



FALL 2022

WGGB Links

Enriching Girls' Lives Through Golf in Philadelphia, New Jersey and Delaware

Women Golfers Give Back (WGGB) Invites You to Share Your Passion for Golf!

WGGB gives back by promoting the game of golf for girls who would not otherwise have a chance to play.

Our Mission

To support golf programs for girls in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware that encourage personal development through unique opportunities for skill-building, playing and competing.

Our Founding Belief

Exposure to golf and the character-building aspects of the game will help girls develop leadership and communication skills and lead to greater educational and career opportunities—all while exercising and having fun!



WGGB's Players' Program Helped Jumpstart A Successful Career

Jaclyn D'Angelo, WGGB Alumna

After receiving the J. Wood Platt Caddie Scholarship as a caddie at St. Davids Golf Club, Jaclyn D'Angelo went on to play golf at Eastern University and is now employed by SEI as a software developer. What jumpstarted her successful playing career? The Players' Program offered by Women Golfers Give Back.

Getting her start in golf at the age of 12, Jaclyn was accustomed to only seeing males on the course. "I was only ever playing with boys," she recalls. "When I got involved with WGGB, I saw just how many young girls were there and realized how many women are actually playing the sport of golf. For the first time, I saw that it wasn't just for boys."

Now building a career in data science, golf prepared Jaclyn for the challenges she would face in a male-dominated industry. "I was often the only female on the property on some days," she says. "There is a stereotype that women shouldn't play golf or caddie because they don't know as much about the game as men, or the golf bags are too heavy for them, or they don't hit the ball as far. I think that women, especially in the golf world, must try harder, but at the end of the day, that makes you stronger."

This past June, she returned to her roots to share some encouraging words and discuss her caddying experience with our WGGB grantees at the annual clinic and tournament.

"Through [caddying], I have developed good work habits, improved my communication skills, and gained confidence on and off the course," she shared. "I learned the value of hard work and the difference between making and earning money."

When Jaclyn became a caddie at St. Davids, she was one of few female caddies employed by the club. Today, the program has grown to include around 40 girls.

As both a player and a caddie, Jaclyn learned to "never be intimidated and never back down." She described the many life lessons the game has taught her, urging our grantees to be confident in their skills and abilities and work hard to achieve their goals.

Thank you, Jaclyn, for sharing your inspiring story with us!

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Please Help Us Enrich Girls' Lives Through Golf

2023 Fundraising Goal

\$275,000

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payable to:

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mail to:

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Questions?

Contact us at:

donors@womensgolfersgiveback.org



Letter from WGGB President

Alexandra Frazier

Dear WGGB Friends,

We have had a very busy year with new grantees, new supporters, and our strongest fundraising to date. I can't express how grateful I am for everyone's contribution to the growth of WGGB and most importantly to our grantees.



I have exciting news to share. After nearly 20 years as a volunteer-run organization, WGGB has hired an Executive Director, Rachel Shearon, who brings skilled support to our active, hardworking board. Welcome Rachel!

In 2022, we hosted our annual charity golf tournament at St. Davids Golf Club. Thanks to our tournament chairs, Alexis Hollander, Meghan Holobetz and Leila Mackie, it was a resounding success raising over \$230,000, much more than we have ever raised! Thanks to our new Lead Sponsor, Goldman Sachs, and to the Live Scoring Sponsor, Zisman Family Foundation.

Please see the full list of our wonderful sponsors on the accompanying insert.

Please save the date for next year's event: June 19, 2023, at Whitmarsh Valley Country Club.

In the fall of 2021, WGGB also turned its talents toward helping working women gain golf skills and the confidence to leverage golf as a networking tool. We co-hosted a well-attended and fun Get Golf Ready clinic at Gulph Mills Golf Club with the Golf Association of Philadelphia. It was such a success we planned to repeat the event in September 2022, this year with the support of new sponsor EY.

In the end, all of these efforts make possible our grants to girls' golf programs. We funded six Players Programs and nine Clinic Programs in 2022, adding a new grantee - First Tee of the Jersey Shore. We encourage anyone who would like to start a program to contact us directly to discuss funding.

Sadly, we say goodbye to retiring board member, Mary Lisa O'Neil, who most recently served as Secretary of WGGB. Thank you, Mary Lisa, for your support and dedication to our organization. At the same time, WGGB welcomes new board members, Annie Marshall and Ellen Purdy. Annie will co-chair our Grantee Committee and put her professional experience as a lawyer to work by advising WGGB on legal matters. Ellen is an experienced local CFO on our Finance Committee, and she will spearhead adding a new leadership component to the girls' golf programs. We are excited to offer our girls leadership training in addition to the skills and personal development components at the core of all our programs.

Finally, I have one more bit of news. In 2023, WGGB will celebrate its 20th Anniversary. After 20 years as President, I will retire in May of 2023. Our current Vice President, Nicoll Keeney, will take over the leadership of our growing organization as President, and I am positive she, our new Executive Director, and our strong board will guide WGGB to a successful future. Thank you to all our supporters, and I hope you will consider a donation before the end of 2022 to help us continue our mission. It can be made using the donation envelope enclosed or online through our website.

With gratitude,

AK Fraz

Alexandra Frazier, President & Founder
Women Golfers Give Back



WGGB Awards \$120,000 in Grants in 2022

Across Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware

Clinic Programs		Players Programs	
First Tee - Delaware*	\$10,000	First Tee - Delaware*	\$12,000
First Tee - Greater Philadelphia*	\$15,000	Girls Golf Players' Program of Honeybrook	\$10,500
First Tee - Greater Trenton*	\$10,000	Girls Golf Revolution	\$10,000
First Tee - Jersey Shore*	\$2,500	Linfield National Players' Program	\$11,600
LPGA-USGA Girls Golf of West Chester	\$7,500	Peggy Kirk Bell Girls Golf Tour	\$5,000
LPGA-USGA Girls Golf of Valley Forge	\$10,000	YWCA of Bethlehem Players' Program	\$3,500
Makefield Highlands	\$1,900		\$52,100
YWCA of Bethlehem Clinic Program	\$8,000		
Spring-Ford High School Golf Tournament	\$3,000		
	\$67,900		

**awarded to girls' programs only*



Excited and Proud to Join WGGB

Rachel Shearon, Executive Director

I am excited and proud to join WGGB as its inaugural Executive Director. Having taken up golf in recent years as an adult, I know there is so much more to learn on the course beyond driving, pitching and putting. The programs WGGB supports significantly expand access to the sport while also providing opportunities for girls to build self-confidence, practice perseverance, and refine social skills that will enable them to grow into successful young women. They foster an environment where girls build relationships with peers and mentors that will open doors to future endeavors. And they do all of this in a comfortable and engaging setting where girls from varied backgrounds and experiences can learn and grow together.



When I think about what WGGB has accomplished over the past 19 years, I'm in awe of the many supporters, volunteers, and board members who have made this important mission a priority. I'm thrilled to be able to contribute to the future growth of the organization and look forward to working alongside the WGGB board to expand opportunities to positively impact girls' lives through golf.

Get to Know Rachel

Rachel shares our passion for golf and is excited to marry her love for the sport with her desire to provide children with access to opportunities where they can thrive. She most recently worked as the Senior Director of Parent Outreach and Development at the University of Pennsylvania. In that role, she managed a team responsible for communications and outreach to parents of undergraduate students and annual and major giving among the parent community.

Prior to Rachel's arrival to Penn in 2014, she served in development roles at Harcum College and the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia. She has a B.S. in Strategic Communications and a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Kansas. She also received her M.S. in Nonprofit Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania.

Rachel also shares her dedication to education and youth development as Chair of the Board of Trustees at The Montessori School where her children attend. She lives in Fort Washington, PA, with her husband, Matt, and two children, Eve and Jake.

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WGGB 2022 Charity Tournament Raises \$230,000

June 22, 2022 • St. Davids Golf Club

Women Golfers Give Back is thrilled to report that between our June 2022 tournament, online auction, raffle and generous donations, we raised more than \$230,000 to support girls golf programs. Thank you to all our sponsors, grants and supporters for making this another record year, including Lead Sponsor, Goldman Sachs, and Live Scoring Sponsor, Zisman Family Foundation. And to St. Davids Golf Club for hosting us for a wonderful day.

The morning of the event, 50 girls from our grantee programs arrived at St. Davids. They were treated to clinics with LPGA Hall of Famer Val Skinner and local pros, a golf clothing shopping experience courtesy of Pros Fore Clothes, and a 5-hole competition for the oldest girls on the course. Following lunch, the girls also got to learn about caddying and the J. Wood Platt Scholarship, as well as celebrate an incredible \$15,000 donation to WGGB from the Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation.

After lunch, 20 foursomes of WGGB sponsors and supporters braved a light rain to compete in a one-best-ball tournament followed by cocktails and dinner. Tom Coyne, esteemed author of *A Course Called America*, greeted our players and signed books at hole #9, and our LPGA friend and long-time supporter Val Skinner graced us with her presence and beautiful swing on the par-3 hole #10.

We are excited to share that our 2023 Tournament is set for June 19 at Whitmarsh Valley Country Club!

To see more photos of the girls in action and of all our playing foursomes, please visit WGGB's Facebook page.



Congrats to tied winners of our Players' Program 5-hole tournament. Top: Girls Golf Revolution; Bottom: Linfield National



Why Val Skinner Keeps Coming Back

To Attend Our Annual Tournament and Coach Our Grantees

Val Skinner has been a very special friend of WGGB for nearly two decades. We are exceptionally grateful for her volunteer time each year to attend our tournament, work with our grantees during their morning clinic and then take a par 3 shot with each sponsor foursome in the afternoon. We asked Val to share with us what brings her back to WGGB each year and why she thinks it's so important to help women and girls in their personal development through golf.

"Golf has always been such a big part of my life, playing all the way to the professional ranks and enjoying a career on the LPGA tour for 20 years. When I stop to appreciate and feel the gratitude I have for the advice, support, friendship, mentoring and coaching I received through the years, it always takes me to my earliest days in the game.

At about 10 years old I had a golf buddy I would play with every chance I got, and her name was Edith. At first I thought it was because she had such a fast cart and would let me drive on occasion. Plus, she ALWAYS pointed out what I was doing well and helped me with what I wasn't. To me, she was just a really good friend and happened to be a golfer who could still shoot her age, as Edith was 70.

As I evolved as a junior player, it became more obvious to me the impact Edith and so many other impressive women I met through competing or just in a friendly quick nine had positively influenced my love of golf and the sport of it all.

As I made my way to the LPGA Tour, I took many of them with me in my heart and when I became involved in WGGB it was like coming home to that giving family of golfers and a sense community to pay it forward. I cherish the opportunity to help WGGB!"



Top: Girls gather together to thank Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation for their generous donation to the program
Bottom: Some of the girls participating in a driving clinic take a minute to thank LPGA Pro Val Skinner for coaching them

Mark Your Calendar!

Plan to sponsor, play,
and/or volunteer in the

2023 WGGB Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Monday, June 19, 2023

Whitemarsh Valley Country Club

Congratulations to 2022 Tournament Winners!

Net Results

1st Place David Rosen,
Chris Hanlon, Mark Kennedy,
Tim O'Toole

2nd Place Lisa Walkush,
Ryan Brazell, Nance Dicciani,
Adam Ross

Gross Results

1st Place Mike Zisman,
Nick Wolfe, Tedd Brennan,
Lou Lombardo

2nd Place Francis Vaughn,
Jean Castafero, Jerry Castafero,
Helen Zorich

Longest Drive

Charlotte Anstine (WGGB grantee!)
Mike Bher

Closest to Pin

Gabriella DiMarco
Gary Brown

Putting Contest Tedd Brennan

2022 Raffle

\$10,000 Grand Prize: Allen Gray
\$750 Second Prize: Jennifer
Dorfmeister
\$250 Third Prize: Carol Mills

Tournament Committee

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Suzanne McDevitt
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Jill Susi

Special Thanks to



Call to Action!

You Can Help "Give Back" — Here's How:

- Volunteer—share your time and talent
- Run a 50/50 at one of your events to benefit WGGB
- Sell mulligans at one of your member-guest tournaments to benefit WGGB
- Run a weekly event at your club to help WGGB
- Spread the word about our great work to other golfers
- Host a Charity Day at your club
- Get on our email/snail mail lists
- Friend us on Facebook
- Make a donation to WGGB (tax-deductible)

Contact Us

rshearon@

womengolfersgiveback.org

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"From a coach's perspective, course access is crucial toward the development of the overall quality of a golfer. Because of the increase in popularity of golf and the limited availability of tee times, the development of junior golfers in our programs has had significant barriers to overcome in order to enhance the juniors' course acumen and golf proficiency."

WGGB has allowed the junior girls in our programs to overcome these barriers through their generosity. I'm certain our girls will gain in confidence as well as with understanding their strengths and weaknesses on-course. As a result, they will be able to have more intentional practice that promotes improvement in the quality of their game."

—Joe Garstka, Assistant Golf Professional & Jr. Golf Coordinator, Makefield Highlands Golf Club

Megan Meng Celebrates Multiple Victories

First Tee - Greater Trenton



Megan Meng, sophomore at Hopewell Valley and First Tee Trenton grantee, has had a spectacular start to 2022, with five tournaments won so far, and several more to play. She shot a winning one-under-par 71 at the NJSIAA Girls Tournament of Champions in May to kick-start her victorious summer. Meng followed that up with another victory after a tough playoff at the Mercer County Tournament. She then took first at the NJSGA 68th Girls Junior Championship in June with a whopping 10 under par over the two-day tournament, followed by another win at the 2022 AJGA – Coca-Cola Junior Championship in July with 9 under par over three days. In August, she was a champion yet again at the K.J. Choi Foundation Junior Championship.

A string of victories like these requires endurance and a steady mindset. In an interview with Community News, she discussed her experience handling pressure on the course, commenting, "A lot of the time you're alone on the course, you talk to yourself, you just see what type of mindset you end up playing better with. Over years of experience, it's just something you're more used to."

Meng was most recently named the 2022 NJ.com Golfer of the Year and was selected to represent the First Tee of Greater Trenton at the PGA Tour Champions' PURE Insurance Championship in Pebble Beach on September 20th.

Lydic Sisters Top Charts at The First Tee National Championship

First Tee - Delaware

At the 2022 First Tee National Championship on July 1, 2022, the Lydic Sisters led the pack, resulting in an outstanding fourth-place finish for Sarah and the championship title for Hannah, who shot a winning five under par in the 54-hole tournament. Playing golf since a young age, Hannah and Sarah are no strangers to victory, and most recently were Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association (DIAA) champions, Sarah taking the championship in 2021 and Hannah awarded this year. In addition to their impressive individual accomplishments, the sisters make an incredible team, helping lead the Sussex Academy golf team, the Seahawks, to win the 2022 Henlopen Athletic Conference golf team championship.



Sarah and Hannah Lydic

After her victory at the First Tee National Championship, Hannah Lydic was awarded the 2022 Delaware Junior Girls' Player of the Year. In September 2022, she set a school record in her first college event at the University of Richmond, with an incredible 11-under-par score in the 54-hole event, helping the golf team also set a new team scoring record for a single event.

In addition to finding success on the scoresheet, WGGB grantees gain exposure to many other unique growth opportunities through our programs. Emily Mayo, another accomplished player from First Tee of Delaware, started caddying this year and as a result of the networking it provided she was able to caddie for Rory McIlroy and Tom Humphrey, Wilmington Country Club's BMW Championship chairman, during the Pro-Am. It not only exposed her to the highest level of golf but also to the range of career and networking opportunities it can offer, even at a young age. What many of us would give to be in her place that day!

Experience of a Lifetime at Merion Golf Club

Eleven Young Women From Across WGGB's Six Players' Programs

Eleven WGGB grantees enjoyed the experience of a lifetime on a world-class golf course this past August. We were pleased to invite the young female golfers to play nine holes on Merion's West Course with a female mentor by their side.

The day started with an energy-boosting breakfast before the golfers set out to tee off under the hot summer sun. The coveted prize? A chance to play the East Course's beautiful 18th hole.

The top four scorers of the day, who posted scores of 42, 44, 44, and 47, stepped up to the women's tee and looked out over the infamous quarry. Merion assistant pros donned caddie bibs and provided our girls with course knowledge while fellow

grantees and their families joined Merion's women members to walk the 18th and cheer the players on, creating a once-in-a-lifetime experience as they completed the hole.

After final putts were made, a delicious lunch was waiting on the Lower Terrace. The day concluded with Merion's Director of Instruction and former grantee Joanna Coe sharing a heartfelt speech about the important role WGGB played in her own career. Merion gifted each player with hats and Curtis Cup posters.

WGGB would like to express our utmost gratitude to Merion and its female membership who made the day possible and shared this incredible opportunity with some of our girls!



Left to Right: Fortress Chryst, YWCA of Bethlehem; Malena Sabol, YMCA of Bethlehem; Vaidehi Shah, Girls Golf Jersey Shore; Madeline McLean, Makefield Highlands; Cierra Griffith, Girls Golf Valley Forge; Addison Salias, Girls Golf Jersey Shore; Anna Firkko, First Tee of Delaware; Heidi Wegscheider, Linfield Players Program; Olivia Savochka, Players' Program Honeybrook Sarah Kaestner, First Tee of Delaware; and Kyla John, Makefield Highlands

WGGB's Impact Grows with New Grantee

First Tee-Jersey Shore

Women Golfers Give Back was thrilled to grow our reach in New Jersey and support a new grantee program this year that embodies our mission to its fullest. As a female-led chapter, First Tee Jersey Shore (FTJS) had high standards for launching a girls' golf program. Just two full-time employees were running the organization for 800 kids, so they sought out funding to help them hire someone part-time who could realize that vision. With support from the WGGB grant, FTJS was able to hire Kim Brehm, a parent volunteer whose daughter had been part of First Tee since she was 9 years old and is now coaching at FFTJS and playing golf at Monmouth University. Kim's incredible enthusiasm and efforts led to six girls' events held throughout the season, each a tremendous success. The organization was able to connect with many girls playing competitively, as well as younger ones just starting out, to give them access to coaching and playing opportunities, new friendships and fun. 80 girls ages 4-13 participated in FTJS programs from Monmouth County to Atlantic County and became registered LPGA*USGA Girls Golf members.

Some of the highlights from the 2022 season include leadership and volunteer opportunities at the LPGA Founders Cup, LPGA ShopRite Classic, the FTJS Classic Golf Outing and Charity



Challenge. The organization currently has 7 registered Girls Golf eLeaders (ages 13-18), 5 mini eLeaders (ages 11-13) in training helping with younger girls new in the game. The eLeaders include some of the best players in the state of New Jersey with titles in their division such as NJ PGA Jr Player of the Year, UA All American, and PGA Jr League All Stars. A few players from the Monmouth University Women's Golf Team volunteered at FTJS clinics and, in October, the Princeton University Women's Golf Team invited FTJS's older girls to come out to Springdale Golf Club, their home course, for a special play event and Q&A.

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Inspired by Their Love of Golf

Girls Golf Revolution

Shortly after our newsletter came out last year, the Downingtown East Girls Golf Team won the PIAA 3A state championship at Heritage Hills, with several WGGB grantees on the team from Eric MacCluen's Girls Golf Revolution program. Leader Ava O'Sullivan graduated and went on to play at Converse University, where she was recently named the Conference Carolinas Women's Golfer of the Week for her runner-up finish at her first collegiate tournament as a freshman.

DEHS Assistant Coach Scott Yard said, "They are a wonderful and diverse group of young ladies with an unusual chemistry and extraordinary work ethic only exceeded by their love of golf." You can see it in the photo!

WGGB caught up with two Girls Golf Revolution grantees who are impressive not only for their golfing prowess, but also for their maturity and dedication

Just a few lessons with Girls Golf Revolution in 2020 and Silvana Gonzalez was hooked, quickly discovering that her love for the sport was so strong that she could easily spend all day learning and practicing. Two years later, now a senior and captain of the Downingtown East girls golf team, Silvana realizes how much golf has influenced her. "Golf has taught me what hard work, effort and passion will do. It's helped me open up and meet so many new people, and it's made me more resilient both on and off the course," she said. Recognizing how mentally challenging golf can be and how much her own ability to work through that grew over time, Silvana now hopes to study sports psychology in college—and play golf, of course.

Silvana's mother, Lidia, also expressed her appreciation for what golf has brought to girls like Silvana and Sophia. Lidia has witnessed Silvana learn timeless lessons, like how to engage in conversations with adults, tell the difference between healthy and unhealthy competition, and put tremendous effort and focus behind the things you love.

For Sophia DeSantis, being able to train and play with other girls through Girls Golf Revolution—rather than as the only girl on West Chester's Bayard Rustin High School boys golf team—has been rewarding in more ways than she ever imagined. "Girls Golf Revolution created a community for girls. In just one year, it's made me feel like I'm part of something I'd never experienced before and I learned life lessons I wouldn't get anywhere else," she said. Within months of joining Eric MacCluen's Girls Golf Revolution players program, Sophia dropped her handicap from a 10 to a 3. A current junior, she's determined to play college golf and hopes to become a broadcast journalist for the Golf Channel someday.



Downingtown East Girls Golf Team State Champions Fall 2021

The Linville Cup

Peggy Kirk Bell Girls Golf Tour



PKBGT Team National 2nd Place Winners, coached by Leila Mackie, WGGB Board Member

WGGB has been supporting the Peggy Kirk Bell Girls Golf Tour since 2019. The mission of PKBGT is to ensure the future of the game by providing a "Girls Only Tour" that will actively increase participation and interest in girls' golf. One of PKBGT's annual events is the Linville Cup, which took place on July 1-3, 2022. Representing WGGB as the team Captain, I had the pleasure of coaching 8 girls on Team National, all junior golfers from Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey. The event was a two-day team competition based on a point scoring system. On the final day, Team National took second place overall! It was a pleasure getting to know the parents and the players, and as the Captain I was so proud of the way our team carried themselves and the sportsmanship they displayed throughout the weekend.

Mentorship is a big component of the Linville Cup, so that players can take away from the experience life lessons, confidence and friendships to build their golfing career on. Coaches are ex-collegiate golfers as well as women business leaders who share their experiences with the girls. I was able to speak at one of the team dinners, which highlighted the Peggy Kirk Bell Golf Tour's mission and PGA Professional, Robert Linville, founder of the Linville Cup and co-founder of the PKBGT's parent foundation, Girls Golf of America. Robert's passion for the game is an inspiration and I was lucky to take part as a Captain for the 2022 event. I look forward to the future of the game and the bright opportunities ahead for the PKBGT players.

—Leila Mackie, PGA Career Services Recruiting Specialist and WGGB Board Member

continued from page

First Tee - Jersey Shore

"FTJS is so grateful to all of our families, volunteers, golf industry and local businesses for all their support and dedication to support girls and golf. We are especially grateful to Women Golfers Give Back for believing in our potential," said Brehm as she reflected on this incredible first year.

What's next? Program Director Pam Boccaccio, who recently earned LPGA Class B membership, is sharply focused on developing engaging programs for 2023 for girls at every skill level. FTJS aims to create a separate pipeline for competitive girls next season with the support of philanthropic partners and friends of First Tee. WGGB is excited to continue to partner with First Tee Jersey Shore and help these dreams become a reality!

For more news about WGGB grantees follow us on   



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Questions?

Contact us at:

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Jessica and Casey Shure
Katie Sibel
Val Skinner
Brian Skorochocki
Anne and John Sly
Mickey Sokalski
Sally Stetson
Club Champion
Jill Susi
Stevie and Chris Thompson
Tina and Dave Tritton
Jane Turk
Eleanor and James Van Alen
Will Van Alen
Brent Wallace
Mary Ann and William Walter
Lee and Bill Warden
Vicki and Jonathan Warner
Susan and Avie Wheeler
William C. and Jeanne Whitmore Foundation
Stephen Zarilli
Philip Zuzelo