



Washington Apple
Education Foundation

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Scholarships
Mentorship
Career Readiness

The charity of the
tree fruit industry



HELPING STUDENTS GROW, CULTIVATING THE INDUSTRY



Maria Armengol
2025 WAEF graduate
Front cover:
Denilson Antonio-Ruiz
2025 WAEF graduate



316 Scholarships
awarded in 2025

\$1.1M Scholarship money
awarded in 2025

57 High schools
with 2025 recipients

75% First
generation

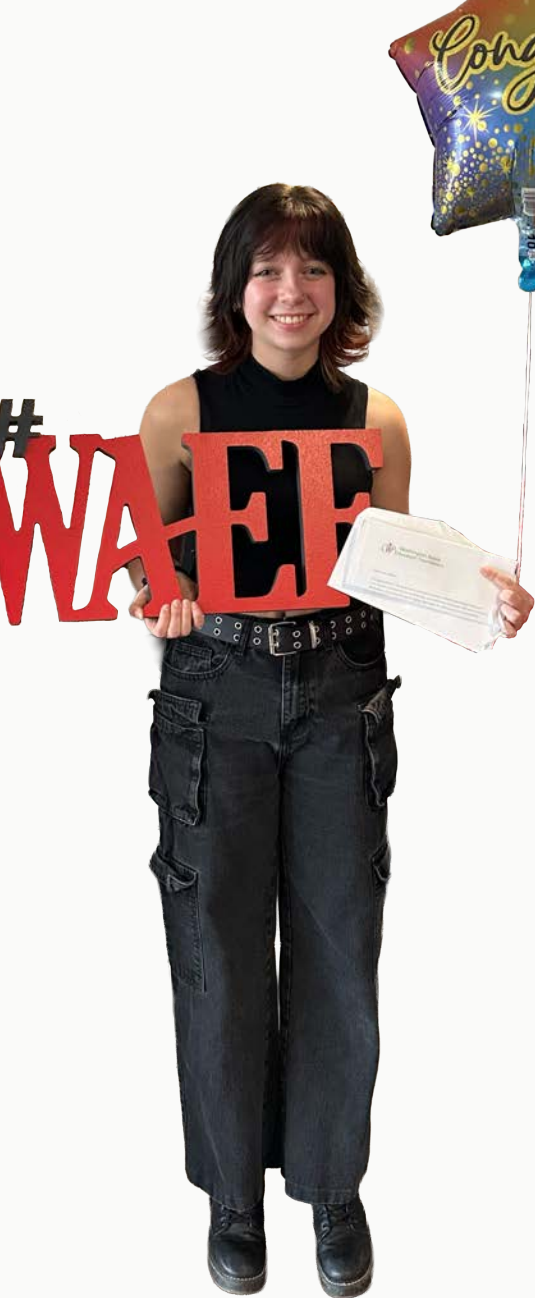
87% Graduate
within 4 yrs.

3.5 Average
GPA

96% Renewal
rate

2,000+ Alumni

THANKS TO
YOU



Lena Olsen
2025 Scholarship recipient

SHARPENING FOCUS, STRENGTHENING DELIVERY, ANCHORED IN PURPOSE

2025 in review

In 2025, WAEF took meaningful time to reflect on how we show up for students, the tree fruit industry, and the communities we serve. This was not about redefining our purpose, but about strengthening how we carry it forward.

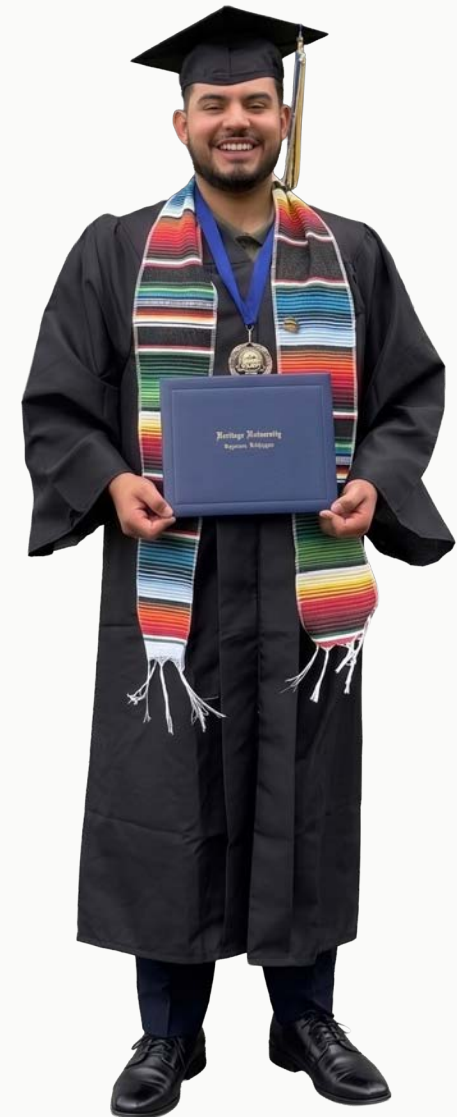
We made the decision to step back, listen, and take a fresh look at what matters most. We spent time with students, donors, volunteers, and industry partners, asking where we can make the greatest difference. What we heard sharpened our focus and reinforced the importance of clarity and consistency in how we move forward, ensuring our efforts reflect both today's needs and the future of Washington's tree fruit communities.

That focus carries through our work. WAEF remains deeply committed to providing access to education, while strengthening the support that helps students persist and graduate. We are continuing to align our efforts with the evolving needs of students and the industry, while being thoughtful stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

This year also marked a leadership transition and a renewed perspective for the organization. Alongside that transition, we have been intentional about carrying forward what WAEF has learned over time while bringing new energy to how we do the work. This includes a greater focus on using technology and streamlined tools to operate more efficiently, as well as reexamining the student experience to ensure our support remains relevant, accessible, and impactful.

Throughout it all, what has remained constant is the strength of the WAEF community. The Foundation has always been shaped by those who give, volunteer, and believe in the potential of students, and that shared commitment continues to guide us.

We are grateful for your partnership. Together, we are helping students build meaningful futures and strengthening the communities and industry we all care about.



Javier Magana
2025 WAEF graduate



Tyler Price
Board Chairman



Jennifer Witherbee
Executive Director

CELEBRATING YOUR IMPACT

Meet two WAEF graduates from the class of 2025



MARIA ARMENGOL

H.R., Washington Fruit & Produce
University of Washington

Maria is the proud product of her family's migrant background in Royal City. Now, after graduating from the University of Washington, she is bringing that pride and experience to her role in human resources at Washington Fruit and Produce, the same company where her parents work.

A first-generation college student, Maria earned a degree in Human Resources with a minor in Labor Studies. Along the way, she studied abroad in London and India, interned with UW in Labor Relations and Campus Operations, and discovered her passion for building strong workplace systems that support people. She was active with many different groups during her college career, including First-Generation Business Leaders, the UW Women's Network, Kappa Delta Chi Sorority, the federal TRIO SSS program, and various faith-based organizations. These communities helped her grow, lead, and thrive far from home.

WAEF scholarships cracked open the door. Maria charged through it and then came home to her roots, a full-circle moment made possible by her enterprising character, her hard work, and WAEF supporters like you.

GROWING FUTURES

**Scholarships, mentorship, & career readiness
at Universities & Technical/Vocational Colleges**

WAEF students are pursuing degrees in 70+ majors at 40+ universities and technical/vocational colleges. Your support not only provides tuition money but also a comprehensive set of wraparound services to help them graduate on-time and job-ready.



JENIFER MANDUJANO

Nurse, University of Washington Medical Center
University of Washington

Jenifer is from Yakima, and as a high school student there she set her sights on becoming a registered nurse specializing in obstetrics. In pursuit of her dream, she graduated from the University of Washington in 2025 with a 3.85 GPA in her pre-nursing major.

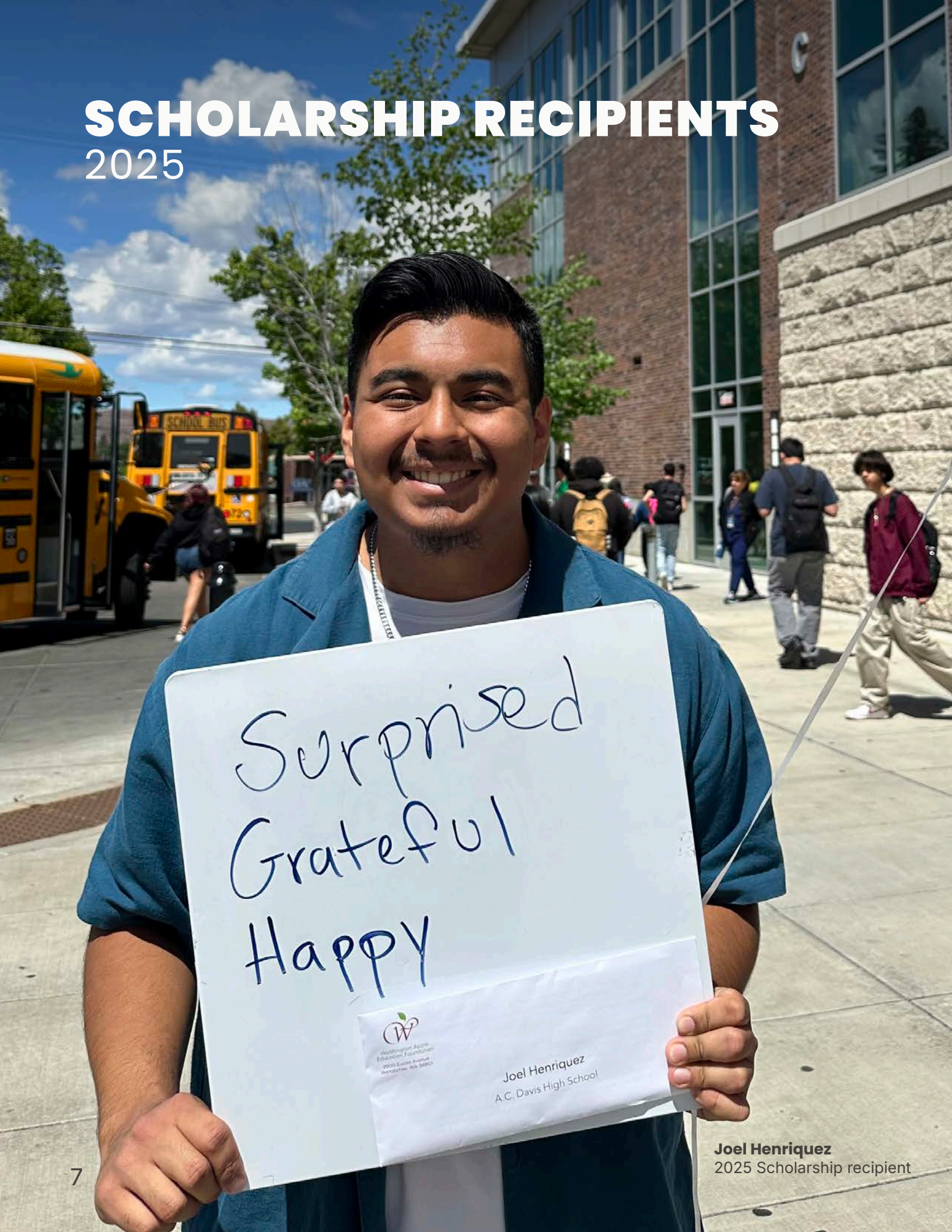
While in school Jenifer worked as a nursing assistant at Chandler House, an assisted living and memory care community for Alzheimer's and dementia, where she developed skills in both physical and emotional health care, especially during the COVID pandemic. She was also involved in her academic community as a peer facilitator for physiology, supporting fellow students and fostering a sense of belonging.

Now Jenifer is working as a nurse at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle, in a surgery unit that specializes in kidney and liver transplants as well as dialysis. A number of Jenifer's patients are Spanish speaking, and she says, "It's so rewarding and an honor to be able to take care of them, advocate, and connect with them in the language they feel more comfortable with."

While Jenifer loves her work and her new community, she plans to move back to Yakima at some point in her career. In the meantime she especially enjoys caring for patients who come to the UWMC from her hometown.

As for her WAEF experience, she says, "Trust me, there is not a day when I don't feel so blessed and grateful for all the opportunities and all the help I got to be where I am now."

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2025



Joel Henriquez
2025 Scholarship recipient

A.C. Davis & Dorothy Plath Memorial

Anai Serrano Mojica
Daniela Vazquez Hernandez
Jaquelin Rodriguez-Escalera
Leandro Mendoza

AgroFresh

Angel Milan-Aguilar
Lucas St. Hilaire
Macie Ladd

AgWest Farm Credit

Lesly Valdovinos-Arevalo
Rocio Sevilla

Allan Brothers

Brooke Miles
Gavin George
Hania Manra Avelino
Jacquelin Ceja Flores
Noemi Aguilar

Allan Brothers - Vocational

Nathan Beauchene

Anonymous

Elizabeth Lopez Mora
Macie Ladd
Sophie Hill

Beatriz Garibay-Vega

Jackeline Serrano Rodriguez

Betty Campbell Loudon Memorial

Kylinn Eurton

Big John Douglas

Caleb Palma

Blue Bird, Inc. /

Les Moser Memorial Comm. Service Award

Grace Castrejon

Bob McDougall Memorial

Fabiola Torres

Bonita Hale

Gwendolen Veselka

Borton & Sons

Alex Olvera-Vargas
Anelsy Lopez
Jeremy Flores
Thaily Cruz

Borton-Strand

Chiara Ocampo Garcia

Brian & Irene Birdsall

Arleth Mendoza-Zepeda
Enrriqueta Olvera
Jose Policarpio

Brian Kershaw Memorial

Angel Antonio-Ruiz

CCM

Alondra Camarillo
Ashlyn League
Betsy Gomez-Aviles
Dianaly Ponce Barbosa
Erick Rodriguez Murillo
Evelyn Lopez-Mercado
Logan West
Oscar Oropeza
Sayda Olvera
Yameli Lopez
Yurithzi Bravo-Valdovinos

Chamberlin Agriculture

Agustin Lopez-Acevedo
Austin Kiyokawa

Chelan Fresh

Benjamin Brownfield
Charlie Alvarez
Jorge Guerrero Herrera
Luz Granados Balbuena
Mario Mejia
Myrka Trejo Hernandez

Chris & Susan Saunders

Luz Granados Balbuena

Christian & Janet Schlect

Rodrigo Rodriguez

Cider Works Farms

Elisabeth Garcia
Geiza Sanchez

CMI Legacy

Brooks Trovato
Melissa Vela
Peter van den Broek

CoBank

Anette Gutierrez
Edgar Vargas
Emma Heeringa
Guadalupe Hernandez Gomez

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *continued*

Columbia Farm Services

Jocelyn Castillo
Mary Van Winkle
Sienna Alvarez-Temple

Columbia Reach Pak

Emiliano Zuniga

Cowiche Growers Inc

Ariana Ocampo Garcia
Chiara Ocampo Garcia
Geraldine Tavira
Yozelyn Chavez

CPC International Apple Company

Ariana Ocampo Garcia
Michelle Acevedo Haro

Dalton & Pamela Thomas

Abril Guevara
Ivan Alejandro
Katherine Barragan-Ayala
Lesly Vejar Garcia
Sara Martinez Cisneros

Dan & Bri Plath

Mireya Gutierrez
Nathalie Garibay-Castaneda

Danna Gebbers Guzman Memorial

Janette Hernandez Castro

Daryl Matson Memorial

Byanca Perez Villegas

Delmar Smith Memorial

Emily Garcia Mendez

Dennis & Lynetta Bigness

Camila Gonzalez Mendez
Gabriel Ramirez
Hania Manra Avelino
Jorge Gaytan Garcia

Dick Clements Memorial

Jeremy Flores

Don Morse Memorial/Chelan Fruit

Baylee Taber
Catherine Martinez-Bautista
Eli Becerril
Jacqueline Gomez

Double Diamond

Jocelyn Castillo

Doug & Helen Zahn Memorial / Washington Growers Clearing House

Miriam Gallardo Rosales

Douglas Fruit

Jaretzy Gonzalez-Murillo
Xola Solano

E. Ralph & Ida Strausz Memorial

Carol Govea
Diana Govea Jimenez
Ruben Lozano

Emily & William Gant

Arisbeidi Camacho
Gabriela Ramirez Sierra

Feliciano Benitez Memorial

Arielle Mendez
Stephany Guadarrama

"I couldn't be happier with my WAEF experience. I plan to return to the Washington/Idaho area to pursue a career in agricultural sales, and WAEF gave me confidence that my goals will be supported by the people I hope to work alongside."

Isaac Welch

2025 WAEF graduate
Grand Canyon University

FFA Apple Judging First Place Award

Gloria Smith

First Fruits Marketing of Washington

Alondra Castillo Maya
Jahir Gonzalez Montelongo

Foreman Fruit

Brianna Pio
Katherine Barragan-Ayala

Fred Valentine Memorial Fund

Joseph Schuyleman

Fruit Packers Supply

Leo Lemus-Lemus

FruitSmart

Dilynn Hite
Eli Juarez
Sarahi Agundis

G.S. Long Co., Inc.

Leo Lemus-Lemus

Gerri Whiteaker Memorial / Antles Pollen Supplies, Inc.

Angel Nolasco

Gilbert Orchards

Gabriela Rios
Griselda Alvarez Cuevas
Jenifer Hernandez-Luna
Jocelyn Cancino Corona
Leo Lemus-Lemus
Oscar Valentinez

Gladly Bellamy Memorial

Kevin Barron
Molly Coonfield

Gordy Page Memorial

Simon Cervantes

H.R. Spinner Corporation

Cameron Young
Carter Graham
Charlie Alvarez
Itzury Mendez
MaKenzie Griggs
Ty Waterman

Haas Farms Memorial

Lucas St. Hilaire

Hans & Lavonne van Someren Gréve

Ana Sanchez Leon

Hans van Someren Gréve

Kimberly Dodson

Hansen Fruit Company LLC

Kai Hanrahan

Harold Grim Memorial

Mason Renslow

Herold & Vicki Peebles

Kayden Medina

Honeybear Marketing

Veronica Ramirez

Howard & Helen Hauff Memorial

Jorge Guerrero Herrera

HUB International

Lehman Hires

Jacquelyn Horan-McDougall Memorial

Molly Coonfield

James E. Jim Loudon Memorial

Rocio Sevilla

Jay & Jennifer Witherbee

Anahi Barajas-Oseguera

Jeff & Jolene Hattori

Jesus Lopez Borges

Jennifer Witherbee

Kira Sandoval

Jerry Haak Memorial

Joseph Schuyleman
Lane Carlton
Macie Ladd
Oscar Martinez-Medina

Jerry Nolen Memorial

Dalay Ledezma

Joe & Ann Hall Education Fund

America Meza
Eduardo Castaneda
Marcial Romero Gomez

Joe Bulleri Memorial

Jairo Jaciel Escobedo

John Daniel Gebbers Memorial

Eduardo Orozco

John Douglas

Elisabeth Garcia

Jonathan Crane Memorial

Daisy Gomez-Ruiz
Joanna Perez
Luisa Lucas
Mareli Arevalo
Rafael Cruz

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *continued*

Jones Fruit

Marisol Uribe

JR Harris Memorial Award

Emily Lozano

Kailan & Sue Dunn

Alexa Garcia

Ken Leader Memorial

Marcial Romero Gomez

Kershaw Companies

Cassandra Rosario-Brambila
Genevieve Newstead
Henry Preacher
Mauricio Hernandez
Ruben Martinez

KJ Hendershott Memorial/Chelan Fruit

Rocio Sevilla

Larson Gross

Aylin Llamas
Ericka Barboza
Esmeralda Anguiano
Isela Garcia Gutierrez

Legacy Fruit, LLC

Briana Guerrero
Jennifer Guerrero
Judith Robledo
Karla Rodriguez Valdez

Louis Van Doren Memorial

Kevin Rodriguez-Delgado

Maldonado Family

Anna Hernandez Mojica
Yulissa Morales Maciel

Marsh McLennan Agency / Deborah Krautwurm Memorial

Viridiana Acevedo Saucedo

Martin & Judy Verbrugge

Ingrid Barajas
Rosa Bautista

Mathison Family

Bryan Garcia Bautista
David Guzman Valente
Javier Ramirez
Lesly Valdovinos-Arevalo
MaKenzie Griggs
Mauro Ramirez

Matson Fruit

Jennifer Martinez
Rosalia Gonzalez

McDougall & Sons Opportunity

Jaime Barajas

Mike & Susi Harris

Valeria Eugenio Islas

Mike Harris

Gabriel Ramirez

Monson Fruit

Alex Olvera-Vargas
Lily Spielman

Moss Adams LLP

Leonardo Velazquez

Moss Adams LLP-E. Peter Krier

Josue Lopez

Nordic

Alvaro Andres Medrano Melgar
Carola Garcia Mendez
Citlali Sanchez Cervantes
Dulce Ferreyra
Fermin Briseno-Gomez
Inez Juarez-Lopez
Jeanette Martinez
Jeffry Saul Palacios Villalobos
Justin Vargas
Karla Cacho Avina
Valeria Rodriguez

North Valley Mechanical / Charity Rumbolz Memorial

Eduardo Orozco

Northern Fruit / Ice Lakes

Alejandra Beltran Maldonado
Cristina Gonzalez
Dorismar Ochoa Sanchez
Estefany Canchola Aguilar
Giselle Cendejas-Diaz
Giselle Guerrero
Grace Lugo-Sanchez
Jenny Valle Soto
Mia Mora-Canchola
Mia Tostado-Aguilar
Orlando Maldonado-Beltran
Valente Barrios
Vivian Sanchez

Northwest Nursery Improvement Institute

Baylee Taber
Caden Griggs
Fredy Rodriguez Murillo
Oscar Martinez-Medina

Northwest Wholesale Incorporated

Cameron Phillips
John Godwin
Mia Gamble

NWFM LLC

Alex Rojas
Ingrid Carvajal Macias

Olsen Brothers

Alondra Castillo Maya

Olympic Fruit

Michelle Acevedo Haro

Orondo Cares

Ricardo Garcia

Orville & Bertha Peebles Memorial

Veronica Ramirez

Pacific Label

Myrka Trejo Hernandez

Paul & Vera Jean Mortimer Memorial

Ivette Ramos

Personnette / Van Horn Memorial

Diana Govea Jimenez

Phil Jenkins Memorial / POM Club

Hunter Schlepp
Jonathan Mitchum
Kai Hanrahan
Lehman Hires
Thomas Luke Tyrrell

POM Club / YVC Ag Program

Kyle Christenson

Pottratz Family

Jennifer Meneses

Price Cold Storage & Packing Company

Aaron Lopez-Martinez
Angel Garcia
Devin Seaman
Stephany Guadarrama

Richard Keller Memorial/Apple King

Rachael Keller
Samuel Adams

Robert & Hope Allan Memorial

Gavin George

Robert Prince Memorial

Juana Palacios Villalobos

Roche Fruit

Bella Arroyo
Milena Urroz Sandoval



WAEF scholarships are incredible because they help so many people – students, their families, and schools. And, at the end of the day, the tree fruit industry receives great new talent as well.

Yakima Fruit & Cold Storage

Industry partner & 2025 scholarship donor
Represented by Curtis Wilcox

Roger Calhoun Memorial

Jackelyn Soto-Mendez

Ron Pilkinton Memorial

Van Keough-Michaels

Rubio Family

Claudia Tinoco Pio

Ruth & Emmanuel Rubio

Giselle Cenicerros-Navarro

Schlect Family

Fernando Moreno Benito
Heriberto Martinez-Regis
Kaitlyn Piepel
Kenia Sanchez Martinez
Manuel Sanchez

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *continued*

Scott Baker Technical Education

Miguel Aparicio

Shannon Dininny

Esmeralda Anguiano

Stemilt Growers

Angel Milan-Aguilar
Antonio Godinez-Martinez
Ashlee Nunez Maldonado
Carys Williams
Dianne Ramirez Godinez
Jessalyn Alcazar-Castaneda
Karen Rivera
Nora Gutzwiler

Steve & Jody Lund

Camila Gonzalez Mendez

Strand

Ariana Ocampo Garcia
Carol Govea
Diana Govea Jimenez
Geraldine Tavira

Strong Women, Stronger Communities Fellowship

Alejandra Martinez

Sundquist Fruit

Kai Hanrahan

Susi Harris Memorial

Odin Finsen

Tekniplex

Joel Henriquez

Terry Kelson Memorial

Reyna Flores Perez

Thomas Hale

Audrey Keller

Thomas K. Mathison Memorial

Alexandra Vazquez-Rocha
Chelsy Ruiz
Cruz Martinez Nieto
Kevin Hernandez-Ramos
Pedro Mendoza Zamora
Wendy Castellanos Bueno
Xitlali Solano

Tim & Kathleen Welsh

Blake Oeck

Tom Stokes

Cesar China Olarte
Edwin Cabrera Velazquez

Tree Top, Inc.

Audrey Keller
Darlene Leon
Isaiah Garibaldo
Jaden Gaudet
Lena Olsen
Matthew Ramirez
Payton Snyder
Van Keough-Michaels

Triple G Orchards

Luis Sanchez-Bernal

UNITEC

Ezequiel Mata
Mauricio Luna

USI

Xitlaly Mendoza

Valent USA Tree Fruit

Kimberly Strong
Lane Carlton

Valley Fruit

Adolfo Mendoza

Valley Tractor & Equipment Vocational

Briceida Lopez Paz

Van Doren Sales

Isaac Welch

Vicki Armbruster Peebles

Jordan Castro

Warren Morgan Memorial

Leisly Hernandez Alvarado

Washington Apple Education Foundation

Aaron Ochoa
Aida Roy
Alayna Groce
Allyson Denny
Arleth Mendoza-Zepeda
Cade Schindele
Eduardo Juarez Ramirez
Elise Bickford
Estefani Aguilar Cardenas
Gwendolen Veselka
Haley Betterton

Jackson West
Judith Perdomo-Gonzalez
Katie Corral
Mario Mejia
Yahayra Ruiz-G

Washington Apple Education Foundation / Vocational

Alexis Saucedo
Isaak Gay
Simon Cervantes

Washington Fruit & Produce Co. / Royal High School

Silverio Hernandez

Washington Fruit & Produce Company

Aden Mata
Alexandra Anciso
Angel Casillas Bernal
Anthony Orozco
Briseira Lopez
Caden Sund
Daisy Barajas-Manzo
Dayana Abundiz
Dayanara Abundiz
Edgar Moreno
Itzel Riano
Jackson Decker
Jocelynn Orozco
Jonas Jimenez-Mata
Jonathan Orozco
Leslie Sanchez Soto
Milton Mendoza
Paola Abundiz
Roxanna Hernández-Aguilar
Samuel Sedano

Washington Fruit & Produce Company

Bridget Jones

Washington State Tree Fruit Association

Caden Griggs
Cameron Phillips

Wheatland Bank

Cindy Vargas
Luis Uribe-Reyes

Wilbur & Frankie Adams Memorial

Chayan Morales-Bravo
Ericka Barboza

Wilbur Ellis

Celeste Vergara-Borges
Elizabeth Garcia Perez
Estefani Aguilar Cardenas
Kenia Sanchez Martinez
Milena Urroz Sandoval
Myrka Trejo Hernandez
Raquel Pedraza-Blanco
Ximena Martinez
Yamilet Reyes

Yakima Fruit & Cold Storage

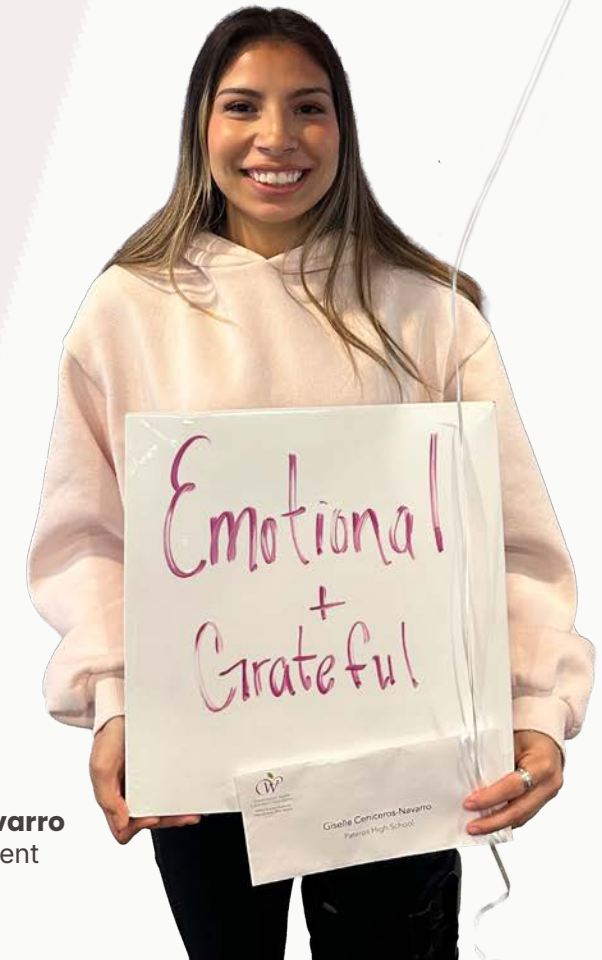
Jorge Guzman
Montserrat Suarez Ordaz

Zirkle Fruit Company

Maria Lara Urueta
Maria Ruelas Iniguez

THANK YOU SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Your impact is huge!



Giselle Cenicerros-Navarro
2025 Scholarship recipient



BEYOND THE SCHOLARSHIP

Three areas of wraparound support to help students graduate on-time & job-ready

Ashly Lopez
Current WAEF student

Ashly,
Hope you are having a great
Start of your Spring Quarter.
Keep pushing hard & congrats
on your impending graduation !!
All the Best!
Chelan Fresh



Grace Lugo Sanchez with a WAEF care package, good luck cards before exams

PERSISTENCE TO GRADUATION

Students have someone in their corner as they navigate challenges and stay on track.



WAEF students at the Holiday Brunches

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Students build the skills, awareness, and confidence employers expect as they step into the workforce.



Leandro Mendoza at the Yakima Valley Community Foundation, Maria Lara Urueta at Clifton Larson Allen & Larson Gross, Dorismar Ochoa Sanchez at Cordell Neher & Co.

CAREER EXPLORATION

Students explore careers in their communities and build connections that shape their path.

BEYOND THE SCHOLARSHIP

A commitment to successful launch

At WAEF, a scholarship is just the starting point. Together with donors, volunteers, and industry partners, we share a responsibility to help students not only get to college, but make it through and build a future they're proud of.

For many WAEF students, the path through college is not always straightforward. Many are the first in their families to attend, and many balance school with work and financial pressure. We've learned that access alone isn't enough. Help in overcoming even small barriers can make a big difference in their long-term success – students benefit enormously from a community that continues to show up.



WAEF spring care package – treats that show support

Outcomes for WAEF students clearly show the results of that community commitment: 96% of WAEF students renew their scholarships or graduate, 87% are on track to finish in four years or fewer, and they maintain an average GPA of 3.5. These results reflect what can happen when financial support is paired with encouragement, connection, and people who stay engaged along the way.



WAEF students at the Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic for a career exploration day

This work reflects the values of Washington's tree fruit industry. It's rooted in hard work, resilience, and a belief in supporting the next generation. It's also shared work. Donors, volunteers, and industry partners are all part of what makes these outcomes possible.

And the return matters.

Students graduate prepared and ready to contribute. Many bring their skills and leadership back to rural communities, strengthening the workforce, supporting local economies, and continuing the cycle of giving back. In that way, the impact reaches far beyond a single scholarship or a single student.



WAEF students at Stemilt Growers for a career exploration day

I am grateful to WAEF for providing support that goes beyond finances, creating a community of encouragement and belonging that motivates me throughout my college journey. It reminds me that people genuinely care about my success. I am empowered by WAEF's support and deeply thankful to the donors for making such a meaningful difference in my life.

Daisy Barajas
Current WAEF student
Gonzaga University

DONORS 2025



Eastmont High School
2025 Scholarship recipients

Thank you generous donors!

WAEF's work on behalf of students is made possible through your generosity. Together, this community of donors, volunteers, and partners creates opportunities for students to access education and succeed beyond it. Your contributions provide scholarships and comprehensive support, helping more young people grow, explore, persist, and graduate job-ready. Thank you for your commitment to students and the tree fruit community.

\$100,000+

Derrey, Rick & Karen
Manzana Foundation
Northern Fruit
Stemilt Growers LLC
Thomas, Dalton & Pam

\$65,000+

Columbia Fruit Packers
McDougall & Sons Inc
Plath, Rick & Lisa

\$30,000+

Chelan Fresh
CMI Orchards
Rears Manufacturing Co Inc
Washington State Tree Fruit Association
Yakima POM Club

\$20,000+

AgWest Farm Credit
Allan Brothers
Costco Wholesale Corporation
Dorothy & Fred Plath Foundation
Gilbert Orchards
H.R. Spinner Corporation
John Douglas Family
Kershaw Companies
Northwest Nursery Improvement Institute
Orchard Robotics
PwC Charitable Foundation
U.S. Bank Foundation
Washington Fruit & Produce Company
Wilbur Ellis

DONORS *continued*

\$10,000+

AgroFresh
Borton Fruit
CLA Foundation
Clements, Marietta (in memory)
CPC International Apple Company
FMC Corporation
Key Bank Foundation
Larson Gross
Legendary Fruit
Marsh
Morgan, Heather
NWFM LLC
T&G Global/EnzaFruit Products
Tree Top, Inc.
USI
Valley Fruit III LLC
Verbrugge, Martin
Yakima Fruit & Cold Storage


Insure.Ag
International Paper
Key Bank
Lockton Companies
Michelsen Packaging Company
Moss Adams x Baker Tilly
Olson, Darryl
Peebles, Herold & Vicki
Plath, Marianne
Price, Tyler & Julianne
Roche Fruit
Rural Community Insurance Services
Schlect, Mike
Smith, Ken & Sharon
UBS Farmland Investors
UNITEC
Van Doren Sales
Van Someren Gréve, Hans & Lavonne
Wells Fargo Commercial Banking
Wheatland Bank
Zirkle Fruit Company

DrapeNet North America
Dunn, Kailan & Sue
Gant, William & Emily
Gebbers Farms & Warehouse
Gilbert, Scott
Grubbs, Anika
Heritage University
Jacky, Mary
JJ Orchards
KipTraq
Lund, Steve & Jody
M&A Orchards
Mast, Bob & Sabrina
Matson, Rod
Monson Fruit
NAU Country
Olympic Fruit
Or-Cal Inc.
ProAg
PwC
Rain and Hail LLC
Schlect, Christian & Janet
Stokes Lawrence Charitable Foundation
Strand Apples Inc
Strausz, Kenneth
Superior Fruit Equipment
Taggares Fruit Company LLC
Tekniplex
Umpqua Bank
Valent USA
Walkenhauer, Jim & Barbara
Washington Trust Bank
Witherbee, Jennifer & Jay
Zirkle, Mark

North Central Washington Fieldmen's Association
Olsen Brothers LLC
Roy Farms
Rubio's Produce, Rubio Family
Sundquist Fruit
Verbrugge, Peter
Washington Apple Commission
Yakima Valley Community Foundation

\$7,500+

Alegria
Anonymous
Birdsall, Brian & Irene
CoBank
FruitSmart
G.S. Long Co., Inc.
GroPro Corporation
Hall, Joe & Ann
Matson Fruit Company
Mountain States Construction Company
Northwest Wholesale Inc
Plath, Dan & Bri
Price Cold Storage & Packing Co Inc
UPL
Valley Tractor & Equipment

 *THANK YOU, for the opportunity to contribute to such a valuable, successful mission! It is very rewarding to me to see that my contribution makes a difference.*

Darryl Olson
WAEF contributor

\$5,000+

Albert Victor Ravenholt Fund
Anonymous
BASF Agricultural Solutions
Bayer US LLC
Bigness, Dennis & Lynetta
Certis Biologicals
Chelan Fruit
Corteva Agriscience
Cowiche Growers Inc
Douglas Fruit
First Fruits Marketing LLC
Global Ag
Huston, Danielle

\$2,500+

Anonymous
Apple King
Bank of America
BeeHero
Belrose Inc
Big Bend Electric Cooperative Inc
CHUBB Agribusiness
Columbia Farm Services
Decco
Douglas, John & Heather

\$1,500+

AgriSompo North America
AssuredPartners
Blue Bird Inc
Burrows Tractor Inc
Chamberlin Agriculture
Christoferson, Jeff & Darci
CliftonLarsonAllen
Crunch Pak LLC
Cultiva
Garibay-Vega, Beatriz
Good Fruit Grower
Hale, Thomas
Hansen Fruit Company LLC
Harris, Michael (in memory)
Honeybear Growers
HUB International
Nichino America

\$1,000+

Anonymous
Ballard, Ken & Michelle
Banner Bank
Belton, Darrin & Pam
Bloxom, John (in memory) & Connie
Buck, Nancy & Steve
CopenHaven Farms Inc
Cordell Neher & Company
Dininy, Shannon
Double Diamond
Dufault, Jeremie
Fulton, Nate and Erin
Gilbert, Cragg & Barbara Smith
Huntsinger-Carson, Diane
Innov8 Ag
IPL Macro
McLeod, Sam
Orion, Inc.
Pacific BioControl
Pacific Label
Patton, Marshall
Rankin, Robert & Kimberlee
Rubio, Emmanuel & Ruth Ortiz
Saunders, Chris & Susan
Sinclair Systems International
Stainbrook, Daniel & Patricia
Stemilt Creek Winery
Strand-Selby, Janet
Strella Biotech
Taylor Orchards
Terrantic
Villaseñor, Lupe
Wenatchee Valley Children's Guild

DONORS *continued*

\$500+

Alegria, Steven & Patricia
 Apple Tree Golf Course
 Back 40 Advisors
 Bautista-Herd, Emily
 Beach Haven Resort
 Belton, Drew & Hillary
 Chiawana Orchards LLC
 Custom Apple Packers Inc
 DAC Consulting Inc
 Dickerson, Cristina
 Dunn, Kailan & Marissa
 Fruit Packers Supply
 Gonzaga University Athletics
 Great American Insurance Companies
 Grubbs, Michael & Teresia
 Helena Chemical Company
 Highstreet Insurance & Financial Services
 Jensen, Ben & Rachel
 Kalispel Golf & Country Club
 Keyes Nowlin, Hanna
 Lake Shore Electric Inc
 MacDonald, Douglas
 Martin, Rolando
 Meyer Orchard Management Inc
 Oxrow.ai
 Pine Canyon Growers
 Poush, Adam & Hannah
 Reyes Market LLC
 Schuld, Eric
 SummitAgro USA
 Temple, Patricia
 Veselka, Keith & Ruth
 Wenatchee Golf & Country Club
 Wenatchee Valley Medical Group
 Wiebe, Cameron
 Wiggins, Keith & Claudia
 Wixson, Sarah

Heilman, Blaine
 Helleson, Kayla
 Holt, James & Vicki
 Koch, Greg
 Kohl, Miles & Julie
 Mountain View
 Nielsen, Lila
 Oliver, Amanda
 Peebles, Robert & Sarah
 Podlich, Allison
 Pringle, Ruth
 Pulido-Lemus, Anayssa
 Roy, Mark & Debbie
 Seattle-Tacoma Box Company
 Staples Hughes, Mikala
 Tallman Ladders Inc
 Tim's Country Saw Shop
 Velazquez, Xochitl
 Willett, Chris & Jennifer
 Willett, Michael & Laura

Chukar Cherries
 Collins, Geof
 Culinary Apple
 Elliott, Andrew
 Ewing Irrigation and Landscape Supply
 Finson, Odin
 Flower, Ellen Victoria
 FMF Inc
 Forsberg, Jeff
 Forsberg, Kaye
 Frank, Lawrence & Phyllis
 Gauck, Deborah
 Gaytan, Jorge
 Gilbert, Jimmie & Karen
 Gilbert, Julie
 Gillespie, Ronald & Kathleen
 Gray, Robert & Patricia
 Guerra, Kesia
 Hattrup, Joseph & Susan
 Hernández-Aguilar, Roxanna
 Holtzinger, Mark
 Howard, Tom & Leanne
 Kershaw, Ed & Mary Ann
 Kielstra, Nik
 Knight, Ken & Sharon
 Knight, Kevin & Joan
 Kniveton, Erin
 Leavenworth Adventure Park
 Leavenworth Winter Sports Club
 L'Ecole No 41
 Lee, Vincent
 Madden, Paul and Janice
 Martin, Larry & Susan
 Martinez, Sayexi

Maryhill Winery
 McIntyre, Doug & Linda
 Molt, Roger & Nancy
 Morrison, Lindsey
 Numerica Credit Union
 Oropeza, Lady
 Orozco, Eduardo
 Peebles, Bryan & Shannon
 Pelletier, Heidi
 Peoples Bank
 Podlich, Chuck & Sharon
 Pottratz, Tony & Melody
 Reynaga, Pablo
 Riehl, Helen
 Rouse, Joanne
 Russell Orchards
 Sax, Leo & Pat
 Shockley, Tressa
 Spokane Chiefs
 Spokane Indians Baseball
 Succession Wines
 Sunset Co-Operative Courts
 Taylor, Bette
 Van Orman, Rodney
 Van Well Nursery
 Verduzco, Nadia
 Wanderlust Tours
 Wenatchee Wild Hockey
 Whitney, Robert
 Williams, Jordan
 Wolter, Suzanne
 Yakima Rotary Trust
 Zediker, Steve & Ruth

“ I just really want to give back to the organization that gave so much to me. What WAEF provides can't happen without people choosing to support it.

Amanda Oliver
 WAEF graduate and volunteer

\$250+

Alegria, Brian & Buffy
 Benson, Josh
 Bosma Estate Wine
 Bruce Allen Orchards LLC
 Brunner, Jamie
 Cobia, David
 Davidson, Sam
 Del Rosario, Andrew
 Dennis, Christine
 Foreman, James & Allison
 Galbreath, Scott & Mandy
 Haas, Ranie
 Hansen, Robin

Up to \$250

Abundiz, Richard
 Allen, Robert
 Avina, Brenda
 Bergstrom, LaVerne & Tom
 Bueno, Wendy
 Bush, Andrea
 BX
 Calderon-Sandoval, Maria Elena
 Calhoun, Barbara
 Camarillo, Alondra
 Cartmill, Patti and Cary



WAEF students visiting the Yakima Farm Workers Clinic
 Marisol Uribe, Chelsy Ruiz, Briseira Lopez, & Griselda Alvarez Cuevas

VOLUNTEERS 2025



Beatriz Garibay-Vega
2025 Alumni Volunteer of the Year

Thank you volunteers!

Thank you to all our incredible volunteers – over 250 strong this year! The mentorship, professional development, career exploration experiences, care packages, and operational support you provide make all the difference to the success of WAEF students. You are the heart of the foundation and we are deeply grateful for your commitment.

Aaron Cahoon
Abby Gammel
Adam Hill
Adam VandeBrake
Addie Grow
Agustin Reyes
Alejandro Ramos
Alex Capi
Alex Scherer
Alexis Moreno
Alisha Jeffries
Alma Arias
Amanda Adams
Amy Spietz
Ana Chavez
Anahi Godinez
Anahi Ramos
Anayssa Pulido-Lemus
Andrew Greenman
Angela Nett
Anika Grubbs
Anthony Hopoi
Apolinar Blanco
Aranza Arroyo
Arlando Lara
Art Rodriguez
Auna Lundberg
Austin Backes
Austin Olson
Barry Bendall
Bart Gebers

Beatriz Garibay-Vega
Ben Jensen
Beth Elkinton
Beth Kalombo
Bianca Ramirez
Bob Mast
Brandon Nichols
Breann Speer
Brenda Avalos
Bret Pittsinger
Brett Calhoun
Brian Alegria
Brian Daines
Brian Evans
Brian Newhouse
Brianna Talley
Bruce Grim
Casci Smith
Cesar Cuevas
Chafeka Abdellatif
Charlie Miracle
Cheri Hoiland
Chloe Haberlock
Chris Willett
Christian Cavanaugh
Chyann Sybouts
Claudia Gonzalez
Clint Keane
Colleen Malmassari
Cory Groves
Dalia Ruiz
Dan Plath
Danielle Huston
Danielle Sullivan
Danika Campos
Dany Payne
Darrin Belton
David Cobia
David Severn
Dean Kutschkau
Denise Ramirez
Dennis Bigness
Derek Brunner
Devirie Conner
Dianna Sanchez
Drew Belton
Dusty St John
Ed McDaniel



Washington Apple
Education Foundation

ALUMNI

WAEF alumni indicated
by red highlights

Elijah Nash
 Elizabeth Voth
 Emily Allwardt
 Emily Bautista-Herd
 Emily Cox
 Emily Gant
 Emily Zirkle
 Emmanuel Rubio
Eric Barragan
 Erica Casagrande Biasu
 Erica Metheny
Erika Betancourt
 Erin Fulton
 Erin Kniveton
Eva Fortier

Jenica Nickels
Jenna Voelker
 Jennifer England
 Jennifer Witherbee
 Jeremiah Steele
Jerry Torres
 Jessenia Renteria
Jessica Culbertson
 Jessica Simmons
Jesus Cuellar
Jesus Rodriguez
 Joanne Rouse
John Haas
 John King
 John Onstad
 John Simmons
Jorge Villasenor
Jose Hernandez
 Josh Logsdon
 Josh Weldy
 Juan Gaytan
 Julie Allen
 Justine Reeves-Barth
Kailan Dunn
 Kamaly Cleaver
 Karen Maqueda
 Kathryn Bolyard
 Katie Kanky
 Katie Pauly
 Keith Veselka
 Kelly A. Newlon
 Ken Ballard
 Kendall Johnson
 Kevin Schwartz
 Kim Sheffield
 Kimberly Loveless
 Krista Hampton
 Kristin Snapp
 Kristina Mercado
 Kyle Womach
 Lars Hakensen
Laura Guillen Reyes
 Lauren Gonzalez
 Lauren Patti
 LaVerne Bergstrom
 Leif Ergeson
 Leticia Gonzales
 Lindsay Boswell
 Lisa Plath
Lizet Cruz
 Loren & Heather Queen
 Luke Tiffany
 Lupe Perez
 Lupe Villaseñor
 Maddy Rogers
 Madeline Barclay

Madison Werkhoven
Maggie Torres
 Maira Gil
 Mallory Champoux
 Manny Valencia
 Marc Griggs
Maria Garcia
 Maria Guerra
 Maria Navarro
 Marianne Plath
 Mark Stoltz
 Matthew Bledsoe
 Max Mielke
 McKell Meidinger
Meera Bridges
 Melanie Garza
 Melina Mendoza
Melissa Guadarrama
Micaela Salgado
 Michael Mejia
 Michelle Reid
 Mike Wade
 Mireya Cervantes
Nancy Leyva
Nancy Tovar Garcia
Natali Amador
 Nate Fulton
 Nathan Roberts
 Neil Baxter
 Nick Watkins
 Nicole Frazier
 Nicole Wesley
 Norma Martinez
 Norma Park
 Paloma Perez
 Pat Bossen
 Pat Sax
 Paul Lassey
 Ranie Haas
 Robert Payne
 Robert Peebles
 Robin Hansen
 Rocco Bowen
 Rolando Martin
 Ron Snyder
Ruth Ortiz Rubio
 Ruth Pringle
 Ruth Santiago
 Ryan Freimuth
 Sarah Wixson
 Scarlet Waller
 Shane Thompson
 Shannon Dininny
 Shannon Weldy
 Sharon Miracle
 Shelbi Perkins

Sherry Everts
 Stacie Boyle
 Stacy McAllister
 Stacy Young
Stephanie Olivera
 Stephanie Rojas
 Steve Bowden
 Sue Bynum
 Tawnya Gonzales
 Taylor Esteves
 Terri Carleton
 Theresa Cooper
 Tim Kovis
 Tim Thiers
Tina Jimenez
 Tina Jo Cave
 Tom Howard
 Tracy Styles
 Travis Huff
 Tressa Mercy
 Tyffany Basila
 Tyler Mooney
 Tyler Price
 Vicki Peebles
 William Gant
Yadira Castaneda Nunez
 Zach Williams

I feel fortunate for what WAEF made possible for me; volunteering is a way to help make that possible for others.

Hannah Poush
 WAEF alumni, donor, & volunteer

Eva Tovar
 Ezra Nakamura
Gabe Tyrrell
 Gabriela Garcia
 Gail Anderson
 Gary Womelsduff
 Gene Sharratt
 George Velazquez
 Georgia Bardsley
 Geraldine Warner
 Germaine Newstead
 Gisel Sanchez
 Gonzo Gonzales
 Hanna Keyes Nowlin
Hannah Poush
 Hans van Someren Gréve
 Heidi Gonzalez
 Irene Birdsall
Ivan Mendoza
 JacLyn Foster
 Jacque Huss
 Jacqui Gordon Nunez
 Janet Schlect
 Jen Casteel



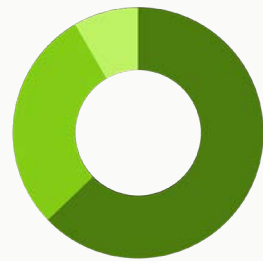
Stephanie Rojas, WAEF Volunteer of the Year with Lupe Villaseñor & Jennifer Witherbee

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

Strong income, efficient spending, growing resources

INCOME +41% YoY

\$3.26M

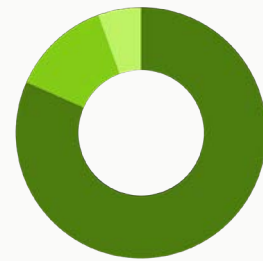


- Contributions 63%
- Investment Returns 29%
- Events Revenue 8%

We are incredibly thankful for a very strong revenue year despite tough industry conditions, giving us a solid foundation for expanded scholarships and programs in coming years.

EXPENSES 82% Program Ratio

\$1.77M

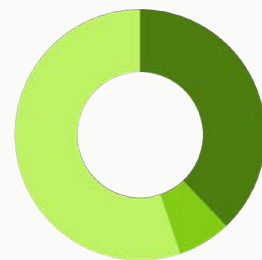


- Scholarships & Pgms. 82%
- Management 13%
- Fundraising 5%

This year we again spent over 80 cents of every dollar on scholarships and other programs. We also strengthened our management capacity and got more efficient with our fundraising.

PROGRAM FUNDS +20% YoY

\$11.79M



- Grady & Lillie Auvil Memorial Fund 38%
- Funds without Donor Restriction 7%
- Funds with Donor Restrictions 55%

Strong income and efficient spending grew our resources just under \$2M (+20%). We deeply appreciate the trust the tree fruit industry and our community have placed in us as stewards of these funds.

THE DETAILS

\$ in '000s

	2025	2024	Change
INCOME	Contributions	\$2,050	\$1,473 +39%
	Investment Returns	\$939	\$579 +62%
	Events Revenue	\$273	\$260 +5%
	Total Income	\$3,261	\$2,311 +41%
EXPENSES	Scholarships	\$1,217	\$1,211 +<1%
	Programs	\$225	\$247 -9%
	Management	\$227	\$175 +30%
	Fundraising	\$98	\$122 -20%
Total Expenses	\$1,767	\$1,754 +<1%	
PROGRAM FUNDS	Grady & Lillie Auvil Memorial Fund	\$4,471	\$4,014 +11%
	Funds without Donor Restriction	\$812	\$496 +64%
	Funds with Donor Restrictions	\$6,511	\$5,335 +22%
	Net Program Funds	\$11,794	\$9,845 +20%

Note: Line items are rounded to the nearest thousand and may not add exactly to the totals shown. All figures are accurate.

Full financial statements are available at waef.org/financial-reports



Dennise Aguilar Cano
2025 WAEF graduate

BOARD & STAFF

Stewarding WAEF on behalf of students, community, & the tree fruit industry



Chairman Tyler Price & Past Chairman Rolando Martin

OFFICERS

Chairman

Tyler Price, Price Cold Storage

Vice-Chairman

Nate Fulton, Marsh McLennan Agency

Secretary

Robin Hansen, Columbia Fruit Packers

Treasurer

Ben Jensen, Larson Gross

Immediate Past Chairman

Rolando Martin, Washington Fruit & Produce

DIRECTORS

Rolando Martin, Washington Fruit & Produce

Ken Ballard, AgWest Farm Credit

Emily Bautista-Herdt, Northwest Wholesale Inc

Drew Belton

LaVerne Bergstrom

Dennis Bigness

Irene Birdsall, McDougall & Sons

Kailan Dunn, H.R. Spinner

Ranie Haas, Washington State Tree Fruit Assoc.

Bob Mast, CMI Orchards

Marianne Plath, Washington Fruit & Produce

Keith Veselka, NWFM

Lupe Villaseñor, Insure.Ag

Chris Willett, T&G Global

Sarah Wixson, Stokes Lawrence, Velikanje, Moore, and Shore

Thank you dedicated board members!

STAFF

Jennifer Witherbee, Executive Director

Jessica Lara, Student Success Director

Stephanie Shindler, Ops. & Engagement Mgr.

Joanna Sanchez, Pgms. & Ops. Coordinator

“Providing scholarships through WAEF is among the most gratifying opportunities to help others. The student’s dedication, hard work, and potential are truly impressive.”

Irene Birdsall
WAEF board member

2026 & BEYOND

A vision for broader & deeper commitment

01 Expand Access

Expand access for learners at all stages who are pursuing education to advance within the tree fruit industry

03 Sustain What Matters

Strengthen systems, staffing, and processes to ensure WAEF can sustainably support students, donors, and programs with excellence and efficiency

02 Enhance Support

Enhance Beyond The Scholarship support to ensure students graduate with confidence and clear career direction

04 Engage Post-Grads

Strengthen alumni engagement as graduates enter and progress in their careers

In closing

THANK YOU!

We are so grateful to you, our industry partners, donors, and volunteers, for your generous support, past, present, and future. You are helping students grow and cultivating the tree fruit industry.



Maria de los Angeles Munoz Silva
2025 WAEF graduate



Melissa Zuniga
2025 WAEF graduate



Washington Apple
Education Foundation

Helping students grow &
cultivating the tree fruit industry
since 1994

A 501(c)(3) organization
EIN 91-1638890