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Mission Statement

The American Legion ensures the overall purpose of Samsung’s scholarship endowment is fulfilled, which is providing direct descendants of veterans who honorably served their country with higher learning opportunities. This is accomplished by reviewing and maintaining eligibility rules for participants; determining the number and value of scholarships to be awarded; selecting the most qualified applicants as Department Finalists and National Scholars; investigating and discussing possible expansion of the program; and establishing guidelines for participation in one such expansion, which is the Samsung American Legion Alumni Association.

Introduction

On July 26, 1995, the Samsung Group and The American Legion held a joint press conference in Washington, D.C., to announce Samsung’s endowment of a $5 million educational scholarship fund to The American Legion for administration to direct descendants of U.S. war veterans. It was a gesture of appreciation from Samsung to U.S. military veterans for coming to the aid of South Korea in its war against invading forces from China and North Korea.

Mr. K.S. Park, Chairman of Samsung Engineering & Construction Co., words from that day remain a source of great pride to The American Legion.

“We (Samsung) wanted to demonstrate our appreciation. The best way to do this, we believe, is to offer educational opportunities to the children and grandchildren of the American veterans who served their country so honorably. The American Legion is the perfect organization for accomplishing this.”

At the press conference, then American Legion National Commander William M. Detweiler thanked Samsung for their generous endowment. In part, Detweiler stated, “We are fully aware of the significance of Samsung’s offer … Americans who answered a call to duty in the earliest days of the Cold War, and served under the United Nations banner to enforce its mandate and preserve the security of the Korean Peninsula, are truly deserving of this long awaited and deserved recognition (Korean War Veterans Memorial) in what has become known as ‘The Forgotten War.’”
Program Overview

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship issues awards only from interest and other income to the fund. The principal amount of the fund is not used for the scholarships.

Through its existing organizational structure, The American Legion administers the endowment fund and scholarship program at the local, state and national levels. This includes – but is not limited to – selection of scholarship awardees, development and implementation of program organization, and marketing strategy for the program.

Since inception of the scholarship, the Americanism Commission of The American Legion has invited a representative of Samsung to aid its Committee on Youth Education (COYE) in selection of the National Scholars. The COYE consists of members of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary. In addition to selecting the National Scholars, the Americanism Commission’s COYE is responsible for developing and maintaining a plan for the scholarship program’s selection process and eligibility criteria. The commission announced the first Samsung American Legion National Scholars in September 1996.

“Samsung values education. One of the most important contributions we can make is to support students in their pursuits of academic excellence. Helping future generations achieve their scholastic goals is a priority for us.”

- Mr. K.S. Park, Chairman, Samsung Engineering & Construction Co.
Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

Be a direct descendant¹ of a wartime veteran, who served honorably during one of the following periods of conflict officially designated by the United States government:

- **World War I** (April 6, 1917 – November 11, 1918)
- **World War II** (December 7, 1941 – December 31, 1946)
- **Korean War** (June 25, 1950 – January 31, 1955)
- **Vietnam War** (February 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975)
- **Lebanon/Grenada** (August 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984)
- **Panama** (December 20, 1989 – January 31, 1990)
- **Gulf War/War on Terrorism** (August 2, 1990 – Present)

Attend an American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program the summer between junior and senior years of high school.

Complete the online application process including upload of all supporting documentation prior to 11:59 p.m. at the close of the first day of their respective Boys State or Girls State program.

To be considered as a National Scholar the applicant must:

Have been selected as the finalist from their respective Boys State or Girls State program.²

Have been selected as a Samsung American Legion National Scholar by members of the Committee on Youth Education at The American Legion’s annual Fall Meetings, conducted every October.

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1) Direct descendant is defined as the applicant being the legal child, grandchild, great grandchild, etc., or a legally adopted child of a qualified wartime veteran.

2) 98 to 102 department finalists are named each year (two from each state: one from each Boys State and one from each Girls State). Hawaii has historically been given the opportunity to nominate two young people (male and female), by virtue of not having a Boys State or Girls State program. However, in 2016, Hawaii hosted its first Girls State program.
Program Rules and Conditions

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
OCT. 15-16, 2014

Resolution No. 24: Revised Rules and Conditions for Administration of The Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program
Origin: Committee on Youth Education
Submitted By: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, In 1995 The American Legion was honored to receive a $5 million scholarship endowment from Samsung Group as a gesture of appreciation for the sacrifices of U.S. service men and women who helped maintain security of the Korean peninsula during the Korean War; and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 1 of the National Executive Committee, September 3, 1995, titled “Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program” authorized The American Legion to create a scholarship program by the same name; and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 28 of the National Executive Committee, October 18-19, 2000, titled “Rules and Conditions for Administration of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program” established criteria for awarding the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program from an applicant pool of representatives from The American Legion Boys State and American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs; and

WHEREAS, Res. No. 19, National Executive Committee, October 9-10, 2002, incorporated changes in eligibility criteria for students from Hawaii as recommended by the National Committee on Education with subsequent concurrence by the National Americanism Commission; and

WHEREAS, In 2013 The American Legion was pleased to honor its longstanding relationship with Samsung through presentation of its prestigious Patriot Award, followed by a visit to Samsung Global Headquarters in Seoul, Korea, by the National Commander; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion and Samsung Electronics located at the North America Headquarters in Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, have reinvigorated discussions of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program to enhance the application process for benefit of the applicants, and publicly promote and elevate prominence of the Samsung American Legion Scholars; and

WHEREAS, Changes to the Rules and Conditions under which Samsung American Legion scholarships are awarded is recommended by the Committee on Youth Education with subsequent concurrence by the National Americanism Commission; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 15-16, 2014, that effective in 2015 the Rules and Conditions under which Samsung American Legion Scholarships are awarded shall be:

1. As previously established, one representative from each American Legion Boys State program, one representative from each American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program and one high school junior boy and one high school junior girl from the Department of Hawaii will comprise the pool of “Samsung American Legion State Finalists”;

2. The pool of Samsung American Legion State Finalists will be divided into five (5) geographic regions:
   - Western Region: Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico,
Oregon, Utah, Washington

- Midwest Region: Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming
- Central Region: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin
- Southeast Region: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas
- Northeast Region: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

3. Two (2) “Samsung American Legion Scholars” will be selected by the Committee on Youth Education from each regional pool of State Finalists; and, be it further RESOLVED, That all other Rules and Conditions regarding eligibility and administration of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program shall remain unchanged:

   1. Those eligible to apply for the scholarships shall be students who are direct descendants of U.S. wartime veterans who served during one or more of the periods of war officially designated as such by the United States government:

      - World War I April 6, 1917 - November 11, 1918
      - World War II December 7, 1941 - December 31, 1946
      - Vietnam War February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975
      - Lebanon and Grenada August 24, 1982 - July 31, 1984
      - Panama December 20, 1989 - January 31, 1990
      - Gulf War/War on Terrorism August 2, 1990 to cessation of hostilities as determined by the United States government,

   2. Samsung American Legion Scholars will have six (6) years to utilize their scholarship funds from the date of graduation from high school, excluding any time spent on active military duty or church mission,

   3. Samsung American Legion State Finalists will have two (2) years to utilize their scholarship funds from the date of graduation from high school, excluding any time spent on active military duty or church mission,

   4. The Samsung American Legion Scholarship is for undergraduate study at an accredited U.S. college or university,

   5. Scholarship recipients must be enrolled as a full-time student to request his/her scholarship funds,

   6. The number and amount of the scholarship awards will be determined by the income derived from the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Trust,

   7. The scholarship funds may only be used to defray necessary costs of the student’s education (i.e. tuition, room & board, books & supplies, fees and equipment required by the student’s particular course of study or school),

   8. A student may request any amount up to and including his/her total scholarship award at one time,

   9. The amount of the fund request cannot exceed the cost of education,
10. Students may make only one (1) request for funds per semester or quarter,

11. Scholarship checks will be issued upon receipt of a “Request for Funds” form,

12. A scholarship check will be issued in the normal and customary procedure of a two-party check made payable to the student and school,

13. Students who have not requested their award will receive one (1) written notice reminding them of their award and the time limits remaining to receive their award,

14. State finalists will receive their notice prior to their last year of eligibility,

15. Samsung American Legion Scholars will receive their notice with two years of eligibility remaining,

16. Unused scholarship funds will be returned to the scholarship trust fund for future awards; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all Rules and Conditions shall be included on each Samsung American Legion Scholarship application; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 19 of the National Executive Committee, October 9–10, 2002, titled “Rules and Conditions for Administration of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship Program” is hereby superseded and rescinded.
**Award History**

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| Awards not yet paid as of 12/31/2018 | $576,208

**2018 Award Amounts**

**10 National Scholars - $10,000**

**Western Region**
Rebecca Denney (UT)
Jared Goetz (WA)

**Central Region**
Max Bowman (IL)
James Alwin (WI)

**Midwest Region**
Elise Sopelle (MN)
Tatum Trysla (KS)

**Northeast Region**
Garrett Geidel (DE)
Valerie Puliafico (MA)

**Southeast Region**
Mattilyn Winburn (GA)
Colt Crowson (OK)

**10 Runners-up - $5,000**

**Western Region**
Maria Gonzalez (WA)
Nicholas Vitiello (NV)

**Central Region**
Eliza Mount (IN)
Tessa D'Souza (KY)

**Midwest Region**
James Donovan (MO)
Caleb Haselhuhn (KS)

**Northeast Region**
Benjamin Currey (RI)
Peter Davin (NJ)

**Southeast Region**
Stuart Case (FL)
Leo Aromatorio (GA)

**Remaining 79 Department Finalists - $1,250**

**Administrative Expenses**

- Postage and Shipping $0
- Paper and Printing $41
- Awards $80
- **Total** $121

**Fund Balance**

as of 12/31/2018 $6,658,790
## 2018 Application Breakdown

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Western Region Scholars

Rebecka Denney

Hometown: Duchesne, UT
GPA: 4.0    Class Rank: 1
Academics/Activities
- Cross Country Academic All-State
- HOPE Squad President
- Academic Decathlon Captain
- Senior Class Vice President
Community Service/Work Experience
- President's Volunteer Service Award Gold
- Cashier at Duchesne City Pool
- Grocery Stocker at Al’s Food Town
- Guitar Teacher
Goals
Rebecka plans on pursuing a degree in Experience Design and Management at Brigham Young University.
Rebecka’s grandfather is a Korean War veteran.

Jared Wayne Goetz

Hometown: Coulee City, WA
GPA: 4.0    Class Rank: 1
Academics/Activities
- Eagle Scout, (2x) WIAA 1B Football State Champion, Football Captain, WIAA 1B Baseball State Champion, WIAA Wrestling State Participant, (6x) Varsity Sport Academic State Champion, ASB President, FBLA and FFA Treasurer, Knowledge Bowl Captain, (2x) Knowledge Bowl State participant, Senior Patrol Leader and Chaplain for BSA Troop 35, St. Andrews 4-H President, Almira/ Coulee-Hartline Youth Sports Assistant Coach, College Board Youth Advisory Council
Community Service / Work Experience
- Farm hand for Goetz Wheat Farms, 5th Grade Tutor, Coulee City Assembly of God Soundboard Operator, NITRO Kid’s event volunteer, Warrior Broadcast Network volunteer, Boy Scouts of America community service projects, Coulee City Children’s Choir volunteer
Goals
Jared has always had a deep passion for working with animals and plans on obtaining a degree in veterinary medicine, specializing in exotic animals. He plans to major in biology and minor in finance.
Jared’s grandfather was a Vietnam veteran.
Central Region Scholars

Max Bowman

Hometown: Barrington, IL
GPA: 4.0 Class Rank: Top 5%

Academics/Activities

German Club: Board Member, International, German Olympiad - USA National Finals - Third Place, National German Exam Gold Awards; Math Team: State Medals; Robotics: Board Member State Qualifier; Track: Varsity Hurdles; World Wide Youth in Science and Engineering: State Medals in CS and Chemistry; AP Scholar, Illinois State Scholar, National Merit Semifinalist

Community Service/ Work Experience

Chicago Adler Planetarium Far Horizons, Henize Observatory, High School Honors, Science/Mathematics/Engineering Program, MSU, Leo Club President, NASA/SEES Intern, Scouts BSA, Eagle Scout, Congressional Award, Gold Medal, President Volunteer Service Award

Goals

Max plans to pursue advanced degrees in science and engineering. Max’s grandfather is a Korean War veteran.

James Alwin

Hometown: Oconto, WI
GPA: 3.9 Class Rank: 7

Academics /Activities

Cross Country Captain, National Honor Society President, Band President, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Pep Band, Concert Band, Math Team, LifeSmarts Captain, Hi-Q Academic Bowl, Lights and Sound for Theatre Department, Future Business Leaders of America, and Licensed Private Pilot

Community Service / Work Experience

Civil Air Patrol, EAA Airventure Volunteer, Local Fly-In Volunteer/Planner, Church Volunteer, Oconto Youth Service Day, Student Member Service Representative at NEW Credit Union.

Goals

James plans to continue his education at a four-year university to major in aviation and continue flight training. James’ grandfather is a Korean War veteran.
Midwest Region Scholars

Elise Sopelle
Hometown: Pequot Lakes, MN
GPA: 4.0 Class Rank: 1

Academics/Activities
2017 national contestant and quarter finalist at The American Legion Oratorical Contest, 2016-2017 VFW Voices of Democracy audio essay local winner, 2017-2018 American Legion Auxiliary Miss Poppy, American Legion Jr. Auxiliary, dual enrolled college student with 29 college credits

Community Service/Work Experience
Elise has completed over 350 hours of volunteer service through The American Legion, co-organized Pequot Lakes High Veterans Day ceremony, co-founded and spoke at the first Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration in Pine River, Minn., was a featured speaker at Memorial Day ceremonies in Brainerd, Minn., published a patriotic article in various newspapers, was a camp counselor and first aid instructor at Legionville School Safety Patrol Camp, and is a certified Personal Care Attendant.

Goals
Elise will attend the University of Northwestern in St. Paul and pursue a degree in Biblical and theological studies with a goal of a masters in theology.

Elise's great-grandfather was a World War II veteran, grandfather is a Vietnam veteran, mother is a Peace Corps volunteer, and brother is a Minnesota National Guardsman.

Tatum Trysla
Hometown: Leawood, KS
GPA: 4.4

Academics/Activities
Varsity Tennis Captain and State Champion, Varsity Dance Captain and All-American Dancer, Future Business Leaders of America President, Fellowship of Christian Athletes Leader, National Merit Commended Scholar, Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership State Delegate, Student-Run School Store CEO of Marketing, National Women's Foundation: Kansas City Girls Leadership Program

Community Service/Work Experience
Team Up for St. Jude Kansas City Founder and Chairperson ($150,000-plus raised for pediatric cancer), Church of the Nativity-Lead Vocal Soloist/Cantor, Prayer and Action Local Mission Trip

Goals
Tatum plans to pursue advanced business degrees through elite undergraduate and graduate programs. She will continue working as an advocate for pediatric cancer research and awareness, and intends to dance at the collegiate level.

Tatum has family members who served in World War I, World War II and the Vietnam War.
Northeast Region Scholars

Garrett Geidel

Hometown: Camden, DE

GPA: 4.0 Class Rank: Top 2%

Academics / Activities
Cross Country Captain, Varsity, Academic All Conference, National Honor Society, Delaware State 4-H Diamond Clover Award, Advanced Placement Academic Scholar, Vox One Choir, Chorale, Delaware All-State Choir, Disney Choir

Community Service / Work Experience
Delaware Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Board, Delaware 4-H State Teen Council President, Kent County Representative, Peach Blossom 4-H Club President, Vice President, Secretary, National Capital Therapy Dogs Certified Team, National 4-H: Congress, Conference, Healthy Living Summit

Goals
Garrett is interested in pursuing a degree in public policy and is interested in a career with a nonprofit or governmental agency. He is very involved in his community and has a passion for understanding the challenges facing our communities from political, economic and social perspectives.

Garrett’s grandfather is a Korean War veteran and Garrett is a member of Sons of The American Legion Squadron 2 in Dover.

Valerie Puliafico

Hometown: West Bridgewater, MA

GPA: 4.0 Class Rank: TBD

Academics / Activities
National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society President, Tri-M Music Honor Society President, Debate Team Captain, Math Team Captain, MA State Student Advisory Council Regional Chair, Southeastern Regional Student Advisory Council Chair, School Student Council Representative, Holy Cross Book Prize Recipient, Varsity Tennis (captain for two years), Varsity Volleyball Captain, Black Belt in Tang Soo Doo (South Korean Martial Art)

Community Service / Work Experience
West Bridgewater Public Library Volunteer (assisting elderly with technology, creating podcasts, and engaging youth in library activities), Toys for Troops volunteer, MA National Guard Youth Council member and volunteer, President’s Volunteer Service Award Bronze Medal 2018, Tutor (students in grades 2-11)

Goals
Valerie plans to pursue a degree in chemistry followed by medical school, with the intent to become a pediatric oncologist.

Valerie’s great-grandfather is a Korean War veteran and her father is an Afghanistan veteran.
Southeast Region Scholars

Mattilyn Lee Winburn
Hometown: Bainbridge, GA
GPA: 4.61 Class Rank: school does not rank

Academics/Activities
American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation, American Legion Oratorical Contest National Semifinalist, VFW Voice of Democracy Essay Contest National Finalist, Nationally ranked speaker and debater in NCFCA, Senior member of Spark Theater Company’s musical theater competition team, "Outstanding Individual Female" International Junior Theater Festival, “Best Overall Actress” Alabama Youth Theater Experience, “Outstanding Achievement in Acting” Alabama Conference of Theater, Tri-State Community Choir 1st Soprano; Tallahassee Youth Orchestra 1st Violin, Mu Eta Sigma National Math Honor Society

Community Service/Work Experience
Volunteer math tutor for at-risk students; Friendship House (after-school ministry program for low-income kids); certified pet therapist for elderly shut-ins and terminally ill patients; keynote speaker for civic organizations and schools (promoting civic education), election poll worker / clerk

Goals
Mattie initially plans to dual major in musical theater and rhetoric/communication and then later pursue a career in constitutional law.

Mattie had a grandfather serve in both the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

Colt Crowson
Hometown: Madill, OK
GPA: 4.0 Class Rank: 1

Academics / Activities
Varsity Wrestling, Varsity Football, Varsity Track, National Honor Society President, Student Council President, Class President, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Secretary, FFA Secretary, Speech and Debate Captain, 4H, Madill Church of Christ Youth Group, Boy Scouts of America, Order of the Arrow Vigil Honor Recipient, Founders Award Recipient and Lodge Chief, Masons, Boys State Governor, REA Youth Tour Winner

Community Service / Work Experience
Lifeguard for the Madill City Pool, Eagle Scout, Red Cross Volunteer, Rotary Club Volunteer, Landscaping, Over 1,600 hours of community service

Goals
Colt hopes to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy and major in engineering. He wants to become a fighter pilot and an astronaut.

Colt’s great-grandfather was a World War II, Korea and Vietnam veteran.
Program Overview

There have been 2,168 Samsung American Legion Scholarship recipients since inception of the scholarship in 1996. These scholars now range from 18 to 39 years of age and are employed in a wide range of impressive professions around the world.

The Samsung American Legion Alumni Association (SALAA) was created in 2015 as an enhancement to the Samsung American Legion Scholarship. By keeping the alumni engaged with one another and involved with Samsung and The American Legion, we are creating a premier network of scholars and professionals that have a vested interest in upholding the ideals of both Samsung and The American Legion.

The alumni association has grown to 202 active members. As students are awarded the scholarship, there will be two new members eligible for the alumni association from each state every year. The Samsung American Legion Alumni Association has 211 active Facebook participants and 133 have joined the LinkedIn group.

A nine-member National Alumni Board of Directors and a four-member Executive Advisory Committee and an alumni coordinator, which is made up of representatives from the American Legion Family and Samsung, are working together to grow the association and expand activities.

Mission Statement

To engage recipients of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship through educational growth, community service and leadership while fostering lifelong relationships between the recipients, Samsung and The American Legion.

Goals

- Encourage members to utilize the association as a pathway for professional networking, social engagement, community service and to further education.
- Engage scholars in professional and social networking through a web-based mentoring program that connects Samsung American Legion alumni based on location and professional or academic interests.
- Promote educational and service opportunities provided by the American Legion Family and Samsung.
- Maintain high media visibility of Samsung American Legion scholars’ life stories and successes.
- Develop ambassadors of goodwill for The American Legion and Samsung.
- Invite eligible alumni to become part of The American Legion, Sons of The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary.
Building the Community
Samsung American Legion Alumni Association 12-month plan

**Months 1 - 6 (Nov. 2018 - April 2019)**
Focus on engagement of current members while encouraging new members to sign up.

- Email blast to 2018 recipients to welcome them, followed by a mailing with a challenge coin.
- Direct contact to all awardees asking them to join or update personal information on website.
- Increase the overall ability of the website (interactive, searchable and attractive).
- Increase social media engagement of awardees by highlighting individual alumni and programs of Samsung and The American Legion.
- Collaborate with Boys/Girls State directors to identify opportunities for local/in-person activities.
- Research community service projects to be conducted online for remote participation
- Promote and facilitate webinars or networking events (by SALAA board members or prominent alumni).
- Develop mission and vision statements reflecting the purpose of SALAA and conveying the value proposition.

**Months 4 - 11 (Feb. - Oct. 2019)**
Planning and Hosting Events

- Plan and execute the June, Washington, D.C., recognition event.
- Facilitate meeting of SALAA Executive Board during Washington, D.C., event.
- Promote local participation of SALAA members in Boys/Girls State programs to increase awareness of the Samsung American Legion Scholarship.
- Explore possibility of hosting in-person events at larger American Legion department youth program sites or department conventions.
- Research opportunities for event during 2019 American Legion National Convention in Indianapolis.

**Month 12 (November 2019)**
Report and Assess

Evaluate progress of member engagement via the following metrics:
- Number of sign-ups;
- Active mentoring between members;
- Participation in events; and
- Members developing their own avenues for engagement and networking.
Executive Advisory Committee

An Executive Advisory Committee made up of American Legion Family and Samsung representatives was established to aid in the oversight of the alumni association alongside a National Alumni Board of Directors that consists of scholarship alumni. The Executive Advisory Committee ensures that the actions of the alumni association are in keeping with the high traditions of The American Legion and Samsung.

**Greg “Doc” Gibbs**
National Commander
Sons of The American Legion

**John Hendrick**
Chief of Staff, B2B Solutions and Services and Chief Advocate
Samsung Veterans Community at Samsung Electronics

**Michael Westergren**
Chairman
National Committee on Youth Education
The American Legion

**Lisa Williamson**
National Education Chairman
American Legion Auxiliary
National Alumni Board of Directors

A National Alumni Board of Directors made up of former Samsung American Legion Scholarship recipients was established to aid in the oversight of the alumni association. With oversight from the Executive Advisory Committee, the National Alumni Board of Directors guides the planning and development of the association. The existence of the National Alumni Board of Directors encourages alumni to seek leadership opportunities within the alumni association, while also ensuring that members’ voices are heard.

These seven members will serve for three years as outlined in the bylaws of the Samsung American Legion Alumni Association, reviewed in June 2018 and ratified by vote in December 2018.

Matthew Barreau
1999 National Winner
Newport News, VA - Southeast Region

Boys State in Oregon
Western Oregon University
Coach for over 10 years at the collegiate level in the sports of track and field and cross country
Conference and Regional Coach of the Year on about 10 occasions.

Eric Bucher
1997 National Winner
Miamisburg, OH - Central Region

Ohio University - Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering
University of Dayton - Master's in Mechanical Engineering
Ohio Buckeye Boys State volunteer
2017 American Legion National Oratorical Contest judge
Currently the Global Hawk Chief Flight Systems Engineer, Special Operations Forces & Personnel Recovery Division at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Jessica Jaeger
2008 National Winner
Crosse, WI - Central Region
University of Wisconsin – La Crosse - Bachelor’s in Accounting and in Economics with a minor in Information Systems
Attended Sustainability in Economics study abroad trip to New Zealand and Australia
Employed at RSM US LLP, the fifth largest accounting firm in the United States
Received three promotions in five years
Completed the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination

Erin Marvin
2006 National Winner
Austin, TX - Southeast Region
Casper College - Associates in mass communications, political science and agricultural business
West Texas A&M University - Bachelor’s in Mass Communications
Events Coordinator for Hospice Austin

Courtney Lewis Matiaco
2011 State Finalist
Rexburg, ID - Southeast Region
Brigham Young University - Bachelor’s in Health Promotion
Steven Spellmon
2011 National Winner
Vancouver, WA - Western Region
Lived in 14 places as a U.S. Army brat
Awarded The American Legion School Award for being the male student who best exemplified courage, leadership, honor, service, scholarship and patriotism
Missouri Boys State
University of Alabama - Bachelor’s in Chemical Engineering
Working for Goldman Sachs in New York City

Dr. Zachary Tally, PT, DPT, CLT
2010 National Winner
Spartanburg, SC - Southeast Region
Duke University - Doctor of Physical Therapy
University of South Carolina - Bachelor’s in Exercise Science
Currently the first Oncologic Physical Therapy Resident at Duke University Hospital and Duke Cancer Center

Dr. Krysta Webster Fink
1998 National Winner
Blacksburg, VA - Southeast Region
Wofford College
Western Carolina University - Master’s in Clinical Psychology
Oklahoma State University - Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology
Completed pre-doctoral internship at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and post-doctoral residency at James Madison University
Licensed clinical psychologist in Virginia and South Carolina
Working as a psychologist at Virginia Tech conducting individual and group therapy.
Grant Utilization

The three-year grant of $380,000 began on Nov. 2, 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Expenditures</th>
<th>Recognition Event</th>
<th>Remainder of Grant</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$5,769.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>$374,231.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$88,958.00</td>
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<td>2017</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>$93,455.00</td>
<td>$33,650.00</td>
<td>$108,551.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$112,313.00 (projected)</td>
<td>$40,000.00 (projected)</td>
<td>($3,762.00) (projected)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2018, $93,455.00 was utilized of which the scholarship recognition portion was $33,650.00. The remainder is salary (not for a full 12 months), administrative costs, postage and fulfillment items. As illustrated in the projection above for 2019, the original grant funds, intended to last only through November 2018, will be fully exhausted.

If the grant is not renewed, the recognition event as we know it will not be as extensive. The alumni association will continue, but it may be a much reduced program.

Sustainability

While initially funded for three years, the aim of the alumni association is sustainment for the foreseeable future. Unlike a traditional alumni association, the Samsung American Legion Alumni Association must pursue growth and maintenance strategies not predicated upon membership fees.