## **FOUNDATION**

Since our inception, the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation's mission has been "to support the educational interests and activities of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity, to furnish student aid, and to encourage and develop conduct and traits of character consistent with high morals, constructive citizenship, scholarship, leadership and community service."

To learn more about the foundation's programs or to make a donation, go to sam-fdn.org.



Written by



#### **Aaron Girson**

(Western Michigan, '92), SAM Foundation, CEO

Since rejoining the  $\Sigma$ AM staff in January, I have had the opportunity to visit with many alumni, sharing updates on our Fraternity. Alumni will often ask, "Does  $\Sigma$ AM matter, and are we making a difference?"

The answer is unequivocally YES! Today's college men need fraternities more than ever before! We all know the value of SAM firsthand, but recent research has proven how fraternity membership provides life-changing support, community, connection and strong leadership development for today's undergraduate men. Fraternity men are:

- Three times more likely to obtain an internship while in college.
- Almost two times as likely to have a job waiting for them when they graduate.
- Five times as likely to be satisfied with their lives after graduating.

ΣΑM and the fraternal movement are an accelerator for success in college and beyond: We create lifelong connections for our members, and we create a strong sense of belonging. These key factors help our members' overall quality of life.

It is an exciting time to be back on the  $\Sigma$ AM staff, to be part of the dedicated team members working to provide the best possible experience to our members, and I pledge to give my best efforts to ensuring that the support needed by today's student fratres is provided and that alumni have the opportunity to give back to initiatives that are meaningful to them.





The Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation is pleased to announce that Marc Perlstein (North Texas, '71) has joined the board of directors. Marc resides in the Dallas, Texas, area with his wife Debbie and is a Senior Consultant with Current Consulting Group. Marc is a long-time volunteer leader in  $\Sigma$ AM; he served as Supreme Prior from 2011 to 2013 and is currently Vice Chairman of the Sigma Alpha Mu Endowment Fund.

#### **NEW CHAPTER EDUCATIONAL FUNDS**

Funds Established for Theta, Mu Chi and Gamma Kappa

Chapter Educational Funds (CEFs) are restricted funds in the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation that provide alumni with an option to make tax-deductible gifts to benefit of a specific chapter. Chapters with CEF are able to access these funds for qualified educational needs, such scholarships, improvements to educational space in a chapter house, funding attendance at educational/leadership programs and support of philanthropic activities. As of press time, 17 chapters have CEFs:

Beta Theta Omicron Tau Rho Sigma Beta Sigma Zeta Sigma Sigma\* Mu Eta Mu Chi Delta Theta\* Mu Theta Mu Psi Gamma Kappa Delta Omega **Epsilon Alpha Epsilon Theta** 

#### \*denotes dormant chapter

If you are interested in learning more about the Foundation's Chapter Educational Funds or making a gift to establish a fund for your chapter, please contact Aaron Girson, Foundation CEO (aarong@sam-fdn.org or 317-969-7771). We aim for every chapter to have a CEF so that chapter-specific educational needs are met.





## The Foundation is excited to announce a new award for our collegiate chapters, the Jacob Kaplan Safe Campus Award!

These annual awards are being created by Jacqueline Jacobs Caster to honor her grandfather, Founder Jacob Kaplan. Fra Kaplan was a family law attorney, a fierce defender of legal rights with a focus upon keeping women safe from harm.

Jacqueline, an attorney herself, created these awards in response to the increasing national press surrounding fraternities and sexual assaults on college campuses. It is her fervent wish to see Sammy at the forefront of reversing this trend through programs, partnerships and education and to establish itself as the national leader of this effort.

There are two awards available each year- one for \$2500 and one for \$1500. These are available through an easy, on-line application process. The criteria for the award is:

- 1. Identify the audience that the chapter will help
- 2. Explain how their program will be executed
- How the chapter will partner with campus professionals/ community professionals/subject matter experts to execute the program
- 4. When the program will take place
- 5. Cost for program
- 6. How the chapter will measure the success of the idea or program
- 7. How the chapter will continue to advocate for a safer campus experience for students

This is an excellent way for Sammy to be the fraternal leader on our campuses, helping make it safe for everyone. Additionally, this is an excellent recruitment tool for new members, showing that we take sexual assault prevention seriously.

Questions about the program requirements or application process can be directed to the Foundation via Nancy Dietmeyer, Director of Programs and Administration, at nancyd@sam-fdn.org.

## WHAT THE FOUNDATION IS FUNDING

Your support makes this happen!

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

149 awards given to deserving students totaling \$174,000





#### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Recognized 120 new members who achieved a 3.75 during their candidate semester with a \$500 Guller Young Scholar award

#### PROGRAMS FOR ALL

Provided over \$54,000 to support educational and leadership programs attended by over 1,000 fraters





#### AWARDING NEW IDEAS

Awarded our inaugural IDEA Scholarship to a frater who exemplifies the traits of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility in their chapter

# MU GAMMA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS! WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU!



The  $\Sigma$ AM Foundation is excited to announce the creation of the Mu Gamma Engineering Scholarship Fund!

This scholarship will benefit young Sammy brothers studying engineering.

For questions on the scholarship criteria or to make a gift, contact Nancy Dietmeyer,
Director of Programs and Administration at nancyd@sam-fdn.org or 317-536-8952

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## SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

#### IDEA Scholarship

The IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility) Scholarship was established in 2022 with gifts from  $\Sigma$ AM alumni to recognize the efforts of undergraduate members who work to promote and strengthen the tenets of IDEA values in their chapters and communities.

The 2022 recipient, Rahul Sharma (Epsilon Epsilon, '21, SUNY Geneseo), his chapter's DEI Chair, planned and executed several events for chapter members to experience other cultures, including cultural potluck dinners, a cricket match, and group dinners at various culturally diverse restaurants. Rahul was also a founding member of his biology major's DEI Committee and served as a member of the university's Alliance for Cultural Enrichment. To make a gift to the IDEA Scholarship Fund, go to *sam-fdn.org/donate*.



#### Harvey Weisblat Aviation Scholarship

The Harvey Weisblat Aviation Scholarship, endowed by Fra Weisblat (Texas, '64), recognizes students planning and working toward a career in aviation and is open to Sammy undergraduates and graduate students, as well as children of

Harv, a retired airline and Air Force Reserve pilot, established the scholarship to honor his cousin and fellow aviator, Fred Maxon (1923–2011), a native of Cleveland, Ohio. After a semester at Ohio State University, Fred joined the Army Air Corps in 1942, where he soon attained his pilot wings flying BT-113 and C-46 aircraft. As a lieutenant and member of the esteemed "Hump Pilots," Fred flew supply missions from India to China over the 18,000' high Himalaya Mountains, enduring high winds and freezing temperatures over the 500-mile route in planes without sophisticated radar. Fred received the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service and, after returning to Cleveland, married and raised a family with his lifelong love, Norma.

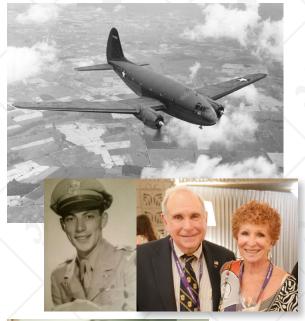
For more information on the Harvey Weisblat Aviation Scholarship criteria, go to sam-fdn.org/scholarships or contact Nancy Dietmeyer at *nancyd@sam-fdn.org*.

#### **Helen Sieczkowski Scholarship** – *New for 2023*

This scholarship is open to Nu Chapter members, as well as daughters and granddaughters of Sigma Alpha Mu members in college or planning to attend college/graduate school.

Helen Sieczkowski, grandmother to Fra Michael Kawochka (Nu), passed away in 2019 at the age of 101. Due to financial circumstances, Helen never had the chance to go to high school. Instead, she went straight into the workforce as a teenager. She married and started a family soon after.

All her life, Helen exuded quiet perseverance. The Helen Sieczkowski Memorial Scholarship is meant to inspire women, especially those enduring financial hardship, to persevere and earn their degree.







### **HONOR & MEMORIAL GIFTS**

Contributions to the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation can be made in memory of fratres, family, and friends, and to honor living members.

These gifts help to further the Foundation's educational initiatives to benefit our student fratres.

For more information or to make a gift, please go to www.sam-fdn.org/donate. For questions or corrections, contact Nancy Dietmeyer at nancyd@sam-fdn.org.

Jimmy Caplan (Michigan, '76) By Howard B. Miller (Michigan, '76)

Aaron Girson (Western Michigan, '92) By David J. Hampton II (Alfred U., '98) By Alexander M. Shapero (Cornell, '04)

Dave Kleppel (WashU, '82) To the Andy Dickson Memorial Scholarship By Ted Bernard (WashU., '81)

Joseph Lash (Michigan, '88), Harvey Lash (Wayne State, '59), Myles Lash (Wayne State, '65) By Steven M. Lash (Wayne State, '62) Bruce Levinson (Missouri, '65) By Richard Halpern (Missouri, '65)

Mu Psi for winning the Founders Cup in 2022 To the Jerry Miller Scholarship Fund By Bruce J. Tasch, M.D. (Miami OH, '74)

**LM Newman Family Foundation** By L. Mark Newman (Michigan State, '59)

Ronald W. Rapchik (Long Island, '66) By Linda Rapchik

David Sergi (Texas A&M, '82) and Teresa Rush's

By Nathan C. Margolis (North Texas, '73)

Richie Williamson (NC State, '60) for his service on the SAM Endowment Fund By Aaron M. Girson (Western Michigan, '92)

Sheldon Sinai (Ferris State, '62)

By Stuart Sinai (Ferris State, '62)

Kenny Baum (Texas, '73) By Allen M. Feltman (Texas, '72)

Martin A. Bender (Washington WA, '66) By Lawrence R. Silverman (Washington WA, '66)

Arnie Blitzer (Cincinnati, '53) By Aaron M. Girson (Western Michigan, '92)

Sean P. Daly (IL-Chicago, '95) To the Sean P. Daly Memorial Scholarship Fund By Christopher Ferrer (IL-Chicago, '95)

Jeffrey "Jake" Davis (Illinois, '73) By Gary G. Cash (Illinois, '71)

Andrew C. Dickson (WashU, '83) To the Andy Dickson Scholarship Fund By Elana Grissom By Charles D. Hammerman (WashU, '82) By Steven T. Salstrom (WashU, '83)

Michael El-Far (Rutgers, '19) To the Michel El-Far Memorial Scholarship By David Kleppel (WashU, '82)

Jeffrey L. Galston (Virginia, '74) Stanley M. Lefco (Virginia, '68)

Gary Gotlieb (Texas, '86) To the Gary Gotlieb Scholarship Fund By Debra Greenberg

Maurice Guller (Missouri, '54) By Aaron M. Girson (Western Michigan, '92) By Ronald S. Katch (Illinois, '51)

Maurice Guller (Missouri, '54) and Sidney Guller (WashU, '43) By James N. Guller (Pennsylvania, '81) David Halpert (Long Island, '61) By Charles J. Krobot III (Long Island, '63)

E. Mark Himelstein (Indiana, '58) By Marvin T. Bornstein (Indiana, '58)

Tommy Howe III (Miami OH, '17) To the Tommy Howe III Memorial Scholarship Fund

By Thomas & MaryMargaret Howe, Jr. By Ryan R. Rassin

Michael P. Hutchins (West Florida, '00) To the Michael P. Hutchins Memorial Scholarship Fund

By Paul M. Swartz (West Florida, '01)

Kenneth Ishida (UC-Berkeley, '96) By Derrick D. Chi (UC-Berkeley, '96)

**Dorothy Janoff** By Allan H. Janoff (Massachusetts, '69)

Robert La Vine (UC-Berkeley, '49) By Jerome Porter (UC-Berkeley, 51)

William G. Levy (Louisville, '46) By Alan B. Levy (Miami OH, '72)

Steven J. Lupiloff (Wayne State, '65) By Daniel T. Berkley (Wayne State, '66)

Soham Mandelawi By Albert A. Kudsizadeh (Indiana, '57)

Jerry Miller (Miami OH, '76) By Brad Helfman (Miami OH, '80) By Jak Louis Groedel (Miami OH, '13) By Maria Mandel

Kevin E. Murphy (Rutgers, '70) By Martin P. Rosensweig (Rutgers, '70)

Marvin Petal (Washington WA, '49), Alan Barer (Washington WA, '48), and George Golden (Washington WA, '49) By Anonymous

Jeffrey Peterman (Michigan State, '75) To the Dave Phillips/Drew Dunsky Scholarship

By Drew Dunsky (The Ohio State, '82)

Larry Schaffer ((Penn, '41) By Alan C. Thomas (UPenn, '78)

Arturo Scherson (Case Western, '87) By Timothy J. Clancey (Case Western, '87)

William P. Schwartz (Oklahoma, '50) By Kenneth S. Wolf (Cincinnati, '62)

William P. Schwartz (Oklahoma, '50) To the Bill Schwartz Daughters of Fratres **Scholarship Fund** 

By Laurence Schor (SMU, '61)

Lee Eric Wolkowitz By Edward M. Wolkowitz (Cal. State-Northridge,

