



National Hearing Conservation Association  
**SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

[www.hearingconservation.org/about-the-foundation](http://www.hearingconservation.org/about-the-foundation)

**2022–2023**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

*Dated 10/04/2024*

# MISSION

The NHCA Scholarship Foundation is organized to manage endowments and donations, and award scholarships to graduate students focusing on applied/practical studies in hearing loss prevention/hearing conservation at internationally accredited institutions.

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I am pleased to present this annual report to the NHCA membership. The Foundation remains financially sound and is resolute in serving the student community. We continue to offer student awards.

My term as President has been extended to February 2024 Conference. After that date, Jennifer Tufts is projected to take over the chair, and I know she will be an outstanding leader in this position. I thank the Board for all of their hard work and devotion to the Foundation and have truly enjoyed working with all of them. It was good seeing most of the membership at our last annual conference in Jacksonville, Florida. Jennifer and I (as past-President) look forward to seeing you at the 2024 conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Until then...be safe!



**Lynnette Bardolf**  
President

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## THE FOUNDATION BOARD

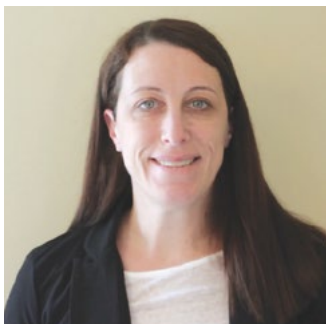
The Foundation welcomed two new members to the Board this year: Marjorie Grantham and Jackie DiFrancesco both joined as Directors, so we want to thank them both for joining the SF Board.



**Jennifer Tufts**  
President-Elect



**Susan Cooper**  
Treasurer



**Kara Cave**  
Secretary



**Marjorie Grantham**  
Director



**Jackie DiFrancesco**  
Director

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Assets for the Scholarship Foundation are down over the previous calendar year due to suspension of fundraising and a downturn in markets. We renewed conference fundraising at the 2023 annual meeting in Jacksonville, and expect investment funds to improve as market values recover in the upcoming months.

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance 12/31/2021	\$14,712
Ending Balance 12/31/2022	\$8,773
Investment Account	
Beginning Balance 12/31/2021	\$178,437
Ending Balance 12/31/2022	\$148,188
Total Assets	
Beginning Balance 12/31/2021	\$193,149
Ending Balance 12/31/2022	\$156,961

## 2023 STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

In 2023, there were two recipients for the **Student Research Award (SRA)**. The two worthy recipients of these awards were: Helen Wu and Srividya Bhagavan.



### Helen Wu SRA Recipient

Helen Wu is a graduate of the Master’s in Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (OEH) Program at the University of British Columbia, and has a background specializing in pharmacology from the University of Alberta. Helen is a recipient of WorkSafeBC’s Research Training Award for ototoxicity, and the Board Certified Profession Scholarship and the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Scholarship. Helen is the principal investigator of the ototoxicant, jet fuel, for a large-scale systematic review of the International Ototoxicity Management Group (IOMG) and works closely with the world-renowned experts in ototoxicity from the National Institute of Safety and Health (NIOSH).



### Srividya Bhagavan SRA Recipient

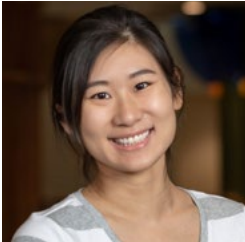
Srividya Grama Bhagavan joined the Ph.D. program at Iowa in fall 2021. She completed her Bachelor’s degree in Speech Language Pathology and Audiology in 2016 from Bangalore University, and a Master’s degree in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology in 2019 from Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Mangalore, India. Prior to joining the Ph.D. program, she worked as an Audiologist and Speech-Language Pathologist in renowned hospitals and private clinics in India, where she authored three international publications. Apart from academics, Srividya likes to listen to music, read, travel and hike.

We are happy to announce that four students were recipients of the **2023 Student Conference Award (SCA)**.



#### **Conner Jansen SCA Recipient**

Connor is a doctoral student at The University of Texas at Dallas, in the dual AuD/PhD program there. His undergraduate degree was in Communication Sciences and Disorders which he also completed at UT Austin, with a specialization in Audiology, and minor in American Sign Language prior to joining the team at UT-Dallas. His research interests include hearing conservation/hearing protection device habits & beliefs, vestibular disorders and diagnostics. hearing loss. He also did some work in musician HPDs, and sub-clinical hearing loss.



#### **Xin Zhang SCA Recipient**

Xin is a first year PhD student at the University of Michigan, Department of Environmental Health Sciences. She also holds a master's degree in Industrial Hygiene, and is certified as an Occupational Hearing Conservationist. Her areas of interest include occupational noise exposure and related physical and psychological health outcomes. Her doctoral research pursuits will focus on applying machine learning algorithms and time series analysis to explore the effect of noise exposure on hearing and cardiovascular systems collected by wearable sensors.



#### **Sollen Ollivier SCA Recipient**

Solenn has both an engineering degree from France, and a Master of Science degree in Biomedical Engineering from Columbia University. Currently, Solenn is pursuing a PhD focusing on the development of a protective hearing aid for workers in noisy environments via a collaborative research project with the University of Ottawa, University of Laval and IRSST, the Quebec Occupational Health and Safety Research Institute. The research focuses specifically on combining hearing aid, hearing protection and continuous monitoring of an individual's noise exposure into a single intra-aural device.



#### **Sean Hoverson SCA Recipient**

Sean is currently a 4th year AuD student attending the University of Northern Colorado, and completing a one year audiology externship with the VA at Puget Sound Health Care System in Washington state. Both his clinical and research interests include the prevention of noise-induced hearing loss, tinnitus, and adult aural rehabilitation. Sean is a certified CAOHC Occupational Hearing Conservationist. His doctoral scholarly project is entitled "*Spectator Noise Exposure During a Season of Minor League Hockey.*"

**The Foundation congratulates all award recipients on being chosen and hopes they will be frequent attendees at our annual conferences.**

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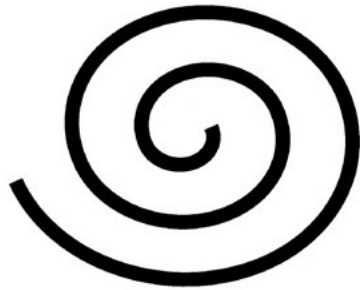
## **NEW STUDENT AWARD**

In 2022, the Board unanimously voted to start finalizing what will be called the Student Tuition Award (STA). Initially, the STA will be \$5,000.00 awarded to at least one student each year. In time, we anticipate that two awards per year will be implemented. The application process, including eligibility criteria, and selection committee criteria is hoped to be finalized in 2023. We will be reaching out to members in academia to help us finalize the criteria for this award.

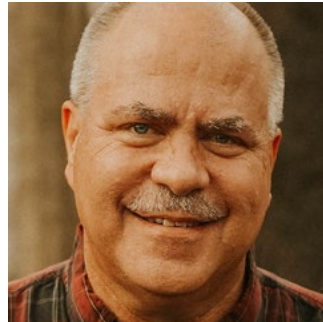


## 2023 FUNDRAISING

Based on our executive management firm's legal counsel strongly recommending that we do not conduct the 50/50 split, the Board decided to suspend this activity indefinitely. Because our conference spans the nation, the Foundation would have to purchase gaming licenses from numerous states. The time and cost to do this would be counter productive. However, the Foundation will continue to accept monetary donations outright. To enhance the spirit of donating for this past conference, the Foundation had a drawing of a cochlea on an easel stand in the exhibit hall, and members were encouraged to add "hair cells" to the cochlea. For each \$20.00 donation, 5 stickers representing a hair cell was applied to the cochlea. Hair cells could also be purchased individually as well. More interesting, William (Bill) Murphy's head shot was also on an easel, and members were encouraged to add "hair" to Bill's head as well. This activity was overwhelmingly successful, and the Foundation received \$3,110. We thank members for participating in this "hair raising" event!



**Cochlea**



**Bill Murphy**

The Silent Auction was held as well, and as stated in the last annual report, some of Don Gasaway's books from his vast library were put up for auction. Along with an eclectic variety of items up for bid, the Foundation received \$1,268.

Between the "hair raising" event and Silent Auction, the Foundation received a total of \$4,378 for the 2023 Jacksonville Conference. This is a record amount, and we sincerely thank all those who participated in donating their money.

## AMAZON SMILE

As of 2023, Amazon has suspended the Amazon Smile donation program. Money in our account was collected and added to our general funds. We thank all members for participating in this endeavor.

