of his will, Audrey Schefers, describes a passionate, good-natured man who was “generous to a fault.” According to Audrey, Dominic resolved to make a difference in the lives of people without a bite to eat or a place to lay their heads.

As a community foundation, The Seattle Foundation’s role is to address local needs and honor our donors’ intentions. In Dominic’s case, he always knew what he wanted to do with his money, which aligns with the Foundation’s key basic needs strategies of preventing homelessness, increasing affordable housing, and increasing access to nutritious food.

Dominic’s generous endowment allows the Foundation to allocate annual support to organizations named in his will, as well as support the Foundation’s Basic Needs Grantmaking Program in King County, and the Alaska Community Foundation’s work to provide support to homeless people in Anchorage.

“This type of gift is so important because homelessness is a huge issue in this community,” says Ceil Erickson, Director of Grantmaking at The Seattle Foundation. “Having unrestricted funds enables us to respond to organizations working to eliminate homelessness. This kind of work is what the Foundation is all about.”

A devoted Catholic, Dominic invested in many improvements to an Anchorage church, including erecting a copper dome. This project fermented his interest in metal arts, and he subsequently built the eye-catching towering monuments in Washington. After his death, the land and monuments were donated to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe for cultural and historical uses.

Among Dominic’s prized possessions was his Tytan tractor. In carrying out his final wishes, Audrey says it would have “thrilled him” to know the tractor was gifted to Seattle Tilth to help the nonprofit grow food, often donated to local food banks—yet another avenue for Dominic’s impactful legacy to continue serving the homeless in our community.
Dominic Gospodor is remembered as a passionate, good-natured man who was “generous to a fault.” He resolved to make a difference in the lives of people without a bite to eat or a place to lay their heads.
“This was the most rigorous work and school schedule I’d ever had, and it put things into perspective. It helped me further clarify what I wanted to do and who I wanted to be in my life.”

—DREW GIPSON, SHAREPOINT TECHNICIAN, JTS MANAGE SERVICES AND SKILLUP STUDENT
EARNING A DEGREE, ON-THE-JOB EXPERIENCE AND A PAYCHECK

Now 21, Drew Gipson admits to having a “skewed mentality” as a teenager where school wasn’t a priority. But an opportunity Drew calls “a fork in the road” enabled him to earn a credential, maneuvering the path to a job paying a living wage.

While working as a SharePoint Technician at JTS Manage Services, Drew’s supervisor introduced him to a program through SkillUp Washington tailored for young working adults. This program enabled Drew, in less than one year, to obtain a Business Information Tech (BIT) certificate, while continuing to develop his skills at JTS.

The Seattle Foundation brought together public and private funders and created SkillUp Washington to offer access to education and training and create career opportunities for low-income workers like Drew.

The program covered most of Drew’s tuition as well as supplies and a bus pass, alleviating the strain of a lengthy commute. Beyond a certificate, Drew acknowledges he gained deeper self-awareness and confidence, along with important business skills.

“This was the most rigorous work and school schedule I’d ever had, and it put things into perspective,” says Drew. “It helped me further clarify what I wanted to do and who I wanted to be in my life.”

“We understood the workforce of tomorrow was in the workforce today, and we needed to address the problem at a systems level,” says Michael Brown, Vice President, Community Leadership at The Seattle Foundation. “Employers in key sectors of the economy including health, manufacturing and technology were struggling to find employees with qualifications to step into mid-level jobs, while low-income workers lacked the skills and education to get those jobs.”

To bridge the gap, SkillUp Washington partnered with a number of King County community colleges to develop credentialed programs, combined with condensed curriculums for these workers; the flexibility allowed Drew to complete his coursework while working full time.

As he looks to the future, Drew plans to continue his undergraduate education at Seattle University and participate in the ROTC, while working for JTS. He wants to join the Army’s military intelligence unit, which will help pave the way for his career in defense intelligence.

Drew’s visions are being realized, in part, because of collective action. Funders catalyzing programs like SkillUp Washington are creating significant, long-term economic impact in our community—one student at a time.
FROM PEAKS TO
Over the last decade, The Seattle Foundation has focused more attention and funds in support of the environment. The result is a more significant benefactor of local environmental agencies.

Key to this shift are Maggie Walker, Board Chair of The Seattle Foundation, and her husband, Doug. More than 40 years ago, Maggie and Doug, an avid outdoorsman, moved to Seattle partly based on the wilderness and gorgeous landscape. Maggie asserts their support for the environment is “a natural outgrowth of who we are.”

The Walkers are engaged community leaders and active board members for a number of nonprofits. Through The Seattle Foundation, they created the Walker Family Foundation to support local organizations with an affinity for arts, education and environmental causes.

They have further aligned their efforts in support of nonprofits whose mission is to engage the next generation with the great outdoors, to foster a love of the natural world.

According to Maggie, as more children grow up in cities, it has become vital to create experiences for them to connect with nature. “This is a convergence of our interests and a perceived need in the philanthropic environment,” she affirms. “Experiencing nature is essential to transmitting a sense of values and the importance of conservation.”
“The new center allows us to increase services to our often marginalized clients—at-risk and very low-income children, youth, families and adults of all ages and backgrounds—and help them reach their greatest potential for self-sufficiency.”

—DAVID M. JOHNSON, ED.D., CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NAVOS
The Seattle Foundation’s role is to respond to community needs, and arguably nowhere are the needs greater or more diverse than in the area of health and wellness.

Assistance encompasses support for community health clinics and services for the disabled, senior citizens, victims of domestic violence, and those with chemical dependencies or mental health issues.

To care for these vulnerable populations, the Foundation uses unrestricted funds, supplemented by support from our fundholders. A number of anonymous fundholders actively partner with us to fund grant applications for which we do not have adequate resources. The Seattle Foundation helps donors identify new organizations and promising proposals that merit assistance.

One such organization is Navos, a community health clinic. With generous support from the Foundation and its fundholders, Navos recently completed a new mental health and wellness center in South King County, home to some of the most diverse and economically challenged communities in our region.

“The new center allows us to increase services to our often marginalized clients—at-risk and very low-income children, youth, families and adults of all ages and backgrounds—and help them reach their greatest potential for self-sufficiency,” says David M. Johnson, Ed.D., Chief Executive Officer of Navos.

Providing direct services to those who struggle most in our community is an area particularly meaningful for one donor. In acknowledging our invaluable role as advisors to our fundholders, this contributor says, “The Seattle Foundation serves as a filtering mechanism for the many possibilities for giving. As a result of their in-depth, first-hand knowledge of community organizations, we trust their judgment.”
"Stronger together" is how one funder simply defined the collaborative Neighbor to Neighbor program.

Each year, the Neighbor to Neighbor Small Grants Program awards approximately $200,000 in small grants to resident-led groups that build community capacity and relationships within and across high-need areas in King County.

To provide this targeted neighborhood grants program, The Seattle Foundation looked to philanthropic partners ready to invest in organizations aligned with increasing civic engagement and action, to address critical community needs.

The strength of the partnership is built on a learning collaborative where members listen and learn about community needs. They work together to support grassroots groups in low-income communities and communities of color that organize residents and develop local leadership to solve neighborhood problems. A mix of partners, including corporations, family foundations and individual donors, leverage a cross-section of ideas and resources in support of nonprofits serving these communities.

One corporate funder, The Boeing Company, has been a long-standing Neighbor to Neighbor partner, with corporate citizenship at the heart of the company’s value system.

"Boeing understands the changing face of Seattle, and engages in all communities where we do business and where our employees live and work," says Huong T. Vu, Community Investor, Arts, Culture & Civic at The Boeing Company. "The Neighbor to Neighbor program enables us to respond in a thoughtful and meaningful way to communities that have limited access to mainstream funds."

Given the continuous influx of immigrants to Western Washington, priority funding is for grassroots organizations that support immigrant and refugee groups. In 2011 Somali Youth and Family Club was awarded a small grant to fund the creation of a parent and youth leadership development program. The organization’s programming focuses on education, social services and recreation to foster connections within the community and broader civic integration.

Neighbor to Neighbor coaches nonprofits through the grantmaking process, connecting them to other resources and enabling traction for future funding. For many, this is the first time they’ve applied for a grant.

“The key piece of the puzzle is access,” says Jennifer Martin, Senior Officer, Grantmaking and Community Leadership at The Seattle Foundation. “Neighbor to Neighbor opens doors to funding and brings to light great work often overlooked by many funders.”
“The Neighbor to Neighbor program enables us to respond in a thoughtful and meaningful way to communities that have limited access to mainstream funds.”

—HUONG T. VU, COMMUNITY INVESTOR, ARTS, CULTURE & CIVIC, THE BOEING COMPANY
A powerful alliance between The Seattle Foundation and the Raikes Foundation evolved from a shared interest in and commitment to supporting low-income, at-risk youth in middle grades. It’s also a perfect model of a strategic partnership between a community foundation and a private foundation.

As young people transition to middle school, some begin to disengage and slip academically. This disillusionment is often the first step to becoming a high-school dropout. In an effort to circumvent this growing problem, The Seattle Foundation created its first major multi-year education investment to expand after-school programs for struggling middle-school students.

The five-year commitment provides significant funding to expand after-school programs in the Highline School District. In addition to program support, the investment promotes strong partnerships between school districts and community providers. More intentional, intensive collaborations between these entities enable both to broaden their capacity in support of vulnerable students.

“The goal is to expand the after-school program to achieve better academic, social and emotional outcomes, as well as make the transition more seamless between grade school and middle school,” says Erin Kahn, Executive Director of the Raikes Foundation.

Highline’s programs are intertwined to artfully weave together academic supports, leadership skills and enrichment activities that help children explore their interests. As with The Seattle Foundation’s other collaborative efforts, this partnership with the Raikes Foundation improves outcomes for youth and helps us all discover better ways to help all kids be successful in school.

“The goal is to expand the after-school program to achieve better academic, social and emotional outcomes, as well as make the transition more seamless between grade school and middle school.”

– ERIN KAHN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE RAIKES FOUNDATION
GIVEBIG MAKES HISTORY

On June 23, 2011, The Seattle Foundation inaugurated what's being called the biggest single day of charitable giving in King County history—the aptly named GiveBIG. In just 17 hours, 18,800 donations totaling more than $3.5 million were made to over 900 nonprofit organizations.

This one-day, online charitable giving challenge rallied the community around giving and helped organizations large and small find new supporters and needed resources. To sweeten the offer, The Seattle Foundation and GiveBIG sponsors created a $500,000 pool, to match a share of every contribution made to nonprofits through The Seattle Foundation’s website.

A partnership with Seattle Sounders FC reached tens of thousands of fans through SoundersFC.com and promotions during the Sounders vs. NY Red Bulls match. In addition, The Seattle Times Company, KING 5 Television, 97.3 KIRO FM, 710 ESPN Seattle, 770 KTTH and MyNorthwest.com spread the word as GiveBIG media partners.

Seattle Magazine named GiveBIG 2011 the “best use of social media,” and for good reason. In the days leading up to and on GiveBIG day, the Foundation and hundreds of nonprofits used Twitter and Facebook to remind and encourage their supporters to make donations. Friends and supporters likewise reached out to their networks to ask for donations to their favorite causes. Neighborhoods even challenged each other over who could be more generous.

It wouldn’t have been possible without the incredible support of our 2011 sponsors:
DEAR FUNDHOLDER:

To say 2011 was a “big” year for The Seattle Foundation is more than an understatement. In fact, it’s rather ironic that the year we launched “GiveBIG” yielded so many other big results from our fundholders and our organization through shared efforts to build a healthy community.

It was a year that witnessed the enduring yet evolving role of a community foundation as a catalyst for giving. On individual, family, corporate and community-wide levels, The Seattle Foundation is a partner in powerful and rewarding philanthropy to make King County a stronger, more vibrant place for all.

RECORD GRANTS

To begin, our fundholders distributed a record amount in grants. Fundholders donated more than $59.5 million to support causes locally, nationally and internationally. This amount exceeds 2010’s grants by $7.4 million. This growth, particularly in an uncertain economy, is a wonderful testament to their generosity.

The Seattle Foundation’s discretionary grantmaking utilizes funds entrusted to us, primarily through bequests and partnering with fundholders, to support community needs. In 2011, we invested $4.4 million in grants across the Healthy Community spectrum, with special focus on the areas of education and economic opportunity. Through funding and leadership, we continue as a partner in numerous new endeavors aiming to strengthen opportunity for all along the “cradle to career” journey. These include nurturing the development of the Community Center for Education Results and support for SkillUp, a nonprofit that helps low-income working adults get training and accreditations to boost their earning power in high-demand fields.

GIVEBIG

With the launch of our robust, information-rich website in 2010, we recognized the opportunity to more broadly share our mission and extend our work beyond the circle of our fundholders. What emerged from this thinking was the bold new effort we call “GiveBIG.”

Held on June 23, GiveBIG is a one-day, online event in which residents of King County make donations to local nonprofits through www.seattlefoundation.org—and a share of every contribution is matched with a “stretch pool” of funds provided by The Seattle Foundation and local companies and individuals.

The results of GiveBIG were, indeed, big! GiveBIG 2011 raised $3.6 million that leveraged the $500,000 stretch pool. People made nearly 19,000 individual gifts during the 17-hour day of giving. Fueled by grassroots support and online communications, GiveBIG was named “Best Use of Social Media” for 2011 by Seattle Magazine. Thank you to everyone who contributed, sponsored, tweeted and posted to make June 23, 2011 the biggest day of charitable giving in King County history.
INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

2011 proved to be a difficult year for investment portfolios, including The Seattle Foundation’s, as the equity markets collectively lost ground. While large U.S. companies’ stocks were slightly positive, all other equity segments had negative performance. In spite of these results, the Balanced Pool protected capital as much as possible, declining 2.3% on the year. The downside was mitigated through broad diversification in the portfolio that includes exposure to multiple equity, fixed income and alternative asset segments. For a longer view, the Foundation’s three-year performance ending December 31, 2011 (net of all fees) yielded nearly 10 percent per year, significantly exceeding the long-term target objective (inflation plus spending rates) by more than 3 percent.

The Investment Committee and the Foundation’s consultant, Colonial Consulting, have been working to reduce exposure to the alternative asset class over the past three years. While alternatives have historically been additive to the portfolio, the Foundation is seeking opportunities to reallocate assets on an opportunistic basis.

2011 saw a reduction in the Foundation’s total assets, from $663 million to $621 million. This is driven by several factors, namely market performance and unusually high payout activity. Asset growth and the recruitment of new fundholders is a priority for the Foundation and we’ve significantly intensified our outreach efforts in 2012.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2011 saw the end of Bob Watt’s 13-year tenure on The Seattle Foundation’s Board of Trustees. A very well-respected and knowledgeable community leader, Bob served on our board from 1999 to 2012 including two years as chair. We gratefully acknowledge Bob’s long dedication to the Foundation and his leadership in advancing our Healthy Community framework.

An additional four directors completed their terms on the board: Bill Lewis, Carolyn Kelly, Tom Alberg and Don Nielsen. Thank you to all of them for their exceptional service to the Foundation.

In 2011 as in every year, the biggest impact we made is in matching people who want to make a difference with nonprofit organizations that share their vision and have the experience to bring it to life. This report celebrates the special alchemy The Seattle Foundation ignites when generous spirits and effective organizations come together to make our community a stronger, more vibrant place for all.

Thank you for the opportunity to be your partner in philanthropy.

Sincerely,

Maggie Walker  Norman B. Rice
Chair, Board of Trustees  President & CEO

WWW.SEATTLEFOUNDATION.ORG
**Financial Highlights**

**Annualized Returns**
- 1 Year: -2.1% to -0.2%
- 3 Years (annualized): 9.9% to 9.3%
- 5 Years (annualized): 1.3% to 1.9%
- 10 Years (annualized): 5.2% to 5.1%
- 15 Years (annualized): 6.6% to 4.9%

**Actual Asset Allocation**
(at Year-End)
- Domestic Equity: 26%
- International Equity: 18%
- Alternatives: 41%
- Fixed Income / Cash: 15%
- Multi-strategy: 10%
- Hedged Equity: 5%
- Private Equity: 10%
- Real Estate: 8%
- Real Return: 8%

**Target Assets Allocation**
(select years 1999–2011)

- 1999
  - Domestic Equity: 1
  - Fixed Income / Cash: 1
  - International Equity: 3
  - Multi-strategy: 4
  - Hedged Equity: 3
  - Private Equity: 2
  - Real Estate: 2
  - Real Return: 2

- 2001
  - Domestic Equity: 1
  - Fixed Income / Cash: 1
  - International Equity: 2
  - Multi-strategy: 6
  - Hedged Equity: 5
  - Private Equity: 5
  - Real Estate: 4
  - Real Return: 4

- 2005
  - Domestic Equity: 1
  - Fixed Income / Cash: 1
  - International Equity: 3
  - Multi-strategy: 3
  - Hedged Equity: 3
  - Private Equity: 2
  - Real Estate: 3
  - Real Return: 3

- 2007
  - Domestic Equity: 1
  - Fixed Income / Cash: 1
  - International Equity: 1
  - Multi-strategy: 7
  - Hedged Equity: 7
  - Private Equity: 5
  - Real Estate: 4
  - Real Return: 4

- 2009
  - Domestic Equity: 1
  - Fixed Income / Cash: 1
  - International Equity: 1
  - Multi-strategy: 7
  - Hedged Equity: 7
  - Private Equity: 5
  - Real Estate: 4
  - Real Return: 4

- Current
  - Domestic Equity: 1
  - Fixed Income / Cash: 1
  - International Equity: 1
  - Multi-strategy: 7
  - Hedged Equity: 7
  - Private Equity: 5
  - Real Estate: 4
  - Real Return: 4
2011 GRANTMAKING PROGRAM DISTRIBUTION
(by program area)

TOTAL GRANTS APPROVED 2011
Community and Area of Interest Funds ........... $6,224,847
Donor Advised and Scholarship Funds ........... $35,949,229
Designated Funds ............................ $6,519,994
Supporting Organizations ...................... $10,879,997
TOTAL ......................................... $59,574,067

INVESTMENT MANAGERS
Aberdeen Asset Management
Alcion Ventures
Artio Global Investors
Arisan Partners
Aurora Investment Management
Axion International
Bay Resource Partners
BNY/Mellon
Brookside Capital
Calvert Group
Canyon Capital
Colchester Global
Commonfund Capital
Cramer Rosenthal McGlynn
Denham Capital
Dreyfus
Eagle Capital
FLAG Capital Management
Forester Capital
Goldman Sachs & Co./Whitehall
Harbourvest
INVEsCO Private Capital
Marathon Asset Management
Mason Capital
Mondrian Partners
Morgan Stanley
Northern Trust
Northgate Capital
Oaktree Capital Management
Owl Creek Partners
Park Street Capital
PAMCO
Platte River Capital
RCG Longview
RCP Advisors
Regiment Capital
REEF
Seix Advisors
Silchester International
TIF
Tygh Capital Management
Vanguard
Varde Capital
Wellington
West River Capital
Wrightwood Capital

INVESTMENT ADVISOR
Colonial Consulting

GIFTS AND GRANTS (in millions)
TRUSTEES AND STAFF

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Jared Watson
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Philanthropic Advisor
Michael Brown
Visit President, Community Leadership
Lori Byrne
Grantmaking & Community Leadership Associate
Jessica Case
Grantmaking & Community Leadership Officer
Cherlyn Clay
Philanthropic Services Associate
Allison Eltrich
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Ceil Erickson
Director of Grantmaking
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Philanthropic Advisor
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Allison Parker
Senior Philanthropic Advisor
Travis Petersen
Philanthropic Services Associate
Barbara Peterson
Office Manager
Brent Poston
Grants Administrator
Debbie Pottor
Director of Information Services
Aaron Robertson
Grantmaking & Community Leadership Associate
Mary Grace Roske
Vice President, Communications
Hana Rubin
Online Content Manager
Monica Salazar
Philanthropic Services Associate
Jennifer Sorensen
Senior Finance Officer
Kathy Sparkman
Philanthropic Advisor
Bill Sperling
Vice President, Foundation Affairs
Christine Underwood
Grantmaking & Community Leadership Associate
Terry Wittman
Executive Assistant to the President & CEO
Kim Wright
Director of Philanthropic Services

For a list of organizations that received grants from The Seattle Foundation, a list of The Seattle Foundation fundholders, fiscal sponsorships, and other affiliated organizations, please visit www.seattlefoundation.org/aboutus/annualreport.
COMMITTEES

2011 STANDING COMMITTEES

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Joseph M. Gaffney

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Mark Gibson
Pete Shimer

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Kevin Daniels
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Bill Lewis, Community Representative
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Jan Whitsitt
Tay Yoshitani
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Tom Alberg, Community Representative
Maud Daudon, Community Representative
Alan Heuberger, Community Representative
Stan McCammon, Community Representative
Dan Regis, Community Representative

Nominations
Bob Watt, Chair
Libby Armintrout
Martha Choe
Maggie Walker
James Williams

Scholarship
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Jean Enersen
Joseph M. Gaffney

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Dr. Gerald R. Smith, PhD, B.S.
Dr. Alvin J. Thompson, MD, M.A.C.P.

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