

# Knoxville Panther SCHOLARSHIP Foundation



The purpose of this Foundation is to help our graduates reach their post-secondary education goals. Whether our graduates choose to attend a trade school, to work on an apprenticeship, pursue an associate's degree or attend a traditional four-year college or university, the purpose of the Foundation is to help our graduates attain the training they need to prepare you for a successful future.

Our graduates are eligible for post-secondary financial aid for up to four years of study. We take applications every year from January 1st through March 1st. A universal application is available on our website at [kpsfoundation.org](https://kpsfoundation.org). Additionally, our alumni/donors can follow the progress of the Foundation by going to the website and clicking on the NEWS tab.

This year our donors provided the seventy-seven members of the 2022 graduating class, who applied for a Foundation scholarship, a total of \$44,000 in financial aid. If you would like to view last year's ceremony, you can watch it [HERE](#) or view it on YouTube at the following link: <https://youtu.be/y-UYVBQ-1xQ> Since the Foundation was established in 2004, we have awarded 1,481 KHS graduates a total of \$919,000 in scholarship awards. In keeping with the stated goal of the Foundation, every student that has applied for a Foundation scholarship has been awarded one.

This year we provided financial aid to 74 KHS graduates who applied for financial aid from the graduating classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021. They received a total award amount of \$114,000. This brings us to a total distribution to second, third- and fourth-year students over the years to \$602,000. Additionally, six of our graduates who are pursuing degrees in nursing are being provided either partial or full tuition scholarships from an anonymous donor.

In our nineteen years as a Foundation, we have distributed over one and a half million dollars in scholarship awards to Knoxville High School graduates. Today, our Foundation and Crozier Trust accounts have risen to a total value of over one and a half million dollars.

The success of the scholarship foundation would not be possible without the terrific support from alumni all over the country, local businesses, service groups, and community members and their families: a sincere thank you to everyone involved. A special thank you goes out to the Knoxville Alumni Association for their support in communicating with alumni, helping identify graduating classes interested in sponsoring a Panther Pride Scholarship, and for supporting our presentations at class reunions. Visit their website for all things Panthers!

<http://www.knoxvillealumniassoc.com>.

## Student Voices

Thank you so much for the scholarship to help me finish my 4<sup>th</sup> year of college. I'm so thankful to live in a community that still chooses to support its college students even in the challenging times we are currently living in. -Avery Collins KHS Class of 2017

## **New Scholarships awarded in 2022**

The addition of eleven new scholarships, awarded for the first time in 2022, is further evidence of the growth the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation is experiencing. Six new Endowed Scholarships, requiring a one-time donation, or a series of donations totaling \$15,000, were awarded for the first time to Knoxville High School graduates.

The new endowed scholarships are as follows: Roger and Linda Brooks Family Scholarship, Laura Feldman Education Scholarship, Kay and John Jensen Scholarship, Henry and Patricia Roozeboom Family Scholarship, Robert and Virginia Runnells Family Scholarship, and the Kitty and Bill Shepard Family Scholarship. A total of 57 endowed scholarships were awarded in 2022 to members of the KHS graduating class of 2022 as well as to members of the KHS classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Named scholarships are funded by annual contributions from organizations, businesses, families and individuals. The five new named scholarships awarded for the first time this year were: Ardent Lighting Group LLC Scholarship, Coach John Carle Scholarship, Steve Demoss Memorial Scholarship, Lee Ewoldt Memorial Scholarship and the Knoxville Excellence in Education Scholarship.

We awarded 123 named scholarships this year, 48 to members of the KHS Class of 2022 and 75 to members of the KHS classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021.

For additional information concerning how you can help our students or to learn more about the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation, visit our website at [kpsfoundation.org](https://kpsfoundation.org) or contact Board President Curt Froyen at 641-891-7170.



## **Morgan Family Endowed Scholarship**



The Morgan family has established a new endowed scholarship through the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation. This scholarship will offer financial support to future Knoxville High School graduates with a special emphasis given to students pursuing careers in education, nursing or to those graduates training for careers in the skilled trades.

Earl and Margeurite Morgan graduated from Knoxville High School 1936/37 and lived in the Knoxville area for the next 80 years. Earl was a carpenter and business owner; Margeurite was active in school, church and scouting activities. She also participated in the family remodeling business. Their three children graduated from Knoxville High School: Evelyn Morgan, 1960, J. P. Morgan, 1972 and Marsha Morgan Lee, 1975.

Four of their grandchildren are also KHS graduates: Diana Dennison 1996, Brian Lee, 1999, Drew Morgan, 2002, and Natalie Morgan, 2006. Their great grandson Brandon Lee

graduated from KHS in 2022. The four generations of the Morgan family represent many vocations, especially within the skilled trades and nursing and education fields. The family has helped form a foundation within the Knoxville Community.

For more information concerning scholarships offered through the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation or to donate to the Foundation, contact Board President Curt Froyen at 641-891-7170 or visit the Foundation website at [kpsfoundation.org](https://kpsfoundation.org).



## Marvin and Jane Sloan Endowed Scholarship



The Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce a new endowed scholarship. The new Endowed Scholarship is given by the late Marvin Sloan and his wife Jane Sloan.

Marvin and Jane graduated from Monroe High School in 1954. Marvin and Jane both studied education at Iowa State Teachers College (now UNI). Jane put her college education on hold after two years. She taught kindergarten and first grade at a local school in the Waterloo area from 1956 to 1958 while Marvin finished college and played football. Marvin graduated in 1958. He and Jane were both lifelong educators and dedicated their careers to education.

Marvin taught in Clinton, South Winneshiek, and Pella prior to taking a position in Knoxville. He taught in the Knoxville Community School system from 1969 to 1994. Marvin also coached at each school and is a member of the KHS Athletic Hall of Fame. Many people in Knoxville have fond memories of Drivers Ed and of Jr. High Geography with Mr. Sloan, especially the “map” assignments. Marvin retired from teaching in 1994.

Jane began teaching reading in Knoxville during the day, while taking night classes in education at William Penn University. She received her teaching degree in 1974. At that time, she became a second-grade teacher at North Elementary. Jane spent the next twenty-two years devoted to her students. She retired in 1996. Marv and Jane had four children who graduated from Knoxville High School: Mike (1976), Tim (1977), Sandy (1981), and Pat (1984).

Education was always important to Marv and Jane. The Sloan family is establishing this endowed scholarship to support future generations of Knoxville High School graduates as they pursue their dreams of a career in education.

For additional information concerning how you can help our students or to learn more about the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation, visit our website at [kpsfoundation.org](http://kpsfoundation.org) or contact Board President Curt Froyen at 641-891-7170.

### Student Voices

Dear Board of Directors,

Thank you so much for awarding me a 4<sup>th</sup> year scholarship. It is such a good feeling to know that there are people in our community that support our graduates. The scholarships I have received from the Foundation have allowed me to continue pursuing my dream of becoming an elementary teacher. Thank you for your generosity. It means the world to me!

-Delaney Roberts



## **New Ardent Lighting Group LLC Scholarship**



The Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation is pleased to announce a new named scholarship. The Ardent Lighting Group LLC scholarship is being provided by a leading electrical service company. In 1990 the family of Steven and Jeannie Everly started Ardent Lighting with the belief that hard work and providing excellent service would lead to a successful family business.

Over the years the families' five children have been involved in the business. As the business grew, additional employees were hired. In 2011 the Everly's son, Geoffrey took over the business. Steven and Jeannie are still actively involved. They have watched Geoffrey grow the business until it is now providing electrical service throughout Iowa and several Midwestern states.

When asked about the reason for supporting a scholarship through the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation, Jeannie responded: "Our children have all benefited by receiving financial help from the Foundation as they pursued their goals. We have watched the scholarship program grow and provide a vast array of educational opportunities for Knoxville High School graduates. Steven and I have been so pleased to see the Foundation provide financial help for students pursuing education in the trades.

As our son Geoffrey, a KHS graduate, took the helm of the business, he has found that working closely with Foundation Board President Curt Froyen to be a great benefit. Ardent Lighting is so pleased to have three recent Knoxville High School graduates as employees. These three young men have received financial help from the Foundation as they pursued their electrical apprenticeship program. Next year they will be graduating as a licensed electrician journeyman.

The best thing about the Foundation's scholarship program is that these great young men can work earning a wage with Ardent Lighting and still attend electrical apprenticeship classes supported by the Scholarship Foundation. They will graduate without ending up with thousands of dollars in student Loans!

It is our hope to continue our great working relationship with the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation. We believe the scholarship we are offering, and those offered by so many other families and businesses, will help keep our best and brightest young people working locally. I would urge anyone interested in helping achieve these goals to contact Curt Froyen and see how you might be able to help." For more information concerning scholarships offered through the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation or to donate to the Foundation, contact Board President Curt Froyen at 641-891-7170 or visit the Foundation website at [kpsfoundation.org](http://kpsfoundation.org).

### **Student Voices**

Dear Board of Directors

Thank you for your generosity. Your support and investment in my future will not only ease my financial burden, but also truly highlights the community support Knoxville has for its people. I am so thankful to have grown up here.

Kaley Iddings

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## Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD's)

For those of you who are required to take a minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA, making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a smart strategy that allows you to get a financial benefit from your charitable contributions and still take your full standard deduction. A QCD allows you to transfer money from your IRA directly to a charity such as the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation. The amount you donate counts toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) and reduces the taxable amount of your IRA distribution. You lower your adjusted growth income and taxable income without reducing the amount of your standard deduction.

This article isn't intended to give tax advice, however, if you believe this strategy might work for you, contact your tax advisor and consider funding either an endowed scholarship, or an annual named scholarship, as a Qualified Charitable Distribution.

Over the past three years, nine new endowed scholarships have been established by individuals and families using Qualified Charitable Distributions from IRA accounts. It is important to remember that an endowed scholarship of \$15,000 can be funded by a series of contributions over two or more years. Several of our new scholarships have been funded in this manner rather than by a single contribution in one year. Additionally, some individuals and families are in the process of adding a second and third endowed scholarship by continuing to make annual contributions using required minimum distributions from their IRA's.

Finally, named scholarships given annually for \$500 or more, are also being funded by donors using a portion of their annual required minimum distribution.

Here is a great example of how one of our donors is using a Qualified Charitable Distribution to fund scholarships for KHS graduates. This year, 1950 Knoxville High School graduate Bill Liike, provided five scholarships to students pursuing post-secondary education in the skilled trades by using money he was required to take from his retirement account. Mr. Liike, a member of our High School Hall of Fame, earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Iowa in 1955. Mr. Liike has not only pledged to provide scholarship help during his lifetime, he has taken the additional step to ensure that scholarship funding will continue for generations to come by remembering the Foundation as part of his estate planning.

Mr. Liike stated "I am concerned about the future of America's workforce and of the ever-growing need for skilled craftsmen. There seems to be a current emphasis on the pursuit of an expensive four-year college degree. This often results in limited or no job opportunities. There are millions of jobs available for workers who can earn an associate's degree in such areas as information technology, computer sciences or by learning the basic skills utilized in manufacturing and in the various service industries. This can be accomplished while spending far less time and money needed for a post-secondary degree. The opportunity is there just waiting to be taken advantage of. These skilled workers will be essential to the future of this country."

"Providing funding for the scholarships I am supporting by using money I am required to take from my retirement account just makes so much sense. By donating to the scholarship foundation, I avoid paying up to 50% of the funds I withdraw to pay state and federal taxes. I figure the Foundation will do a better job of handling those funds than the state or federal government will. I get a tax deduction I wouldn't normally be able to get, and our Knoxville High

School graduates get financial help as they pursue their dreams. It's a win for everyone!" If you would like to discuss funding an endowed scholarship, or an annual named scholarship of \$500 or more, by using a portion of your annual required minimum distribution as a Qualified Charitable Distribution, contact Board President Curt Froyen at 641-891-7170 or by email at [irishsciguy@hotmail.com](mailto:irishsciguy@hotmail.com)



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If you are interested in donating to the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation, you can visit our website [HERE](#) to donate online. If you choose to mail in a donation, you can print the donation card below and send it with your donation to the KPS Foundation at PO Box 302 Knoxville, IA 50138. For more information concerning scholarships offered through the Knoxville Panther Scholarship Foundation or to donate to the Foundation, contact Board President Curt Froyen at 641-891-7170 or visit the Foundation website at [kpsfoundation.org](http://kpsfoundation.org).

Please complete and return to...PO Box 302 • Knoxville, IA 50138

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Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Spouses Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Knoxville Alumnus (Self and/or Spouse)

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Street Address

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**Panther Pride Program - Class of** \_\_\_\_\_

\$25.00

\$250.00

\$50.00

\$500.00

\$100.00

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Named Scholarship Program**

\$500.00 per year pledge for three years. Please contact Knoxville Dollars for Scholars for more details.

**Endowed Scholarship**

\$15,000 minimum gift. Donor can grow into an endowed scholarship with installments over a 2-5 year period. The Endow Iowa option provides a 25% Iowa tax credit. Please contact us for more details.

**Memorials**

Memorial gifts will be added to our endowment fund. Income from this fund will be used for annual scholarships. Please contact Knoxville Dollars for Scholars for more details.

General Contribution in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

