

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Growing funds for growing futures.

SISTERS GRADUATE RESOURCE ORGANIZATION



Sisters Graduate Resource Organization
P.O. Box 1546
Sisters, OR 97759

BOARD STATEMENT

I cannot believe it is that time of year again. Winter is coming, and we are setting up our scholarships for 2023. This is the exciting time of year when we find out what we will be presenting to the students when they fill out their applications.

Last year exceeded my expectations in terms of rebounding from the pandemic. The numbers were up across the board from the previous year, including the addition of six new scholarships. The revamped Senior Celebration was a huge success. I received only positive feedback about the new format. Not only was it great to get back to an in-person event, but it was also shorter, and the donors had more time to spend with the students receiving their scholarships. That's a Win-Win-Win.

Initial data indicates that this year we could offer a record number of scholarships and exceed last year's record for total dollars awarded. This is a result of Sisters GRO being able to create new scholarships for new donors every year and wouldn't be possible without our great group of Directors.

I ask all of you to keep Sisters GRO in mind when you are doing any updates to your estate planning. An endowed scholarship can create a meaningful and lasting legacy. Also, check out this year's Central Oregon Gives campaign (information below.) It is a great way to have a little fun with your end of year giving.

TIM ROSS

Chair, Board of Directors
Tim.Ross@SistersGRO.org



Support Sisters GRO Through Central Oregon Gives

In addition to a tax-deductible contribution, donors will receive free perks (think free cup of coffee or pint of beer from a local business) **with every donation of \$25 or more, now through December 31st.** Donors will also be entered into a raffle to win larger, weekly prizes. Donate online at SistersGRO.org or mail a check to Sisters GRO, P.O. Box 1546, Sisters, OR 97759 with 'Central Oregon Gives' in the check memo line.

Sisters GRO

P.O. Box 1546
Sisters, OR 97759

info@SistersGRO.org
www.SistersGRO.org



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Chair

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Sisters GRO Co-Founder

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SHS Principal
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Laura Kloss

Program Director
Laura.Kloss@SistersGRO.org

2021-22 IN REVIEW

There were 121 individual scholarship awards distributed to Sisters High School students this year. In total, \$273,700 was awarded to support students in their pursuit of higher education. We were excited to host the Senior Celebration in person again and received positive feedback about the new format which provided more time for donors to connect personally with students and family members.

All 60 students that completed an application received at least one scholarship. Roughly 50% of the graduates are currently attending institutions in Oregon. The other 50% are pursuing education in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Montana, North Carolina, Nevada, Ohio, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Twenty-seven percent of graduates are enrolled in a two-year college, trade or technical program, with 73% pursuing a four-year degree.



Greta Davis '22
California State University -
Sacramento
Mechanical Engineering

"Thank you so much for organizing all of these scholarships that directly benefit my peers and me. We're all so grateful that this is an opportunity we can take advantage of. This gives so much security to my family and I going into this time of uncertainty in my life. There are many reasons that I'm nervous about college, but the financial side is no longer at the forefront of my mind. Thank you for this stability."

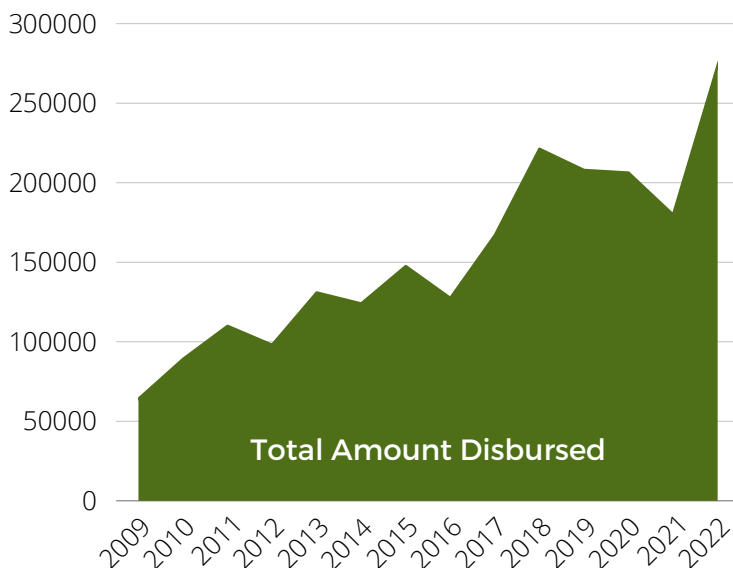
Dominic Fouts Scholars Athlete Award
OSEA-Carlos Valdez Memorial Scholarship
Nugget Newspaper - Student of the Year
Scholarship



Kaleb Briggs '22
Lane Community College
Engineering

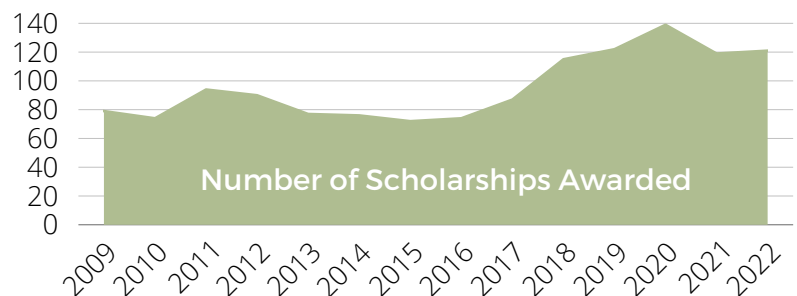
"I appreciate the gift of this scholarship that will fund my future education. There will be a great weight taken off my chest for paying off college tuition and miscellaneous required items. Thank you so much, I will be forever grateful."

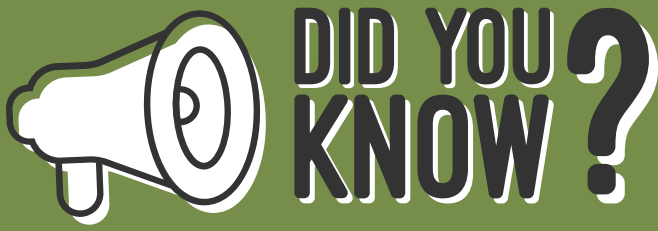
SHS Leadership by Example Scholarship



2008 - PRESENT

Thanks to the generosity of our private, non-profit, and corporate donors, we have awarded over 1,200 scholarships to Sisters High School students reducing local student debt by more than \$1,700,000.





Sisters GRO has partnered with The Roundhouse Foundation since 2014 to offer Roundhouse Enrichment Experience Scholarships to students in the Sisters School District. Any student enrolled in Sisters Middle or High School can apply for funds to support experiences that will enhance their learning and development. Participants have engaged in Outlaw Aviation, taken dance classes, gone to art camps, completed programs in marine biology, and much more. The opportunities are exciting and truly endless!

Middle school students are eligible for up to \$500 per year and high school students up to \$1,000. Applications are available online and are reviewed by a volunteer committee. Scholarship funds are provided through an annual grant from The Roundhouse Foundation.



For more information, visit:
<https://www.sistersgro.org/roundhouse>

SCHOLARSHIP MILESTONES

The scholarships listed below reached milestone years in 2022:

FIVE YEARS

- BiMart Scholarship
- Jeremy Moyer Memorial Wrestler Scholarship
- Laird Superfood Health, Mind, and Body Wellness Scholarship
- Metabolic Maintenance Health and Wellness Scholarship
- Outlaw STEM Scholarship
- Shirley J. Von Kalinowski Scholarship
- Sisters Community Church Scholarship
- Sisters Environmental/Sustainability Careers Scholarship
- Sisters Meat & Smokehouse Scholarship
- Taylor Family Scholarship
- TR McCrystal Culinary Arts Scholarship

TEN YEARS:

- Wayne and Irene Hensley Memorial Scholarship

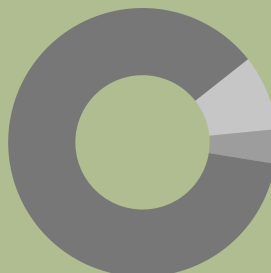
Thank you to the donors and search committee members of these scholarships for your continued commitment to furthering education for SHS students!

ANNUAL BUDGET

Total income from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 was \$215,938 and total expenses were \$209,168. Of the expenses, \$181,580 (87%) was disbursed to students for scholarship awards and \$27,588 was used to cover operating costs. The newly implemented fee on scholarship donations accrued \$9,833 which covered 35% of the total operating costs. The remaining 65% was obtained through board member fundraising.

Scholarships (86.8%):

- External Scholarship Disbursements
- Sisters GRO Scholarships
- Roundhouse Enrichment Experience Scholarships



Personnel (9.1%):

- Wages
- Taxes and Accounting Fees

Business Expenses (4.1%):

- Fees and Dues
- Taxes and Insurance
- Events and Marketing