

Monroe 2–Orleans  
Educational Foundation

**2018**

**ANNUAL**

**REPORT**



Working to  
**Make All the**  
**Difference**  
for Students

# The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation

supports students who have taken a non-traditional path through their K-12 schooling and who plan to continue on to college or pursue career training.

## What does this mean?

Some students are best served by non-traditional or alternative educational programs, such as special education, career and technical education and high school equivalency or Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC™). These programs have offered unique supports for students in meeting requirements for graduation. There are not many scholarship opportunities for students graduating from such programs. The Foundation exists to support these students by providing financial assistance for tuition, continued specialized support and appropriate educational supplies.

### 2018 \$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Patrick B. (Holley)**  
Make All the Difference  
LaBella Associates Scholarship

**Joseph C. (Hilton)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Ayana G. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Jonathan J. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Carley J. (Spencerport)**  
Make All the Difference  
Aramark Scholarship

**Joshua L. (Brockport)**  
Make All the Difference  
Gerald Hochreiter Scholarship

**Garrett L. (Churchville-Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Sapphire L. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Tyler M. (Spencerport)**  
Make All the Difference  
Aramark Scholarship

**Mark M. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Harris Beach Scholarship

**Parker P. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Jillian P. (Spencerport)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Paola S. (Greece)**  
Make All the Difference  
Rochester West Central  
Kiwanis Scholarship

**Austin S. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Megan S. (Churchville-Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Campus Construction Scholarship

**Tyler W. (Churchville-Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

**Anthony W. (Gates Chili)**  
Make All the Difference  
Scholarship

# What does the Foundation do?

**Created in 2002, the Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that provides funding for:**

- \$5,000 scholarships to help students in alternative programs pursue education or career training after high school
- Research and development to improve educational opportunities and practices for these students

*The Foundation's fiscal year is July 1 through June 30.*

**We work with, but are independent of, the Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES.**

**The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation serves students in nine school districts in Western Monroe and Eastern Orleans Counties.**



**Dear Friend and Supporter,**

**Thanks a million!**

This past year, the Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation surpassed one million dollars (\$1,035,000) in Make All the Difference Scholarship awards. This represents a total of 207 students who have received scholarships since our Foundation’s inception in 2002! Yes, thank you indeed, to present and past sponsors and supporters who helped our Foundation achieve these remarkable numbers.



**Joseph Kelly**  
President

Welcome to our 2018 Annual Report, which reflects another successful year that put us over the top as described above. We were honored to award 17 students with Make All the Difference Scholarships in 2018 to support their educational pursuits in college or certificated training programs. Please enjoy our student features in the pages ahead. The 25% increase in scholarship applications made for a very highly qualified and competitive field and a most difficult task for our Scholarship Review Committee. I congratulate our scholarship recipients for their success and I thank our Scholarship Review Committee for their many hours of reviewing and scoring the many applications.

On May 14, 2018, we conducted our third annual scholarship reception to personally recognize and introduce our student awardees to our community. It was once again an inspiring and enjoyable evening and reinforced the important work of our Foundation. Foundation Board members met with families and the students as a first step in establishing a follow-up process to monitor their post-high school progress and offer support; a unique aspect to our Foundation mission.

Our Annual Foundation Celebration on November 3, 2018 was a splendid success. The highlight, as always, was our student and past recipient speakers who shared inspiring stories of courage and perseverance. Their reflections always provide such a rich context to our Foundation’s mission. It was also exhilarating to set new attendance and fundraising records, a testament to the generosity and commitment of this community. Our 2018 Celebration Sponsors and Friends of the Foundation donated a combined \$46,940 and our silent auction and raffles yielded an additional \$14,214. Thank you for providing our Foundation a strong financial footing for the year ahead as we continue our scholarship program and related initiatives.

Please take a moment to visit our Foundation Board member page to recognize this hardworking and dedicated group who are at the core of this Foundation’s success. These volunteers represent a broad cross-section of our community to include education, business and advocacy. They are unified by their passion for students who choose “the path less traveled” and to help them achieve their dreams. Thank you so much to our Foundation Board.

Energized by such a great year in 2018 and your continued generosity, we are hopeful for another successful year in 2019. We anticipate with excitement the new students who will undoubtedly come forward to share their wonderful stories and career aspirations. We welcome your continued partnership with the Monroe 2–Orleans Foundation.

We hope you are having a great 2019. Happy reading!

Respectfully,  
Joe Kelly  
Board President

# MEET SOME OF OUR 2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The following pages contain excerpts from scholarship recipients' essays submitted with their applications for the Make All the Difference Scholarships.

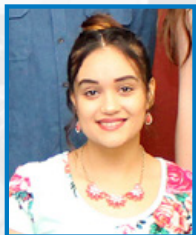
## Joshua L. Brockport

I have already seen how the knowledge from my current program at WEMOCO is very useful in my everyday life. During my two years at WEMOCO I have learned new technology and skills. For example, before the program, I had never welded before, but now I feel confident welding because of the class.... I have found the skills that I have learned at WEMOCO especially helpful for working at Salmon Creek Country Club. I have been able to help maintain the equipment that is used to keep the course in tiptop shape.... All of the skills that I have obtained will be with me for the rest of my life.



## Paola S. Greece

When I became a junior in high school, I frankly couldn't wait for the opportunity to enroll in the BOCES 2 Cosmetology Course. I envisioned myself as a professional hairstylist and make-up artist. I have always loved serving others and thought that by assisting and enhancing their outer appearance, others could have the potential of boosting their self-esteem.... Interestingly, studying the anatomy and physiology of the human body during this course also awakened a desire in me to pursue my studies in higher education in nursing. So, even though I have decided to follow up studies in the health field, cosmetology has enabled me to carry lessons and skills on a personal level as a student as well as a young entrepreneur in the making. For one, once I am licensed I have the potential of opening my own business, working my own hours as my own boss. Most importantly, I will continue to connect with people, which is the bridge that connects my heart to beauty, and to caring for others.



# MEET SOME OF OUR 2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

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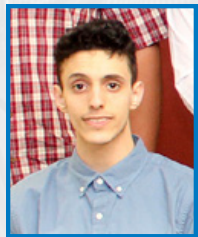
## Megan S. Churchville-Chili

The Engineering and Metal Fabrication Academy at WEMOCO has made a significant difference in my life in many different ways. The biggest difference that it's made was getting me to look at more than just college and doing what everyone thinks I have to do. I got to see the other side of things; the trades that people don't always consider. I'm a very hands-on person. I don't like to just sit at a desk doing paperwork all day. Going into the trade of welding allows me to use my hands for all the jobs I get. I can draw what I have been thinking about, then actually put it together and hold my idea in my hands. Not only do I get to make my ideas come alive, but I get to see what people think when they finally see the final project that they have been thinking about or working on for weeks.... Because of this class, I have met important people that are higher up in the trade and can help me when it comes to finding jobs. Being able to go into the trade already having one foot in the door and not even being out of high school has been the best thing for me.



## Joseph C. Hilton

The Computer Technology program at WEMOCO has changed my life. School has never been easy for me. I am diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder so I tend to be fidgety, easily distracted and disorganized. I learn best when I am working with others, using my hands and seeing results.... My experience in the technical education program has taught me that I am capable of learning while loving what I am doing... I have gained a significant amount of background knowledge that will support my new learning of cybersecurity. The amount of hands-on training during my time in WEMOCO gives me an advantage.... I have learned to be independent and accountable for my work. I feel I am ready for the challenges I will face in my future, thanks to my training at WEMOCO.



# MEET SOME OF OUR 2018 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

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## Sapphire L. Gates Chili

Helping and caring for people has always brought me so much joy, seeing others smile as a result of me assisting them. When I was 13, my older sister was in a fatal car accident. I remember being in the hospital and the doctor coming down into the lobby to deliver the news to my family. In that moment, I felt so helpless, so hopeless as I looked into the eyes of my family members. This experience pushed me even harder to research the health care field.... My junior year of high school I knew I wanted to become a Certified Nursing Aide, to gain more knowledge and first-hand experience.... My favorite part of this program is having a clinical experience where we can interact with people in the real world... Joining this program helped me to realize my calling in life, which is to help people.



## Tyler M. Spencerport

There have been so many significant differences in my life that have impacted me greatly since going to WEMOCO. One of these significant differences that carpentry class has taught me is learning how to speak up. When I first went into carpentry class, I was always quiet and kept to myself. Even at home or school I was like this. As I learned in carpentry, one of the skills required was to be a good communicator and to be able to speak up.... After about a year, I began to be more outgoing and comfortable with meeting and talking to others. Even my family began to notice this significant difference in me. Another big significant difference is that I began to develop independence....Over the past two years carpentry has taught me how to respect people in a new way. I am very grateful for these skills and lessons I have been taught during my time at WEMOCO.



# 2018 DONORS

## Platinum Sponsors (\$5,000 and over)

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Kristie Holt  
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Mary Jane Masiello  
Dr. Michael C. O'Laughlin  
David Ryan  
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Paul VerSteege

# DONATIONS OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR 2018 CELEBRATION

Advantage Federal Credit Union	Eric Johnson, Rochester Association of Performing Arts (RAPA)
Jolynn Antonacci	Mary Beth Mackenzie
Betsy Armes	Gary Manuse & Bill Sablosky
Blossom Salon	Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation
Bodymind Float Center	Leigh Nenni
Dan Box	Curtis and Melissa Pound
Susan Brannen	Ridgemont Country Club
Lindsey Brugger	Rochester Americans
Burn Boot Camp	Rochester Broadway Theater League
Vincenzo Catarisano, Images by Vincenzo	Rochester Museum and Science Center
Abbey Celeste	Rochester Red Wings
Donna Clookey	Lori Roe, Breathe Yoga
Ken Crist, FM Office Products	Paul Salmin
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Darien Lake Theme Park Resort	Seabreeze Amusement Park
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Tod and Maura Eagle	Aaron Stiebitz, Encore Chocolates
Entercom Rochester	Tantalo Photography
Michelle Erklenz-Watts	The Lost Borough Brewing Company
Geva Theatre Center	Chris Wiedemer, Cooks' World
Grappa Nouveau Restaurant	Kerry Woodward, Starbucks Coffee Company
Courtney Haeick	
Charlotte Howell	

If you would like to become a sponsor, donate an auction item for the event or volunteer please email [sdawe@monroe2boces.org](mailto:sdawe@monroe2boces.org) or call (585) 349-9009.

# 2018 AUTUMN CELEBRATION

A record number of attendees and sponsors made the 2018 Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation Autumn Celebration the most successful fundraising event yet for the organization. More than two hundred people attended the event on Saturday, Nov. 3 at Ridgemont Country Club in Greece. The highlights of the evening were the inspirational words from two scholarship recipients Paola Serrano and Courtney Larkin.

Paola Serrano is a 2018 Make All the Difference Scholarship recipient. She is a Greece Olympia High School graduate who attended the Monroe 2–Orleans BOCES Career and Technical Education Center at WEMOCO. Paola completed the cosmetology program at WEMOCO and was active in the Skills USA program in which students learn leadership and collaboration skills while excelling in career and technical education programs and competitions.

Paola spoke about how she is using her Make All the Difference Scholarship as she studies nursing at Monroe Community College. She plans to continue her education at Roberts Wesleyan College.

Courtney Larkin is a 2009 Make a Difference Scholarship recipient and Greece Athena High School graduate. She continued her education at Monroe Community College and then Nazareth College where she earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics.

She is currently a teacher at Greece Athena certified to teach special education and math. She is also the Artistic Director and Choreographer for Athena Middle School Theatre. She spoke about how her scholarship funded the education necessary to fulfill her dream of helping students in the same school she attended when she was young.

In addition to a silent auction, raffle, dinner and dancing, the formal program featured a first-ever live auction.



## SAVE THE DATE

**for the 2019 Educational Foundation Autumn Celebration:  
Saturday, November 2, 2019 at Ridgemont Country Club.**

Donors of \$500 or more are entitled to admission to the Annual Autumn Celebration. The various giving levels are printed on the donation card in the back of this report. For more details on giving levels and sponsorships, please call (585) 349-9009.

# 2018 BOARD MEMBERS



**Joseph Kelly**  
*President*



**Michelle Erklenz-Watts, Ph.D.**  
*Vice President*



**Dee Alexander**  
*Secretary*



**Paul Salmin, CPA**  
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**Michael Crumb**



**Elisabeth Curran**



**Barbara Cutrona**



**William J. Dadey, Ph.D.**

# 2018 BOARD MEMBERS



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**Nancy Geraci**



**Kathleen Graupman**



**Matthew Huber**



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**Susan Rizzo**



**Jo Anne Antonacci,  
Ex Officio**

If you have an interest in becoming a Foundation Board member, please send a letter of intent to the Foundation, attention Joseph Kelly, President.

# MANY PATHS TO GIVING

## **Cash Gifts**

Most donors make their gifts and pledge payments by check or cash. For tax purposes, the gift date is the postmark date on the envelope, or the date the check is hand-delivered.

## **Corporate Matching Gifts**

You may be able to double or triple your gift if you work at or are retired from a company that has a matching gifts program. Please contact your employer's human resources office for forms and information.

## **Gifts of Appreciated Securities (Stock Gifts)**

Tax laws allow you to give appreciated securities and take a tax deduction for current value, and generally bypass capital gains taxes that would be due if you sold them, making it more cost-effective to contribute a gift.

## **Real Estate**

Your home, land and other real estate may be used to make an immediate or life income gift. As with appreciated securities, real estate gifts held more than a year can offer significant tax benefits. The value of your gift will need an appraisal, required by the IRS.

## **Bequests, Life Insurance, Retirement Plans**

These options allow donors to make gifts using assets upon their death. Bequests allow you to designate a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or all of what remains after you consider others. Bequests will allow you to reduce estate taxes. The Foundation may also be named as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or be given a retirement plan principal or income.

## **Sponsorships and Individual Donations**

***For more details on giving levels and sponsorships, please call (585) 349-9009.***

The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation is proud to partner with the Rochester Area Community Foundation (RACF). RACF manages the Educational Foundation's assets, provides support services, and raises the Foundation's stature in the regional philanthropic community.

# MANY PATHS TO GIVING

## **Charitable Gift Annuities (Life Income)**

Making a life income gift can allow you to maintain or increase your income. This income can be paid to you, and then to your spouse or another individual for his or her lifetime. You receive the immediate tax benefits, and the Foundation receives your gift when the life income payments are complete.

## **Commemorative Gifts**

Contributions to the Foundation are a great way to recognize a special individual or commemorate a significant event. The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation gladly accepts gifts made in honor or memory of an individual. Special recognition giving cards are available.

A donation or event sponsorship of \$2,500 entitles the donor the opportunity to name a scholarship awarded to one of our students.

**Gifts can be made via credit card by calling 349-9009 or on the Foundation website at:  
[www.makealldifference.org](http://www.makealldifference.org)**

*The Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible.*

## **For more information**

**call:** (585) 349-9009

**Visit us online at:**

[www.makealldifference.org](http://www.makealldifference.org)

**or write:**

Monroe 2–Orleans Educational Foundation  
P.O. Box 495  
Spencerport, NY 14559

**Please send your contribution and the completed Giving Card to:**

The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation  
P.O. Box 495  
Spencerport, NY 14559



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My gift is  In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

A tribute to \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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The Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation will acknowledge your gift and notify the person named above.

All gifts are tax deductible. The exact amount of your gift will be kept confidential.

Please make your checks payable to the Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation.

For assistance on making a gift using your credit card or more information, please call the Foundation office at (585) 349-9009. You can also donate online at [www.makealldifference.org](http://www.makealldifference.org)





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Monroe 2-Orleans

# Educational Foundation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My pledge is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I will fulfill my pledge in quarterly installments; please send me reminders.

If you are donating as a tribute to someone or in memory of someone who has passed away, please complete the information on the reverse side.

## Giving Levels

- ★ \$5,000 and over ..... Platinum\*
- ★ \$2,500-\$4,999 ..... Gold\*
- ★ \$1,000-\$2,499 ..... Crimson\*
- ★ \$500-\$999 ..... Bronze\*
- ★ \$ Up to \$499 ..... Friends of the Foundation

Please check here for information about how to make a bequest.

★ Please make check(s) payable to the Monroe 2-Orleans Educational Foundation. Donations are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

BOCES employees selecting payroll deduction should contact the

Payroll Office at (585) 352-2407.

\*Donors of \$500 or more are entitled to admission to the Annual Autumn Celebration. For more details on giving levels and sponsorships, please call (585) 349-9009. You can also donate online at [www.makeallthedifference.org](http://www.makeallthedifference.org)





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P.O. Box 495, Spencerport, New York 14559