



North Idaho College

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

# Alumni and Friends



*Investing in Dreams*

## Alumni Association Board of Directors

The NIC Alumni Association Board of Directors consists of alumni and community volunteers who strive to keep those who have been part of North Idaho College connected to the college.

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## NIC Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors

Founded in 1977 as an independent, 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization, the Foundation encourages private support to enhance educational excellence and provide student scholarships.

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On the cover: *Graduates 2024*

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# Greetings from the Alumni Association and NIC Foundation



I believe that North Idaho College is infinitely valuable to our community.

I have been connected to NIC in one way or another for the last 52 years, from attending first grade in the Sherman Building to enrolling as a college student in the first step towards achieving my career goals. Now, I am honored to serve as the President of the North Idaho College Alumni Association, bringing together thousands of alumni in active support of the college and fostering connections.

The college recently completed its 90th year, and I urge our NIC community and beyond to commemorate the profound influence it has had on countless individuals across the region.

We invite you to become advocates for the college and spread the word about the importance of all the opportunities and resources offered to the community through NIC.

Join the Alumni Association today at [nic.edu/alumni](http://nic.edu/alumni).

## Dennis Grant

*North Idaho College Alumni Association President*



As President of the NIC Foundation, I'm so excited to share the amazing things we're accomplishing together! Thanks to your incredible generosity, we're able to provide scholarships to over 1,000 NIC students every year, helping them overcome financial challenges and pursue their dreams.

But we're not stopping there. We're setting our sights even higher and aiming to increase our scholarship awards by \$500,000 annually. This means we can support even more deserving students on their journey to success.

I encourage you to check out our Year in Review. It's filled with inspiring stories of students whose lives have been transformed by scholarships – your support is making a real difference!

Together, we're building a brighter future for our students and our community. Let's keep investing in their dreams and creating a better tomorrow.

With heartfelt thanks,

## Peter J. Smith IV

*North Idaho College Foundation President*

*Investing in Dreams*

# Thank you for Investing in Dreams!

Gifts to the *Investing in Dreams Scholarship* aid students in shaping their future as they pursue education and training, providing them with an added measure of support to reach their goals.



## Seth

*Machining and CNC Technology*

"I'm a husband, father of two beautiful girls, and a combat veteran. The Machining program has made me feel confident in my future. I look forward to working hard and giving back to my community. This scholarship helps me and my family so much, I seriously appreciate you selecting me for this honor. Thank you so much!"



## Anna

*General Studies (Botany)*

"I started as a dual credit student and took advantage of the opportunity to earn high school as well as college credits. I am pursuing an A.S. in Biology, Botany and Zoology. One of my greatest desires is to earn my college degree with the least possible amount of debt. I consider it a great blessing and gift to receive a scholarship to help me pursue my dreams in higher education. Thank you."



## Keegan

*Business*

"Thank you so much for this opportunity. I am very grateful to have received this scholarship. For me, eventually gaining financial freedom is one of my biggest goals. I hope to get into real estate in the Coeur d'Alene area. This scholarship will help me get there by helping me get through college."

**Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at [nic.edu/give](http://nic.edu/give).**

## Message from the College President



As alumni, supporters, and friends of NIC, you hold a special place in our community. Your ongoing support has been crucial in shaping our history and future success.

I'm thrilled to share that NIC's 90th year was marked by outstanding achievements and progress. We've adapted our programs and services to better serve students, local industries, and the community. Fall enrollment is up over 10%, with new full-time students increasing by over 30%. This notable growth reflects renewed trust in NIC as your community college.

Our accreditation remains strong, with significant improvements in board governance being our continued focus.

I welcome you to campus to take a walk along the beautiful shoreline, attend our fine arts and athletic events, and visit the library. Enjoy a meal in our Student Union or Emery's Restaurant. Visit our Post Falls, Rathdrum, and Sandpoint centers to witness the many opportunities NIC provides. There's so much happening at NIC—come be a part of it! For details on upcoming events, visit [nic.edu/events](http://nic.edu/events).

Thank you for your commitment to NIC. I look forward to seeing you on campus.

**Nick Swayne, Ph.D.**

*North Idaho College President*

# Alumni Award Recipients Honored

Each year, the North Idaho College Alumni Association Board of Directors recognizes outstanding individuals who greatly enhance NIC and the Alumni Association through their commitment and service. The Alumni Association is proud to honor Darlene Barrier Caruso as Distinguished Alumna, Alexandra Shute as Alumna of the Year, and David Foster as Honorary Alumnus. The awards were presented by the NIC Alumni Association at the 2023 Scholarship Celebration.



**Darlene Barrier Caruso** was awarded Distinguished Alumna for her achievement in her profession.

For 21 years, Darlene has represented Nevada's gaming regulators. She is currently the Chief Deputy Attorney General for the Gaming Division, which provides legal counsel to the Nevada Gaming Control Board and Gaming Commission for licensing, discipline, and all regulatory and administrative matters related to gaming in Nevada.

"Having the opportunity to attend school at North Idaho College was a blessing and the experience gave me the confidence and skills necessary to succeed at university, law school and beyond," Darlene said. "Being selected as Distinguished Alumna of the Year is an honor as it reflects my journey as a kid from Idaho who made her way through many chapters in life to a career that has been both fulfilling and rewarding."

Darlene grew up in Coeur d'Alene and graduated from Coeur d'Alene High School. She graduated from North Idaho College in 1991 with an associate degree. She graduated from Eastern Washington University, received a law degree from Gonzaga and currently resides in Las Vegas with her husband and four children.



**Ali Shute** was selected as Alumna of the Year in recognition of her service to the community and her support of higher education.

Ali said her connection with NIC began in 1993. As a newly divorced mother of three kids, she said she went to NIC to learn the skills necessary to carve out a new career path.

"NIC gave me confidence in myself," she said. "I felt smart and productive and learned valuable tools for financial independence."

Ali graduated from NIC in 1996 with a degree in commercial art. She currently owns and operates the Post Falls graphic design company sixtwofour designs. Ali was formerly the executive director of the Coeur d'Alene Arts and Culture Alliance. One of her achievements in that role was to help raise funds for the shade structure recently installed over the amphitheater at Riverstone.

**David Foster** was selected as Honorary Alumnus of the Year in recognition of his dedication and commitment to North Idaho College. He retired from NIC in August 2023 after 37 years at the college.

David began his career at NIC in 1986 as biology lab preparator. He went on to teach courses in Forestry Orientation, General Botany, Ecology and Principles of Wildlife Biology. David said that he loves teaching and mentoring students and is especially proud of the work he and his ecology students did through the years in partnership with the local community.

"Students benefit by working on real projects and the community benefits from their efforts and the resources they provide," he said.

David attended Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan before moving to Moscow, where he earned degrees in wildlife resources and range resources from the University of Idaho.

**To nominate an individual for an Alumni Award in recognition of their commitment to NIC and the community, visit [nic.edu/alumni](http://nic.edu/alumni). Alumni Award nominations are accepted year-round.**



# Alumni Association Celebrates 2024 Graduates

The sounds of cheers, clapping, hoots, and bells ringing filled the air as NIC faculty, staff, and students' family members lined Garden Avenue on the day everyone was waiting for. It was Commencement Day and the bagpipes that played in the distance indicated that a long line of NIC students would be parading in caps and gowns to their ceremony in Boswell Hall in a few moments. The pride surrounding these NIC students was tangible across campus.

As a result of increased enrollment and all-around student success, 943 degrees and certificates were awarded in the 2023-24 academic year, representing students from all walks of life who worked hard to achieve their goals and take steps to reach their full potential. Over 340 students joined in the festivities, marking the first year that the college hosted two separate commencement ceremonies to accommodate graduates that crossed the stage for their milestone moment.

The Alumni Association welcomed graduates and their families to a celebratory reception after each ceremony to enjoy refreshments and congratulate them on their accomplishments.

**Make a contribution to the Alumni Association Scholarship in honor of the education you received while attending NIC. Make a gift in the enclosed envelope or give securely online at [nic.edu/give](https://nic.edu/give).**



## Join the NIC Alumni Association

Join thousands of alumni who stay connected with North Idaho College. Membership is free!

The Alumni Association is open to anyone who has completed at least 12 academic credits or the first semester of a certificate or apprenticeship program at NIC. You don't have to be a graduate to become a member.

Benefits include membership eligibility at the Student Wellness and Recreation Center, 50% discount for home athletic events, 10% discount on logo merchandise at the Cardinal Bookstore, and more!

**JOIN TODAY!**

Visit [nic.edu/alumni](https://nic.edu/alumni) or scan the QR code.



# Alumni Spotlight – Jestine Lackner

“Why not?” Jestine Lackner asked herself as she considered embarking on a solo international trip across 12 countries in Southeast Asia. After COVID had recently foiled her plans for a study abroad trip, Jestine knew that she was at a fork in the road—she could either stay in northern Idaho and finish her degree, or adventure abroad to Thailand as she had planned. In the end, nothing would deter her from boarding her flight for this life-changing journey.

Originally from Montana, Jestine and her two siblings grew up involved in sports, clubs, and, upon encouragement from her parents, always looked for ways to contribute to the people in their community. After graduating from high school, she used her love of sports and adventure to move out of state and pursue her associate degree in business from North Idaho College.

Jestine became a student athlete at NIC and quickly fell in love with the community that became pivotal in shaping her educational and entrepreneurial journey in the coming years. Thanks to several scholarships, Jestine had time and resources to be an engaged student. She served on five college committees, was a Senator and Vice President of the student body government, a Student Ambassador, and a Resident Assistant in the dorm where she enjoyed bringing students from diverse backgrounds and perspectives together at monthly events. After completing her associate degree, she transferred and completed her first year at the University of Idaho before setting off on her life-changing trip to Thailand.

After traveling extensively for four months, engaging in cultural conversations and volunteering in rural areas, Jestine felt a strong desire to help those in need. She quickly realized the lack of accessible education for youth in these communities and returned home determined to serve them.

Within a year of returning home, she connected with key local partners and mentors that would help solidify her dream of building new educational facilities in developing communities out of recycled plastics. She pitched her idea to investors and donors and raised upwards of \$15,000 in startup funds in a matter of weeks to launch her own non-profit, Sustainable Classrooms — all while finishing her last year of school.

In spring 2024, Jestine graduated with her Bachelor of Science degree in business management and human resources, with certificates in business analytics, small business management, and technical programs management. She’s currently piloting the first sustainable classroom build in the small village of Avassikpé Gan in Togo, Africa. By creating bricks out of locally collected,



recycled plastic from a facility near the pilot project, Sustainable Classrooms strives to achieve its mission to “break the cycle of poverty, foster sustainable development, and inspire future generations to thrive in a cleaner, more equitable world.”

In the future, Jestine plans to refine the classrooms that she builds, focusing on the quality and impact that they will have on future students. Despite the unknowns, she often reflects on the journey that brought her dreams to fruition and offers advice to future NIC students, “Step outside of your comfort zone and take the risk. Ask yourself ‘Why Not?’ You will only gain.”

**Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at [nic.edu/give](https://nic.edu/give).**

# ■ Educational Excellence in Action



Walking through the bustling rooms in the Cardinal Learning Commons (CLC), it's clear that the groups of students working collaboratively around the whiteboards and gathered around tables are growing academically as well as personally. From the coffee and snacks offered in the entryway to the professional tutors intentionally approaching new students, the CLC is meant to be a welcoming space for students to receive academic assistance and resources, get connected to a community of their peers, and to engage meaningfully in their collegiate journey.

Director of Cardinal Learning Commons, Holly Edwards, is excited about this holistic approach to student academic learning. She illustrates that there are a variety of needs that need to be met for students to effectively pursue their academics, and NIC provides a wealth of resources to facilitate that. "We moved from a centralized model to a decentralized model," Holly says, explaining that one hub of tutoring resources became several locations around campus—all autonomously run by subject matter experts and addressing a variety of needs.

These independent student hubs include places and programs like First Year Experience, Academic Coaching, Center for New Directions, the Writing Center, and the Meyer Tutoring Center, each offering an array of impactful services that students can utilize at any point on their educational journey at NIC.

As an example, one program located within the dynamic CLC space is the Math Education Center (MEC), which offers free tutoring, access to study space and computers,

and the opportunity to meet with faculty and staff outside of regular classroom instruction time.

Sarah Adams is the Coordinator at the MEC and an adjunct faculty member in the Mathematics Department. Over time, Sarah noticed that it was difficult to maintain the momentum of student engagement at the MEC between cohorts graduating and new students enrolling. She, along with other dedicated math consultants, student tutors, and faculty, worked diligently to create the right environment that would encourage peer-to-peer learning.

She describes the network of components that go into creating their current level of success within the MEC. "In order to get that core group of students, that self-sustaining 'critical mass', you need faculty buy-in, tutoring for any given subject that aligns with student schedules, and a welcoming environment."

To that end, Jason Droesch, a Mathematics Professor at NIC, began to host "Calculus Power Hour" at the MEC outside of his normal instruction time. This intentional time filled a niche for students—an opportunity to increase their success in the subject and build meaningful relationships among their peers. This grassroots effort has grown in popularity and initiated a tradition of peer-to-peer learning throughout the week. "The MEC is a place to gather and get help," Jason says. "We're not just teaching them; we're teaching them how to learn."

The tables that are now filled throughout the week each have placards with course numbers printed on them that

*(Continued on page 13)*



“I am a first-generation college student. I’m humbled and grateful to be selected for a scholarship. It will tremendously reduce the financial stress of attending college while raising young children as a single income, working class family. I’m proud to initiate a legacy of hard work and perseverance in education for my children.”

**Sonya**  
*Dental Hygiene*

## Investing in Dreams

Your support is vital to the overall success of NIC and the students. Make a gift today!

# WAYS to give

- Mail your check in the enclosed envelope.
- Give online at [nic.edu/give](http://nic.edu/give).
- Donate gifts of appreciated assets, such as stock or real estate.
- If you are 70½ or older, make a tax-favorable contribution directly from your IRA.
- Designate the NIC Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.
- Establish a named scholarship for your social organization, business, or family.
- Make a contribution in honor or in memory of a loved one.

# Maximize your tax credit!

Donations to the NIC Foundation are eligible for the Idaho Education Tax Credit. Idaho taxpayers qualify for a 50% state tax credit for charitable contributions to education. In addition, your gift may be eligible for both a federal and state income tax deduction. Consult your tax advisor for more information.

### Idaho Education Tax Credit

<b>Individuals</b>	50% for gifts up to \$1,000
<b>Married Couples</b>	50% for gifts up to \$2,000
<b>Corporations</b>	50% for gifts up to \$10,000



# NIC Foundation Honor Roll of Contributors

**THANK YOU** for your investment through the North Idaho College Foundation. Your contribution directly helps students in their pursuit of a quality education and bright future.

Recognition in Gift Societies reflects total cash and in-kind gifts received between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024. If your name was omitted, misspelled, or listed incorrectly, please contact the NIC Foundation at (208) 769-5978.

## Gift Society

College by the Lake (\$250-\$499)  
 Fort Grounds (\$500-\$999)  
 President's (\$1,000-\$4,999)  
 Lee Hall (\$5,000-\$9,999)  
 Cornerstone (\$10,000+)  
 Coeur (cumulative gifts of \$100,000+)  
 Legacy (NIC named in estate plan)

## Perks (invitations to):

Scholarship Celebration and Alumni Awards  
 + Donor Socials  
 + Lunch with the President  
 + VIP Receptions  
 + Special Recognition  
 + Exclusive Privileges  
 + Exclusive Privileges

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Brandon Wisdom  
Bernice Wright

## **IN HONOR OF**

Pam Noah  
Kristen McFadden  
Linda Duffield  
Gene Soper  
Erlene Pickett

# Donor Spotlight – Derek and Connie Antonelli

Derek and Connie Antonelli's journey together began in the early seventies when they met in chemistry lab at North Idaho College. Connie was pursuing her degree in childhood development, while Derek was working as a chemistry lab assistant on his way to a biology degree. They married in 1975 and embarked on an exciting lifelong journey, including traveling across the United States and abroad. They returned to northern Idaho in 2002.

Originally from California, Derek moved to Idaho during his high school years and graduated from Lakeland High School. He attended NIC for two years and was a cross country and track athlete. Derek spent his entire life savings of \$175 on tuition and fees for his first semester at NIC. He received a \$100 scholarship that made a big difference for him. In his second year, his family moved away so he moved into the dorms to continue at NIC.

Connie grew up on a small farm near Sandpoint and is one of six siblings. Connie attended NIC for two years and continued her family's generational calling of becoming a teacher. Both Connie and Derek graduated from NIC in 1973 and transferred to University of Idaho so they could get their teaching credentials – Connie's in elementary education and Derek's in biology.

Derek went on to earn his master's degree in biology from the Florida Institute of Technology and then joined the Air Force. Derek served for 22 years and was stationed in several places around the U.S. and Korea. During that time, they had two children.

After retirement, Derek worked for Idaho Fish and Game. He is now an Idaho Master Naturalist and President of the Coeur d'Alene Calypso chapter of the Idaho Native Plant Society. His expert plant identification skills are self-taught, and he shares his love of plants with the public through countless volunteer hours. Connie joins in on hikes and is deeply connected to several local quilting groups with others who share a love of sewing.

Looking back on their journey, Connie and Derek realized what a quality education they received at NIC. They appreciated NIC's small class size and ready access to faculty.

Multiple generations of their family have attended NIC, including their parents, children, siblings, nieces, and nephews.

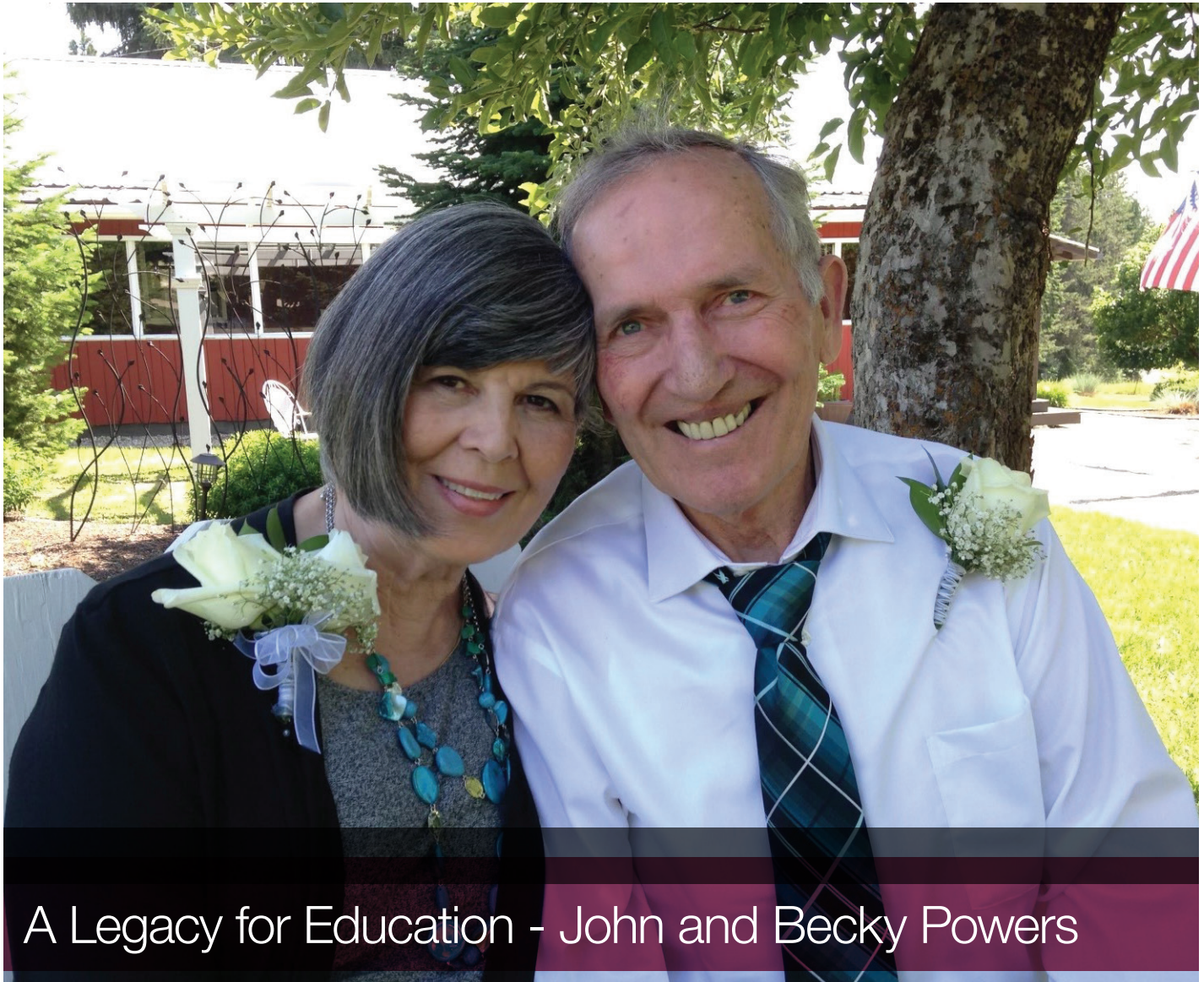
Their NIC roots prompted them to sow the seeds of success for many other students by establishing the Antonelli Botany Scholarship endowment.

Connie says that she is motivated to help students facing hurdles in pursuit of education. "There are so many challenges that students face. We want to help them take the first step."

Their generosity will positively influence students for generations to come.

**Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at [nic.edu/give](http://nic.edu/give).**





## A Legacy for Education - John and Becky Powers

Becky Powers has a passion for lifelong learning and believes strongly in community engagement and education.

Becky and her husband, John, lived in northern Idaho and Alaska as they raised their family. Becky worked in hospitality, retail, and education and owned an art gallery. John learned welding at NIC and was a business owner, logger, mechanic, and equipment operator who took great pride in teaching these skills to multiple generations.

After moving to Alaska, Becky pursued her dream of returning to college. At the age of 54 she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in anthropology from the University of Alaska, Barrow. Her academic journey didn't end there; she continued as an adjunct instructor and assistant to the Dean of Instruction at Ilisagvik College, inspiring others through her dedication.

Upon returning to Idaho in 2005, Becky assumed the role of NIC's first Silver Valley Center Coordinator. As a long-time resident and active community member, Becky was uniquely positioned to connect people with educational opportunities.

When John passed away in 2018, Becky and her daughters established the John and Rebecca Powers Scholarship to assist students from the Silver Valley who are enrolled in Trades and Industry programs.

"I want to give young people an economic boost so they can get good jobs," she explained.

Becky has chosen to continue her support of the NIC Foundation through her estate plan. This future gift will continue her and John's legacy of education and training for generations to come.

**For more information on how you can leave your legacy in support of educational excellence and student success, contact the NIC Foundation at (208) 769-5978. Explore free planning resources at [nic.planmylegacy.org](http://nic.planmylegacy.org).**



**Ashley**

*Graphic and Web Design*

**“Learning about Graphic and Web Design is fun, but it can also be expensive. I want to thank you so much for your generosity in awarding me this scholarship. Your support means everything, and it allows me to focus on my studies without worrying about the financial burden. I am sincerely appreciative for this opportunity. Thank you once again for believing in my potential and supporting my educational journey.”**

*(Story continued from page 7)*

encourage students looking for help in the same subject area to gather and work together.

Staff members like Brenda Paustian, a lead math consultant at the MEC, recognize that helping students achieve their goals is at the center of NIC, and that building relationships is a key component of that. She explains that, in addition to the academic resources that students use to achieve success in their specific subject, “The MEC is so valuable – it helps students find community in their educational journey.”

Staff members share that some students attend tutoring occasionally for specific needs, while others have developed important connections over time. “Jim” struggled with math initially, but after working diligently to progress, now tutors the next cohort. “Martin” joined reluctantly at first, but soon bonded with another student and now attends routinely and encourages others each day.

As a result of the many resources that have been developed over the last several years, students at NIC enter an enriched academic environment where



they are empowered to pursue their passions and achieve their academic goals. The commitment of faculty and staff to student success and educational excellence remains strong and creates an optimistic outlook for continued growth and improvement of all that NIC has to offer students for generations to come.

**Make a contribution in support of educational excellence and student success today! Use the enclosed envelope or contact the NIC Foundation office at (208) 769-5978. Gifts can also be made securely online at [nic.edu/give](http://nic.edu/give).**

**LEGACY SOCIETY**

**A special thanks to the following supporters for designating the North Idaho College Foundation as a beneficiary of their will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.**

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**If you have included the North Idaho College Foundation in your estate plan, please notify the NIC Foundation so your commitment is properly honored.**

# NIC Foundation Scholarships and Funds

The following funds have been established to benefit deserving students and specific areas of need. The criteria of each varies. To name a fund for your social organization, business, or family, or in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact the NIC Foundation at (208) 769-5978 or email [foundation@nicfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@nicfoundation.org).

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Betty Ableman Memorial  
ACG Collision Repair  
John and Joanna Adams  
Wally and Pamela Adams  
Adams – Whitley  
Advanced Benefits  
Rayelle and Michael Anderson  
Antonelli Botany  
Associated Students of North Idaho College (ASNIC)  
James and Christine Barton  
Bauer Tarnasky  
BDK/AKV  
Camille Colstad Beebe, R.N. Memorial  
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J. Douglas and Jan Bell Memorial  
Priscilla Bell  
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C. Robert and Donna Bennett Memorial  
Janet Benoit Memorial  
Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Berning Memorial  
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Beyers-Newby Veterans  
Edward and Mary Bobby Memorial  
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Earlene Joyce Chilcott Boswell Memorial  
H.W. Branson Memorial  
Joan Brogan Memorial  
R. Romer and Kathleen Brown  
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Coeur d'Alene Mines  
Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra  
Dick and Janette Compton  
Celia Cook Memorial  
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Lester and Judith Nations Crow Memorial  
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Jack Holm Memorial  
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NightHawk Radiology Services  
NIC Communication Department  
NIC Diamond Jubilee  
NIC Employees' Providing Opportunities  
NIC Foundation Investing in Dreams  
NIC Library  
NIC Retirees Scholarship for Students  
North Idaho Building Contractors Association  
North Idaho Classic Car Club  
North Idaho Code Enforcers  
North Idaho Veterans Stand Down  
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Earl and Eva Ogg Memorial

Daniel and Kathryn Pinkerton  
John C. Pointner Memorial  
John W. and Rebecca Powers  
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Warren and Ethel Ratcliff Memorial  
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Steven Walther Schenk and Gretchen Berning  
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NIC Student Nurses Association  
NIC Teaching and Learning Center  
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Silver Valley Economic Development NIC Dual Credit  
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Virtual Possibilities Network  
Wesco Group Scholarship  
Chuck Williams

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Gregory C. Carr  
Coleman Family  
Fortus Realty/Denise Lundy  
Jean Gardner Memorial  
Jacquot Family  
Edith Polston Memorial  
Dick and Wendy Sams Memorial  
Don and Sue Sausser Memorial  
Maxine and Donald Schierman Family  
Camille Waltermire Memorial  
Mary Jean Young Memorial



## Investing in Dreams for a Lifetime

The heart of the NIC Foundation's mission is to invest in student success and educational excellence – in perpetuity.

Many current and prospective students face serious financial barriers as they take steps towards building a successful future for themselves and their families. Now more than ever, substantially increased costs of living make higher education out of reach for many. We believe that together, we can help solve this problem and make an impact on students for generations to come.

Through the generous support of donors, the NIC Foundation is proud to award over \$1 million in scholarships annually. To meet the growing needs of North Idaho College students, the Foundation's goal is to increase student scholarship awards by \$500,000 per year.

## Partner with us by *Investing in Dreams!*

For each scholarship award a student receives, there is a generous individual just like you who has chosen to support educational opportunities. Every donor has a unique reason for investing in the dreams of students, and you can play a part in securing a bright future for the next generation, too. The Foundation is proud to serve as an exceptional steward of your philanthropic efforts.

By *Investing in Dreams* through your financial contribution, students benefit from an added measure of support to reach their goals and are given the chance to craft their own inspiring narratives throughout their academic journey.

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"I had my son shortly after high school and worked full time to provide for us for the last eight years. I have been pursuing nursing school for about four years and feel so lucky to be a part of NIC's program. I am extremely passionate about the nursing field already and am so excited for this new chapter in my life, for the future of my family, and to be a part of the healthcare industry. This scholarship relieves financial stress for my family and it is extremely appreciated. It motivates me to reach my dream of becoming an RN."

**Selena**  
Nursing

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Contact us at [foundation@nicfoundation.org](mailto:foundation@nicfoundation.org) or (208) 769-5978.



North Idaho College Foundation's Really BIG Raffle fundraiser celebrated its 31st anniversary with the grand prize home going to Megan, a Coeur d'Alene local. The winning ticket #2281 was drawn by an independent auditor on July 10, 2024. The event will be back again in 2025 with another chance to win a new home in a beautiful Greenstone community within Kootenai County. Proceeds of the raffle support student success and educational excellence.

Visit [nic.edu/rbr](http://nic.edu/rbr) or call (208) 769-3271 for more information.



**2024 Really BIG Raffle Grand Prize Winner**

*Megan had the winning ticket for the 2024 Really BIG Raffle grand prize home.*

Thank you for *Investing in Dreams!*