

# W WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

*Magazine for Alumni and Friends • Summer 2021*



## *The Next Act:* RENOVATION OF PETERSON FINE ARTS



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*Towns and cities listed in this publication are in Nebraska unless noted or generally understood.*



**Where’s the Wildcat?**

The Wayne State Wildcat is hidden in one of the photos of this magazine! Think you can find it? The first person to find it and call the Wayne State Foundation and Alumni Office at 402-375-7370 with your name and the magazine page number will get a prize from the Wayne State Foundation!

# President's Message

## DR. MARYSZ RAMES



**WE DID IT.** This is our victory lap. This is our moment to take stock in what we have done to preserve Wayne State's future as the College weathered the uncertainty and anxiety of the global pandemic. I cannot begin to thank each of you enough for standing by Wayne State. I am honored to lead this College and work side by side with such great people.

One year ago I wrote in my message to you in this magazine that "forward-thinking institutions will emerge from this crisis stronger and more adept at fulfilling their mission." And I noted that as President of Wayne State I would ensure we rose to the challenge because I had confidence in our College. I believed in our students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends, and trusted that we could work together to overcome the daily trials associated with the pandemic.

Our efforts were not without critics; we knew going into the academic year we would not be able to satisfy everyone. But we also knew that our community of teachers, learners, and leaders could rally around common sense and data-driven processes and procedures to get us through the challenges of teaching and learning in a changed environment.

The 2020-21 academic year ended as it began: face to face and confident in our ability to manage our health and safety. We tested and traced. We quarantined and isolated. We masked and distanced. And we learned, taught, and graduated hundreds of new Wildcats while keeping our promises to our students. Through it all, we never lost sight of who we are and our role as a Nebraska state college.

Throughout the demands of teaching and learning during a pandemic, we also never lost sight of the need to continue to improve our facilities. We will open the newly renovated Benthack Hall this fall to enhance the quality of educator preparation at WSC with labs devoted to the study and instruction of English/language arts, reading, writing, and literacy development, and the instruction and study of the sciences, mathematics, and technology in education. The renovation also includes a state-of-the-art counseling training clinic. Additionally, Benthack will provide family and consumer sciences, fashion merchandising, foods and nutrition, and interior design students with dynamic learning environments, such as food labs with kitchen stations and lab spaces for textiles, apparel, and interior design, that encourage their passionate approach to these creative fields.

As the work in Benthack ends, our renovation of the Peterson Fine Arts Building will begin. Peterson has long served our music and theatre programs, but the infrastructure of the building has remained relatively unchanged since original construction in 1963. The improvements that come out of this renovation and addition are sure to attract the high quality students that have been the hallmark of our programs and enable us to meet current industry standards for acoustics and accessibility.

While facilities are important, students are the center of our universe. I want to thank those of you who gave generously of your time and treasure during the past year to support our scholarships. Your contributions made a difference to our students, especially those who struggled with personal or family financial hardships as they pursued their dream of a college degree. Your generosity eased the sting of economic losses and kept many students on the path to a better future.

As always, I remain humbled by your commitment to Wayne State. We look forward to seeing you this fall for Homecoming ... Go Cats!

## WSC Prepares for the Next Act:

# Renovation of the Peterson Fine Arts Building

Wayne State College has fostered the development of musical talent for many years, preparing hundreds of students for careers in the music industry and music education. WSC provides a rich musical experience for all students and contributes to the musical life of the community and state, as well as the college. Students pursuing a music degree or who just want to take part in music as an extracurricular activity can participate in marching band, wind ensemble, symphonic band, jazz band, and other smaller ensembles, as well as concert choir, mariachi, Madrigal Singers, and show choir.

WSC's performing arts have touched a variety of lives, from students and alumni, to faculty, staff, and the surrounding community. Read on to hear the wonderful things these groups reflect on as we spotlight Peterson and the performing arts on these pages.



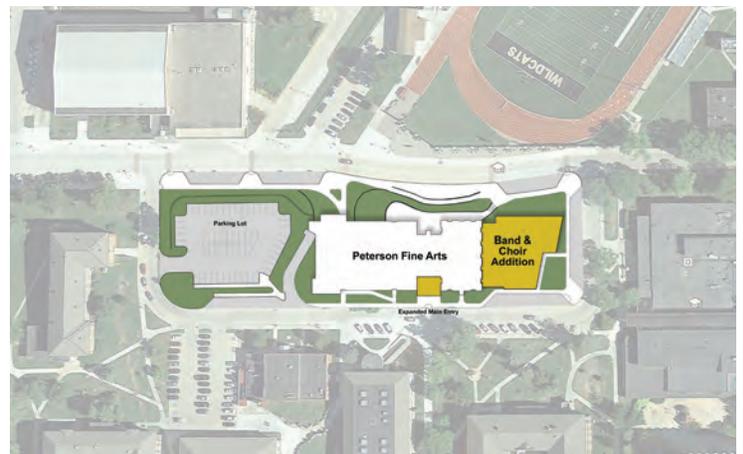
### The proposed renovation and addition includes the following upgrades:

- New rehearsal spaces for the bands and choirs that will include ample space, professional acoustics, and natural light, and will be easily accessible on the main level
- Improved acoustics in all practice rooms and teaching studios, making them safer for performers
- Upgrades to Ramsey Theatre to support larger acts and productions
- Better accessibility with a new central elevator, a ramp to the Ramsey stage, a family restroom, and increased seating for spectators with mobility limitations
- Ample student work, study, and practice space for collaboration and conversation
- An expanded atrium for receptions and public gatherings



The Peterson Fine Arts Building, home to the Lied Performing Arts Center and Ramsey Theatre, serves as the main performance center for music and theatre programs. This fall, Peterson will go to the next level, with a renovation and addition slated to begin in September.

Peterson was constructed in 1963, and an additional wing for the theatre program was built in 2001. The infrastructure of the building has remained relatively unchanged to this day, although standards for acoustics and accessibility have changed significantly. The improvements proposed in this renovation and addition will attract high quality student and professional artists, and will make it possible for the music and theatre programs to meet current industry standards for acoustics and accessibility.



## Academic Experience and Performance

### MUSIC

The Department of Music includes programs in music education, music industry, music performance, and general music, as well as a music minor. The Peterson Fine Arts building provides a home for a robust and dynamic department that has experienced tremendous growth in the number of music students. A renovated facility will support this growth and ensure sustained quality of our programs. The Department of Music houses approximately 100 music majors and minors and 13 performance groups. The department has grown by more than 50% in the number of majors, minors, and ensemble participants during the past 15 years.



*"The advantages to having superior facilities for rehearsing and performing music cannot be overstated. Not only do they keep participants safe by conforming to national standards for hearing health, but they also play a significant role in recruiting and retaining quality students and elevating the performance level of our student musicians. As one of the most active facilities on campus, the Peterson Fine Arts Building regularly brings students, faculty, staff, and the community together in exploring the arts at WSC."*

**- Dr. David Bohnert,**  
Professor and Chair,  
Department of Music

*"Having the opportunity to be in the musical ensembles like the WSC Marching Band, Concert Choir, and Madrigal Singers was what brought me to Wayne State. While I was never a music major, I loved being a part of those ensembles. I appreciated the opportunity to learn from amazing directors like Dr. Cornell Runestad and Dr. Gary*

*Davis and perform with others who love music as much as I do. Being a member of these ensembles at Wayne State offered me the opportunity to travel internationally twice and explore beautiful cities such as Paris, London, Brussels, and Lucerne, making memories with my friends that are with me still today. Thirty years later, a number of individuals whom I initially met through these ensembles are some of my dearest friends from my time at Wayne State. We continue to stay in touch and hold reunions when possible, and even attempt to sing a few songs from our time in Madrigals. The friends I made and the experiences I had during my time as a performer at Wayne State will always be special to me."*

**- Dr. Jodi Kupper '89,**  
Vice Chancellor for Academic  
Planning and Partnerships,  
Nebraska State College System



*"The Wayne State College Department of Music has allowed me to grow as a musician and future educator. This has been done through the phenomenal faculty and staff who are devoted to ensuring that students receive the best possible education before graduation. Not only has my education at Wayne State allowed me to feel ready to take on the challenge of becoming a music educator, but it has also allowed me to make connections to current educators whom I can lean on for support and encouragement once I enter the field. The Department of Music at Wayne State will always be a place that I remember being full of fun, learning, and wonderful music-making, and I am so grateful to be part of the Wildcat family."*

**- Micah Schut '21,**  
Music Education

## Academic Experience and Performance

### THEATRE

Theatre is also a major program utilizing Peterson's facilities. A field that goes beyond acting, the theatre program dives deep into the heart of performing. Mainstage productions at Wayne State give students the opportunity for acting, directing, costume design, special effects, lighting, and more. Wayne State College has earned a solid reputation for outstanding performing arts programs. Thousands of patrons attend concerts, plays, musicals, and other cultural events each year. The 600-seat Ramsey Theatre is often used as a venue for WSC theatre performances.

*"WSC theatre students get a hands-on opportunity to make theatre. From acting and performance to set, lights, costumes, and stage management, our students learn by doing. Our goal is to train students to be well-rounded practitioners of theatre, which means they are involved in every aspect of our productions. A theatre education can serve as a foundation for any career as it teaches problem-solving, creativity, and personal expression. The improved stage in Ramsey Theatre will create a more intimate experience between the audience and WSC theatre program productions. The formality and distance of the proscenium theatre will be replaced with a 'thrust' type stage. This places the actors closer to the audience, and brings the action out into the collective experience of the theatre event."*

**- Brian Begley,**  
Assistant Professor of Communication  
Arts and Theatre Director



*"My favorite thing about the theatre arts degree program is the interdisciplinary pool of individuals that participate in it, and also that ability to convey stories from books and scripts that still have the ability to move, enchant, and instill a sense of wonder into the viewer, among other things. Theatre has many things to offer. I have learned skills pertaining to analysis of language and script, directing and*

*managing a theatrical space and other actors, how to design and implement scenic design and lighting design, and how to portray and tell stories."*

**- Dakota Schroll '20**

## Community And Culture

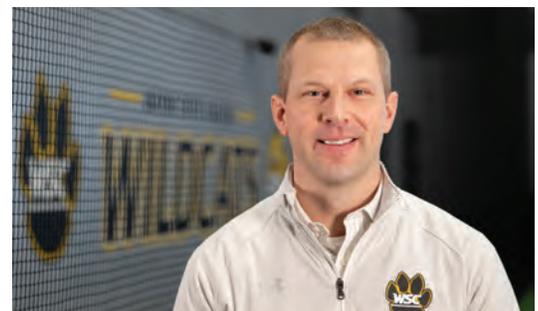
The Peterson Fine Arts Building brings culture to our campus, community, and region. With programming that includes performances in theatre, music, and dance by national touring companies, regional artists, and our own faculty and students, Wayne State College provides more than 100 annual performances free of charge to our faculty, staff, students, and surrounding communities.



*"Wayne Area Economic Development works to attract new and support existing business in the community. Quality of life issues are extremely important when recruiting new businesses and residents to Wayne and the surrounding rural communities. We are fortunate to have access to unique and affordable arts, culture, and entertainment that take place on the Wayne State College campus. That, in turn, helps us 'sell'*

*Wayne as a place that meets the needs of those who choose to live here."*

**- Irene Mock '79,**  
Assistant Director for  
Wayne Area Economic Development



*"I consider myself an athletic purist, and in my opinion, you cannot have a true football game-day experience without an energetic marching band and a roaring drumline. Wildcat Athletics is very blessed to have one of the best marching bands in the region serve as an integral part of our game day experience here at WSC. Our marching band students deliver top notch productions and are some of the best fans we have at each and every game."*

**- Mike Powicki,**  
Athletic Director



From left to right: Kevin Armstrong, CEO of the Wayne State Foundation; Laura Robinett, Director of Major Gifts; Dr. David Bohnert, Chair of the WSC Music Department; Dr. Marysz Rames, President of Wayne State College; and the Ley Family including Sandy Brown, Mason Ley, Matt Ley, Josie Ley, Roy Ley, Kaki Ley, and David Ley.

## STATE NEBRASKA BANK HONORS KAKI LEY WITH GIFT TO FINE ARTS RENOVATION

The Wayne State Foundation is pleased to announce the acceptance of a major lead gift from State Nebraska Bank & Trust of Wayne for Wayne State College’s Peterson Fine Arts Renovation and Addition. The gift was made to name the building’s atrium space “State Nebraska Bank & Trust Atrium: Inspired by Kaki Ley” in recognition of Ley’s passion for and outstanding career in music education.

*“I have seen how much music and WSC mean to my wife Kaki, so we are thrilled to honor her contributions to such a worthy cause and shine a spotlight on music education at Wayne State.”*

- David Ley  
Chairman of the Board,  
State Nebraska Bank & Trust

A reception was held March 29 in the Peterson Fine Arts Atrium to reveal the gift and surprise naming to Ley on her birthday. State Nebraska Bank & Trust and Ley family and friends were in attendance, along with Wayne State Foundation, Wayne State President Marysz Rames, and Wayne State College administration, faculty, and staff. The WSC Chamber Choir, under the direction of Dr. Matthew Armstrong, also performed at the event.

“Thanks to the very generous support from the Ley family and State Nebraska Bank & Trust, this major lead gift has provided very positive momentum as the Wayne State Foundation continues to fundraise additional support for the Peterson Fine Arts Renovation Project,” said Kevin Armstrong, CEO for the Wayne State Foundation.

Kaki Ley taught music at Wayne Community Schools to middle school and high school students for 17 years and directed an equal number of high school musicals in Wayne. She also taught at WSC from 1992 to 1996, giving vocal music lessons and directing the Wayne

State Women’s Choir. Ley also received her Spanish endorsement in teaching from WSC. She continues to be involved with music as a member of community choirs, song leader for Wayne Rotary, and founder of a ukulele club in Wayne.

Founded in 1892, State Nebraska Bank & Trust is the only bank locally owned in Wayne, run by the same family for five generations. The bank has a long history of giving to Wayne State College, including six yearly scholarships and an annual teaching excellence award. With the recent opening of the state-of-the-art SNBuilding, featuring the bank’s second location, its Campus Branch, the connection between State Nebraska Bank & Trust and the college has only grown stronger.

“We are proud to continue our strong partnership with Wayne State College by supporting their exceptional music education program with this gift,” said Matthew Ley, CEO of State Nebraska Bank & Trust. “Having the college in our community brings so many benefits, including wonderful music concerts, theatre performances, and more.”

According to David Ley, Chairman of the Board for State Nebraska Bank & Trust, “I have seen how much music and WSC mean to my wife Kaki, so we are thrilled to honor her contributions to such a worthy cause and shine a spotlight on music education at Wayne State.”

The Peterson Fine Arts Renovation and Addition is slated to begin construction in September. The \$12.3-million project will include the addition of new band and choir rehearsal spaces to allow for the continued growth and expansion of band and choir ensembles in the WSC Department of Music.

The renovation also includes improved acoustics in all practice rooms and teaching studios, upgrades to Ramsey Theatre, improved accessibility with a new elevator and ramp to the Ramsey stage, a new student lounge and gathering space, as well as an expanded atrium for receptions and public gatherings.

## PETERSON FINE ARTS: A HUB OF ACTIVITY

### Music Performances:

A wide variety of choirs and ensembles are available for student participation, with most performances held in Ramsey Theatre. Events include concerts and recitals for wind, symphonic, jazz, and mariachi band, concert and chamber choirs, woodwind and chamber ensembles, brass and percussion ensembles, Madrigal Singers, and faculty and guest performances.

### Theatre Performances:

The WSC theatre program is open to all interested students and offers fall and spring productions each year. The Children's Show entertains hundreds of area elementary school children in Ramsey Theatre. Recent productions include *The Jungle Book*, *The Secret in the Wings*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Wiley and the Hairy Man*, and *The Inspector General*. Recently, the program has added more types of plays in the season rotations for further training and experience for students.

### Black & Gold Performing Arts Series:

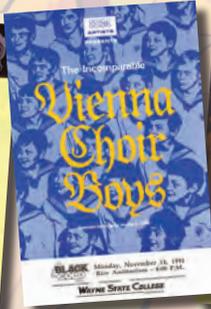
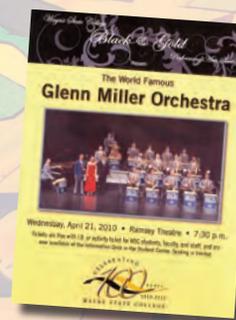
For more than 50 years, the Wayne State College Black & Gold Performing Arts Series has presented cultural programming to serve Northeast Nebraska. Annually presenting full-scale opera and theatre productions, dance performances, orchestras, and more, the series strives to enlighten, educate, and entertain with accessible and free cultural arts opportunities. In addition to college support, continued programs and performances for the Black & Gold Series are sustained through a Jeanne Gardner Black & Gold Performing Arts Endowment. Performances have included *The Glenn Miller Orchestra*, *The St. Petersburg Ballet Theatre*, *Shanghai Acrobats*, *Vienna Choir Boys*, *Broadway Plays and Musicals*, *President's Holiday Gala*, *The Second City*, *Le Cirque Esprit*, *Catapult*, and the *Dirty Dozen Brass Band*.

### Camps and Festivals for Area Schools:

The WSC Music Department and theatre program also provide opportunities for school-aged children by hosting annual music and theatre days and festivals, including Band Day, honor bands and choirs, Music Camp, and Theatre Day, among others. Such events bring students and their families to the Peterson Fine Arts Building to enjoy these performances.

### Community Events:

Ramsey Theatre is also used by outside constituents for community events, such as high school one-act and speech competitions, Wayne Community Theatre, dance recitals, guest speakers, comedians and movies for campus entertainment, and much more.



## Bond of Friendship Strengthens Over Time for Four Wildcat Grads

*With a heavy heart, we dedicate this story to Trish Lombard '91, who passed away in January.*

Meet Ann (Ptacek) Heermann '90, Pam (Murphy) Ahlman '91, Trish (Meyer) Lombard '91, and Lisa (Schieffer) Albers '90.

When these four ladies stepped foot on Wayne State College's campus, they all knew they would be involved in the music program. Music was their passion. What they didn't know is that more than 30 years later, what started as a collective love of music would become a bond of friendship just as strong as ever. The four came from different parts of Nebraska and Iowa: Heermann from David City, Ahlman from Grand Island, Lombard from Pilger, and Albers from Inwood, Iowa.

Why Wayne State? Music scholarships, small student size, and familiarity of campus were the key reasons they chose to attend WSC.

From the start, they were all part of the WSC Marching Band and Concert Choir, and they sang in the Madrigal performances. That's where the bond of friendship first ignited, as they spent many hours practicing and performing together in musical ensembles.

Throughout the years, they have shared the ups and downs of life together, and much laughter. They are each other's sisters, counselors, and sounding boards – nothing is off limits for them. Though many miles separate the four now, they make sure to dedicate time to remain involved in each other's lives. Heermann and Ahlman



*Clockwise from left: Trish Lombard, Shannon Ahlman '91 (Pam's husband), Pam Ahlman, Lisa Albers, and Ann Heermann.*

returned to live in their hometowns, while Albers moved to Waukee, Iowa, and Lombard lived in Inwood, Iowa, before passing.

The four also shared advice for Wayne State grads and current students: Put yourself out there to make connections. Make the time. Don't let the little things get in the way of the people and things that you value and love. Life gets busy. However, the benefits of having lifelong friends who have known you at your best and at your worst, and still insist on loving you, outweigh any inconvenience of

making the phone calls, sending the letters, or making plans to get out of town for a quick reunion.

Not only are Heermann, Ahlman, Lombard, and Albers alumni of WSC, they have many family members who are also Wildcats – husbands, parents, siblings, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, cousins, and children all attending or alumni of Wayne State. They are truly one big Wildcat family.

Their love of music brought them together, and it all started at Wayne State.



*From left to right: Albers, Ahlman, Heermann, and Lombard*



*From left to right: Albers, Lombard, Ahlman, and Heermann*

## Wayne State College Spring 2021 Commencement

Wayne State College held three commencement ceremonies May 8 to celebrate Class of 2021 and Class of 2020 graduates. The ceremonies took place in Rice Auditorium, due to inclement weather.

The 10 a.m. graduate ceremony conferred 212 degrees on students in the college's Master of Science in Education, Master of Organizational Management, Master of Business Administration, and Education Specialist programs. The event also marked the graduation of 44 members of the Spring and Winter 2020 classes who were not able to participate in a ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The 1 p.m. undergraduate ceremony conferred 444 undergraduate degrees to the Class of 2021. A second undergraduate ceremony at

4 p.m. celebrated 86 members of the Class of 2020. The college held this special event for undergraduate students who wished to come back for a graduation ceremony, as the Spring 2020 ceremony was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Graduate ceremony speakers included Tia Jones of Omaha (invocation), Kelly Legler of Wayne (commencement address), and Lisa Ryan of Sergeant Bluff, Iowa (commencement address). Undergraduate ceremony speakers included Linnea Vogel of Palmer (invocation), Dwight Brabec of Clarkson (commencement address), Sarah Kreber of Omaha (commencement address), and Courtney Schnitzler of Omaha (commencement address).



From left to right: Tia Jones, Kelly Legler, Linnea Vogel, and Lisa Ryan



From left to right: Courtney Schnitzler, Dwight Brabec, and Sarah Kreber



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### Estate Planning

Have you ever thought about adding the Wayne State Foundation to your will? Here are a few simple bequest samples to help get your estate plan started.

#### THE UNRESTRICTED GIFT

I give to the Wayne State Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, located in Wayne, Nebraska, USA, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate; or the property described herein) for its general purposes.

#### GIFT FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSE

I give to the Wayne State Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, located in Wayne, Nebraska, USA, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate; or the property described herein) to be used for \_\_\_\_\_ (specify purpose).

#### QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION FROM IRA

Would you like to make a difference for our students and save some money in the process? You can save on income taxes and support Wayne State at the same time by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to the Wayne State Foundation. To be eligible:

- The donor must be at least 70½ years old at the time the distribution is made. Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) begin at age 72.
- The maximum amount a donor can transfer is \$100,000 per taxpayer per year.
- The gift must be outright. Gifts to donor advised funds or to life income vehicles do not qualify.
- The gift must be transferred directly from the IRA account by the IRA administrator to the Wayne State Foundation.

#### HOW DOES THE CARES ACT IMPACT IRA DISTRIBUTIONS?

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was established in March 2020, but provisions of this act still extend to 2021. The CARES Act did not change the rules for QCDs or RMDs, but under the CARES Act, an individual can elect to deduct 100% of his or her Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for cash charitable contributions. This allows individuals over 59½ years old to take a cash distribution from their IRA to give to a charitable organization like the Wayne State Foundation, and offset tax attributable to the distribution, up to 100% of their AGI for the current tax year.

*The Wayne State Foundation does not offer professional tax advice. Please consult with your tax or financial advisor for guidance regarding IRA distributions.*

## Dr. Dan Miller Receives the State Nebraska Bank & Trust Teaching Excellence Award

Wayne State College is proud to announce that Dr. Dan Miller, professor of psychology, was presented the State Nebraska Bank & Trust Teaching Excellence Award at the college's May 8 commencement ceremony. Miller has taught at Wayne State since 1994.

Wayne State President Marysz Rames presented the award on behalf of Matthew Ley, CEO of State Nebraska Bank & Trust in Wayne. This prestigious honor recognizes rigorous standards that require a superior level of effective teaching.

David Ley, the bank's chairman of the board, established the award in 1998 as a way of recognizing and strengthening outstanding teaching at Wayne State College. State Nebraska Bank & Trust has served the Wayne community for more than 125 years and supports the college in many ways, including numerous scholarships, capital investments, employment of students, and service on the Wayne State Foundation Board of Trustees.



*Dr. Dan Miller, professor of psychology, was presented the State Nebraska Bank & Trust Teaching Excellence Award by President Marysz Rames at the college's May 8 commencement ceremony.*

versus unsubstantiated claims, and reliable information versus misinformation and disinformation," he said. "Finally, it is important to get students to understand that complex enduring issues and problems within and outside of psychology (e.g., wicked problems such as mental health challenges and issues of race) are multifaceted and require diverse, interdisciplinary, evidence-based approaches to solutions. Through learning excellence, students can become part of the solutions rather than the problems."

Regarding student success, Miller drew a line from successful outcomes to student growth, teaching in the classroom and developing new courses, and advising.

"I care for my students, and I believe it comes through in my teaching and other interactions with them," he said. "Students view me as a professor who cares, which I embrace."

Miller noted that student engagement in the college's efforts to provide regional service provides an important bridge between student knowledge and skills meeting community needs.

"My students and I provide service to others through our Psi Chi Honor Society efforts," he said. "We established a dating abuse and sexual assault support group for students in partnership with a family services center, sponsored presentations on various psychology topics, served lunch at a soup kitchen, read books to children at the public library, worked at the college food pantry, participated in tornado cleanup, provided trick-or-treat for kids, and much more."

***"I care for my students, and I believe it comes through in my teaching and other interactions with them. Students view me as a professor who cares, which I embrace."***

**- Dr. Dan Miller**

Miller earned his Ph.D. and master's degree in experimental psychology at Purdue University. He completed his bachelor's degree at Northern Illinois University. He teaches a variety of psychology courses at Wayne State, including general psychology, lifespan development, social psychology, theories of personality, health psychology, experimental psychology, history and systems, sport psychology, and positive psychology. He also has served the college in a variety of committee roles regarding rank and professional development, academic policies, service-learning, general education, assessment, and Faculty Senate.

Miller's academic work has been published in a wide range of refereed or peer-reviewed journals, including *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes*; *Quarterly Journal of Experimental Psychology: Comparative and Physiological Psychology*; *Animal Learning and Behavior*; and *Learning and Motivation*. In addition to his role as a professor, Miller has served as advisor to student clubs and organizations, including Psi Chi International Honor Society in Psychology, Pi Gamma Mu Social Sciences Honor Society, the Honors Program, and Psychology Club.

In materials submitted in support of his nomination for the teaching award, Miller noted the ways he has supported the college's mission of teaching and learning excellence, student success, and regional service. He used his course in experimental psychology as an example of his goals for student learning in his classes.

"My focus is on developing students' ability to distinguish between science versus pseudoscience, evidence-based claims

**For upcoming events, go to:**  
**[www.wsc.edu/alumni-events](http://www.wsc.edu/alumni-events)**

## Benson Receives Alumni Achievement Award; Wayne State Recognizes Retiring Faculty Members

**Dr. Vaughn L. Benson** received the Wayne State Foundation Alumni Achievement Award at the May undergraduate commencement.

Benson earned his bachelor's degree in business administration-accounting from Wayne State in 1970. He later returned to the College, receiving his master's degree in education in 1973. Benson earned his Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, focusing on administration of higher education, financial accounting, management information systems, and public accounting.

Benson is well known for his long career at Wayne State College, stemming back to 1974 when he became an accounting instructor for the Division of Business. During his tenure, he taught financial accounting, governmental and non-profit accounting, managerial finance, capital budgeting, auditing, and tax accounting. Benson was the head of the Division of Business as a faculty member from 1982 to 2001. He served as the dean of the School of Business and Technology from 2001 to 2020. For the past year, he has returned to his passion of teaching as a professor for the Business and Economics Department. He is retiring this year.

Outside of teaching, Benson also practiced for many years in the field. He served as an internal auditor at First National Bank in Wayne from 1977 to 1982, and a tax practitioner for H&R Block of Omaha from 1971 to 1973. He also practiced as a staff accountant for Peat, Marwick, Main and Company in Omaha in 1974, and for Ernst and Whinney of Des Moines from 1970 to 1971.

Benson has served on several boards in the accounting and business profession. As a member of the Nebraska Society of Certified Public Accountants (NSCPA), he served on various professional committees, and from 2012 to 2015 he served on the NSCPA's Board of Directors.

Benson also served on the Education Advisory Board of the Nebraska State Board of Public Accountancy and as a commissioner for the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education, where he served two terms as board chair.

He received the John L. Green Excellence in Business Education Award in 2012, and the Distinguished Service Award from the Adult and Continuing Education Association of Nebraska in 2003. He was also awarded the Nebraska Society of Certified Public Accountants Outstanding Accounting Educator Award in 2001, and the Delta Sigma Pi Business Faculty Member of the Year Award in 2000.

Benson and his wife, Julie, live in rural Walthill, where she is the school nurse in the Winnebago Public Schools. They are long-time supporters of the College and are members of the Wayne State Foundation's Cornerstone Society.

In addition to Benson, Dr. Andy Alexander, professor of English, and Dr. Craig Pease, associate professor of educational leadership, were recognized for retiring at the conclusion of the 2020-21 academic year at the undergraduate commencement ceremony.

**Dr. Andy Alexander** taught at Wayne State College from August 1993 to August 2021. He earned his bachelor's degree in English and philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1979; his



*Kevin Armstrong, CEO of the Wayne State Foundation (left), and President Marysz Rames (right), presented Dr. Vaughn L. Benson '70, MSE '73, with the Alumni Achievement Award during the commencement ceremony May 8.*

master's degree in English at South Dakota State University in 1982; and his Ph.D. in English at the University of Toronto in 1988.

Alexander taught a variety of courses on British literature, composition, logic, and ethics. Before coming to Wayne State College in 1993, Dr. Alexander taught at Iowa State University, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, Suffolk University, and Rhode Island College.

He has been an active participant in the Northern Plains Conferences on Earlier British Literature since 1992 and has delivered papers on Fielding, Swift, Defoe, and Richardson. He received the State National Bank Teaching Excellence Award in May 2011.

Alexander served on a variety of committees during his time at Wayne State, including Graduate Council, General Education, Faculty Senate, and Academic Policies.



*"The most rewarding part of my experience at WSC has been the opportunity to work with many outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. Their talent, hard work, and commitment to learning always inspired me."*

- Dr. Andy Alexander

**Dr. Craig Pease** taught at Wayne State from 2011 to 2021. He earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education from Chadron State College in 1978; a master's and education specialist degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1990; and his Ed.D. in education administration at the University of South Dakota in 2014.



Pease taught courses in school administration, specifically in the organization and administration of education, school law, school finance, and educational facilities. Before coming to Wayne State, Pease served as a social science teacher and coach at Ainsworth Public Schools in Ainsworth. In 1980, he joined Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools in Ashland, first as a social science teacher and coach for four years, then as the principal for four years, and finally as the superintendent for 23 years.

He was awarded Outstanding Educational Leader by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln chapter of Phi Delta Kappa in 2011. He served on the Student Admission and Retention, Graduate Council, and Rank, Promotion, and Tenure committees at Wayne State.

*"Since Wayne State College has graduated hundreds of PK-12 school administrators in the past 10 years, hopefully, my work will have at least a small influence on the quality of education children will receive throughout the area for many years to come."*

- Dr. Craig Pease

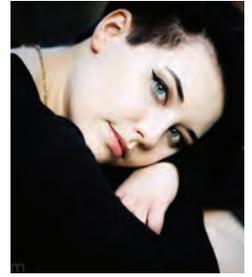
Alexander, Benson, and Pease have taught at the college for a combined total of 85 years.

## Ron Holt Civic Engagement 2020-21 Student Award Winners

Shelby Hagerdon of Smithland, Iowa, and Karly Smith of Neola, Iowa, were named the Ron Holt Civic Engagement Award winners for the 2020-21 academic year.

The annual award, started by Dr. Ron Holt '89, recognizes graduating Wayne State College seniors who have served as an exemplary role model and contributed to the service ethos of the college campus and community at large. The award includes a \$500 gift, trophy, and graduation recognition.

This year's winners were chosen from among three finalists. Daniel Estrella of Table Rock was the third finalist.



Shelby Hagerdon



Karly Smith



Daniel Estrella



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## How To Start A Scholarship

### How to Start a Scholarship

Scholarship dollars are essential to students attending Wayne State College. Scholarships can be tailored to meet the donor's needs or interests, including the use of estate planning. Listed below are the types of scholarships that can be established with the Wayne State Foundation.

### Annual Scholarships

Annual scholarships are awarded each year to students in the full amount that is received from the donor. A minimum \$1,000 contribution is required before the scholarship fund will be awarded.

### Endowed Scholarships

Endowed scholarships provide perpetual awards for Wayne State College students. A minimum \$25,000 in contributions is required before the scholarship fund begins to be awarded. The donor may take five years to fully fund the endowment. Endowment funds are invested, and a portion of the earnings are awarded each year.

An agreement between the Foundation and donor is developed for each scholarship to determine how the scholarship will be awarded.

**Contact Kevin Armstrong, Laura Robinett, Amber Sperry, or Megan Finn for more information on how to start a scholarship or fund a scholarship through your estate.**

## MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

7th place at NSIC Outdoor Track and Field Championships (51.5 points)

### NCAA Division II All-American

Cade Kalkowski (Hammer Throw – 12th place, Second Team)

### All-NSIC

Cade Kalkowski (1st – Hammer Throw)  
Noah Lilly (3rd – Heptathlon)  
Ben Allen (3rd – Shot Put)  
Dylan Kaup (3rd – Hammer Throw)

### NCAA Division II Outdoor National Qualifiers

Cade Kalkowski – Weight Throw

### USTFCCA All-Central Region

Cade Kalkowski – Hammer Throw

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team of Excellence (3.60 GPA and above)

Preston Davis	Bryce Holcomb
Aaron English	Dylan Kaup
Brock Hegarty	Jakob Kemper
Nathan Hiemer	Bailey Peckham

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team (3.20-3.59 GPA)

Ben Allen  
Cade Kalkowski  
Justin Rohloff

### Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award

(3.75 GPA or higher for seniors)

Brock Hegarty  
Bailey Peckham



Cade Kalkowski

## MEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

6h place at NSIC Indoor Track and Field Championships (35 points)

### All-NSIC

Cade Kalkowski (2nd place – Hammer Throw)  
Ben Allen (3rd place – Shot Put)  
Noah Lilly (3rd place – Heptathlon)

### NCAA Division II Indoor National Qualifiers

Cade Kalkowski – Weight Throw  
Cole Christoffersen – Weight Throw

### USTFCCA All-Central Region

Cade Kalkowski – Weight Throw

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team of Excellence (3.60 GPA and above)

Preston Davis  
Aaron English  
Brock Hegarty  
Nathan Hiemer  
Bryce Holcomb  
Jakob Kemper  
Will McGonigal  
Bailey Peckham

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team

(3.20-3.59 GPA)

Ben Allen  
Cade Kalkowski  
Michael Kuentz  
Justin Rohloff



Ben Allen



Noah Lilly

## WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

10th place at NSIC Outdoor Track and Field Championships (28 points)

### NCAA Division II All-American

Mckenzie Scheil (Hammer Throw – 2nd place, First Team)  
Mckenzie Scheil (Shot Put – 12th place, Second Team)

### All-NSIC

Mckenzie Scheil (1st place – Hammer Throw)  
Jadin Wagner (3rd place – Hammer Throw)

### USTFCCA All-Region

Mckenzie Scheil (Hammer Throw)

### NCAA Division II National Qualifiers

Mckenzie Scheil (Hammer Throw and Shot Put)  
Jadin Wagner (Hammer Throw)

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team of Excellence (3.60 GPA or above)

Ali Dykman	Allie Rosener
Nicole Heeren	Kori Siebert
Marin Jetensky	Sarah Stang
Kim Johnson	Kenzie Sullivan
Molly McCartney	Andrea Torres
Amanda Mote	Jadin Wagner
Jordyn Pester	

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team

Sophie Noecker Carly Sutherland

### Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award

(3.75 GPA or higher for seniors)

Sarah Stang Kenzie Sullivan



Mckenzie Scheil



Jadin Wagner

## WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

10th place at NSIC Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships (22 points)

**All-NSIC** - Mckenzie Scheil (1st place – Weight Throw)

**NSIC Women's Field Athlete of the Year** - Mckenzie Scheil

**USTFCCA Central Region Women's Field Athlete of the Year**

Mckenzie Scheil

**USTFCCA All-Central Region** - Mckenzie Scheil – Weight Throw

### NCAA Division II All-American

Mckenzie Scheil (Weight Throw – 2nd place)

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team of Excellence (3.60 GPA or above)

Ali Dykman	Allie Rosener
Nicole Heeren	Sarah Stang
Marin Jetensky	Kenzie Sullivan
Kim Johnson	Kori Siebert
Molly McCartney	Andrea Torres
Amanda Mote	Moriah Troeman
Kendra Paasch	Jadin Wagner
Jordyn Pester	

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team

Sarah Cotton  
Sophie Noecker  
Carly Sutherland



Mckenzie Scheil

## BASEBALL

Season record: 12-22  
NSIC record: 11-19

### All-NSIC Second Team

Alex Logelin

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team of Excellence

Chris Cornish  
Dylan Emanuel  
Ryan Petersen  
Aaron Ras  
Lawson Zenner

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team

Bryce Bisenius	CJ Neumann
Aidan Breedlove	Ryan Obrecht
Andrew Hanson	Josh Renken
Alex Logelin	Noah Roberts

### Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award (3.75 GPA or higher for seniors)

Dylan Emanuel  
Aaron Ras



Alex Logelin

## BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Season record: 5-5

### AVCA Small College Beach Championships

Silver Division Runner-Up  
8th place overall

**Katie Morris** – AVCA Thirty Under 30 Beach Coaching Award



Wildcat graduating seniors are Hope Carter, Alyssa Ballenger, Jaci Brahmmer, Maddie Duffy, and Jacee Weber.

## WOMEN'S GOLF

Placed 9th at NSIC Championships  
Competing for first time in eight years

**Team** – Set new single day scoring record four times, bettering the previous school record by 17 shots

**Individual** – Three players tied individual school record with a round of 78

Abbey Kurlmel – April 7 at Newman Invite

Paige Peters – April 11 at WSC Invite

Jazmine Taylor – April 17 at Augustana Invite



Abbey Kurlmel



Paige Peters



Jazmine Taylor

## SOFTBALL

Season record: 7-31  
NSIC record: 4-22

### All-NSIC Second Team

Kim Vidlak

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team of Excellence

Kortney Buresh  
Emily Hale  
Ashley Hernandez  
Maddie Moser  
Kamryn Sparks

### NSIC Spring All-Academic Team

Michaela Smith  
Kim Vidlak



Kim Vidlak

Wildcat Cats at [WWW.WSCWILDCATS.COM](http://WWW.WSCWILDCATS.COM)

online and more...

**JOIN CA.**

All Cat Club proceeds go to the Wayne State Student Athlete Scholarship Fund. Cat Club offers various giving levels and benefits.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

Season record: 11-7  
 NSIC record: 10-4 NSIC  
 NSIC South Division Regular Season  
 Champions  
 NCAA Division II National Tournament  
 Qualifier (First time WSC has made  
 the NCAA Tournament since  
 1999-2000 season)

### All-NSIC South Division

Jordan Janssen (First Team)  
 Jordan Janssen (NSIC South Division  
 Player of the Year)  
 Nate Mohr (Second Team)  
 Alec Millender (Honorable Mention)  
 Justin Eagins (NSIC Freshman of the Year)  
 Jeff Kaminsky (NSIC Coach of the Year)

### NABC All-Central Region First Team

Jordan Janssen

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team of Excellence

Henry Penner

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team

Ben Dentlinger  
 Jordan Janssen  
 Nate Thayer



Jordan Janssen



Nate Mohr

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Season record: 6-10  
 NSIC record: 5-9

### All-NSIC South Division

Erin Norling (First Team)  
 Erin Norling (NSIC South Division Player  
 of the Year)  
 Halley Busse (Second Team)

### Inaugural NSIC Women's Basketball Outstanding Senior of the Year

Erin Norling

### Myles Brand All-Academic With Distinction Award (3.75 GPA or higher for seniors)

Brittany Bongartz  
 Halley Busse  
 Erin Norling

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team of Excellence

Brittany Bongartz	Erin Norling
Halley Busse	Kassidy Pingel
Kylie Hammer	Josey Ryan

### NSIC Winter All-Academic Team

Ashley Gustavson	Autumn Mlinar
Amelia Ivester	Selena Shady



Erin Norling



Halley Busse



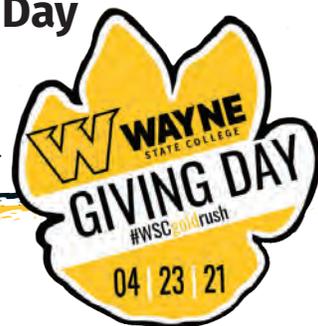
## 2021 Catbacker Golf Tournament

Wayne State College hosted the annual Catbacker Scholarship Golf Tournament on June 4 at the Wayne Country Club. There were 56 teams that participated in the tournament, raising money to support student-athlete scholarships. Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the tournament! A special thanks to Pac 'N' Save, White Dog, and Michael Foods for providing the meals and prizes for the event.



## \$56K Raised for Scholarships During WSC's April 23 Giving Day

The Wildcat family came together on April 23 to support WSC Giving Day, a virtual 24-hour campaign where all proceeds went directly to student scholarships at Wayne State College. A total of 310 donors contributed to WSC Giving Day, totaling \$56,000, which surpassed the overall \$30,000 goal.



*“The coaches, the athletes, the campus feels like family here.”*

–Aidan Breedlove

*“Wayne State College means a home away from home for me.”*

– Ashleigh AVECILLA



*“A scholarship allows me to focus on school and academics.”*

– Edgar Munoz

*“Receiving a scholarship to WSC has truly been a blessing for me.”*

– Jaci Brahmer



### Totals for each team were:

- General Academic: \$2,191.32
- General Athletic: \$4,662.10
- School of Arts & Humanities: \$2,157.30
- School of Business & Technology: \$2,038.76
- School of Education & Behavioral Sciences: \$2,642.70
- School of Science, Health, & Criminal Justice: \$2,400.85
- Baseball: \$8,355.73
- Cheerleading: \$3,206.80
- Football: \$7,408.40
- Men's Basketball: \$2,258.50
- Men's Track and Field/Cross Country: \$2,628.55
- Softball: \$2,559.01
- Volleyball: \$2,000
- Women's Basketball: \$2,258.88
- Women's Golf: \$4,007.46
- Women's Soccer: \$2,537.69
- Women's Track and Field / Cross Country: \$2,680.95

First-time donor and matching gift opportunities were generously sponsored by Ron Holt '89.

This was Wayne State College's first Giving Day campaign. WSC Giving Day aims to inspire all of Wildcat Nation – students, alumni, friends, faculty, and staff – to come together, show pride, and support their alma mater.

By raising critical scholarship funding, we can continue to offer a quality education that is affordable and accessible, and we can give students a college experience that truly changes their lives.

We can't thank you enough for your general donations and support. This will make a significant impact to scholarships at Wayne State College. **Go Cats!**



2021 Phonathon managers (from left to right) Brandy Langley, Ashleigh AVECILLA, Brooke Young, Jace Kremer

**Phonathon 2021**

**You helped us raise more than \$205,000!**

Thanks to you, our generous Wayne State alumni, friends, and parents, the Wayne State Foundation raised more than \$205,000 in gifts and pledges through our annual Phonathon fundraising campaign.

Our 38 WSC student callers and four student managers enjoyed calling you earlier this year to update your information, share exciting progress happening at Wayne State, and ask you to consider making a gift to support the efforts of Wayne State College. Many of you responded with positive feedback, and we thank you for your support. When we launch our next calling campaign in January 2022, we encourage you to get to know your student caller and share your advice and experiences as a WSC graduate.

Phonathon 2022 will launch in November with a letter to past donors sharing the exciting advancements happening at Wayne State

and stating our goals for the academic year. Phonathon calling will begin in January. You will have the opportunity to show your support for WSC by making a donation through the letter or in response to the call. If you have not been receiving phone calls, please be sure to update your information at [www.wsc.edu/alumni](http://www.wsc.edu/alumni).

**Alumni Giving Percentage**

Your support makes a difference!

Wayne State’s percentage of alumni giving (also known as alumni participation rate) is something all donors, at any level, can affect. The alumni giving percentage rate is a number the Wayne State Foundation can boast when reaching out to other foundations, businesses, and organizations for financial support. It’s evidence that our alumni believe in the mission of Wayne State College and are willing to give back.

No matter the size of your gift, the individual support is reflected in the alumni participation rate. All gifts truly make a difference.

**SENIOR GIFT CHALLENGE**

Approximately 60 Wayne State College seniors and master’s graduates of the Spring 2021 class met the Senior Gift Challenge by pledging to donate \$20.21, or another amount, to the WSC Students Assisting Students Endowed Scholarship, pledging more than \$1,252 total for the semester.

The Senior Gift Challenge, which started with the Fall 2018 class, aims to create a culture of giving back to Wayne State College among each graduating senior class by asking students to pledge the amount of their graduation year to the Students Assisting Students Endowed Scholarship. The Senior Gift Challenge will also help complete the funding needed to endow the scholarship.

The Senior Gift Committee, made up of students from Student Senate and the Philomathean President’s Honorary Society, helped promote the campaign and encouraged students to participate. Students who pledged to support the scholarship were given a philanthropy medal to wear at commencement.

**Where Giving Is Needed Most**

Your gifts to the Greatest Needs Fund allow the president and the college the flexibility and discretion to address unexpected needs as they arise. These funds assist the college and the president in continuing to build on WSC’s reputation as a college of distinction – a dynamic, evolving institution whose mission is to prepare students for responsible leadership and citizenship roles.

The Wayne State Foundation serves as a vehicle for WSC alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations to use when supporting the college.

Below are some of the programs and areas where Greatest Needs Funds are used:

- Academic scholarships
- Athletic scholarships
- Community scholarships
- Magazines, publications, and mailings
- Operating expenses
- President’s executive discretionary accounts
- Program statements for capital projects
- Building/land purchases
- Donor recognition boards
- College support



**For more information please contact:**

- Kevin Armstrong** - 402-375-7534
- Laura Robinett** - 402-375-7209
- Amber Sperry** - 402-375-7370
- Megan Finn** - 402-375-7543

Wayne State Foundation  
1111 Main Street • Wayne, NE 68787



## Landholm '09 Takes on Career Roles as Music Teacher, Fire Captain in Omaha

Danielle (Rayman) Landholm has always had a passion for being a firefighter, starting when she was 14 years old serving as a cadet with the Bennington Volunteer Fire Department in her hometown of Bennington. Landholm became a member of the fire department at age 18 and started responding to emergency calls and attending trainings when she came home from attending college at Wayne State. She stayed active with the department after moving back to Bennington, serving as a training officer, cadet program coordinator, candidate training facilitator, founding member of the Bennington Firefighter Memorial Foundation, and head for several committees. She also taught fire classes for an outside agency.

Landholm started her career with the Omaha Fire Department in 2021, completing the academy and serving on the department as a firefighter and EMT. She then obtained her paramedic license in 2014 and became a lead paramedic shortly after. Landholm's career progression didn't end there, as she was recently promoted to fire captain, the first female captain promoted in 12 years with the Omaha Fire Department. Currently, Landholm is assigned

to Station 21 in northeast Omaha and is one of three female captains out of 37 females in the department.

Firefighting is Landholm's passion, but not the only one. What progressed into an outstanding career as a firefighter actually started in the music department at Wayne State College.

Landholm was able to participate in many activities growing up in Bennington, including sports, speech, and music. She attended a music camp at Wayne State when she was a junior in high school and met the music faculty, including her future advisor and current department chair Dr. David Bohnert. When Landholm decided her senior year to become a music teacher, she knew Wayne State was the place for her.

"Wayne State was far enough away but close enough to go home and financially appropriate for my limitations," Landholm said. "Plus, Dr. Bohnert was there. He made the decision easy. Music camp with the faculty from Wayne State fostered my enjoyment for music and all the 'feels' and challenges associated with music."

Landholm recalls spending many hours in Peterson Fine Arts, with a heavy class load and lots of practice time. She was a founding member of the honorary band fraternity Kappa Kappa Psi and served as secretary. She also played on the women's rugby team, finishing fifth in the nation after falling to the University of Michigan and University of California-Santa Cruz.

"The rugby team became my family away from home," Landholm said. "I also gained some of the best friends of my life and expanded abilities in music far beyond what I ever thought imaginable. I even became a soprano!"

Landholm graduated from Wayne State in 2009, completing her bachelor's degree in K-12 vocal and instrumental music education. She then went on to be a music teacher for Millard Public Schools, teaching kindergarten, ACP music, P.E., and sixth and seventh grade choir. She also coached volleyball, track, basketball, and drama club. Though her career is now with firefighting, she continues to educate by being a substitute teacher and instructing fire education through the department.

"I am often asked what the greatest challenge of my job is, and I would say it is finding balance in being a career mom," Landholm said. "Our shifts are 24 hours and end with sleepless nights. However, I have been able to secure a future for my family through my career. Firefighting was always my greatest passion. While it is where I ended up, the path through WSC lead me to where I am today. I learned so much about life through courses and activities and the many people I met along the way."

Landholm met her husband, Sam Landholm, at Wayne State. Sam majored in business administration (finance) and is also a 2009 graduate. Sam and Danielle married in October 2014 and live in Kennard with two children, Barrett (5) and Bristol (2).



Danielle Landholm with husband, Sam, and children Barrett and Bristol

## SHANE PETERSON '13 AND MATT HANSEN '14 PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO HIGH SCHOOL INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS

### Shane Peterson '13

Shane Peterson graduated from Wayne State in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in industrial technology education. During his time at WSC, he studied cabinetmaking, manufacturing, electricity, robotics, drafting, construction, and small engines. He participated in SkillsUSA, including the 2012 Team Works team that placed second in the state competition. He was also Wayne State's Industrial Technology Outstanding Graduate in 2013.

While attending Wayne State, Peterson was an RA in Bowen Hall for two semesters, where he also met his wife, Kelsey, a 2014 WSC graduate. In spring 2013, he completed his student teaching assignment at Papillion La Vista High School in Papillion. There he continued learning many valuable skills from his three supervising teachers, two of which were also WSC graduates.

"Wayne State College helped to prepare me for teaching in several ways," Peterson said. "Most of my content classes were well planned and involved completing several different projects that I have used to begin my teaching career while also adapting and improving them to continue using with my students today."

In 2013, Peterson began his career at West Lyon Community School District in Inwood, Iowa, as an 8-12 industrial technology instructor. He is currently in his eighth year at the school. An addition to the school's industrial technology shop was completed in 2018

due to increased enrollment and curriculum expansion. More than two-thirds of the students enrolled in the high school were signed up for an industrial technology class, warranting the 4,000-square-foot addition. West Lyon also added specialized equipment to further benefit the industrial technology curriculum, including a car lift, CNC plasma table, CNC router, 3D printer, automotive paint booth, and industrial laser engraver.

Since the expansion, the West Lyon industrial technology program has been able to partner with local industries to provide hands-on training and networking opportunities with employers in the region. One of the recent opportunities includes the automotive class becoming a Ford ACE program, where students are exposed to technician training while being sponsored by local dealerships. Students also have the opportunity to display their projects with other schools from the region in the annual Northwest Iowa Industrial Technology Fair.

In 2020, with growing enrollment and the need for a welding program, Peterson approached the West Lyon school board about adding an additional instructor. With the support of administration and the West Lyon community, Nate Sievers, a 2016 WSC graduate, was hired for the position. In his first year at West Lyon, Sievers has grown the welding program and has continued to build relationships with local industry partners. Peterson and Sievers strive to keep improving the program for the future West Lyon students. Peterson also received the West Lyon High School Teacher of the Year Award in 2020.



Shane Peterson and wife Kelsey



Peterson (blue shirt) at the Northwest Iowa Industrial Technology Fair



West Lyon's industrial technology shop addition, completed in 2018



Above: Matt Hansen '14, a 7-12 industrial technology instructor at Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn (MMCRU) High School in Marcus, Iowa, was awarded the Iowa Governor's STEM Educator Award in 2020, and his school's technology program was awarded the Iowa Governor's STEM BEST Award for its partnerships in 2019.

Left photo: Matt Hansen with wife, Kayla, and son, Dane

## Matt Hansen '14

Matt Hansen graduated from Wayne State in 2014, with a bachelor's degree in industrial technology education. He is currently one of two 7-12 industrial technology instructors at Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn (MMCRU) High School in Marcus, Iowa, along with Wayne State graduate Nick Long '14. Shane Peterson '13, Hansen, Nate Sievers '16, and Long were all members of Wayne State's SkillsUSA team that placed second at state.

"Coming from the small community of Turin, Iowa, I felt like Wayne was the perfect fit for me when I stepped on campus, as the campus was big enough to offer new experiences but small enough that I got the one-on-one instruction that I needed to be successful," Hansen said. "I truly believe that's what makes Wayne State so great. There are always new faces and new experiences on campus, and I've made relationships that I truly believe will last a lifetime."

Hansen said that at Wayne State, the connection students are able to make with instructors and the real-world expertise and instruction the professors bring to the lab is second to none. Hansen utilized the experiences he learned in WSC's industrial technology education

program to build his high school program at MMCRU.

"Out of college, I came to MMCRU with the opportunity to take an industrial technology program that was struggling and build it into a program that we have now," Hansen said. "It truly serves as a model for STEM education here in Iowa."

MMCRU's industrial technology program was awarded the Iowa Governor's STEM BEST Award in 2019 for its partnerships, and the following year Hansen was awarded the Iowa Governor's STEM Educator Award. Both awards have opened up even more opportunities to his students, as they have had the pleasure to showcase their program to the Iowa governor and the entire Iowa Congress during the past two years.

"I believe that the opportunities I provide to our students here to prepare them for post-secondary training and careers after high school are directly connected to the education and experiences I received at WSC," Hansen said. "I'm grateful for it every time I step into the classroom."

Hansen and his wife, Kayla, currently live in Marcus with their 2-year-old son, Dane. Kayla is also a 2014 graduate of Wayne State.

## Sign Up to Receive the E-Newsletter

The Wayne State Foundation and Alumni Office emails monthly newsletters to keep you informed about upcoming events, school news, project updates, alumni stories, and more. We hope you are enjoying our e-newsletter, and we welcome ideas and submissions.

Not receiving the e-newsletter? Contact Amber Sperry, Director of Alumni Relations, to share your email address for our emailing list at 402-375-7370 or [amsperr1@wsc.edu](mailto:amsperr1@wsc.edu).



1



2



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**1975** **Joel "Conrad" Miller** is a luxury agent with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices California Properties serving Palm Springs, Calif. Originally licensed 15 years ago in North and South Carolina, he returned to California seven years ago and founded Palm Springs Home Team within Berkshire Hathaway two years later. The team has consistently been in the top 5% of BHHS agents worldwide. **1**

**1976** **Dr. Mark Smith**, professor emeritus at Truman State University, retired from a tenured position in 2020. After graduation from Wayne State, he entered the broadcast industry working several positions at WJAG-KEXL Radio in Norfolk. Smith shifted to an academic career upon receiving an M.A. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1997. He earned a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 2005 and began teaching and advising student media at Truman State that same year. He and his wife, Alice, live in Kirksville, Mo., where Mark teaches part-time. **2**

**1977** **Thomas E. Becker** has retired from education after 43 years in public school education as a teacher, principal, and superintendent.

**1982** **Marilyn M. (Meier) Mejstrik** retired from teaching in elementary education after 37 years. She taught four years with Fremont Public Schools and then 33 years as a first grade teacher with Elkhorn Public Schools. She is married to Paul Mejstrik, and they have two children, Matt and Molly.

**1986** **Mark A. Eickhoff** received the Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Medal upon his recent retirement from 34 years of civilian service with the U.S. Air Force and the Department of Defense. His last position was as the Director of Labor and Employee Relations for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. He plans on returning to school for a Ph.D. program in history. **3**

**1989** **Dr. Ron Holt** has been selected as one of 10 recipients to receive the Markowski-Leach Scholarship Award for the 2021-22

academic year. Since 1991, the Markowski-Leach Scholarship Committee evaluates applications, identifying LGBTQ individuals who are likely to "...make a substantial contribution to society, thereby enhancing society's perception of gay and lesbian people as well as increasing the gay and lesbian community's self-esteem..." Scholarships are awarded to candidates who demonstrate their dedication to excellence in their lives through service, education, or employment. "I am honored to be a recipient of the prestigious Markowski-Leach award for the next academic year," said Holt. "Competing against graduate students from Stanford, UCB, UCSF, and UC-Hastings College of the Law makes this accomplishment feel extra special." **4**

**1997** **Mindi M. Reardon** is completing her 19th year of teaching high school business. The past nine have been at Twin River Public School in Genoa. She married Bob Reardon on Aug. 9, 2010, and they celebrated their 10th anniversary in 2020. The church blessed their marriage Jan. 2. They currently reside outside of St. Edward on a farm where they raise crops and livestock. Their children are Kaylee (24), Jacob (8), and Evelyn (6). **5**

**2000** **Jacqueline "Jacquie" Cunningham** currently resides in Chandler, Ariz., and is the national pilot manager for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. **6**

**2002** **Jeremy J. Hansen** and **Jennifer M. (Soukup) Hansen '01** live in Arlington. Jeremy is the owner of Hansen Home Services, and Jennifer is the business manager at Arlington Public Schools. **7**

**2003** **Chad A. Mattox** has been teaching since 2003 at various schools in Nebraska, with stops at Crete and David City before residing in York for the last 11 years. He teaches middle school social studies and has coached at all districts in various capacities. He is also the head men's wrestling coach at York College in York. Mattox and his wife, Renee, have four kids – Kylee, Lauryn, Brody, and Hayley. They reside in York. **8**



6



7



8





**2004** Patrick “Pat” Checketts is the Cityview advertising manager for Big Green Umbrella Media in Johnston, Iowa. He and his wife, Jennifer, currently reside in Grimes, Iowa. **9**

**2005** Kari L. (Torgerson) Roth completed her 15th year with Wells Fargo as a project manager and got married in 2020. She and her husband reside in Morristown, Minn., where they are raising two children and have a dog. They enjoy hiking and camping, along with fishing and playing Carbles with their family and friends. “2020 was a stressful year for many, however it was a monumental year for me!” Roth said. **10**

Jesse Zweep lives and teaches in Louisville with his wife Jaime and their three girls – Macee (12), Preslee (11), and Livee (4). Zweep’s wife owns her own salon, Indulgence, and their three active girls enjoy gymnastics. As a family they love spending time boating and swimming at Lake of the Ozarks. Zweep has been teaching skilled and technical science at Louisville Public School for 14 years. He teaches automotive, welding, and small gas engines, and he is also the SkillsUSA advisor. In the spring of 2020, Zweep was nominated for the Richard Katt Outstanding Career Educator Award for skilled and technical science. Each year, the Nebraska Department of Education recognizes outstanding teachers from each of the six educational career fields. Last spring he was recognized as the outstanding skilled and technical science teacher in Nebraska. All of the six recognized teachers from each of the career fields are then interviewed by state board of education members, business leaders, and NDE employees to award the Richard Katt Outstanding Nebraska Career and Technical Educator for 2020. Zweep was fortunate to be recognized as the overall Richard Katt Outstanding Nebraska Career and Technical Educator for 2020. “It was a great honor for my family, school district, and community,” Zweep said. **11**

**2010** Samantha J. (Williams) Hahn and husband, Jared Hahn ’08, together with their son Brixton (3), welcomed a baby girl to their family. Kennan Everley was born in August 2020. Samantha is the band instructor at Norfolk Catholic, and Jared works for Nucor Steel in finance. **12**

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with our alumni.*

Amber Sperry  
Director of Alumni Relations  
402-375-7370  
[amsper1@wsc.edu](mailto:amsper1@wsc.edu)



### Wayne State College Alumni Social Media Links

Facebook: Wayne State College Alumni  
Twitter: @AlumniWSC  
Instagram: @wscalumni (Wayne State College Alumni)  
LinkedIn: Wayne State Foundation

### Wayne State College GOLD Club Social Media Links

Facebook: Wayne State College GOLD Club  
Twitter: @WSCGOLD

For upcoming events, visit:  
**[www.wsc.edu/alumni-events](http://www.wsc.edu/alumni-events)**



13



14

**Brittney L. Hampl** is currently the manager at HPE, LLP, in Norfolk. **13**

**2012 Heather R. (Bausch) Rinne** was named as the registrar at Peru State College. Rinne currently resides in Talmage with her husband, Nick.

**2015 Caitlin M. Molczyk** is in her second year as a graduate student in the M.D./Ph.D. program at UNMC. She is researching pancreatic cancer in Dr. Rakesh Singh's lab. She married Niranjana Jayaramu in July 2020. **14**



15



16

### Four Wayne State College Alumni Receive Outstanding Teacher Award

Four of the 15 Omaha Public School teachers receiving the Alice Buffett Outstanding Teacher Award for 2021 were Wayne State alumni. Each year, 15 Omaha Public School teachers, nominated by parents, students, and colleagues, are honored with the award for their outstanding work in the classroom. WSC alumni receiving the award included: **Michelle J. (Hansen) Aschenbrenner '88** **15**, a second grade teacher at Columbian Elementary School; **Kiley S. Ruff '12**, a second grade teacher at Washington Elementary School; **Andrea R. Burton' 12**, a family consumer science teacher at Burke High School; and **Hannah E. (Lee) Holguin '13** **16**, a math teacher at South High School.

## LEARN ABOUT BECOMING A WAYNE STATE FOUNDATION TRUSTEE

### What is a trustee?

A Wayne State Foundation trustee is the closest ambassador to the Foundation. Trustees are invited to attend the annual meeting during Homecoming each year and receive regular updates and minutes from Executive Committee meetings. The Wayne State Foundation relies on trustees for feedback and advice, promotion, and support.

### What is required of a trustee?

Trustees are asked to support the Wayne State Foundation at the President's Society level, currently \$1,000 or more annually. Trustees are also encouraged to consider a gift by will or estate to the Foundation, promote the mission of the College, volunteer for committees, and help other alumni get reconnected to Wayne State. Trustees serve three-year terms and can renew their terms as often as they wish.

### How do you become a trustee?

Trustees are nominated by Wayne State Foundation staff and current trustees or members of the Foundation's Executive Committee. New trustees are nominated each year, and are recognized at the start of their terms at each year's annual meeting during Homecoming.

A list of current trustees can be found online at [www.wsc.edu/foundation](http://www.wsc.edu/foundation). For more information or interest in becoming a trustee, please contact Kevin Armstrong, Laura Robinett, Amber Sperry, or Megan Finn at the Wayne State Foundation.



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Megan Finn  
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## IN MEMORY OF

Dorothy G. (Jones) Heine '37 and '81, 102, Hartington; Feb. 28.  
 Margaret L. Moeding '39, 100, Albuquerque; Jan 29, 2020.  
 Frances "Fran" M. (Hovendick) Beard '41, 97, Lyons; Nov. 3.  
 Ellen "Elvera" (Peterson) Walker '41, 98 Tekamah; March 22, 2020.  
 Carol M. (Anderson) Bard '42, 99, Wakefield; Dec. 15.  
 Carol D. (Johnson) Starkhohann'42, 100, Valentine; Jan. 19.  
 Dorothy M. Bryant '43, 93, Longmont, Colo.; March 5, 2018.  
 Shirley M. (Johnson) Genrich '43, 98, Albion; March 26.  
 Darlene A. (Wacker) Schroeder '43, 95, Laurel; Dec. 24.  
 Maribelle (Scott) Severine '48, 91, Fort Wayne, Ind.; April 24, 2020.  
 June M. (Dawson) Campbell '49, 92, Kearney; Nov. 15.  
 Cecil H. Jacobson '49, 93, North Platte; March 17.  
 Claire "Russ" R. Latta '49, 100, Ames, Iowa; Jan. 26, 2020.  
 LaVerna M. (Connelly) Weis, '49, 88, Dallas; Jan. 19.  
 Marilyn F. (Gamble) Boyce '50, 89, Athens, Ill.; Jan. 21.  
 JDee R. Ferguson '50, 94, Fridley, Minn.; April 15, 2020.  
 Leatha L. (Harbaugh) Hansen '50, 91, Ames, Iowa; Dec. 5, 2019.  
 Melvin R. Knaak '50, 91, Lincoln; Sept. 11, 2019.  
 Edward "Kennard" K. Eriksen, '50, 90, Emerson; Nov. 7.  
 Russell R. Megrue '50, 89, Columbus, Ga.; May 9, 2019.  
 Howard L. Prouse, '50 and MSE '57, 91, Mankato, Minn.; May 24, 2020.  
 Marian M. (Johnson) Reyburn '50, 93, Omaha; May 10, 2020.  
 Vona L. (Wilson) Sharer '50, 91, Wayne; Feb. 14.  
 Darrel E. Wilson '50, 93, Hayden, Idaho; March 30, 2020.  
 Darlene J. (Pavlik) Frazier McCoy '51, 90, Boone, Iowa; Oct. 21.  
 E. Darrell Hart '51, 90, Wayne; June 21, 2020.  
 Virginia A. (Welsh) Miles '51, 94, Albuquerque; Oct. 22.  
 Dorothy M. (Avery) Munger '51, 92, Meadow Grove; April 6.  
 Norma (Moseman) Pippitt '51, 87, Laurel; Feb. 10.

Richard W. Stammer '51, 94, Portland, Ore.; Feb. 13.  
 Shirley M. Blaker '52, 87, Omaha; Feb. 4.  
 Rolland E. Gast '52, 89, Lincoln; Jan. 6.  
 Mardell L. (Mortenson) Holm '52, 86, Wakefield; Jan. 30.  
 Evelyn J. (Davis) Isom '52, 87, Gowrie, Iowa; Nov. 13.  
 Donald F. Kane '52, 90, Missouri Valley, Iowa; Nov. 4.  
 Donna F. (Davis) Ludemann '53, 88, Stanton; Dec 17.  
 Lucille (Sorensen) Stenwall '53, 87, Emerson; Nov. 15.  
 Mark A. Cunningham '54, 65, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Feb. 28, 2020.  
 Lila P. (Patton) Rittenhouse '54, 85, Fair Oaks, Calif.; Nov. 25, 2019.  
 Mary J. (Vohs) Samuelson '54, 83, Omaha; Jan. 27, 2018.  
 Jarold "Jerry" E. Dennis '55, 87, Bristow; Dec. 27.  
 Ramona L. (Wales) Frese '55, 85, Bennington; Nov. 14.  
 Virginia R. (Engelhorn) Hatterman '55, 85, Wisner; Dec. 8.  
 Shirley A. (Voecks) Hoffman '55, 85, Plainview; April 17.  
 Carolyn (Chudomelka) Anderson Macklin '56, 85, Fremont; Nov. 11.  
 David L. Meyer '56, 86, Council Bluffs, Iowa; April 10.  
 Mary A. (Kuhl) Sherman '56, 82, Thornton, Colo.; June 12, 2019.  
 Betty J. (Hutchison) Slone '56, 96, Omaha; Dec. 28.  
 Elaine L. (Herrig) Tucker '56, 83, Story City, Iowa; July 15, 2019.  
 JeAnne R. (Cooper) Burg '57, 82, Atlantic Beach, Fla.; Oct. 3.  
 Janice "Jan" (Nordman) Ellis '57, 85, Santa Monica, Calif.; Dec. 22.  
 Ray V. Howard '57, 89, Stapleton; Nov. 16.  
 Carol L. (Steffen) Olson '57, 83, Ericson; Jan. 26.  
 Sharon J. (Hartman) Breikreutz '58 and '62, 80, Wisner; April 10.  
 Gayle W. (Wolfgram) Hurlbert-Morin '58, 84, Lincoln; Jan. 20.  
 Patrick C. Parks '58, 85, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa; May 12, 2020.  
 Luella C. Sedivy '58, 84, Hay Springs; Dec. 20.  
 Donald "Don" D. Sherry '58, 82, Wayne; Dec. 27.  
 Lawrence "Larry" W. Benne '59, 90, Bennington; March 15.  
 Ronald L. Brunton '59, 90, Emerson; Dec. 5.

## WSC Alumni & Friends Tour

# Australia & New Zealand

### Proposed for Fall 2022

Due to closed borders, this trip will not likely take place in Spring 2022, and we are looking at dates for Fall 2022 after borders reopen. Find updates at [www.wsc.edu/alumni-events](http://www.wsc.edu/alumni-events), or contact the Wayne State Foundation at 402-375-7209.







## CONTINUED - IN MEMORY...

Larry D. Buhl '59, 83, Ponca; Nov. 21.  
 Deanna M. (Schneider) Stark '59, 82, South Sioux City; Dec. 7.  
 Mardene (Mord) Kroeger '60, 79, Fremont; March 8, 2020.  
 Lamont Larson '60, 93, Tilden; Dec. 31.  
 Larry L. Wallingford '60, 83, Columbus; March 11, 2018.  
 Rita M. (Malena) Barta '61, 88, Norfolk; Dec. 30.  
 Wilma J. (Austin) Bussinger '61, 85, Thornton, Colo.; Nov. 5.  
 Harvey J. Hadden '62, 81, Omaha; April 20.  
 Donna M. (Crumly) Nissen '62, 77, Omaha; July 31, 2019.  
 Esther V. Oberg '62, 94, Wakefield; Jan. 7.  
 Joyce Enghauser '63, 89, Gulf Breeze, Fla.; Oct. 29.  
 Theodore "Ted" J. Luedke '63, 79, Millard; Dec. 4.  
 Patrick G. McNamara '63, 79, North Platte; Nov. 18.  
 George "GV" V. Riggle, Jr. '63, 77, Fremont; Dec. 15.  
 William R. Brown '64, 78, Fredonia, N.Y.; Jan. 30.  
 James "Jim" McGrath '64, 77, Omaha; Nov. 17.  
 Larry J. Pavel '64, 77, Omaha; Nov. 26.  
 James B. Ankeny '65, 95, Hartington; Dec. 29.  
 Jackie "Jack" J. Cook '65, 74, Kimball; Dec. 28.  
 Daniel G. Loofe '65, 77, Wakefield; Oct. 28.  
 Edward "Ed" E. Montgomery '65, 78, Bellevue; Jan. 18.  
 Kenneth Smith '65, 77, Lincoln; Nov. 20.  
 Donna L. (Roeder) Mallette '65, 87, Wayne; June 8, 2020.  
 Norene A. (Steinhoff) Baker '66, 89, Wakefield; Jan. 19.  
 Harry L. Beckner '67, 83; Logan, Iowa; Jan. 26.  
 Mary E. (Wiese) Kelly '68, 72, Sioux City, Iowa; July 27, 2020.  
 Dennis L. Miller '68, 74, Richmond Lake, S.D.; Oct. 29.  
 Stephen J. Gunther '68, 74, Dubuque, Iowa; Dec. 30, 2018.  
 Terry R. Lee '68, 75, Bellevue; Nov. 24.  
 Kathleen A. (Long) Brockman '69, 72, Norfolk; Nov. 1.  
 Claire E. Jordan '69, 79, Coleridge; Nov. 11.  
 Gary W. Kinzie '69, 74, Ainsworth; March 31.  
 LaRene A. Konopasek '69, 92, Norfolk; Jan. 30.  
 Ruth E. (Osborn) Tegeler-Bierman '69, 93, Battle Creek; Jan. 7.  
 Michael G. Bates '70, 72, Omaha; Nov. 25.  
 Michael "Mike" E. Bousquet '70, 73, Lincoln; Jan. 15.  
 Robert G. Chudik III '70, 71, Schaumburg, Ill.; April 2, 2019.  
 Dennis C. Joy '70, 71, Omaha; Oct. 7.  
 Dennis B. Lownes '70, 73, Chapin, S.C.; Dec. 5.  
 Norma J. (Jensen) Sterling '70, 92, Phoenix; March 17, 2020.  
 Philip L. Nugent '71, 70, Dakota Dunes, S.D.; July 6, 2019.  
 Carol L. (Mckenzie) Novak '71, 71, Pilger; Jan. 8.  
 Sharon M. (Zwygart) Wiegert '71, 69, Lincoln; Oct. 28, 2019.  
 Paul L. Lane Jr, '70, 72, Missouri Valley, Iowa; Nov. 8.  
 Donna J. (Baker) Lewallen '70, 68, Madison, Wis.; May 23, 2018.  
 Miles B. Rohan '70, 72, Everly, Iowa; Dec. 21.  
 Gerald E. Luedtke '71, 72, Omaha; March 11.  
 David G. Otte '71, 72, Linwood; April 4.  
 Brenda M. Pretzer '72, 76, Elwood; Jan. 27.  
 Thomas M. "Tom" Bogner '73, 69, Gilbert, Ariz; Feb. 3.  
 Eva D. (Heldt) Heckens '73, 77, Stanton; Dec. 1.  
 Wanda C. (Fichter) Reiss '73, 100, Neligh; April, 28, 2017.  
 Frank E. Sievers '73, 77, Ponca; March 13.  
 Pattie L. (Nellor) Fagot '74, 71, Loomis; Jan. 30.  
 Dorothy J. (Phillips) Hill '74, 83, Norfolk; March 8.  
 Charmain "Charm" L. Satree '75, 67, Lincoln; Nov. 6.  
 Robert "Bob" L. Wiegert '75, 72, Lincoln; Nov. 20.

Adolph "AJ" J. Brozek '76, 86, Plainview; Oct. 20.  
 Kathryn "Kathy" L. Cork MSE '76, 82, Omaha; Dec. 4, 2019.  
 Christopher "Chris" A. Lesch '76, 65, Newark, Ohio; May 4.  
 Joan E. (Melena) Pfeifer '76, 83, Elkhorn; Jan. 5.  
 Carolyn (Tams) Allemang '77, 79, Lincoln; March 4.  
 Ron Jarecke '78, 63, Arlington; Nov. 25.  
 Vicki B. (Beed) Heelan '79, 82, Fort Myers Fla.; Jan. 19.  
 Diane S. (Pembroke) Keim, '81, 67, Wakefield; Jan. 18.  
 Lori L. (Lennemann) Schrader '81, 62, Neligh; Nov. 13.  
 Lois E. "Mickey" (McDaniel) Helmer '84, 92, Neligh; March 26.  
 James E. Hemenway '86, 83, Omaha; Oct. 11.  
 Georgine M. (Dozler) Funk '87, 89, Ewing; Jan. 16.  
 Clifford D. Wiseman MSE '87, 71, Emerson; Jan. 4.  
 Lois A. (Hoestji) Gerdes '89, 84, McLean; Dec. 20.  
 Nancy K. (Grimm) Geu '89, 53, Oceanside, Calif; June 25, 2020.  
 Wanda F. (Salmonson) Henke '89, 68, Niobrara; Aug. 27, 2019.  
 Marleen "Molly" F. (Kurtzhals) Herpy '89, 56, Norfolk; Feb. 28.  
 LiChelle "Shelly" E. Youngberg '89, 53, Sioux City, Iowa; Oct. 4.  
 Julie A. Frost '90, 55, Danbury, Conn.; Jan. 25.  
 Trisha J (Meyer) Lombard '91, 51, Inwood, Iowa; Jan. 19.  
 David P. Drayton '94, 50, Orchard; Jan. 29.  
 Brian M. Helzer '95, 48, Wakefield; Feb. 22.  
 Andrew Thomas Fredricksen '96, 52, Laurel; Nov. 17.  
 Lawrence J. Comas '98, 68, Norfolk; Oct. 26.  
 Adam C. Nathan '04, 39, Pierce; March 31.  
 Joshua A. Armon '05, 34, Hastings; Nov. 9.  
 Cherie A. (Heilers) Dandurand MSE'07, 53, Salix, Iowa; Jan. 6.  
 Stephanie J. "Steph" (Livermore) Keller '07, 39, Omaha; April 5.

## FRIENDS WE WILL MISS

Earline M. (Woodworth) Bauer, 84, Creighton; Feb. 11.  
 Alberta M. (Boucher) Breyer, 92, Grand Island; Dec. 8.  
 Lois B. (Schinck) Bloomquist, 86, Wausa; Dec. 1.  
 Elizabeth I. (Browner) Bottcher, 90, Columbus; March 1.  
 Norma Jean (Kusel) Buschelman, 86, Bellevue; Oct. 23.  
 Theresa C. (Reicks) Hoffmann, 98, Omaha; Nov. 9.  
 Diane S. (Rowland) Keim, 67, Wakefield; Jan. 18.  
 Patsy (Hajek) Koehn, 84, Clarkson; Dec. 11.  
 Roma (Zastera) Kudera, 99, Columbus; Jan. 7.  
 Robert T. Lembke, 84, Alexandria, Minn.; Oct 19. Former associate professor of psychology and counselor education.  
 Margie A. (Dwinell) Lindahl, 96, Tilden; Feb. 2.  
 Daniel A. Marr, 64, Wayne; Dec. 8. Former employee who retired in July 2019.  
 Lowell D. Owens, 89, Greenbelt, Md.; June 29, 2020.  
 Norma J. Penlerick, 83, Wayne; Jan 7. Support staff member in the Student Center from September 1996 to December 2015.  
 Betty J. (Rager) Richards, 87, Bancroft; March 13.  
 Alfred A. Riedmann, Jr., 92, Omaha; Feb. 8.  
 Peggy P. (Reinig) Schlichtemeier, 71, Sedona, Ariz; Feb. 11. Former WSC professor.  
 Arthur W. Schulze, 83, Yankton; Dec. 25. Former WSC professor.  
 LaRiene C. (Kleveland) Sjo, 97, Warren, Mich; Oct. 23.  
 Janice Rae (Anderson) Weborg, 91, Pender; Feb. 24.  
 Violet E. (Carlson) Wickett, 96, Laurel; Oct. 23.



# 2021 Homecoming

SEPT. 27-OCT. 2 - A WILDCAT TRADITION!  
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Questions? Please contact:

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Director of Alumni Relations  
Wayne State Foundation  
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402-375-7370  
[amsper1@wsc.edu](mailto:amsper1@wsc.edu)



*We are planning on seeing you at Homecoming, but all events are subject to change. For the most current information, please visit: [WWW.WSC.EDU/HOMECOMING](http://WWW.WSC.EDU/HOMECOMING)*



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