

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION AWARDS \$105,750 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Paul, MN – June 27, 2025 – The Minnesota Grocers Association Foundation (MGAF) awarded **\$50,000 in scholarships** to employees or their dependents from Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) member companies for the 2025-2026 school year. This program helps students related to Minnesota's food industry by supporting their educational growth.

Using funds raised from an annual golf event and silent auction, the MGAF is able to award scholarships and community grants. This year, the MGAF received **185 applications** from **44 companies**. The 25 \$2,000 scholarships awarded represent the Minnesota food industry's strong belief in the need for continued education. Since its inception in 1992, the Foundation has awarded over **one million dollars** in scholarships.

Scholarships are awarded by an impartial committee of educators and based on community involvement and academic achievements.

The 2025 MGAF Scholarship Winners are:

Allondra Lilla - ALDI, Inc.
Anna Pribyl - ALDI, Inc.
Kayla Wheeler - Bruce's Food
Tyler Larson - Coborn's, Inc.
Amelia Miller - Coborn's Inc.
Alex Byer - Cub Foods
Caroline Foy - Imperial Dade
Garrett Mahlum - Imperial Dade
Phoebe Johnson - Jerry's Enterprises, Inc.
Renee Vanderwerff - Jerry's Enterprises, Inc.
Emma Hanson - Kevin's Market
Julia Montgomery - Kevin's Market
Charlie Brantner - Knowlan's Super Markets
Sophia Matara - Kowalski's Companies, Inc.
Amanda Bobgan - Lunds & Byerlys
Madelyn Fouks - Lunds & Byerlys
Ari Stillman - Lunds & Byerlys
Megan Day - Mackenthun's Fine Foods
Cole Helgeson - Mackenthun's Fine Foods

Amara Aimonetto - Miner's, Inc.
Hanna Klingensmit - Post Consumer Brands
Marissa Ewert - Russ Davis Wholesale
Emelia Cosert - S & R Quisberg
Hannah Weinrich - Teal's Management Group
Mason Happel - Tuffy's Pet Foods

This year, the Piggyback Scholarship Program was available for members of the MGA, allowing companies to "piggyback" on the MGAF application process to provide a scholarship program specifically for their employees and employees' dependents. **8 companies** participated and awarded a combined **\$55,750** in scholarships to **46 students**.

Chris' Food Center:

Matthew Wilkening

Cub Foods:

Christopher Bormann
Zuko Buechler
Charles Ingvaldsen
Lexi Israelson
Carter Laventure

Jerry's Enterprises, Inc.:

Addison Andre
Halloran Bergman
Tyler Carlson
Nicole Doering
Sarah Essamit
Emily Gillett
Phoebe Johnson
Charles Lipinski
Shaanveer Singh
Satoria Swenson
Taryn Troska
Renee Vanderwerff
Ava Zavadil

Jim Kowalski Education Scholarship:

Drew Bigelbach
Peyton Cauley
Anabella Fortuna
Dominic Fortuna
Piper Koller
Alexis Laramy
Gabriella Leitner
Averie Martin
Arthur Perron
Ethan Phillippi
Samuel Tarara
Sumiko Webb

KEMPS:

Simon Bennett
Britain Pink
Joie Gaustad
Ethan Mediger
McKenna Myhre

Mackenthun's Fine Foods:

Madelyn Mackenthun
Aiden Ryer

Miner's, Inc. Achievement Scholarships:

Logan Emerson
Paxtyn Misiewicz
Briar Mrozik
Alison Shaw
Holland Venhuizen

Pearl & George Teal Scholarship:

Grace Bergeron
Ava Frost
Aryana Suess

The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) is the only state trade association that represents the food industry of Minnesota from farm to fork. We are one of the oldest trade associations in the state, celebrating over 120 years of advancing industry. We have over 300 retail, manufacturer, and wholesale members supporting nearly 1,300 locations statewide. Our member companies employ over 150,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.

The Minnesota Grocers Association Foundation was established in 1992 to offer educational opportunities to the food industry, provide scholarships to employees of member companies or their children, and support community efforts and initiatives through grants. It has supported many notable programs and has awarded over one million dollars in scholarships since its inception.

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