



MSMS FOUNDATION **REPORT 2023**

1100 College Street, MUW-190
Columbus, Mississippi 39701
www.msmsfoundation.com
662.243.0353

Our Mission

The MSMS Foundation is a non-profit corporation duly chartered in the state of Mississippi to operate exclusively to benefit the mission of the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science (MSMS). The goal of the foundation is to supplement the funding received by MSMS from the Mississippi Department of Education with other private and public support.

Our History

The MSMS Foundation was initially founded in February of 1989 by a small group of individuals who were passionate about education and improving opportunities for all Mississippians. The original board had diverse backgrounds including education, economic development, and business. They believed the creation of MSMS was an important step in creating educational opportunities in Mississippi, but the next step was to ensure MSMS would have additional support outside of state funding. They established the original charter and bylaws of the MSMS Foundation and envisioned campaigns to raise funds to endow the Foundation. The first board meeting occurred in February of 1989 and in December of 1990 the MSMS Foundation was recognized as a 501c3 nonprofit by the IRS. Today, the MSMS Foundation raises more than \$250,000 annually and helps connect MSMS Alumni and MSMS PLUS to strengthen the MSMS Family.

**Since 2015, the MSMS Foundation has provided
direct support to MSMS in the following ways:**

more than
\$145,000

Room & Board
Assistance
& Scholarships

more than
\$430,000

School
Equipment
& Supplies

more than
\$407,000

Student
Activities &
Travel

more than
\$2,170,000

Total
Support to
MSMS

MSMS Foundation Board Members

Executive Committee

Cynthia Henderson, '95
President

Chad Edmonson, '99
Vice President

John Davis
Treasurer

Ryder Taff, '06
Secretary

Michael Goggans, '91
Past President

Dillon Allen, '96
Eric Atchison, '01

Jason Christiansen, '95
Mattie Clay, '04

Nathaniel Clay, '04
Andrea Collins, MD, '03

Orlando Hill, '99
Christina Jordan, PhD, '03

Crystal L. Lauderdale, '03
Karen Saucier Lundy, PhD

Owen McGuire, '05
Andrea White, MD, '02
Jennifer Sloan Ziegler, PhD, '06

Ex-Officio Members

Ginger Tedder, '92
Interim MSMS Executive Director

Melanie Busby
MSMS Director for Advancement

Amy Catherine Wilson
Dana Macasek
PLUS Co-Presidents

Sylvia Beane
PLUS Treasurer

A message from our President

Dear Reader:

In 2023, the MSMS Foundation has continued to grow and find new ways to serve MSMS and MSMS Alumni. In 2022, we had a record-setting donation year with more than a half million dollars in fundraising. Those funds included memorial funds for Dr. Nancy "Mac" MacNeill, Mr. Wayne Bryan, and Dr. Gilbert, Jr. Those funds will live on and provide for faculty, labs, seminar series, and more to enrich the experience of MSMS students and faculty.

MSMS Foundation projects in 2023 have included creation of a digital bookshelf of yearbooks spanning the history of the school. Publication of The Current, the MSMS Foundation's magazine to celebrate MSMS Alumni and spotlight faculty and staff. MSMS Alumni Weekend 2023 celebrated the milestone classes of 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013, and 2018 in another fun-filled weekend with Tales from the Crypt, informational sessions, and a party. The MSMS Foundation supported the revival of the MSMS Senior Celebration. This great event celebrated the Class of 2023's accomplishments and the MSMS Foundation awarded our college scholarships at the event.

Through all of this, the MSMS students, faculty, and staff continue to shine and be amazing. Notable events included MSMS Capitol Day, the Black History Month Program, Business Plan Competition, the Quiz Bowl Team, the VEX Robotics Team, Mu Alpha Theta Convention, and the International Science and Engineering Fair.

The MSMS Foundation stays constant in our intent to support MSMS, the faculty, and the students. We continue to make sure that Mississippi's "Opportunity for Excellence" endures for another generation, and, hopefully, expands to serve more students across Mississippi. If you would like to support the MSMS Foundation in our mission, please see us online at www.msmsfoundation.com where you can find more information and ways to support.

Sincerely,



Cynthia J. Henderson
MSMS Foundation Board President



A gift to the MSMS Foundation can be designated in one of the following ways:

Excellence Fund

This is the preferred fund for gifts. The Excellence Fund, due to the flexibility, allows for the MSMS Foundation to use donations in areas with the most immediate need. Project examples for this fund include the purchase or repair of laboratory equipment, sponsoring students on summer research projects, renovating computer labs, purchase of textbooks, as well as program support.

Room & Board Assistance Fund

MSMS Alumni and parents started the Room and Board Assistance Fund to help offset the \$1,000 annual Room and Board Fee for students who show financial need. These funds are also used to help assist with required student activity fees. All students are given the opportunity to apply for this assistance each year. The donations to this fund are restricted, so 100% of the funds are used for this purpose.

Summer Camp & AAYME Funds

MSMS conducts Summer Enrichment Camps for middle school and high school students each summer. In 2021, African American Youth in Mississippi Excelling (AAYME) Camp was added to their offerings. The MSMS Foundation provides assistance to students who show financial need. Your gift to this fund helps provide opportunities for students to experience a high-quality academic camp and encourage life-long learning. The donations to this fund are restricted, so 100% of the funds are used for the designated camp.

PLUS Fund

The Parents Lending United Support (PLUS) Fund is a restricted fund used by PLUS. During the school year, PLUS provides direct benefit to MSMS students and faculty. Examples of their projects include exam snacks to students, teacher appreciation events and snacks, Winter Formal decorations and food, Taki Tiki, monthly Lobby Love giveaways and restocking care closets in each residence hall. The donations to this fund are restricted, so 100% of the funds are used by PLUS for these projects.



Advancing Student & Teacher Success

2023 Scholarship Recipients



Jeremiah McClain
MSMS Creativity in Music
Scholarship



Andra Dusin
Barry James Youngblood
Scholarship



Dia Kher
Mary Beth Casto Bennett
Scholarship



Madison Echols
Jack & Harweda Johnson
Scholarship



Christina Zhang and
Thomas Richardson

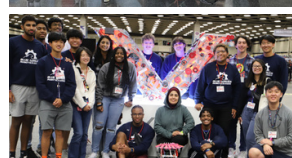
The Dr. Nancy MacNeill Impact Fund was established in honor of an original MSMS faculty member, Dr. Nancy MacNeill, by her sister Becky Takayesu. It will be fully endowed by 2026 to support the chemistry department and recognize exceptional faculty. The fund's annual earnings will be used to maintain chemistry lab equipment, and it includes the creation of the Dr. Nancy MacNeill Faculty Impact Award, which is chosen by seniors each year and presented during Senior Celebration. The MSMS Class of 2023 chose Mr. Thomas Richardson as the first recipient of this new honor, receiving a monetary award and certificate presented by SGA President Christina Zhang on May 26th.

Dr. Nancy MacNeill Faculty Impact Award

MSMS Student Competitions and Travel

The MSMS Foundation provides financial support for students to travel to academic competitions each year. Two large student competitions in 2023 were ISEF and VEX Robotics World Competition. Eight students attended ISEF and twenty-two students competed on two teams in Robotics. Madison Echols placed 4th for her research at ISEF, and one of the MSMS Robotics teams placed 9th in the world in 2023, competing with more than 400 international teams.

Dr. Jason Palagi traveled with the following ISEF Competitors - Madison Echols, Arika Gardner, Dia Kher, Danielle McConnell, Rushi Nalamalapu, Nicholas Popescu, Lisa Seid, and Ashton Taylor
Dr. Fatima Hilali traveled with the following Robotics Team Members - Ean Choi, Harsika Dillibabu, Adalberto Estrella, Max Feng, Sahib Gill, Chauncy Jordan, Srilaya Karavadi, Edward Lai, Andrew Liu, Ashton Lollis, Everett Mason, Vivek Nagarajan, Julia Nguyen, Kermit Oville, Geethika Polepalli, Sephora Poteau, Mandy Sun, Ashton Taylor, Veer Vanmali, Gavin Weinstein, India White, and Iysiahs York

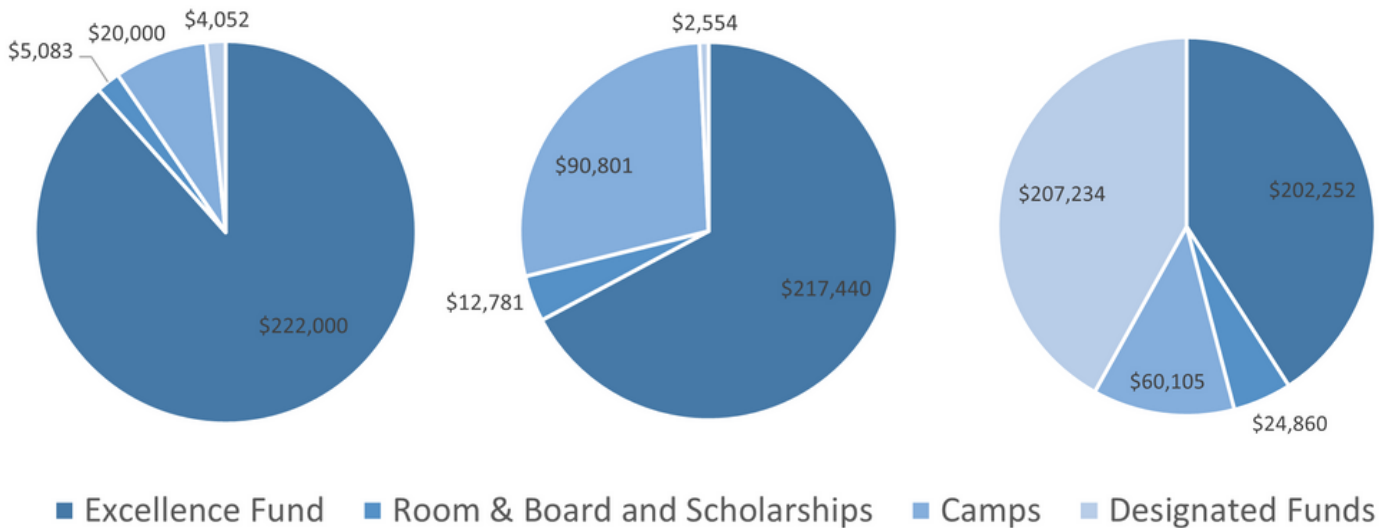
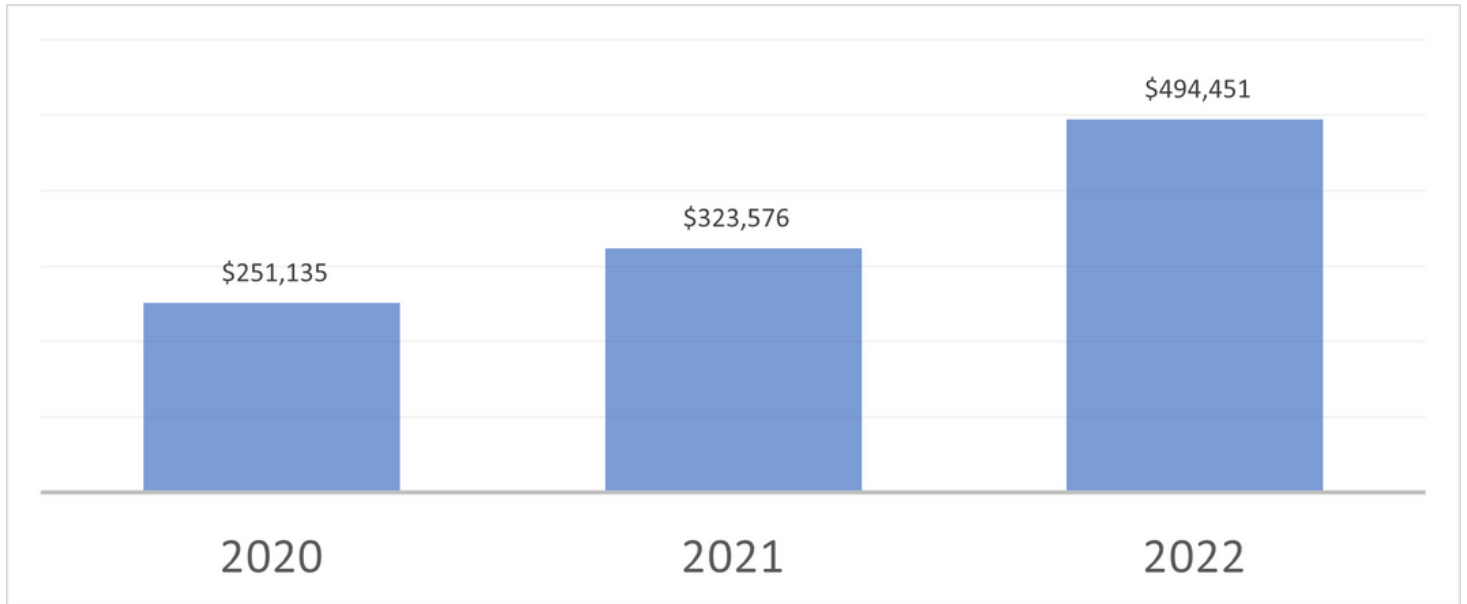


Georgianna McKenny and
Thomas Easterling

MSMS English instructor Thomas Easterling challenges his University Composition students to create original podcasts about their hometowns. Last spring, Georgianna McKenny entered her podcast "How the Jackson Water Crisis Affects Education" into NPR's National Student Podcast Challenge. On June 21, 2023, McKenny's podcast beat 3300 entries and was named the grand prize winner. A few days later, a listener in Ann Arbor, Michigan was so impressed with McKenny's podcast that she made a \$1000 donation to the MSMS Foundation in her honor. That money will be used to further student and teacher success at MSMS.

National Award Winner McKenny

3 - year Donation Comparison at the MSMS Foundation



2023 YEAR-TO-DATE
DONATIONS & GRANTS = \$307,895
SUPPORT PROVIDED TO MSMS = \$211,218*
*as of 11/01/2023

Student Activities

Business Plan Competition
\$5,250



School Support

Annual Fund Requests
\$32,500

Student Travel
\$11,881

Senior Celebration
\$19,609



Grant Projects
\$77,967

Summer Camp Support
\$18,000

Student Summer Research
\$8,400

Scholarships & Awards
\$12,100



Employee Breakfast
\$537

Alumni Outreach
Alumni Weekend
\$9,125

Room & Board Assistance
\$6,845

Sites & Sounds
\$710



Alumni Magazine
\$6,773

Digital Yearbooks Bookshelf
\$1,521



The MSMS Alumni Association is a standing committee of the MSMS Foundation. The MSMS Alumni Association is an active group for MSMS Alumni who want to network with classmates, get information on reunions, and generally keep in touch. The association puts together alumni meetups around the country to facilitate networking. MSMS Alumni Association also provides alumni volunteers to help with on campus activities such as speaking engagements. An MSMS Alumni is defined as anyone who attended MSMS for any length of time. If you're an alumnus, we hope you'll join our community to stay up to date on news and events as well as opportunities to help.

Sign up at msmsfoundation.com/alumni

MSMS Parents Lending United Support (PLUS) is a standing committee of the MSMS Foundation. MSMS PLUS is an active group for parents or current or past MSMS students who want to help enhance the MSMS experience for current students. They complete a variety of activities each year such as exam snacks, prom, and helping MSMS purchase needed equipment through fundraising. MSMS PLUS also provides parent volunteers to help with on campus activities. If you're a parent, we hope you'll join our community to stay up to date on news and events as well as opportunities to help.

Join PLUS at msmsfoundation.com/parents



MSMS Alumni Weekend 2024

April 12 - 14th in Columbus, Mississippi

All alumni are invited to participate, celebrating milestone years for the Classes of 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2019.

We are working to make this an event you don't want to miss!



SAVE THE DATE

MSMS Alumni Weekend
April 12-14, 2024



Registration opens online January 1, 2024
at msmsfoundation.com/news-events

2023 Giving Campaign

As the end of 2023 approaches, many people consider charitable giving to organizations whose missions align with their core values. If YOU share a connection to MSMS and want to see this amazing **Opportunity for Excellence** continue to impact education in Mississippi, please consider a gift to the MSMS Foundation.



Your contributions fill the financial gaps MSMS faces as expenses increase at a faster rate than state allocated funding.

Your gift will:

- Enhance current academic and residential programs for students
- Allow MSMS to make much needed repairs and upgrades to facilities
- Purchase new equipment and supplies for classrooms and labs
- Support student research projects, summer enrichment camps, and student travel for academic competitions
- Increase financial support for students through paid fees and scholarships
- Help MSMS continue and expand outreach programs



Ways to Give

There are so many ways to give to support the programs, students, and staff of MSMS. Choose the way that works best for you and get involved today securing a bright future for Mississippi's best public high school.

DONATE ONLINE

You can set up a recurring monthly gift or a one-time donation online at **msmsfoundation.com**.

All donations are tax-deductible, and giving is secure on our website.



DONATE BY MAIL

Make your check payable to:
MSMS Foundation.

Use the enclosed remittance envelope or mail to:

MSMS Foundation, Inc.
1100 College Street MUW-190
Columbus, MS 39701

LEAVE A LEGACY

through Planned Giving



Planned gifts can have a huge impact by ensuring that MSMS will thrive for generations to come. These gifts may include adding the MSMS Foundation as a beneficiary to a stock, real estate, or a life insurance policy or as a bequest in a will. Due to the diversity and complexity of options, we recommend you email us at info@msmsfoundation.com so we can ensure your goals are honored.

HONORARY OR MEMORIAL GIFTS

Giving a gift in memory or honor of alumnus, faculty, or a friend can be a meaningful way of recognizing them. Additionally, you have the option of setting up a donation page in memory or honor of someone that can be shared with friends or family who also might be interested in honoring them in this way. Please email us to learn more at info@msmsfoundation.com.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers will match charitable gifts. You may be able to double your donation by participating in these programs. Check to see if your employer participates in one of these programs, and contact us at info@msmsfoundation.com for assistance in completing any associated paperwork.

**Mississippi School for Mathematics
and Science Foundation, Inc.**
1100 College Street MUW-190
Columbus, MS 39701

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TUPELO, MS
PERMIT #290

**THANK
YOU!**

Donors like you help
make each student's
journey through MSMS
a great SUCCESS!

*Make a donation online Tuesday,
November 28 to be a part of
Giving Tuesday 2023.*

msmsfoundation.com

Let's make it our biggest Giving Tuesday ever!

*Use the enclosed remittance envelope to
make your 2023 tax-deductible gift to the
MSMS Foundation before December 31.*

**GIVING
TUESDAY**
November 28, 2023

