



RIVERSIDE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

SUPPORTING MILWAUKEE'S OLDEST PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL

EST. 1868

150 years of Academic Excellence!

December 2020

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The Joy of Giving

The RUHS Foundation awarded more than \$48,000 to 21 students in 2020. Our June newsletter announced the scholarship winners and descriptions of our scholarship categories, many of them named for the donors who created them. Some of our donors are highlighted here as we examine their connections to Riverside.



Yareli Suarez

The Gary Steinhafel and Jocelyn Servick Scholarship is a \$25,000 four year scholarship awarded to one student. Gary and Jocelyn are two longtime east side residents who frequently drove by the school and decided to reach out to our foundation. Their generosity directly impacts the life of one Riverside graduate, Yareli Suarez, who currently attends Cardinal Stritch University and with whom they maintain ongoing communication.

The Incentive To Graduate Scholarship was created this year through the generosity of Mr. Raman Ghei of Tower View Investment Management & Research LLC. This \$10,000 scholarship will be awarded to one student over four years of continuous enrollment by increasing from \$1,000 in freshman year to \$4,000 by senior year. Mr. Ghei specified the following criteria for his scholarship:

- must be an English as a Second Language student
- must have first generation immigrant parents
- must be the first generation in their family to attend college



Raman Ghei

Additionally, he is offering several \$1000 one time scholarships to students who satisfy two of the three criteria. After hearing from a mutual friend about how passionate Foundation board member Gwen Werner was about the RUHS Foundation's Scholarship program, he reached out to Gwen. We are grateful to him for his generosity and the unique opportunity it can provide for deserving students.

The Foundation is grateful to all of our donors. So whether your connection to Riverside is through driving by the school or hearing about it from a friend, we can't thank you enough. Collectively your generosity directly affects the lives of our students and impacts the future and the success of our city overall.

The Joy of Gratitude



Emelyne Nshimirimana

This nation is entering the tenth month of a pandemic and the loss of lives, financial hardship, and anxiety and stress, have taken their toll on its people. It is especially important, then, to be grateful for all the good we see around us during this holiday season. On behalf of Emelyne who is finishing up her largely virtual first semester at Marquette University, and Yareli who is a sophomore at Cardinal Stritch, and the many scholarship recipients of our foundation, we are so thankful to each and every one of our donors through the years.

Wall of Honor—Jeanne Zeidler



On March 3, 2020, the RUHS Foundation welcomed Jeanne Zeidler, Class of 1965, to our Wall of Honor for her outstanding achievements in civic leadership. She has distinguished herself in countless ways and is a wonderful example of the rich Riverside tradition of service and history of diversity.

Zeidler was active in a wide range of activities at Riverside including band, G.A.A., Variety Show, Camaraderie Club, Math and Science, Prom and Hop committees, and Student Council. She served as Tri-Hi-Y President, Basketball Secretary, French Secretary, and A.F.S. Treasurer.

After graduating from Riverside, Zeidler went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she was active in the anti-war, civil rights, and women's movements and earned a B.A. in History. She then earned a MA in History Education in 1976 from The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA.

For 20 plus years Zeidler served as the Director of the Hampton University Museum. Located in Hampton, Virginia, Hampton University is an HBCU, an historically black private university, founded in 1868. During her tenure there, Zeidler oversaw the significant growth of the museum in both physical facilities and holdings. Especially noteworthy are her expansion of the African art collection and her commitment to promoting the understanding of African, African-American, and Native American cultures. The Hampton University Museum, the oldest African American museum in America, is recognized nationally for its collections and programming.

Zeidler's civic engagement in Williamsburg, VA, began with her work as part of her local Parent-Teacher Association. This led to her serving as a member of the strategic planning advisory group of the Williamsburg-James County PTA. In 1990, she was appointed to the Williamsburg-James City County School Board and three years later became its chairman.

In 1994, she ran for and secured a seat on the Williamsburg City Council which then elected her Vice Mayor. After winning reelection in 1998, she was

chosen by the council to be the first female Mayor of Williamsburg. She served in that position for 12 years and presided over the city's 300th anniversary.

While Mayor, Zeidler was the Executive Director of Jamestown 2007 from 2004-2008. This commemoration of America's 400th Anniversary achieved both national and international recognition. Attended by both President George W. Bush and Queen Elizabeth II, this commemoration was the first in the past centuries that was culturally inclusive with representatives and programs that highlighted the viewpoints and history of Native Virginian, African, and European groups.

From 2010 to 2017 Zeidler was the President and CEO of the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation. In this role she expanded the scope of grants to fund programs that provide "health opportunity" including access to healthy foods and local health services for the underserved.

Zeidler's record of civic leadership is no surprise. She is part of the legendary Milwaukee Zeidler family which continues to this day to promote civic engagement and a more equitable and tolerant society through the Zeidler Group/Building Bridges/Facilitating Change. Her father, Frank Zeidler, (1912-2006) was the Mayor of Milwaukee from 1948 to 1960 and was responsible in part for the Milwaukee emphasis on policies for the public good.

In a 4/26/99 article by Will Molineux in *The Daily Press*, Zeidler said, "I was raised to believe you should be contributing to the community, and try to make the place better where you live- and not just take what you can for yourself."

Jeanne Zeidler is a role model for us all and a wonderful addition to the RUHS Foundation Wall of Honor.



Jeanne Zeidler
Class of 1965

Teacher Grants Distributed

Every fall Riverside teachers can apply for financial assistance to fund special classroom projects. This year the foundation awarded monies to the following teachers:

Erin Bechtel: Graphic drawing tablets for seven World Languages teachers and an external DVD/CD drive.

Kimberly Davis: Honor cords for PLTW Biomedical students to wear at graduation

Rena Fischer: Postage for Chemistry handouts.

Whitney Gulbranson: Wireless headset.

Carrie Haese: Postcards for positive student notes.

Cathy Paprocki: Analog converter and buckets of small equipment to send homes of Adaptive PE students.

James Reynolds: Earbuds for student home use.

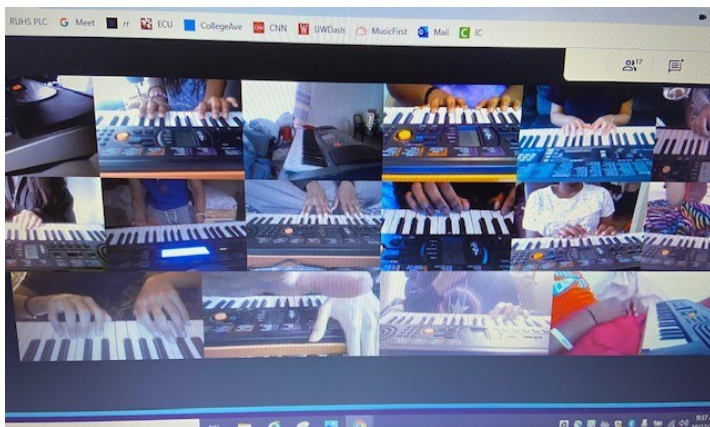
Crystal Salo Hoffmann: Envelopes to send student resources home.

Joseph Sardina: Graphic drawing tablets for ten science teachers.

Cara Slingerland: Kami and Padlet apps for a year.

Marjorie Struck: Postage and envelopes for a writing project.

Milena Walker: Ten keyboards for student home use.



Music students practicing during online class with Ms. Walker.

Principal's Corner



As the first semester comes to a close the Riverside community has come together in order to achieve great things in the face of unprecedented challenges. As we have transitioned to all virtual learning for Phase One of the MPS Reopening Plan, we have worked hard to ensure that we continue to build a strong sense of community at Riverside. During semester one we have distributed student of the month yard signs, held an attendance contest, held a pumpkin carving contest, held two spirit weeks, had both a trivia and a movie night, and organized a virtual homecoming dance. In addition to the events above, we also have been working to create a robust online club community, even partnering up with other schools when possible. We are currently busy planning for a return to in person instruction – whenever that may be. In the meantime, our students continue to grow academically and prepare for their transition to the next steps in life after high school as productive citizens in the global community.

—Jeff Lasky, Principal

Gifts to the Foundation

“Last year we celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary with a party. We did not expect gifts, yet, the question remained, how would we handle people who wanted to honor our celebration with a gift? Our solution was, to tell the guests, that if they wished, a contribution to the Riverside University High School Foundation Scholarship Fund would be appreciated. We were so pleased that many responded with gifts for the Foundation. Our two sons are Riverside graduates and we actively support the Riverside Foundation. These gifts helped the Foundation and its good work of supporting college-bound graduates and in providing much needed support for Riverside teachers.”

-Gwen and Bill Werner

Visit our website
(www.ruhsfoundation.com) to learn more about donation options or email us at ruhsfoundation@gmail.com. We are always more than happy to connect with you.

Please be a part of continuing Riverside's proud history by remembering our foundation in your end of the year giving. We rely on your generosity to provide scholarships to our graduating seniors and support our staff. Please send donations to:

RUHS Foundation
1615 E. Locust Street
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Foundation Honor Roll of Donors

From November 2019 to present, the Foundation has received over \$105,000 from the following generous donors:

\$10,000 or more

Diane Bezella
Gary Bezella
Winfred Bezella
Raman Ghei

\$1000—\$9999

The Anonymous Fund
Argosy Foundation
Lynde & Harry Bradley
Rockwell Automation
Scott Taylor
Mary Lou Thornburg
Bill & Gwen Werner
Jennifer Werner

\$100—\$999

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