

THE FOUNDATION

Jan 2021

Inside

'Jacket Giving Day: Top projects, students served, and what you can expect in 2021

Coming Up

- **Jan. 13** - Spring 2021 classes begin
- **Feb. 1** - Priority deadline for MSUB Foundation scholarships
- **Feb. 15** - Office closed for Presidents' Day
- **Feb. 18** - 'Jacket Giving Day
- **May 10-15** - 2021 Wine & Food Festival





Taylor Rochford, Auto Collision & Repair

“The benefits of receiving a scholarship go much further than helping to financially support a student.”

How ‘Jacket Giving Day changed my life

I graduated with the class of 2019 from Three Forks High School. I had a passion for working with my hands; college piqued my interest but seemed so far out of my reach. I had saved money from several jobs, but for a small-town kid, the cost of college was intimidating. Looking back, I would not have been able to do it without the generous support of donors. The benefits of receiving a scholarship go much further than helping to financially support a student.

To me, a scholarship meant that someone out there believed I could do it, even if at first, I had my own doubts. MSU Billings was an easy choice for me after meeting the instructors and seeing how the classes functioned day-to-day. I chose to major in Autobody and Collision Repair after meeting Steven Wodrich, the instructor. Coming from a small high school, I was afraid that I would be overwhelmed by the college experience. Mr. Wodrich made the transition very easy. He took time to ensure I understood his lessons and always found ways to motivate the class to do our best. He has done a wonderful job preparing us for success after college. Every student has been given countless opportunities to meet professionals in our field, and we all have solid ideas of how to turn our education into a career post-graduation.

We have worked on several goals in our program, but nothing has been more rewarding than the SimSpray project. The friendly



‘Jacket Giving Day is Thursday, February 18. Join us in supporting the projects

Enriching the learning experience, equipping students for life-long success

‘Jacket Giving Day is one of the most important days of the year for students at MSU Billings. It is the day when our Yellowjacket family comes together in a concerted effort to help fund campus needs for MSU Billings and its students. We thank all our donors – without whom ‘Jacket Giving Day would not be possible – for generously supporting the heartbeat of the university.

Last year’s ‘Jacket Giving Day featured over 30 campaigns, including scholarships and program-specific needs. Thanks to the generosity of 422 donors who participated, we were able to raise \$118,767.

I encourage you to read Taylor Rochford’s story in this issue. It is the perfect illustration of how your donations impact students. In the sidebar you’ll learn about last year’s top three campaigns funded through ‘Jacket Giving Day. We raised around \$16,700 for these projects, enriching the student experience and better equipping students for life-long success.

I cannot say it enough: Because of you, our students can attend college and realize their dreams. The impact you make on this one day can last a lifetime. With your support, students’ lives change and our communities thrive.

competition to raise money created by 'Jacket Giving Day motivated us to raise as much money as we could, but still, our goal was large. When the final totals came in, it was the donors and the MSUB Foundation who really gave life to our project. We had a blast setting up and learning how to use our new SimSpray. The SimSpray gives us the opportunity to master important techniques used in painting cars such as spray angle, distance to the panel, and paint coverage in an interactive and score-based way.

Overall, the continued support from donors have helped me focus on my studies and passions, and less on the financial aspect of a higher education. It has helped me, and my classmates, focus on future careers we will enjoy, and not just jobs to keep us afloat after we graduate in May of 2021. It seems most students I know have been helped in some way by the Foundation, whether it was on a personal level with scholarships or by making goals within our program a reality, such as with the SimSpray.

Portraits courtesy of Soul on Fire Photography



As you might imagine, this year has been particularly hard on our students. Many lost jobs as a result of the pandemic, making it more difficult for them to complete their education. Scholarships are always vital to our students — now more than ever! Would you consider donating today?

Be part of 'Jacket Giving Day, February 18, 2021. We need your support!

Please call us at (406) 657-2244 or visit us online at <https://giving.msubillings.edu> to learn how you can make a difference in the lives of our students. Again, thank you for all you do to make MSUB a place where students can learn and grow for generations to come.

Top JGD Projects raise \$16,700

Here are the three top campaign challenges from 'Jacket Giving Day 2020.

SimSpray for Auto Collision students

SimSpray is a virtual reality training tool for the painting and coating industry. As students analyze, reset, and repeat training exercises, they gain experience with the equipment they will use in the collision repair and refinishing shops of their future employers. Through donor support, we raised nearly \$10,000 toward this equipment.

Library Lockers

Donors gave a \$3,400 boost to our "Library Lockers" project which enhanced campus security by establishing a safe place where students can store personal items while they study.

ROTC trains for fitness test

Your gifts of over \$3,300 helped get our Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program off the ground by supporting physical training equipment practice for the Army Combat Fitness Test (ACFT). Designed with the latest exercise science and physical training insights, the ACFT connects fitness with combat readiness for all Soldiers.

"Because of you, our students can attend college and realize their dreams. The impact you make on this one day can last a lifetime."

Bill Kennedy
President & CEO



Corks & Cuisine

Updates from the MSU Billings Foundation's annual Wine & Food Festival

Introducing the 2021 Wine & Food Festival Co-Chairs!

We are pleased to introduce our 2021 Festival co-chairs, Norma Cleveland Boyd and Cynthia Arneson!

Following a year in which the Festival was canceled due to the pandemic, this dynamic duo is excited to lead our eager volunteer force as they plan for a week of festivities to celebrate MSU Billings students. Gather with old friends and meet new ones May 10-15, 2021 while raising dollars for the students at MSUB!



**Norma Cleveland Boyd,
2021 Wine & Food Festival
Co-Chair**

Norma began her involvement with MSU Billings as a student, earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Education and a Master's in Health Administration. In 1996, Norma joined the MSU

Billings Alumni Association Board of Directors where she served as president from 2001-2002 and completed her service in 2004. In 2006, she received the J. Cody Montalban Award for Outstanding Service from MSU Billings Alumni Association.

Norma began a long-serving commitment to the Wine & Food Festival in 2002 and has continued her service since working on the Pre-Events, Registration

and Welcome, Celebration Party, and Steering Committees. In 2019, Norma served as co-chair of the festival. Due to the cancellation of the 2020 festival, she has extended her commitment to serve her second year as co-chair in 2021 with Cynthia Arneson.

**Cynthia Arneson,
2021 Wine & Food Festival
Co-Chair**

Cynthia began her involvement with the Wine & Food Festival in 2018 when she and fellow Wells Fargo colleague, Peterson Fussaint, became co-chairs of the Wine Pourers Committee.

Employees of Wells Fargo, one of our corporate partners, have volunteered to be our Saturday evening wine pourers for nearly the life of the festival. Cynthia assists in recruiting and training wine pourers, plus works the event with her co-workers.

In addition to co-chairing the committee, Cynthia joined the Steering Committee in 2019. Cynthia will co-chair the 2021 festival with Norma Cleveland Boyd and will serve a second year at the co-chair position in 2022.



Mark your calendars for May 10-15 for Wine & Food Festival 2021!

Watch for updates on our website www.msubfoundation.com/wine-food

www.msubfoundation.com

MSU Billings Foundation | 1500 University Dr | Billings, MT 59101

Phone: (406) 657-2244

Email: info@msubfoundation.com