

# NEWS RELEASE



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## MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION AWARDS \$70,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Paul, MN – June 18, 2018 – The Minnesota Grocers Association Foundation (MGAF) awarded **\$25,000 in scholarships** to employees or their dependents from Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) member companies for the 2018-2019 school year. The Foundation Scholarship program helps students who are related to Minnesota’s food industry by supporting their educational growth.

Using funds raised from an annual golf event and silent auction, the MGAF is able to award scholarships and community grants. This year, the MGA Foundation received **355 applications** from **71 companies**. The twenty-five \$1,000 scholarships awarded represent the Minnesota food industry’s strong belief in the need for continued education.

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

This year the Piggyback Scholarship Program was available for members of the MGA, allowing companies to “piggyback” on the MGAF application process in order to provide a scholarship program specifically for their employees and employees’ dependents. Ten member companies participated and awarded a combined **\$45,000** in scholarships.

**The 2018 MGAF Scholarship Winners are:** Natalie Blevins from **Miner’s, Inc.**, Lydia Chapman from **Jerry’s Enterprises, Inc.**, Tyler Christensen from **Erdman’s County Market**, Caroline Davidson from **Crystal Farms**, Hunter Fink from **Faribault Foods, Inc.**, Maggie Gehling from **SUPERVALU**, Matthew Greenwaldt from **Russ Davis Wholesale**, Sara Heile from **SUPERVALU**, Chelsea Hofmann from **Russ Davis Wholesale**, Sydney Lendway from **Cub Foods**, Andrew Lonnes from **Cub Foods**, Anna McCosh from **Almich’s Market**, Sean McSherry from **Lunds & Byerlys**, Ashley Nelson from **Chris’ Food Center**, Gretchen Olson from **Cub Foods**, Bailey Opsal from **SUPERVALU**, Madison Pittorf from **Lunds & Byerlys**, Angelica Pollock-Shimer from **Miner’s, Inc.**, Alison Przybilla from **Pilgrim’s Pride**, Kate Reckinger from **Cub Foods**, Emma Schifferle from **Lunds & Byerlys**, Aimee Smahel from **Faribault Foods, Inc.**, Aeriana Softing from **Old Dutch Foods, Inc.**, Julia Thelen from **General Mills, Inc.**, and Ethan Walz from **Miner’s, Inc.**

**The 2018 Piggyback Scholarship winners are:** from **Chris’ Food Center:** Madeleine Anderson and Samantha Nysten; from **Cub Foods:** Brogan Comstock, Jordan Flaherty, Ricardo Rodriguez, Gianna Rucki, and Matthew Tomlinson; from **Dean Foods:** Kelly Buhl; from **Jerry’s Enterprises, Inc.:** Winona Berg, Marissa Bishman, Natalie Bous, Abigail Brown, Lydia Chapman, Kali Denis,

Emily Dyrdaahl, Kathryn Friesz, Kendra Held, Marco Hernandez, Jocelyn Hetland, Lilly Johnson, Jonathon Krueger, Samantha Krueger, Andrew Lonnes, Anthony Mazza, Gretchen Olson, Micah Pick, Alec Rudh, Anna Rummel, Travis Sinclair, Noah Spielman, Caleb Springfield, Jennifer Truong, and Benjamin Weber; from **KEMPS**: Benjamin Almquist, Seth Pelkie, and Francisco Pimentel; from **Mackenthun's Fine Foods**: Maggie Hennen, Lacey Muhlenhardt, Austin Pinske, and Cole Sik; from **Miner's, Inc.**: Gracie Anderson, DyAnna Grondahl, Amanda Paulson, Timothy Rowe, and Jacob Schmidt; from **S & R Qusberg, Inc.**: Lauren Dockendorf; from **SUPERVALU West Region Office**: Elizabeth Heile, Michael Heile, Spencer McDaniel, Kalli Opsal, and Alyson Zastrow; and from **Teal's Management**: Tracy Eisenschenk, Brea Frederick, Helayna Kracht, and Aerajeane Moscho.

*The MGA is a state trade association representing the food industry since 1897. We have over 200 retail members serving over 1,100 locations statewide, as well as over 100 distributors, manufacturers, and wholesale partners. Our member companies employ over 125,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the food industry of Minnesota as a civic leader and advocate.*

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