

HOPE GIVING CIRCLE

The HOPE Giving Circle brings together influential women in the community with a common goal of supporting women pursuing higher education at Harper College and empowering them to reach their full potential through scholarship support, mentoring and leadership development opportunities. The program provides financial support and on-going mentoring for female Harper College students who are completing their final year at Harper and continuing on to a four-year college or university to pursue a bachelor's degree. Each HOPE Scholarship award is valued at \$10,000. 100% of donations to the HOPE Giving Circle are tax deductible. Visit harpercollege.edu/hope to learn more.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The HOPE Giving Circle has **38 members**.

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED OR PLEDGES RECEIVED

\$277,000

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR




“Creating Opportunities.”

The HOPE Giving Circle supports women striving to reach their educational goals. But it has become so much more than that. We have the collective power to create opportunity. So far, we have given 22 women the opportunity to become what they hope to be, and what we know they can be, with just a little support. We create this opportunity for students through critical scholarship support. But we also create opportunity through mentoring and professional development opportunities for the students. And it is all thanks to your continued efforts.

At the HOPE Scholarship Awards event in August, HOPE members, supporters and friends were able to experience these opportunities action. We awarded four \$10,000 scholarships to this year's exceptional female scholars. Emily, Taiah, Lydia and Genevieve – HOPE's 2022-23 scholarship recipients—exemplify the opportunities the HOPE Giving Circle provides. They are current and future leaders who, through our support, can reach for their full potential. I believe the opportunities created through our collective efforts will transform lives for years to come.

My sincerest thanks for your support and enthusiasm for the mission of the HOPE Giving Circle.

Thank you,



Kathy Gilmer, Chair
HOPE Giving Circle Executive Committee

Meet the 2022–2023 HOPE Scholarship Recipients!



Emily Alvia

Emily Alvia began her second year at Harper College in the fall of 2022. Emily is working toward her Associate in Engineering Science with the ultimate goal of pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Emily is in the Engineering Pathways Program at Harper and plans to transfer to University of Illinois at Champaign Urbana after Harper. Emily recalls that for as long as she can remember she knew she wanted to pursue the fields of math and science, and engineering gives her that opportunity.

Taiah Guess

Taiah Guess began her second year at Harper in the fall of 2022. Taiah is pursuing her Associate in Arts with the plan to become an elementary teacher and will pursue a double major in elementary education and psychology with a minor in African American studies at her four-year university. Additionally, she is a first-generation college student and has the goal of becoming the first in her family to obtain a master's degree as well. She believes that her future in education will allow her to spark a light in other people's lives and contribute to her community by fostering future generations. Taiah works part time as an early childhood teacher at KinderCare where she notes she gets the privilege of watching her students' growth and development.



Lydia Schultz

Lydia Schultz began her second year at Harper College in fall of 2022. Lydia is working toward her Associate in Arts degree with a focus on a major in communication and journalism. She maintains a 4.0 GPA. Her dream is to become a journalist for National Geographic which allows her to travel and tell impactful stories that will bring about positive change in the global society. She plans to transfer to DePaul, possibly through Harper's University Center, after her graduation.

Genevieve Wulf

Genevieve Wulf entered her final year at Harper in the fall of 2022. She is pursuing her Associate in Science at Harper College with plans to major in Neuroscience at her four-year institution, ideally Northwestern or Notre Dame. She hopes to pursue a career in cognitive and behavioral neuroscience where she can study the brain and behavior. Her interest in the field is personal after experience with family members with neurological conditions. She maintains a 4.0 GPA and she also hopes to pursue her master's degree in the future.



MEMBER CORNER: Meet Susan Klatt

Name: Susan K. Klatt

Occupation: Realtor,
Executive Homes Specialist

HOPE member since: new in 2022

How did you become involved with the HOPE Giving Circle?

As with most things through an introduction from a friend. This time it was a special gal, you may know her, Linda Kolbusz-Kosan. We both were members of a women's club that had good work and giving back initiatives.

Why is the mission of the HOPE Giving Circle important to you?

Education and advancing education are very important to me. When I learned that the HOPE Giving Circle was about good work and giving back in the form of supporting women to reach their life goals through awarding scholarships and mentoring, I knew I had found my match.

What is your advice to young women who are working toward their degrees or early in their careers?

First, follow your passion and never lose sight of your goal. Don't be afraid to ask for help and continue to dare to dream. You're worth it!



Updates from HOPE Scholarship Alumni



MALIHA AMIR, 2021-2022 HOPE ALUMNI

During my summer, I had a wonderful opportunity to visit NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. I got to see the wind tunnel, NASA Research Center, Control Room HQ and a bunch of airplanes. In the fall of 2022, I am taking 15 credits at the University of Illinois at Chicago as well as working part-time and doing lab research at my university under the close supervision of my mechanical engineering professor. My research assistant position involves me working on wearable technology, and gaining hands-on expertise in device design, development and packaging as well as embedded systems and user interface coding, Bluetooth communication. Thank you so much for all your effort in supporting my education. Without your support, I would not have come this far.

ALEX ALEXANDROV, 2019-2020 HOPE ALUMNI

I hope everyone is doing well. I am currently a registered nurse on a cardiothoracic intensive care unit in Tampa, Florida. I recently transitioned to a bigger and more advanced center. In May, I completed my Bachelor of Science in nursing. I am exploring different schools for my post graduate master's or doctoral program. Life is beautiful in Florida! I hope everyone is well and I hope to see you in the near future.

MARION BENSING, 2021-2022 HOPE ALUMNI

I am currently in my first semester at Boston University studying behavior and health in Sargent College. I'm living on Fenway campus and already am loving the city and exploring it! I plan on joining a few clubs and research opportunities but am excited for this new chapter. Thank you to the HOPE Giving Circle.

AMANDA MIRCZUK, 2020-2021 HOPE ALUMNI

Hello everyone! I am currently completing my last year at DePaul University as a biology major and I am looking forward to my upcoming graduation. I am very excited about future career opportunities, and I will begin the job interview process over the next few months. Wish me luck!

ARIANNA MORMINO, 2018-2019 HOPE ALUMNI

I will be attending the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine this fall. I was one of 34 out-of-state candidates chosen to attend the school, which I am very proud of. I feel so blessed to be able to follow my dream, and I am so thankful for all the support, mentorship and advice that I have received from the HOPE Giving Circle along the way. Stay well!

JESSICA SHI, 2020-2021 HOPE ALUMNI

I continue to enjoy working at NCH in the main operating room on the cardiac team. Classes at Purdue are also going well. I have also been selected as the Magnet Ambassador representing the OR department and will be attending the Magnet Conference in October in Philadelphia.

KAYLA KARBOWSKI, 2016-2017 HOPE ALUMNI

I have had a few changes this year! I bought a townhouse by myself and live in Elgin now. I changed schools and positions; my new teaching position is similar to my old one. I am loving it so far. I have been volunteering and fostering at Almost Home Foundation in Schaumburg and adopted a new dog that I was fostering this past April after losing my previous dog to cancer last September. I am sending you all positive vibes and hope everyone is doing well.

RACHEL KERESZTURI, 2017-2018 HOPE ALUMNI

I was promoted to a Health and Benefits Actuarial Technician at Aon in March. I love my job! I'm doing exactly what I've been wanting to do. I also live in Chicago now. I've been exploring the city since I moved. Can't wait to see everyone soon!

HOPE Giving Circle Awards \$10,000 Scholarships

The Harper College Educational Foundation's HOPE Giving Circle brings together influential women with a common goal of supporting women to pursue higher education and reach their full potential through financial support, ongoing mentoring and leadership development.

This year, the group awarded \$10,000 scholarships to Harper students Emily Alvia, Taiah Guess, Lydia Schultz and Genevieve Wulf, who were honored at a recent awards reception.

"We are a strong community of women supporting the next generation of female leaders," said Kathy Gilmer, chair of the HOPE Giving Circle Executive Committee and a founding HOPE member. "Year after year, we have the privilege of seeing first-hand the difference the HOPE Scholarship makes in the lives of these young women."

Since its inception seven years ago, the HOPE Giving Circle has awarded \$10,000 scholarships to 22 Harper students. In total, 124 donors have contributed more than \$277,000 in support of future female leaders.

Making a Difference with Mentoring

The HOPE scholarship provides a unique opportunity for students to receive not only financial support but also a mentor. The mentoring program pairs a student with a member from the HOPE membership. Consider being a mentor and making a difference for HOPE students. Visit harpercollege.edu/hope and click on mentoring to learn more about the program!

HOPE Scholarship Growing Impact

2016 (HOPE Launch)	2022 (Cumulative)
28 Donors	124 Donors (since 2016 launch)
\$20,000 Raised	\$277,000 Raised
One Scholarship	22 Scholarships (4 awarded for 2022-2023 academic year)
\$10,000 Awarded	\$220,000 Awarded

JOIN THE HOPE GIVING CIRCLE

Membership: Begins with a minimum annual gift or pledge of \$1,000.

Supporter: Begins with a minimum annual gift or pledge of \$250.

100% of your donation is tax deductible and will be directed to the HOPE Scholarship Fund.

To join or learn more, visit harpercollege.edu/hope or contact Shannon Hynes at 847.925.6701 or at shynes@harpercollege.edu

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Linda J. Lang

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Event sponsorships help underwrite the cost of these events so that 100% of member donations can go toward scholarships.

Please contact Shannon Hynes at 847.925.6701 or shynes@harpercollege.edu for more information.

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