

Spring 2025



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:	
Fantasy Event	2
Background on Zeffy	3
Scholarship Winner Highlights	4
Grant & LAM Information	6
Fund Fest	6
Fund Fest Form	7
Voting & Credentials Info	8
Call for Annual Meeting	8

ESAF CHAIRMAN ARTICLE

It's late February as I write this and in St. Louis we are thawing from a snowy and VERY cold snap last week, just in time for the big Mardi Gras event in the area. I saw a bluebird outside my window this morning and I'm sure it is looking forward to the warmer weather and the end of winter. I've been enjoying the longer days, which have inspired my orchids to set blooms which they so generously share at the end of winter – just when I need their cheery burst of color the most.

As with nature, this time of year is now a new cycle for the Foundation Board. This is the second year of the Board's calendar year rotation. We officially transitioned positions following our Annual Board meeting in February. I'd like to thank the outgoing Directors, Patricia Howerton and Ann Southall. They are both completing their second three-year terms and their commitment to the Foundation is greatly appreciated by the Board. I would also like to welcome our incoming Directors, Anne Murry, Missouri, and Rosalie Griffith, Oklahoma.

In January the Board elected this year's officers: Kim Mandrell, Chairman, Rosalie Griffith, Vice Chairman, Tammy Akines, Secretary, and Gordon Leong, Treasurer. Foundation Directors fill a variety of Chairmanships, many of whom you will see writing articles in this and future newsletters. I'd like to highlight a few of the positions.

The Foundation Counselors' Chairman has transitioned from Patricia to Anne Murry. Anne is an active ESA member and is also involved with several other non-profit organizations. She is looking forward to working with the Foundation Counselors this year.

Kathy Loyd continues to be the Scholarship Chairman. It's a busy time of year, as the season closed on January 31st, and Kathy and her committee are busy with reviewing applications and sending the qualified application to independent judges who will determine this year's winners.

Rosalie Griffith is continuing as the Grants Chairman and Judi King is continuing as the Endowment Chairman.

The Foundation Fund Fest is again being co-chaired by Patricia Howerton and Tammy Akines. We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the Fund Fest at IC Convention in North Carolina in July.

As I conclude, I'd like to share the words of Malala Yousafzai: "Let's remember: One book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world." Thank you for your support of the ESAF Foundation and helping to change the world for so many deserving students. Your support makes a difference.

Kim Mandrell, ESA Foundation Chairman

Important Reminder

2025 Fantasy Event

Just a reminder that our 2025 Fantasy Event is going on.

“Journey into the BIG Blue” is this year’s theme Imagine the Blue Ridge Parkway as you let your mind take a stroll. Join in as we imagine this beautiful scenery. Remember your generous donation is tax-deductible. We have several different ways for you to make your donation simple such as using **Zeffy.com/donation-form/2025-fantasy-event** or visiting our website or simply just mailing your gift.

Thank you for your unwavering support of the ESA Foundation.

Tammy Akines

2025 Fantasy Event Chairman



BACKGROUND ON ZEFFY

You may have seen in the Fantasy Event communications that if you are using a credit card, you were directed to a new app, Zeffy. The ESA Foundation is looking to offset cost associated with credit card charges and Zeffy is one means of accomplishing that goal. Credit Card charges are one of the top two charges for the Foundation in 2024, where we spent \$8,700 in credit card processing fees.

Zeffy is an app that is strictly for nonprofit organizations, and will eliminate credit card charges directly to the Foundation. Zeffy is able to do this by asking for contributions during the payment from the donators. Please note that you are not required to donate to Zeffy, as that is an optional feature to support the app. **All you need to do is to change the charge to Zeffy under your payment amount to zero (0).** If you are inclined to support Zeffy, you can donate at your comfort level.

The Zeffy app also allows us to ask questions, which will help the Foundation to understand how to effectively manage these events. It will also help to ensure that the appropriate data get entered into Member Suite.

The Foundation is using the Fantasy Event as a trial to work out the details around the system, as well as reworking the procedures at HQ to ensure the information is captured correctly. Ultimately, as we work through the Zeffy process, we want to use it for all of the Foundation electronic payments such as the Foundation Fund Fest and membership renewal. We welcome any comments or questions regarding this change, please contact either Gordon Leong, Treasurer, or Kim Mandrell, Chairperson.



Scholarship Highlight

Martha & Jim Beshears
And
Missouri Torchbearer's



"I am extremely honored to be chosen as the recipient of two of your scholarships. The Martha and Jim Beshears Scholarship and the Missouri Torchbearer's Scholarship. These scholarships will significantly impact my education journey, allowing me to pursue my dreams and ensuring cost will not be a barrier to my success. I am extremely grateful for both of these scholarship opportunities. Your support and belief in my potential means more to me than words can express. As someone who has grown up with health issues, it was especially meaningful for me to receive the Martha and Jim Beshears Scholarship, which is for students with IEP's or 504s. This makes me all the more grateful for your investment in my future." I plan to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Neuroscience, which will eventually lead me to Medical School. My overall goal is not based on what will make me the most successful, but rather on my burning desire to give back, in the same way that I have been given so much. My medical challenges will always be with me, whether that is evident through my regularly scheduled infusions, or the life lessons it has taught me. I hope to one day find some cure for autoimmune disorders, but right now I have learned important values for which to be thankful.

"Your generosity inspires me, and I am truly honored to be a recipient of your kindness."

Oliver Oates



Scholarship Highlight

Georgia State Council



“Thank you for granting me your generous Georgia State Council Scholarship. I was so excited to hear that I was a finalist and selected as a recipient of this scholarship. I am enrolled in Harding University and can’t wait to dive into my major in Interior Architecture and Design. Even though I won’t be graduating college until 2028, I am already looking forward to applying my new knowledge to making my dreams of creating accessible spaces for the disabled and marginalized people in my community come true. Thank you for investing in my future.

I am very honored to be selected for this scholarship and I promise you I will work as hard as I can to make the most out of my college education. Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Macayla Hutsler



Did you know?

Did you know that the ESA Foundation has a Grant program that supports people working to continue to improve their knowledge to effectively do their job? The Foundation awarded four grants for a total of \$10,000 in 2024. The grants were awarded to individuals seeking to improve: their nursing skills, their specialized counseling skills, assisting individuals with PTSD, or those learning how to help individuals with mental health conditions, traumatic experiences, and distressing memories. The Foundation felt that these were very worthwhile learning experiences.

The funding for the Grants comes from your Life Active Membership fees. A portion of your fees, which is invested, goes to supporting the Grant program. As the number of individuals seeking grants to improve their education is increasing, your participation in joining the Foundation as a Life Active Member is a key step in our ability to continue to support these individuals. In addition, donations can be made directly to the Grant fund, which is similar to making a donation to an endowment.

ESAF Fund Fest

Make plans to meet your friends at the

ESAF Fund Fest

In Cary, North Carolina.

There will be FUN! GAMES! and

back by popular demand:

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS!

Start planning your State Basket!





Come and Play at the Foundation Fund Fest!!
Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Please let us know if you would be able to help at a game, set up, clean up, donate, or work at the silent auction tables and/or the game areas.

Sponsors: _____ \$100 Carnival Sponsor

FFF Patrons: _____ \$200 Silver _____ \$300 Gold _____ \$500 Pearl _____ \$1,000 Platinum

Volunteer at the Silent Auction Table and Game Areas _____

Member Name/Email Address _____

Chapter Name/Number _____

Willing to Donate: _____ Silent Auction Items _____

_____ Oral Auction Items _____

_____ State Basket – Description _____

**Please remember that successful basket winner will probably be traveling by plane.
 Consider donating an 'experience' at a future convention city's event or outing.**

(PLEASE mark value of all auction items to assist in bid amounts)

+++++

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please return this form to: Patricia Howerton
esaffundfest@gmail.com

VOTING AND CREDENTIALS INFORMATION

Voting for Foundation elections will be held electronically. To be sure you receive a ballot, it is important that your current email address is on file. To check your email address, go to the ESA website (<https://epsilonsigmaalpha.org/>) and log into the member center and check the address listed on your profile. Votes for chapters, councils, and other entities will be sent to the email address of the person listed as the President for that chapter.

Members who have opted to not receive emails from the ESA Foundation and who want to receive a ballot should contact ESA Headquarters and provide an active email address.

If you are not sure if you are eligible for voting, please contact your Foundation Counselor or the ESA Vice-Chairman, Rosalie Griffith, rosalie.griffith2@aol.com. (Foundation State Counselor information is available at: <https://epsilonsigmaalpha.org/scholarships-and-grants/scholarships/state-counselors>)

For assistance updating your email address, please contact ESA Headquarters at 970-223-2824 or send an email to esainfo@epsilonsigmaalpha.org.

ESA FOUNDATION

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
TO BE HELD THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025 FROM 2:00 – 3:30 PM IN CARY, NORTH CAROLINA**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ESA FOUNDATION:

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the members of the ESA Foundation will be held at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Raleigh-Durham/Research Triangle on Thursday, July 17, 2025, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM for the purpose of conducting ESA Foundation business that is deemed necessary.

All members whose dues have been received by the ESA Headquarters office by December 31, 2024, are entitled to vote on any business that comes before the Board.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rosalie Griffith
Vice-Chairman of the Board
February 28, 2025

For Office Use Only:

Date: _____ Amount: _____

Receipt #: _____ Check #: _____


FOUNDATION®
 EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA

CONTRIBUTION FORM
ESA Foundation ♦ 2580 E Harmony Rd. Suite 301-11, Fort Collins, Colorado 80528

A member is considered ACTIVE and is eligible to vote at the annual meeting if his/her dues have been received at the Headquarters office by December 31st.

Enclosed is my donation, made payable to ESA Foundation in the amount of \$ _____.

 This Donation is from: ☐ an individual ☐ a group (chapter/council/corporation/other)

Donor Name _____ Member # _____ Chapter/Council/District # _____ Chapter/Council/District Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

 Credit Card: ☐ Master Card ☐ VISA ☐ Discover Expiration Date: _____

Credit Card Number _____ Security Code _____ (3 digit # back of card)

Email Address: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____

 Please apply my donation to: ☐ \$40.00 Annual Dues

 \$ _____ ☐ Perpetual Endowment for: _____

 \$ _____ ☐ Scholarship for: _____

 \$ _____ ☐ Other for: _____

(Note: Other Perpetual Endowment and Scholarship – Please insert specific Name)

This Donation is a memorial for: _____

This Donation is in honor of: _____

Acknowledgement Address: _____

*****WE SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION*****