

**Maine School of  
Science and  
Mathematics**

**2023-2024**



# **Annual Report for Giving**

**The MSSM Foundation is proud to support Maine's  
public residential magnet school program.**

# FROM THE CHAIR



Many years ago my spouse convinced me that our annual holiday card should contain a note about our year in addition to the obligatory photos of kids, pets, and neat places we had the fortune to visit. Over the years, I've grown to look forward to the act of reflection, taking stock of a snapshot of the past, which inevitably bolsters my plans for the future. To look back on this year, my theme revolves around change. The phrase "the only constant is change", is thought to be attributed to Greek philosopher Heraclitus, who lived more than 2,000 years ago. He believed that change was a universal law of nature. We have had many threads of change at MSSM and the MSSM Foundation over the past year.



The school welcomed their new executive director, Rob Constantine. Rob serves as a member of our board's executive committee and it has been a pleasure and joy to get to know him and plan for new endeavors to ensure MSSM remains on the forefront of unique and cutting-edge education in Maine. The Foundation bid's farewell to our executive director, Jeff Candura, who brought sound strategies and endless good humor to his work during his time with us. We say, "hello" to Deb McGann P'03 in her new role as our next executive director, and embrace goals that will support the school's next strategic plan. It has been a year of change, and we are strengthening our depth and breadth of support for MSSM. We could not do this work in the past or in the future without the support of our community and I am humbled by how you give, of your time and resources to support the student experience, and the role this school plays in the educational landscape of Maine.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather".

Heather Merriman, '98  
MSSM Foundation Board Chair

# WHY MSSM?



MSSM is in its 30th year of providing a unique and important option within Maine's excellent public education programming. In this community, students from across all 16 counties live and learn together from leaders who steward public and private funding to champion a cost-effective, specialized experience that strategically engages the Department of Education's promise to help Maine's children "reach their greatest level of achievement."

## WHOM do we serve?

MSSM serves curious students that desire to expand their thinking about the world through the study of science, mathematics and the humanities. Students seek to define themselves, and find their place in our global society.

## WHAT do we do?

MSSM offers an experiential residential learning community that affords our scholars the opportunity to develop their critical thinking skills such that they can propose, investigate, and communicate their ideas; skills that improve the human condition and benefit the State of Maine.

## WHY do we do it?

MSSM is established by, and in support of, the Maine legislature's responsibility to educate our future generation of leaders by providing access and opportunity to generative, forward-looking curriculum that is at the forefront of STEM education in the State of Maine and beyond.



Senate President Troy Jackson with students, School Board of Trustees and Foundation Board members and staff, in Augusta

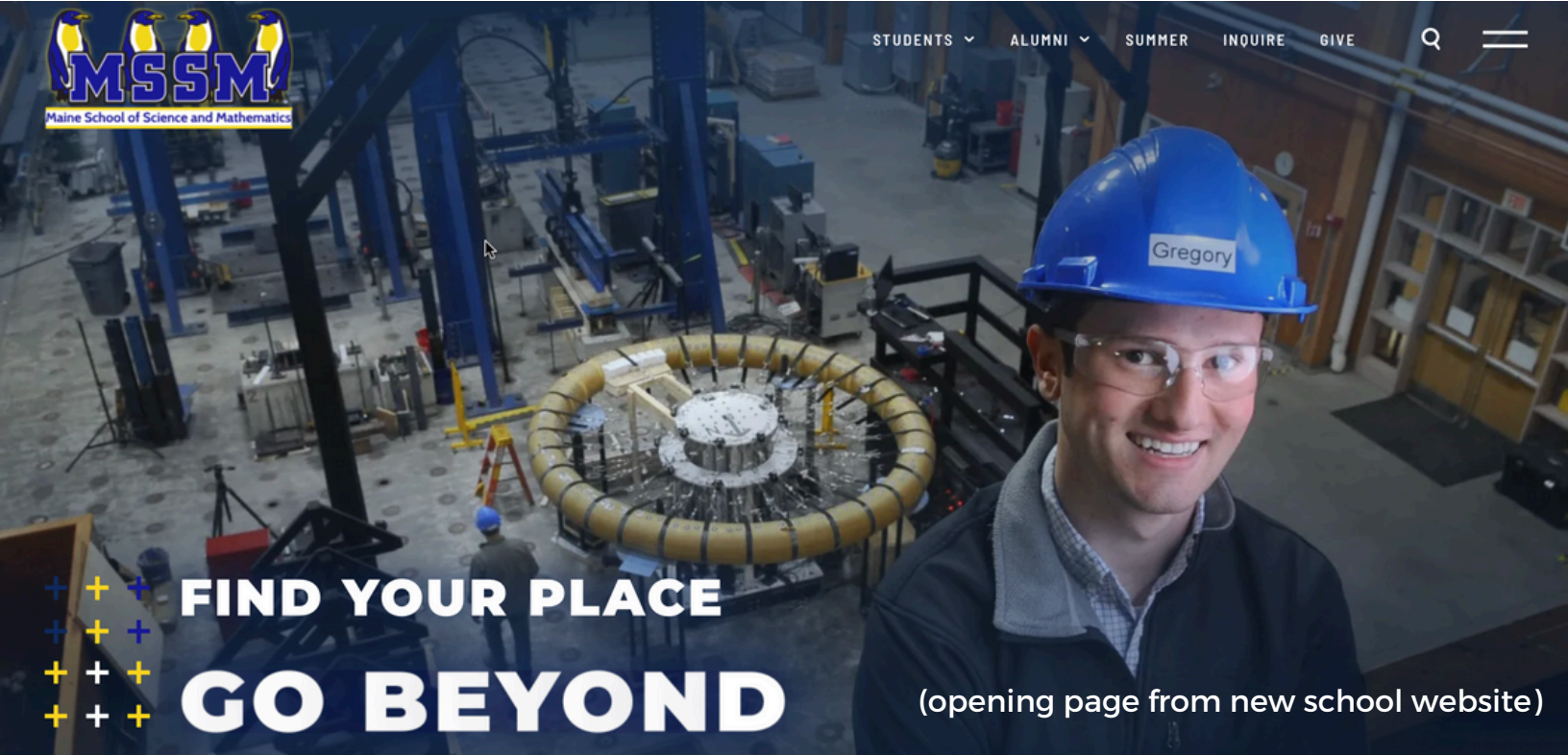
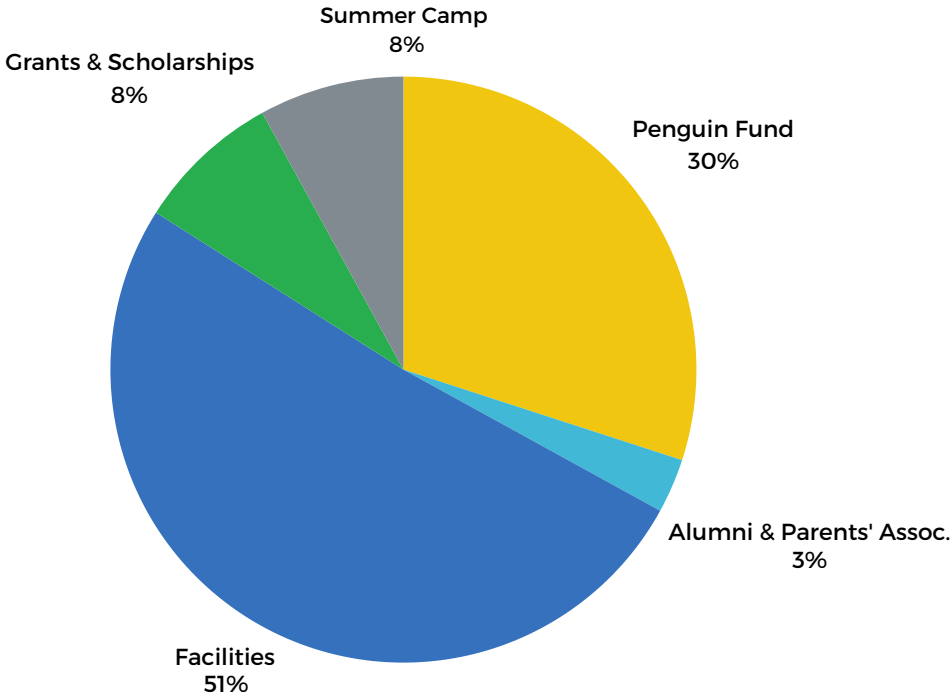




# IMPACT

Propelled by record giving in 2023, this year we were able to impact MSSM in ways we had previously only imagined, distributing over \$274,000 in grants. None of these advancements would have been possible without the generosity and commitment of our donor community.

Here are a few highlights we hope will bring joy to those who have truly made a profound difference at this unique school and in the lives of Maine students from every corner of the state.





# IMPACT

Celebrating your birthday at a residential school!



**Penguin Fund:** administered directly by the school, we bolstered the student experience, supported faculty recruitment and retention, improved communication and outreach, and upgraded facilities and equipment.



**Facilities** - A transformative \$100,000 gift from Ron and late wife Linda Fabio P'98 prevented the permanent closure of the pool in the academic building. The installation of the new fume hood donated by former MSSM faculty Rich Barrans was made possible by a gift from current MSSM Trustee Craig Cunningham and spouse Lora. MSSM Trustee Tim Beaulieu facilitated a gift of industrial tables and cabinets from IDEXX transforming the VEX robotics space.



Ribbon cutting for pool reopening!

**Alumni and Parents' Associations** - Through the publication of the AfterMath newsletter and the sponsorship of events we have helped alumni connect and stay engaged with the community. In addition to hosting activities for current families both on and off campus, the Parents' Association organized staff appreciation week, senior week, and a senior rafting trip.



Finals week french fry bar



# IMPACT

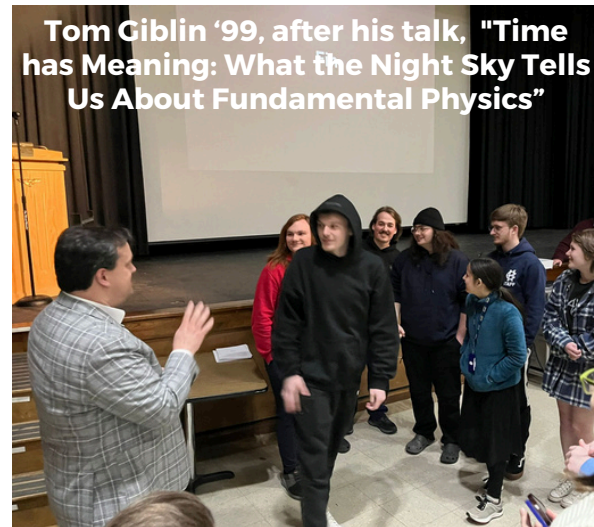


Inaugural recipient  
Charles Reischer, Class of 2024

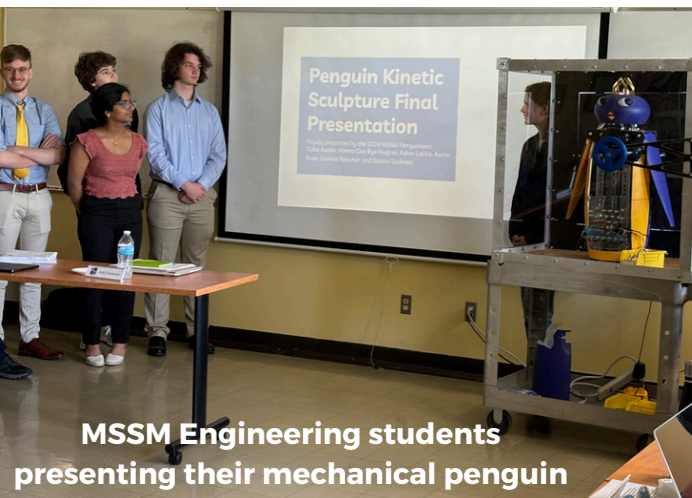
**Art Thompson Memorial Scholarship -**  
This award represents our commitment to recognizing exceptional MSSM students while honoring a pivotal figure in our institution's history. Art Thompson, a lifelong Limestone resident, was an instrumental force in establishing both MSSM and its Foundation ensuring its continued success.



**Launch of the Howard Family Lectures Series -**  
We are honored to steward an endowed gift from Eric Howard and family which has established a distinguished lecture series to bring world-class academics, professionals, and practitioners to our campus to share their passions and area of expertise. We look forward to featuring speakers with international experience in STEM disciplines and science policy, underscoring our commitment to fostering public service.



Tom Giblin '99, after his talk, "Time has Meaning: What the Night Sky Tells Us About Fundamental Physics"



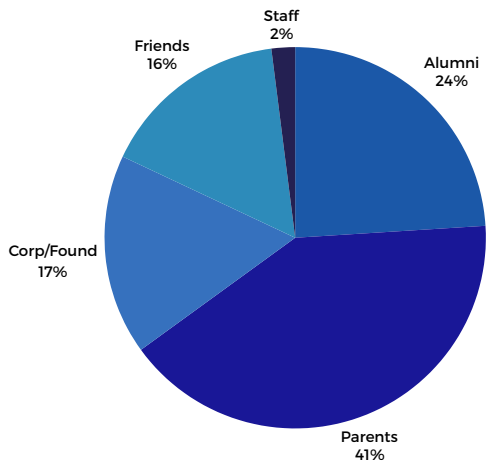
MSSM Engineering students  
presenting their mechanical penguin

**Grants to Students and Staff -**  
The Foundation seeks proposals directly from staff and students through a grant application process. In addition to the Michael P. Fabio Exploration Grants, dedicated to support the pursuit of knowledge through hands-on learning, innovation, and exploratory experience, we prioritize initiatives that maximize immediate and long-term impact across the student body.





# BY THE NUMBERS



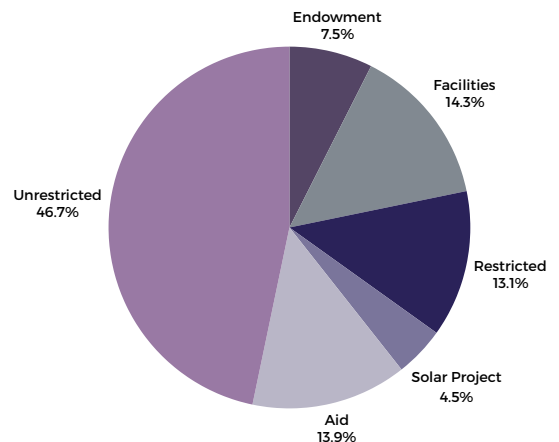
## Where Gifts Come From

Gifts to the MSSM Foundation come from multiple sources with one thing in common, a deep commitment and care for MSSM.

In FY24 the majority of funds donated came from parents of students and alumni. The alumni body of MSSM is an expanding population, with the oldest alumni just entering the middle of their careers. They continue to give to the Foundation in greater quantity.

Friends and other MSSM family members (grandparents, for example), corporations and foundations, and even MSSM staff, make up the remaining donors.

In-Kind Gifts (\$24,000) provided much appreciated furniture and equipment.

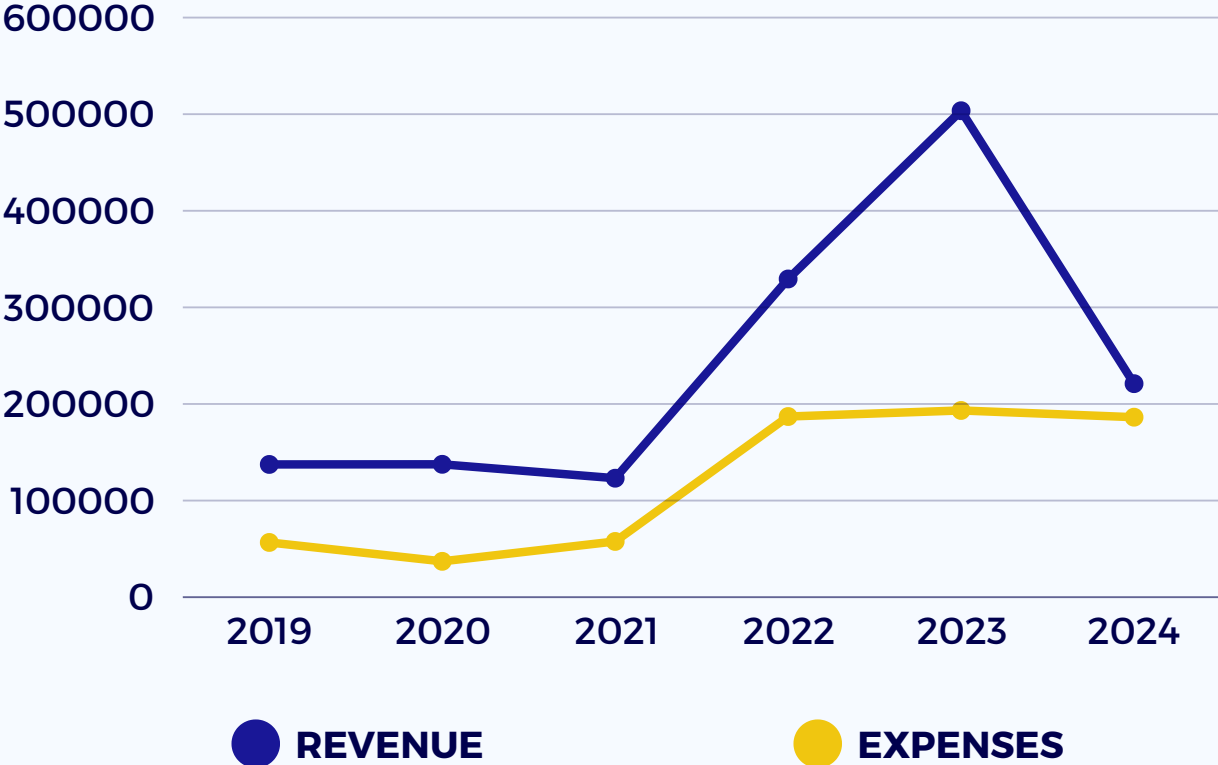


## Where Gifts Go

Donors can direct their gifts toward a project, or leave their gift unrestricted. Most donors to the MSSM Foundation choose to give their gifts unrestricted, allowing the Foundation and school administration to identify the area of greatest need. Unrestricted gifts counted for just under half of the total dollars donated.

The largest single designation was towards facilities which included the installation of the fume hood and laboratory benches. Other large designations include the solar project, financial aid and scholarships for the MSSM Summer Camp. Donors also gave to the Howard Family Lectures Series and other endowed funds and for several other specific purposes.

# +++ FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE



Over the last three years the MSSM Foundation has invested in its operations, including staff to grow events and communications. Some very large gifts in 2022 and 2023 skew the growth trajectory and have enabled the foundation to increase its impact on MSSM Students and Staff





# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
<b>GIFTS &amp; CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>\$332,458</b>	<b>\$503,563</b>	<b>221,030</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>187,009</b>	<b>\$194,813</b>	<b>186,318</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>	<b>\$39,986</b>	<b>\$157,001</b>	<b>274,018</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b> (Including investment loss/gain)	<b>\$874,229</b>	<b>\$1,061,795</b>	<b>919,865</b>

The MSSM Foundation raises funds for both unrestricted and restricted purposes. Some donations to the Foundation are used to create or supplement endowed funds, which are held in endowment with the Maine Community Foundation. Other donations are given for specific purposes such as scholarships or capital projects. Unrestricted gifts are used to help fund operations and grant requests reviewed by the MSSM Foundation Grant Committee. The Foundation also facilitates in-kind gifts of equipment, supplies, and other goods and services. The last three years have seen tremendous growth in the amount of funds transferred to MSSM in the form of grants.

# DONORS

An extra shout out to our long time donors,  
every ♥ heart ♥ represents  
5 years of consecutive giving



## **Big Bang Society \$10,000+**

- Betterment Fund
- ♥ Ron Fabio P'98
- ♥♥♥ Ruth-Anne Gibson P'02
- IDEXX Inc.
- Making Tomorrow Inc.
- John Kaufmann and Hsiao-Li Chou P'23



## **Catalyst Society \$1,000–\$4,999**

- ♥ Ryan Bagley '99 and Thaddeus Copeland
- ♥♥♥ Doug and Barbara Baston P'02
- ♥♥♥ Joceline Boucher
- ♥ Glenn Bridgman '04
- John and Laura Butera P'23
- Rob Constantine and Tess Woods
- ♥ E. Clark Copelin '98
- Eythan Cort '01
- Samuel Critchlow '01
- ♥ Jennifer Dresser '99
- Lynn Dupont P'08
- Martha Farmer
- Nathaniel Ferguson '17 and Lily Sage '18
- Elisabeth Heyward and Jock Crothers P'09
- Jane Karker P'05
- David and Alva King
- ♥♥♥ Renee Kruse '00
- Maine Society Of Professional Engineers Inc.
- ♥ Beth Maloney P'05,'12
- Heather Merriman '98 and Adrian Smith
- Belva and Harry Morris Scholarship Fund
- Pauliina and Daniel Pope P'25
- Elizabeth and John Reuthe
- ♥ Jeremy Shute '98 and Sarah Clark '98
- Miles Sweet '97
- ♥♥♥ Fritzie and Art Thompson
- Van Thompson
- We Work for Health

## **Supernova Society \$5,000–\$9,999**

- Craig and Lora Cunningham
- Jason Dark '04
- Benjamin Lofton '05
- Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
- Lauren Nichols '99 and Matthew Haag '01
- Warren and Barbara Winslow GP'19





# DONORS



## Double Helix Society \$500–\$999

- Agilent Technologies
- Allison and Edward Ainsworth P'26
- Nan Berry and Daryle Hilton P'25
- John and Susan Bragg P'07
- Jeff Candura
- Cascon, Inc.
- Columbia Forest Products
- ♥ Rita Cooper '06
- Scott Cuddy '26
- Janaina Da Silva Martins and Nestor Sainz-Rueda P'24
- Phillip Green
- Sean Donahue and Carol Pickering P'23
- Fidelity Charitable
- Google Inc.
- ♥♥ Elizabeth and Dwight Havu P'09
- ♥ Martin Hrynich '06 and Nadine Byers '08
- David and Gabrielle LaPointe
- Maine Community Foundation
- Norman Page
- Carole and Robert Pepler GP'26
- ♥ David and Valeria Peterson
- Gretchen '97 and Daniel Pineo
- Sadhana Prasad and Leighton Philbrick P'20
- ♥ Adrienne Rau '01
- Raymond and Rachel Rice
- Howard Robbins
- Helen Roberts '12
- Meredith and Scott Rousseau P'25
- Ruth-Ann Specht
- Shannon '97 and Nathan Theriault '97
- Kristina Yurko '08

2024 State Math  
Champions



# DONORS



VEX Room - Before



VEX Room - After IDEXX Gift

## Euclid's Element Society \$250–\$499

- ♥ John and Stacy Benjamin P'09
- Brent Berwin
- Sharon and Craig Blodgett P'22,'24
- ♥♥♥ Ramona and Anthony Cesare P'10
- Daniel Maxell Crosby '98
- Allison Dupont '08
- ♥ Adam '99 and Alison Elliott '98
- Jeanie Eysenbach
- William and Sandra Fletcher P'24
- Daniel Freedman '08
- ♥♥ Angelique '97 and John Harbert
- Stephanie and Jerry Hopkins P'25
- ♥ Katahdin Trust Company
- Anna and Thomas Largay P'27
- Amanda and Thomas Leen P'27
- ♥♥ Jacqueline and Garrett Martin
- ♥♥ Deborah and Michael McGann P'03
- Susan and Reed Nonken P'26
- ♥ Erik Pearson '97
- Susan and Jack Pines
- Suzanne and Parker Roberts P'12
- Jared Runes '02
- ♥ Pamela and Casey Scheppele
- ♥ Anthony and Janice Scott
- Solman & Hunter, P.A.
- Page Spiess '00 and Chance Yohman '00
- Dorothy Streett and David Mention
- Maureen Sweeney GP'22, '23
- Louis Zellinger '06

# DONORS

## Halley's Comet Society \$100–\$249



- Daniel Alfonsetti '17
- Susan and William Alto
- Georgeta and Constantin Anghel
- Ethan Bagley '98
- ♥ Justin Barker '06
- Melissa Barreras '00
- ♥ Ruth Basista
- Shannon and David Benedix P'13
- Tracy Bennett
- ♥♥ Erica Bickford '02
- ♥ Amy Bigelow '01
- Jill Bixby P'04
- ♥♥ Alice Bolstridge
- Sarah Bronson and Galen LaGassey P'09
- ♥ Jessica Browne '02
- ♥ Rachael Brown and Jerry White P'21
- ♥ Barbara Brusila and Mitchell Kihn P'16,'18
- Renee and Jeffrey Burch
- Tom Chartrand '05
- Chester M. Kearney
- ♥♥♥ Christina and Flint Christie
- Rachel Cohen '01
- ♥ Charles Comstock '01
- Poonam and Sudhir Dabas P'24
- ♥ Jennifer Damon '98 and Matthew Tardiff '98
- Melinda Davis '00
- Sam Davidson '09
- Vincent Devore P'97
- Anne Dunham and Michael Danehey P'19,'22
- Patrick Farrell
- Patrick Ferland '97
- Fly Fishing Only Antiques LLC
- Diane Foo and Michael Cardello P'19
- Benjamin Freedman '05
- Gregory and Nancy Frizzle P'21
- Luca Galbiati P'20
- Kristy Garcia '11
- ♥ Nathaniel Godin '98
- ♥ James Havu '09 and Codi Riley Havu
- ♥ Samantha Hawkins '99
- Melissa Howard '97
- Peter and Joanne Huntress
- Erin and Charles Ingalls
- James Jelin '12
- ♥ Russell Johnson '03
- ♥ Ryan Keating '09
- Nicole and Peter Labbe P'24
- Ethan LaRochelle '03
- Michael and Sally Leahey P'97
- ♥ Thomas Leahey '97 and Kate McCarthy '98
- Ben Lee and Nicola Garcia P'17
- Shen Hui Lin and Song Ye P'19
- Jeffrey and Marilee Lovit P'02
- Manulife
- Bruce Maxwell and Jill McElderry-Maxwell P'16
- ♥ Douglas McCadden '09
- David and Gail McCarthy P'98
- Marjorie McDonough '16
- Morning Star Art & Framing
- ♥ James Nichols P'99
- Rachel Adunola Olugbemi '13
- PNM Construction, Inc.
- William Alex Popov '14
- ♥♥ Gregory John Ramey '12
- Patrick Rand '97
- Paul Rawson and Sara Lindsay P'18
- ♥♥ Marian and Christopher Reagan P'16
- ♥ Kevin and Beth Reilley P'12,'15
- Michael and Kathryn Rethman P'21,'24

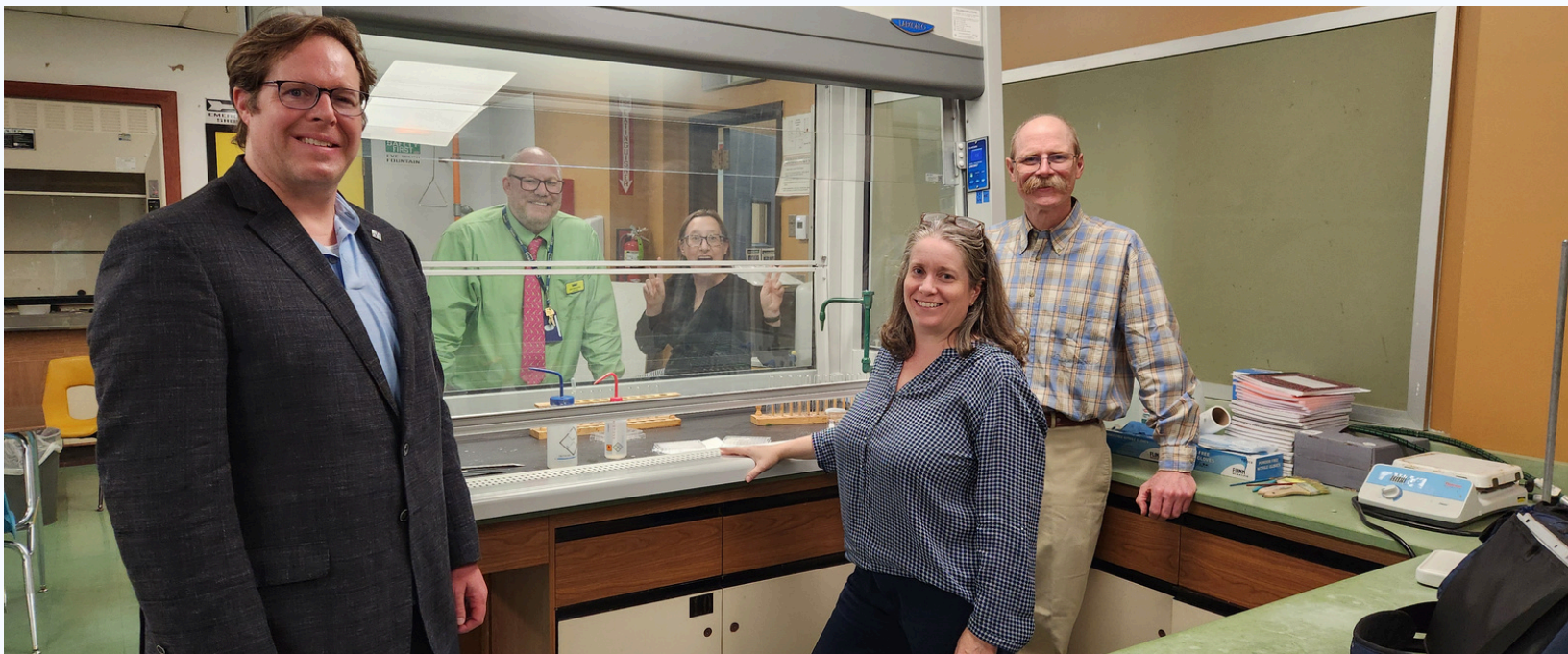


# DONORS

## Halley's Comet Society \$100–\$249 (cont.)



- Bronwen Rice '98
- Kwang Taeg Rim
- Darleen Roberts GP'27
- Corey Alan Sarsfield '08
- ♥ Janet Scott
- Ryan Shephard '98
- Penney and Yoosuf Siddiqui
- ♥ Ethan '97 and Brian Smith
- Spinnaker Trust
- ♥ Matthew Stover '99
- Steven and Elizabeth Symonds P'09,'14
- ♥♥ Sara and Joseph Taddeo P'11,'19
- ♥ The County Federal Credit Union
- Michael Thompson P'24
- Margaret and William Thickstun
- ♥♥♥ Mary Thron P'02,'03
- Dolores Toothaker P'08
- ♥ Daniel Tyler '07
- Jeffrey and Roger Van Peski P'14
- Prathima Vemulapalli '98
- ♥ Christine Voyer '98
- Jessie Willingham '16
- Wynne Wirth and Patrick Coon P'26
- Morgan Witham '98
- Jessica Lynne Witham P'98



Executive Director Rob Constantine and Foundation Board of Directors members stand with the new fume hood donated by former MSSM faculty member Rich Barrans (far right)



# DONORS

## Newton's Apples \$50–\$99

- Syam Kishore Adabala and Madhavi Kotti P'24,'27
- ♥ Shawn and Martha Albert P'20
- Sofviea Aizha-Roussy
- Ida Batista P'15
- ♥ Henrietta Beaufait
- Joanne and Robert Benica P'21,'25
- Michael and Louise Bither
- Peter and Gerri Bridgman P'04
- Steven and Karyn Butts P'25
- Anne Carter P'15
- ♥ Jeremy Chapman '05
- ♥ Brenton Chamberland '97
- David Coffin and Jingfeng Zhong P'17
- Valerie and Craig Comstock P'01
- Matthew and Rebecca Cox P'17
- ♥♥ Jennifer Crittenden '99
- Maynard and Sandra Curtis P'09
- Sandra and Daniel Dolan P'09
- Jacques and Diane Dostie P'97, GP'27
- ♥♥ Scott Dugas '04
- Erin Dulac P'22,'23



Jason Dark '04 welcomes the newest members of the MSSM Alumni Association

- Janice and Willy Faessler P'12
- Felch & Company, LLC
- Jacqueline and Edward Grohoski P'01
- Nicole Grohoski '01
- Julie Grosvenor and Michael Akom P'22,'25
- Gregory and Louise Hamlin P'07,'11
- Kristin and Andrew Hartt P'20,'24,'26
- ♥ Mary Hart P'14
- Stacey and David Hughes P'25
- Richard and Mary Jane Jarrett P'08
- ♥ Josh Jelin '05
- Captain Douglas and Linda Lee P'01
- Sean Lynch '09
- Jeffrey and Heather McCulloh P'16,'19
- Margaret and William McGarvey P'99
- ♥ Brittany Meservey '07
- John and Wendy Mitchell P'00
- Yu Qiong Ning and Zhi Yong Lai P'22
- Rebecca and Andrew Paine P'24
- ♥ Bethany Butler Prater '97
- ♥ Dean Putney '07
- Edgar and Linda Reynolds P'96
- Terri Roberts P'27
- Suresh Sadineni and Padmaja Chilukuri P'24
- Brian and Alice Schulth P'10,'12
- Scott Sehon P'13,'15
- Aaron Wade '02
- Joy Watkins
- ♥ Anne and John White P'04
- ♥ Sarah White '97
- Susan Wishkoski P'99
- Mary Jane Boyd and Warren Ziegler P'26



# DONORS

## Penguin Brigade \$1–\$49



- ♥ James D Bartlett '10
- Emily Boudreaux '02
- Reid Brechner '11
- Leslie Burnette P'24
- Martin Brozman '21
- ♥♥ Melissa Chappell P'08
- ♥ Nicholas Colella '05
- Jennifer and Sean Daly P'25
- Margaret De Jong and Jeffrey Morgenthaler P'25
- Meghann Derosier '98
- Sharon Hallett GP'10
- Amanda and Charles Hughes P'24
- James Libby
- Ruth Lyons '98
- Alu Madhavi and Hanuma Reddy Nanda Kumar P'27
- Beverly and Ralph Merriman P'98
- Caleb Milliken P'27
- Andrew Nicholson P'26
- Murrough O'Brien P'98
- ♥ Ian Olsen '07
- PayPal Giving Fund
- Mara Pennell P'27
- Pamela Perkins '01
- Playable Worlds, Inc
- Elizabeth White Randall and John Randall P'00
- Addison Raymond '98
- Tenille and Christopher Reichert P'26
- Cassie and Dale Roy P'27
- Oliver Scott '98
- ♥♥♥ Luke Shorty '98 and Lisa Smith '99
- Robert Tholl '99
- UK Online Giving Foundation
- Nola and Richard Urban P'06
- Dayle and Thomas Ward P'25
- John Westin '98



Fabio recipient demonstrates a computer he built from scratch

In '23-'24, the Michael P. Fabio Exploration Fund awarded five student grants, totaling \$11,605, continuing Michael's legacy at MSSM.

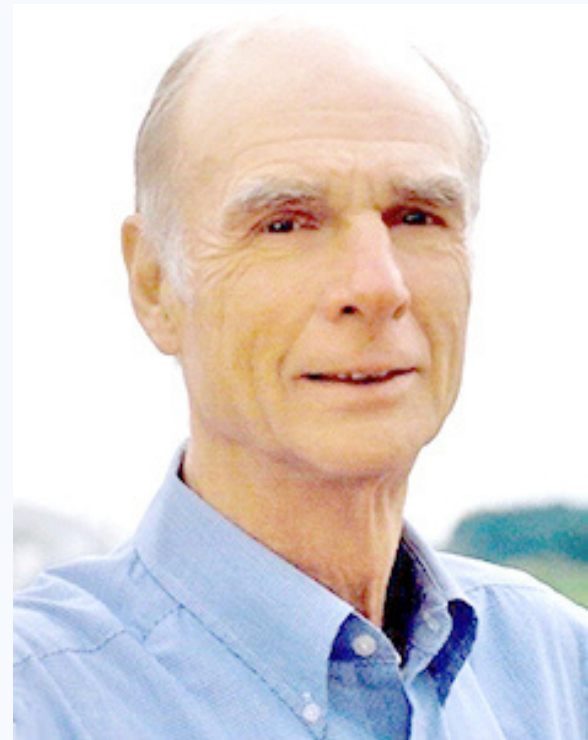




# TRIBUTE TO ART THOMPSON



“As a board member, I appreciated his wisdom, insight and integrity. I admired his logical and unifying approach to problem solving.”  
Dale Gordon P’04,’05,’08



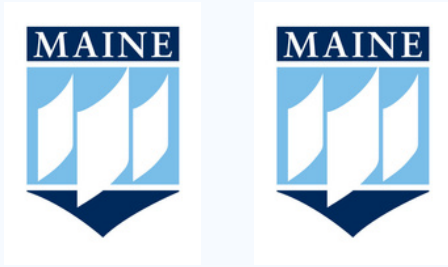
We dedicate this Annual Report to Art Thompson who passed away last December leaving a hole in our community. Art loved MSSM, Limestone, and Aroostook County and he showed that love by giving back to a variety of causes and organizations including MSSM. A member of the MSSM Foundation Board for far longer than our bylaws allowed, Art was central to the Foundation’s growth and success. He was a fierce defender of and advocate for MSSM.

“Art was instrumental in locating MSSM in Limestone and thereby introduced what are now thousands of bright, ambitious young people from all over Maine to the County and they all carry their affection for this unique place forward in their lives today.” Doug Baston, P’02



# CHEERS TO THE CLASS OF 2024

*Here is where some of our graduates will be heading*



# THANK YOU



On behalf of the MSSM Foundation staff and Board of Directors, thank you for your generosity and commitment to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

Doug Baston P'02  
John Butera P'23  
E. Clark Copelin '98  
David Haines P'04,'05,'06  
David King - BOT Rep  
Heather Merriman '98 - Chair  
Lauren Nichols '99



Meredith Rousseau P'25  
Pamela Scheppele  
Miles Sweet '97  
Art Thompson  
Warren Winslow GP'19  
Kristina Yurko '08  
Rob Constantine - MSSM Exec. Director

Total Solar Eclipse as witnessed by MSSM Students in Limestone on April 8, 2024

The MSSM Foundation helps to ensure the long-term success of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics by raising and distributing resources to enhance its educational offerings, maintain an outstanding faculty, and ensure access to all qualified students.

DEB MCGANN  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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