

October 2024



Celebrating the Trust at Selected's Annual Meeting

Donors and supporters of the Trust gathered in Florida last month to cheer on the organization's efforts. The Selected Educational Trust Reception included the 2024 Ambassador of the Year Awards Ceremony honoring Robert Nunnaley and Tim Bridgers.

"It works in a circle. You give, you receive, and you give back," said Robert Nunnaley during his acceptance remarks.

The entire event was abuzz with excitement in celebration of the Trust's accomplishments in the past year. A special shout out to Selected Study Group Special K for winning a 24-hour giving challenge, earning them the title of Greatest of all Time, and corresponding trophies to go along with the title.

Watch the full ceremony [here](#) and check out photos shared on [Facebook here](#).



Our Donors Met the Challenge and Tribute Technology Doubled Your Dollars

Thanks to a generous donation match challenge issued by [Tribute Technology](#), the Selected Educational Trust raised \$40,000 in donations from Selected member firms, individuals, and supporting organizations between August 16 and September. Combined with the original pledge to match donations dollar for dollar up to \$10,000, these gifts brought the donation total to \$50,000!

The money raised during this challenge will be implemented to enable the Trust to continue its important work of connecting independent funeral homes with the next generation of the profession, and to provide scholarships and progressive skill development training for funeral service professionals at all stages of their career.



Last Call for Second-Career Scholarship Applications

Do you know someone that is in mortuary science school and pursuing funeral service as a career later in life? [Second-Career Scholarships](#) offered by the Selected Educational Trust are the perfect way to support the development and growth of the apprentices and funeral assistants on your team. Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded this December.

Now is the time to request your recommendation letters, download and start completing forms, and start working on your personal essay. Applications must be received by Tuesday, October 31.

[Apply Now](#)

WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES



Tiffany Hofer



Courtney Gould Miller

Introducing the Newest Trustees

The Trust is pleased to announce that Tiffany Hofer and Courtney Gould Miller have been appointed to join the Selected Educational Trust [Board of Trustees](#).

"I am honored to join the Selected Educational Trust Board of Trustees," said Hofer. "The Trust's vital work has a profound impact on the future of funeral service, and being a part of this makes me exceptionally proud."

"For me, it's all about giving back to this profession that has given so much to me and countless others," said Gould Miller. "I'm passionate about helping funeral professionals grow and succeed, and I look forward to working with the Trust to create meaningful learning opportunities that will support our profession for the future."



Are You Ready for National Estate Planning Awareness Week?

Did you know most Americans put off creating their estate plan until much later in life? In fact, 66% of Americans don't have an up-to-date will. National Estate Planning Awareness Week is an awareness week founded by the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils in 2008 with the goal of helping people understand the importance of having a plan in place to protect their assets and loved ones.

It takes place the week of October 21-27, and it's the perfect time for you to review and update your will. Been thinking about making a planned gift to the Trust? Just adding one sentence to your will can help to ensure the future of the independent funeral service profession. Contact [Stefanie Favia](#) to take the first step.

Thank You to Our Donors

September 1-30, 2024

A.S. Turner & Sons, Inc., Robert "Cy" Hume, Decatur, GA
Alhiser-Comer Mortuary, Megan Comer, Escondido, CA
Answering Service for Directors (ASD), Kevin Czachor, Media, PA
Baue Family Charitable Fund, Lisa Baue, Parker, CO
Busch Funeral and Crematory Services, James H. Busch, Cleveland, OH (Ambassador Envoy Gift)
Jeff Casey, Johnson Consulting Group, Scottsdale, AZ
Downing & Lahey Mortuaries & Crematory, Thomas R. Morris, Wichita, KS
Etzweiler Family Funeral Service, Ashlee G. Etzweiler, York, PA
French Funerals & Cremations, Tom Antram, Albuquerque, NM
Geisen Funeral, Cremation & Reception Centre, Larry Geisen, Crown Point, IN
Greco-Hertnick Funeral Home, John Greco, Weirton, WV
Haben Funeral Home & Crematory, John W. Haben, Skokie, IL
Haisley Funeral and Cremation Service, Richard F. Haisley, Fort Pierce, FL
Heritage Mortuary, Inc., Larnique Mickens, Las Vegas, NV
Hinsey-Brown Funeral Service, Inc., Kevin D. Brown, New Castle, IN
Hogan-Bremer-Moore Colonial Chapels, David Moore, Mason City, IA
Jeff Casey, Johnson Consulting Group, Scottsdale, AZ
Keohane Funeral Home, John E. Keohane, Quincy, MA
Daniel and Lisa Kochapski, Carmon Community Funeral Homes, Windsor, CT
Larkin Mortuary, Lance C. Larkin, Salt Lake City, UT
Law-Jones Funeral Homes, Inc., Matthew A. Jones, Savanna, IL
Luce, Luze & Reck Funeral Homes, Tiffany Hofer, Miller, SD
Mattingley-Gardiner Funeral Home, P.A. & Crematory, Michael Gardiner, Leonardtown, MD
O.R. Woodyard Co., Devin Woodyard, Columbus, OH
Raymer-Kepner Funeral Home, John and Claudia Kepner, Huntersville, NC
Risher Mortuary & Cremation Service, Barbara Risher Welch, Montebello, CA
Smith Funeral Home, Broadway, Inc., Broadway, North Carolina
Starks Family Funeral Homes, Thomas L. Starks, Saint Joseph, MI
Stewart Baxter Funeral & Memorial Services, Cedar Rapids, IA
Study Group Sea (Ambassador Envoy Gift)
Tres Hewell Mortuary, Tres Hewell, Seguin, TX
Trimble Funeral Homes, Kyle W. Trimble, Jefferson City, MO
Waite & Son Funeral Homes Medina Chapel, Christopher Waite, Medina, OH
Wilks Funeral Homes, Brock Wilks, Chubbuck, ID

*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](#).*

Make a Gift