Elevate.
Connect.
Lead.

YEAR IN REVIEW | 2023
Dear Supporters and Friends,

2023 has been a transformative year for the Boettcher Foundation, embodying our commitment to elevate, connect, and support the leadership of Colorado’s doers and difference makers.

This year we breathed new life into our strategy, with our focus on Alumni engagement, fund development, and impact investing. Our inaugural Elevate. Connect. Lead. summer event in Colorado Springs exemplified our commitment to connection as we revealed our new Alumni engagement strategy.

We also continued to refresh our brand and communications work, launching a podcast titled Colorado Leadership Stories, unveiling a new website with a page called LEAD that shares stories about the promise of Colorado through the eyes of leaders and communities.

Looking ahead to 2024, our focus remains on addressing the critical issues in education, civic leadership, and rural vitality. As we anticipate the 15th anniversary of Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards Program, we’re deeply grateful for your steadfast support and commitment to our mission.

KATIE S. KRAMER
President & CEO
The 2023 Class of Boettcher Scholars, chosen from a record-breaking pool of applicants, stands as a testament to our ongoing commitment to fostering the potential of Colorado’s young minds.

This cohort of 50 exceptional high school seniors embodies academic excellence, service, leadership, and outstanding character. Each Scholar will receive an $80,000 scholarship over four years, supplemented by additional aid from their respective Colorado institutions of higher education.

Beyond financial support, our comprehensive scholarship package includes tailored programming and assistance to ensure each Scholar reaches their full academic and leadership potential.

This cohort of Scholars possesses a commitment to leadership and service that has truly enriched their communities all across the state. We are excited to see how they contribute to their college communities and beyond.”

VANESSA ROMAN
DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIPS & FOUNDATION PROGRAMS

Scholars Creating a New Path Forward

For Andrea Donlucas and Colton Huff, the Boettcher Scholarship was more than an envelope with a letter — it meant freedom from financial worries and a supportive community. As first-generation students, this opportunity paved the way for their undergraduate journeys.
2023 Boettcher Scholars

YUSUF HANIF  
Grandview High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

JAZZ HENNES  
Centenier High School  
Colorado State University

CHARLOTTE HOFFMAN  
Green Mountain High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

LINDSAY JEANS  
Evergreen High School  
Colorado School of Mines

AVEN MccALL  
Greeley Central High School  
University of Denver

ALINA MIRANDA  
Monarch High School  
Colorado College

EMMA MORGAN  
Coal Ridge High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

NOAH OSUNA  
Overland High School  
University of Northern Colorado

JAIKRIT JOHAR  
Cherokee Trail High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

TESS JOHNSON  
Kit Carson High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

JHOANY JUAREZ  
Burlington High School  
Colorado State University

KATE JORDAN LITTLE  
Thomas Jefferson High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

LUKE PARKER  
Heritage High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

IRIS PIXLER  
Legend High School  
Colorado College

SUJAY POTLAPELLY  
Rock Canyon High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

SHRUTHI RAJESH  
Rocky Mountain High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

KATIE LOCKWOOD  
Mesa Verde High School  
Colorado College

CALEB LOEWENGART  
Centaurus High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

BRINDA MALIK  
STEM School Highlands Ranch  
University of Denver

MARISSA MARTINEZ  
Monte Vista High School  
Colorado State University

DYLAN ROSEMAN  
Early College Academy  
University of Denver

MARIAH ROSENSWEIG  
Denver East High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

MYLES RUBIN  
Rock Canyon High School  
University of Colorado Boulder

CORA SCHROCK  
Arikaree High School  
Colorado State University
# 2023 Boettcher Scholars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Current Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COOPER SEAMAN</td>
<td>Hi-Plains High School</td>
<td>University of Colorado Springs</td>
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<tr>
<td>IRIS SERRANO</td>
<td>Overland High School</td>
<td>University of Colorado Boulder</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAM SPOTTS</td>
<td>Peak to Peak Charter School</td>
<td>University of Colorado Boulder</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOUIS STEMPFER</td>
<td>Dakota Ridge High School</td>
<td>University of Colorado Boulder</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRAKELLE WESTPHAL</td>
<td>Springfield High School</td>
<td>Metropolitan State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JACK WILLEKE</td>
<td>Otis High School</td>
<td>University of Colorado Boulder</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>NANCY SUAREZ-DURAN</td>
<td>Olathe High School</td>
<td>Colorado Mesa University</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORA TAYFEH</td>
<td>Colorado School of Mines</td>
<td>Colorado State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOEY UYEMURA</td>
<td>Wray High School</td>
<td>University of Denver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUIS MENDOZA VEGA</td>
<td>Valley High School</td>
<td>Colorado State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABBY VSETECKA</td>
<td>Widefield High School</td>
<td>University of Colorado Boulder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAX ZENK</td>
<td>Platte Valley High School</td>
<td>Colorado State University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Current Scholars gather in Colorado Springs at our Elevate. Connect. Lead. event in August.
The Boettcher Foundation’s inaugural Elevate. Connect. Lead. event brought together nearly 400 Scholars and Alumni in a transformative gathering, emphasizing connections and community. Highlighting the 4 Ts — time, talent, ties, and treasure — it fostered diverse connections and personal growth. Post-event surveys showed attendees’ overwhelmingly positive feedback, citing new relationships and deeper engagement understanding. Alumni events of this type will now occur biennially, reflecting Boettcher’s dedication to empowering Scholars and Alumni on their leadership and service journeys.

“I talked to a 1982 Mines Alum. She and I talked a lot about the empowerment of women in the workplace and the intense and amazing changes she’d seen over the years. It made me feel hopeful for the future and grateful for the present.”

LINDSAY JEANS
2023 SCHOLAR
ALUMNI EVENTS ACROSS THE STATE IN 2023

In 2023, Boettcher’s Alumni engagement strategy evolved significantly, with the hiring of an alumni engagement manager and close collaboration with the Boettcher Scholar Alumni Board. Alumni were offered diverse opportunities to reconnect through initiatives like virtual sessions, a book club, and a Colorado Rockies game. The launch of our new mentorship program, Boettcher Connect, aims to deepen connections between current Scholars and Alums. Foundation staff also traveled locally to Greeley and out-of-state to Portland and San Francisco to reconnect with Alumni and encourage them to engage locally.

PAYING IT FORWARD

In August, we publicly announced the Boettcher Scholars Fund, a new 501c(3) public charity. This initiative allows Scholar Alumni to contribute financially to the Boettcher Foundation, fostering the growth of Scholar programming. Our goal is to provide continuous support to Scholars at all stages, from undergraduates to established Alums, with a focus on leadership and civic engagement.

Described as an “amazingly authentic” human, 1992 Scholar Jason Wheeler deeply cares about his community and the future of Boettcher, as evidenced by his commitment to pay his scholarship forward.

"This was a stellar year for Alumni engagement! More Alumni participated in events and programming, reaching an all-time high in quality and intention. Excited to see what 2024 holds for our Alums!"

RUTHIE LESTIKOW
2000 SCHOLAR

15
ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

15
BOETTCHER CONNECT PARTICIPANTS

40
DONORS

$12k
RAISED DURING GIVING WEEK

Watch Jason’s story here.
The Boettcher Foundation proudly presents its third cohort of Doers & Difference Makers Fellows, celebrating and connecting community champions from diverse backgrounds across Colorado. In February, the cohort gathered in Colorado Springs and explored upcoming relationships with professional coaches, discussed Professional Development Awards, and collaborated on various initiatives during the retreat.

2023 Fellows

CARRIE ANDREW Norwood
SUSIE BEVAN Grand Junction
RHONDA GRAHAM Julesburg
ZACH HIGGINS Parker
KIRSTIE MCPHERSON Craig
AARON MILTENBERGER Alamosa
DENCIA RAISH Akron
BRYANA STARBUCK Glenwood Springs
TERA WICK Ridgway

2022 Fellows gather in Colorado Springs for the Fellowship Retreat in February, pictured left to right: Lupita Garcia, Esteban Salazar, Jennifer Holloway, Dave Goe, Gillian Laycock, Gregory Kolomitz, Letitia Bancroft, Gloria Perez, Chris Beasley, Shelby Clark.
In 2023, the Boettcher Foundation provided approximately $1.75 million in grants to organizations working to better the quality of life of all Coloradans. Since 1937, the Boettcher Foundation has provided more than $420 million in grant funding throughout the state.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS GRANTS

**Trinidad State College**
Trinidad
Trinidad State College is remodeling its library for the first time since construction in 1967. Support will help to upgrade the building’s energy efficiencies, new technology, multipurpose rooms, and a “makerspace” for community groups and businesses.

**Unify America**
Statewide
Unify America’s College Bowl boosts civil discourse, reduces contempt, and creates a space for young people to discuss controversial issues. Unify America is expanding its university partners in Colorado, with a major growth year planned in 2024.

**Community Hospital Adventure Academy**
Grand Junction
Community Hospital in Grand Junction has constructed an on-site childcare facility open to the public. The 106-slot center, operated by a nonprofit provider, represents an incredible partnership between an employer and a community to meet childcare needs.

**United Way of Yampa Valley Merger Support**
Steamboat Springs and Craig
Increasingly united by regional challenges around the coal transition and workforce, the United Ways of Routt and Moffat Counties have decided to merge. Support will help with one-time costs including IT integration, program reorganization, branding, and accounting services.

**Boys & Girls Club of the San Luis Valley Nonprofit HUB**
Alamosa
Boys & Girls Club of the San Luis Valley is renovating a large downtown Alamosa building to house its administrative offices and become a hub for other community organizations. Boettcher’s support will help to serve youth and revitalize downtown Alamosa.

**Crow-Luther Cultural Events Center**
Eads
The Crow-Luther Cultural Events Center is an effort that began in 2006 to save a historic block of buildings in Eads. Capital support will bring a community partnership to help a library relocate from the courthouse basement to a vacant storefront next to the theater.
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS GRANTS

Latino Cultural Arts Center
Denver
The Latino Cultural Arts Center is renovating a large, former West Denver warehouse into a cultural hub for Latino arts and community. Boettcher’s support will help the center to feature classrooms, galleries, a community kitchen, and provide space for partnerships with numerous organizations.

RTL Foundation
Denver
RTL Foundation is creating a BIPOC Nonprofit Development Center to serve as an incubator and coworking space for BIPOC-led and serving nonprofits in Denver. Boettcher’s support provides infrastructure for communities to collaborate.

The Bridge Social Services Hub
Arvada
The Bridge offers families a variety of social service resources (clothing, childcare, parenting, mental and physical health, resource navigation) at a single location in a revitalized Arvada shopping center. This project is a collaboration between Revive Church, numerous nonprofit and for-profit organizations, and the City of Arvada.

CATALYST GRANTS

The Catalyst Grant Program awarded 21 grants to organizations in 2023. These capacity building grants were created for nonprofits to request a one-time, strategic injection of funds to impact local or regional housing, childcare, workforce, or leadership pipeline challenges. The recipients of these grants are part of the Rural Leaders Collaborative, focusing on key issues emphasized during the network meetings throughout the year.

Here are some highlights of organizations funded in 2023:

• The Meeting Place – Carbondale ($6,000)
• Costilla County Economic Development Council – Sangre de Cristo Cultural Heritage Center Youth Lead Initiative ($7,500)
• Downtown Grand Junction Placemaking ($7,500)
• Mancos Creative District “Made in Mancos” Campaign ($7,500)

SCHOLAR GRANTS

Boettcher Scholars can apply for Educational Enrichment, International Education, and Collaboration Grants. These Scholar grants allow students to pursue educational enrichment opportunities beyond regular coursework that will broaden their educational experience.

33 STUDENTS COMPLETED EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT GRANTS
18 STUDENTS COMPLETED INTERNATIONAL GRANTS
11 STUDENTS COMPLETED COLLABORATION GRANTS

Maggie Holland, 2022 Scholar at CU Boulder, used her enrichment grant to volunteer at a rural vet clinic in Thailand over the summer.
$1.8 million was issued to support the Foundation’s Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards in 2023. These awards support promising, early career investigators, allowing them to advance their research and compete for major grants.

“...We are truly amazed by the remarkable researchers we support. Their dedication and ingenuity are driving groundbreaking discoveries with the potential to reshape biomedical science.”

KATIE KRAMER
PRESIDENT & CEO

2023 BOETTCHER INVESTIGATORS

HALIL AYDIN, PhD
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

NEIL BUTALA, MD, MBA
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

NICK BOTTENUS, PhD
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

CAROLINE M. DIAZ, MD, PhD
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

NURIS FIGUEROA-MORALES, PhD
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

NEEL BUTALA, MD, MBA
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

NURIS FIGUEROA-MORALES, PhD
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Megan R. Hill, PhD
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Patrick Hume, MD, Ph.D
NATIONAL JEWISH HEALTH

Matthew Witkowski, Ph.D
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

HISTORICAL SNAPSHOT

98
TOTAL INVESTIGATORS

87
STILL CONDUCTING RESEARCH AT COLORADO INSTITUTIONS

$21.1M
IN FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING

10
PATENTS

23
ARTICLES

11
BOETTCHER FACILITATED COLLABORATION GRANTS BETWEEN INVESTIGATORS AND SCHOLARS
Annual reports are more than a summary – they’re a chance to reflect back on what did, and didn’t, get accomplished. At Boettcher, that means impact. Our Scholars and Investigators continued to be a source of impact. But in terms of impactful change, watching our Boettcher Alumni continue a journey from gratefulness to engagement – giving back to those who will follow in their footsteps, and watching the impact of Boettcher’s investment in human leadership capital
through our ‘doers and difference makers’ across Colorado demonstrate again that Boettcher doesn’t simply believe in the promise of Colorado and the potential of Coloradans, we’re part of making that a reality.”

TONY FRANK
Chair, Board of Trustees

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Selection & Programs Coordinator

TIFFANY ANDERSON
Vice President of Grants & Programs

LESLIE BALDWIN
Grants & Database Manager

CURTIS L. ESQUIBEL
Senior Director of Communications & Community Engagement

JOSUÉ ESTRADA, MURILLO
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HALEY FICK
Accounting & Operations Manager

NATALIE GILL
Communications Specialist

KATIE S. KRAMER
President & CEO

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Chief Operating Officer & Vice President of Finance

GARRETT MAYBERRY
Grants Program Officer

FLOYD PIERCE
Alumni Engagement Manager

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Director of Scholarships & Foundation Programs

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Executive Assistant

JACKIE YELTON
Programs Coordinator

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RICK PEDERSON
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JASON WHEELER, Treasurer

TONY FRANK, DVM, PhD, Chair
We believe in the promise of Colorado and the potential of Coloradans because courageous leadership benefits every community in our state. By investing in people, programs, and organizations, we provide a foundation for transformational impact and community building.