

Chairman's Corner

Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund is still here during this challenging 2020-2021 pandemic. With the amazing support of our community of friends and WCSF board, the Fund continues to award scholarships for Evanston Township High School graduates who are interested in education and/or working with youth.

On Sunday, July 18, WCSF honored and celebrated the 2021 class of Cherry Scholars at a Drive-Through Parade in the ETHS parking lot. It was a fantastic day for the scholars who were joined by their families, friends and the community at the fun-filled event. The Fund awarded \$80,000 to this year's scholars. Thanks to the Committee: Joanie Ducayet, Tania Margonza, Bethany Mullins, Bob Reece, Oliver Ruff and Gerri Sizemore for planning this outstanding celebration.

The 28th Annual Golf Outing was held on June 28 at the Wilmette Golf Club with a record number of 148 golfers! It was a remarkable success, a fun time and a spectacular day for WCSF. Many thanks to the Golf Co-chairs Joe Keitel and Bob Reece and the golf committee. Also, special thanks to Bill Bridges, Pat Hughes Sr., and Bart Rocca.

WCSF welcomes three new board members: Denny Cummings, Scott Lorenz and Nathan Norman. ShaRita Alexander, Lun Ye Crim Barefield, Dennis O'Callahan, Jake Rohde, and Toly Walker are leaving the board. And Dennis has our deep appreciation for his service as treasurer. We thank them for their service.

Also, I thank Pat Hughes Sr. for his remarkable support with knowledge and expertise. WCSF is very grateful!

As always, my heartfelt thanks to everyone on our wonderful board and to our outstanding community of friends.

Please mark your calendar for the Annual Golf Outing on Monday, June 27, 2022.

In closing, even during these challenging times Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund continues to reach out to young men and women so their dreams may become a reality. Thank you in advance for your support. Every contribution truly makes a difference.



Patty Cherry Reece



With the pandemic still present, the Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund again celebrated this year's scholars with an outdoor drive-through event at Evanston Township High School. See pages 2 and 3 for more about the scholars, and see pages 8-10 for more pictures from the parade.

Cherry Scholar serious about mentoring youth

A 2019 and 2020 Cherry scholar, Jeron Dorsey is passionate about mentoring youth in the Evanston community. He seeks to help young people bridge the gap between athletics and academics.

Dorsey received a B.A. from Ashford University in business administration and human resources management in 2019 and a master's degree from Northwestern University in sports administration in 2021. He was a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society as well as the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society, which honors non-traditional students who demonstrate outstanding scholastic standards and leadership characteristics while han-

dling additional responsibilities of work and family.

Today he is the Recreation Manager at Evanston's Robert Crown Community Center, where he has worked since summer 2021. Earlier he worked in different roles at the Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center.

"I became involved with the Cherry Scholarship Fund in about 2018," Dorsey said. "I was introduced to the organization by Gerri Sizemore, who is on the Cherry board. I also knew coach Bob Reece from my FAAM days."

After dropping out of school for eight years, Dorsey decided to finish his college education. He said, "The Cherry Scholarship Fund not only provided

—Continued on back page

Meet the 2021



*Alexandria
Bolling*



*James
Bowen*



*Alexandria
Cesar*



*Kalea Nataye
Chatman*



*Wendy Becerra
Delgado*



*Michelle Paola
Hernandez*



*Leila
Lemieux-Jordan*



*Aryel
Mason*



*Jermei
McCray*



*Jasmine
Medina*

Alexandria Bolling will be entering her senior year at Howard University and is majoring in English with a minor in secondary education. She would like to become an educator and focus on developing skills as a “dynamic” teacher who will strive to make the classroom inclusive for all students.

James Bowen is a former Cherry Scholarship winner — from 2005 — who is returning to graduate school to study criminal justice with a focus on juvenile restorative justice. He plans to work for the city of Evanston in the juvenile restorative justice program. Youth work is his passion and James wants to give back and be a role model for youth who are struggling to succeed.

Alexandria Cesar will be a senior at the University of Illinois Chicago, where she is studying sociology. She is passionate about helping first-generation students on a one-to-one basis who need support to be successful in an educational environment. Alexandra hopes to have a career as a social worker and work toward making schools more inclusive of first-generation students.

Kalea Nataye Chatman is a recent graduate of ETHS and will be attending Marquette University. Her goal is to become a teacher who helps educate students on real-life issues her own teachers never talked about. Kalea has had several jobs working with children. She spent several summers as an inclusion aide at summer camps where she worked with children with special needs — and loved the challenge.

Wendy Becerra Delgado is pursuing a degree in psychology at Lake Forest College. She is passionate about the power of brains and human behavior and wants to help children navigate the challenges in their lives. Wendy’s goal is to be a counselor and serve as an advocate and mentor for children struggling with mental illness, social issues and behavioral problems.

Michelle Paola Hernandez will be a sophomore at Marquette University where she is a nursing major. She believes that everyone should have access to affordable healthcare and hopes to work with underserved communities one day. Michelle would like to be a role model

and mentor to Latinx children and be a healthcare professional who can proudly represent her culture and profession.

Leila Lemieux-Jordan is studying early education at Oakton Community College and plans to attend Northeastern Illinois University after completing her general education requirements. Leila wants to earn a bachelor’s or master’s degree in special education and use her experiences as a student and teacher to help children overcome developmental challenges.

Aryel Mason is a recent graduate of ETHS and plans to study nursing at Howard University and become a pediatric nurse. She would also like to create a school for African American children and to serve as a role model and help them achieve their dreams. Aryel wants to help youth in her community and make them feel like they are wanted and needed.

Jermei McCray will be studying youth development and public administration at Northeastern Illinois University in the fall. As a senior outreach director for the city of Evanston, Jermei touches the lives of hundreds of young people each day. He is a natural mentor and leader and has a goal of opening a 24-hour community center to offer help and support to young people in the community.

Jasmine Medina has been admitted into the foreign language teacher education program for Spanish at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and is pursuing an English as a Second Language endorsement to accompany her Spanish endorsement. She wants to become a Spanish teacher and engage students in the cultures that the Spanish language reaches. Jasmine is a member of the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society and is the academic chair and community service chair for the Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority.

Maria Guadalupe Moreno Mendoza will be a sophomore at the University of Illinois Chicago and plans to earn a bachelor’s degree in Teaching of Spanish. She would like to become a high school Spanish teacher and work toward a master’s degree in education. Maria hopes to become a mentor and role model for students who wish to overcome obstacles and achieve their dreams. She is passionate about bringing education to children in underserved communities.

Emily Minerof is enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she stud-

Cherry Scholars

ies communication sciences and disorders (speech pathology and audiology). Upon graduation, she plans to become an audiologist or a pediatric physician’s assistant and would like to work with transgender children seeking voice therapy. Emily is passionate about helping others and has had jobs and volunteered to work with children with special needs.

Taishiya Nix is a former Cherry Scholarship winner (1999) and plans to major in child advocacy studies at Northeastern Illinois University. Children are her passion, and she intends to open a childcare facility that focuses on the “whole child” and empowering them to achieve their goals. Taishiya wants to give children the courage to be successful and light a fire in children that helps change the world.

Chassa Jenin Alice Pratt will be a sophomore at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign where her major is Social Work. She believes that a career in social work will allow her the flexibility to help many people. Chassa likes the idea of working with a refugee settlement agency or with youth who are in tough situations. She is passionate about giving back to the community that helped raise her and helping others to better themselves.

Jennifer Rodrigues-Gomez attends the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign where she majors in elementary education. Jennifer would like to give back to her community as a bilingual/ESL teacher. Jennifer looks to Warren “Billy” Cherry as a role model and hopes to use technology, real-life scenarios, manipulatives, and trans-languaging to support students along their learning journey. Her many experiences with children and her time studying abroad in Spain have inspired Jennifer’s love of teaching.

Jaydlyn Trinity Rogers is attending the University of Illinois Chicago, majoring in English. She plans to go on to graduate school at Loyola University and get a master’s degree in curriculum, culture and communication, and aspires to get a doctorate in education from National Louis University. Jaydlyn would like to pursue a career in school administration and advance in the world of education.

Nikko Ross is majoring in interdisciplinary studies/community development at Northeastern Illinois University. He plans to create multiple educational avenues to erase mental colonialism of African and Af-

rican American children, such as writing a play about the Haitian Revolution. Nikko’s passion is empowering, educating, and motivating youth on the power of their rich history and cultural greatness.

Aurora Sanchez is a junior at Augustana College where she studies communication science disorders with a minor in Spanish. She also plans to pursue a graduate degree in speech-language pathology. After graduating, Aurora hopes to work as a speech-language pathologist in a school in Evanston. Aurora is passionate about children and helping children with special needs.

Jocelyn Segura enters her senior year at the University of Illinois Chicago where she is majoring in human development and learning. Her focus is on early childhood education with a minor in social justice. Jocelyn plans to work as a teacher in a Head Start program while working towards a master’s degree in education. She plans to use racial literacy to teach children about race and social justice from an early age.

Litzy Segura is attending the University of Illinois Chicago where she is studying elementary education. She would like to teach very young children and help form a strong foundation for their future studies. She wants to inspire her students and help them develop a love of learning — giving them a head start in life.

Caitlin Strickland is enrolled at Elon University where she is studying history with a minor in secondary education and certification in intercultural learning. She is one of 25 education majors selected to be in the Elon Teaching Fellows Program, a rigorous and equity-based teaching and learning program. Caitlin would like to return to Evanston and teach history or social science at ETHS.

Reina Waters graduated from ETHS this year and will be attending Eastern Illinois University. She plans to study early childhood education and gain hands-on experience through internships and classroom experiences. Reina’s goal is to be a kindergarten teacher and teach students they can achieve success in whatever they choose to do, and not let skin color be a barrier.



*Emily
Minerof*



*Taishiya
Nix*



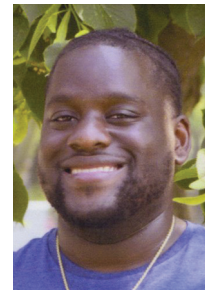
*Chassa Jenin
Alice Pratt*



*Jennifer
Rodrigues-Gomez*



*Jaydlyn Trinity
Rogers*



*Nikko
Ross*



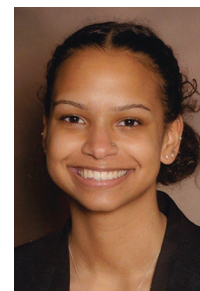
*Aurora
Sanchez*



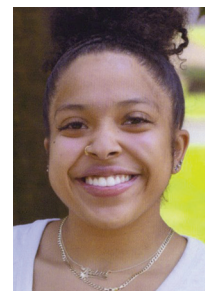
*Jocelyn
Segura*



*Litzy
Segura*



*Caitlin
Strickland*



*Reina
Waters*

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11/1/2020–10/31/2021

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Patty and Robert Reece
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Record turnout makes golf outing a success

The second pandemic summer did not dampen the spirits of our loyal Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund supporters. A record number of 148 golfers — so many that the Wilmette Golf Club ran out of carts — turned out on June 28, netting the Fund a remarkable \$100,000.

Golf winners included:

First place gross (tie): Tracy McGuire, Patrick Hughes Jr., Taylor Champion, Chris Livatino; and Garrett Rothe, Joe Argow, Pete Argow, Jon Hasman

First place net: Storm Metzger, John Smith, Charlie Hoholik, Jim White

Second place net: Bill Speth, Colleen

Speth, Ray Kincaid, Danny Speth
Snake Eyes net: Everett McKissic, Rich Foreman, John Johnson, Cliff Hurd

Men's longest drive: Ray Kincaid
Men's closest to the pin: Mark Miller

Men's longest putt: Dave Futransky
Women's longest drive: Colleen Speth
Women's longest putt: Katie Storer

The hard-working 2021 Golf Committee included Bill Bridges, Lynn Hammell, Pat Hughes, Sr., Pat Hughes, Jr., Judy Iacuzzi, Tony Iacuzzi, Timon Jandora, Tony Keitel, Marcy Nicholson, John Powell, Kennedy Reid, Bart Rocca, Oliver Ruff, Pam Schanette, Gerri Sizemore, Mimi Spivack,

Rommie Taylor and Courtney Wolley. Joe Keitel and Bob Reece were co-chairs.

Four 2021 Cherry Scholars, James Bowen, Jeron Dorsey, Leila Lemieux-Jordan and Taishiya Nix, offered their reflections at the event. Bowen received an award in honor of Pat Doyle, a cherished primary teacher at Lincoln School who worked closely with Warren Cherry. She was a good communicator, known for her sense of humor, energy, and thoughtfulness. Nix received an honor in memory of Carl Levine, a devoted supporter who loved the WCSF mission and worked to correct inequity.



Standing, from left: Noel Margonza, Timon Jandora and Sandy Vitantonio. Seated, from left: Tania Margonza and Ann Stevens.



Ray Kincaid, Colleen Speth, Dionne Dias, Danny Speth



Guy Ward, Tammy Walker, Katy Storer and Rommie Taylor



Judith Provost, Judy Iacuzzi, Jane Peterson and Betsy Engelman



Taishiya Nix

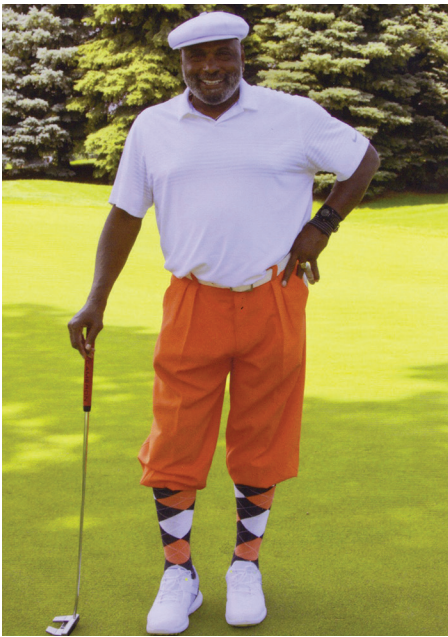


Dining at the Wilmette Golf Club.



James Bowen

Don't miss next year's golf outing, to be held Monday, June 27, 2022 at the Wilmette Golf Club.



Leon Mitchell earned the "Best Dressed" award.



Tom Hazlett and Alan Graham



Taylor Bertrand and Kennedy Reid



At the check-in table: Gerri Sizemore, Lynn Hammell and Pam Schanette

Thanks to Our 2021 Golf Outing Contributors!

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Wilmette Golf Club

Don't miss next year's golf outing, to be held Monday, June 27, 2022 at the Wilmette Golf Club.

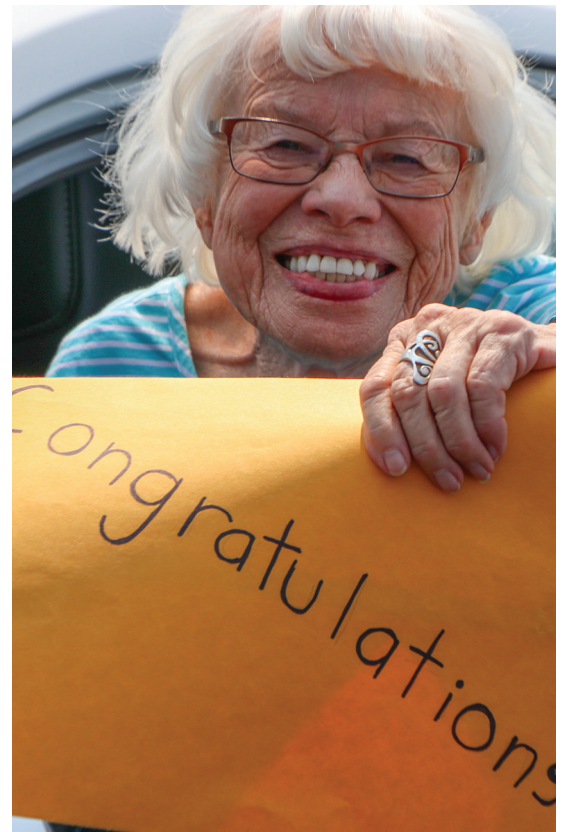


scholars!



For the second year in a row the Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund had to cancel its annual dinner, but that did not mean our scholars would not be honored. On Sunday, July 18, we held a Drive-Through Parade in the parking lot at Evanston Township High School. At this event, we were able to be safely outdoors to see their faces and recognize their accomplishments. *See more photos on the next page.*

Celebrating our scholars!



Celebrating our own: Julie Levine

An Evanston resident since 1983 and a teacher at Walker School for 30 years, Julie Levine said, “My passions have always been kids and animals, with some baking on the side.” She and her husband David raised three children in Evanston and now have two grandchildren living in the community.

“Though I’ve been lucky to travel, I’m happiest with my close friends, rescue dogs and family right here in Evanston. I get the most joy helping young kids in the community.” She retired from teaching a couple of years ago, but during the COVID-19 pandemic she tutored struggling children, ran book clubs and conducted a Zoom baking club with ex-students.

“I met Patty and Bob Reece when I was their granddaughter Courtney’s first-grade teacher,” Levine recalled. “There was an instant connection, which grew when two of my kids ended up in Mrs. Reece’s fifth grade and ‘Coach’ picked my son Mike for his FAAM team. By the end of those three years, we were all ‘Family.’”

Despite her relationship with the Reeces, Levine didn’t know much about the Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund until her friend and school principal Frances Cook joined the Cherry board and brought a few Cherry scholars onto the staff at Walker. When Cook moved to Texas, she suggested that David Levine take her board position. “That’s when I also got involved,” Levine said. She volunteered as an escort for scholarship candidates, attended fundraisers and started looking for candidates herself.



Julie Levine

“At Walker School I met some amazing young men working in our lunchroom who were great with kids, and I encouraged them to apply for scholarships. [2014 and 2015 Cherry scholar] Marcus Brown is one example, and he is now a legend in Evanston, running DIME (Dance is My Everything) and inspiring hundreds of kids every year to keep moving.”

Levine has helped several others apply for scholarships, and currently has “a beautiful, smart Warren Cherry Scholar living with us as a part of our family, and I can’t wait to see her graduate from UIC in the next year.”

In some cases, Levine’s relationships with Cherry scholars have continued into their college years as she offered her services as a tutor and editor for students who need help with

their writing.

Levine said, “There’s nothing I wouldn’t do for Bob and Patty Reece. They have inspired me to start my own non-profit to help prepare more kindergarten-ready kids in our community. I will always support the Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund because of its incredible mission, and the wonderful people who are part of it all. All children and young adults deserve the best education they can get. Scholarships should not be only for the straight-A kids. I believe in second, third and fourth chances, and that it’s never too late to change paths and find our ways in the world. And since my passion is helping kids and young adults, which is exactly what the Cherry Scholarship Fund does, I’ll stay as involved as they let me!”

Celebrating our own: Patrick and Brigid Hughes

Patrick Hughes had been a longtime supporter of Boys Hope Girls Hope when the Illinois chapter of that development organization for disadvantaged youth asked him to become its executive director in 2005.

“At that point I realized I was going to be responsible for people who looked different from me and hadn’t had the same advantages I’d had,” Hughes said. “I was talking to my friend Hecky Powell about it and he said, ‘You should talk to Bob Reece.’ I did, and I started calling on Bob for mentoring advice.”

As Hughes learned about the Cherry Scholarship Fund, he realized that he and his wife Brigid had both been in school with Warren Cherry, but had lost track of him over the years. “Now Bob and I play golf all summer and a great friendship has developed between our families. I really admire what he and Patty have done with the Cherry organization.”

Originally a CPA, Hughes was working for the accounting firm Ernst & Ernst when Pat Ryan recruited him to come to work for his insurance company, which would go on to be-



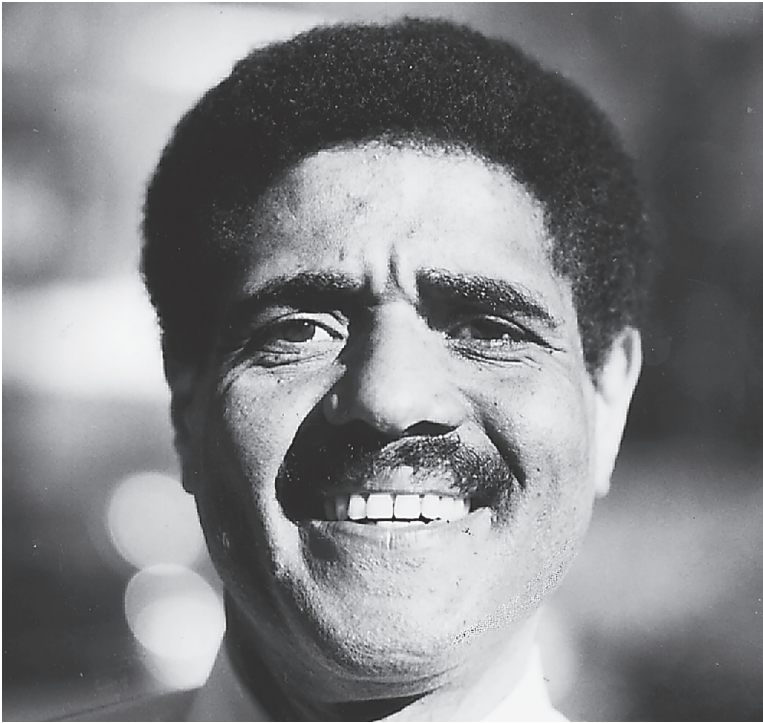
Patrick and Brigid Hughes

come Aon Corporation. Hughes held a number of senior leadership positions with Aon and retired when he was 55.

Now he devotes himself to friends and family. He and Brigid raised eight children in Evanston, and are now the proud grandparents of 17.

Hughes continues to support a variety of not-for-profit organizations, including the Cherry Scholarship Fund. An avid golfer, he has been a member of the Golf Committee for 10 years. During lunch with Bob Reece in May this year, he agreed to keep the books for the Cherry organization. “Bob asked, and of course I said yes,” Hughes said. “I’m still a damn good accountant.”

“I can’t tell you how much I’ve admired some of the kids who went through the Boys Hope Girls Hope program, and it’s the same with the Cherry scholars,” Hughes said. “I love hearing about what I call their ‘dream.’ You try to get these kids into college, you do what you can to help them make it through, and then you watch them grow and go on to take their place in the community.”



The mission of the Warren W. "Billy" Cherry Scholarship Fund, named in memory of a much-loved and respected Evanston educator, is to perpetuate his total acceptance of all people, his commitment to the highest standards of educational excellence, and his energetic dedication to enriching the children and institutions of Evanston. For more information, visit cherryscholarship.org.

The Cherry Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Contributions can be made online at the Cherry website (cherryscholarship.org) and can also be mailed to:

Warren W. "Billy" Cherry Scholarship Fund
 P.O. Box 0944
 Evanston, IL 60204-0944

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Jeron Dorsey

Cherry Scholar

Continued from first page

the financial support I needed to return to school, but it has also provided me with a lifelong connection to members of the organization who have motivated me to be the best I can be."

Dorsey said he continues to be involved with the Cherry organization through his relationship with Bob Reece, whom he describes as a mentor. "The advice and support he continues to provide me with have helped shape me into a better man and professional."

One of his primary goals is to become a collegiate athletic director. He hopes to remain in Evanston "because I was born and raised here and I have a passion for making a positive impact on the community that helped raise me."

Dorsey added, "Knowledge is your greatest asset. The Warren Cherry Scholarship Fund decided to invest in me and now my community is benefiting from it!"

Dates to Remember

The Cherry Scholarship Fund is looking for scholars—students who may have struggled in high school, but who love kids and are dedicated to working with young people. Please help by encouraging deserving individuals from the Evanston community, particularly those who will graduate from Evanston Township High School in 2022, to apply for a Cherry Scholarship. Applications are available online at cherryscholarship.org. And please note that scholarships are now also available for part-time and graduate students.

2021-2022 dates:

- Applications available - Dec. 1, 2021
- Application Deadline - March 11, 2022
- Interviews - April 10, 2022
- Award Dinner - TBD
- Golf Tournament - June 27, 2022