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Stories of Generosity & Opportunity at Arizona State University

IMPACT



This summer, ASU President's
Professor Bryan Brayboy,
philanthropists, and I traveled to
the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation
in South Dakota to serve residents
and welcome two recent high school
graduates who were given allexpenses scholarships by the True
Sioux Hope Foundation to attend ASU.

The trip was eye opening: Pine Ridge is the poorest place in America, with

90 percent unemployment. If it were a country, it would have lower life expectancy than any nation monitored by the World Health Organization.

Yet, the new students we met are full of life, energy, and hope. Their freshman year is under way, and you can read about them on page 3.

Witnessing our donors' light in what can be a dark place is a reminder of why we are here: to better lives.

If we can connect potential donors—you—with the people and places where you want to make meaningful change so that the human experience is bettered, we will have succeeded.

You will find another great example of this on page 10, which features ASU's humanitarian efforts at St. Vincent de Paul of Arizona, where our staff will volunteer later this month.

It is my honor to lead this community of bighearted individuals as the ASU Foundation's new chief executive officer and in conjunction with our parent organization, ASU Enterprise Partners, which continues to be led by former Foundation CEO Rick Shangraw.

In this role, and in the context of those your generosity supports, I will be asking our team and myself: How can we better lives?

As Campaign ASU 2020 approaches the first anniversary of its public launch, we look forward to working with you to do the same.



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Chief Executive Officer, ASU Foundation



Campaign ASU 2020 publicly launched in January 2017. Learn more about this comprehensive effort to advance ASU at **GiveTo.ASU.edu**.

OGETHER, OUR POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS







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ASU researchers help a local nonprofit feed the hungry—faster and at lower cost.



"Angel" donors, scholars forge connections; generosity aids those in crisis; ASU, philanthropists, and tribal leaders bring change to Pine Ridge; researchers, students devote themselves to O'Brien insects; new composition award is sweet music to students; transforming Sun Devil Stadium; "amazing people" keep artist's dream alive.

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COVER PHOTO BY JUSTINE GARCIA



ANGELS AMONG US

Jesse Nguyen is a bit nervous.

In a few moments he'll meet the donor who funded his scholarship to Arizona State University, and he's not sure what to expect.

Looking buttoned up in a pressed blue dress shirt and slacks, Nguyen makes his way through a crowd of donors and students mingling at an orientation breakfast until he finds Junette West in a quiet, sunlit hallway.

The two begin to get acquainted.

He learns she's a mother of two alums, an accountant at a real estate company, and a firm believer that every child should have the opportunity to pursue higher education. "It's important to me," she tells him. West, in turn, learns her scholarship will enable Nguyen to pursue the biological sciences, a first step in his dream to become a doctor.

West and Nguyen are part of a scholarship program that seeks to create a personal connection between donors and scholars. The "angel" program enables a donor to share not only financial support—in the form of a \$5,000 annual commitment—but also encouragement, advice, and professional connections.

In return, donors get to experience firsthand the impact of their generosity, says Robin Okun Hengl, who directs the program through the ASU Foundation's Sun Devil Family Association.

"There's no better feeling," says "angel" donor Steve Murow, who had to drop out of college as a young man. He waited 42 years to earn a degree, and now supports aerospace engineering senior Zackary Wood. "Here's an opportunity to see your money at work and what a difference it is making in one person's life."

Read more about Murow's story at **GiveTo.ASU.edu/angels**.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN A CRISIS

For the past ten years, students facing financial difficulties that threaten their ability to stay in school have found support through the Sun Devil Family Association Emergency Crisis Fund.

Since its inception, the fund has served as a safety net for nearly 200 students. For Joshua Allen BS '17, who had already dropped out once due to financial constraints, the funding kept him on track to graduate.

"A few years ago I was in dire straits: about to be evicted, no money, halfway through the semester with finals looming, and lots of studying and homework to be done. I was so worried about my finances that I thought my only option was to drop out of school and start working full time. I had no idea what to do.

"I applied to the ASU Sun Devil Family
Association Emergency Crisis Fund. They
gave me enough funds to find a new
place to live, and a big enough cushion
that I was able to continue working only
part time, and stay in school. It was a
huge blessing. It kept me on pace to
finish school and get my degree. I am
so thankful!

"I just graduated in May. It is surreal, and I wouldn't have been able to do it without that emergency scholarship. Without that help, I would not be sitting here with my degree."

To learn about the Sun Devil Family Association Angel Scholarship Program or the Emergency Crisis Fund, contact Robin Okun Hengl, robin.hengl@asu.edu.





TRUE HOPE

When Mariah McGhee was called to her high school principal's office the spring of her senior year, she thought she was in trouble.

In reality, she and classmate Savannah Jacobs were told they were each awarded an all-expenses scholarship to attend Arizona State University.

"When I found out that I got it, it was life changing. Completely life changing," said McGhee, whose dream school is ASU, but who feared she wouldn't be able to afford college. "To go to school with no student loans is ... amazing."

"We both cried and had tears streaming down our faces. It was a huge gift," said Jacobs.

Their scholarships are part of an effort by the True Sioux Hope Foundation and ASU scholars to collaborate with tribal leaders to bring permanent, positive change to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation—the poorest place in America and where McGhee and Jacobs grew up.

ASU Special Adviser to the President and President's Professor of Indigenous Education and Justice Bryan Brayboy hopes the lessons from Pine Ridge will become a model for other universities and entities looking to boost tribal communities nationwide.

McGhee and Jacobs are now midway through their first semester in college and are two of more than 2,700 indigenous students enrolled in ASU this fall.

"The goal is to get a college degree from ASU," said Jacobs. "[And] come back to Pine Ridge and help in the fight."

Read more about their story at: asunow.asu.edu/truehope.





250,000 plant hoppers—a devoted group of ASU researchers and students have delved into the process Natural History Collections, located in the Alameda Building in Tempe.

The goal, says Nico Franz, curator of ASU's Frank Hasbrouck Insect visibility and impact.

As with any labor of love, it's complicated.

See the O'Briens and other insects at #YourDailyWeevil.



home in southern Arizona to ASU. There are

MAKING MUSIC TOGETHER

A career in music composition can take many forms: working on Broadway or in Nashville's vibrant music industry, writing for television, arranging music for ecclesiastical services, or teaching, to name a few.

Crafting a career in each of those fields requires that ASU's composition students have as many opportunities as possible to publicly showcase their work.

A new competition for ASU School of Music composition students will give them the exposure and feedback they need to flourish in the music industry, says its director, Heather Landes.

The Mykytyn Distinguished Composition Award is an annual cash award for an original composition in any genre to be chosen by ASU faculty or distinguished guest judges.

The first-place winner will receive \$1,000; the second- and thirdplace winners, \$300 and \$200, respectively. While the cash award is important—it's not easy to earn money as a composition student, Landes says—more crucial is the chance to "do the things they should be doing as a composer."

"In order for students to move on in their career, they need the opportunity to get their work heard, to have it evaluated by their peers, and to see how they fare," she says.

Established through an endowment from Kathleen Mykytyn '58 BAE, a former music student who once played piano for Frank Lloyd Wright, and her husband, Peter Mykytyn MBA '81, PhD '85, chair of the management department at Southern Illinois University, the award is given in memory of former ASU music professor Arnold Bullock.

"Mrs. Mykytyn is a composer herself," Landes says. "Composition influenced her life and she finds a lot of joy writing music. One of the hopes I have is that those who go through this process will experience that infectious love of music."

Alumni and supporters invest in their passions at the Herberger Institute School of Music. Contact shawn.richards@asu.edu to learn more.

ELABORATE LABOR OF LOVE

Entomologists Charlie and Lois O'Brien devoted 60 years of their life together collecting weevils and plant hoppers. The couple, partners in life and in the lab, even spent their honeymoon in Canada searching for these plantfeeding beetles. With anywhere from 60,000 to 250,000 different speciesit is perhaps the most diverse insect family in the world—there was much to discover.

Now that they have donated their collection to Arizona State Universitymore than 1 million weevils and

of transferring the collection to the ASU

Collection, is to ensure the specimens have a long reach in terms of scientific

TOGETHER, OUR POTENTIAL IS LIMITLESS | CAMPAIGN ASJ 2020



ASU 365 COMMUNITY UNION

Campaign ASU 2020 has equipped Arizona State University to move forward with one of its boldest concepts yet: the transformation of Sun Devil Stadium into a dynamic community hub used not only for sport but also for service, leadership, and connecting to the local and regional community.

The ASU 365 Community Union will be a multiuse facility designed with convertible spaces that will transform the interior, allowing it to host hundreds of different engagements a year.

At night, music fans might come to see their favorite band perform; in the

"ASU's 365 Community Union will create an exciting fusion of student life, athletics, and our vibrant community here in the Valley of the Sun."

 Colleen Jennings-Roggensack, ASU Vice President for Cultural Affairs and Executive Director of ASU Gammage.

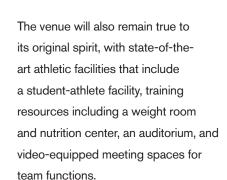
mornings, local residents could swing by the farmers market for fresh produce. Planned trade shows, craft fairs, and targeted events will ensure that no two days are the same and that no one in the community is excluded.

"ASU's 365 Community Union will create an exciting fusion of student life, athletics, and our vibrant community here in the Valley of the Sun," says Colleen Jennings-Roggensack, ASU vice president for cultural affairs and executive director of ASU Gammage, who is leading the effort to reimagine and redesign the use of the venue.

The Community Union hopes to house some of ASU's service and community programs, including the Pat Tillman Veterans Center, the Public Service Academy, and the ASU Cronkite School of Journalism Broadcast Studio. It will also showcase the new Global Sports Institute for Impact and Innovation, a collaboration with adidas that will combine education, athletics, and research to explore the future of sport.



PHOTO BY JUSTINE GARCIA



Reinvention of Sun Devil Stadium is under way, with more than \$80 million in private support raised for the project. To learn more about continuing the transformation to the ASU 365 Community Union, contact Kimberly Hopely, kimberly.hopely@asu.edu.

Learn more at asu365communityunion.com.

HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS

During the spring of 2014, Hector Cedillos lost someone special to him to a sudden heart condition and didn't know how to cope with the loss. He traveled to Guatemala to deliver the news and found himself wandering the country and into Belize, penniless and convinced he'd never return to the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts to finish his degree.

Yet, that fall, he found himself back at ASU-and, with the help of private support, back creating art.

In his own words:

"I am not exactly sure why I went there, but I was homeless and had no

direction. I talked to my professors and explained to them that I wanted to finish what I had started but I had no idea how to do it. My professors are some of the most amazing people I have ever met. They did everything in their power to help me pay for school and to get back on track. . . . I was blessed with scholarships and grants from the dean's office to pay for my tuition . . . and was awarded \$300 in art supplies. . . . The images I have produced with the assistance of my professor and Blick Art Materials are some of the most meaningful pieces of art I have ever produced."

To support the dean's fund in the Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, contact Shawn Richards, shawn.richards@asu.edu.





Assistant Professor Rod Roscoe holds the Tooker Professorship in engineering, which funds support innovation in the learning experience and student retention. Roscoe is pioneering "human systems engineering," using psychology curricula to help students better understand the people who use their products.

Professor Kurt Vanlehn holds the Diane and Gary Tooker Chair for Effective Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, which fuels his groundbreaking work in the field of computer-assisted learning and teaching.

Samuel Perez, who holds the Gary and Diane Tooker
Scholarship for Engineering, wrangles a solution to an engineering equation. Tooker House is designed for collaboration, with wall-to-wall whiteboards, maker spaces with 3-D printers and laser cutters, video chat, adjustable tables, and lockers for projects.

Computer science major Jiaqi Wu helped her ASU team earn a gold medal for outstanding overall performance at the prestigious iGEM 2016 Competition, which tests skills in synthetic biology. Travel grants from the Fulton Undergraduate Research Initiative allow Wu to compete in international competitions as an undergraduate.

> ASU'S ENGINEERING SCHOOL IS NAMED FOR IRA A. FULTON, BUSINESSMAN AND STUDENT SUPPORTER. LEARN MORE AT ENGINEERING.ASU.EDU/MEET-IRA-FULTON.

Jazmin Kianpour, who holds the Boeing Scholarship; the Marilyn and James A.
Schmidlin Scholarship; and the Science, Math and Engineering Competition Award, discusses her passion for using mechanical engineering to help build a sustainable environment with Tooker Professor Micah Lande, a leader of the "maker" movement at ASU.

Tooker Professor
Tirupalavanam Ganesh, as
assistant dean of engineering
education, works through material he
uses in Engineering Futures, a
program that equips first-generation
engineering students to persist in
pursuing their degrees to graduation.

Residents can opt to receive a donated Amazon Echo Dot and be part of the first voice-enabled residential community on a university campus.



"Free 2-hour delivery," reads a digital banner featuring produce, dairy, beverages, snacks, and canned items available to Phoenix residents at the click of a button.

Seven hours away by plane, in Caracas, lines snake outside bakeries where people wait overnight for bread, emblematic of a population bordering on starvation because groceries don't arrive on time-or at all.

In both places, convenience and catastrophe verge on a web of raw materials, goods, transportation systems, and organizations that make up the supply chain—a sequence of processes that Arizona State University researchers are working to optimize on all spectrums.

"We talk about Amazon on one end, and then we look at some of the developing or underdeveloped economies where basic food and medicine access and reach is still a challenge," said Mohan Gopalakrishnan, associate professor and department chair of supply chain management in ASU's W. P. Carey School of Business. "We're continuously learning and applying what we're learning in some economies to others to improve them."

Gopalakrishnan and his colleagues' studies span a range of industries—from big-box retailers to health care operators—while focusing on a common question: How can organizations mitigate risk in the supply chain?

Cybersecurity hacks are one kind of risk, as are natural disasters. So, too, are logistics risks, such as when pirates demanding ransom led shipping companies to take longer routes, and man-made risks, such as when governments aren't willing to cooperate with humanitarian aid efforts.

Loss can also come from inefficiencies—something Gopalakrishnan, Associate Professor of Economics Philip Mizzi, and Associate Professor of Supply Chain Management Srimathy Mohan identified at a local charitable organization that feeds the hungry. With a grant from Motorola Solutions, they were able to bring in students and additional faculty to improve them.

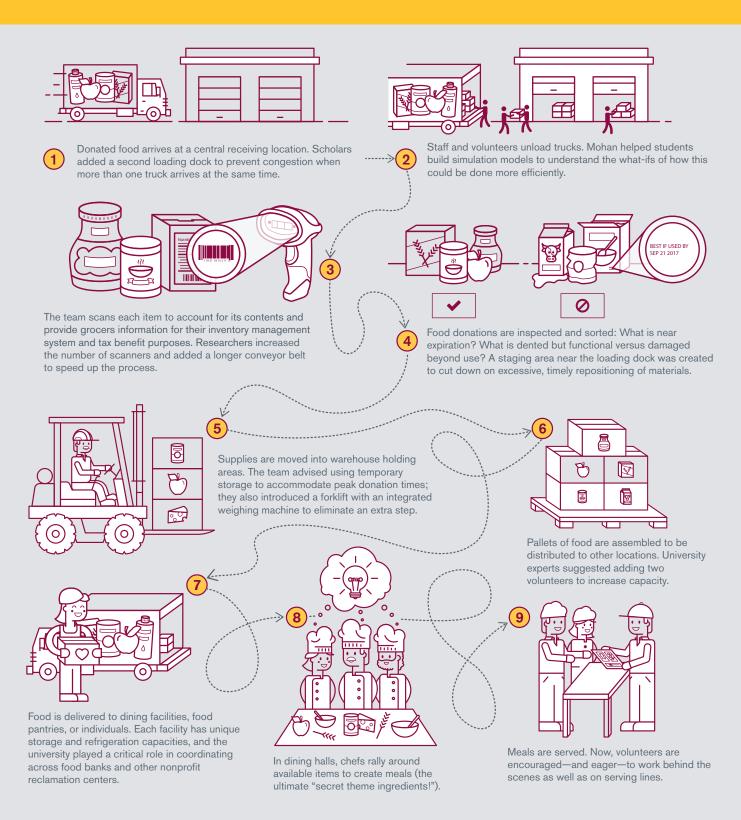
When local supermarkets consolidated, donations to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Arizona (SVdP) increased by twelvefold, and the group's warehouse couldn't keep up. Supplies, up to 20 percent of them, went to waste at the same time the recession amplified food insecurity. The SVdP board was considering investing in a new facility to process and store its goods.

"[It was the] perfect place where a university steps in and helps out," said Gopalakrishnan.

CHAIN, CHAIN, CHAIN — CHAIN OF FOODS

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Arizona provides food, clothing, housing, and health care for the poor. They operate eighty food pantries in Arizona, deliver 100,000 food boxes annually, and serve 4,000 meals a day, 365 days a year, in their dining rooms.

Here, a look at steps ASU's experts in supply chain management improved along the way:







The SVdP's logistics challenges are complex: It receives a million pounds of food each year, but provisions arrive at inconsistent intervals, often propelled by corporate or holiday drives. On days that truckloads arrive, staff and volunteers must sort and scan their contents, discard damaged items, and expedite those close to expiration. Then, materials are distributed to dining halls and food pantries around the state while adaptations are made to accommodate refrigeration capacity and each's need for specific items.

At every step, Gopalakrishnan, Mizzi, Mohan, and their team made adjustments.

"We made them operate more smartly. We used temporary trailers because all the food didn't come at the same time," said Gopalakrishnan. "We're proud to say that they did not build the warehouse; they've increased the volume many more times and have become extremely efficient in handling food."

> Stephen Zabilski, executive director of SVdP, said the nonprofit has a responsibility to be good stewards of community assets and donors' gifts, something the ASU researchers enabled.

"It literally saved St. Vincent de Paul hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not more," he said. "Every single time I walk into that warehouse I think of what we might be doing if ASU had not brought their expertise."

> TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ASU'S SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND TO SUPPORT RESEARCH IN HUMANITARIAN LOGISTICS, CONTACT SUZANNE RINKER AT

Gopalakrishnan called the project a "win-win," saying, "The students learned, we published, the food that was delivered improved, more mouths were fed. In all aspects this become a success story for us."

The scholars' learnings continue to be applied at other humanitarian service providers, including impoverished areas in India.

Yet, despite advances in understanding and technologies that redefine expectations for the speedy delivery of goods, supply chains can break, and hunger remains an issue.

Thankfully, private donors continue to support work in the field.

Next semester, with new funding from Knight-Swift Transportation, the W. P. Carey School of Business plans to open the Knight-Swift Logistics Lab on ASU's West Campus. It will provide a platform for learning and real-world simulation to fortify supply chains—especially when it comes to issues of practical importance.

"We're grateful for the support of businesses and humanitarian groups that come to the university to solve problems. Here, information is collected with an open mind, and knowledge is created by working across disciplines," said W. P. Carey School of Business Dean Amy Hillman. "The work of these scholars is humbling, but there's more to be done. And we're eager to do it."



Adamson holds an ASU Virginia Piper Center Fellowship, which provided support for her to attend the UNESCO-funded World Humanities Conference this summer. She is also a fellow in the PLuS Alliance, a collaboration between ASU, King's College London, and the University of New South Wales to solve global challenges around health, social justice, sustainability, and technology and innovation.

Her takeaway? "The environmental humanities are quickly expanding on the world stage, which is really good news."

Follow Joni Adamson on Twitter @JoniAdamson.

If the past is a harbinger of the future, then the environmental humanities—histories and narratives may offer answers for current social and environmental challenges.

"The oral traditions of ancient peoples, like the Greeks and Mayans, illustrate that people have been linking climate, the weather, and human behavior for thousands of years," says Professor Joni Adamson, director of the Environmental Humanities Initiative at the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability and professor of environmental humanities in ASU's Department of English.

These stories often offer advice for avoiding future disasters.

Adamson leads ASU's environmental humanities certificate program, a humanities-based approach to exploring the relationship between human culture and the environment and examining the impact of human activities on the planet using literature, film, theater, music, digital arts, and philosophy.

The course equips students to think deeply and write about these issues. "Tomorrow's leaders need to be able to communicate about environmental issues in creative and imaginative ways," she says.

Adamson bases her teachings on the "the arts of futurity," an approach that uses the genre of science fiction/ climate fiction (coined "sci-fi/cli-fi") to train students to be flexible thinkers who can explore alternative solutions to the apocalyptic endings that are common in the genre.

"Humanists have been studying human behavior, motivation, and desires for years," Adamson says. "Through our work, we want to move towards more plausible, desirable, and livable futures. Managing social transformations and environmental challenges is not only about technical solutions; it is also about imagining creative alternatives."



For Sasha Barab, professor of innovation in ASU's School for the Future of Innovation in Society and professor of education in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College, it's "game on" as he and his team create virtual solutions to society's challenges.

"We develop games, apps, and platforms to immerse learners in what it's really like to be a scientist, a doctor, or an engineer by investigating real-world problems in a virtual world," Barab says.

This type of learning is called transformational play, and it's much different from memorizing facts for a test. In a game world, the power lies in taking on the role of protagonist and making choices that have consequences. It helps people learn and grow in a context where they can fail safely and come to appreciate themselves as people who can have a real impact in a world-albeit a virtual one.

As cofounder and executive director of ASU's Center for Games and Impact, Barab has been harnessing the power

> TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF GAMES, VISIT WWW.GAMESANDIMPACT.ORG



of game-infused learning for five years. Grants from the Gates Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the National Science Foundation, and seed funding from ASU, gave the center its early springboard.

The center recently launched My LifeLabs, its newest venture to unlock human potential through a growth and impact platform, thanks to grants from Intel, the National Science Foundation, and donations from entrepreneurs.

"ASU has the entrepreneurial spirit to manifest designs that can be researched and scaled to make positive change in the real world," Barab says.

Now that's a game we all can win.







WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT?

With an endowment gift, the total donation amount is invested. Each year, a percentage of the gift's investment returns is distributed to its intended purpose—in this case, a scholarship. The rest is reinvested to ensure growth. In this way, it remains a perpetual gift.

WHY ARE ENDOWMENT GIFTS IMPORTANT TO A UNIVERSITY?

They support students, faculty, research, and programs for generations. As a source of long-term funding, endowments ensure consistent budgets, even during times of financial uncertainty.

Katie Biddix, left, and her mother, Trish Biddix, meet ASU freshman Jeff Preator. Preator and senior Patrick Sarette received a scholarship created by Biddix's endowment. > LEARN MORE AT ASUFOUNDATION.ORG/ TYPES-OF-GIFTS/ENDOWMENT.

When the Biddix family decided to create a scholarship for students at Arizona State University, they wanted it to do two things: First, they wanted to put college within reach for US military families. Second, they wanted their scholarship award to last for generations.

Their "Aspire. Inspire. Achieve!" scholarship does both.

Created to aid students who serve or whose family members serve in the US armed forces, the scholarship is designed to fill the gaps that occur when the GI Bill or other sources of aid don't stretch far enough.

It also is awarded from an endowment fund established by Trish; Fred (a 20-year veteran of the US Air Force); and their daughter, Katie BS '14, MA '17.

Here, Trish Biddix tells us what moved them to give.

What motivated you to create an endowment?

"When you give to something on an annual basis, the minute you stop giving to that cause or fund, it renders it finished.

"With an endowment, you have your initial commitment and at some point, if your ability to contribute were to stop, the endowment is still there. It's growing. It's producing more money for the future. It's invested wisely. It's administered carefully.

"We intend, and now Katie intends, to continue contributing to that for many years to come; it is something that will go into perpetuity.

"It's not going to end just because we end, or because we are not able to contribute, or Katie has moved away. It's going to go on for a long time, and it's going to keep producing more opportunities. It's going to keep producing more college graduates who are going to go out and make the world a better place."

Why was it important to create a scholarship for students with a military affiliation?

"My husband's family and my family both have a long history of military involvement, everything from reserves to active duty. We understand and recognize the importance of the military in our community. It was very important to us that we be able to support that in ways besides service in the military.

"We feel that education is important, and we feel that it's important as it relates to the military because we've seen firsthand the challenges that some military families go through trying to get their education while they're active duty, or while they're a dependent with their family in active duty, possibly outside the country.

"When there's some kind of obstacle, or even a minor speed bump, it can create a lot of stress on the person who's trying to get that education, as well as prolong and procrastinate goals." Katie encountered that. As a nontraditional transfer student, she wasn't eligible for many scholarships, and the GI Bill didn't cover the year Fred entered the service.

"As a parent, you never want to see your child receive rejection after rejection.

"I think it's really important to help the students who fall through those cracks of the system, the scholarship system. We hear so many stories about the students who need the financial aid.

"There are many families, particularly military related, who would fall into that crack and not qualify. Those students would then become those who didn't get their education. It may be a different crack, it may be a different gap, but it's still a crack or a gap that gets in the way of them achieving their goals."

Stories of Generosity & Opportunity at Arizona State University

IMPACT

ASU Foundation for A New American University PO Box 2260 Tempe, AZ 85280-2260 480-965-3759

GiveTo.ASU.edu



3-D creations populate the Gerald Farin Lab for 3D Visualization and Prototyping at ASU's Grant Street Studios. A \$200,000 grant from ASU President Michael M. Crow equipped the lab with four 3-D printers and a cutting machine. A professor in the Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering, Farin pioneered the field of geometric modeling until his death in 2016.

To learn more about the 3D Visualization and Prototyping lab, visit **3dvp.wikispaces.com**.

3-D figures created by: Paul Higham, Elliot Kayser, Vay Lyons, Cydnei Mallory, Andrew Noble, Ken Rinaldo, Don Vance, Dan Collins, Steve Graber

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