



42ND ANNUAL
RECOGNITION

Gala

The WSU Foundation's annual Recognition Gala is our marquee event that salutes our most generous donors and all that philanthropy makes possible throughout the entire Cougar community.



Dear Honored Guests,

Welcome to the Washington State University Foundation's 42nd Annual Recognition Gala. We hope you enjoy tonight's program as we recognize and celebrate the passionate Cougar spirit and generous support that together enable WSU to create transformational experiences for students in the classrooms, libraries, laboratories, fields of competition, and ultimately the workplace. Philanthropy also opens doors for our students, faculty, and researchers to solve the most pressing issues facing our state, nation, and world.

Each of us gathered this evening knows the power of philanthropy. It changes lives. As of March 31, WSU's generous alumni and friends have already invested more than \$101.2 million in total philanthropic activity during fiscal year 2022. We continue to build on this momentous start and will finish FY2022 strong in June, but we won't stop there. As a leader in public higher education philanthropy, we are excited to partner with all of WSU's alumni and friends in the years ahead as we together advance a university that improves the lives, communities, and industries it serves.

Our progress and aspirations are not possible without your philanthropic engagement, which allows WSU to fulfill its land-grant mission for the next generations of Cougs. Thank you for all you achieve as volunteers, investors, and tireless advocates for Washington State University.

Go Cougs!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Connell".

Mike Connell

VICE PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT | CEO, WSU FOUNDATION



THE *Laureates*

This generous group of alumni, friends, and partner organizations has a profound influence on Washington State University with cumulative gifts of \$1 million or more.

Collectively, their support inspires visionary faculty, contributes to a world-class student experience, and creates global recognition of WSU programs. The university's success is a testament to their spirit and vision.

We honor their commitment and celebrate their transformational generosity.



MARY J. BOWERS ESTATE

Richard and Mary Bowers built their lives on a foundation of connection with others and commitment to family—a commitment that extended to Washington State University. Through the establishment of the *Richard and Mary Bowers Excellence Endowment*, the couple's visionary philanthropy provides resources and opportunities for their Coug family to grow and achieve their aspirations. The spirit of growth, innovation, and reinvention was a theme for Richard and Mary throughout their lives. An engineer and prolific inventor, Richard ('37) designed and patented innumerable instruments for use in engines and electronics. Together, this energetic couple found joy in continually exploring new horizons. From Richard's photography and jewelry design, to Mary's weaving and the couple's travel and hiking, they enjoyed an ongoing adventure of learning and discovery. With the Bowers' generous gift, WSU can continue cultivating new opportunities to discover, create, and celebrate our community.

THE
Laureates

ROSALIE AND HAROLD REA BROWN FOUNDATION

Harold Brown was a successful businessman who used his success to improve life for others. Through the Rosalie and Harold Rea Brown Foundation, named in honor of his parents, Harold generously established the *Rosalie & Harold Rea Brown Distinguished Endowed Chair in Plant Pathology*. This endowed chair supports translational research bridging discoveries from basic science to develop applied solutions directed toward reducing losses caused by plant disease and thereby improving food security. Thanks to Harold's visionary commitment, WSU agricultural scientists conduct groundbreaking research and transform their discoveries into sustainable solutions for people, communities, and industries. Most recently, the *Harold R. Brown Scholarship* for historically underrepresented students was established in the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine.





JAMES AND DIANN ROBBERS

For nearly four decades, James and Diann Robbers have shared their passion for research and education through generous, enduring support of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. With a vision for the future, they established the *James and Diann Robbers Student Research Fund* to benefit graduate and doctor of pharmacy students who pursue cutting-edge pharmaceutical research. Recipients of financial assistance while at WSU, James ('57, '61) and Diann ('57) understand firsthand the value of this support for student success. After graduating, Diann pursued a career in physical therapy, while James has been awarded and recognized for his exemplary leadership and contributions to the pharmaceutical sciences.

THE
Laureates

JOANNE R. WASHBURN ESTATE

WSU coach, educator, and administrator, Jo Washburn ('63) was a courageous pioneer for gender equity in women's college sports and a champion for women's equality. During her nearly 40-year career, she contributed to positively transforming the experience for women student-athletes at WSU and across the nation. A WSU Athletic Hall of Fame member, Jo was the women's athletic director from 1965 to 1982 and grew the program exponentially. She was also the founding director of WSU's sport management program. Through a gift that will carry Jo's work and vision forward, the *Jo Washburn and Sue Durrant Sport Management Scholarship* supports students as they prepare to become successful leaders across the spectrum of sport and athletics.





CRIMSON *Benefactors*

The following alumni, friends, and partner organizations have been instrumental in shaping the university's past, present, and future through cumulative gifts totaling \$500,000 to \$999,999.

Their gifts support excellence in teaching, research, scholarship, athletics, and the arts. Tonight, especially, we honor these donors for their extraordinary generosity.

JONATHAN AND KATHLEEN ALTMAN FOUNDATION

Honey bees are vital to our shared ecosystems and the Jonathan and Kathleen Altman Foundation is deeply committed to efforts that will stabilize honey bee health regionally and around the world. Their generous *Honey Bee and Mycelium Fund* supports WSU's Honey Bee and Pollinator Research, Extension, and Education Facility's unparalleled research. In particular, the fund will help expand research to reverse global bee health decline and transform the way society approaches pest management. Since the 1990s, WSU's renowned honey bee and pollinator scientists and researchers have developed sustainable solutions that mitigate threats to bees from climate, environmental, and other challenges. The Jonathan and Kathleen Altman Foundation's support opens doors to further expand this groundbreaking work and helps ensure that the life-sustaining connection between bees, people, and our planet's ecosystems continues.





GREGORY AND JAYNE BECKEL

Champions of WSU students, faculty, and programs, Greg and Jayne Beckel have generously supported the university for decades. Passionate about Cougar Athletics since they were students, Greg ('82) and Jayne ('82) have made extraordinary contributions to the Martin Stadium renovation, the Indoor Practice Facility, and student-athlete success. These pivotal gifts have helped usher in a new era for WSU sports programs and positively impacted the WSU community. As a member of the Palouse Club, Greg puts his commitment into action through fostering the entrepreneurial spirit among both students and faculty. The Beckels' wide spectrum of philanthropy has been a catalyst to advance pioneering work across campuses and colleges, including the Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture, the College of Veterinary Medicine, and more. Together, these alumni advocates have cultivated a legacy that will endure into the future.

CRIMSON
Benefactors

CLEVE AND JUDITH BORTH

Through their philanthropy and advocacy for WSU's mission, Cleve and Judith Borth have cultivated immeasurable opportunities across the entire Cougar community. For more than three decades, they have generously invested in a diverse spectrum of scholarships and programs, including the WSU Libraries, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, WSU Athletics, and the School of Economic Sciences. The couple has also contributed their time and leadership to numerous committees and councils. Together, Cleve ('57) and Judith ('58) have continued a longstanding tradition of family giving at WSU that began with Judith's grandmother in the 1890s and flourishes today through their children and grandchildren.





ROBERT AND KATHERINE ESCH

Bob and Kate Esch share a passion for science and education. Their contributions to both domains are reflected across decades of philanthropy and service to others. As a researcher, educator, and leader in the biosciences, Bob ('75, '78) has made a positive, global impact in the fields of microbiology and immunology. To help ensure advancement in these sciences, the Esches have supported WSU's microbiology students through contributions to the *Herbert M. Nakata Microbiology Fund* and the *Elizabeth R. Hall Endowment Scholarship*. In 2020, they established the *Robert and Katherine Esch Fund for SMB Faculty Development* to provide opportunities for WSU's College of veterinary medicine faculty in molecular biology research. The Esches' magnanimous support ensures veterinary medicine faculty can push the boundaries of their vision and explore solutions to improve the world's biological health.

CRIMSON
Benefactors

BOB FERGUSON

Bob Ferguson is guided by a belief that clean energy is vital for a healthy planet and economy. During the past 40 years, he has spearheaded transformational initiatives to establish the Tri-Cities region as a center for energy education and development. A nuclear physicist, businessman, and community leader, Bob has generously contributed his expertise and resources to the establishment of WSU's Tri-Cities campus and the Institute for Northwest Energy Futures (INEF). In 2021, he created the *Bob Ferguson Distinguished Professorship in Energy Systems*. Under the leadership of this professorship, the INEF will explore and develop cutting-edge, carbon-free energy alternatives. A visionary philanthropist, Bob has not only provided opportunities and resources to support energy research, but has simultaneously built community, fostered connections between science and business, and strengthened the economy. Bob exemplifies the spirit of giving back through his remarkable contributions to the success and well-being of others.





JERRY AND LINDA KLEIN

Jerry and Linda Klein personify the Cougar spirit. Even though they did not attend WSU, the Kleins are Cougs at heart and have unreservedly supported the university for nearly four decades. Jerry and Linda's transformational gifts to WSU Athletics have supported the Indoor Practice Facility, the basketball, football, baseball, and soccer programs, and student-athlete success. Enthusiastic advocates for the entire WSU community, their philanthropy also extends to the College of Veterinary Medicine, the CougarParents Program, and more. In recognition of their unwavering dedication, Jerry and Linda were adopted into the Cougar family by WSU's Alumni Association during a 2021 Cougs football game. This memorable event celebrated the Kleins and paid tribute to their impactful support of WSU's mission, people, and programs.

CRIMSON
Benefactors

RUSSELL K. MCCORMMACH

Engineer, educator, author, artist, and historian of science, Russell K. McCormmach's universal passion for the sciences and humanities is reflected in his generous support of WSU. While a student, Russell ('55) prepared for and was selected as a Rhodes Scholar with the guidance of classics and philosophy professor Frank Fraser Potter and his wife, Irene. The Potters inspired Russell's renaissance understanding of the harmonious connection between the sciences and humanities. This perspective, together with his love of learning, has guided Russell's vision during a lifetime of distinguished philanthropy to multiple fields of endeavor. An enduring tribute to his vision and work, the *Russell McCormmach Scholarship* supports undergraduate or graduate students studying the humanities, natural sciences, and fine arts.





MARTHA MULLEN ESTATE

For more than four decades, William “Frank” and Martha “Marty” Mullen (’80) have positively advanced education, public service, the arts, and diversity and equity across the WSU community. Marty served in several key positions, including as program advisor for the Associated Students of Washington State University and interim director of the WSU Museum of Art. A WSU political science professor for 18 years, Frank made innumerable contributions, including the initial design of WSU’s Black Studies Program. The *William F. and Martha A. Mullen Endowment* supports the *William “Frank” Mullen Scholarship* and the *Jack B. Gabbert Scholarship* for political science students, along with the *William “Frank” Mullen Teaching Award* for College of Arts and Sciences faculty. The Mullens’ generous contributions reflect their remarkable commitment to service, leadership, and philanthropy at WSU.

CRIMSON
BeneFACTORS

GREGG AND JUDY NELSON

As with their own family, Gregg ('64) and Judy ('65) Nelson encourage and support the aspirations and goals of their Cougar family. For more than two decades, these generous alumni have designated gifts across the WSU community. The Student Academic Center, the Indoor Practice Facility, and the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine have all benefitted from their philanthropy. Several recipients of the *Gregg and Judy Nelson Endowed Football Scholarship* have gone on to play in the NFL and made achievements across numerous fields and careers. In 2021, they established the *Gregg and Judy Nelson Family Scholarship* in honor of their granddaughter, Madeline, a WSU College of Nursing graduate. This scholarship assists College of Nursing students who are supporting families while completing their degrees. Parents and grandparents to four generations of Cougs, the Nelsons have helped ensure students will receive an excellent education by lifting their financial burdens.



This Honor Roll of Donors recognizes those who achieved significant lifetime giving levels in fiscal year 2021:

LAUREATES
(\$1 MILLION)

**CRIMSON
BENEFACTORS**
(\$500,000–\$999,999)

**SILVER
BENEFACTORS**
(\$250,000–\$499,999)

BENEFACTORS
(\$100,000–\$249,000)

Congratulations to all!

THE *Honor*

LAUREATES

Mary J. Bowers[†]
Rosalie and Harold Rea Brown
Foundation
James and Diann Robbers
Joanne R. Washburn[†]

CRIMSON BENEFACTORS

Jonathan and Kathleen Altman
Foundation
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Cleve and Judith Borth
Robert and Katherine Esch
Bob Ferguson
Jerry and Linda Klein
Russell K. McCormmach
Martha Mullen[†]
Gregg and Judy Nelson

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Gala

Roll OF DONORS

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[†]DECEASED

Celebrating

THE BEST OF THE BEST

Congratulations to the 2021 honorees, who were recognized at the Volunteer Awards Celebration and Reception on the Pullman campus last fall.

The Weldon B. Gibson
Distinguished Volunteer Award

**DUANE AND TERRI
BRELSFORD**

William F. "Biff" Brotherton
Cougar Spirit Award

**CLIVE AND SHARI
FREIDENRICH**

A COUGAR CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO OUR
2021 OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Joan Berry • Laurie Johnson and Dawn Smith • Rich McKinney
Dr. Bryan Slinker • Dr. John Tomkowiak