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# Minnesota Private College Fund

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Donor Report  
2010–2011

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# Dear Friends:

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We are going to set aside modesty for a moment to point out that this isn't just any collection of private liberal arts colleges; in fact, when we look at graduation rates of private colleges by state, ours is the highest in the Midwest — and fifth nationally. This is a strong group of institutions, one that knows how to ensure our students succeed in school — and life.

So for all of the 187 donors who made gifts in the most current fiscal year, you can be confident that you are sustaining strong institutions that are able to make a difference for our students, especially for the 345 students who received Fund scholarships.

It was heartening to have many donors join presidents and other board members for a luncheon this fall where we could take a few minutes and celebrate what donor support achieves. It is remarkable to think of the \$82 million donors have given to our institutions and students through the Fund over the years. Several students who receive scholarships joined us at the event, with a few of them sharing their personal stories in a compelling video. If you weren't able to be with us, you will want to watch this short piece, which is available online at [www.mnprivatecolleges.org/giving](http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org/giving).

The number of our long-term donors continues to grow; nine stalwart supporters who have reached the 50-year mark in recent years were recognized at the luncheon; that group is described in more detail in this report. Whether you have been with us for generations or just a year, know that your gifts are strategic investments in students who are going to shape the future of our state. We are so grateful for all that our donors are able to do to support our students.

Sincerely,



MaryAnn Baenninger  
*President, College of Saint Benedict  
Chair, Minnesota Private College Council,  
Fund and Research Foundation*



Paul Cerkenik  
*President, Minnesota Private College Council,  
Fund and Research Foundation*



# Member Colleges

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Augsburg College  
*Minneapolis*  
[www.augsburg.edu](http://www.augsburg.edu)

Bethany Lutheran College  
*Mankato*  
[www.blc.edu](http://www.blc.edu)

Bethel University  
*St. Paul*  
[www.bethel.edu](http://www.bethel.edu)

Carleton College  
*Northfield*  
[www.carleton.edu](http://www.carleton.edu)

College of Saint Benedict  
*St. Joseph*  
[www.csbsju.edu](http://www.csbsju.edu)

The College of St. Scholastica  
*Duluth*  
[www.css.edu](http://www.css.edu)

Concordia College  
*Moorhead*  
[www.concordiacollege.edu](http://www.concordiacollege.edu)

Concordia University  
*St. Paul*  
[www.csp.edu](http://www.csp.edu)

Gustavus Adolphus College  
*St. Peter*  
[www.gustavus.edu](http://www.gustavus.edu)

Hamline University  
*St. Paul*  
[www.hamline.edu](http://www.hamline.edu)

Macalester College  
*St. Paul*  
[www.macalester.edu](http://www.macalester.edu)

Minneapolis College  
of Art and Design  
*Minneapolis*  
[www.mcad.edu](http://www.mcad.edu)

Saint John's University  
*Collegeville*  
[www.csbsju.edu](http://www.csbsju.edu)

Saint Mary's University  
of Minnesota  
*Winona*  
[www.smumn.edu](http://www.smumn.edu)

St. Catherine University  
*St. Paul*  
[www.stkate.edu](http://www.stkate.edu)

St. Olaf College  
*Northfield*  
[www.stolaf.edu](http://www.stolaf.edu)

University of St. Thomas  
*St. Paul*  
[www.stthomas.edu](http://www.stthomas.edu)

# Scholarship Recipient



## Jessica Juncewski

Bethel University '15

Major: Accounting and Finance

Meslow First Generation Scholarship recipient

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For Jessica Juncewski, it was her early experiences on her family's dairy farm that inspired her passion for crunching numbers. When she was little, her dad often had her walk around the barn and count the calves. "If one was missing, it meant that calf was lost. But it was also a way for me to learn my numbers," she said.

Now, Juncewski is a first-year student at Bethel University and using her love of math to major in accounting and finance. She is also considering using her degree to teach high school math one day. Along with her sister (she is the youngest of three daughters), she's the first generation in her family to attend college. One reason she chose to attend Bethel is because it is far enough away from her central Minnesota hometown of Dassel to feel that she is off on her own. At the same time, she likes that it also feels like home, because it is God-centered, secluded and has plenty of wildlife to watch. She said she also knew attending Bethel would allow her to have one-on-one experiences with her professors.

But Juncewski, who works six hours a week as a janitor for her work-study job, wouldn't have been able to attend Bethel without the aid of scholarships. "Having the Meslow First Generation Scholarship helps because I can be more involved in college activities without worrying about how to pay for the classes I'm currently taking," she said.

Though this is her first semester at college, Juncewski already has plans to get involved in volunteering projects while at Bethel. And as a part of her ongoing involvement in the National FFA Organization (also called Future Farmers of America) she'll be running for state office with the group this year, at the encouragement of her high school agriculture teacher. "This was the same teacher who pushed me, more than anyone else, to live out my dreams and go to college — and now I'm doing it," she said.

# Key Facts: Minnesota's Private Colleges

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While diverse in many ways, our 17 member institutions are bound together by some core commitments.

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## **Pursuing excellence**

All of our institutions are focused on excellence in undergraduate teaching and learning. Families know they can rely on our colleges and universities to provide the personal attention to their students that will help them succeed. The result is that Minnesota's Private Colleges have the highest graduation rate in the state, with 64 percent of our undergraduates earning degrees in four years. Nationally, the graduation rate of Minnesota's nonprofit colleges ranks fifth.

## **Providing access**

Our institutions also ensure that their students reflect the diversity of our state; all are committed to helping Minnesota youth overcome barriers to higher education. Financial aid is one key tool. They award more than \$374 million in institutional grants and scholarships.

- About one out of four students at our institutions come from families earning less than \$50,000 per year — about the same proportion as at the University of Minnesota.
- Ninety-two percent of students at our private colleges receive financial aid that does not have to be paid back.
- Twenty percent of our students are “first-generation,” meaning that neither of their parents completed college.

## **Impacting Minnesota**

Minnesota's Private Colleges are providing a solid return and a strong impact. For example, the state of Minnesota spends only three percent of its higher education budget on students at these colleges through need-based student aid, yet our colleges are graduating about one-third of Minnesota's total baccalaureate earners.

We attract thousands of international students and students from other states to come study here. And then when our students graduate, about two-thirds of them decide to stay in Minnesota, regardless of their home state, adding to the quality of the state's workforce and tax base.

# Scholarship Recipient



## Jeenah Archambault

College of Saint Benedict '11 (December)

Major: Psychology

Tennant Company Diversity Scholarship recipient

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Jeenah Archambault was looking for a little piece of her northern Minnesota hometown of Crosby in the colleges she visited — and she found it at the College of Saint Benedict. “It had the small town feeling and promoted a real sense of community, which I like.” The fact that it fostered Benedictine values and offered an “awesome” education were also key factors, she said.

Since her arrival at Saint Ben’s three years ago, she’s taken full advantage of the community. Her life has been a balancing act; in any given week she might be in class, doing homework, participating in extracurriculars, working or volunteering. “Since I’ve been here, I’ve been pushed and challenged to step outside my comfort zone — and I’ve learned a lot both inside and outside of the classroom.”

On the academic side, Archambault has had the chance to participate in psychology research with her professors during several semesters; she’s also the president of the Psychology Club. She plays intramural volleyball for fun and has a work-study job at the Saint John’s University dining hall.

She noted that one reason she’s been able to take full advantage of opportunities at Saint Ben’s is her scholarships, including the Tennant Company Diversity Scholarship. “It’s allowed me to step out into the community to help others.”

Currently, she volunteers for Youth for Christ, an organization that pairs youth with adult mentors. She’s also taken several courses with a service learning component. In one class, she helped run a mental health awareness campaign on campus; for another, she had a study buddy at St. Joseph Lab School.

After graduation, she will continue her search for community by teaching English in Korea, the country where she was born before being adopted by Minnesotans. But she’s confident that Saint Ben’s influence won’t be forgotten. “The traditions and values here are ever-present — and that sticks with you even after you graduate.”

# 50-Year Donors

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Many donors support private higher education as an ongoing commitment. Over generations, they remain steadfast supporters, whom we are grateful to have as allies. For a growing number of our donors, that commitment has endured for 50 years.

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One more organization reached the 50-year threshold in 2011:

**Groves Foundation** — Franklin and Carolyn Groves established Groves Foundation to generate income for various arts, education and health facilities in the Minneapolis area. Groves Foundation regularly ranks among the Fund’s top 20 donors each year. The foundation’s first gift to the Fund was in 1957; since then it has contributed more than \$196,000.

Generations of students have been helped by the generosity of Groves Foundation, and others who have met this milestone. The other donors who have been with us for more than 50 years are:

Xcel Energy Foundation	59 years
North Shore Bank of Commerce	56 years
Otter Tail Corporation	56 years
BNSF Foundation	55 years
W.P. & R.S. Mars Co.	55 years
Merchants Bank	54 years
Oneida Realty Company	54 years
Winona National Bank	53 years
Faegre & Benson Foundation	52 years
Federated Insurance Companies	52 years
Goodin Company	52 years
Tennant Foundation	52 years
The Graco Foundation	51 years
Horton Inc.	51 years
Smyth Companies	51 years

# Scholarship Recipient



## Ben Yawakie

Augsburg College '14

Majors: Biology and Chemistry

Galileo Scholarship recipient

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Ben Yawakie can sum up his choice to transfer to Augsburg College in a single word. “The most crucial element for me in picking Augsburg was the diversity,” he said. He appreciated not only the large number of multicultural student organizations, but how open all of the groups were to everyone who was interested in getting involved. Since transferring this fall, Yawakie has joined Augsburg’s chapter of the American Indigenous Student Association (AISA). The group helps bring elements of Native culture to campus and the larger community, including their annual powwow, which people from across Minnesota attend, he said.

Since Yawakie is from Brooklyn Park, being a part of the local Native American community in Minneapolis is important to him, he said. He’s already begun tutoring South High School students who live in the nearby Little Earth community and surrounding areas in south Minneapolis. He also volunteers through AISA as well as MIGIZI, a program for Native American youth that he found through Augsburg’s volunteer services.

Yawakie’s ultimate career goal is also related to helping the Native American community; he wants to become a pediatrician or a family practice doctor and work on his parents’ home reservations. Because the University of Minnesota-Duluth Medical School’s mission statement relates to serving rural populations, including those living on reservations, he would like to continue his education there.

Right now, he’s working toward his dream of being a doctor by participating in biology research with his professors; he’s also planning on shadowing an emergency room doctor in the upcoming semester. He noted that he wouldn’t be able to do either of these activities if he didn’t have scholarships.

“If I hadn’t received the Galileo Scholarship, I wouldn’t have been able to engage with my professors nearly as much, because I would have been working — a lot. Instead I’m able to focus on school and attain my diploma in a reasonable amount of time,” he said. “Scholarships affect not only the student but their entire family and community.”

# About the Fund

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Business leaders created the Minnesota Private College Fund in 1951. They were seeking a way to assist private colleges and support student access to a high-quality education. Since its inception 60 years ago, the Fund has raised more than \$82 million. Every dollar raised goes directly to member institutions and their students, augmenting the funds that the colleges are able to raise.

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## **The Fund raises money for two purposes:**

- General operating support pays for books, lab equipment, computers, utilities, maintenance and other core needs.
- Need-based scholarships help students from low- and middle-income families afford a quality college education.

**Pooled scholarships** are a tool that many donors use to address emerging scholarship needs. Sponsored by a collection of donors who contribute at varying levels, these scholarships are awarded directly through campus financial aid offices. The options include:

- Access & Equity Pooled Scholarship — for students of color, new Americans and first-generation students;
- Galileo Pooled Scholarship — for students studying the STEM disciplines of science, technology, engineering or mathematics; and
- Minnesota Scholars Fund Scholarship — for students from Minnesota.

**Named scholarships** are another option. Donors interested in establishing a named scholarship make a minimum annual contribution of \$17,000, with awards then being made to students at all of our member institutions.

# Scholarship Recipient



## Bryant Ortega

University of St. Thomas '13

Majors: Business Legal Studies and Catholic Studies

Phillips scholar (The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota)

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While many students can say that attending college has been a journey, University of St. Thomas junior Bryant Ortega can do so on a very literal level. Ortega, who is from California, discovered St. Thomas while travelling as part of a post-high school year of ministry work. Since then, he hasn't stopped moving — and by the time he graduates next year, he will also have studied abroad not once, but twice.

Ortega said he “fell in love” with St. Thomas because he had been looking for a “strong, vibrant Catholic community,” but he also emphasizes that he was equally impressed with the business school. He believes that his combination of majors will bring him closer to his goal of being a successful businessman who runs an ethical company and gives back to the community.

When Ortega is not studying or in class, he might be playing men's club volleyball for the St. Thomas team. On Sundays, he teaches catechism at St. Stephen's Church in south Minneapolis. The parish is located in a Latino community that reminds him of his neighborhood in California, he said. He also works 25 hours a week as a shift leader at a local coffee shop; he uses the money for tuition and to fund his study abroad experiences. In addition to his semester in London in 2010, he will spend a semester in Rome during 2012.

Ortega said his full college life wouldn't be possible without scholarships. “Every dollar donated is an extra minute I have to be a normal student living the college dream — fully grasping knowledge and living out my hopes and dreams.”

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A video highlighting the stories shared by the students profiled in this Donor Report is available at [www.mnprivatecolleges.org/giving](http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org/giving).

# Fiscal Year 2011 Report

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Minnesota's Private Colleges are the grateful beneficiaries of the generosity of 187 donors whose commitments to the Fund in fiscal year 2011 totaled \$900,035. This was distributed to the member institutions as designated by donors, in the form of more than \$180,000 in operating support and more than 340 student scholarships.

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In spite of a challenging economic environment it is especially encouraging to note that 15 lapsed donors resumed giving to the Fund, seven new donors made gifts and 37 others were able to provide increases over their previous gifts.

In 2011 we also saw \$464,434 pledged for donations in future years. Three key donors have pledged ongoing

scholarship support — The Medtronic Foundation, John & Karen Meslow (for the Meslow First Generation Scholarship) and The Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation. In addition, the Helen Harrington Charitable Trust continues to provide the Fund's largest gift of unrestricted operating dollars each year.

"Donors to the Fund are partners in educating a new generation of students who will be uniquely prepared to enter the workforce and contribute the new ideas, energy and innovation that our state requires."

— Russ Michaletz

*Partner, Deloitte Tax LLP*

*Chair, Funding Committee, Minnesota Private College Council, Fund and Research Foundation Board of Directors*

# Fund Supporter



## Alex Cirillo, Jr.

Retired, vice president, 3M

Former board member, Minnesota Private College Council, Fund and Research Foundation

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The purpose of all education, and particularly of a private college education, is to prepare the “load-bearing” members of society, said Alex Cirillo, Jr., when he spoke on Oct. 26 at an event thanking the Fund’s donors. College presidents, other members of the Council’s board, and eight students who receive scholarships through the Fund joined donors at the event.

Cirillo described a visit made to St. Olaf College a few years ago. He had met with some undergraduates doing geology research and as a former vice president of research at 3M, admits to putting the students through their paces. “I left the lab inspired; they were obviously charged up by the experience. They were doing first-class research and they were eager and capable of sharing it at a high level. That type of experience has been repeated every time I have set foot into one of these institutions.”

In preparing his comments, Cirillo polled private college presidents and the stories he heard confirmed his belief that our colleges not only provide an academic foundation but prepare students for success

in other ways. Having opportunities to serve others, teach, lead and act out one’s values are important as well, he said. “The students and faculty from our institutions are experiencing both sides of the equation: access to knowledge and to wisdom.”

The true test of a formal education, he noted, is whether or not both the individual and the greater community find some benefit from it. “In a world of co-opetition, where we cooperate and compete with our neighbors, all of us are players in the success or failure of our communities and it’s clear that we are global.”

“As a former board member and as a fan and supporter of these schools and this organization, I applaud you all for your involvement in educating our kids,” he said. “May they make the world a better place.”

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An article about the Oct. 26, 2011 donor recognition event that includes a link to Alex Cirillo’s speech is available at [www.mnprivatecolleges.org/investment](http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org/investment). It includes trivia about our colleges and their presidents.

# Donors of Distinction

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Donors in this group have provided this campaign year's largest gifts. We appreciate their leadership.

**THE BUUCK FAMILY  
FOUNDATION**

**EMERSON PROCESS  
MANAGEMENT  
ROSEMOUNT INC.**



**HELEN HARRINGTON  
CHARITABLE TRUST**



**JOHN & KAREN MESLOW  
FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARSHIP**



**WENGER  
FOUNDATION**



# Donors

Thank you to all of our donors. Added together, your generosity has a tremendous impact on our colleges and students.

YEARS  
OF GIVING

Recognizing gifts received July '10 to June '11

## *Elite Circle*

(\$200,000 and up)

The Medtronic Foundation 47

## *Leadership Circle*

(\$100,000 – \$199,999)

The Jay and Rose Phillips Family 44

Foundation of Minnesota

## *Founder's Circle*

(\$75,000 – \$99,999)

Wells Fargo Foundation 31

Minnesota

Xcel Energy Foundation 59

## *Board's Circle*

(\$50,000 – \$74,999)

John & Karen Meslow 13

## *President's Circle*

(\$25,000 – \$49,999)

The Graco Foundation 51

Helen Harrington 33

Charitable Trust

The UPS Foundation 34

## *Scholar's Circle*

(\$15,000 – \$24,999)

Buuck Family Foundation 12

Emerson Process Management —

Rosemount Inc. 47

B. C. Gamble and P. W. Skogmo 38

Fund, a fund of The Minneapolis  
Foundation

Securian Foundation, supported 48

by Securian Financial Group

and its affiliates, Minnesota Life,

Advantus Capital Management

and Securian Trust

Tennant Foundation — 52

Tennant Company Diversity

Scholarship funded by

The Tennant Foundation

Wenger Foundation 46

## *Benefactor*

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BNSF Foundation 55

Faegre & Benson Foundation 52

Groves Foundation 50

Hardenbergh Foundation 27

The Pentair Foundation 39

## *Patron*

(\$5,000 – \$9,999)

Council of Independent 17

Colleges — Foundation for

Independent Higher Education

Dellwood Foundation, Inc. 38

Horton Inc. 51

Marvin Windows & Doors 22

Rhude and Fryberger 20

Margaret Rivers Fund 22

Springsted Incorporated 27

Taylor Corporation 28

Thomson Reuters 24

## *Provost*

(\$3,000 – \$4,999)

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP 36

Federated Insurance Companies 52

National Checking Company 44

Otter Tail Corporation 56

Mary Lynn & Warren Staley 13

## *Dean*

(\$1,000 – \$2,999)

Anonymous Donor 35

Anonymous Donor 7

Dave & Muriel Arnold Family 29

Fund of the Winona Community

Foundation

Array Services Group 25

Bailey Nurseries Foundation 25

Oscar J. Boldt Construction — 9

Rochester & Cloquet, MN

Busch Agricultural Resources, Inc./ 14

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Paul Cerkvenik & 13

Kathleen Murray

Coborn's, Incorporated 25

David & Kitty Crosby 22

Deloitte 34

Paul Erdahl 4

Janet O. Estep 6

Joe Graba 2

Gray Plant Mooty Foundation 11

Griffiths Foundation 23

Hardwick Day 18

Frank Harris 23





# Board of Directors

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2010/2011

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 MINNESOTA PRIVATE COLLEGE FUND

Bremer Tower  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 500  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Phone: 651.228.9061  
Toll-free: 888.PRI.FUND  
[Fund@mnprivatecolleges.org](mailto:Fund@mnprivatecolleges.org)  
[www.mnprivatecolleges.org](http://www.mnprivatecolleges.org)