

Annual Report





# Inside

Be the Light	2
Assess. Pivot. Adapt	6
Solidarity	8
Wily Learns	10
Lighthouses	12

Gifts at Work14
By the Numbers16
Celebrating Generosity17
Our Donors18
Supporting Wily32

**LOOK FOR THE LINKS!** This year, many of our events have been virtual gatherings and are archived at our website, thewilynetwork.org. We invite you to take a few minutes to see, hear and experience the Wily community at its best.

#### Wily's Core Values

At Wily, our **five core value**s help us to enact our mission and vision throughout the year, and remind us of what matters most, every day. Look for the colored symbols through this report, connecting Wily values to our work.



Wily Scholars are the heart of our mission.

We believe in the power of deep, trusting relationships.

We believe in the strength of our pack.

We are committed to the long term.

We are a listening/ learning organization.

#### Our Mission

The Wily Network provides a safety net for students navigating college independently.

- Wily works to ensure Scholars have the tools and networks necessary to thrive in four-year residential colleges.
- Wily strives to support Scholars to transition successfully into post-college life.

Wily Scholars are students who have experienced life challenges such as homelessness or foster care, or whose parents may be deceased, dealing with addiction, mental health issues, or incarceration. Some Scholars may be estranged from their families as a result of identifying as LGBTQIA+.

#### Wily Programs

We enact this mission through services and programs, including weekly, one-to-one clinical coaching, financial assistance, community-building support, and networking opportunities to help each Scholar move from surviving to thriving.

# Letter from Judi

#### Staff

Gabrael Benson, MSW Development/Program Coordinator

Bianca Blakesley, LICSW Clinical Scholar Coach

Laura Broffman Operations Coordinator

Emma Chavenson Financial Aid Coach

Korie Clegg, MSW Clinical Scholar Coach

Beth Franklin Program Assistant

Susan Goldscheid, MAT Clinical Scholar Coach

Judi Alperin King, PhD Founder and Executive Director

Ashley Linell Director of Development and Communications

Madjeen Lorthe, MEd Clinical Scholar Coach

Kat Castañeda Macdonald, LICSW Director of Coaching, Clinical Scholar Coach

Zubin Mistri, MDiv *Clinical Scholar Coach* 

Bonnie Yezukevich, LICSW Director of Programming, Clinical Scholar Coach

#### Dear Wily Pack,

It's been an unusual year, to say the least. As the Wily Network navigated COVID-19, we drew inspiration from this year's theme, "Be the Light." These words served as a guide as we met unexpected challenges, found new strengths, and remembered what it means to walk together, as a community.

We watched, in respect and admiration, as Wily Scholars faced a year of unknowns.



We saw them draw on individual and collective strengths, reach out for (and receive) support, and care for one another as a pack.

We were humbled by generous leadership in the Wily community, as many friends stepped up to meet urgent needs, planned and unplanned. Through our work in diversity, equity and inclusion, we challenged ourselves to grow and reach toward the Wily mission.

Since our founding, we've worked hard to build a resilient, missiondriven organization. This year, that work was tested, and we prevailed. We stood with Scholars. We showed up to work, plan, learn and celebrate. And when we invited you to "Be the Light," you responded with overwhelming generosity.

The 2020 Annual Report describes our year in words and pictures, but, as so often happens, the words of a Wily Scholar below convey Wily's impact — your impact — better than any report.

From everyone at Wily, thank you for your partnership in 2020. You are the light!

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Judi Alperin King Founder and Executive Director

"Wily has been so helpful as I've transitioned back to campus during the pandemic. During a time where everything is up in the air, Wily has been such a necessary beacon of hope and stability. The transition back to college is always difficult, but this year might have been impossible without all that Wily has done for me."

— Gar, Middlebury College

DESIGN Martha Abdella abdelladesign.com



# Gratitude



## This year, we inspired one another to:

As COVID-19 unfolded last spring, there were so many unknowns. As always, Wily Scholars were our first priority. Every day, we communicated with Scholars about their needs and their experiences. We reimagined and adapted the basics, from housing to clinical coaching to community suppers.

Thanks to your support, and the incredible resilience of Wily Scholars, we made it through a challenging year, and every Scholar who planned to graduate in 2020 did so.

In March, we created an Emergency COVID-19 Fund, to help Scholars navigate changes like campus closures, unplanned travel and many other unanticipated needs. We were overwhelmed by the generous contributions we received, many from donors, grant-makers and local businesses who reached out to Wily — proactively to find out how they could help.

#### In all, the Emergency COVID-19 Fund received gifts from more than 300 donors and grant-makers, for a total of \$439,000.

Even with these successes, there were challenges ahead. Could we pull off a successful fundraising event and annual appeal campaign? Find leaders to inspire us with matching gift challenges, grants and other support?

Thanks to our outstanding Wily community, the answer was YES.

Be the Light

## COVID-19 Emergency Fund Supporters

We are grateful to all the grant-makers and foundations who responded with additional emergency funds in 2020, including these generous benefactors:

The Ilene Beal Charitable Foundation Boston Resiliency Fund Further Forward Foundation Life Science Cares Daniel E. Offutt III Charitable Trust Carole Remick Charitable Foundation Wellington Management Foundation

"When I think of Wily, I guess I think about having a sort of safety net, and a family to go to. And not just when I'm in need, but when things are going great."

— Harley, Wily Scholar alum



Katherine DePasqua

Maddy Day

Ed Hajim

Steve Pem

ton



## Wily Shines a Light on Gratitude: An Evening of Music and Connections

Generously sponsored by the llene Beal Charitable Foundation with additional support from Rockland Trust, Eastern Bank and AAFCPAs.

On December 3rd, we welcomed several hundred guests to "Wily Shines a Light on Gratitude," a virtual celebration of Wily generosity. Thanks to the support of co-chairs Katherine DePasquale and Rodolfo Chaparro, and our host committee, the "Be the Light" annual fund campaign raised over \$425,000 in all. To view the event, visit bit.ly/WilyShines.

Thank you to our host Meghan Irons, Education Reporter, *Boston Globe*, and our featured speakers: Katherine DePasquale, Be the Light co-chair; Olivia Miller, Wily Scholar alum; Maddy Day, Child Welfare and Education Consultant; Ed Hajim, Chairman, HighVista Strategies, and author, *On the Road Less Traveled: An Unlikely Journey from the Orphanage to the Boardroom*; Steve Pemberton, Wily advisory council member and author, *A Chance in the World*; and Michael Julian, Wily board member and AVP, Healthgrades.

Rodolfo Chaparro and Katherine DePasquale, two of Wily's most committed supporters, have embodied the spirit of the "Be the Light" campaign as leaders — and donors. Together, they made a generous matching gift of \$50,000, which inspired many others to join them in supporting Wily in 2020. Katherine's message to Wily Scholars in her December 3 "Letter to Wily Scholars" is a simple one that echoes through all of our work: **"We're rooting for you. You got this."** 

#### Be The Light Host Committee

#### Katherine DePasquale and Rodolfo Chaparro Be the Light Co-chairs

Ruthie and Jeff Barker

Sara Miller Blanc

and Jonathon Blanc

Katie and Don Bramley

Anne Cadigan and Mike Gaziano

Kristine and Nevin Chitkara

Robin Grace and Ted Clark

Jodi and Daniel Cooper

Kathy and Bob Cunha

Katherine DePasquale and Rodolfo Chaparro

Joy and Mark Denomme

CC Donelan

Erin and Mark Epker

Liz and Art Greenwood

Linda and Mark Griffin

May and John Herr Allison and Andrew

Hirsch

Michael Iulian

D 1 VI

Becky King

Judi and Tim King

Jeff Kline

Cindy and Bob

Laughrea

Cindy and Seth Lawry

Wendy and Charles Leiserson

Renee Levin

Josie Linell

Michelle and Neil MacLellan

Laurel and Zach Martin

Annie Montesano and Dan Scheibe

Sheila Murphy and Jim Martin

Kim and Greg Pappas

Andrea and Dick Patton

Sharisse Cail Perry and Steven Perry

Dianne Pink and J. Roy Pottle

Judi and Bill Rosensweig

Melissa and Allen Smith

Peggy and Deon Stander

Kyla Truman

Mike Virginio

Ellen and Bob Volpe

Suzanne and David Wakefield

Susie and Adam Winstanley

Natalie and Rod Wright

Debbi and Michael Young

Michael Julian



# Inspiration

## Helping Young People Learn and Grow: Daniel Offutt's Legacy

#### The Daniel E. Offutt III Charitable Trust has

honored the Wily Network with leadership support since our founding and has had a lasting impact on our organization. In 2020, a contribution from the Offutt Trust formed a large part of our Emergency COVID-19 Fund and was essential in ensuring that our programs and services were there, without fail, for Wily Scholars during the pandemic. We asked Dick Orenstein, trustee of the Daniel E. Offutt III Charitable Trust, to tell us more about Dan, and how he worked to serve others.

## How does the Wily Network's mission connect to Dan's values and interests?

Dan was a project person and was always looking for ways to connect to his friends by sharing projects. He

wanted to show people the pleasure of accomplishment, whether in building something, repairing something, or learning a new task. This joy of learning was an important basis of Dan's life.

#### What kind of difference did Dan hope to make in the world, and how might Wily be enacting some of that difference?

As Dan was nearing the end of his life, he expressed the pleasure of knowing that he would be changing lives through his trust, including helping young adults grow. As the trustee of Dan's estate, and knowing what I do of his life and the early, sad death of his father, I believe Dan would be pleased to know that by supporting Wily, through his Charitable Trust, he is helping people to learn and grow.



Daniel Offutt



#### THE ILENE BEAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

## **Embracing Challenges and Serving Others:** Ilene Beal's Legacy

The Ilene Beal Charitable Foundation has provided major support to the Wily Network for several years, including outstanding generosity in 2020. We asked trustee Gina Regina, who knew Ilene well, to tell us how Wily's mission and Ilene's values are connected.

#### What were some of llene's guiding values?

Ilene was a quiet, thoughtful person who, I believe, made a difference in the world by leading through her example. She valued education, hard work, friendship, kindness and generosity, all the while embracing and overcoming the many challenges she faced. Her foundation was one of her efforts to leave the world a little better than she found it.



llene Beal

## How do you think Wily's mission connects to Illene's personal legacy?

The Wily Network works to make the world a better place by recognizing, supporting and mentoring smart, hardworking, resilient young people. We hope that Ilene's life and values will inspire Wily Scholars to work

hard, serve others, cultivate respectful, long-lasting relationships and to leave the world better than they found it.



## Sharing the Light: Carole Remick's Legacy

Another generous supporter of our work in 2020 was the **Carole Remick Charitable Foundation**. Mary Kaye Leonard, director of the Remick Foundation, told us more about Carole's life and legacy.

## How does the Wily Network's mission connect to Carole's values and interests?

Carole Remick spent her life educating young minds as a high school teacher and college professor. She always focused on finding that one student who had the talent but didn't have the resources or connections to make things happen. She studied each student, figured out how to bring their best to light and helped them flourish. Carole was the light! What kind of difference did Carole hope to make in the world, and how might Wily be enacting some of that difference?

Carole wanted to help as many students as possible realize their dreams, no matter their circumstances.



Carole Remick

Her legacy is carried on through the Carole Remick Charitable Foundation and aligns perfectly with all the great work Wily is doing to empower students, so they become confident, courageous and determined.



# Assess. Pivot. Adapt.



## The Wily Pack Stayed Strong in an Unusual Year

**"We're here for you"** are words we share often with Wily Scholars, and this year, those words meant more than ever. In 2020, we found ways to assess new challenges, pivot with creative solutions, and adapt to a new normal.

## Wily Scholars led the way, demonstrating creativity, stamina and grace at every step.

Campus closures and other changes in college life meant sudden uncertainties in housing, food and other necessities for many Scholars. We worked with Scholars — and their respective schools — to understand each person's unique circumstances, and offer support for managing the unknowns. We found safe, meaningful ways to build connections, gather together for holidays and events, create and distribute care packages and gifts, and continue the career and networking opportunities that are so vital to each Wily Scholar's personal goals and plans.

## When Wily Scholars needed their pack, we were ready.





#### Creating, inspiring and sharing strengths

This custom-designed Black Lives Matter t-shirt is just one example of Wily Scholars sharing inspiration and building unique collaborations. Aisha (UMass Boston) suggested that Wily create a Black Lives Matter t-shirt. Lissa (Mass College of Art) created the design, and every Scholar received a t-shirt. J'Saun (Boston College) is producing the shirt at his company, Radical Route, which highlights the work of Black artists (see more at <u>radicalroute.com</u>).

#### **Community Day**

Wily's Community Day focuses on creating opportunities for social interaction and meaningful connection among Scholars, a unique challenge during a global pandemic. This year's event included everything from games and pumpkin decorating to break-out discussions, presentations — and even some virtual tours of Scholars' dorm rooms. Participants also enjoyed a delicious lunch from our friends at East Meets West. Overall, the unusual nature of the gathering helped us celebrate and deepen connections, in spite of the world around us.

# **Class of 2020**

## **Congratulations, Graduates:** We are Proud to Walk with You!

Graduation was different this year, but so many important elements were there: caps and gowns, sharing unforgettable Wily moments and memories, an inspiring guest speaker — Bert Jacobs, co-founder of Life Is Good and most of all, tremendous pride in our graduates. Every Wily Scholar who planned to graduate in 2020 was able to cross that finish line: a truly remarkable achievement.

#### **Boston University**

Taylor R.



Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Jonathon Rene Saffron





Jilly Jordan Rachel



# Jordan

#### Northeastern University

Cameron Chantel Christina Harley Isiah





lsiah

**Wellesley College** Taylor B.



We support 72 Scholars across 11 campuses: Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis University, Bridgewater State University, Emerson College, Harvard University, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Middlebury College, Northeastern University, and UMass Boston (as of 5/2021)





# **Solidarity**

## **Growing through Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

This year, Wily embarked on a transformative process to build **diversity**, **equity and inclusion** (DEI) into the life of our organization. To lead us in this work, we engaged Kiera Penpeci, PsyD, an experienced DEI consultant who has worked with many organizations to build and sustain a culture of inclusion and anti-racism. In 2020, Dr. Penpeci led trainings for the Board and staff and interviewed coaches to gather their feedback and reflections on Wily programs and culture.

#### Why is DEI important for Wily?

The values and concepts of DEI relate directly to our mission. Integrating them enables us to better serve Wily Scholars and to build a community where everyone — Scholars, staff members, volunteers, and community partners — feels welcomed and valued.



#### Our Commitment to DEI and Anti-racism

As a foundation for this work, Wily adopted a statement\* expressing our shared commitment to DEI and antiracism. Some of our specific commitments include:

- De-centering white supremacy and prioritizing the intellect, teachings, and lived experiences of our employees and those we serve, in every aspect of our work.
- Challenging our assumptions and continuously critiquing our work, to better align with our mission and values.
- Investing in continued anti-racism, equity, and inclusion work and evaluating the diversity and the sense of belonging among Wily stakeholders.
- Practicing collective accountability through selfreflection and organizational evaluation, honoring our individual experiences and identities, and using our personal privileges to help others and benefit our personal relationships.

\*Read the complete DEI and Anti-Racism statement at <u>bit.ly/WilySolidarity</u>.

"My hope for the future is that the Wily Network will become synonymous with antiracism and inclusion, as an organization and as an employer, so that people from all walks of life will want to be a part of the pack."

- Kiera Penpeci, PsyD, DEI consultant



#### Wily's Black Scholars Affinity Group

Spearheaded by Wily Scholars in the spring of 2020, Wily's Black Scholars Affinity Group was established to provide a safe space for students that identify as Black to freely and authentically engage in discussions regarding their experiences. Our hope is to share the highs and lows and build a support system that promotes empowerment and resiliency.

"I love Wily's Black Affinity Group. It's so much fun getting to talk to other people outside my daily scheduled interactions. Ana is so bright and bubbly naturally — it's contagious. We can talk about anything, which allows us to laugh about the situations we go through and relate to one another. The group provides a break from my scheduled tasks and a space to relax, vent and be spontaneous."

— Tikia, Wily Scholar, Boston College





"As a former Wily Network coach, I was eager to facilitate Wily's Black Scholars Affinity Group. We must create safe spaces for Black students to breathe, thrive and freely engage in conversations about their experiences and address the complexities of racism, should they choose to. My goal for this group is for Black students to have a space to be their authentic selves, to feel seen, supported and celebrated."

> — Ana Ayobiojo, former Wily Scholar Clinical Coach



# **Wily Learns**

## **3rd Annual Wily Speaker Series:** Wily Shines a Light on College Students and their Mental Well-Being

Generously sponsored by:

#### THE ILENE BEAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Mental well-being and self-care have always been part of the Wily Network's programs and services, and this year, these topics have had even greater resonance. Our 3rd Annual Wily Speaker Series was a virtual gathering that included Scholars, clinical coaches, Wily community members, and leaders in the fields of collegiate student life and mental health.

Guest panelists were Sherri Ettinger Ph.D., LICSW, Head of the Counseling Center at Simmons College, and Micah M. Griffin, Ph.D., MHA, Senior Director of University Health at Penn State University.

The event was hosted by Wily Scholar and MIT senior Mathieu Medina and Sheila Murphy, a consultant at WittKieffer and Wily advisory council member.

We were delighted to present the 2021 Wily Pack Award — our annual award honoring a Wily Scholar who has made a significant impact on our program to Saffron Deasey, a member of the MIT Class of 2020, during the event. Those of us who have the honor of knowing Saffron have learned from her warmth, wisdom and independent spirit. Saffron's clinical coach, Susan Goldscheid, spoke for us all when she said, "Saffron, I know that Wily was here to benefit you, but I can't



emphasize enough how we all benefit by knowing you." The 2021 Wily Pack Award was made in honor of Gail and Jim Radley, who were the very first donors to the Wily Network and remain among our most visionary supporters.

To watch a recording of this event, visit <u>bit.ly/</u><u>WilySpeakerSeries</u>.

"We have the deepest respect and admiration for the Wily Network and the difference they are making in so many lives. We are proud of you, we applaud you and we support you."

— Gail and Jim Radley, honorees



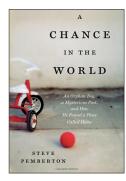


"The Wily Network is not there to do everything for us. What the Wily Network does is help us manage the noise, and provide us support and care, so we can focus on what we came to school to do: get our degrees. Being a Wily Scholar has helped me develop the tools, networks, and skills to leave college the same way I started: with a very bright future ahead of me."

> — Saffron Deasey, Wily Scholar alum, MIT Class of 2020, 2021 Wily Pack Award Recipient



## Wily's Summer Read 2020



Last year we held our first virtual event, Wily's Summer Read, a program created to help the Wily community connect through the shared experience of a great story. We knew that the perfect "read" would offer illuminating perspectives to challenge and inform us, and provide new tools and ideas to

the Wily Network. Steve Pemberton's book, *A Chance in the World*, did all that and more. This frank and moving memoir chronicles Steve's experiences of loss, adversity,

hope and hard-won successes. Judi Alperin King noted that Steve's book was one of the shaping influences of the Wily Network in its earliest days.

Pemberton, who is the Chief Human Resources Officer at WorkHuman and a Wily advisory council member, joined Carmen Ortiz-McGhee, Executive Vice President of NAIC, Wily Scholar J'Saun Bastien, and Wily's Executive Director Judi Alperin King for a virtual discussion on July 27, 2020, about his book and the subject of empathy: what makes it authentic, how it impacts us, and how we can cultivate authentic empathy in our lives.

To watch their conversation, visit <u>bit.ly/</u> <u>WilySummerRead2020</u>.



Pictured clockwise: Judi Alperin King, J'Saun Bastien, Steve Pemberton, Carmen Ortiz-McGhee



# Lighthouses

## Wily Leadership 2021

Wily is fortunate to have the visionary leadership of our Board of Directors, Honorary Board, and Advisory Council. We are especially pleased to recognize the **Scholar Representatives** on our Board and the leaders of our new **Young Professionals Association**, who bring invaluable insights, experiences and energy to our work. Thank you to all of these dedicated leaders!

#### **Board of Directors**

#### Advisory Council

Sara Miller Blanc Don Bramley Katie Bramley, Chair Nevin Chitkara Tara Hendricks Allison Hirsch, Treasurer Michael Julian, Clerk Judi Alperin King Executive Director Zach Martin Mathieu Medina Scholar Representative Osamagbe Osagie Kim Pappas Sharisse Cail Perry Judi Rosensweig Andy Rudzinski Jennifer Schoen Marissa Spletter Scholar Representative Scott Steele

#### Honorary Board

David Spina Stevie Spina Robin Wolpow

Bryan Allard
Donna Bonaparte
Kelly Glew
Jeff Kline
Margaret Lewis

- Meredith Mendelson Annie Montesano Sheila Murphy Steve Pemberton Kathryn Sargent
- Kris Schaefer Carolyn Shaughnessy Edward Walker Leann Walsh



Mathieu Medina



Marissa Spletter

## The 2021 Wily Champion Award was given to Kathryn Sargent

A daily question at Wily is: "Did Kathryn read this?" Kathryn's name was first seen on Wily's original application for non-profit status in 2014, when she signed on to be a founding board member, and her seal of approval has been on every document we have produced since. She started out as a thought partner, advisor and friend and



Kathryn Sargent

she has continued as a grant writer, editor, donor and sounding board. Kathryn is now the executive director of The Locker Project, a program that focuses on food insecurity in Maine. She remains an innovative thinker on Wily's behalf, a true beam of light and an invaluable resource for all of us at the Wily Network.



#### Young Professionals Association Leadership\*

Sara Miller Blanc Board Representataive

Laura Broffman Staff Representative

Taylor Capuano *Co-chair* 

James Carroll *Co-chair, Advancement*  *Co-chair, Membership* Mike Virginio *Co-chair* 

Liz Stanfield

Austin Crouse

Natalie Krause

Co-chair, Membership

Co-chair. Advancement

#### Thank you to the 2020 Retiring Board Members

Leann Walsh
Board of Directors
Mike Virginio
Board Fellow

Chantel Riendeau Scholar Representative



Pictured left to right, top row: Austin Crouse, Kyla Truman, Elizabeth Stein; middle row: Sara Miller Blanc, Laura Broffman, Sarah Janes; bottom row: Natalie Krause, Mike Virginio, Taylor Capuano

\*Read more about the YPA on page 32.

### Annual Meeting: January 11, 2021

At the 2021 Annual Meeting of the Wily Network, we continued to explore the year's theme, "Be the Light." We reflected on the many ways that bold leadership, learning and service are shaping all of our lives and carrying the Wily Network forward. This virtual event, like so many of Wily's gatherings this year, was different in format, but infused with Wily energy and creativity. Edward Walker, a member of Wily's advisory council and Founder/President of Independent Consultants of Education, moderated a lively panel featuring Scholars Saffron Deasey (MIT '20), Mathieu Medina (MIT '21) and Chantel Riendeau (Northeastern '20).



Ed Walker

"When COVID hit college campuses Wily jumped into action. I had my coach emailing me, helping me problem solve, figuring out how I was going to get safe, secure housing. Wily didn't freeze: Wily stepped up to the plate where those gaps that already existed from our institutions kind of widened."

— Mathieu Medina, Wily Scholar, MIT '21



# **Gifts at Work**



## Fund-A-Scholar

The Fund-A-Scholar program honors donors who connect their gifts directly to the resources needed to support Wily Scholars. You help us meet the needs of Scholars today and prepare to welcome new Scholars in the years ahead. You inspire other individuals, families, businesses and grant-makers to join you in building a vibrant Wily community. Most importantly, you let Wily Scholars know that you're proud to be part of their journey.

#### How does it work?

As part of the Fund-A-Scholar campaign, you may choose to make a gift that is equivalent to support for one Scholar for a year, one Scholar for four years, or multiple Scholars for four years. These gifts can be made in a single contribution or with a multi-year pledge. These gifts are not sponsorships, but they are a meaningful way to connect giving to impact. Fund-A-Scholar donors are recognized in Wily Network publications, such as our annual report, and are also included in our donor recognition circles, according to giving level. Anonymous gifts are also welcome.

If you have supported the Fund-a-Scholar program in previous years, thank you! Because of you, the Wily Network is thriving. We are proud to include you as part of our growing community and hope that you'll share our pride in all that you have made possible.

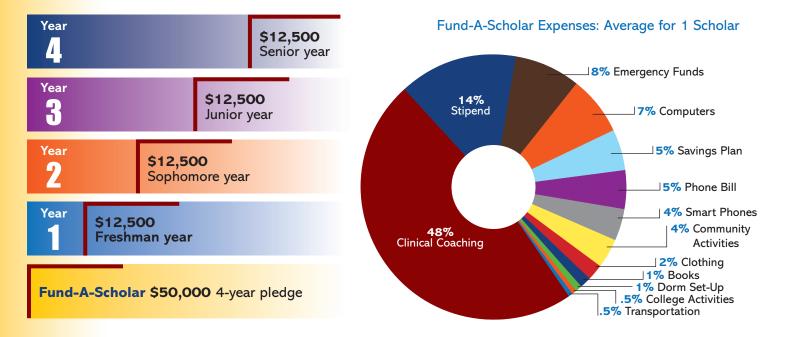
#### Examples of your gifts at work\*

These resources and associated costs illustrate some of the ways you are making a difference through your gifts to the Wily Network.

#### **\$50,000** Four years of Wily Network support for **ONE** Scholar

**\$12,500** A full year of Wily Network support for **ONE** Scholar

\*All gifts to the Wily Network are for general operating purposes, and no gift is designated to a specific Scholar.



# **Donor Spotlight**



#### Fund-A Scholar Donors

Patty and Mel Alperin\* Katie and Don Bramley\* Nevin and Kristine Chitkara Helena D'Angelo Lynne and Joe Delaney Cindy and Jim Duffy Further Forward Foundation Liz and Art Greenwood Linda and Mark Griffin Barbara and Ed Hajim Zach and Laurel Martin Michele Norman and Steve Loose Daniel E. Offutt III Charitable Trust Kim and Greg Pappas Kathy and Bill Parent\* Dianne Pink and J. Roy Pottle Susan and Stu Porter Gail and Jim Radley\* Carole Remick Charitable Foundation Judi and Bill Rosensweig Barbara and Arthur Simons Michael Simons Stevie and David Spina St. Jean Family Scott and Ursula Steele Hilary and Langley Steinert Robin and Marc Wolpow\* Debbi and Michael Young

## **Carrying the Wily Banner: Ed Hajim**



Ed Hajim is one of the newest and most enthusiastic supporters of the Wily Network Fund-A-Scholar program. Ed is Chairman of HighVista Strategies, a Boston-based investment firm, and the author of an autobiography, *On the Road Less Traveled: An Unlikely Journey from the Orphanage to the Boardroom.* We asked Ed to share his thoughts about his support of Wily and what our mission means to him.

## How do the mission and programs of the Wily Network connect to your values?

Wily's mission of helping students experiencing financial or other challenges to navigate the difficulties of college life is a vital service. Wily's counseling and care have changed students' lives, and the organization's efforts will produce individuals who are motivated to give back and to make the world a better place.

#### What do you hope to accomplish by supporting the Wily Network?

I hope that my support will help Wily carry out its mission of supporting Wily Scholars in a successful college experience, which is a pivotal point in their lives. Wily is an indispensable resource in helping this very important but neglected part of the student population.

#### How are you encouraging others to join the Wily community?

I encourage friends to support Wily by carrying the Wily banner wherever I go. I tell them, if you want to make a difference, join the Wily campaign. Wily's action changes lives.

"Wily's been absolutely one of the best, most fondly remembered experiences of my college experience. It was really powerful and meaningful. I think that Wily is the reason I was able to finish school, and graduate, and be in the position that I am now."

— Harley, Wily Scholar alum

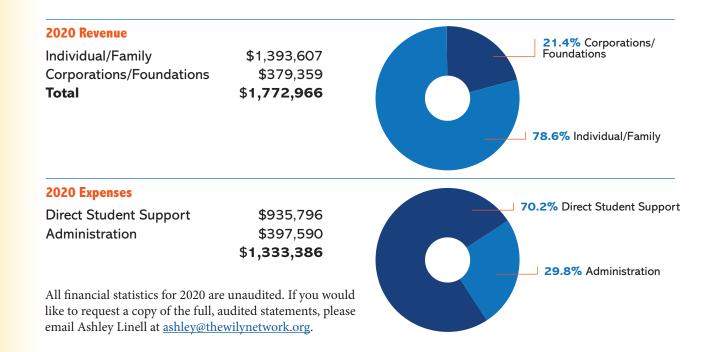


# **By the Numbers**

## Fiscal Year 2020 Financials

At the Wily Network, we are building a strong, supportive community that includes Scholars and clinical coaches, staff and program alumni, volunteers and many generous friends like you. Gifts of financial support are one important way that **we walk with Wily Scholars** as they learn, grow and thrive. Our community reflects important shared values at the Wily Network, like equity and inclusion, and working together toward common goals.

Since our founding in 2015, the Wily Network has relied on the partnership and generosity of donors and volunteers who share our commitment to Wily's mission. This year, that support meant more than ever. Thank you.



"When I moved into college, Judi and I went and got everything I would need for college, the bedding, the computer, notebooks, everything that I would need to be good. And she came back to make sure that I was still good, and if I was missing anything else, she would go get that my freshman year, and it was really helpful for me."

— Eric, Wily Scholar alum

# **Celebrating Generosity**

#### Wily Partners

We are proud to introduce Wily Partners, recognizing all those who contribute \$1,000 or more to the Wily Network during the fiscal year. Becoming a Wily Partner is a wonderful way to support Scholars on their journey and inspire others to join you. It's also our opportunity to say thank you, for your generous partnership. Anonymous gifts are welcomed, and we always honor your preferences for recognition.

#### Within Wily Partners, we recognize these levels:

#### \$100,000 and above

Daniel E. Offutt III Charitable Trust Stevie and David Spina

#### \$99,999-\$50,000

The Ilene Beal Charitable Foundation Katie and Don Bramley\* Carole Remick Charitable Foundation Clipper Ship Foundation Katherine DePasquale and Rodolfo Chaparro Kim and Greg Pappas Wellington Management Foundation Robin and Marc Wolpow\* Debbi and Michael Young

#### \$49,999-\$25,000

Cummings Foundation J.E. & Z.B. Butler Foundation Life Science Cares Kristin and Stephen Mugford Judi and Bill Rosensweig

#### \$24,999-\$10,000

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"It takes strength to realize that people do care about you. People do want to help you. So it does take strength to get whatever notions you have out of your head, and say... that I need help in this moment."

— John, Wily Scholar alum

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"My favorite thing about Wily was definitely the people in the community. It was very nice to be around other students who I could relate to, even if our stories were very different, and also having adults who you don't have to explain yourself to, but get what you're about, and then who are there to offer support."

— Jilly, Wily Scholar alum



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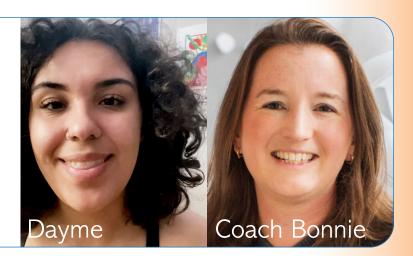
# With My Coach





Chantel, Wily Scholar alum, NEU '20 With my Wily coach, I celebrate the big wins and the small wins, whether it's academic, professional or personal. I know that she's always there.

Dayme, Wily Scholar MIT '21 My coach helps me a lot with making sure that I'm staying on track with the different aspects of my life. So making sure that even when I'm really, really stressed with schoolwork, I'm not letting my personal care slip.



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#### Wily Shines a Light on Gratitude (continued)

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"I think Wily's response to the pandemic was really incredible for all of the Scholars who didn't have a place to go when their schools closed. They really have been a safety net that Wily Scholars often don't have with their families."

— Jilly, Wily Scholar alum



# With My Coach





Gordon, Wily Scholar, BC '23 With my coach, I set my goals and track my progress towards achieving them.

Isiah, NEU '20 The first words my coach said to me as advice was to be kind to myself. And since knowing my coach, I have worked very hard to be much kinder to myself, and they have exposed to me, the wonderful human being that I didn't know I was.



# Donors

#### Wily Shines a Light on Gratitude (continued)

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Wily Coaches and Staff getting ready to host Fall Community Day 2020 via Zoom.

# With My Coach



J'Saun Wily Scholar, BC '21 With my coach, I feel comfortable to be my authentic self. I have been able to open up with my coach more than I have with many other people. And that is because my coach is not just trying to do her job, but because she genuinely cares.





Jordan, Wily Scholar alum, Middlebury '20 With my Wily coach, I was able to plan my post-graduate studies and prepare myself for a life after college.

# Donors

#### Intro to Wily Events

#### Ella and Emilie Andrews' Fundraiser

Anonymous (1) Ella Andrews Emilie Andrews John Gifford Amy Pollack-Howard

#### Georgina Arrieta-Ruetenik's Silent Auction

Georgina Arrieta-Ruetenik and Jim Ruetenik Alison and Peter Atallah Jane Brand Ana Maria Caballero McGuire and Kevin McGuire Maureen Callahan MarySue and Donald Cotton Maggie Curtis Beth and John Gamel Debra and Robert Gelles Margaret Gerth Sisi Nyunt Goneconto and George Goneconto Maurice Handel Jeff Keselman Susan Kirk Cynthia Lemere Ashley and John Linell Heather Martin Kristin and Thomas Mollerus Judy Mouradian and Ted Ruetenik Jennifer Muroff Joanne Ochalla **Richard Oppenheimer** Marc Pagnier Heidi Ruetenik Ken Ruetenik



On February 1, Georgina Arrieta-Ruetenik spearheaded a silent auction and fundraiser at SOMA physical therapy, raising over \$3,500 for Wily.

Danielle Sammut Amy Tercatin Sunu and Michael Yeh

#### Sara Miller Blanc's Trivia Night

Anonymous (3) Kathy and Mark Alperin Taylor Babcock Ela Bajus Sara Miller Blanc and Jonathon Blanc\* Ilana Bornstein Katie Boyle Matt Ennis Kristi Faby Beth and David Franklin Emma Franklin Jake Franklin Yvette Gong Jana Harnitchek Stephen James Michael Katz Erica King Judi and Tim King\* Jenna Miller Spencer Morgan Kaitlin O'Donnell Ed Pearson Morgan Phillips Josh Waxman Jen Whitman Natalie and Jonny Yaollen

#### Taylor Capuano's Birthday Fundraiser

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#### Michael Julian's Birthday Fundraiser

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#### Debbi Young's Birthday Fundraiser

Anonymous (1) Jane Ayoub Sharmaine Braams Cathy DuBois Honey and Laurie Kepnes Madelyn Kinemond Lesley Muller Susan Petrlik Michelle Roccia Lynn Kratus Snoyer Jill Traister Elizabeth Weaver

> "When I think of Wily, I think of people who advocate for me, and teach me how to advocate for myself."

> > — Jilly, Wily Scholar alum

# With My Coach





Marissa, Wily Scholar, BC '22 With my coach, I brainstormed organization and university resources that helped me in achieving my academic, personal and career-oriented goals that I had to set with her.



Regina, Wily Scholar, Middlebury '22 I just want to say my experience with having a coach has been amazing. They're always encouraging me to do my best and lean into my passions.

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Thank you to Rockland Trust Bank for, once again, donating office space to Wily at the West Roxbury branch, in 2020.

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# In Kind Donors

Last March when colleges said "go home," many Wily Scholars were left without a place to live, access to the means to earn money, and the items they needed to attend school. Thank you to our community partners, volunteers and pro bono providers for being there for Wily Scholars in 2020.

#### **Care Packages**

#### Valentine's Day

Jessica Cherry Marissa Crozier Nancy Doyle, *Chair* Audrey Gavin Melissa Lukowski Martha McNally Melissa Smith, *Chair* Thayer Academy

#### COVID-19

Anonymous (1) Katie and Don Bramley, Chairs Deirdre Leid, Chair Darby Leid, Chair

#### **Spring Exams**

Cindy and Jim Duffy, *Chairs* Caroline and David Ryan, *Chairs* St. Jean Family, *Chairs* 

#### **Summer Break**

Sally Abend Martha Blue



The care package program continued despite the pandemic.

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Thank you to **Boston BullPen Project** for helping two Scholars make it to graduation by providing funds to cover unanticipated college bills.

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#### Goods

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Stephen Whalen of **City Realt**y donated a Boston apartment for Wily Scholars during the pandemic.

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#### 2nd Annual Speaker Series: An Evening to Learn and Grow

#### **2020 Sponsors**

The Ilene Beal Charitable Foundation Lisa Bohne Lavender Florist Rob Burns Night Shift Brewing Kristie Dean The Soul Project James Morton YMCA of Greater Boston Monica Ordóñez Jorge Ordóñez Selections Wellesley College

Having regular dental care is a critical part of your overall health. For the last four years, **Elovic Dental** has provided free dental care to Wily Scholars.



# **Volunteer**

## How You Can Support Wily

Wily's strength comes from every member of the pack, including our many generous donors and volunteers. Whether you are a new friend, or looking for fresh ways to engage, we hope you'll consider these opportunities.

#### Make a Tax-Deductible Donation

One of the most meaningful ways you can support Wily is through financial support. Contributions of every amount make a difference! Visit thewilynetwork.org/ donate to make a gift today. For information on gifts of stock or other securities, or to create a planned gift, please call 781-355-6527. Gifts in honor and in memory are welcomed.

#### Create Care Packages for Scholars

Throughout the year, Wily volunteers create care packages for holidays, exam weeks and other occasions. These packages give Scholars a boost and remind them that we're rooting for them!

#### Support Wily Career Networking

Share your knowledge and experience with Wily Scholars, and help them build a network for future success.





#### Gift Giving for Scholars

You can make a four-year commitment to provide gifts for a Scholar on significant occasions like birthdays and holidays. This is a great way to show your support for a Scholar throughout their college journey.

#### Host or Attend a Wily Introduction

Learn more about Wily and support our work by hosting an intro event for friends, family or colleagues. Virtual events are a great option!

#### Include Wily in Your Next Celebration

Invite friends and loved ones to support Wily in honor of your birthday, anniversary or other special occasion.

#### Support Scholars with a Gift Card

Gift cards are a welcome contribution any time of year and help Wily Scholars with food, school supplies and other necessaries. Host a Gift Card Party, or send an individual gift card. Gift card suggestions: Amazon, CVS, Visa or Amex, Target, Uber or Lyft.

#### NEW! The Wily Young Professionals Association (YPA)

Founded in 2020, the Wily YPA is a great place to meet and network with young professionals in the Wily community. YPA members use their time, talent, and resources to support and raise awareness of Wily's



mission, increase the organization's network and funding, and provide professional development opportunities for Scholars and YPA members. Visit <u>thewilynetwork.org/</u> <u>young-professionals-association</u> to learn more.

For more information about any of these giving or volunteering opportunities, contact Ashley Linell, Director of Development at <u>ashley@thewilynetwork.org</u>. We look forward to hearing from you!



**Joy Denomme** — for her incredible leadership and support of our Care Package Program, including her work to gather and assemble 64 care packages delivered to Scholars at 9 different universities during their final exam weeks. We appreciate you, Joy!



Linda Griffin — a steadfast friend to Wily, who provided gifts for two Scholars this year, as well as holiday gift cards, and is a generous supporter of Wily's Fund-a-Scholar Program. Linda, thank you for being a light in the Wily community!

**Mike Julian** — board member, for his dedication to Wily Scholars. Mike helps Scholars develop their professional networking skills through LinkedIn info sessions and 1:1 career help. Mike, your ability to make connections contributed to a Wily alum securing employment!



#### Lizanne Kenney

— whose many contributions include gift-giving for a new Scholar, holiday gift cards and creating personalized Valentine's Day packages for Scholars at Boston College. Lizanne, we are grateful to you!

**Renee Levin** — for years of generous support, including the creation of thoughtful care packages for Scholars who had to move due to the pandemic, and for serving on the host committee for our December 3rd celebration. We are fortunate to have you in the pack, Renee!



Trish St. Jean — for her commitment to Wily Scholars. In addition to being a giftgiver and care package chairperson, Trish is also a generous supporter of Wily's Fund-a-Scholar Program. Thank you for all that you do for the Wily Pack, Trish!



## Wily Shines a Light on Gratitude

**Singers** Our December virtual event was infused with musical performances from Charles Coxon, Jennifer Ese, Linnea Nordgren and Dan Costello, and Abigail vanLuling.

## In a year of change and challenges, we found new strengths.



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Your support made it possible. Thank you!

