HONOR ROLL
OF DONORS
2021–2022
Dear Excelsior Community,

I am so pleased to share our 2021–2022 Honor Roll of Donors with you. This publication honors 24 months of commitment and dedication from the entire Excelsior community. It honors you, our longtime supporters, nonprofit partners, committed staff, old friends, new friends, and the newest members of our community. You have helped to lay the foundation for the future of our strong institution.

In July 2022, we concluded our 50th anniversary fundraising initiative, ELEVATE: The Campaign for Student Scholarships. Soon after, Excelsior embarked on a new journey with university status. Looking back to our early days, over the past half century, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to better the lives of thousands of people who strive to earn a college degree. None of this would be possible without the support of many generous individuals—alumni, staff, and friends—who care deeply about Excelsior and the students we serve.

As we enter our next 50 years, we remain focused on what makes an Excelsior education affordable and possible—and the steps we can take now to ensure we thrive for generations to come. A key part of our future success is support from people like you. By working together, we will continue to create connections and deeper collaborations that reach more people and foster a broader, more holistic impact of an Excelsior degree.

Whether you are a longtime supporter—or a new friend—we invite you to join us as we build opportunities for greater access today, tomorrow, and well into our future.

Together, we are making a difference.

With gratitude,

David Schejbal, PhD
President
**EXCELSIOR UNIVERSITY | HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2021–2022**

**ENDOWED FUNDS**

These donors’ gifts help secure the institution’s future.

**AXA Foundation Scholarship Fund**

Through the work of former trustee Clarence Wright, this fund was established by AXA Foundation to support scholarships for students with financial need.

**Board of Trustees 40th Anniversary Scholarship Endowment Fund**

This fund was established by Excelsior University trustees to support scholarships for students with financial need.

**Brigadier General Jerry L. and Judy A. Neff Scholarship Fund**

This fund was established by alumnus and chair emeritus Jerry L. Neff and his wife, Judy A. Neff, to support scholarships for students with financial need who are members of the U.S. Army National Guard or the U.S. Air National Guard.

**Carole M. Thomas Scholarship Fund for Students in Business**

This fund was established by employee Karen A. Hafaco to support scholarships for students with financial need enrolled in any of Excelsior’s business programs.

**Charlene Gregg and Bobbie Kinsinger Endowment Fund**

This fund was established by Arthur J. Gregg, chair emeritus of the Board of Trustees, and trustee emeritus Robert E. Kinsinger in memory of their wives to support scholarships for students with financial need.

**Chief of Police (Retired) Robert P. Williams Scholarship Fund**

This fund was established by alumnus and former faculty member Robert P. Williams to support scholarships for students with financial need in criminal justice programs.

**Col. William C. Lafeld Endowed Scholarship Fund**

This fund was established by former trustee Jack M. Lafeld to support scholarships based on financial need for students and those seeking to enroll in Excelsior University who are U.S. military servicemembers, U.S. military veterans, or members of their immediate families.

**Dana and Barry J. Yanulavich Scholarship Endowment Fund**

This fund was established by alumna and retired employee Dana Yanulavich and her husband, Barry Yanulavich, to support scholarships for students in Excelsior’s liberal arts programs with financial need.

**David W. Miller Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund**

This fund was established by alumna and former trustee Elizabeth L. Bewley in memory of her professor, David W. Miller, to support students who demonstrate academic merit by maintaining a minimum grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale, with a preference for students who maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale, who must have completed at least half the credits required toward the degree program in which they are enrolled, who must be enrolled in a business program or course of study leading to a bachelor’s degree or higher, and who must not have third-party support for their educational expenses and must demonstrate financial need as determined through the submission of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or its successor application.

**Dr. Jane LeClair ’94, ’95 Scholarship Fund for Students in Technology**

This fund was established by alumna and former trustee Elizabeth Margaret Ann Jaunal in memory of her mother, Elizabeth. This fund supports scholarships for students any number of times without limitation.

**Dr. Jane LeClair ’94, ’95 Scholarship Fund for Students in Technology**

This fund was established by alumna and former trustee Garry Jaunal and his wife, Bridget Jaunal, in memory of his mother, Elizabeth. This fund supports scholarships for members of any branch of the armed forces of the United States or Canada, including National Guard or reserve units, any honorably discharged veteran of such service, and any spouse or child of any such person, with priority given to any applicant who is actively serving member or veteran of the United States Marine Corps pursuing an associate or bachelor’s degree at Excelsior University who will be the first of that level of undergraduate degree earned by the applicant. If recipient continues to meet eligibility, maintains a cumulative grade point average of “B” or 3.0 grade point average (out of a 4.0 grade point scale), and also remains enrolled and diligently pursuing an undergraduate degree program at Excelsior, award of this scholarship may be made to the same students any number of times without limitation.

**Ewald B. Nyquist Scholarship Fund**

This fund was established by Dr. Richard L. Leveroni to support scholarships for students pursuing degrees in Excelsior’s liberal arts program with preference given to students in the master’s program. Additionally, preference will be given to students who are not active or retired members of the military.

**Excelsior University Scholarship Endowment Fund**

This fund was established by alumna and former trustee Harry Staley to support scholarships for students enrolled in Excelsior’s business or technology programs who are, or who plan to become, entrepreneurs.

**Excelsior University Veterans Endowment Fund**

This fund was established by Dr. Richard L. Leveroni in memory of alumnus and faculty member Dr. Richard L. Leveroni to support scholarships for students with financial need who demonstrate high academic achievement.

**Elizabeth Margaret Ann Jaunal (nee Davidson) Memorial Scholarship Fund**

This fund was established by alumna and former trustee Garry Jaunal in memory of his mother, Elizabeth. This fund supports scholarships for students with financial need enrolled in Excelsior’s business or technology programs who are, or who plan to become, entrepreneurs.

**Excelsior University Veterans Endowment Fund**

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**Excelsior University Veterans Endowment Fund**

This fund was established by The George I. Alden Trust and Willard A. Genrich, chancellor emeritus of the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York, to support scholarships for students with financial need.

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**Entrepreneur: Business & Technology Fund**

This fund was established by Edward B. Nyquist Memorial Fund to support scholarships for students enrolled in Excelsior’s business or technology programs who are, or who plan to become, entrepreneurs.

**Excelsior University Scholarship Endowment Fund**

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Fred L. Emerson Foundation Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by the Fred L. Emerson Foundation to support scholarships for students with financial need who demonstrate high academic achievement.

Gregg and Lisa Smith Technology Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by alumnus and faculty member Gregg Smith and his wife, Lisa Smith, to support the costs associated with technology students taking humanities courses in fullfilment of degree requirements at Excelsior.

DONORS:
Gregg and Lisa Smith

The Honorable Bryanne Hamill Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by alumna and former trustee The Honorable Bryanne A. Hamill to support scholarships for students with financial need who are on an active duty in the U.S. military, or are veterans of U.S. military service.

John F. Ebersole Access Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by members of the Excelsior University President’s Advisory Council to support scholarships for students with financial need.

Kushner and Lindholm Family Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by retired employee Cathy Kushner and her husband, David Lindholm, to support scholarships for current and enrolling students with financial need.

Laura J. Ebersole Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by John F. Ebersole, the second president of Excelsior University, and his wife, Connie Cramer, to support scholarships for students with financial need from any state to honor Laura Ebersole’s spirit of inquiry, passion for learning, and understanding of the enduring importance of education.

Lieutenant General Joseph S. and Anita L. Laposata Scholarship Fund for Military Enlisted and Their Spouses
This fund was established by former trustee Joseph T. Laposata and his wife, Anita L. Laposata, to support scholarships for students with financial need who are enlisted in the U.S. military and their spouses.

DONORS:
Adrian Frank Doria

Lois G. and William T. Moran Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by alumnus and former trustee William T. Moran and his wife, Lois G. Moran, to support scholarships for students with financial need who are enrolled in Excelsior’s undergraduate nursing programs.

Lt. Col. Charles A. Pesnica Sr. Veterans Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by trustee emeritus Lawrence E. Vertucci and his wife, G. Frances Vertucci, to support scholarships for veterans of the U.S. military who demonstrate financial need.

Master Sergeant David K. Thuma Memorial Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by retired employee Mary Beth Hanner in memory of her husband and faculty member, Michael Cooley, to support scholarships for students with financial need in health sciences programs.

Michael J. Cooley Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by retired employee Michael Jefferson and other service members in memory of their fellow service member, David K. Thuma, to support scholarships for students who are Command Sergeants Major of the Special Forces.

Military Financial Assistance Endowment Fund
This fund was established by alumnus Michael Jefferson and other service members in memory of their fellow service member, David K. Thuma, to support scholarships for students who are Command Sergeants Major of the Special Forces.

Monica Jane Merdian Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by alumna Monica Jane Merdian to support scholarships for single women with financial need. (Fund has not yet reached the threshold for distribution.)

Murray and Estelle Block Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by retired employee Murray Block in memory of his wife, Estelle, to support scholarships for students with financial need, with preference given to students in a business or technology program.

DONORS:
Jennifer Jones-Wise
Andrea Lala
Cheryl McPhillips
Tina M. Perfetti

Murray H. Block Leadership Education and Development Center Endowment
This fund was established by retired employee Murray Block to support leadership education and development for employees of Excelsior University.

Pastor Angelina Robles Lopez Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by Rev. Fernando Lopez in memory of his wife, Angelina, an Excelsior aluma, to support scholarships for students with financial need who wish to achieve their educational goals and dreams.

Richard and Barbara Reeves-Ellington Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by former faculty member Reneate Reeves-Ellington and Barbara Reeves-Ellington to support scholarships for students with financial need pursuing baccalaureate degrees and higher degrees who will address gender issues and issues central to Middle Eastern and Central Asian culture.

Robert E. Kinsinger Nursing Excellence Endowment Fund
This fund was established by trustee emeritus Robert E. Kinsinger to support the Robert E. Kinsinger Institute for Nursing Excellence.

DONORS:
William B. Kinsinger

Ron Miller Nursing Scholarship Endowment Fund
This fund was established by alumnus and chair emeritus Brigadier General (Ret.) Jerry L. Neff, his wife, Judy A. Neff, and the second president of Excelsior University, John F. Ebersole, to support scholarships for students with financial need who are entering or enrolled in Excelsior’s undergraduate nursing programs.

DONORS:
Donald P. Brundrett
David Krzynowek

Roy L. Simpson Endowment Fund for Nursing Informatics
This fund was established by former trustee and former faculty member Roy L. Simpson to support scholarships for nursing students working toward the Certificate in Health Care Informatics or the Master of Science in Nursing with an emphasis in Informatics.

Sheila and Danny Scott Endowment Fund
This fund was established by alumnus Danny Scott and alumna Sheila Scott to support scholarships for students with financial need. (Fund has not yet reached the threshold for distribution.)

DONORS:
Danny and Sheila Scott
Stephen Pribyl Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by retired employee Wayne Brown to support scholarships for students with financial need pursuing careers in higher education technology.

Summo Endowment Fund
This fund was established by alumna Mary Maida to support scholarships for students with financial need. Recipients must be at least 30 years of age and be U.S. citizens. Although U.S. military personnel should not be excluded, preference will be given to those who do not have other educational benefits available to them. Scholarships should be awarded to equal numbers of men and women and a ratio of awards be made to two-thirds undergraduate students and one-third graduate students whenever possible.

DONORS:
Debra DeMelis
Dr. Mary Maida (Felten)

Thomas C. Pickens Memorial Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by Patrick J. Moran in memory of Thomas C. Pickens to support scholarships for students with financial need who are pursuing degrees in the area of criminal justice or related fields.

DONORS:
Kim Gibson
Tanya A. Handerhan
Patricia B. Hoeg
Diane and Michael Nass

Vivian Runyon Memorial Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by alumnus Lawrence M. Woolslayer and his wife, Jeannette Runyon, in memory of their daughter, Vivian, to support scholarships for students enrolled in a liberal arts program with priority given to enlisted, active-duty personnel in the U.S. Armed Services. If none has applied or is qualified, scholarships may be given to other students in a liberal arts program.

Whitney-Teeple Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by alumna Elizabeth Whitney-Teeple to support scholarships for students with financial need.

DONORS:
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Dr. Robert A. Whitney and
Dr. Elizabeth P. Whitney-Teeple

Funds Established In 2021–2022
Charles W. Laffin Jr. Endowed Memorial Award Fund
This fund was established by Timothy Laffin, son of Charles W. Laffin Jr., whose vision and leadership gave momentum to a fledging community college movement and left a legacy of opportunity to millions of adult learners, in gratitude for Charles’ invaluable service to Excelsior University. The purpose of this gift is to fund an annual graduate award for excellence and outstanding achievement to be awarded at Excelsior University’s annual Commencement exercises.

DONORS:
Timothy Laffin

 Degrees Open Doors Scholarship Program
In May 2021, Excelsior launched the Degrees Open Doors Scholarship program. Through this program, residents of housing authorities in New York State can enroll in a degree program at Excelsior University knowing that they will not incur debt through loans or high monthly tuition charges. Through the generosity of philanthropic partners, housing authority residents will know how their education will be funded and the timeframe for earning their degree. Special thanks to the following donors whose generosity makes this program a reality.

Plattsburgh Housing Authority Fund
This fund was established by Adirondack Foundation for the Degrees Open Doors Scholarship Program for residents of the Plattsburgh Housing Authority who have demonstrated financial need and who seek to pursue degree completion at Excelsior University.

DONORS:
Adirondack Foundation—Evergreen Fund
Bruce L. Crary Foundation Inc.

Saratoga Housing Authority Fund
This fund was established by the Business for Good Foundation Inc. to provide scholarship support to residents of the Saratoga Housing Authority who have demonstrated financial need and who seek to pursue degree completion at Excelsior University.

DONORS:
Business for Good Foundation Inc.

Shenectady Housing Authority Fund
This fund was established by the Wright Family Foundation to provide scholarship support to residents of the Shenecotdy Housing Authority who have demonstrated financial need and who seek to pursue degree completion at Excelsior University.

DONORS:
Wright Family Foundation

Troy Housing Authority Fund
This fund was established by the Massry Charitable Foundation to provide scholarship support to residents of the Troy Housing Authority who have demonstrated financial need and who seek to pursue degree completion at Excelsior University.

DONORS:
Massry Charitable Foundation

OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS
Camille P. Cioffi Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by trustee Jeanne Meister and her husband, Robert Meister, to provide scholarships to support students in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program (RN to BS in Nursing) who have financial need, and to support Excelsior’s goal of promoting a diverse student body, which is key to its educational mission.

DONORS:
Jeanne and Robert Meister

Catherine Craig-Erhardt Endowment Fund
This fund was established by friends of employee Catherine Craig-Erhardt to provide an annual award at Commencement to a new military graduate to recognize service to others, commitment to education, and academic, professional, and personal achievement.

DONORS:
Catherine Craig-Erhardt

Marvin B. Curling Endowment Fund
This fund was established by the New York Power Authority in memory of their employee Marvin Curling, to provide an annual award at Commencement to a new technology graduate who exemplifies the integration of corporate-sponsored training and university-level learning.
Robert E. Kinsinger Institute for Nursing Excellence Fund
This fund was established by former trustee emeritus Robert E. Kinsinger to support some of the Robert E. Kinsinger Institute for Nursing Excellence’s annual expenses. Excelsior is to use half of Robert Kinsinger’s gifts and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation’s matching gift (2:1 base) each year to fund some of the institute’s annual expenses.

Regents College Alumni Association Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by the Regents College Alumni Association to support scholarships for undergraduate students with financial need who demonstrate high academic achievement.

DONORS:
Duke Energy Foundation
Gil Kaelin
Lee F. Melvin
Ruth Lown Turman
Lee F. Melvin

MATCHING GIFTS
Organizations that matched their employees’ gifts to Excelsior:
Biogen Idec Foundation Inc.
BlueSnap
Duke Energy Foundation
Eversource Energy
IBM Matching Grants Program
Progressive Insurance Foundation

LEGACY SOCIETY
The Legacy Society includes those who have remembered Excelsior in their estate plans.

Anonymous
Elizabeth L. Bewley
Joel W. Buller
Kate Butler and Ian Kaplan
Capt. Evan Love, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
EWM Donald J. Carunchio, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
James Cordell Clifford
Francis F. Condino
Karen S. Cox, RN, PhD, FAAN
Donald Dea
Angelina H. Fabello
Linda S. Garrison
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert W. Keefe, U.S. Army (Ret.)
William P. Kist
Dr. Richard L. Leveroni and James McNerney
Dave A. Lewis
Monica Jane Meridian
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Nyquist
Mary O’Connor, PhD, RN, FACHE
Dr. Ruth M. Olmsted
Larry Purnell, PhD
Charles J. Robinson
Susan D. Sargent
Joshua L. Smith, MAT, EdD
Roger R. Unger
Robert P. Williams
Estate of Beverly McAlarney
Estate of Charles Clay Montandon
Estate of Gloria Ann Sklaryk
Estate of Michael J. O’Donnell

EVER UPWARD SCHOLARSHIP
The Ever Upward Scholarship Program allows donors to honor a loved one or commemorate an important event in their life. These gifts of $500 or more are awarded as indicated by the donor.

Agnes and Donald Shepard Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumna Sandra E. Butterfield in honor of her parents, who encouraged her to complete her degree in nursing.

Bernard Schumacher Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumna Julie Schumacher in memory of her husband, a former Excelsior employee, to support an Excelsior student.

Betty Sue Shelton Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Charles Henry Bartz to honor his mother-in-law who was an educator for many years before her passing.

Birt-Keith Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Michael L. Keith in honor of his recently deceased spouse and best friend, Janet Birt-Keith, who was his backbone.

Cathy Mosiello Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumna Cathy Mosiello to support a military spouse student.

CBRE-Albany Property Management Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by CBRE-Albany Property Management LLC to support an Excelsior student who is looking to advance or change careers.

Chris Nelms Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by Alumni Leadership Council members in memory of Chris Nelms. Nelms served as a member of the Alumni Leadership Council (ALC). He is remembered by all ALC members and those in the Excelsior community that worked with him as a friend and strong advocate of education. Nelms worked tirelessly in his community and as a professor at Cincinnati State fostering devotion to education. This led him to join the ALC and promote the needs of alumni. Although his time on the ALC was short, he was instrumental in bettering the program through innovation and inspiration.

Cynthia A. Love ’12 Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by Capt. Evan C. Love P.E., U.S. Navy (Ret.), in honor of Cynthia A. Love. Cynthia was a lifelong learner who achieved her degree with high honors while working full-time and taking up to three courses per semester. Her perseverance, love of learning, and accomplishment stand as a tribute to this remarkable woman.

David L. Robertson Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumna Ruth Turman to honor Captain David Robertson’s memory and his lifelong commitment to advancing access to education. Captain Robertson was a commercial airline pilot for 40 years and served as a trustee of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University from 2009 until his death. Over the years he introduced many students to Excelsior’s innovative programs.

Dawn Is Rising Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by the Excelsior community in recognition of Dawn Gerrain, a dedicated and respected leader of Excelsior.

Dr. Banjurd and Dame Savali Cholvijarn Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Narongrit Cholvijarn from Thailand to honor his parents, Dr. Banjurd and Dame Savali Cholvijarn, to support Excelsior students with high academic achievement.

E. Joyce Stempel, RN, Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Raymond J. Janke and his wife, Cynthia Janke, in memory of E. Joyce Stempel, a nurse who committed her life to serving and helping others.

eCampus Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by eCampus.com to support an Excelsior student.
Empire BlueCross Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by Empire BlueCross to support Excelsior nursing students from New York state.

Eva Schejbal Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by members of the Excelsior community in memory of Eva Schejbal, Excelsior president David Schejbal’s mother.

Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by an anonymous donor to support Excelsior health sciences students.

Gayle Spearman Hardin Leach, MLS
Established by alumnus Anthony Maurice Paul Spearman-Leach to honor the millions of working mothers who, while also raising their children, were undeterred from their educational endeavors and persevered in attaining their undergraduate or graduate degree.

Helen Regina Phelan Howe Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by the Human Resources Team to honor the life and legacy of Helen Regina Phelan Howe, a dedicated teacher for 25 years and mother of Mark Howe, vice president of human resources.

High 5, a Wink & a Nod Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Thomas Snee with the belief “A life is not important, except in the impact it has on other lives.”

Jerry Maier Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Jerry Maier to benefit a student, preferably from New York state, who is in Excelsior’s undergraduate business program.

Jim Lettko Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by the Excelsior community in recognition of Jim Lettko, a dedicated and respected long-standing leader of the Excelsior community. This scholarship will be awarded to students who are veterans, military spouses, and/or from military families with financial need. This Ever Upward Scholarship will be used to support these students as they work toward earning an Excelsior degree that will prepare them to lead, inspire, and make a positive impact on the communities they serve.

KeyBank Community Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by KeyBank to support an Excelsior student from New York state.

Leg Up Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Mark Engberg to help a military servicemember to earn a degree through Excelsior, which helped him put together all his distance learning credits with no residency requirement.

Linford F. Fabello Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumna Angelina Fabello in memory of Linford F. Fabello, a loving husband, father, and grandfather. He was very supportive to his wife in her pursuit of another career (nursing) with the Regents External Degree Program.

Long Family Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by the Long Family in memory of their dad, LoMar Long, who passed away while pursuing his master’s degree at Excelsior College. “Our dad was a lifelong learner who had a heart for working adults and firmly believed that education was the key to opportunity, better wages, and increased job satisfaction. He truly embraced the ‘you are never too old to learn’ lifestyle! We wish you much success at Excelsior and beyond.”

Marion Mitchell Maybank Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumna Marion M. Maybank in honor of her deceased mother, Marion Mitchell Maybank, for her encouragement to obtain a degree.

Mary Camille Carunchio Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Donald Carunchio in memory of Mary Camille Carunchio, a Navy wife for 39 years.

M&T Bank Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by M&T Bank in honor of Excelsior’s 50th anniversary and in support of future Excelsior students from New York State.

Mummert Family Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by alumnus Shawn Mummert to share with those who are less fortunate since they are blessed with prosperity.

Patricia B. Hoeg Distinguished Leadership Ever Upward Scholarship Award
Established by the Excelsior’s Admissions team and Excelsior community in recognition of a dedicated and respected leader of the Excelsior community. This scholarship serves to aid in the development and growth of our future leaders and is awarded to students with financial need who are committed to pursuing a graduate degree and career in leadership. This Ever Upward scholarship will be used to support students in earning an education that will prepare them to lead, inspire, and make a positive impact on people, organizations, and communities.

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Established by Price Chopper’s Golub Foundation to support an Excelsior student from New York state.

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