

# Annual Report 2022

## The Lowe Family Young Scholars Program



## New Home for the Wildcat and Denny 'Zoot' Scholarships



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

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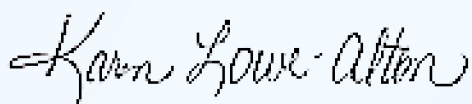
Change requires growth and growth requires change. Because the Lowe Family Young Scholars (LFYS) Program was faced with a blessing in the form of housing two new scholarship programs, we have both grown and changed. The Wildcat and Denny Zoot scholarships are now included in scholarships available exclusively to the Lowe Family Young Scholars Program students. As part of that change, we welcomed Beverly Ross, a new administrative assistant. Also, Kristin Towns, who has been with the organization nine years, was promoted to a marketing specialist position. These changes allow staff to better support and engage LFYS students.

The Program works to build confidence in students. Assisting with training in public speaking this past year has been a focus. Another confidence-booster is the opportunity for LFYS students to obtain braces through a collaborative effort with Dr. Unruh. Both opportunities help students achieve a higher level of confidence.

Investing and believing in people. That's what we do in a nutshell. With the help and partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters, mentors are vetted to ensure a good match with LFYS students. Mentors are such an important element of the LFYS Program, we feel certain that many of the students would have lost their focus of earning a college degree without the support and encouragement of a mentor. On this note, we are continuously seeking mentors to be matched with students to support them in preparing for college. If you are interested in joining as a mentor to greatly impact a young person along his or her life's journey, please contact our Executive Director, Michael Secora.

Regards,

Karen Lowe-Alton



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## OUR MISSION

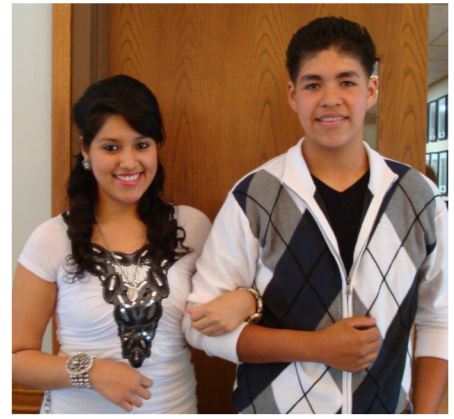
*To assist academically  
promising yet economically  
disadvantaged students in the  
Bartlesville Public School System  
to earn a college degree.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(President) Karen Lowe-Alton  
(Vice President) Richard Mitchell  
(Secretary) Jane Sears  
(Treasurer) Megan Proctor  
Cindy Dronyk  
Stacey Foresman  
Terri Meyer  
George Halkiades  
Julie Pranger  
Stevie Williams



# A LIFETIME OF IMPACT



VANESSA SAUCEDO (CARRENO)  
BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION CUM LAUDE  
FROM OKLAHOMA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY, 2016



Currently works for Phillips 66  
Matched with Barbara Fullingim

"I am currently with Phillips 66 as the Administrative Assistant & Payroll Associate, HR Services and Operations. I have been with Phillips for 7 months at the end of this month. Prior to this I was with Truist Credit Union for 5 years as the Recruiter & Trainer.

On my free time I enjoy working out and running 5K's! I try to stay pretty active, more now that I have a two and a half year old girl that has all of the energy! We love to spend our time outdoors or inside playing dress up but we are always on the go!"

What is one thing you took from the program that you still use today?

*"A lot of things, but one thing I constantly do is volunteer! I think LFYS taught me to volunteer which is a way to give back to our community and I believe my community has given a lot to me! This is a small way to show my appreciation."*

Pictured Right: Vanessa, Family, and Mentor  
volunteering at Pack the Backpacks



# UNLOCKING NEW LEGACIES



## Comparative GPA Stats

Cumulative program GPA	3.50
Average '21-'22 GPA	3.49
Oklahoma 2018 GPA	2.57
National 2018 GPA	3.00

## Other Program Stats

Students enrolled	23
1st generation	85%
Total hours volunteered	5,608

## College Stats

College students	11
Cumulative college GPA	3.11
College GPA '20-'21	2.64

## 13 College Graduates



## 68% College Graduation

LFYS Program Students have a College Graduation Rate more than 3x higher than the national average for similar students.

## Economic Impact

The LFYS Program is proud that with reduced tuition through scholarships, work-study, and other sources, the average 4-year debt across 5 students is \$4,900.





# STUDENTS & MENTORS OF 2022

Making the impossible, possible.



Gavin – Class of 2022 and Randy  
Samantha – Class of 2022 and Rachelle  
Maira – Class of 2022 and Diana  
Oscar – Class of 2022 and Rod



Emma – Class of 2022 and Stacey  
Lizet – Class of 2023 and Lisa  
Wyatt – Class of 2023 and Jason  
Jonathan – Class of 2023 and Allen



Ivan – Class of 2023 and Raj  
Jackie – Class of 2024 and Diana  
Yazmin – Class of 2025 and Kendra  
Bethany – Class of 2025 and Lesley



Deni – Class of 2026  
Keyli – Class of 2027 and Alma  
Lennon – Class of 2028



Jonathan – Class of 2023

## MENTOR OF THE YEAR

### From Allen:

We have a good friendship and like to talk about a lot of current things happening. I go to many of his soccer matches and meet him for lunch or dinner and talk about his future.

### From Jonathan:

He is very special. I think it was unique how easily we were able to talk with each other and feel comfortable. He has also influenced me to look at other careers to keep in mind.

**“Show me a successful individual and I’ll show you someone who had real positive influences in his or her life. I don’t care what you do for a living—if you do it well I’m sure there was someone cheering you on or showing the way. A mentor.” — Denzel Washington**

# A WILDCAT LEGACY

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Founder of the College High Wildcat Scholarship Fund, Jim Hess has been in a family of local merchandisers for three generations. Jim's father, Albert Hess, moved to Bartlesville from Chanute, KS in 1926. He established Hess Mercantile Company (later named Hess Distributing Company). While Jim owned and managed the 5th & Shawnee Liquor Store, his wife, Linda, matched his efforts as the "beloved owner, manager and mother-figure at Party-Quik" next door. She retired in 2015 and passed away July 30, 2021. Jim successfully ran his business for over 44 years and worked up until his passing on Nov. 5, 2021. He acquired the honorable title of "Bartlesville Icon" not for his years of business, but for his ornery spirit, unwavering generosity and endearing friendships.



In 1985, Jim received a "God Whisper" idea. He wanted to help kids who had not a wing or prayer of attending college, who just needed a little help. He described the plan as "Truly the greatest idea I've ever had. I've had a lot of great ideas that benefitted me but this idea benefits everyone and nothing benefits humanity like education." He asked 10 College High Alumni classes to join him in supporting education by mailing a check each year on their birthday in the amount of the year they graduated (1940-1982). In 1987 Jim sent \$19.61 and the result was the self-sustaining College High Wildcats Memorial Scholarship. As long as the student maintains a "B" average, scholarships continue to be funded, some have received multiple awards...248 total awards to date.

Mr. College High, our Bartlesville Icon, is gone now but his legacy continues. In his parting words, he wanted all to know, "I always had a great time and I treasure my lengthy list of friendships."

The Lowe Family Young Scholars Program's mission is similar to the mission of the College-High Wildcat Memorial Scholarship Fund, one of Jim's final wishes was for the Wildcat Scholarship to remain intact to forever remember the Wildcats, yet be managed by the Lowe Family Young Scholars Program. In respect of this request, Jim's board of directors has entrusted Wildcat funds to the care of the LFYS Program. Please know that the LFYS board wishes to continue the Wildcat scholarship to honor Jim and other College-High alumni who have donated funds.

## University Partners

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## Major Sponsors

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# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

December 31, 2022

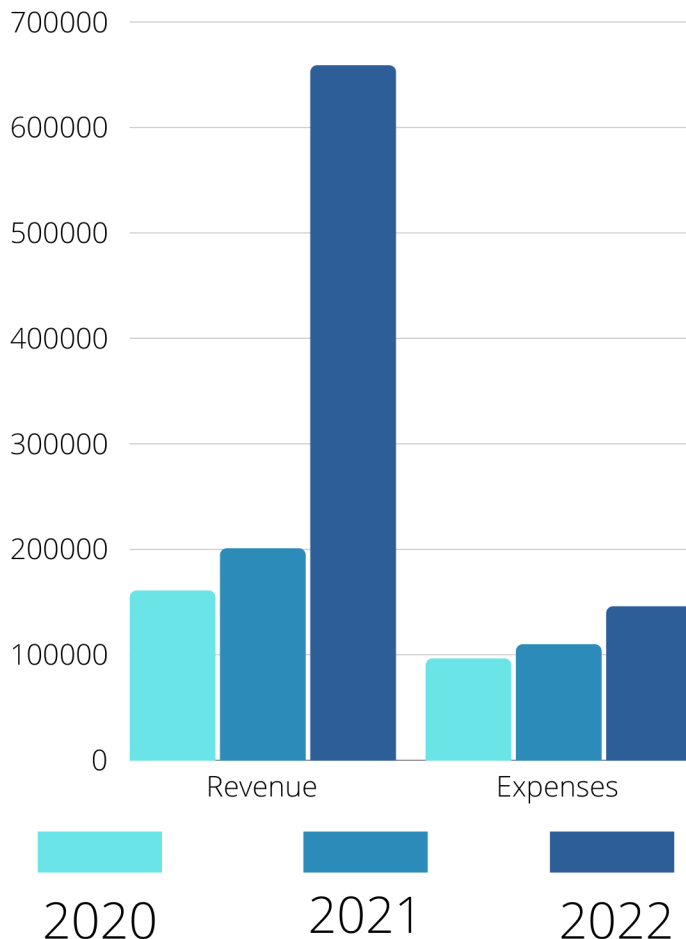
## Revenue

Individuals	\$20,000
Grants	\$66,000
Fundraisers	\$48,000
Other	\$15,000
Special gift	\$510,000
Total Operating Revenue	\$659,000

## Expense

Programs	\$69,000
Management	\$45,000
Fundraisers	\$10,000
Scholarships	\$22,000
Total Operating Expense	\$146,000

## OVERVIEW



## Contributors

### Special Gift

College High Wildcat Scholarship Fund

### Sustainer

BWL & KSL Foundation for Education

### Doctorate level

Joel & Cherie Carrington  
ConocoPhillips  
DSR  
George Sneed  
Oklahoma Wesleyan University  
Phillips 66

### Master level

Bartlesville Community  
Foundation: Grant via  
Anonymous Donor  
Bartlesville Regional United  
Way  
Mike & Cindy Dronyk  
Go Global  
Knights of Columbus  
K.S. Adams Foundation  
Joel & Shirley Martin

Steve & Terri Meyer  
Moxie on 2nd  
Phillips 66: Midstream L&E  
Philanthropy Team  
Terry & Cheri Spears  
Truity Credit Union  
Walmart Corporation  
Anonymous Donor

### Bachelor level

5th & Shawnee Liquor Co.  
Arvest Bank  
Arvest Wealth Management  
Kevin & Mary-Beth Buchanan  
Bartlesville Community  
Foundation: Grant via Brett &  
Brittany Shoemaker  
Bartlesville Community  
Foundation: Legacy Hall of  
Fame  
Scott & Pam Bilger  
BTC Broadband  
Caroline Casselberry  
Farmers Insurance: Brian  
Kennedy

Gary & Sheila Kilpatrick  
David & Emily Nelson  
Joan Matthews  
Terry & Lynn Potts  
Nic & Julie Pranger  
Andrew & Megan Proctor  
The Eatery by 3 Kids & A  
Cake  
Regent Bank  
Earl & Jane Sears  
Norman Schneider  
Dan & Pam Schultes  
Randy & Tammy Strimple  
Bo & Rachelle Wilson  
Anonymous Donors

### Associate level

Jo Ann A Akers  
Royal Aills  
Mark & Cathy Archambo  
Carolyn Sue Cossey  
Michel and Peggy Crowder  
Representative Julie Daniels &  
Charlie Daniels  
Bill & Charlotte Dausses  
Warren & Joleen Ewert  
Stacey Foresman  
Melody Hughes  
Rebecca Godkin  
Rod Harwood & Lisa Roll  
Charles & Robin Holland Jr  
Mark & Debbie Haskell

John & Barbara Kane  
Dr. Varadharajan Kailasam  
& Molly Collins  
Don & Susan Lauffer  
Edna Suzanne Merrill  
Jeff & Sara Meszaros  
Keith Sheffield & Bobbi  
Sexson  
United Linen & Uniform  
Services  
John & Stevie Williams  
Joe Williams  
Anonymous Donor

# A Community of Helping Hands

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is,  
What are you doing for others?"  
Martin Luther King, Jr.



1st Annual Volunteer Project at The Sutton Center



## Keep in Contact

[www.loweyoungscholar.org](http://www.loweyoungscholar.org)  
[office.youngscholars@gmail.com](mailto:office.youngscholars@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/LFYSP](https://www.facebook.com/LFYSP)  
918-766-6675

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