

January 2023



## Congratulations to our Second-Career Scholarship Recipients!

The Board of Trustees of the Selected Educational Trust is proud to announce the recipients of the 2022 Fall Cycle Second-Career Scholarship Program. The winners are Alexis Garbrick and Kurtis Wilkinson. This cycle of the Trust's signature scholarship program is sponsored by the [Davis Whitehall Company](#) and was created to meet the educational needs of the increasing number of second-career professionals entering independent funeral service seeking positions as funeral directors, embalmers and future leaders.

Congratulations to the Fall 2022  
Second-Career Scholarship Recipients



Alexis Garbrick



Kurtis Wilkinson

Alexis Garbrick, enrolled in the Chandler Gilbert Community College in Chandler, AZ, will graduate in May 2023 and is committed to serving her community. Garbrick comes to the funeral service profession after working more than 3 years as an Emergency Medical Technician in Mesa, AZ.

"I truly believe the Second-Career Scholarship will be the most helpful in providing the financial assistance for my second career as a funeral director and embalmer," said Garbrick. "My entire life, I always wanted to help; I was born to help. I was an advocate for each patient I came across [as an EMT] and for those who fought their last fight. From First Responder to Last Responder."

Kurtis Wilkinson is set to graduate from Salt Lake Community College in May 2023. Wilkinson has spent the last 12 years building a career in higher education. "Working in funeral service has changed my life. It has allowed me to create life goals for myself that will not only allow me to work as a funeral director but to also be able to teach other students about this career opportunity in funeral service," said Wilkinson. "I was meant to work in this field, and I understand that this is the career that I belong in."

"It is the greatest fulfillment of the Trust's mission, when we can continue to provide financial support in the form of educational scholarships to such deserving young professionals," said Stefanie Favia, Senior Director of Development with the Selected Educational Trust. "We also

want to thank Terry School of the Davis Whitenall Company for his generosity in sponsoring this scholarship program.” continued Favia. “Without that support, these scholarships would not be possible.”

Since the award was first launched in late 2010, the Board of Trustees have awarded more than 50 Second-Career Scholarships to deserving individuals seeking a career in funeral service.

Second-Career Scholarships are awarded by the Selected Educational Trust to individuals who have chosen funeral service later in their career journey and currently are attending mortuary school. Applications open soon for the Spring 2023 Scholarship Cycle and will be due by May 31. Visit [selectedtrust.org/second-career-scholarship](https://selectedtrust.org/second-career-scholarship) for more information, or contact [Stefanie Favia](#).



Starting at left, Jamie Locke, Wes Elmes, Ryan Hughes and Jason Smith at the 2022 Leadership Conference, Denver, CO

## Realize Your Leadership Future with a Full-Tuition Scholarship to the Selected Leadership Academy

The Selected Leadership Academy offers a focused two-year curriculum designed to engage and energize any Selected member wanting to build their leadership skills.

The Selected Educational Trust is excited to offer two scholarships to help Selected members build their leadership skills through the Selected Leadership Academy: the

Chester T. French Memorial Scholarship and a scholarship made possible thanks to a generous grant from [Homesteaders Life Company](#).

Wes Elmes, Haskett Funeral Homes, Lucan, ON, Canada, shared how impactful receiving an Academy scholarship was for him.

"Apart from the lifelong friendships and connections I made through the Leadership Academy, truly learned a lot about myself as a person, a mentor, and a leader. I will be forever grateful for the opportunity to have received a scholarship through the Selected Educational Trust to attend the Leadership Academy. It is an extra stepping stone in supporting you to become a great leader in your firm."

All applications must be received by January 31, 2023. [Apply today!](#)



Where Education Meets Excellence

## Learn New Skills in the New Year

The Winter session of the Institute for Exceptional Funeral Service starts Monday, Feb. 6. Build effective teams this year with flexible, self-paced courses for professionals at every level of their learning journey. Work independently online to complete lessons and assignments and to interact with instructors,

wherever and whenever fits your schedule, all while earning up to 8.0 hours of continuing education credit.

- **Life Hacks for Everyday Life:** Learn actionable strategies to help fight burnout, reduce stress and build resilience in.
- **Gaining Respect and Building Trust:** Learn the key components of gaining respect and building trust with your coworkers and the families you serve.
- **Guiding Families Toward Meaning and Healing:** Examine the various ways you can build connections with families, earn their trust, and create value in the services you provide.

Space is limited, [register yourself and your team](#) before the Friday February 3 registration deadline. Group rates available. Selected members are eligible for a \$100 discount per course email [institute@selectedtrust.org](mailto:institute@selectedtrust.org) to request your coupon code.

What else does the Institute offer? [Learn more here.](#)



*Where Education Meets Excellence*

## You Have What It Takes to Be an Institute Instructor

Do you have skills or concepts to share that will help funeral home professionals? Looking for a unique way to give back? How about giving of your time and expertise by developing and teaching a course for the Institute?

The Institute for Exceptional Funeral Service is seeking instructors for 2023 courses on the following topics.

- Staff development and retention
- Art of Effective Arrangements
- Conflict Resolution with Families
- Working with Price shoppers

We take great pride in offering courses where education meets excellence. Watch [Be an Instructor: 7 Things You Want to Know](#) to learn more. [Email Stefanie Favia](#) or call 847-236-0150 to begin your journey as our next instructor!



## Giving Is Automatic with the C.A.R.E. Initiative

If your firm operates a crematory, donating to the Trust has never been easier. Allocate 20% of your total recycling revenues with

[Cremation Recycling](#) (or the recycler of your choice) to the Selected Educational Trust. Cremation Recycling will take it from there! Your allocated recycling revenues will then automatically be converted into tax-deductible donations to the Trust. Then sit back and watch your donations turn into programs that support, educate, and enhance the independent funeral service profession.

Show you C.A.R.E. about the future of independent funeral service and help us raise \$1 million for workforce development and educational programs! Ready to participate? [Complete this form](#) today. Contact Stefanie Favia or [click here](#) to learn more.



## Make Your Giving Count

Supporting the Trust is an investment in the future of independent funeral service and lifelong learning. Contributions are tax-deductible.

### Make a Gift

## Thank You to Our Donors

### December 1- 31, 2022

Anonymous (*In honor of William Hawkins*)

Anonymous

Bailey's Funeral and Cremation Care, Raymond A. Bailey, Yorkton, SK, Canada

Baue Family Charitable Fund (*In memory of Jack Miller*)

Baue Family Charitable Fund

Dopkins Funeral Chapel, Karen D. Franzen, Dinuba, CA

Dulle-Trimble Funeral Home, Kent W. Trimble, Jefferson City, MO

Haisley Funeral and Cremation Service, Richard F. Haisley, Fort Pierce, FL

Haskett Funeral Homes Ltd., William Haskett, Exeter, ON, Canada

Kale Funeral Home, Todd Kale, Osceola, IA

Live Oak Bank, Wilmington, NC

O'Halloran & Murphy, Michael O'Halloran, St. Paul, MN

Pierson's Funeral Service, Ltd., Michael J. Pierson, Calgary, AB, Canada

Ryan Mortuary, Inc., Stephen Ryan, Salina, KS

Thompson Funeral Chapel, Sean & Cynthia Thompson, Goodyear, AZ

*Make your gift in memory or in celebration of a loved one, family member, colleague or friend  
For more information on ways to give, contact [Stefanie](#).*

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One Overlook Point, Suite 530, Lincolnshire, IL 60069