

# A *new* CHAPTER GROW *with us*



## *Notes From The Director Excited to Connect!*

### **A New Year and A New Chapter for the NDSCS Alumni Foundation**

I am truly honored to introduce myself as the new Executive Director of the NDSCS Alumni Foundation. My name is Matthew Hallaway, and I've had the pleasure of spending my first month on the NDSCS campus, immersing myself in the rich history of this institution and connecting with the vibrant and amazing community that makes up the NDSCS family. No need to worry- Kim Nelson hasn't retired just yet. She will continue to be around through the summer.

It's been an incredible first month of learning, and I am excited to share some of the steps we've taken together already. In my first few weeks, I have:

- Engaged with students, faculty, staff, and our Board to understand the ongoing work at NDSCS and how we can continue building strong connections with our alumni.
- Learned about past alumni engagement initiatives to identify opportunities for growth and to ensure we are creating meaningful ways for alumni to connect, give back, and stay involved with NDSCS.
- Started creating relationships with local community partners to develop collaborative efforts that will benefit both current students and alumni.
- Been part of the planning process to bring alumni back to campus for the DREAMS Auction. (Do you have your table yet?)

As I continue to settle into my role, I am deeply committed to enhancing the alumni experience and ensuring that our alumni network remains strong, supportive, and engaged for years to come. I am thrilled to work alongside all our amazing staff to create lasting impact and uphold the legacy of the NDSCS Alumni Foundation.

I want to meet and connect with as many of our Alumni as I can. Please feel free to reach out to me directly with ideas, questions, or if you just want to reconnect. I am always open to grab a cup of coffee with you and learn about your experience here at NDSCS.

I look forward to building a stronger, more connected alumni community with all of you.

Matthew Hallaway  
NDSCS Alumni Foundation Executive Director  
[matthew.hallaway@ndscs.edu](mailto:matthew.hallaway@ndscs.edu)  
(701) 671-2480

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# GIVING HEARTS DAY 2025



Giving Hearts Day is set for February 13, 2025, and this year's event will support the NDSCS Science of Leadership Program.

This program immerses students in leadership roles to enhance their skills and transform them into lifelong leaders. It focuses on developing critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, planning, and organizational abilities.

Participants will benefit from an interactive leadership curriculum that emphasizes hands-on learning experiences and small-group mentoring provided by professional staff members at NDSCS.

How you can donate:

-Online at [Giving Hearts](#) with a credit/debit card

-Send or drop off a check made out to "NDSCS Alumni Foundation" dated February 13, 2025 to the NDSCS Alumni Foundation, 800 6th St N, Wahpeton, ND 58076

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# 30th ANNUAL DREAMS AUCTION



## SAVE *the* DATE!

# 30<sup>th</sup> Annual DREAMS *auction*

**Friday, April 11, 2025**

at the Clair T. Blikre Activities Center  
Ed Werre Arena  
North Dakota State College of Science  
Wahpeton

In-Person  
& Online  
Options for  
Silent Auction  
Bidding

**NDSCS**  
ALUMNI / FOUNDATION

[NDSCSalumni.com](http://NDSCSalumni.com)

The Alumni Foundation is thrilled to announce our 30th Annual DREAMS Auction, set to take place on April 11, 2025, at the Clair T. Blikre Activity Center (BAC) in Wahpeton, ND. We are looking forward to a spectacular celebration for this milestone event, hoping to welcome over 700 guests along with additional online bidders from across the nation. To ensure the success of this event, we need your support! From now until March 7, we are accepting donations of merchandise, gift cards, services, cash, and other items. Thank you for helping us make this celebration unforgettable!

This is an excellent opportunity for you to show your support for NDSCS while also backing local businesses or promoting your own. We are consistently inspired by the generosity of our community and eagerly anticipate what the upcoming year will bring!

### To donate:

Click [here](#) to complete the donation form.

Return the completed form with your donation (mail-in, drop-off, or we can pick up!)

Need ideas? Call us! We'd be happy to help with donation suggestions. Gift cards or cash are also much appreciated. Please have donations submitted no later than **March 7, 2025**.

### To reserve your table:

There are a limited number of tables available. Tables of 8 can be purchased by contacting Kim Nelson at (701) 671-2187 or [Kim.J.Nelson@ndscs.edu](mailto:Kim.J.Nelson@ndscs.edu) or Matthew Hallaway at (701) 671-2480 or [Matthew.Hallaway@ndscs.edu](mailto:Matthew.Hallaway@ndscs.edu)

# GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The Annual Giving Campaign is going on right now and we would like to finish our fiscal year strong! Our fiscal year is July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. If you would like to donate, we would appreciate your help in meeting our goal. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, you can go online (click the button below), mail in a check, or contact us at 701-671-2247 and we can take your credit card information over the phone. With sincere gratitude, we thank all of you that have given.

Annual Campaign

Club Campaign

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## ARIZONA 2025



**Almost every year, for over 50 years**, thousands of North Dakotans have gathered in Mesa, AZ, for the North Dakota Picnic in early March. It's a fun event for friends and former neighbors who enjoy Arizona sunshine but still call North Dakota "home".

An estimated 3,000 people attended the 2024 ND Picnic. Hosted by the North Dakota Community Foundation, the event included entertainment, classic cars on display, and numerous vendor booths. The real draw, however, is finding old friends and former neighbors in the crowd.

The NDSCS Alumni Foundation will have a booth set up, and we would love to see you in sunny Mesa. This will be a great opportunity to bid farewell to retiring Executive Director Kim Nelson, meet new Executive Director Matthew Hallaway, and connect with Senior Development Officer Denise Laymon.

No RSVP required; just find our table at Red Mountain Park (7745 East Brown Road, Mesa) March 2nd from 10a-2:30p. Hope to see you there!

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# CULINARY SCHOLARSHIP DINNER



Annual  
SCHOLARSHIP  
CULINARY  
Dinner

Thursday, March 6

Social 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner 6 p.m.

Guest chefs will create signature dishes with wine pairings for this multi-course menu.

6th Street Eatery (Wildcat Express)  
NDSCS Heston Student Center  
Washington, ND

*Limited Availability*  
Early Bird Ticket Sale  
through January 11 \$100  
After January 11 \$125

NEW FOR 2025!  
Silent Auction

Wine Wall Raffle  
Buy a glass for \$10 and win a bottle of wine  
with a \$100 value donated by our sponsors.  
Everyone is a winner! Start by purchasing wine.

NDSCS  
Visit NDSCS.edu/Culinary-Dinner  
for details and tickets.

Join us Thursday March 6th for our annual **Culinary Scholarship Dinner**, an event dedicated to raising funds to support scholarships for Culinary Arts students at NDSCS. Indulge in a delightful multi course meal paired with exquisite wines, all meticulously prepared and served by our talented culinary students, faculty, and program alumni. Purchase your ticket [here](#) before prices go up February 1st!

## 2024-25 Alumni Foundation SPONSORS

THANK YOU to these generous Sponsors!

### Executive

**Bell Bank, Bell Bank Wealth Management**

### Platinum

**McGough Construction, Bremer Bank, James M. Anderson CPA,  
Minnkota Power Cooperative, Minn-Kota Ag Products,  
PCL Construction**

### Gold

American Federal, BDT Mechanical, LLC, Smith Motors, Industrial Builders,  
Nadine Julson, LLC, Digital Guru, Grotberg Electric Inc, ComDel Innovation,  
Essentia Health, Interstate Engineering, RDO Equipment Co, Expanse Electric,  
Red River Communications, Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative

### Silver

Brushvale Seed, American Crystal Sugar Company, Mark Sand & Gravel Co, Creative Stitches,  
Corner Drug, USBank, Wheaton Drug and Gifts, C&W Services, Cargill, SWI Interiors, Red  
River Grain Co, AgCountry Farm Credit Services, Carlson Family Insurance, Country Financial,  
Summerville Electric, Interstates, Circle of Nations, Red River Agency

# SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEONS



We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating gratitude and generosity at our recent Scholarship Luncheons held in November and December. A heartfelt thank you to all the donors who took the time to attend in person, allowing your students the wonderful opportunity to meet you! Additional photos can be found [here](#).

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## IRA or BEQUEST OPTIONS

For a long time, IRAs had two purposes – deposit money into them and when retirement comes, take money out. However, in recent years, Congress expanded our opportunities and your ability to save money with your IRA distributions. Know your options before you do anything with your IRAs. For more information, please reach out to Denise Laymon at (701) 671-2131 or [denise.laymon@ndscs.edu](mailto:denise.laymon@ndscs.edu)

Has the economy impacted your charitable giving? If you feel like you have less to give this year, or are waiting until the economy recovers, we want to let you know about some creative gift options that won't cost you a dime this year. Making a bequest commitment is the easiest way to make a gift this year without impacting your savings or investments. To learn more about the benefits of making a charitable bequest, call (701) 671-2131 today.

**GROW** *with us*

# CHALLENGE GRANT

The North Dakota Challenge Grant Fund Program was established in the 2013-2015 Legislative Session to match private donations on a 1:2 match made to state college foundations. We are excited to announce that we have raised our 3.4M goal for this biennium. Thank you, thank you! Qualifying projects must be \$25,000 or more in size and designated for student scholarships, program equipment, program enhancements or educational infrastructure. Lower amounts will be accepted on a case-by-case basis. The contribution can be paid as a one-time gift or pledged over five years. Project eligibility must be approved by the grant review committee. Please contact Kim Nelson at (701) 671-2187 or Matthew Hallaway at (701) 671-2480 for further information about how you can take advantage of the state match. You do not need to be a North Dakota resident to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. We look forward to our next biennium starting July of 2025.

## ATHLETICS

**CATBACKER/LETTERWINNER CLUB**

# BINGO

**Starting**  
**January 7-April 1**  
**Tuesdays 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Wahpeton Events Center  
First Game Starts At 5:30 p.m.  
Must Be 21 Years Or Older To Play

**NCS**  
**ATHLETICS**

North Dakota State College of Science  
Catbacker/Letterwinners Club

### 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ATHLETIC RAFFLE

Proceeds go to athletic scholarships and the operational budget of the Athletics Department.

**BUY TICKETS**  
**\$50** PER TICKET

**GRAND PRIZE**  
**\$20,000 CASH!**

16 Additional Prizes - Valued at \$13,500

**DRAWING**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025**

At the conclusion of the 16th Annual Wildcat Golf Course, 16th Annual Golf Course, 16th Annual Golf Course, Wahpeton, ND

For more information, visit [NCSwildcats.com/Catbackers/Raffle](http://NCSwildcats.com/Catbackers/Raffle)

For more information, call 701-671-2187



## FUTURE WILDCATS

We are looking to keep our college strong, and you can help us with that! Know of a relative, neighbor, or friend who has plans of going to college, but isn't sure where? Send them to us!

Click below for more info on scheduling a tour, applying, and scholarships!

[Schedule a Tour](#)

[Apply to NDSCS!](#)

[Scholarship Application](#)

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## NDSCS is HIRING

NDSCS currently has a variety of positions open at both our Fargo and Wahpeton locations. If you or someone you know are looking for a career change, come join us and become a Wildcat (again!).

[Job Postings](#)

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Are you on LinkedIn?  
Connect with the NDSCS Alumni  
Foundation [here!](#)

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# In need of some new NDSCS gear? You can order online!

***"Once a Wildcat, Always a Wildcat!"***

Click the link to shop the NDSCS Bookstore! Because the NDSCS Bookstore is owned and operated by NDSCS, all revenue brought in by the Bookstore goes back to the college. If you're on campus, feel free to stop in and shop between the hours of 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday; located in the Hektner Student Center on the NDSCS Campus in Wahpeton. For NDSCS Fargo bookstore hours, please call (701) 671-2125.

NDSCS Bookstore

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**Our Contact Information**  
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<https://www.ndscsalumni.com/>

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