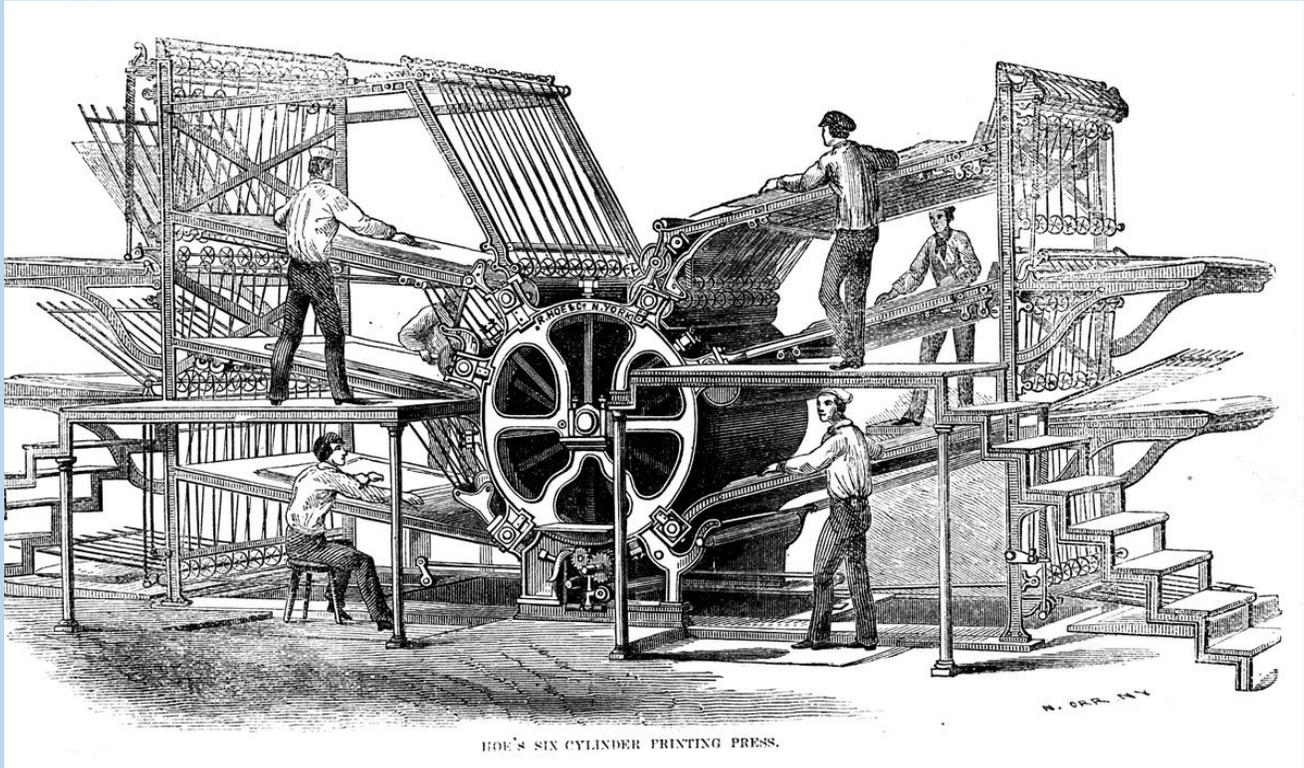


# MISSOURI PRESS FOUNDATION

# 2020 Annual Report



# Preserving the Past Focused on the Future



Missouri Press  
Foundation

*Dedicated to Freedom for Tomorrow's World*

## **HIGHLIGHTS FOR OUR STAKEHOLDERS**

### **Financial Highlights**

In 2020, we cancelled several activities to mitigate and prevent the spread of COVID-19, a global pandemic that paradoxically made newspapers more essential while reducing the capacity of people to support them. The most exciting financial news is definitely growth in the Page Builders program. With a new high of 55 Page Builders and an increased match from Missouri Press Services, the Foundation raised almost \$55,000 through the donation of ad space and/or the giving of advertising revenue. There are also more than 100 members of the giving Society of 1867, including 14 members who joined for the first time or increased in giving levels last year.



Michael Harper  
Missouri Press Foundation Director

### **Key Performance Indicators**

The Missouri Press Foundation's mission is to honor the past, protect the present, and build the future of journalism in general and Missouri newspapers in particular as a vibrant force in a democratic society. The Key Performance Indicators that measure our success are:

- Awards and inductions that honor those in the newspaper industry
- Summer interns who offer vital energy to Missouri newspapers and acquire vital skills to succeed as journalists going forward
- Financial support that helps our industry thrive, including scholarships that make educational opportunities a reality for young journalists
- Downloads of our Newspapers in Education activities to increase newspaper information literacy rates among young readers and writers
- Participation in events that bring us together to celebrate and collaborate

### **Looking Ahead**

Early this year, the Foundation was on a continued upward trajectory. We were poised to build off the many successes of 2018 and 2019, but we had to make some hard decisions and take short-term losses for long-term benefits. There was nothing to actually be gained by meeting one-time goals at the cost of relationships with and the overall well-being of our friends, members, donors, and other community members. While most of our numbers are not as high this year, I am proud of the story they tell, and I look forward to returning back to the Foundation's upward trajectory next year. If you have ideas you would like to see in 2021, please reach out. I always look forward to meeting with our members, donors, and other partners.

With very best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Harper', written in a cursive style.

Michael Harper  
Missouri Press Foundation Director

**Missouri Press Foundation History**

Founded in 1984, the Missouri Press Foundation became the educational arm of the Missouri Press Association. It was hoped by providing training programs for Missouri newspapers’ staff members and awarding scholarships to Missourians studying community journalism the Foundation would ultimately strengthen communities throughout Missouri. The founding members believed good newspapers translated into good, vibrant communities.

**Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of our private, nonprofit organization sets goals consistent with our mission, vision and values, and oversees resources to ensure they are used to further our charitable purpose. The board is self-perpetuating, composed of people selected by the board, to reflect the interests of Missouri newspapers. The board bears the ultimate authority and accountability for everything Missouri Press Foundation does. It sets policy, but it does not manage the organization.

**2020 Board Members**



Vicki Russell  
President



Dave Berry  
Vice Pres. & Interim Pres.



Doug Crews  
Secretary-Treasurer

*Emeritus:  
Rogers Hewitt*

Steve Ahrens  
Brian Brooks  
Kathy Conger  
Liz Irwin

Wendell Lenhart  
Bill Miller, Sr.  
Jim Robertson

Jean Snider  
John Spaar  
James Sterling

Paul Stevens  
Dane Vernon  
Dalton Wright

**This year, we said goodbye to Wallace Vernon. Wallace had a long history of service to Missouri Press and the Foundation. His leadership, judgment, passion and compassion will be greatly missed by the Missouri newspaper community.**



Wallace Vernon, 1973 MPA Pres.  
Hall of Fame Inductee 1994

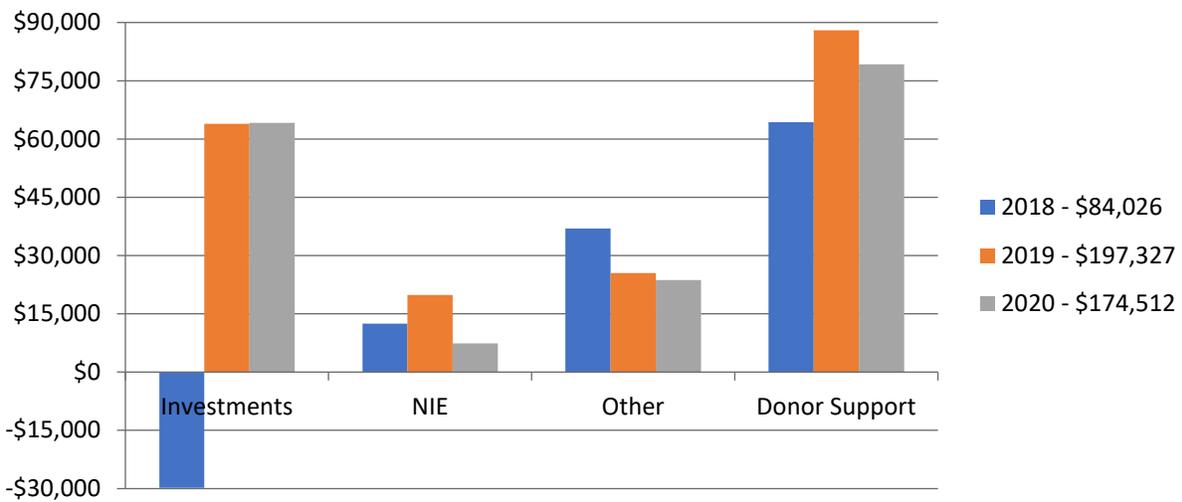
## FINANCES

Under the direction of Michael Harper, the Missouri Press Foundation continues to make new efforts to increase revenue, decrease expenses, and make more efficient use of the resources you entrust to us to increase mission-related activity.

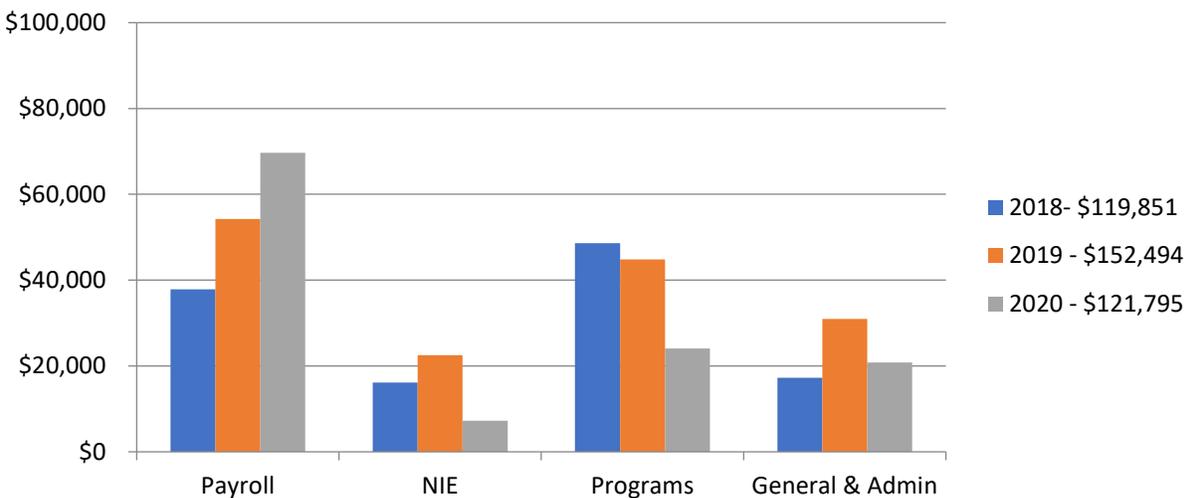
### Statement of Comprehensive Income

In 2020, the Foundation reported income of \$174,512 and expenses of \$121,795. The decreases in income are largely attributed to programs canceled in accordance with suggested pandemic protocol. With so many canceled programs this year, the highest remaining expense was payroll, including administrative costs relevant to payroll. Those increased as changes were made with third-party vendors and the Missouri Press Association. Changes made at the end of 2020 are expected to keep payroll expenses from increasing in 2021.

### Income



### Expenses



*Above numbers are from the non-audited end-of-year financials.*

## **COMMUNITY BUILDING**

### **Page Builders**

Each year, many Missouri newspapers unite to build a foundation for preserving the past, protecting the present, and focusing on the future of our industry. This Page Builders program is the backbone of the Foundation, allowing us to accomplish more together than we ever could apart. We received nearly \$55,000 in generous support pledged from 55 Page Builder newspapers. MPS increased their matching contribution to 50% of each newspaper's donation.



*The Advertiser, Eldon*  
*Arnold Imperial Leader*  
*Bethany Republican-Clipper*  
*Bolivar Herald-Free Press*  
*Buffalo Reflex*  
*Cedar Co. Republican*  
*Christian Co. Headliner-News*  
*Columbia Missourian*  
*The Courier-Tribune*  
*Cuba Free Press*  
*Daily American Republic*  
*The Daily Events*  
*Delta Dunklin Democrat*  
*Dexter Statesman*  
*Doniphan Prospect-News*  
*Focus on Oak Grove*  
*Gasconade Co. Republican*  
*Houston Herald*  
*The Index, Hermitage*  
*Jefferson Co. Leader*  
*The Joplin Globe*  
*The Kansas City Star*  
*Laclede Co. Record*  
*The Marshfield Mail*  
*Marble Hill Banner Press*  
*Marshall Democrat News*  
*Monett Times*  
*Mound City News*

*Nevada Daily Mail*  
*North Missourian*  
*Northeast News*  
*The Odessan*  
*Ozark Co. Times*  
*Pemiscot Press*  
*The Republic-Monitor*  
*St. Louis Co. & St. Charles Community News*  
*St. James Press*  
*St. Joseph News-Press*  
*St. Louis American*  
*St. Louis Call Newspaper*  
*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*  
*The Salem News*  
*Sedalia Democrat*  
*Shannon Co. Current Wave*  
*Sikeston Standard Democrat*  
*Southeast Missourian*  
*Steelville Star-Crawford Mirror*  
*Thayer South Missourian*  
*The Tipton Times*  
*Trenton Republican-Times*  
*Unionville Republican*  
*The Unterrified Democrat*  
*Versailles Leader-Statesman*  
*Warrensburg Star-Journal*  
*Washington Missourian*  
*Missouri Press Service*

## Newspapers in Education

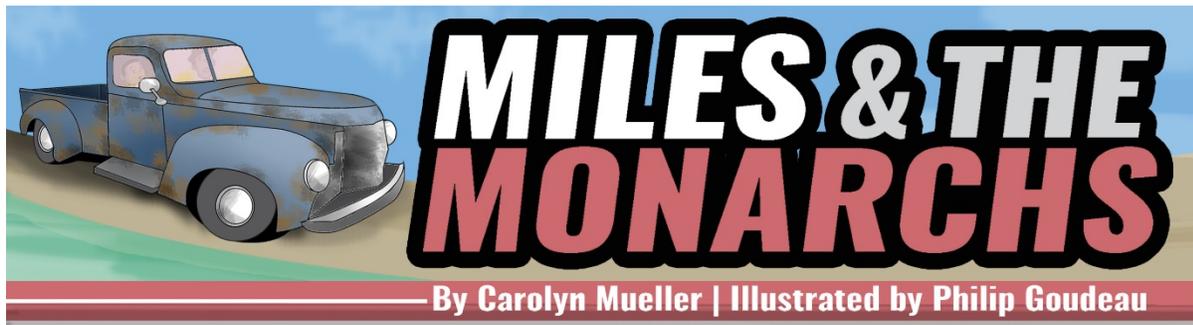
The Reading Across Missouri serial story in 2020 was *Tales of Marvelous Missouri* by Carolyn Mueller and illustrated by Nicole Hartfelder. The story was downloaded 138 times in 2020 for placement in newspapers across the country. Typically, we change a series to fee-based downloads in the early summer months, but in recognition of the hardships faced by educators, students, and their families, we extended the complimentary access this year.

The 2021 NIE serial story, *Miles and the Monarchs*, is now being published by newspapers across Missouri and the country. Our funding partner, the National Newspaper Association Foundation, is once again promoting the story to newspapers nationwide.

Visit [mo-nie.com](http://mo-nie.com) and use the **download code: monarchs** to access all 8 chapters of *Miles and the Monarchs* and the teaching guide.

NIE partnered once again with the Missouri Bar to generate content about voting, including a piece celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment commemorating women's suffrage. The First Lady series, originally written and donated by *The Joplin Globe*, had not been updated, so five first ladies were not included. The series should be up-to-date in time for Women's History Month events in March 2021.

In 2020, there was a total of 635 downloads of Newspaper in Education content.



*Miles and the Monarchs* centers on a father and son trip to see the final game of the 1942 Negro League World Series between the Kansas City Monarchs and the Washington-Homestead Grays. Follow along with Miles as he learns life lessons and discovers the stories behind some of the greatest Negro League Baseball players to ever play the game. The timing of this year's eight-chapter story is especially serendipitous. Major League Baseball has recently announced that players from the Negro Leagues will be considered Major Leaguers. All 3,400 players, from 1920 to 1948, will be elevated to MLB status. Andrew "Rube" Foster established the Negro National League in 1920 in Kansas City, Mo.

SPONSORED BY



**Better Newspaper Contest**



Claire Hassler for the *Columbia Missourian* received first place for mid-size dailies in Best News Photograph for this image of a community vigil against gun violence.

The 2020 Better Newspaper Contest Award Ceremony was held virtually this year, but we still had many newspapers participate, and we still had winners! In 2020, General Excellence recognition was awarded in six categories: Dailies with less than 5,000 circulation; Dailies with 5,001-15,000 circulation; Dailies with over 15,001 circulation; Weeklies with less than 2,000 circulation; Weeklies with 2,001-5,000 circulation; and Weeklies with over 5,001 circulation. The first-place winners in each of these categories are highlighted in the table below. Winners were awarded in more than 60 categories. Gold Cup winners are: *Cassville Democrat*, *Columbia Missourian*, *The Kansas*

*City Star*, *The Monett Times*, *the Richmond News* and *The St. Louis American*. Visit [www.mopress.com/better-newspaper](http://www.mopress.com/better-newspaper) for full contest results.

2020 First-Place Winners in the Six General Excellence Categories	
Small Daily	<b>THE MONETT TIMES</b>
Small Weekly	<b>CASSVILLE Democrat</b> <small>COVERING BARRY COUNTY, MO., LIKE THE MORNING DEW SINCE 1871</small>
Mid-Size Daily	<b>Columbia MISSOURIAN</b>
Mid-Size Weekly	<b>Richmond News</b> 
Large Daily	<b>THE KANSAS CITY STAR.</b>
Large Weekly	<b>THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN</b>

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Photojournalism Hall of Fame Inductees**

Christine M. Cannella was born in Omaha, Nebraska. Her introduction to photography came as a toddler watching her Uncle Joe manipulate his ever-present Leica; she also loved the magic of watching her father's Polaroid pictures reveal themselves.

Chris earned a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism in 1973 from the University of Kansas. She joined the staff of the Leavenworth Times in 1974. In February 1976, the newsroom scanner reported a fire over the feed store downtown. Chris' photo of a fireman rescuing a 7-month-old ran in newspapers around the world. It led to Chris being hired as the first woman among a photo staff of 27 men at the Kansas City Star in 1976.

Chris earned a Master's Degree in Social Welfare in 1983 from the University of Kansas. She became a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Registered Art Therapist until her retirement in 2016. Chris continues to make photographs nearly daily.

Two of her long-term projects include: The shepherdess/poet: four years, following a, then, 14-year-old girl raising a herd of sheep on the Coast of Maine and a year-long project shooting the Milky Way at the New Moon.



John L. Dengler's passion for photojournalism started as a 10-year-old in a relative's abandoned basement darkroom. By 14, he was a staff photographer for The Pioneer, the student-produced newspaper at Southwest High School.

He studied photojournalism at the University of Missouri and spent his breaks as a temporary staff photographer at the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. After graduation, he worked as a features page designer at the Globe-Democrat. Following Angus McDougall's philosophy that photojournalists should produce entire packages from start to finish, he used the position to improve photo editing and usage throughout the paper.

He joined the photography staff a year later where his efforts in photography and picture editing were recognized with numerous regional awards. When the paper closed, he joined the Springfield News-Leader as Graphics Editor, where he continued to push for compelling visual storytelling through design, photography, and infographic reporting. Dengler has also served on the faculty and on the staff of the Missouri Photo Workshop.

In 2008, Dengler took advantage of an opportunity to start a new chapter - a freelance business combining his love of photography with his passion for the outdoors, focusing primarily on conservation and environmental issues. His freelance photography has been used by BBC Books, the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, national travel and regional magazines, and he has work on permanent display at several science museums including the Wonders of Wildlife National Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, Mo.



Odell Mitchell Jr. became interested in photography at age 17 when an older brother brought back a camera from Vietnam. Odell, a native of East St. Louis, Illinois, was an award-winning photographer for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch for twenty-four years.

He traveled throughout the United States, Mexico and Africa covering the gamut of news, sports, fashion and features. In addition to his career at the Post-Dispatch, Odell has taught seminars on photography and has been a judge in various photographic competitions.

His shooting philosophy is “don't pose, just shoot,” to capture the truth and reality of the moment. Odell says, "Photography is so much fun for me. I've been blessed to be able to work professionally doing something that I love that never gets boring or routine for me. There's always something new to learn, too, as I've progressed from using film cameras to using all digital camera equipment."

He currently teaches photography to college and high school students. Odell's photos have been published in national magazines, books and exhibits. He and his wife have published a series of children's books that feature his photography. He lives in O'Fallon, Ill. with his wife, Linda.



Missouri Press Foundation

# SAVE THE DATE

## 2021 Induction Ceremony

### Columbia, Mo. October 21, 4 p.m.

## EVENT SPONSORS

**MILLER'S**  
PROFESSIONAL IMAGING

**CO MO**  
COLUMBIA, MO  
WHAT YOU UNEXPECTED

**Central Bank**  
of Boone County

**Missourian**  
media group

## **INTERNSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS & Society of 1867**

### **2020 Foundation Summer Internship Grant Program**

Student interns may work as reporters, editors, photographers, designers or advertising reps. More information about how newspapers can apply for a summer internship grant can be found at [www.mopress.com/missouri-press-foundation-internships](http://www.mopress.com/missouri-press-foundation-internships). In 2020, the Foundation gave out three internship grants and in years past has given out as many as ten.



### **Featured 2020 Intern: Daisy Garcia Montoya**

I am a senior at UMKC, and this summer I was an editorial assistant at *Northeast News* in Kansas City through a Missouri Press Foundation grant. There is a variety of things that you learn at *Northeast News*, so I got to learn about guerilla journalism, video editing, podcast editing, of course writing for a print newspaper. I think it was very helpful that I got to learn and experience different types of journalism through this internship. I would say for the most part it was great. I would like to go to grad school, and afterwards, I would still like to be involved in the journalism field or the nonprofit sector. I would say that the most difficult story was writing about a local priest being accused

of sexual assault probably because I had seen this priest before and would attend mass while he was the priest. Just to see him in this different perspective - it was kind of crazy to write about it when you thought he was the one person. Reading the documents and everything changed that.

And my most favorite one here was covering the retirement of a long-time barber, Joe Vento, because his personality when he was talking about his stories, how long he's been here - he was so appreciative of the community he served. I think it's just stories from these people, through the generations, that should be highlighted. I think that was a great experience to write about him. It showed me how important it is to have these newspapers because without them you just have like this overall arcing news media over the city but you don't get that specific time to focus on highlighting these people like Joe Vento or other people who have been in the neighborhood and other smaller community events. People are still doing great things but when you don't have this community journalism you don't get to highlight those people as often.

Last summer, apart from being the editorial assistant I was the project manager for the back-to-school issue. It's taught me a lot because I was working on weekly assignments, and I was also having to manage my time in order to meet the deadlines for the back-to-school issue. It showed me how to work on weekly assignments as well as this long-term project. Just knowing how to reach out to people because for this project I had to interview several school leaders so making sure I did that at a good time so that I would have enough time to write it, edit it, then refix, rearrange or whatever I had to do with it. It's just taught me the importance of time management, communication, and just overall meeting the deadlines. I think for anyone going into the journalism field whether that be specific in like digital or even like podcasts, you learn the skills that you need in any type because you learn about time management. You learn about communication, how to reach out to community members how to do interviews. You learn all the basic skills that you need in journalism and you also learn a variety of different types of journalism so I would definitely recommend it to anybody else. I really enjoyed my time here. I think it was a good opportunity for me. I had never been at a newspaper before. Just the school newspaper. Going to this internship gave me the exposure that I needed to cover different areas, and honestly I just feel more prepared for what comes next, so thank you.



## William E. James Outstanding Young Journalists

A large part of our mission at the Foundation is to assist Missouri newspapers hire, train and retain inspiring young journalists. We connect our communities' newspapers with talented students and help provide grants for internships and other projects. These connections are instrumental in keeping many fantastic newspaper journalists in Missouri. We remain involved in their careers as they grow as journalists. Many are consistently recognized in our yearly Better Newspaper Contest and have gone on to receive the William E. James Outstanding Young Journalist Award from the Foundation. During his lifetime, William E. James mentored several young journalists, who have done many great things in the Missouri newspaper industry, and the Foundation is honored to recognize promising young newspaper journalists in his name. The three journalists featured below have benefitted greatly from the support the Foundation has provided toward their careers. All three worked as interns through the Foundation's summer internship grant program and continue to make significant, impactful contributions to Missouri newspaper journalism, winning Better Newspaper Contest awards and each earning the distinction of William E. James Outstanding Young Journalist Award recipients.



Katelyn Mary Skaggs got her start in journalism when her high school English teacher encouraged her to join the newspaper class. "She developed in me a passion for local news and ethical reporting. She showed me why it's so important for communities to have a watchdog," Katelyn Mary said of her teacher. Katelyn Mary started with Leader Publications in Jefferson County in 2018, first as an intern under a Foundation grant and upon graduation from Southeast Missouri State University became a full-time staff reporter, covering the Missouri cities of Eureka and Byrnes Mill, as well as police and fire news and the local health department.



Ethan Colbert is a Bowling Green native who worked for several different newspapers before graduating from the University of Missouri School of Journalism, including the *Cedar County Republican* and *Stockton City Journal*, the *Buffalo Reflex*, the *Jefferson City News Tribune*, and the *Columbia Missourian*. In 2015, Ethan became the editor of the *Bowling Green Times*. While editor, the *Times* received more than 50 awards from the Missouri Press Foundation Better Newspaper Contest and was considered one of the best weekly newspapers in the state. Ethan was recently hired as the editor of the *Washington Missourian*.



Hannah Spaar was born to be a journalist. The Spaar family have been members of the Missouri Press community for decades, and their involvement in Missouri journalism goes back even further than that. Hannah is the news editor of *The Odessan* and *Focus on Oak Grove*, overseeing coverage of seven municipalities, three school districts and two fire districts. Since 2019, Hannah has been president of the Show Me Press Association Board of Directors, a regional press association serving central and northeast Missouri. Hannah is also a member of the Missouri Press Association Board of Directors.

## End-of-the-Year Campaign

# Missouri Press Foundation

## Thank You to Everyone

who gave to our end-of-the-year fundraisers.

Because of you, we've raised \$13,133.34 to support our young journalist and Newspapers in Education programs. We are so very grateful to everyone below who made a gift to the Foundation.

Clyde Bentley  
 Dave Berry  
 Donna Bischoff  
 Amos Bridges  
 Brian S. Brooks  
 Call Newspapers  
 Doug & Tricia Crews  
 Beth Durreman  
 Steve & Laura White Erdel  
 Connie Farrow  
 Ed Finkelstein  
 Jim & Debbie Forbes  
 Kent & Sharon Ford  
 Gallatin Publ. Co.  
 Michael & Amber Harper  
 Helen Headrick  
 Shirley Hillhouse  
 Bryan & Angela Jones  
 Kathy Kiely  
 Sue & Alan King

Bill Kuykendall  
 Leader Publications  
 Anne Ledbetter  
 Edward & Arleen Lee  
 Mark Maassen  
 Patrick & Kathleen Martin  
 Joseph Martineau  
 Joe & Phyllis May  
 Jim & Sue Mayo  
 Keith McMillin  
 David Meadows  
 Bill & Jackie Miller  
 Marilyn Miller  
 Daryl Moen  
 Walter Pfeffer  
 Karen Philp  
 Martha Pickens  
 Missy Martinette Pinkel  
 Don Ranly  
 Paul & Kim Ratcliffe

Rita Reed  
 David Rees  
 Jim & Debbie Robertson  
 Vicki Russell  
 Sage Information Services  
 Tom Schultz  
 Janice Shuck  
 Randall & Joyce Smith  
 Jean & Larry Snider  
 Gary & Helen Sosniecki  
 Joe & Renee Spaar  
 Jim & Nancy Sterling  
 Paul & Linda Stevens  
 Dane & Sharene Vernon  
 Trevor & Molly Vernon  
 Dennis & Connie Warden  
 Donald & Jeannie Warden  
 Andy & Suzette Waters  
 Pamela Wingo

## Scholarships



The Gierke Family Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Tyler Pedersen of Louisiana, Mo. in 2020. Pedersen is a freshman at St. Charles Community College and was awarded \$2,000, distributed evenly each of his first two semesters. This endowed scholarship memorializes brothers Jacob and Christian Gierke and their father, Jim, who was the former owner of the Louisiana Press-Journal, a newspaper in the Northeastern part of Missouri. This \$2,000 scholarship is administered by the Missouri Press Foundation and the winner is selected by the Louisiana Alumni and Friends Association.



The William A. and JoAnne Bray Scholarship is a one-time award of \$2,500 given every other year to one University of Missouri undergraduate student entering their junior or senior year at the University of Missouri School of Journalism are eligible to apply. Selection of scholarship recipients

by the Foundation is based on need, academic achievement and commitment to journalism.

The 2020 scholarship was awarded to Regan Mertz, a senior at the Missouri School of Journalism. She is majoring in Convergence Investigative Journalism and minoring in History. She is the secretary of Science, Health and Environmental Journalism at Mizzou and is a Teaching Assistant for Convergence Journalism. Regan has reported and produced for the media outlets, The Maneater, GUIDON, KOMU, OTT, KBIA, Global Journalist, Vox Magazine and the Missouri Information Corps. She has been on the Dean's List every semester since her freshman year. Regan is from Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

## Society of 1867

Society of 1867 membership is bestowed on donors who have given money to support the important history of Missouri newspapers and show their dedication to helping our newspapers and journalists meet the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Levels in the Society of 1867 are achieved with outright or cumulative contributions beginning in 2013. A donor wall, at MPA, recognizes donors of \$5,000 and more. On the next two pages are end-of-year standings for Society of 1867 donors.



## SOCIETY OF 1867

---

Members who joined their current level in 2020 are in orange.

### Joseph Charless, Missouri Gazette – Legacy Giving – \$25,000 and above

William A. & Jo Anne Bray  
William L. Miller, Sr.

Henry J. (Hank) Waters & Vicki Russell  
Edward L. Steele

### Walter Williams Level – \$10,000

Dave Berry  
**Brian S. Brooks**  
Wanda Brown  
Doug & Tricia Crews  
Brent & Sue Gierke  
**Richard G. Miller**

National World War I Museum & Memorial  
Jeff & Mary Schrag  
**Silver Dollar City Attractions**  
*St. Louis Post-Dispatch*  
Wallace & Marjorie Vernon

### The State Historical Society of Missouri Level – \$5,000

David & Suzanne Bradley  
Columbia Convention & Visitors Bureau  
Tom & Marilyn Miller  
National Newspaper Assoc. Foundation

Jim & Debbie Robertson  
Jon K. Rust  
**Larry & Jean Snider**

### Country Editor – \$2,500

Bruce Campbell  
Phil & Kathy Conger  
*Jefferson Co. Leader &  
Arnold-Imperial Leader*  
Kevin & Tina Jones  
Lathrop Gage Consulting  
Mark Maassen  
Maneke Law Group

Joe & Phyllis May  
The McClatchy Company Foundation  
Missouri Propane Gas Association  
Charles E. Richards  
Gary W. Rust  
**Gary & Helen Sosniecki**  
James & Nancy Sterling  
Windhover Photojournalism

### Editor/Publisher Level – \$1,000

Melody Bezenek  
Tianna Brooks  
Central Bank of Boone Co.  
Charton Communications  
Duane Dailey

Harold Ellinghouse  
Dennis Ellsworth  
Steve & Laura White Erdel  
S. Richard Gard, Jr.  
Tom & Margaret Hall

Michael & Amber Harper  
Webster Hawkins  
**Rogers & Gerdal**  
**Hewitt**  
**Liz Irwin**

**Editor/Publisher Level – \$1,000 (cont.)**

**Bryan & Angela Jones**  
 Kathy Kiely  
 Doris H. Kirkpatrick  
 Keith McMillin  
*Ozark County Times*  
 Pulse Legal Publications  
**Don Ranly**

*Shannon Co. Current Wave*  
 Brent Simpson  
 R.B. "Bob" & Pat Smith  
 John Spaar  
 Paul & Linda Stevens  
 Dane & Sharene Vernon

Trevor & Molly Vernon  
 Dennis & Connie Warden  
 Donald & Jeannie Warden  
 James Mahlon White  
 Bill D. & Carlene Williams  
 Dalton Wright

**Eugene Field Level – \$500**

*Atchison County Mail*  
 Clyde Bentley  
**Donna Bischoff**  
 Marge Blosser  
 Michael & Kristen Crews  
**Beth Durreman**  
**Connie Farrow**  
 Edward M. Finkelstein  
 Kent & Sharon Ford  
 Linda Whelan Geist  
 Chuck Haney  
 Randy James  
 Mike Jenner

*Laclede County Record*  
 Anne B. Ledbetter  
 Brenda & Michael H.  
 Ledbetter  
 Wendell & Tricia Lenhart  
 Dave Marner  
**Patrick & Kathleen Martin**  
 Donald & Norma Means  
*Mound City News*  
 Keith & Kathleen Myers  
 Sandy Filley-Nelson  
 Karen Philp  
 Walter B. Potter

**Sage Information Services**  
 Peggy Scott  
 Randall & Joyce Smith  
 Stars & Stripes Museum  
 The State Historical  
 Society of Missouri  
 Ben Weir  
 Gallatin Publishing  
 Company  
 Kristie Williams  
 Dan Zimmerman  
 David Zimmerman

**Very Important Persons**

**You! are the biggest VIP to the Missouri Press Foundation**



We couldn't do what we do without your support. The time, resources, and energy you contribute make the Missouri Press Foundation successful in our mission.

2020 was a particularly challenging year for all of us, yet our community rose up to meet each of those challenges head on. Perhaps this year, the "I" in "VIP" can also stand for "Impressive." We are grateful for the opportunity to work with and on behalf of all of you.

Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report. We look forward to discussing 2021 - and the years ahead - with each of you.

**Thank you to our Missouri Press Foundation Annual Report print sponsor, Vernon Publishing.**



# Leave a lasting legacy



You can make a significant impact on the future of print journalism in Missouri. It's easier than you think. You can do it today - with a legacy gift through your IRA or will - and we are here to help. Making Missouri Press Foundation (Federal EIN 43-1342904) a contingent beneficiary of your IRA or adding a simple paragraph to your will is all it takes. A planned gift costs you absolutely nothing during your lifetime, preserving both your savings and cash for expenses, but still allows you to do so much more for the future of Missouri newspapers than you ever thought possible. Interested? Contact MPF Director, Michael Harper, at [mharper@mopress.com](mailto:mharper@mopress.com) to ensure your lasting legacy.



802 Locust Street • Columbia, MO 65201 • 573-449-4167 • Fax: 573-874-5894  
The Missouri Press Foundation is a 501(c)(3) general not for profit corporation.